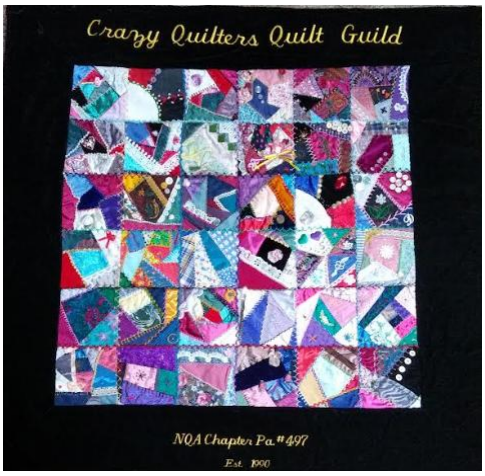


Crazy Quilters Quilt Guild

We Are Crazy About Quilting

No. 416 www.crazyquilters.org November 2026

President's Message

Decisions, decisions, decisions. November is here and we have important decisions to make – and not just related to the upcoming elections! Year's end is approaching and we have projects to complete.

Quilt creation requires many decisions. What pattern, fabrics, thread, and quilt design? Each project presents a kaleidoscope of easier and tougher choices. I love choosing fabric. You may not. Maybe Plan A fizzles and we struggle at a crossroads. Or maybe we face a challenge in our quilting environment.

Lilo Bowman, our October speaker, focused on enhancing our physical environment. There is no quilting loft in my future, but 10 minutes tidying and an extra light have worked wonders for me.

Time environments are trickier. Whether we are in a busy season of our lives with only snippets of time, or have more freedom in our schedule, our creative work is a valuable priority. Progress, even in small steps, is energizing.

And what about our inspiration and support environments? Favorite books, websites, and blogs serve as readily available resources, but there is nothing quite as enlivening as admiring completed quilts and meeting with quilters in person. Our Guild activities fit that bill.

The Crazy Quilters Quilt Guild
meets the first Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m.
at Calvary Baptist Church-Allentown

Guild Officers

President: Katrina Idleman
Vice-President: Karen Rush
Secretary: Jane Rossetti
Treasurer: Kathy Moore
Programming Officer: Jessica Dayon
Membership Officers: Irene Oehmke & Nancy Snyder

Guild Calendar

Monthly Guild Meeting: Tuesday, November 3, 2026
Sit 'n Sews: In-person, November 21, 10:15 – 4:00; Virtual – None.



Happy Thanksgiving

President's Message, (Continued)

Crazy Quilters runs on an active, engaged volunteer engine that keeps it running smoothly. New opportunities are noted later in the newsletter. Consider stretching into a fresh role that supports our positive quilting environment. It's a growth opportunity!

Looking forward to "seeing" you at our Zoom only meeting on November 3.

Warmly, Katrina

Programs

Jessica Dayon

November 6, 2026 – Patricia Belyea- Indigo Adventures in Japan
ZOOM ONLY – NO LIVE MEETING DUE TO VOTING AT CALVARY.

Join Patricia as she takes your guild to Japan for insider experiences to meet indigo masters, visit dyeing studios, tour an indigo farm, and more. Patricia finishes with a display of her own quilts, made with vintage Japanese cottons, and talks about how these special fabrics inspired her.

December 1, 2026 – Holiday Potluck Dinner and Silent Auction. In-Person Only

See the Hospitality Article for details on our Potluck Dinner start time and other pertinent information regarding set up.

Our in-person fundraising event will take place during the annual Crazy Quilters Guild Potluck dinner at the December 1 meeting. This is a silent auction. You will record your name and bid amount(s) on numbered bidding sheets. The highest bid at 8pm will be the winner.

Following are some things to note.

- Drop off dates for donation item(s) at Calvary Baptist Church are:

  - November 28 from 10am -noon in the parking lot
  - December 1 from 10am to noon in the fellowship hall
  - December 1 at 5 PM, in the fellowship hall perishables only

• Please email by Nov. 20, which drop off date you will be using.
• If your donation item does not include a minimum bid amount and/or a brief description, please submit that as soon as possible.
• Notice of donation being made must be received by Nov. 20. (No further items will be accepted after this.)
NOTE: Depending on how many donations are received, a cut-off may need to be imposed due to space constraints. A separate email will indicate if this is the case.
• Members will receive a preview listing of auction items via email in late November.
• Be prepared to remove your unsold donation items at the end of the evening.

Email information and questions to Cathleen Kilpatrick.

January 5, 2027 – Annual Guild Challenge Meeting at Calvary Baptist In-Person Only
** See the details from your Challenge Chairs in their article below.

February 2, 2027 – Bea Byrne- Kick Out Your Inner Critic and Make It Hybrid Meeting
Is everyone else making amazing quilts and yours don't seem to measure up? Or maybe you don't enter your quilts into shows because you don't think they're good enough?

Programs (continued)

Or even you'd like to call yourself an Artist with a capital A but you're embarrassed. Anything sound familiar? Imposter syndrome is something that impacts almost everybody at some point. But there's good news! It doesn't have to control you. In this lecture we look at recognizing what's happening and how to conquer those fears. Ideal for encouraging people to enter quilt shows and share their work.

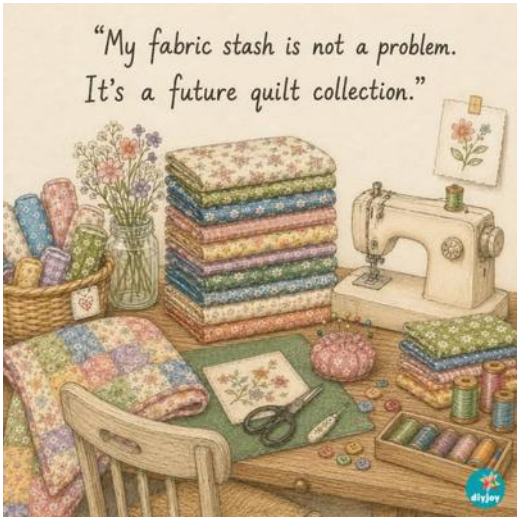
POSSIBLE ZOOM WORKSHOP with Bea Byrne

March 2, 2027 – Jody Beck- Jody's Jems Journey: The First 12 Years
Jody will share her quilting journey through many states and show the inspiration behind the first 21 Jody's Jems patterns.

April 6, 2027 – Pending

May 4, 2027 – Margaret Fleisher- Discovery Through Repetition
Margaret will share her six 100 Day Projects and describe how daily practice, play and experimentation have increased her skills, broadened her outlook and helped her find her creative voice. All of this while having fun, too!

June 1, 2027 – Jamee Pemberton- From Gifts of Love to Finding my Artist Voice. This lecture is a trunk show of my quilting journey. I fell in love right from the start with this art form; and with boundless energy, I jumped in with both feet passionately and prolifically making quilts! This enthusiastic lecture will include loads of quilts and my stories and inspirations for creating them. This lecture should leave you feeling reflective and joyful about your own quilt journey and hopefully will impart some inspiring ideas for your next creations!



IN PERSON WORKSHOP at Calvary Baptist

June 2, 2027 – Jamee Pemberton- Scrap Happy
In this workshop we will explore many ways to organize and USE UP your scraps to make beautiful quilts. It is very rewarding to make beautiful things with leftovers. It also invigorates your creativity to "make do" with fabrics on hand. You can focus on only using scraps or selecting one fabric as a cohesive element while using your scraps. I will provide you with several patterns and ideas. Before the class you will be given a small homework assignment to organize your scraps before bringing them to the class. Plan to make a small quilt or project during this class. We will cover string quilts, made fabric quilts, rainbow quilts, working improvisationally and a whole lot more. Bring your scraps, I will also bring mine to share, and let's have fun. This is a full day workshop and runs from 9-3:30. Doors will open at 8 AM. Lunch will be 30 minutes.

July 6, 2027 – Pending

August 3, 2027 – Annual Social

Bylaws Update

Julie McDonell

Once again, it's time for a Bylaws update. Three or four Guild members are being sought for this task. The length of this process will depend on how many items we consider and when people are available to meet. (It is entirely possible to schedule this for after the holidays.)
Currently the agenda includes changes to duty descriptions of an officer and a couple of committees. Anyone who would like to volunteer or to make suggestions of any other Bylaw/Policy items that should be addressed, please contact Julie McDonell.

********** YOUR GUILD NEEDS YOU **********

Guild Volunteer Opportunities

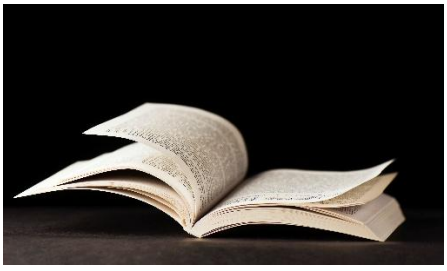
Katrina Idleman

Vacant Board Position – Secretary. Did your friends ask to borrow your class notes when you were in school? Are you handy with a recording device? You'd make a great candidate for the open position of Secretary on the Guild Board.

Committee Chair for Fall 2028 Fundraiser. Attention all planners in the Guild! Fall 2028 has been identified as the season for our next big fundraiser. We have plenty of time to brainstorm, plan, and pull together a great event. To get the ball rolling we need a chair or two co-chairs. Is this your time to shine?

Audit Committee. Our bylaws require that our receipts and expenditures be reviewed annually. We need a two people to review our finances for 2025-2026. Simple addition and subtraction, no calculus required ⍰⍰

Please contact any board member with questions or to volunteer



Off the Shelf – Books and Publications of Interest

Sue Marin

Theo of Golden by Allen Levi. Set in Golden, Georgia, this novel is about an 86-year-old Portuguese man who transforms the residents of this small town through random acts of kindness through art. Some of the themes explored deal with creative generosity and quiet grace while exploring how "being seen" transforms the lives of so many. This unique work also transforms its readers who often pass the book along to loved ones. For those of you who haven't read it, pick up a copy today! For those of you who have read it, you'll be pleased to know that a film version is in the works with Tom Hanks starring as the lead character. Allen Levi has also confirmed that a sequel entitled *Ellen of Golden* is in the works. No release dates have been given to date. If you enjoy "reading" your books via audio, Karen Rush confirms that you'll especially enjoy this rendition. The narrator has a Portuguese accent making the book more realistic.

If you've read a book that you think our members would enjoy reading (does not need to be quilt related), please send the title, author and a brief synopsis to Sue Marin.

2026 Challenge Updates

Kim Carlo, Debra Goodwin, Quinn Pagano

We hope you all have been busy creating unique entries for our annual quilt challenge. This year's challenge is a little different because there are two main categories: Upcyled/Recycled and America 250. See the descriptions below for the specifics of each category.

For both of these options, we will have the following categories:

- Large Quilt (40" X 40" or larger)
- Small Quilt (less than 40" X 40")
- Other (placemats, totes, garments. Wearable art, etc.)
- Original (any product, quilt or otherwise, that was not a purchased pattern created by someone else. This must come out of your own imagination.(If your product was inspired by another creator, please give them credit).

In addition, we will have some other special awards:

- Best Quilt that falls into both categories
- Best Use of Color
- Best Workmanship
- I Wish I Made That

To enter the challenge:
To enter the challenge, please
Bring your completed item to our December 1 meeting (Christmas Potluck)
OR
Send an email to Debbie Goodwin by December 1 to arrange a dropoff time and include the following about each entry:

- o Title of the item (required, even if your entry isn't a quilt)
- o Category
- o Size of the quilt

When dropping off your entry, please follow these instructions:

*Cover any labels that identify you
*f you don't want pins used to secure your entry to bulletin boards, please attach a 4-inch sleeve so it can be hung by a dowel
*Place your entry inside a pillowcase or opaque bag
*Pin a paper with your name and category to the top portion of the pillowcase/bag

Turn Something Old into Something New

For Upcycled/Recycled, make a quilt or other item using repurposed fabric from old clothes or an old quilt. The idea is to take something old such as fabric from an old garment or a old quilt and make something new. You can use leftover fabric from a quilt project to make something different, but don't just remake the same over again. You can also take an item of clothing and transform it. (Remember the examples that Bethanne showed us?) The possibilities are endless for this challenge.

* Note: if you are using an old garment or quilt, if possible, please take a picture of it. We will show the photo with your finished item so people can see the transformation.

America 250

For America 250, create something to celebrate America's 250th birthday. It can be red, white, and blue or it can feature something that is all American.

For both of these options, we will have the following categories:

- Large Quilt (40" X 40" or larger)
- Small Quilt (less than 40" X 40")
- Other (placemats, totes, garments. Wearable art, etc.)
- Original (any product, quilt or otherwise, that was not a purchased pattern created by someone else. This must come out of your own imagination.(If your product was inspired by another creator, please give them credit).

In addition, we will have some other special awards:

- Best Quilt that falls into both categories
- Best Use of Color
- Best Workmanship
- I Wish I Made That

If you have any questions, contact: Kim Carlo, Debbie Goodwin, or Quinn Pagano

Sit 'n Sew

Laurie Murray, Sandy O'Connor & Cathleen Kilpatrick



The in-person Sit 'n Sew at Faith Presbyterian will be held on **Saturday, November 21 from 10:15 – 4 pm.** Bring your project or work on Community Service projects.

Virtual Sit 'n' Sews from May through October will be held on the 4th Wednesday of each month. The time will alternate between evening (6:30 – 8:30 PM) and afternoon (1:30 – 4 PM). **There is no virtual Sit "n" Sew in November.**

Hospitality

Diana DeFanti & Sandy O'Connor

Many thanks to the members who provided refreshments for our October meeting. They were Cathy Schadler, Nancy Sheffield, Lori Smith, Sue Marin, Roberta Whitcomb, Nancy Skok and Georgine Gilligan.

The November meeting is via Zoom so grab your favorite snack and beverage and enjoy them in the comfort of your own home.

December 1st is our **Annual POTLUCK dinner**. This is an in-person meeting only. Traditionally, we all bring our own place setting in addition to a "dish" or crock pot. Please include your serving piece. Place setting includes main plate, bowl, smaller plate for dessert, silverware. In the past, members often brought a placemat and decorations for their table. You may opt to bring paper plates for easy clean-up.

I would like a few members to offer to bring an appetizer for the hors d'oeuvre table. I will have a punch for sipping as we gather. Email me closer to the meeting if that is something you could contribute.

6 o'clock is the magic number to arrive, find a seat and view the items and place bids for our Silent Auction. Eating begins at 6:30.

Membership

Irene Oehmke & Nancy Snyder

We had 69 members attending in person at our October meeting with an additional 6 members on zoom, 3 guests, 1 new member, and 12 renewed memberships. We will continue to accept membership dues by mail. Dues for the year are $45.00. Please make your checks payable to Crazy Quilters Quilt Guild' and mail to:

Kathy Moore

Our newest member is Judy Schilla. Judy has been quilting for 40 years and worked as an Oncology/Stem Cell transplant RN. She is now enjoying retirement, and is a Laura Heine certified advanced teacher (fabric collage). Welcome to the guild Judy!

Birthday wishes for November go out to the following members:

Kathy Moore	November 5
Doreen Gramling	November 12
Julie Johnson	November 13
Julie Borden	November 14
Sue Marin	November 17
S. Jane Merkel	November 19
Donna Gasser	November 21
Rae Consigli	November 25
Linda Griest	November 26



Community Service

Dawn Dengler, Kathie Laposata & Pat Piasecki

The first week of November, we will deliver CQQG's annual donation of quilted placemats and calendars to Meals on Wheels Greater Lehigh Valley (MOWGLV).
Thanks to members who helped to cut fabric and batting at October's Sit and Sew, dozens of easy to sew placemat kits were made available for October 23rd's Community Service *Sew*cial at the Buckeye Road branch of New Tripoli Bank.

Phoebe and Cedarbrook were very happy for the wheelchair quilts that our members have donated and hope to receive more.
We have more wheelchair, pillowcase and other community service project kits available and will bring them to November's Sit and Sew.

Since the last newsletter, we collected:
16 calendars and **129 placemats** to add to our annual autumn donation for the 800+ clients of Meals on Wheels Greater Lehigh Valley, https://www.facebook.com/MOWGLV
17 pillowcases for hospitalized kids, to be distributed to local hospitals by the Lehigh Valley-Berks chapter of Ryan's Case for Smiles, https://www.facebook.com/people/Case-for-Smiles-Lehigh-Valley-Berks-Chapter/61587626488524/
14 cancer comfort pillows which went to The CHEMO Bag, https://www.facebook.com/TheChemoBag/, for distribution in their Bag of Hope totes.
Community Service (Continued)

10 preemie blankets for LVHN NICU babies
5 baby blankets for Cay Galgon Life House, https://caygalgonlifehouse.org/
2 wheelchair blankets for local nursing homes
1 child's quilt
Thank you for another great month of community service!





qui

Local Business News!

A new fiber and fabric arts store, **Stitches and Sweets**, has opened at 1337 Hamilton St., Allentown, PA 18102. Carries quilting fabric and yarns with tools and notions needed for both. Open 10 AM – 6 PM Tue – Sun.

Seamless Sewing Arts is moving to their new location at 226 Schuylkill Rd., Phoenixville, PA 19460. This shop carries contemporary fabrics, offers many classes and quilting services. The new store is scheduled to open November 2, 2026. Open M-Sat from 10-5; Wed from 10 -7. Closed Sunday.

Crazy Quilt Retreat

Sandy O'Connor

Get ready! It's time for the Crazy Quilt Retreat!
Just as the last several years, the retreat will be held at the Blue Lake House 14 Ross Rd. Denver PA 17517
The retreat length will be 5 days like last year. The dates for this Sew/Vacation are Wednesday, November 11th, to Sunday, November 15th.

Set up your sewing machine for the 5-day sew! SEW, SHOP, EAT, REPEAT! It's all FUN! Sleep and relax too, your call!

The cost for all four nights is $287.00 per person.
We can take 14 people. If some people want to room together, we can take a few more. Call now to reserve your spot.

More information will be sent in October to those who have signed up. Last year we planned on some additional activities to do during the retreat.
If you're interested in the retreat, please text / call Sandy O'Connor or email.

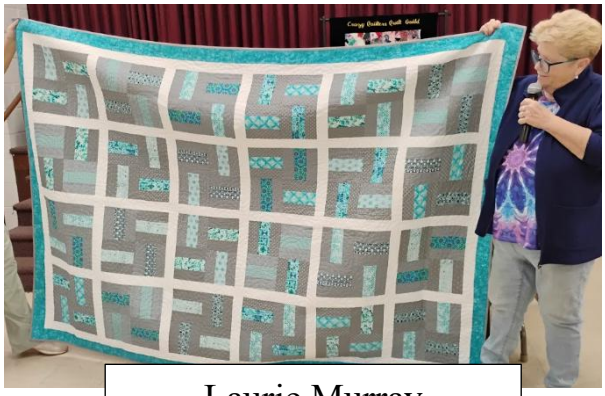


Standing Committees

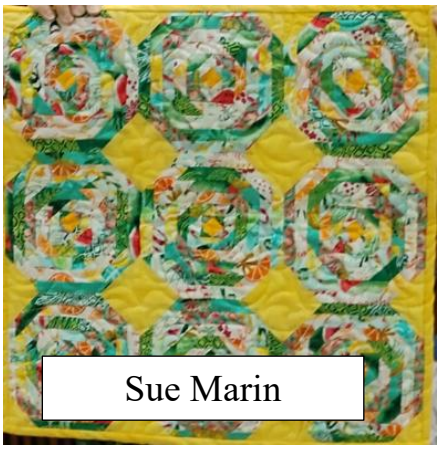
Challenge: Kim Carlo, Debra Goodwin & Quinn Pagano
Community Service: Dawn Dengler, Kathie Laposata & Pat Piasecki
Fundraising & Ways & Means: TBD
Historical: Karen Hartzell
Hospitality: Diana DeFanti & Sandy O'Connor
Newsletter & Communications: Susan Marin
Publicity: Linda Wojciechowski
Quilters Studio: Jessica Dayon
Retreat: Sandy O'Conner
Show and Tell: Suzanne Nelson & Lori Maurer
Sit & Sew: Linda Wojciechowski (In-Person) & Cathleen Kilpatrick (Virtual)
Sunshine and Shadows: Linda Anderson
Technology: Kim Carlo, Katrina Idelman, Cathleen Kilpatrick, Gail Shearer
Website: Nancy Scholz



Lorraine Bujnowski



Laurie Murray

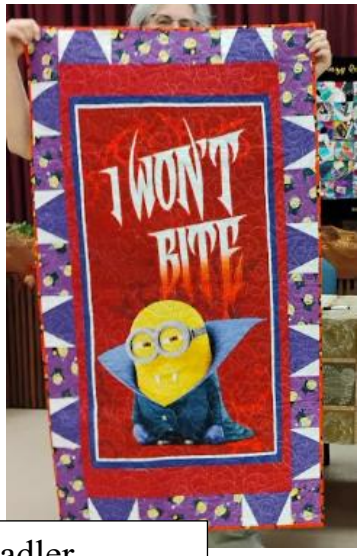


Sue Marin



Linda Wojciechowski





Cathy Schadler

Better Done Than Perfect – October 2026

Show and Tell – October 2026



Dawn Martrich



Anna Blanchette



Debbie Heeps



Doris Horwath



Karen Shaffer



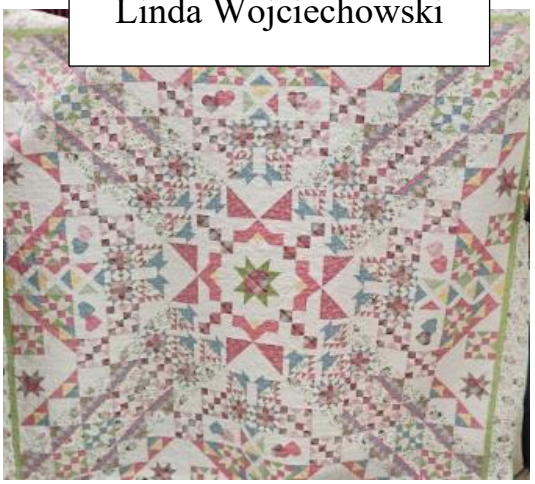
Linda Wojciechowski



Doreen Gramling (R),
Modeled by Lori Maurer



Roberta Whitcomb



More Show and Tell – October 2026





Peggy Keiffer



Nancy Sheffield



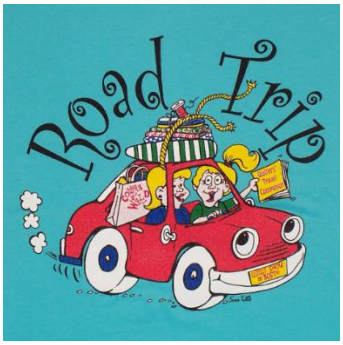








Lori Smith (Left and Above)



UPCOMING EVENTS 2026

July 5-Nov 5 -- Schwenkfelder Library & Heritage Center presents a quilt exhibit by Jamee Pemberton, *From Gifts of Love to Finding My Artistic Voice* Changing Exhibits — Schwenkfelder Library and Heritage Center

October 23 – Nov 7 – 23rd Eastern PA Shop Hop. "Harvest Beauty" by Kansas Studio. Facebook.com/EasternPAShopHop

Sunday, November 8th, about Noon to 3 pm - Group Chemo Port Pillow Making in Memorial Hall (on the main floor inside the north/grove/Neffs entrance) at Union UCC, 5550 Rte 873, Neffs, PA
Stay as much or as little of the time as you're able. If you're bringing a sewing machine, please let Dawn Dengler know ahead of time to reserve a seat near an outlet.
Otherwise, you can just show up and take turns prepping materials, sewing on someone else's machine, stuffing &/or bagging.

November 6-8 – Fall Harvest of Quilts, Pleasant Valley Community Firehall in Westminster, MD

November 14-15 – Newtown Quilters' Guild's 2026 Quilt Show at Newtown Middle School, 116 Newtown-Richboro Road, Newtown, PA 18940. Saturday's hours are 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM; Sunday's hours are 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM. Contact newtownquilters@gmail.com.

COMING IN 2027

April 7-10 – A Quilter's Destination Lancaster-Lebanon Quilt Show. Wednesday – Saturday, 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM. Held at the Lebanon Expo Center. Free Admission and Free Parking.

Workshops highlighted in red are Crazy Quilter Guild events.

If you discover any events to be added, please send information.

Reminder: Newsletter Deadline is always the 21st of the Month
Mark your calendars!