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Your Monthly Link to LNCQ

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

LNCQ

life

January 2026

Let it
Snow...Please!

letter from the president >>>

Joan's Journal

Happy New Year 2026!

LNCQ had a fantastic 2025! There are many highlights but I'll share just a few:

We expanded our programming with monthly meetings (except July), offering both afternoon and evening options to better serve all members.

Co-Chairs Crystal Wentz and Kathy Winter revitalized the Ways and Means Committee, leading successful fundraisers—including the pressing and design boards, t-shirts, mums, and a Holiday Party and Silent Auction—raising \$9,901.70 to support expanded programming.

Our growing visibility brought new members, with 2025 membership reaching 178. Welcome to all! We look forward to getting to know you as you get involved in LNCQ programs, small groups and other activities.

The UFO and Round Robin challenges were so popular that not all quilts could be fully viewed in December; Show and Tell Co-Chairs are planning additional viewing opportunities once quilts are finished.

Our mission statement says we provide education, information and inspiration to those who wish to preserve the heritage of quilting. There is no doubt in my mind that we are doing that and a whole lot more. Fellowship, friendships and support for fellow quilters is evident every day as we watch our LNCQ programs, small groups and other activities. Here's to a great 2026!



Joan Fulton, 2026 LNCQ President

Welcome New Members!

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

**Susan Scott
Jeanne Jorgenson
Melanie Evans**

2026 marks LNCQ's 30th anniversary! To celebrate, I'm sharing a photo of the quilt I made for my parents' 50th anniversary: Judy Niemeyer's Wedding Star by Quiltworx. Anniversaries invite us to reflect and look ahead, and this year we plan to do both. Crystal Wentz is leading the 30th Anniversary Committee, exploring LNCQ's history, reviving favorite traditions, and sparking new ones—Crystal welcomes your stories and ideas—send her a message: 1st.Vice.President.LNCQ1996@gmail.com



The Quilted Forest

A big thank you to all who signed up to contribute a piece for our Quilted Forest exhibit! Your creativity and generosity will bring this project to life in a way that truly showcases the spirit of our guild. **Our first workday is coming up on January 23 at Quilter's Dream in Loveland.** Stay tuned—this is going to be a magical display, and we're so grateful for everyone lending their talents to make it happen.

If you haven't signed up yet, good news! The deadline to sign up to participate has been extended, so fill out the form and submit your idea. Want to join in but not sure what to do for your piece? No problem! Sign up anyway and we will help you!

SIGN UP NOW!



Artist Rendering

Membership Renewal Time!

Don't let your LNCQ membership ghost away—renew online today for 2026.

Renew Now

30th Anniversary Committee

We're forming a special committee to plan exciting events for LNCQ's 30th anniversary in 2026, and we'd love your help! This team will brainstorm, organize, and bring to life memorable celebrations that honor our guild's history while making the year truly unforgettable. Whether you have big ideas, organizational skills, or just enthusiasm to share, your contributions will help make this milestone year shine. If you're interested in being part of the 30th Anniversary Committee, please reach out to Crystal at 1st.Vice.Pres.ident.LNCQ1996@gmail.com to join!

January 5th Meeting Highlights

We had a very successful and enjoyable workshop prior to our monthly meeting where participants learned how to create a more **eco-friendly bag** using upcycled designer fabric. Twenty lovely bags were completed and on display.

Maggie Hendricks of Fort Collins **Create Good Company** gave an informative and very interesting presentation of her business, which is a clothing company dedicated to using sustainable clothing to prevent textile waste and repurposing older clothing and quilts into updated fashionable items. Many questions were generated by the group, all of whom showed a genuine interest in donating quilts, orphan blocks, and other material for Maggie and her team to repurpose.

David Taylor provided an update for the **Quilted Forest project** and is providing a **free workday Friday, January 23 from 10 to 3 at Quilters Dream in Loveland.** Anyone and everyone is welcome to come and learn more about this guild project.

We then had a short business meeting where this year's 2026 budget was approved.

Community Service Roundup!

Thanks to all who have maintained our ties to the community with quilting donations. Whether it is making kits from our fabric stash, piecing, long-arming, binding, or washing and drying finished product, we know this is a multi-job task! Many thanks go to Susan Truitt for maintaining our stash of supplies. And thanks to Mary Doty for hand delivering over 100 finished masterpieces to the following recipients over the last year:

- Life stories/CASA
- MCR Palliative Care
- McKee Infusion Center
- Realities for children
- Alternatives to Violence
- Meals on Wheels.

Many guild members have indicated that they are willing to help with community service projects. So, mark your calendars for the **4th Friday of each month from February to October** to attend LNCQ community sewing days at [Quilter's Dream](#) in Loveland from 10:30 to 2:30.

Remember, we accept members' donations of yardage for backings, fabric, and completed quilt tops. For more information or questions, contact Betty Ann Eash at Community.Service.LNCQ1996@gmail.com.

February Workshop:

Freezer Paper Piecing with Becky Williamson



If you have ever tried foundation paper piecing and dislike the tearing away of paper after stitching, this is a workshop for you! Also a great class for someone who would like to learn foundation paper piecing.

Location: [Best Western](#), Loveland Colorado

Date: February 2

Time: 8:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Cost: \$30 plus \$20 kit fee payable to the instructor on the day of the workshop

[Register Now](#)

February Meeting - Demo Days

Join us at our monthly meeting, February 2, for our Demo Days, which will run from 1:30 to 2:30 at the beginning of the general meeting. There will be four demo stations. Each member will be assigned a group and will rotate through each of the four stations, every 15 minutes. Our guild members who will be providing the demonstrations are:

Carol Mancuso-Circular sock knitting

Joan Fulton-Mitered borders

Wendy Watson-Improv quilting

Margaret Reek- two-color binding

March 2 Meeting – Alycia Carmin

Quilts of Valor will be Alycia's focus at the March LNCQ meeting. This nationally recognized organization honors service members and veterans touched by war with handmade quilts that say "thank you" for their sacrifice. Our speaker will share the mission of Quilts of Valor, stories behind the quilts, and ways our guild members can get involved in this meaningful outreach. Join us to learn how quilting can be a powerful expression of gratitude and service.

Alycia will also be leading the workshop before the program in March. Be sure to come out and help support our Quilts of Valor program.

Date: March 2

Time: 6:00 pm

Location: Best Western, Loveland Colorado

March Workshop – Quilts of Valor

Come sew blocks and help assemble a quilt for Quilts of Valor. There will be pre-cut star and rail block kits. No need to bring fabric unless you would like to donate. A supply list will be provided with traditional sewing supplies.

The fees collected for the workshop (minus any workshop expenses) will be donated by LNCQ to Quilts of Valor! Let's make this exciting opportunity a fun event! [Register now](#)

When: March 2, 12:30-4:00 p.m.

Where: Best Western Plus, Loveland

Cost: \$20 includes provided kits



Spring Retreat April 20-23, 2026

Join your fellow LNCQ members at the YMCA of the Rockies in Estes Park for 4 days of sewing, camaraderie and beautiful scenery.

Dates: April 20-23

Location: YMCA of the Rockies, Estes Park, CO (Longs Peak Lodge)

Price: \$470 for a Double room
\$650 for a Single room

Price includes three breakfasts and three dinners. Our sleeping rooms have a small fridge, so you can bring fixings for lunch, eat at the YMCA cafeteria or go into town. Each room has 2 queen beds and a private bathroom.

If you don't have a roommate, we will help you find one. Don't worry if you don't know anyone – we will fix you up at a table with members who will welcome you into the fold!

Registration opens January 17 at 8 AM.

Spotlight on Crystal Wentz

Sue Hine

A Lifelong Love of Quilting

Crystal has been a LNCQ member on and off for nearly a decade, returning fully in recent years after time away to raise her young family. She first learned to quilt at age eight, when her mother (Beth) took a quilting class and immediately passed along her new skills. She is still using that very first project—an *around-the-world* strip-pieced lap quilt—today. With more than 35 years of quilting experience, quilting has clearly been a lifelong passion.



A traditional quilter at heart, Crystal loves piecing and making blocks, while also enjoying paper piecing, wool appliqué, and extensive hand embroidery—often incorporating her handwork into quilts. She’s dabbled in nearly every technique except machine embroidery, preferring the slower, more meditative nature of handwork. Design is another favorite aspect of quilting for her; she frequently creates original pieced quilts using EQ software and has published her own hand embroidery patterns. Inspired by a friend who never followed patterns exactly, she now rarely does either, preferring to make each project her own.



She’s also active in several small groups, including Llama Mamas, Happy Stitchers Handwork Group, and Backroads Bobbin Heads, and enjoys the social side of quilting just as much as the creative. Her top quilting advice—especially from a professional long-arm quilter’s perspective—is to *measure and pin borders carefully* to ensure a flat, well-finished quilt.



When she’s not quilting, Crystal stays busy with her two young sons, ages two and four, and balances creative time around the rhythms of family life. She also enjoys woodworking, from furniture to small projects and live-edge pieces, and her garage has become a full workshop.

Fun fact: she originally began college as a music major in voice before finding her true creative calling. She has also taught hand embroidery, sashiko, and piecing, previously owned a handwork supply shop, and continues to love sharing her knowledge whenever possible.

2026 Meeting Dates

FEBRUARY 2 – 1:30 pm

March 2 – 6:00 pm

APRIL 6 – 6:00 pm

MAY 4 – 1:30 pm

JUNE 1 – 6:00 pm

JULY 2026 – NO MEETING

AUGUST 3 – 1:30 pm

SEPTEMBER 14 – 6:00 pm

OCTOBER 5 – 6:00 pm

NOVEMBER 2 – 1:30 pm

DECEMBER 7 – Holiday Party



CORRECTION:

Last month's newsletter had the wrong date for the September 2026 meeting. The correct date is September 14 (due to the Labor Day holiday).

January: A Quilter's Fresh Start

Back in September, the EQ small group learned a new skill, constructing blocks into a layout. As we perfected the learned skill, we decided to donate our collective creations to Quilts of Valor and gave ourselves a December deadline. We can now make two quilts!!



Members L to R: Kathy Money, Cathy Schultz, Carol Mancuso, Debra McGlone, Rose Hinman, Susan Truitt, Carla Lucas and BettyAnne Eash

Postcard requests

- One function of the guild is to show caring concern for guild members going through difficult times so please send requests to Eileen Maelzer to ask that a quilted postcard of encouragement be sent to 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
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For Sale by Members

Looking for great deals on quilting tools and machines?
Click the button above to explore items listed by fellow members.

Current member login required to view items for sale.
This service connects members but does not constitute an endorsement of the items for sale.

2026 Block of the Month Challenge: Bijou Wonder

We're thrilled to kick off 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, from January 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. Instead of the busy December holiday gathering, this gives us a relaxed and celebratory way to admire all the creativity that went into these quilts.

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. Ready to join the fun? 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 with any questions.



final thoughts >>>

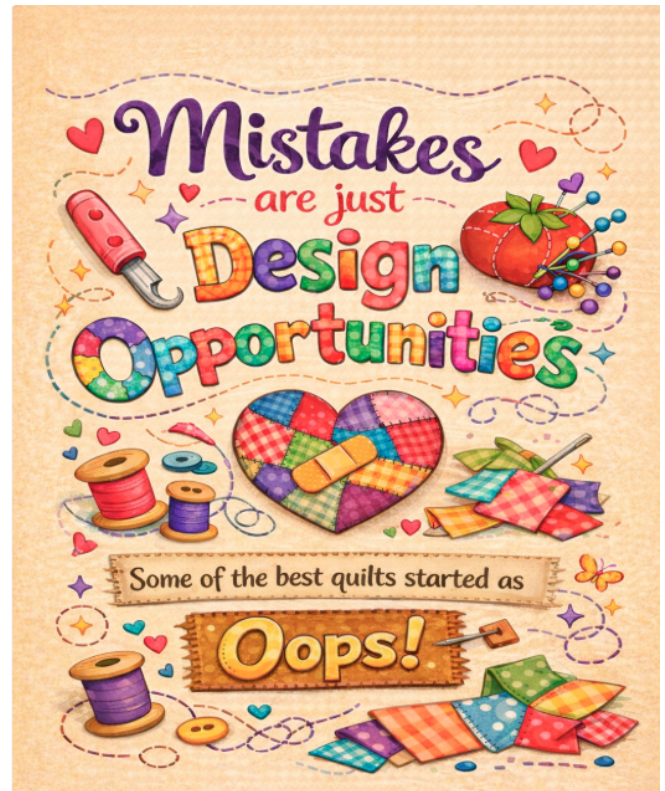
I look forward to learning more about the guild and its members as I work on the newsletter and take care of member spotlights. I have found the group to be a great organization filled with warm and inviting members who always make you feel welcome.

- Sue Hine, Newsletter Editor



Winter Quilt Photo
Courtesy of Kathy
Money

Remember as you go through the year:



next month >>> Join us for Demo Days and our Freezer Paper Piecing Workshop!

quilting community news >>>

Looking for more ways to fuel your creativity and connect with fellow quilters? Here are some upcoming quilting events & news that might pique your interest! While these events aren't officially hosted or endorsed by LNCQ, we're sharing them as a service to our members who love to stitch, learn, and explore!

Love Quilts USA

Love Quilts USA is a nationwide group of cross stitchers and quilters who create personalized quilts for children with life-threatening illnesses. With hundreds of stitchers but only a small number of quilters, the group is seeking additional quilters to help assemble more quilts and reach more children in need.

To learn more about the organization and how you can help, contact hgrugett@gmail.com

Call for Entries: Colorado Quilts Exhibit

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

For more information click [here](#).