

# Great South Bay Quilters Guild Newsletter



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P.O. Box 5, Islip NY

## Mission Statement:

The Great South Bay Quilters' Society, Inc. is a non-profit organization dedicated to furthering an interest in quilting, encouraging the preservation of our quilt heritage, and offering year round instructional opportunities for its members.

# Make Quilts & Stay Warm!

## Club Officers

President	Joan Dlouhy
Vice President	Sarajeon Palese
Recording Secretary	Olive Archer
Corresponding Secretary	Carol Garbarino
Treasurer	JoAnn Incalcaterra

## Committee Members:

Baby Quilt	Olive Archer
Community Service Coordinator	Donna Ketcham
Facilities	Joan Dlouhy
Historian	Dottie Christofor
Hospitality	MaryAnn Leonard
Immediate Past President	Carol Kollmer
Membership	Kim Young
Name Tag Raffle	Rose Alvarado
Newsletter	Mary-Ellen Ransom
Raffle	Gerrie Fitzpatrick
Website	Joan Dlouhy

## A Message from Our President

We are a little more than halfway through our program year, and we have a lot to look forward to. Although we had to cancel both the January meeting and Donna's Lap Robe Workshop due to the increase in COVID numbers, we will still be able to offer those programs later in the year. I look forward to sharing those events with you all.

This month we will be having our signups for Quilt Camp, to be held in March. An all-day "camp", you can choose to take one of four classes that are being offered. I want to thank those members who are volunteering their time to prepare for and teach these classes - Cindy, Stephanie, Donna, (and me). I think we have come up with a variety of classes that offers something for everyone. Please make sure to get your materials list and any 'homework' required for the class. Please also bring a bag lunch. We will provide water, coffee and tea. If you would like to bring a cake or cookies to share, that would be appreciated. We will also need volunteers to bring irons and ironing boards, so please be sure to tell Sarajeon if you are able to do so.

Please mark your calendars for the remaining meeting dates here at the library. We will be meeting **April 26** (not April 20, which was a "tentative date"), **May 18**, and **June 21**. I know that it has been a little different with only knowing the meeting dates three months at a time, but I am very grateful to everyone at the Bay Shore - Brightwaters Library for giving us a home this year. I doubt that our guild would have been meeting at all due to the lack of available facilities. I think you will agree that the library is large, bright, and perfect for not only our meetings but also our workshops. Sometimes things work out for the best!

Happy quilting,

Joan Dlouhy  
President, GSBQ

## Newsletter Submissions:

Please feel free to email your thoughts, pictures, favorite links to quilting and fabric websites, recipes, etc., to [mransom699@aol.com](mailto:mransom699@aol.com). Or hand them to me at our meetings.

We would all love to see your ideas in upcoming newsletters!

## Holiday Gifts Our Members Whipped Up!



From **Sarajeen Palese**: These were two gifts I made for Christmas. I filled them with greenery. One was very traditional and one was contemporary.

And from **Cindy Carroll**: Here is a picture of snap bags I made as holiday gifts. I filled little sewing kits, cosmetic bags and purses. You can use an old metal tape measurer for the closure. It's quick and easy. There's a great tutorial on YouTube. Riley Blake DIY snap bags.



## Favorites on the Internet

This column in the newsletter is not just for web sites! It's for accounts, tags and pages on major platforms like Instagram and Pinterest, as well as recommendations for apps that can help with sewing and quilting. Basically, if you need a computer, phone, or tablet to access it, this is where to tell us about it! Even if you already have your own way of doing things, it's always fun to see what other quilters are up to!

Pat Roaldsen has come to love an app called **Gloria Horn Sewing Studio**, available on the Play Store for free! Pat says, "every weekday and some Saturdays they have wonderful presentations from their shop in Pittsburg. Many of the lessons on Monday and Tuesday afternoons are focused on embroidery on the Babylock machines, but they are often adaptable for other brands and even for regular machines! Wednesday is Kimberbell. On Thursday they demonstrate and sell their "favorite things" and Friday is Fabric Frenzy!"

Gerrie Fitzpatrick likes to check in at [www.aquiltinglife.com](http://www.aquiltinglife.com). They have some wonderful tutorials, including:

1. How to make perfect log cabins
2. How to add borders
3. How to make perfect flying geese blocks
4. Simple string blocks
5. Half square triangles
6. English paper piecing
7. Chain piecing
8. Zipper bag pull tag tutorial

Ed. Note: One of my own favorite places to find inspiration is on Instagram @FarmDownTheLane. She does amazing things with vintage, often unsalvageable quilts!



**Quilt Camp  
is Coming!**

**Saturday, March 26, 2022**

Please check with Sarajeen if you are looking for a spot or if you can bring irons or ironing boards.

## Product Review

by Patricia Scotto

I received a wool pressing mat for Christmas. Blocks come out crisper and the wool surface holds the fabric in place so no slippage while pressing..

Love Sew is the brand I have and it comes in three sizes: 10 x 10, 14 x 13 and the one I have is 18 x 12. I really do see a difference in the crispness of the block piecing, Anything that helps get my blocks flatter!



Did you recently try something new? We would love to hear about it! Please send your thoughts, yay or nay, to me for the next issue: [mransom699@aol.com](mailto:mransom699@aol.com)!



Remember when you first joined Great South Bay Quilters? I sure do! My first meeting was as a guest of another member, and I had to go on the waiting list to be offered membership! I remember being thrilled when Audrey Collins phoned me...I felt like I was talking to the selection committee at the Academy Awards

This year, we have quite a few new members; please welcome:

Lena Christie

[Lbchris1@verizon.net](mailto:Lbchris1@verizon.net)

Stephanie Conley

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Catherine Demmers

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Linda Duplessis

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Mary Ekelund

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Cathy Genova

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Linda McIvor

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Jennifer Paul

[LLucky245@aol.com](mailto:LLucky245@aol.com)

Joann Vecchione

[joannvecchione@gmail.com](mailto:joannvecchione@gmail.com)

Now, Rose Alvarado does a phenomenal job with the Name Tag Raffle...thank heavens I can usually read a name tag. But if you are too nearsighted to read someone else's name, and don't want anyone to think you are staring at her chest, ask Rose for a name. Or, since their emails are listed above, how about reaching out to introduce yourself. Maybe ask if they have any questions about sewing or quilting?

Ed Note: In "chatting" with Joann Vecchione via email, she mentioned that new members might be interested in some Q & A topics, such as how you clean your quilts, where can you find a good dry cleaner, and best local shops to buy fabric! We may start a new feature right here in the newsletter!

## Don't Forget to Check Out the Recipes In This Issue!

I know I can't resist a scone, let alone one in such a pretty server. This recipe is from Mary Ekelund, and I know I can't wait to try it!

If we get enough recipes this year, maybe we can put them all in a digital cookbook. So don't be shy, and send in those recipes you are famous for.

Be sure to let us know if all three recipes this month become new favorites at your house!



# Happy 80th Birthday, Stephanie !!!

I don't know who got the word out to so many of my friends, but I have to thank you for the joy all the cards, so full of wishes, brought every day as they arrived in my mailbox. As you can see, all your cards and gifts are decorating my dining room and I think this display will have to stay for all the days of my 80th year.

Janet and Leon, thank you for the little girl I used to be.

Some of you I have known for more than fifty, forty, thirty, twenty, etc. years and I treasure all the time we have spent together. I have seen your children grow into adulthood and have babies of their own; Pat and Leonor, please thank them for the beautiful cards and wishes. Susan, do the same to your sister Jennifer.

Videos made by my daughter Janine and Gal Pal Pat were filled with so many great memories. I have to thank my Red Hat, Knutty Knitter, and Quilt Guild friends; I love all your cards and appreciate the years of laughter and learning we have shared. Sandie, thanks for the cookie. Thanks for my Knutty Knitters' birthday party.

I really appreciate all your thoughtfulness. I have tried to tell so many of you just how special you are, but if I have not told "you", please know it now because you are special. Thank you for your love and friendship.

My birthday celebration on the 5th began with Carl's girl (Alexa, LOL), singing Happy Birthday to me. Later in the day, all my grandchildren sent me a video wishing me their personal



sentiments. One by one they brought me to tears, and just about everyone else in the room, although happy ones. Along with their video was a slide show to Tina Turner's song "You're The Best". Photos of Drew, Peri, Kayla, Katy, Lili, and Colin with me from infant to who they are today recall just how much we have done together in the last twenty-one years.

This was followed by a ZOOM with some of my best friends sending me their personal birthday wishes and another video and slide show that only brought more tears, but so much laughter. Thank you so much for sharing my journey.

Peri, Janine, Danielle, Tim, Jenn, Bill, and grandchildren, while "Thank You" doesn't seem enough, you made my milestone 80th birthday the most wonderful celebration from the food,

desserts, and time spent with all of you. And, I love my gifts!

Life just does not get any better.

I am looking forward to more joy in my life as we take time to make memories together, bring on the joy,

Love,

*Stephanie*

*If the only prayer you say in your life is thank you, that would suffice. Meister Eckhardt*



## Book Nook

From Gerrie Fitzpatrick: For those of you that might be interested in making a 2 color quilt (any color with white is generally called 2 color quilt), look for "A Season in Blue" by Edyta Sitar for Laundry Basket Designs.

Edyta shares an inspiring gallery of quilts that have been photographed from a cabin located on snow capped mountains.



You'll find great inspiration with 16 patterns in the book. They capture Edyta's

style and she gives you tricks of the trade so you too can create these stunning 2 color quilts.

Have a book you recommend? Send an email with your recommendations to: [mransom699@aol.com](mailto:mransom699@aol.com)



## Mrs. Bobbins by Julia Icenogle



## Inspiration

I thought I would share a recent project: a quilted jacket for a one-year-old with leftover scraps from a quilted tote bag I made for her grandmother to give her when she was born.

I had to dig in the scrap bins at Sew What's New for a little extra silver Fairy Frost (which I found!!!), and was able to get some complimentary fabrics, as well as more grey Minky for the lining. I bought the

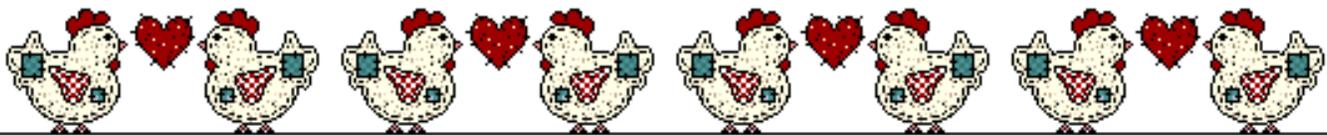
pattern on Etsy, I calculated the block size to fit the pattern pieces, and hand quilted the blocks to white flannel before quilting in the seams when attaching the Minky. I did use some French sewing techniques fro finish the seams in the lining.

I think the young lady approves! Lots of room to grow! (No, that's not her real smile!)



## Recipe: *Simple Scones*

From the Kitchen of: *Mary Ekelund*



2 cups all purpose flour

1/2 tsp salt

1/2 cup sour cream

1/3 cup sugar

8 TBS unsalted butter, frozen

1 large egg

1 tsp baking powder

1/2 cup raisins or Craisins

1 tsp sugar (for top)

1/4 tsp baking soda

(I used 1 cup)

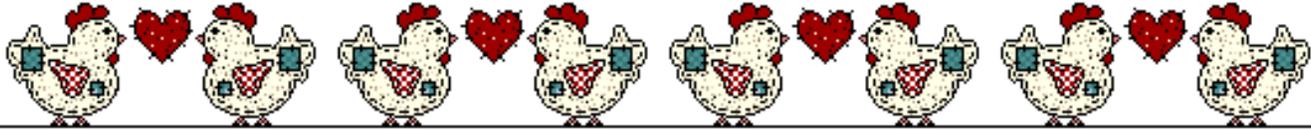
1. Adjust oven rack to lower middle position; preheat oven to 400 degrees. 2. In medium bowl, mix flour, sugar, baking powder, baking soda, salt, or use a food processor 3. Grate frozen butter into flour mixture on the large holes of a box grater; use your fingers to work in butter (mixture should resemble coarse meal), OR if using food processor, cut butter into small chunks, then pulse until mixture resembles coarse meal (no lumps). Put flour mixture into a bowl. 4. Stir in raisins/craisins 5. In small bowl, whisk sour cream and egg until smooth 6. Using fork stir sour cream mixture into flour mixture until large dough clump forms. Using your hands, press the dough against the bowl into a ball 7. Place on a lightly floured surface and pat into a 9-10 inch circle about 1/2 inch thick 8. Sprinkle dough with 1teaspoon of sugar. 9. Use sharp knife to cut into 16 wedges 10. Place on cookie sheet about 1 inch apart, bake approx 14-15 minutes until golden





Recipe: **Monster Cookies: Makes a LOT of cookies!!!**

From the Kitchen of: **Gerrie Fitzpatrick**



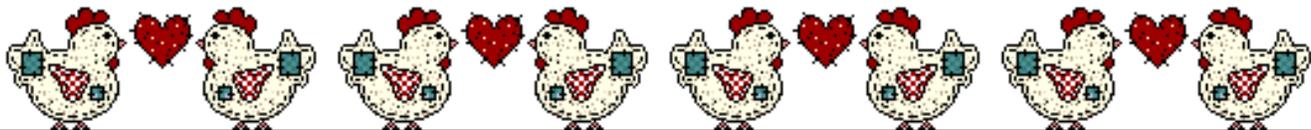
- |                    |                                 |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| 12 eggs            | 2 cups walnuts, chopped         |
| 4 cups white sugar | 1 pound butter (no substitutes) |
| 4 cups brown sugar | 3 pounds peanut butter          |
| 1/3 cup vanilla    | 14 cups oatmeal                 |
| 8 tsp baking soda  | 1 lb chocolate chips            |
| 1 pound of M&Ms    | 4 cups all-purpose flour        |

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
2. Mix in order given
3. Bake at 350 degrees until slightly brown (watch!).
4. Bring some to the next quilt meeting.



Recipe: **Seafood Bisque**

From the Kitchen of: **Cindy Carroll**



- |                         |                     |                    |                       |
|-------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| 3 TBS butter            | black pepper        | 1 TBS tomato paste | 1/2 lb. cod or dry    |
| 1 cup chopped celery    | 1 bay leaf          | 12 chopped cherry  | scallops or crab meat |
| 1 cup chopped onion     | 1/2 tsp dried thyme | stone clams,       | 1/2 cup of dry sherry |
| 1/2 cup carrots         | 1/2 cup white wine  | 1/2 lb. cut shrimp | 1 TBS chopped parsley |
| 2 chopped garlic cloves | 3 cups clam broth   |                    |                       |

*Start by sautéing the thyme, garlic, onion, carrots and celery in butter. When softened, add the tomato paste and stir it into the vegetables. Let this mixture start to caramelize a bit and then deglaze the pot with white wine. Scrape up the burnt bits and then add clam broth and bay leaf. Let simmer for 15 minutes. Shuck and chop the clams or you can add them to a pot with a touch of water and steam them open. When they've cooled, pick them from the shell and chop them, use the clam juice for the soup. When the broth has simmered, remove the bay leaf and then use a hand blender to blend the veggies till the soup takes on a velvety consistency. Now add the shrimp, cod and scallops and let it cook for two minutes. If you already steamed the clams, add them when the other fish is cooked, if they're fresh shucked, add them with the raw seafood. Finish the soup with the dry sherry wine and fresh parsley. Enjoy!*



## Friendly Kitchen Advice

by Dottie Christofor

Dottie has a tip that works great! I know, because I needed to try it...of course! Thanks, for sharing, Dottie!

Now that the baking season is over, your opened box of dark brown sugar is going to turn into a brick. I went to use my sugar for a topping on salmon and it was a brick. I remembered this trick and the next day almost half the sugar was softened.

I placed the sugar in a ROUND TOP container by TUPPERWARE. I do not know if any other brand will work. If you place a leaf of lettuce in the container with the sugar, the sugar will remain soft. Occasionally change the lettuce on a need basis. All round covers for Tupperware are air free and spill proof so it must be free of air to work.

**Ed. Note:** I tried this in a Rubbermaid square container and it worked for me!!! Just make SURE you take the lettuce leave out before it decomposes!!!



**Do you have some special quilting tips or tricks you'd like to share? Send 'em on in...you know where: [mransom699@aol.com](mailto:mransom699@aol.com)!**

## Special Thanks to:

Stephanie Garite, Gerrie Fitzpatrick, Sandie Kowalchuk, Joan Dlouhy, Sarajeon Palese, Dottie Christopher, Mary Ekeland, Joann Vecchione, Cindy Carroll and everyone who offered content, ideas, encouraging words, and proofreading skills!

The GSBQ Newsletter is YOUR newsletter...please contribute or share your words, thoughts, links and pictures!

## Quote of the Month:

(For those of you with stashes!)

**Your home should be a living space for your present life, NOT a storage place for your past.**

Submitted by Gerrie, who added: I'm busted !!!!! But working thru my stash. Anyone else???



## My Special Sewing Someone



I credit my mom with instilling in me a love for sewing. When we were growing up (my two sisters, brother and I), mom used to make us clothes with matching outfits for our dolls (not for my brother, though).

She had an old but reliable singer sewing machine in a cabinet with a side "knee" pedal. I thought it was magic when she sat at that machine as it seemingly only started when she sat down - I could see no foot pedal or "on" button. It was only when I got older that she showed me the "magic" knee press and the rest was history.

She taught me pattern tracing and seams and zippers and hems and smocking. I was hooked! Later in life I took up quilting as my interest in making clothing waned.

Mom never quilted, but she has been the grateful and proud recipient of many of my quilts! She shows them off to any willing (or even reluctant) visitors. Mom turned 90 this past November and though her sewing days are long gone it is just one of the many talents I cherish as coming from her. Thanks, Mom!

-Joan Dlouhy

**POLL QUESTION:** Who introduced you to sewing? Or started your love affair with quilting? Please share!!! Email: [mransom699@aol.com](mailto:mransom699@aol.com) to be included in our next GSBQ newsletter!



## Sewing Advice

THEN	NOW
Prepare yourself mentally for sewing.	Wake up.
Think about what you are going to do.	Always keep a good stash of fabrics, patterns and notions ready so you can sew whatever you want, whenever the mood strikes.
Never approach sewing with a sigh or lackadaisically.	Save that attitude for housework.
Good results are difficult when indifference predominates.	Indifference is great when mending, repairing zippers, or shortening pants. If the results aren't good, people will stop asking.
Never try to sew with a sink full of dirty dishes or beds unmade.	This is good advice only if you sew with your machine in the sink or on the bed.
When there are urgent housekeeping chores, do these first so your mind is free to enjoy your sewing.	There are no urgent housekeeping chores. Just enjoy your sewing.
When you sew, make yourself as attractive as possible.	Never buy a sewing machine with a mirror in it.
Put on a clean dress.	You may sew in your jammies, but wear slippers. Otherwise, your feet will get dusty.
Keep a little bag full of French chalk near your sewing machine to dust your fingers at intervals.	What?
Have your hair in order, powder and lipstick put on.	Brush your teeth, if time permits and you remember.
If you are constantly fearful that a visitor will drop in or your husband will come home, and you will not look neatly put together, you will not enjoy your sewing.	Lock the door and don't answer the phone. If your husband comes home, you really can't refuse to let him in, but leave a number where he can order takeout.

*Submitted by Joan Dlouhy*



# Gerrie's Birthday Corner

*Happy Birthday to our members with Birthdays in January, February and March!*

### January:

*Joan Dlouhy  
Joann Incalcaterra  
Mary-Ellen Ransom  
Joann Vecchione*

### February:

*Stephanie Conley  
Stephanie Garite  
Pat Mahar  
Kim Young*

### March:

*Sandie Kowalczyk*

*Thanks for keeping this list, Gerrie, and for the wonderful goodies each meeting!*

*If you aren't on Gerrie's list, reach out to her now!*



## In Our Next Issue:

*Have you ever done a quilt with the 54-40 or Fight block? How did you like it?*

*It looks really great when paired with a Shoo Fly block, but here's the thing. Not only are the 60 degree angles difficult*



*enough, but the ruler for the 60 degree pieces from Fons & Porter is DIFFERENT than the one release by Eleanor Burns! And you should see what Missouri Star Quilters have decided!*

*Stay tuned, and send pictures and your opinions on the block if you have done it before!  
[mransom699@aol.com](mailto:mransom699@aol.com).*