

# Sunset Slope Quilters Newsletter

January 2026 - Volume 34, Issue 1

President: Pam Paxton

Vice-Pres: Kaitlyn David

Secretary: Gini Bright and Debi Sherman

Treasurer: Loretta Bogaard



Newsletter: Jewell Buck

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

Address: PO Box 1521 Grand Junction, CO 81502

## President's Corner 2026

Happy New Year! As we turn the page and begin a fresh chapter, I am delighted to welcome each of you to a new season of quilting. Whether you are an experienced quilter or just starting your journey with needle and thread, this is a time to reflect on our accomplishments and look forward to the creative adventures ahead.

Quilting is more than a craft; it is an art form that connects generations, preserves stories, and fosters a vibrant community. Over the past year, we have stitched together memories, shared inspiration, and encouraged one another through challenges and triumphs. This spirit of camaraderie is what makes our quilting circle so special.

In the coming year, let us celebrate our 40th Anniversary through the diversity of our talents and the beauty of our creations. I encourage you to challenge yourself with new techniques, explore fresh patterns, and perhaps collaborate with fellow quilters on group projects. Remember, every quilt—no matter its size or style—carries a unique story and a piece of your heart.

As we gather for workshops, share ideas at meetings, or simply chat over a cup of coffee (or wine if you prefer), let's embrace the warmth and support that define our quilting community. Together, we will nurture our passion, learn from one another, and make this year unforgettable through fabric, color, and creativity.

Wishing you a joyful, productive, and inspiring New Year filled with laughter, friendship, and beautiful quilts!

## For our Members with Hearing Aids:



If you are having difficulty hearing during our meetings, First Presbyterian has a *Hearing Loop*. Your hearing aid needs to have a T-Coil or Telecoil. Talk with your Hearing Professional to learn if your device has this technology.

## January Calendar

**Board Meeting** - 9:30 January 7th

Mesa County Library - Downtown

**General Meeting** - 9:00 January 14th

Presbyterian Church, 3940 27 1/2 RD

**Program - Program and Workshop Reveal**

**Newsletter deadline January 21st**

## Please silence your cell phone!



I would like to thank all our members for donating to our December Food Drive and making it a huge success. Thanks again!  
Pam Paxton

Thank you for your support!

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# Sunset Slope Quilters General Meeting Minutes December 10, 2025

Meeting was called to order by Shari Keivit, President at 10:00 am

## Announcements-

Reminded members that the Cozy Blanket drawing would be taking place today at the Holiday party.

Happy Birthday was sung to Heather Stadleman.



## Upcoming SSQ Events-

Orchard Stitchers will meet December 16th at Living Hope Church.

The January Board Meeting is January 7 at 9:30am

The January General Meeting is January 14 at 9:00 am at First Presbyterian. The Program will be an overview of the 2026 Programs and workshops.

The November General Meeting Minutes were approved.

**Treasurer's Report-** Loretta Bogaard - November Report \$14,019.03 and the CD is \$5048.61 (increasing about \$16/month) = \$19,067.64

## Businesss-

The **Challenge quilts** participants gave a Show n Tell, 16 members and the theme was "The Night before Christmas". 1st place was Bonnie Stenger 2nd place was Gabi Mear 3rd place was Barbara Bond.

Karen Murray Boston gave a presentation with photos on the **Parade of Lights** and how much fun it was from decorating the float to the actual parade. Sincere Thank You's to all who participated.

The **Red & White quilt** display is at the Library February 20, 2026 to April 9, 2026. All quilts need to be under 100" in its perimeter. All quilts will need a quilt sleeve. Instructions are on the website under downloads. The quilt sleeve can be scaled down to an appropriate size to accommodate the wire/stick. Please bring quilts to the February 11, 2026 General Meeting.

Bonnie Huisjen gave an update on the **Moab retreat**. Still 15 people on the waiting list. She is working with the hotel to see if they can work it out to accommodate all. She will contact the persons on the waiting list personally. Tables will be tight if they can squeeze everyone in. Next years' registration will be completely different. Also a reminder you must call and speak with the hotel to get the room discount, the website does not have a way to add the discounted rooms. Bonnie also gave a brief overview of the **2026 Programs and Workshops** schedule for next year. We will have 12 Programs and 3 Workshops. Emily Taylor will be doing 2 workshops in April. As her fee is hefty we will have signups for it for members and guests in January and February. After that Bonnie will open up the workshops to surrounding area guilds, groups, etc to fill up the workshops. Night guild will not be participating in the workshops so all of the expenses for workshops are on the SSQ. Travel expenses for the presenters are still shared as the night guild gets a presentation as well.

**Joan Walker** shared photos and spoke of her experience of going to the Houston Quilt Festival and encouraged everyone to go if they get the opportunity.

**Membership Report-** Barbara Bond - Barbara shared we have 160 members for 2026 so far and 68 were in attendance with 2 guests who joined the guild for 2026.

**Block of the Month** - Jewell Buck - Jewell passed out quilt labels for the Mystery quilt participants. 2026 Block of the Month will be "Bijou Wanderer". Participants will receive the entire pattern at the beginning. Each month we will complete a block and bring for Show n Tell.

## Committee Reports-

**M2M**- Sign up sheet will be up in January. Two quilts per person will be allowed. January 28, 2026 is the next meeting. Does someone have a quilt they are willing to donate for the silent auction? Please get in touch with Janet Wheeler.

**Sit n Sew**- February 19 & 20, 2026 will be the next one. 22 out of 30 persons are signed up so far. Soup and Salad will be the lunch. \$25 covers both days at the Colorado State University extension office on B 1/2 Road.

**Community Affairs**- Carol Wilson reported 8 quilts need to be bound. Several available to be long arm quilted.

Shari presented **the new Board** to the members, which are:

President Pam Paxton, Vice President Kaitlyn David, Treasurer Loretta Bogaard, Secretaries Gini Bright and Debi Sherman  
Business meeting adjourned at 11:15 am by Shari Keivit, President

Shari was presented with a bag full of batik fabric for her President's present. She thanked everyone for the collaboration and wonderful experience over the last 3 years.

Show and Tell followed the meeting and then the Holiday party started immediately afterwards. The cozy quilt was won by Loretta Bogaard.

Submitted by Debi Sherman, Interim Secretary



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## Tips by Char



**TIP: WHITE TONE ON TONE.** To find the right side of white-on-white fabric, shine a blacklight flashlight on the fabric. The light increases the contrast and makes the motifs pop.

**TIP: A BSK ESSENTIAL.** Place a dry bath puff (the round net variety) in your Basic Sewing Kit for classes, retreats, rendezvous, sewing with friends. The dry puff will clean a cutting mat. Rub it over the mat several times to loosen and pull out the fabric fibers.



# Thank You!

All of the batik fabric is simply beautiful and I cannot wait to get started designing my next project. Thank you for your generosity and kind words.

Shari Keivit



Bring your empty 1 dozen egg cartons to support our local Community Food Bank. There will be a bin at the check-in table every month.



### New Members

Candy Cook  
Aniko Varnai  
Jamie Vavra

### Orchard Stitchers / Community Affairs

Orchard Stitchers would like to thank everyone who has contributed their time and talents to the making of the charity quilts this year, those who have helped to piece, quilt, and bind. It takes a lot of work, time, and love to complete a quilt and the small group of women who gather as Orchard Stitchers could never do it alone. There are many in our club who work from their homes to complete the process. Thank you.

Orchard Stitchers gathers the 3rd Tuesday of the month. The next meeting is Tuesday January 20th. Meetings are held at Living Hope Church, 2840 B 1/2 RD. Meetings are from 9:30 - 2:00. Bring a lunch!

We hope to see you there.  
Jane Yater



Friendships are like pieces of a quilt. Stitched together tightly with love.”

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Hello  
January

Sunset Slope Quilters - Financial Report as of **November 30, 2025**

	<b>NOVEMBER</b>	<b>YTD</b>
<i>Income for the month</i>		
Sit & Sew	\$25.00	\$1,800.00
Moab Retreat	\$1920.00	\$2,867.10
Challenges		\$120.00
Barnes & Noble		\$3,593.03
Donations Table	84.95	\$1,011.45
Rendezvous	\$208.00	\$2,577.00
Membership	\$1,540.00	\$6,420.00
Newsletter (Ad placements for 2025)		\$440.00
Program Speakers *(reimbursement from CWQG)		\$1,272.47
Workshops	\$45.00	\$2,080.00
M2M – SSQ sale of the old Quilt Racks		\$864.20
Income Total	<b>\$3,822.95</b>	<b>\$23,045.25</b>
<i>Expenses for the month</i>		
Block Month	\$26.32	\$26.32
Door Prizes		\$139.13
Special Events (Birthday/Holiday Parties)	\$166.17	\$276.17
Sit & Sew		\$1,287.82
Moab Retreat	\$49.82	\$2,062.10
Challenges		\$120.00
Orchard Stitchers-Community Affairs/TLC		\$1,650.53
Community Outreach		\$200.00
Barnes & Noble		\$130.00
Donations (Orchard Stitchers-Church)		\$200.00
Rendezvous	\$161.96	\$1,279.33
Membership	\$34.40	\$389.27
Newsletter	\$73.20	\$73.20
Program Speakers	\$1,216.05	\$4,394.05
Workshops	\$775.00	\$2,041.56
Library		\$75.92
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES listed below in grey</b>		
Bank Charges/CO Secretary of State		\$50.00
Liability Insurance (annual renewal)		\$723.00
Postage/Supplies/Printing	\$50.59	\$85.53
Rent (First Pres Church monthly fee) (pd through 2025)	\$30.00	\$1,530.00
Storage Unit (annually)		\$1,260.00
Expenses Total	<b>\$2,583.51</b>	<b>\$17,593.93</b>
Net Income	<b>\$1,239.44</b>	<b>\$5,451.32</b>
M2M Quilt Rack purchase (not part of the 2025 original budget)		\$18,749.43
<b>ACCOUNT BALANCES</b>		
Alpine – Checking Account	\$14,019.03	
Alpine – Certificate of Deposit	\$5,048.61	
<b>Total balances</b>	<b>\$19,067.64</b>	

## Sunset Slope Quilters – 2026 BUDGET approved by the SSQ board 12-3-2025.

Notes: Challenges & Community has been removed for 2026.

Since the 12/3/2025 board meeting, Kathleen Wilkins and Donna Nichols have stepped forward and volunteered to handle Challenges in 2026. This topic will be reviewed by the board at the 1/7/2026 meeting.

Board decided not to renew membership with the Colorado Quilt Council.

<i>Income budget for 2026</i>		
Sit & Sew (Dee Hoaglund)		\$1,500.00
Moab Retreat (Bonnie Huisjen)		\$2,080.00
Orchard Stitchers-Community Affairs/TLC (Jane Yater/Rachel Fry)		
Donations Table (Chris Fredrickson/Donna Hobson)		\$1,000.00
Barnes & Noble (Katherine Bullen)		\$2,500.00
SSQ Boutique (M2M) (Janet Wheeler/Eva Hinkle)		\$2,000.00
Rendezvous (Cindy Busker/Debi Sherman)		\$1,000.00
Membership (Barbara Bond)		\$5,000.00
Newsletter (Jewell Buck)		\$400.00
Program Speakers *(reimbursement from Colorado West Quilt Guild)		\$1,040.00
Workshops (Bonnie Huisjen)		\$2,680.00
Library (Jan Hyland)		
	Income Total	<b>\$19,200.00</b>
<i>Expenses budget for 2026</i>		
Block Month (Jewell Buck)		\$25.00
Door Prizes (Dianne Sheldon)		\$150.00
Special Events (Birthday/Holiday Parties) (Pam Paxton)		\$300.00
Sunshine (Janis Watkins)		\$50.00
Sit & Sew (Dee Hoaglund)		\$1,500.00
Moab Retreat (Bonnie Huisjen)		\$2,080.00
Christmas Stockings (Rose Penoyer)		\$100.00
Orchard Stitchers-Community Affairs/TLC (Jane Yater/Rachel Fry)		\$1,578.50
Donations (Orchard Stitchers-Church) (Jane Yater)		\$500.00
Barnes & Noble (Katherine Bullen)		\$180.00
Rendezvous (Cindy Busker/Debi Sherman)		
Membership (Barbara Bond)		\$400.00
Newsletter (Jewell Buck)		
Program Speakers (Bonnie Huisjen)		\$4,345.00
Workshops (Bonnie Huisjen)		\$3,280.00
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES listed below in grey (Board)</b>		
Bank Charges/CO Secretary of State		\$50.00
Dues: Rocky Mountain Quilt Museum annual renewal pd by Programs		
Liability Insurance (annual renewal) 2026 increase of \$78.00		\$801.00
Officer Installation		\$50.00
P.O. Box (annual renewal)		\$188.00
Postage/Supplies/Printing		\$150.00
Rent (First Pres Church monthly fee)		\$1,620.00
Special Events (First Pres Church) Feb. community sew, Sept. Birthday celebration, Dec. Christmas party		\$255.00
Storage Unit (annually) Pd through 5/2026, Jun-Dec 2026 rate increase to \$110/month. SSQ will pay in June and then get on a calendar year beginning 2027		\$770.00
Web Site – Go Daddy pd 12/9/2024 for 2 years – Dec 2026		\$250.00
40 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration		\$577.50
	Expenses Total	<b>\$19,200.00</b>

## Some Preliminary Quilt Show Information



Setup: April 30, 2026 (see specific volunteer sign-up for arrival time)

Quilt Drop-off: April 30, between noon and 1:00

Show Dates: Friday, May 1, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturday, May 2, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Takedown/Loadout: Saturday, May 2, 4 p.m. until 7 p.m.

Quilt Pick-up: May 2, 5:15 to 6:15

• Quilt entry applications and rules are on the website for you to review and print. Printed forms will be available in January at the SSQ meeting. Quilts need not be finished for the photo submitted; just a basic photo showing colors and style of quilt. PLEASE get your entries in as early as possible so we are not scrambling at the end to fill in voids.

• Quilt entry applications will be taken from January 14 through April 8 (both SSQ meetings)

• TWO quilts may be entered per member. Exception: If you are entering a specific SSQ quilt (40th anniversary, 2025 mystery quilt, 2025 Rendezvous sample), these are not included in this number. If we need more than the initial two quilts, we will send out a notice in March for one more special quilt (please do not just grab anything to fill voids).

• Volunteer Signup Sheets will be available in January as handled by Jacque Weimer. Please be sure to get your name down, even if you've mentioned to one of us in passing that you'd volunteer. Please make a note or take a picture of what you signed up for, so you don't forget. An alpha list of volunteers who have signed up will be sent out much closer to the show.

• M2M postcards will be available in January for distribution by SSQ members

• M2M posters will be available in March for distribution by SSQ members after April 1.

• Admission for 2026 is \$8.00; 12 and under free. SSQ volunteers have the option of getting in free on the day they are volunteering.

• As per previous shows, there will be a volunteer to help with security of items such as purses in the Dominguez room, even on Thursday.

New for 2026:

• A 4-inch hanging sleeve will be required on all quilts EXCEPT: Anniversary quilts (although would be very helpful), auction quilts, antique bed turning quilts.

• 40th Anniversary quilts will be hung behind admissions and in Atrium with dowels. We can utilize the hooks we use for B&N, but slipping onto a dowel will present better.

• We will have our antique bed turning once daily in the morning at 11 and will also have a trunk show/bed turning by our own Sharon Braunagel once daily at 2 in the afternoon.

• Lunches provided on Thursday will be for morning workers only (those who empty the U-Haul and are involved in the main setup of racks, boutique, Dominguez room security, and vendor check-in, plus team leaders on hand to work). Lunch will be early, at 10:30-ish and you must be signed up with Jacque Weimer, volunteer coordinator. If you are scheduled to arrive 11:00 or after for your shift, please eat before you come. Thank you.

• Anyone volunteering who will be involved in touching a quilt MUST wear gloves, which we will provide (i.e., check-in, hanging, take-down, ask-me/white glove ladies, bed turnings, anniversary quilt handling, auction quilts, check-out).

• Disposable gloves or laundry clothespins will be available for the general public to use to view backs of quilts. As always, signs will be posted every few quilts to say "please do not touch the quilts."

• There will be a notebook of quilts listed by entrant for anyone who wants to locate a quilt by a specific person. The notebook will be adjacent to the admissions table or just inside the corridor.

Questions? Contact Janet Wheeler.



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## Sit and Sew

February 19 & 20, 2026  
CSU Extension  
3170 B 1/2 RD  
9:00 – 4:30  
Cost – \$25.00



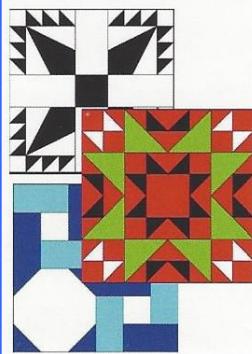
Bring your own projects to work on. Come and go as you want.  
Come and enjoy companionship with your SSQ quilters.  
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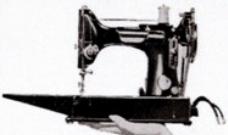
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## January Birthdays

- 1 Joan Walker
- 2 Bonnie Huisjen
- 8 Angie Jones
- 8 Traci Simms
- 12 Vicki Irvin
- 14 Sue Sanmann
- 19 Shari Keivit
- 23 Carla Griffin
- 23 Phillis Quigg
- 25 Stacy Johnson
- 26 Cathy Cormack
- 29 Laurie Gerse
- 30 Emily Tull



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(please print)

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**Telephone: Home:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Cell:** \_\_\_\_\_

**e-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Birthday: Month:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Day:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Annual Membership Dues are \$30; July-December: \$20. Make check payable to SSQ.**

**Annual Dues must be received no later than the General Meeting in January each year to be included in the membership directory.**

**Completed membership form and payment will be accepted at the General Meeting or  
Mail completed form and payment to:**

**Sunset Slope Quilters, PO Box 1521, Grand Junction, CO 81502**

**Total** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**(Information provided will be for the use of SSQ exclusively)**