

[www.fvqi.org](http://www.fvqi.org)

Farmington Valley  
Quilters Newsletter

February 2009

## From the President

February is National American Heart Month. Heart health is extremely important, but I always think of February as the loving kind of heart health. Valentine's Day reminds us of our loved ones and thoughts about love, but February also reminds me of what loving thing we can do for others.

Our February meeting is all about what we do for others. Each year we have dedicated our February meeting to our service projects. We take time to jump start some baby quilts for the wee sick ones at UCONN Neonatal unit. Parents and staff have realized the comfort of an adorable baby quilt when comfort is most needed.

At the same meeting we also help with

the block kits for the ABC Quilts we provide for each incoming freshman boy to the A Better Chance House in Simsbury. Please join us this month with your supplies to work on these great service projects. You will also have the opportunity to work with other guild members you don't usually have time to meet.

I look forward to seeing everyone and wear something red in honor heart health!

Susan Elliott



## Monthly Meeting - Wednesday February 18th 6:45pm at Eno Memorial Hall

### All hands on board—to work on service projects

This annual meeting is led by our members who organize our neo-natal and ABC House service projects. They are working hard to get everything ready so that we can have a productive and fun meeting.

We are traveling light this year. No need to bring sewing machines. Just the following are needed:

For working in the ABC House Project : cutting mats, rotary cutters and rulers.

For working on the UConn Neo-Natal Project: needle and thread, and/or cutting mat and rotary cutter.

See the next page for more detailed information.

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### Snippets:

- This meeting begins at 6:45pm
- Items for working on service projects—look to the left
- Quilts for Show and Tell
- FVQI Board meetings are scheduled the first Wednesday of every month and are open to all members.
- 2010 Raffle Quilt Blocks
- Neonatal quilts
- Library items

## More about this month —February 18th

### **ABC QUILTS**

For the ABC quilt part of the February service meeting we are going to be cutting pieces for the squares for the next ABC quilt. We (the organizers) will bring the fabric, the cutting directions, and plastic bags. Members are asked to bring cutting mats, rotary cutters and rulers. Then we can have a lot of us working on getting these packets done. We will have tables set up to cut on. Also we will need people to assemble the kits into the plastic bags. Then everyone can bring home a kit (kits?) and sew it together. **From Anne Baldis and Sue Trimble.**

### **NEO-NATAL QUILTS**

Kathy and I are planning to keep it simple as she will be out of state for family reasons and won't be able to attend the meeting. I'll be bringing neonatal quilts that need labels stitched on as well as a few quilts that need to have a binding finished (hand work). I will also be bringing some simple strip patterns and a lot of donated fabric that members can choose and cut into strips to make kits to take home. **From Donna Dellacamera and Kathy Lettieri.**

## Next Month —March 18th

In March we will have Sarah Ann Smith, a well-known quilter from Camden, Maine. She has taught internationally and nationally, most recently at the AQS show in Paducah. She has a contract for a book entitled Unraveling Threadwork, has had articles published in *Quilting Arts Magazine* and is a regular columnist for *Machine Quilting Unlimited*. On Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup> she will present a trunk show of her work. See the next page for information about her workshop on Thursday, March 19th.

## Popular Mystery Night—March 27th—There is a solution

Sign up for Mystery Night on March 27 from 3 PM to 9 PM filled up in only 15 minutes, and we have a wait list. We are pleased to have Phyllis Small again leading a workshop at the Apple Barn. So that she can give everyone the attention they need, the workshop is limited to 20.

Since so many others wanted the opportunity to join in our annual Mystery Night, we have **reserved a second location**, First Church in Simsbury Palmer Hall. At this location will be the opportunity to work on a mystery quilt or do your own project. The Apple Barn will be Phyllis' workshop. If you have signed up for the Apple Barn, but planned on doing your own project, you may want to switch to Palmer Hall so others who want to take Phyllis' workshop can do so.

Sign ups for both will be at the meeting or you may call or email Judy Ross or Meg Lines. The cost is \$5 at either location. Soup and Potluck will be the dinner at both locations. Please bring some food to share and your own drinks, bowls, and utensils. Look for supplies for each location at the meeting.

## **Workshop Refund Policy**

Thirty (30) days prior to the workshop, no refunds will be made unless your slot can be filled by a person from the waitlist, first, or other FVQ member, second.

## **Guest Policy**

There will be a \$5.00 Guest Fee for meetings with fee speakers and potluck dinners. Guests who join the guild that evening do not have to pay the guest fee.



## **Other March and April events**

Retreat—March 6th—8th—see page 8 for details

The first of 2 spring workshops—March 19th—see the next page for more information about Sarah Ann Smith's workshop.

Mystery Night—Friday March 27th see page 2 for more details.

April 16th workshop—Judith Larzalere Strip Piecing workshop, see next page for details

April 25th—Saturday—Basting Day at Avon Library —This is our celebration of the annual quilting day which occurs in March.

## **SAVE THE DATE—May 30th**

Mark your calendars now and plan on joining your fellow quilters to Lowell, Massachusetts on **Saturday, May 30, 2009**. We will be traveling by chartered bus to the **New England Quilt Museum** and the **American Textile History Museum**. Information regarding the deposit to hold your spot and all the specifics **will follow soon**. This trip will be partially funded by the Farmington Valley Quilters!

## **March and April meetings and workshops—sign up now**

**Workshop On Thursday, March 19<sup>th</sup> from 10am until 4pm Sarah Ann Smith will give her workshop**

**“Postcards: An Introduction to Some New Techniques”**

You can use any technique from traditional to art quilts on a postcard. We will use fusible web to begin two, four or more postcards each in class. I will demonstrate several art techniques which you may wish to try including painting on fabric, stamping on fabric, using Shiva Paintstiks, using Angelina fibers, couching yarns and more. There is a small kit fee for this class to cover the cost of materials I provide, (that way you don't have to spend considerably more on materials you might or might not use again). The cost for the workshop is \$50.



In **April** we will have Judith Larzelere from Westerly, Rhode Island. She was trained as a painter at Rutgers University in New Jersey. There she learned to develop a love of color. Since 1978 she has been making quilts full-time.

Her images are abstract and non-geometric and do not rely on a block/grid structure. She is interested in color interaction and creating a sense of movement and mood in her works. She tends to like vivid, active color but has used all palettes for commissions to suit the client's needs. The technique she uses is machine strip piecing. She re-cuts the pieced fabric and then machine quilts it in a process sometimes called "flip and sew quilting." **We will have a lecture entitled *Color, Color, Color* on April 15<sup>th</sup>.**

**On Thursday, April 16th Judith will present her *Strip Piecing Workshop*** (short version): Students will be given a design formula for choosing fabrics that will be strip pieced and then sewn into a small wall hanging in the quilt-as-you-go method. Special emphasis will be on color selection. Be prepared to trade some of your fabric with others in the class to have more colors to work with. In April Judith Larzelere is coming for her Strip Piecing Workshop. The price for her workshop will be \$35 until January 31st, \$40 through the month of February and \$50 after that. This is a great deal, so sign up early!

The cost of the lecture is \$50 or \$40 if paid by the end of February.

### **Want To Learn More About Our Speakers**

To learn more about Sarah Ann Smith go to <http://www.sarahannsmith.com>.

To learn more about Judith Larzelere go to <http://www.judithlarzelere.com>.

**SUNSHINE****2008-2009  
FVQI Board****President**  
Susan Elliott**First Vice  
President**  
Laurie Rio**Second Vice  
Presidents**  
Judy Ross  
Meg Lines**Treasurer**  
Sue Trimble**Secretary**  
Norma Hartley**Publicity**  
Gina Finch**Newsletter Editor**  
Betty Warner**Socials**  
Anne Baldis**Hospitality**  
Zana Tauro  
Connie Rowles**2010 Quilt Show**  
Paulette Young  
Sandy Kingsley

No news to report this month.

So many members have remarked about how nice it was to receive our cards. Let me know if you hear any member who is ill or suffered a loss. It is appreciated. You can contact Pat Hersl or any board member.

**QUILT CHALLENGE 2009**

Get ready, it's not a fabric, it's not a block, nor is it a theme. But it will be a challenge for many. It's appliqué your way. Pick any method of appliqué you like. It can be needle turn, reverse appliqué, machine or hand, fusible, your choice.

If you've been thinking that one of these days you'd try this technique just jump right in. Nothing scary about it and nothing to buy.  
(We know how much fabric you have)

Your entry in the Challenge 2009 can include pieced blocks. The appliqué should be the featured element of your project. It can be any size you like, from mini to maxi.

The Quilt Challenge quilts are presented at the June Social meeting where they will be greeted with oohs and ahhs by all. Oh, and then there's the Ribbons, Viewers Choice, Best Quilting....and many more.

Don't miss the fun. Get started, you only have six months!

Bonnie Llopis and Judy Prohaska

## Needed: A Few Good Members



**The Nominating Committee is Looking for a Few Good Members.** Here are the FVQ! Board positions open:

First Vice President  
Second Vice President (Meg is staying)  
Secretary  
Newsletter Editor  
Treasurer

If you are interested in any of these positions, please call or e-mail a committee member soon.

Sincerely,

Laurie Rio, Robin Schofield, Jane Hadley



More Neonatal News—from Press Release sent to local papers by Gina Finch

## Quilters Donate Gifts of Warmth and Cheer

A team from the Farmington Valley Quilters (FVQ) brought a little cheer to the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at The University of Connecticut Health Center's John Dempsey Hospital in November. As part of an annual event, over 80 baby quilts made by FVQ members were donated to the Neonatal Unit. Chairpersons Donna Dellacamera and Kathy Lettieri from the FVQ have been collecting quilts made by guild members for the past year before delivering them to the hospital. "The guild wanted to do an on-going service project to benefit someone locally and we wanted the project to be small to encourage many of our quilters to get involved," said long time member Rita Rehm who helped start the project back in the late 1990's. The quilts of various sizes, styles and colors "really brighten up the nursery - both the staff and parents love them," said one of the staff nurses. The quilts are used to cover up the isolettes in which many babies live during their stay in the neonatal unit. The quilts are then given to the parents when their baby is ready to go home. "Our goal is to deliver 80-90 quilts a year to the hospital", said Dellacamera and each one is "Made with Tender Loving Care by F.V.Q." as the label hand sewn onto each quilt states.

**Member Ads:**

If you would like an ad in this section, contact Betty Warner. Members may place a three line ad 3 times per year at no charge.

## Upcoming Quilt Shows and Events

**"Recycling and Resourcefulness: Quilts of the 1930s" (10/21-3/15/09)**

American Folk Art Museum  
New York, NY

<http://www.folkartmuseum.org>

**Mid-Atlantic Quilt Festival XX**

**February 26 – March 1, 2009**

Hampton Roads Convention Center  
Greater Chesapeake Bay / Williamsburg Area  
Hampton, VA

**The Quilt Fest of New Jersey V**

**March 5 – 8, 2009**

Garden State Exhibit Center  
Somerset, NJ

**Machine Quilters Exposition**

April 13-18, 2009, The Center of NH/Radisson Hotel  
700 Elm Street, Manchester, New Hampshire  
Classes from April 13 - April 18  
Quilt Show open to the public Thursday, April 16, 10-6;  
Friday, April 17, 9-6 and Saturday, April 18, 9-5

**"Interfaith Sewing Service Group Quilt Show"**

June 27-28, 2009

[www.fccwillimantic.org](http://www.fccwillimantic.org)

This event will take place at the First Congregational Church of Willimantic and will include vendors, a quilt drawing, crafts, and professional quilt appraisals by appointment. For entry forms & information contact Linda Gardner 860-429-7995 or on the website [www.fccwillimantic.org](http://www.fccwillimantic.org)

URBAN INSPIRATIONS 2009 QUILT SHOW  
AT FASHION INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY  
SEVENTH AVENUE AT 28TH STREET, NEW YORK CITY  
SATURDAY & SUNDAY, MARCH 21 & 22, 2009  
[www.empirequilters.net/pg/eqshow2009.html](http://www.empirequilters.net/pg/eqshow2009.html)

**"Mixed Media Fiber Art"**  
January 7—March 1, 2009

Danforth Museum of Art  
123 Union Avenue  
Framingham, MA  
508-620-0050  
[www.danforthmuseum.org/exhibits.html](http://www.danforthmuseum.org/exhibits.html)

Also

"Faith Ringgold : Story Quilts"  
on exhibit through March 1, 2009

"As Others See Us" (thru 2/22/09)  
Brattleboro Museum & Art Center  
10 Vernon Road  
Brattleboro, VT  
[brattleboromuseum.org](http://brattleboromuseum.org)

"Textural Rhythms: Constructing the Jazz Tradition" (thru 3/1/09)  
Contemporary African American Quilts  
New York State Museum  
Albany, New York

**"President Obama: A Celebration in Art Quilts" (2/9-3/5)**

Cafritz Foundation Arts Center  
Montgomery College  
930 King St.  
Silver Spring, MD

This show comes from an all-volunteer, grass-roots, multi-ethnic group of fiber artists from all across the US and as far away as Australia. Our work is in tribute to our new President, in gratitude for the hope and inspiration he has brought us. We present these art quilts at an unforgettable historic moment in our country's history.

Simsbury, CT, art quilter, Elizabeth Warner (Betty) has two new pieces in this exhibit.

**3<sup>rd</sup> FVQI Retreat—Bayside Resort**  
**Arrive Friday March 6, 2009—Leave Sunday March 8, 2009**

The guild has had 2 wonderful retreats at the Bayside Resort in West Yarmouth, MA. Many are planning to attend again this coming year for another great time.

**DATES:** The weekend is March 6, 7, & 8th at the Bayside Resort in West Yarmouth, MA. We have the function room from noon on Friday through 3 PM on Sunday.

**EATING & FOOD:** Most folks brought food to eat or snack on and something to share with the group (this is optional.) Some brought soups, etc. for lunch, and almost everyone went out for dinner (great restaurants, food, and conversation.) The rate includes a great continental breakfast (waffles, too!); no one went out for breakfast last year.

Each room has a refrigerator and there are microwaves for use in the break room.

**QUILTING:** Quilting went on from 7 AM or so until about 10 or 11 PM. We left our machines set up and all supplies in the function room from Friday on as we could lock the door. Everyone commented that the function room was extremely well lit. They will provide tables, irons, ironing boards, and plenty of outlets.

**SHOPPING:** There were 3 quilt shops within close proximity, and everyone went quilt shopping and some shopped at other stores, too.

**FUN:** We had a great time and got to admire each others projects. Some brought one project and worked on it the whole time, others worked on several different ones. The whole time is unstructured. There are no door prizes, group projects, or teaching sessions. Everyone is willing to help if you get in a bind. We all liked just being with quilters, getting stuff done, shopping at new shops, and socializing. Non-guild members are welcome.

**ROOM S RATES:** The room rate per person is \$79.95 + tax for 2 nights double occupancy. One person from each double should call and make the reservation for the two nights. When you check in they will charge each of you the \$79.95 so the total is \$79.95 a day. If you want a single room, the rate is \$79.95 per day or \$159.90 for the 2 nights.

If you would like to come and don't have someone to share the room with, please contact me and I will try to match people up.

**RESERVATIONS:** The motel is holding a block of 10 rooms for us at the above rates until Feb. 6. You must call 1-800-243-1114 to guarantee your room and mention to the reservationist you are reserving a room at the special rate blocked for "Farmington Valley Quilters".

**Cancellations:** Must be made 72 hrs. prior to your scheduled arrival or a one night cancellation fee will be charged. Non-arrivals will be charged a one night cancellation fee, and the reservation will be cancelled.

Please let me know after you (and your roommate) have made a reservation. If there is more interest I can try to arrange for more rooms.

(go to the next page for more info)

## **More on the retreat .....**

### TRAVEL:

Bayside Resort Hotel, 225 Route 28, West Yarmouth, MA 02673

1.800.243.1114, or 508.775.5669

Website [www.baysideresort.com](http://www.baysideresort.com)

It is about a 3 hour ride. Some of us went early and others came after work, or even Saturday morning. It would be best if you could arrange car pools.

CONTACT: Call or email me if you have any questions: Karen Hines, 651.3640, [chines9@cox.net](mailto:chines9@cox.net).

## **Quilt Show Wrap Up**

You can check it off your list for 2008, start getting ready for 2010

## **2010 Raffle Quilt— from Pat Hersl**

### **2010 RAFFLE QUILT**

At last, progress to report. The quilt is currently in the assembly stage. There are just a few blocks that need to be finished, but all have been assigned and are underway.

And there has been a blessing. Betsy Henebry and her group of quilters have volunteered to hand quilt the finished sampler. It will be queen size at approximately 89" square.

I can't begin to count the number of pieces that were assembled and appliquéd. There are twenty-five 12 1/2" squares plus the setting triangles. A rainbow of greens, reds, pinks, yellows and blues were used.

I want to thank all those who participated. And to the few who came aboard too late for piecing, be sure to ask Betsy about helping with the quilting.

You will be proud of the finished quilt. You deserve it.

Pat Hersl

## SNOW BLOSSOMS FRIENDSHIP BLOCK

### January, February, March - Drawing in March

**DIRECTIONS for one flower** (1/2 a block, 6 1/2" x 12 1/2"). Two flowers sewn together equal 12-1/2" x 12-1/2" block.

**MATERIALS:** Use scraps

- Color A – white (background)
- Color B – green (leaves/stem)
- Color C – flower petals
- Color D – flower center

**CUTTING:**

- Color A (white)- Cut (3) strips, 2 1/2" wide x aprox. 6"  
Cut (2) squares, 2- 7/8" x 2-7/8"
- Color B (green) – Cut (3) strips, 2-1/2" x aprox. 6"  
Cut (2) squares, 2-7/8" x 2-7/8"
- Color C (flower petals) – Cut (4) squares, 2-1/2" x 2-1/2"  
Cut (2) squares, 2-7/8" x 2-7/8"
- Color D (flower center) – Cut (1) square, 2-1/2" x 2-1/2"

**DIRECTIONS:**

1 - Sew together (2) A strips (white) and (1) B strip (green), right sides together, as shown in Figure 1. Press toward dark.

Subcut into (2) 2-1/2" segments.

2 - Sew together (2) B strips (green) and (1) A strip (white), right sides together, as shown in Figure 2. Press toward dark.

Subcut into (2) 2-1/2" segments.

3 – Sew together segments as shown in picture to form leaves/ stem block.

4 – Pair (2) A squares (white), 2-7/8" x 2-7/8" with (2) C squares (flower), 2-7/8" x 2-7/8", right sides together.

Draw diagonal line from one corner to the other on each pair of squares.

Stitch 1/4" seam along both sides of diagonals.

Cut apart on diagonal lines to form (4) 1/2 square triangles. Press toward dark. (Figure 3)

5 – Stitch flower and center squares together, row by row as in flower picture above. Stitch rows together to form flower block.

6 – Stitch stem/leaf block to flower block to complete one flower, 6-1/2" x 12-1/2".

**Have fun! Stitch as many flowers as you like** and they will be combined by the lucky winner into a lovely quilt. **Drawing will take place at the March guild meeting.** Bring in your blocks, Label each one with your name and telephone number. These labels will be used for the drawing.

**Questions?**

Please call Pat Leslie, 677-4611 or Meredith Hurst, 658-4802.

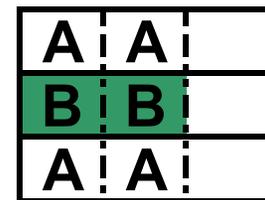
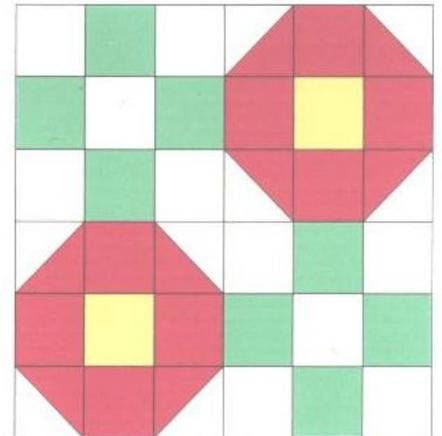


Figure 1

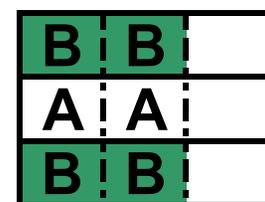


Figure 2

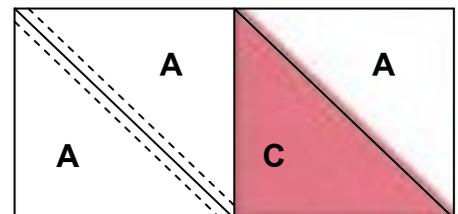


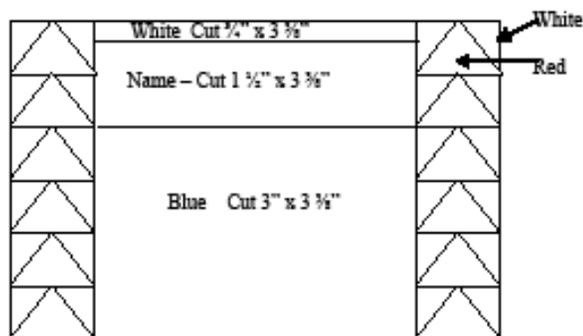
Figure 3

### Farmington Valley Quilters Name Badge

Note: I was working with a  $1\frac{1}{2}'' \times 3\frac{3}{4}''$  pre-printed fabric strip with my name. Without that, all dimensions can be changed according to designer's will. My badge is 5 geese high. 6 geese would allow more room for pins.

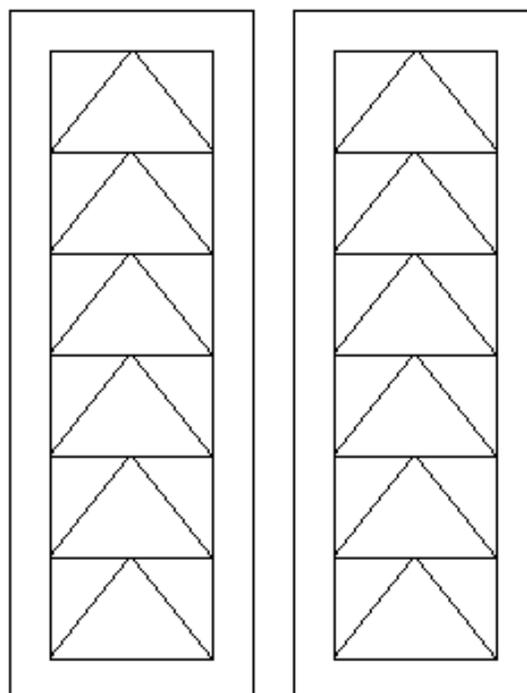
#### Directions:

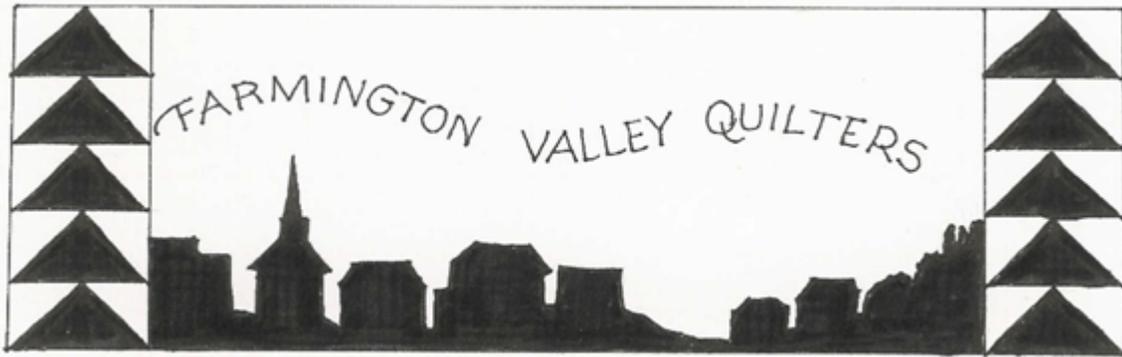
1. Paper piece 2 sets of flying geese units. Geese are red, sky is white.
2. If you are not working with a preprinted name piece, disregard the top indicated and use a piece cut  $1\frac{1}{4}'' \times 3\frac{3}{4}''$ .
3. Add top piece to name piece.
4. Add bottom piece under name piece.
5. Put flying geese units on the sides.
6. Cut a backing  $4\frac{1}{4}'' \times 5\frac{3}{4}''$ . Place back to front, right sides together. Begin stitching  $1''$  from bottom corner and stitch around all 4 corners, leaving a gap at the bottom edge. Turn and poke the corners. Slip stitch bottom closed.
7. Add a pin for wearing about  $\frac{1}{2}''$  from the top.
8. Decorate with you pins.



Paper piece 2 sets of Geese

$1\frac{1}{2}'' \times 4\frac{1}{4}''$  - unfinished size





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Meetings typically held at Eno Memorial Hall  
On  
Hopmeadow Street  
In  
Simsbury, CT

For more information go to  
[www.fvqi.org](http://www.fvqi.org)