



Sunset Slope Quilters Newsletter

February 2026 - Volume 34, Issue 2

President: Pam Paxton

Vice-Pres: Kaitlyn David

Secretary: Gini Bright and Debi Sherman

Treasurer: Loretta Bogaard



Newsletter: Jewell Buck

Website: www.sunsetslopequilters.com

Address: PO Box1521 Grand Junction, CO 81502

President's Corner 2026

Hello February! Although most of our days have been sunny, the wind definitely has a chilly bite to it! Keeping me indoors more than I would like. This month is recognized by many as the month of love. I would venture to say that every month for our quilters is a month of love. Why do I say this? SSQ donated nearly 200 quilts in 2025 to our communities and people we don't even know. The love a quilter stitches into a donation quilt is a profound, intentional, and often invisible labor that translates the desire to comfort a stranger into a tangible, lasting embrace. It is a process where the quilter pours their time, skill, and emotional energy into a piece, creating a "hug" designed to provide warmth and security to someone in their greatest time of need. Our program this month (Wed., Feb 11th) is our Community Sew-in given by Orchard Stitchers. I hope many of you can stay and enjoy this "labor of love" as we gather and fellowship together. Please bring your lunch, a few of your favorite tools, and let's make a few quilts and get to know each other better!
Warm Regards, Pam

Reminder:

40th Anniversary Red and White Show at the Mesa County Main Library from February 20th to April 9th, 2026. Bring your quilt to the February General Meeting with paperwork attached (Artist Agreement), which can be found on all of the bottom pages (Download documents here) of the SSQ website.

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.



February Calendar

Board Meeting - 9:30 February 4th

Mesa County Library - Downtown

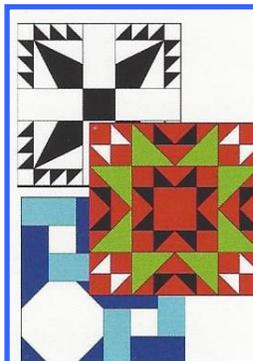
General Meeting - 9:00 February 11th

Presbyterian Church, 3940 27 1/2 RD

Program - Community Affairs Sew-In

Newsletter deadline February 18th!

Please silence your cell phone!



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A few reminders: Please silence your cell phone! Masks are optional. Be respectful of those that are affected by heavy perfume. Please keep side conversations for the break, it can make it difficult for others to hear. Please sign-in and pick up your door prize ticket at the membership desk prior to the start of the meeting.

Sunset Slop Quilters General Meeting Minutes January 14, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 9:00am by President, Pam Paxton.

Announcements-

Carol Brueggeman's daughter Tami passed away.

Upcoming Events-

Orchard Stitchers will meet January 20th at Living Hope Church, 2840 B 1/2 Road. Meet time is 9:30am to 2:00pm. Bring a lunch!

Moab Retreat is January 21 @11:00am to January 24 @ Noon.

M2M Committee Chairs will meet January 28th 10:00am, Central Library downstairs in the Classroom.

The SSQ February Board Meeting is February 4th, 9:30am, Central Library, Mesa Room

Sit-n-Sew will meet February 19-20, 9:00am – 4:30pm @ CSU extension, 3170 B 1/2 Road. Session is full; See Dee

Hoaglund for wait list, future signups, details. Cost is \$25 for both days.

40th Anniversary Red and White Show at the Mesa County Main Library from February 20th to April 9th, 2026. Bring your quilt to the February General Meeting with paperwork attached, which can be found on the website.

The December General Meeting Minutes were amended to correct the winners of the Challenge Quilts and unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report- Loretta Bogaard - January Report which is Year End for 2025 with corrections \$14,800.72 and the CD is \$5,064.92 for a total of \$19,865.64. A year end audit will be performed January 17, 2026.

Business-

The SSQ 2026 Budget was approved by the Board on December 3, 2026 and unanimously approved at the General Meeting as well.

Membership Report- Barbara Bond - Today 77 members were in attendance with 2 guests

SSQ Social Media Report- Karen Murray Boston - Website updates were demoed. Karen encourages members to share posts on Facebook for more exposure. Karen gave a quilt demo for the 40th Anniversary Library display- quilt sleeve, dowel with eye hooks, paperwork and photo. All documents are on website to download and print. The quilts may also be a part of a traveling quilt show, may also be hung in the Barnes and Noble event. Goal of 240 quilt tops for 2026. This goal is for the Community Affairs quilt tops for donation by SSQ in celebration of SSQ's anniversary.

Committee Reports -Block of the Month- Jewell Buck- showed block 2

Communications- Pampaxton24@gmail.com is the email address to use for Pam. Also going forward we would ask all SSQ communications have SSQ in the Subject line.

Community Affairs-

Christmas Stockings-Rose Penoyer a goal of 250, video on website.

Orchard Stitchers- Jane Yater Thanked all the members for all their quilt making, invited all to join them at the sew in after the next meeting

Member Activities-

Moab Retreat-Bonnie Huisjen and team- Bring water bottle as no bottled water will be provided, asked everyone to follow Sleep in Heavenly Peace on Facebook. \$40 for both days.

Sit-n-Sew- Dee Hoaglund- 9am to 4:30pm Feb 19-20. Contact Dee with questions or if you want to attend. This event is full but has a waiting list.

M2M Quilt Show- Janet Wheeler and team- May 1-2, 2026 Accepting applications now, 2 per person, email Janet if you have a 3rd, paperwork, photos, details, quilt sleeve example, volunteer signups for the quilt show and vendors are all listed on the website.

Rendezvous - Cindy Busker and Debi Sherman- We have co chairpersons and actively pursuing a location.



CQC Renewal:

The Sunset Slope Quilters board in January 2026 voted not to renew our membership with the Colorado Quilting Council, Inc. (CQC). We had 4 or 5 members of the board who were participating members of the council and all felt that the organization had deteriorated in the last several years they have been members. We took a vote, and it was unanimous not to spend the money to renew.



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.



Red and White Mini Quilt Show

Our Red and White Mini Quilt Show at the Main Library in downtown Grand Junction is coming Up. The deadline for these treasures is our February General Meeting, which is February 11th. Here are the details just in case:

A Red and White Mini Quilt - design of your choice - 100-inch total around. This is the same as many of our challenge quilt projects.

Due Feb. 11.

Bring it to the General Meeting on that date.

It needs a sleeve please. [Here](#) are the instructions for a sleeve.

You will need a dowel to hang the quilt. It will go through the sleeve.

At each end of the dowel, you will install an eye hook. This needs to be a small eye hook, 1 and ¼ in size or close to that.

Karen will bring an example of the assembly to the January General Meeting.

Please include a completed copy of the Library Artist Agreement found [here](#).

Please also include a completed copy of the M2M Entry Form found [here](#). We are using the same form as M2M.

Once you turn in your Mini Quilt to Karen it will be hung in the library by the staff. If there is anything else significant about the quilt, please type a small description and pin it on your quilt. Library staff will try to include it.

The show runs from February 20 to April 19. Quilts will be taken down April 20.

Karen will assist in taking the quilts down and will store them to be shown during the 2026 Mesas to Monuments Quilt Show.

You DO NOT need to be present for hanging or taking down of your mini quilt for the library display or for the 2026 Mesas to Monuments Quilt Show!

There is a possibility your Spectacular Red and White Mini Quilts will be a "Traveling Show" this year promoting SSQ's 40th Anniversary and the M2M Quilt Show!

More details to come.

IF YOU FORGET YOUR FORMS FOR YOUR MINI QUILT TURN IN AT THE FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING, A FEW EXTRAS WILL BE AVAILABLE. DO NOT PANIC!

Thank you and any other questions or concerns will be addressed at the January General Meeting this week.

Thank you!

Karen



Orchard Stitches / Community Affairs

222 quilts donated in 2025!

We will have a Sew In following the general meeting in February. The Sew In will be held in the Fellowship Hall. Please bring your lunch and sewing machine and come prepared to stay and sew for a while. The Sew In will be after the meeting until about 2:30. We will have kits to work on or you can bring your own. Please call me if you have any questions regarding the Sew In. Jane Yater.

As always we invite you to join us at our monthly Orchard Stitches meeting on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at Living Hope Church 2840 B1/2 Rd

Thank you.
Jane Yater

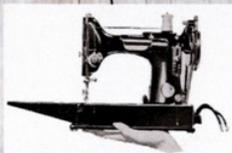


February Birthdays

4 Rachel Fry
7 Donna Ross
8 Jeanette Funk
11 Sharon Simmons
12 Bev O'Neil
18 Kristi Smith
19 Ann Chipman
27 Jackie Aguilar
27 Jane Savaria



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Karen Murray Boston
480-495-5593

karen@frecklesandfatquarters.com

New Members

Susan Adleman
Nancy Hubbard
Marion Nelson
Janet Cummings
Sharon Simmons

See new directories for more information.

Thank you for your support!



Follow us on social
media to see
what's new!



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WWW.NEVERENOUGHSTITCHES.COM

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Tips by Char



TIP: QUILTING TRADITIONS. I found an article on Hawaiian quilting traditions, which was very interesting. According to the article, the quilter's first quilt is the ulu or breadfruit design. Breadfruit is an Hawaiian staple and it is believed if the tradition of the breadfruit design being the first quilt is followed the quilter will always have food in the home and not want for any of life's necessities. The second tradition is to never sit on the quilt. Sitting on the quilt is disrespectful to the quilter and all her/his hard work in completing the quilt. If someone wishes to sit on the bed, simply lift up the corner. The third tradition after the quilt is finished is to sleep under it for one night before giving it away. This is to seal the quilter's love into the quilt.

TIP: THREAD TENSION. Since it is a new year, take your sewing machine in for service. If you can't do that because your schedule is too tight to get it done, **DO THIS.** Put together a quilting sandwich and practice quilting in circles and meanders in various directions. Then check the front of the "quilt" and most important, turn your sample over and check the back stitching. Stitching might look perfectly fine on the front, but a mess on the back. Tension problems can be the result of several factors: Improper top threading -- bypassing the take-up lever or **THREADING WITH THE PRESSER FOOT DOWN. LIFT THE PRESSER FOOT TO OPEN THE TENSION DISCS.** Put a note on your machine to remind yourself. Tension imbalance -- Top tension is too loose, allowing excess bobbin thread to pull through. Bobbin issues -- Bobbin tension is too loose or bobbin is not seated properly. If you have a longarm or a domestic machine, **MAKE SURE THE BOBBIN IS PROPERLY INSERTED IN THE MACHINE.** Dull/bent needle -- A damaged needle can't form stitches properly, causing jams. Check for each of these problems one at a time. Do test stitching after each change. If you use a longarm, use a mirror to see the stitches underneath or use a selfie stick with your phone to take pictures of the stitching. You want the quilt to be usable for yourself, for your customer, for your friend and also for anyone that may receive one of our charity quilts. As you quilt, continue to check the quilting. Problems may arise as you quilt if you change bobbins or rethread the machine for example. Pay attention and everyone will be happy.

SUNSET SLOPE QUILTERS 2026 PROGRAMS AND WORKSHOPS

- January 14, 2026 Program Programs Power Point Presentation
 - February 11, 2026 Program Business Meeting and Community Sew
 - March 11, 2026 Program Mary Anna Powell (970 West 2025) Trunk Show, Modern quilts
 - April 8, 2026 Program Lisa Zahn Collage - Collage
 - April 8, 2026 Workshop Little Bear 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM First Presbyterian Church
 - April 9, 2026 Workshop Day 2 of Little Bear 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM First Pres
 - May 13, 2026 Program RMQM - www.rmqm.org
 - June 10, 2026 Program Jan McFarland - trunk show
 - July 8, 2026 Program Jennie Kae Parks - Leave Quilts, Not Fabric
 - July 9, 2026 Workshop Beautiful Machine Binding (Location and time to be determined)
 - August 12, 2026 Program Rendezvous Program
 - September 9, 2026 Program Birthday Bash
 - October 14, 2026 Program AQUA Trunk Show
 - November 11, 2026 Program Heather Lofstrom Stadleman - Trunk show and quilt appraisal lecture
 - December 9, 2026 Program Business Meeting and Holiday Party
- Visit our website @sunsetslopequilters.com for additional information.



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Sunset Slope Quilters - Financial Report as of **December 31, 2025** – ***CORRECTED***

	DECEMBER	YTD
Income for the month		
Sit & Sew	\$217.00	\$2,017.00
Moab Retreat		\$2,062.10
Challenges	\$86.97	\$206.97
Barnes & Noble		\$3,593.03
Donations Table	\$50.62	\$1,062.07
Rendezvous		\$2,577.00
Membership		\$4,880.00
Newsletter (Ad placements for 2025)		\$440.00
Program Speakers *(reimbursement from CWQG)	\$681.29	\$1,953.76
Workshops	\$45.00	\$2,125.00
40 th Anniversary celebration	\$78.00	\$78.00
Income Total	\$1,158.88	\$20,944.93
Expenses for the month		
Block Month		\$26.32
Door Prizes		\$139.13
Special Events (Birthday/Holiday Parties)		\$276.17
Sit & Sew	\$674.48	\$1,962.30
Moab Retreat		\$2,062.10
Challenges	\$86.97	\$206.97
Orchard Stitchers-Community Affairs/TLC		\$1,595.38
Community Outreach	\$200.00	\$200.00
Barnes & Noble	\$60.00	\$190.00
Donations (Orchard Stitchers-Church)	\$200.00	\$200.00
Rendezvous		\$1,279.33
Membership		\$389.27
Newsletter		\$73.20
Program Speakers	\$10.00	\$4,404.05
Workshops		\$2,041.56
Library		\$75.92
OPERATING EXPENSES listed below in grey		
Bank Charges/CO Secretary of State		\$50.00
Liability Insurance (annual renewal)		\$723.00
Officer Installation	\$6.43	\$6.43
P.O. Box Rental	188.00	188.00
Postage/Supplies/Printing	\$89.26	\$174.79
Rent (First Pres Church monthly fee) (pd through 2025)		\$1,585.00
Storage Unit (annually)		\$1,260.00
Expenses Total	\$1,615.14	\$19,208.92
Net Income	\$(456.26)	\$1,786.01
M2M Quilt Rack purchase (not part of the 2025 original budget)		\$18,749.43
M2M – SSQ sale of the old Quilt Racks		\$864.20
ACCOUNT BALANCES		
Alpine – Checking Account	\$14,800.72	
Alpine – Certificate of Deposit	\$5,064.92	
Total balances	\$19,865.64	





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Last Service on ___/___/___

The following statements to membership are being submitted by Loretta Bogaard, Treasurer for Sunset Slope Quilters.

December 31, 2025 - Treasurer Report – CORRECTED.

Further review of the final report for December 31, 2025, found certain monies received in late 2025 had been included in the report. These monies are considered pre-pays for 2026 and therefore are not to be included. Please find included in this newsletter the corrected report.

MAILINGS OF SSQ documents

Recently a SSQ member contacted our President questioning why the Alpine Bank statements were being sent to the Treasurer's home. Please be advised, Alpine Bank requires a physical address for all accounts. No account can be opened using a P.O. Box. Therefore, the Treasurer's home address was listed as the physical address when the accounts were opened in August 2025. All correspondence/statements related to the accounts can be sent to the P.O. Box. Effective 1/9/2026, all future correspondence will be sent to the SSQ P.O. Box 1521, Grand Junction, CO.

INSURANCE

An inquiry was received from a member questioning whether SSQ should have a Directors & Officers (D&O) insurance policy. A discussion on this topic was held on 1/13/2026 with our insurance broker who explained SSQ does not fit the need for D&O insurance. The explanation is as follows with (1) being the most important: (1) SSQ does not have Directors & Officers positions within its organization, (2) SSQ is not like a lawyer or doctor office promising a service and not following through, (3) if SSQ promised to make quilts for an organization it is unlikely that organization would try to sue SSQ for not following through and (4) the cost would be approximately \$1000 per year if this option even applied to SSQ. Please find insert below a snapshot of our insurance coverage. Per the discussion with the broker here are the simple explanations of our coverage.

Each Occurrence Limit

General Aggregate Limit – INJURY ONLY

Products/Completed – AFTER THE EVENT INJURY

Personal & Advertising Injury Limit – LIABLE for lying about something

Damages to Premises Rented to You – MEETINGS AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

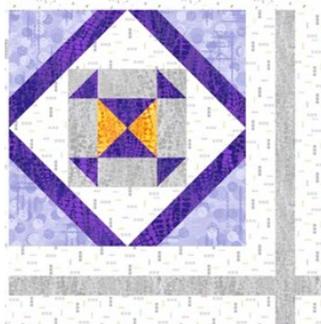
Medical Expense Limit – DIAGNOSIS, not related to an injury

Limits of Insurance

Each Occurrence Limit	\$1,000,000
General Aggregate Limit (Other than products/completed-operations)	\$2,000,000
Products/Completed-Operations Aggregate Limit	\$2,000,000
Personal & Advertising Injury Limit	\$1,000,000
Damage to Premises Rented to You Limit (Any one premises)	\$1,000,000
Medical Expense Limit (Any one person)	\$1,000

Block of the Month

Don't forget to bring block 2 to share with members. Block 3 (below) will be shown. I hope you are enjoying Bijou Wonder!! Jewell



**Psychologists say:
As human beings, we are
hard wired to collect things**

**Make no mistake...I am using this
to my defense next time someone
brings up my fabric stash**

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 at 970-216-6865



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