



*letter from the president >>>*

Summer is a season filled with celebrations! We've enjoyed honoring graduation milestones, and we are now preparing for our 30th Anniversary Party on July 13. During these special gatherings, we have the opportunity to meet new people, strengthen friendships, and reconnect with familiar faces. I'm looking forward to all the wonderful connections and reconnections at our anniversary party.

Celebrations are often made even sweeter by sharing food. By now, it's no secret around the guild that I love to cook and bake! With that in mind, I thought it would be fun to share one of my favorite recipes. This recipe was inspired by a chocolate bundt cake that I've adapted into delicious cupcakes. I also want to give credit where it's due—my sister-in-law (whom many of you have met) inspired the espresso-flavored buttercream and raspberry topping that make these cupcakes extra special.



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

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**Not a member?**  
Click [here](#) to join us!

Your Monthly Link to **LNCQ**

**LNCQ Life** June 2026

## Joan's Journal



Joan Fulton, 2026 LNCQ President

### Welcome New Members!

A warm welcome to these new members who joined in May We look forward to getting to know you!

Mary Casey  
Lorrie Hocke  
Laura Lake  
Mary Casey  
Lauren Bellflower  
Mari Harpold

### Joan's Chocolate Cupcakes

1 cup sugar	½ cup hot coffee
2 eggs	1 tsp vanilla
½ cup canola oil	½ cup sour milk
1 ½ cup flour	
1 ½ tsp baking powder	
3/8 cup cocoa	
1 tsp salt	

Combine sugar, oil and eggs. Beat until light and fluffy. Mix flour, baking powder, salt, and cocoa ensuring that the dry ingredients are well mixed together. Add to sugar and eggs. Add coffee and sour milk. Beat well. Bake as cupcakes at 350 degrees F. until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean.

### Buttercream Frosting and Topping

½ cup butter (softened to room temperature)  
2 cups confectioner sugar  
2 Tbsp espresso  
Fresh Raspberries

Cream butter and sugar. Mix in espresso. I use an icing bag and pipe the frosting on the cupcakes. Then I top each cupcake with a raspberry.



## June 1, 2026 Meeting Highlights.

Valerie C. White shared her journey with us explaining how she moved from traditional quilting with her early quilts into the world of art quilting. Her journey was incredible and her work transformational. She shared her techniques, inspiration, and creative exploration, all of which helped shape her work. Her presentation and quilt work was truly inspiring. An unbelievable journey to be sure!

This was followed by a business meeting including a list of upcoming programs all of which can be found on the [LNCQ](http://www.LNCQ.org) webpage.

### 2026 Meeting Dates

**JULY 13 – 1:30 PM LNCQ Birthday Party**

**AUGUST 3 – 1:30 pm**

**SEPT. 14 – 6:00 pm**

**OCT. 5 – 6:00 pm**

**NOV. 2 – 1:30 pm**

**DEC. 7 – Holiday Party and Silent Auction**

**Mark Your Calendars!  
All Meetings at Best Western in  
Loveland**

### **Kid's Kamp**

We had a great program developed, but due to timing, we were unable to get sign ups.

We've determined that Kids Kamp will not work this year, so we're taking some time to regroup and evaluate the best ways LNCQ can inspire and support the next generation of quilters."

A big Thank You to LNCQ members who helped us with the preparations this year – we will use everything for next year.

## Programs Task Force

Volunteer  
Opportunity!

We are organizing a taskforce to help set up and take down supplies such as ironing and cutting stations at the Best Western at workshops! Having a dedicated team will help everything run smoothly. If you are willing to pitch in, please contact Pat Baker at [Programs.Vice.President.LNCQ1996@gmail.com](mailto:Programs.Vice.President.LNCQ1996@gmail.com)

## The Quilted Forest

Although sign-ups for the quilted forest have closed, we are still having workdays for those interested. Watch for upcoming workdays.

Feel free to come and join the fun!

## Small Groups – How about one that meets in the evening?



Are you interested in joining a small group that meets in the evening? Please let us know and we will help to set up a small group that accommodates our members who have commitments during daytime hours. Contact Joan at [President.LNCQ1996@gmail.com](mailto:President.LNCQ1996@gmail.com)

# LNCQ Garage Sale

**Saturday, June 6**

THANK YOU to:

- everyone who donated items
- everyone who helped set up
- everyone who helped sell items

**SUCCESS!!**

**Thanks to the support from LNCQ members we had a successful fundraiser making over \$1000. This money is used to support LNCQ programs and our community service quilts.**

**Kathy Winter is a fantastic chair of the Ways and Means Committee. Her work and expertise made the Garage Sale the success it was.**

**THANK YOU Kathy!!!!**



# LNCQ 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party

Mark your calendar now!

**July 13, 2026**

**1:30 PM**

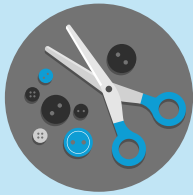
**Best Western Inn, Loveland**

**A fun time with games, conversation  
and good times with LNCQ Friends**

**We will have birthday cake (including gluten free)!**

**Volunteer  
Opportunity!**

**If you're interested in helping out with the  
party or the 30th Anniversary Committee,  
please reach out to Joan or Crystal.**



## Spotlight on Jackie Galbraith

Pat Baker and Crystal Wentz



Thirty years ago, a group of Northern Colorado quilters got tired of driving to Estes Park every month for guild meetings. Somewhere along those winding mountain roads, between conversations about fabric, quilting, and life, an idea began to take shape: Why not start a guild closer to home?

“We thought, this is ridiculous,” Jackie G. remembered with a laugh. “We need to have one in Loveland-Fort Collins.”

That simple conversation eventually became the League of Northern Colorado Quilters.

Jackie was one of the original 12 founding members who helped bring the guild to life in 1996. Looking back now, she remembers those early days not as stressful or overwhelming, but as exciting. “Oh yeah, we had fun,” she said. “We had a lot of fun planning it. We had fun getting it organized. We had fun just meeting people.”

The founders expected modest interest when they held the very first meeting at First Christian Church. They carefully set up 50 chairs and thought that would surely be enough. It wasn't even close. More than 100 people showed up. "We scrounged every single room in the church building to find chairs," Jackie recalled.

That first meeting made one thing immediately clear: Northern Colorado had been ready for its own quilt guild for a very long time.

At the time, local quilters were traveling to a guild in Estes Park or Colorado Quilting Council meetings that took place all over the state just to find quilting friendships and education. Word spread quickly about the new local guild, mostly through conversations and connections between quilters.

"I think it was just word of mouth," Jackie said. "That's how badly Loveland-Fort Collins needed one."

The guild quickly found its rhythm. The first speaker was Carolyn Rendonte, who gave a presentation on plaids. Meetings, programs, retreats, and friendships followed. Over the years the guild changed and evolved, split and came back together, but Jackie says she's impressed that three decades later, LNCQ is still going strong. "It is. And I'm amazed that it is. It's exciting," she said.

One of Jackie's favorite early memories involves the guild's very first retreat at the Holiday Inn in Estes Park. While standing near the front desk, she overheard a man say he wanted to attend "strip poker" after seeing the ice breaker game on the retreat agenda. "He said 'I'm going to this party!' And I said, 'You'd be disappointed,'" Jackie laughed.

Like the guild itself, Jackie's quilting journey began with simple inspiration. In 1976, during the quilting resurgence that swept across the country, she saw a quilt on the cover of *Quilter's Newsletter* and thought, "I can do that."

Ironically, she still hasn't made that particular quilt. "To this day, I still haven't done that quilt," she admitted. "But I have done lots of quilts" she said with a smile.

Back then, quilting looked very different from today. Jackie didn't have a large fabric stash or shelves full of supplies. She bought only what she needed for each project because that was all her budget allowed.

"Not like I do today," she joked, referring to the large fabric purchases she now makes for her quilt shop, Quilter's Dream.

What hasn't changed is her love of quilting itself. Even now, after long workdays at the shop, Jackie still spends late nights sewing. "I go home from work and usually it's two or three o'clock before I get to bed," she said. "Because I'm still quilting."

When asked if she has a favorite quilt she's made, her answer perfectly captures the spirit of a lifelong quilter. "I just like the end result of playing with the fabric," she said. Her favorite pattern? "Stars, mostly."

And after nearly 50 years of quilting and 30 years of guild history, Jackie's advice remains refreshingly simple:

***"Just enjoy it. Have fun. Learn from others."***

It's hard to imagine a better description of what LNCQ has been doing for the past 30 years.

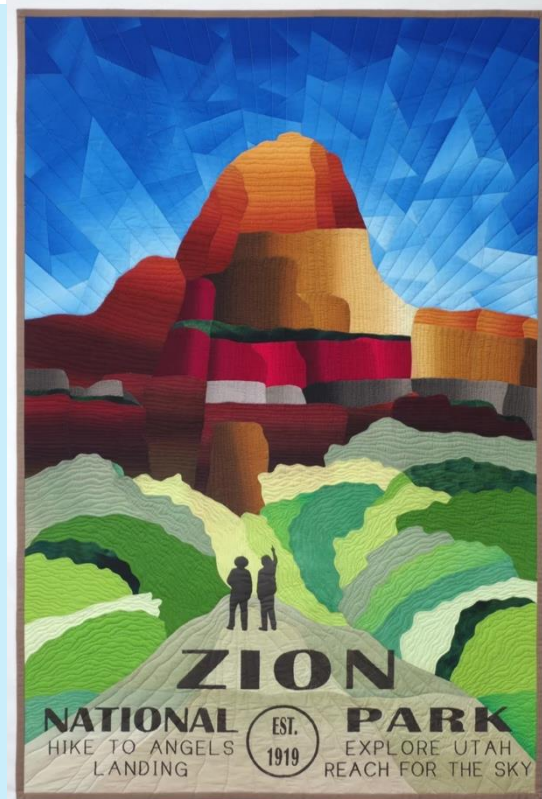
# August Meeting: VICKI CONLEY

**Program: *Inspired by the Parks: Inspiration and Imagination to Quilts***

When: Monday, August 3, 2026, 1:30 pm

Where: Best Western

Vicki will share inspiring journeys through the national parks and how she combines photo inspiration and imagination to make graphic style art quilts. She will share stories and history about the parks as well as her creative techniques such as turned edge machine piecing, fussy piecing, silk screening and improv piecing. Although Vicki is known for her poster style quilts, she often works in abstract and improv techniques to fulfill her vision.



## Vicki Conley Two-Day Workshop

When: August 3, 8:30AM to 12:30PM &

August 4, 8AM-Noon and 1PM-5PM

Where: Best Western

Fee: \$120

In this class you will construct Vicki's toadstool rock formation pattern and learn her turned-edge machine piecing and fussy piecing techniques. This is not applique, but a method that can be used for bold landscapes or portraits.

Vicki uses *Floriani Stitch and Wash Fusible tearaway stabilizer* which is left in the final piece leaving it soft and stable.

[Registration](#) is open and FILLING UP FAST!

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

# September Meeting and Workshop: Beth Soderquist

## Program: September 14 at 6 PM

Join us for an inspirational presentation as Beth shares her personal quilting journey and the many creative paths quilting has taken her. The presentation highlights the evolution of style and skill through decades of quilting. Enjoy seeing a wide variety of quilts including traditional and modern piecing, wool applique and machine and hand embroidery.

## Workshop: September 14. 10:00 AM – 4:30 PM

Take the mystery out of perfect points in this fun, skill building workshop featuring 3 different star blocks to create a wonderful table runner.

Registration opens soon!

**NOTE:** This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday in September due to the Labor Day Holiday



# Fall Retreat October 2026

October 19- 22, 2026 Monday – Thursday  
4 Days/3 Nights of quilting fun



Early Bird Registration Opens August 1

Open to LNCQ Members only

\$430 Double Room

\$610 Single Room

Regular Registration Opens September 1

Open to LNCQ Members and Non-Members

\$450 Double Room

\$630 Single Room

*LNCQ Members  
- Sign up early  
and get the Early  
Bird Rate*

YMCA of the Rockies with many amenities

Visit Estes Park for lunch and/or shopping

Beth Soderquist has a great team creating a superb  
experience for all of us.



# 2026 Block of the Month Challenge: Bijou Wonder

We're thrilled to offer the 2026 Block of the Month (BOM) challenge, *Bijou Wonder*—a fun, year-long project designed to keep you sewing and inspired all year long. This cheerful quilt combines block designs with a modern sashing look that makes it both familiar and fresh.

In honor of LNCQ's 30th Anniversary, there is NO FEE to participate. Everyone is welcome and *you can join at any time*. You'll receive a new block pattern by email on the 15th of each month through December 2026. Work at your own pace, sew along each month, or save them up for a last-minute marathon - the choice is yours!



Finished *Bijou Wonder* quilts will be revealed at the January and February 2027 meetings.

Help is always available along the way. A dedicated Facebook group is set up for sharing progress and asking questions, and participants are also welcome to reach out directly for support. The blocks are fun and hope you join us! You can see members' completed blocks for months January through May which are posted in the Facebook group.

Ready to join us? Click [here](#) to sign up and be part of our 2026 Bijou Wonder Block of the Month challenge. Contact Crystal Wentz at [1st.Vice.President.LNCQ1996@gmail.com](mailto:1st.Vice.President.LNCQ1996@gmail.com) with any questions.

# Community Service Roundup!

Volunteer  
Opportunity!

LNCQ recently donated 4 quilts to the Palliative Care at Medical Center of the Rockies. In addition, 2 quilts were completed during the May Community Sew day at Quilter's Dream.

Our next project will be the Christmas Tree skirts given to Realities for Children during the holidays. Christmas tree skirt "kits" will be available at the upcoming Community Sew at Quilter's Dream on **June 26, 2026 at 10:30.**

There will be no Community Sew day in July.

For more information or questions, contact Betty Ann Eash at [community.service.lncq1996@gmail.com](mailto:community.service.lncq1996@gmail.com).

## Postcard Requests

One function of LNCQ is showing caring concern for guild members going through difficult times.

Please send requests to Eileen Maelzer to ask that a quilted postcard of encouragement be sent to a LNCQ member and it will be mailed.

Thanks to all the LNCQ members who have hand-made these quilted postcards. They are very special. Send your request to: [joanmaelzer@gmail.com](mailto:joanmaelzer@gmail.com)

## For Sale by Members

If you are looking for great deals on quilting tools and machines or have something to sell you might want to check out the

For [Sale by Members](#) section of the LNCQ website.

This service connects members but does not constitute an endorsement of the items for sale.

# **Quilting Community News >>>**

**Let's keep up the great participation from LNCQ members in our County Fairs and bring home the ribbons!**



## **Larimer County Fair July 31 to August 4, 2026**

### **July 22 deadline to enter**

Plan to enter one of your quilts in the Larimer County Fair. Registration is open and will close Wednesday, July 22nd.

For more information:

<https://www.treventscomplex.com/events/larimer-county-fair-rodeo/open-class-exhibitions>



## **Weld County Fair July 18 to 27, 2026**

The Weld County Fair is also a great place to enter your quilts. Entry deadlines will be announced soon.

For more information, click on the following link:

<https://www.weldcountyfair.com/About/General-Information>

# Quilting Community News >>>

## Call for Entries: Colorado Quilts Exhibit

Rocky Mountain Quilt Museum is exploring a new 2027 theme: Colorado Quilts. This challenge celebrates Colorado's many facets—living, working exploring, its varied landscapes, colors, weather, wildlife, and discoveries. All quilters are welcome to take part.

<https://www.rmqm.org/call-for-entries.htm>

## Jukebox, Forever: A Celebration of Kelly Gallagher-Abbott



Artist's Reception:

Date: Friday, June 26, 2026

Time: 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Celebration of Life:

Date: Saturday, June 27, 2026

Time: 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Family and friends of Kelly Gallagher-Abbott are hosting a multi-day exhibition and celebration of her life and artistic legacy at the Center for Creativity in Fort Collins, June 24–28, 2026. The event includes a public gallery exhibition, an artist's reception with refreshments on June 26, and a memorial service on June 27. All events are open to the community.

Gallery Exhibition: (Open to All!)

Location: The Center for Creativity (C4C), 200 Matthews Street, Fort Collins, CO.

Dates: Wednesday, June 24 – Sunday, June 28, 2026

Hours: 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. daily