



Seacoast Modern Quilt Guild

DISCOVER THE FUN OF MODERN QUILTING

March 2026 Newsletter



March 2026 at a Glance

Guild Meeting: Saturday, March 7 (at our new home: **Exeter Community Center, 10 Hampton Road, Exeter, NH**) | 10:00 am - 12:00 p.m.

Program: English Paper Piecing – Teresa Hebert

Board Meeting (Zoom): Monday, Mar 9 | 6:00–8:00 p.m.

Sunday Sew Day: Sunday, Mar 15 | 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.
Merrimac Police Station, 2 Jana Way, Merrimac, MA

March 2026

Don't Forget: We're Moving!

Beginning **March 7**, SMQG will have a **new permanent meeting home** at the **Exeter Community Center, 10 Hampton Road, Exeter, NH**. While the Exeter Public Library has been a wonderful host, they are no longer able to offer the meeting room after April.

Thanks to Julie Avant, we've secured a larger space with **easy parking, Zoom capability**, and — best of all — **no 1:00 p.m. closing time**, which means we can extend meetings into sew days! Reminder emails will be sent throughout February.

Community Outreach Day

Immediately following the March meeting
12:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Depending on the [role](#) you volunteered for, please bring:

- Sewing machine
- Iron & ironing board
- Rulers
- Mats & rotary cutter

Contact **Brenda or Karen** with any questions.



[February Guild Business](#)

- **February Meeting Highlights**

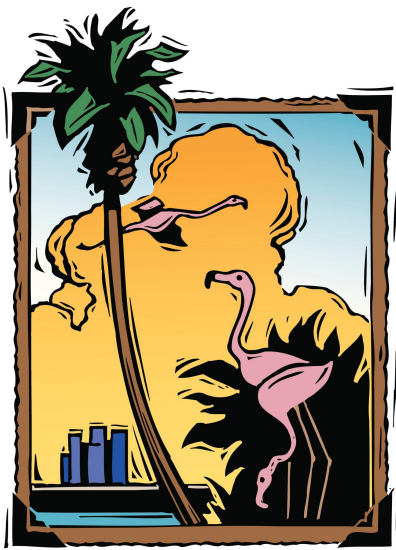
Despite stormy weather, 24 members and 1 guest joined us for our February meeting — thank you for braving the elements!

- **≈ QuiltCon 2026**

QuiltCon opened Wednesday, February 18 and ran through February 23.

Several of our members attended this year — Brenda, Karen, Julie O, and Diane Foos. We look forward to hearing all about their experiences and inspiration from the show!

- **Spring Retreat: Margaritaville!**



🌴 Annual Retreat is Almost Here! 🌴 — **March 26–29** at the **Franciscan Guest House in Kennebunkport, Maine.**

Our Margaritaville-themed retreat promises to be lots of fun! A few spots are open if you would like to attend 2 -3 nights or be a day tripper and come up early, sew all day, and sleep in your own bed at night! Daytripper rate is \$50. with lunch included - you must register if you would like this option. Bring fun & bright fat quarters, plenty of quarters to feed Jack the Ripper and \$\$ for raffle baskets!

📅 **Raffle Baskets**

Our raffle baskets are now posted on our website:

(<https://seacoastmodernquiltguild.com/2026-raffle-baskets>)

Tickets may be purchased directly online and will also be available at our March 7 meeting. Raffle tickets are open to members and non-members — spread the word!

[Programs](#)

🚩🚩🚩 **New Workshop Announced!** 🚩🚩🚩

The Quarry Bag with Sue Michaels on Saturday, June 20th, 10am-4pm at the Douglas-Wentworth Hospital in Dover. It is \$40 plus the pattern & supplies. You can go here to see the bag:

<https://noodle-head.com/collections/pdf-sewing-patterns/products/quarry-tote-pattern>

You will need to purchase the pattern along with the supplies listed on the pattern. You can purchase everything at Noodle-head or from Wawak.com

Contact [Charlene Smith](#) for details.

[Programs, continued](#)

Charlene Smith, Vice President and Program Chair, has been hard at work building an engaging program calendar for 2026! See a preview of the upcoming topics below or in the Members Only section of our website (<https://seacoastmodernquiltguild.com/calendar>)

- **Monthly Program Calendar**

March	Teresa Hebert. English Paper Piecing (EPP). Teresa will share her love of English paper piecing, must-have tools, tips & tricks! Not to be missed!	August	Summer break: no formal meeting. There will be a scheduled sew day at the Exeter Community Center at 10 am. Either bring lunch or we can order out.
April	Hildy Curran will present an expanded version of on her demo derby presentation on the Disappearing 9 Patch Block. Hildy will showcase her take on developing quadrants and experimenting with playful layouts. Hildy's designs transform the simple 9 patch into multiple intricate patterns!	September	Darlene Price of Quiltscapes by Darlene combines photography with sewing to create stunning Thread Painted Quilts. She will share her journey from beginner quilter to award winning innovative art quilter.
May	SMQG Demo Derby 3 of our members will demonstrate an area of particular specialty, whether it be a ruler, handiwork, technique (i.e. curves, half-square triangles)	October	Sue Michaels of Dragonfly Art, well known designer, bag maker and dynamic speaker joins us this month - along with our Annual Yard Sale where lots of treasures will be found!
June	Leila Gardunia of Leila Gardunia Quilts presents on Turning Traditional Blocks into Modern Quilts. She is a pattern designer who thinks there is nothing better than to draft quilts and play with fabric. She is here to help us have fun, be creative and find joy.	November	Jen Sorenson who will speak about using scraps and negative space. Mystery Quilts Revealed! 9 months of clues come together as we show and share our mystery quilts.
July	Holiday. No official meeting. Celebrate our Independence! A sew day will be scheduled in July.	December	Holiday Party

Programs, continued

- **David Owen Hastings Workshop**

In addition to our monthly educational programming, we are pleased to offer an exciting workshop this fall. On September 26th we will offer an all day workshop by **David Owen Hastings**. It will be from noon through 6 pm. David will lead us by Zoom from the comfort of our homes to design and create a “**Seams Out**” pillow. This program is limited to 20 ppl. Members \$70.

<https://davidowenhastings.com/portfolio/workshop-seams-out-quilted-pillow/>

Hospitality

Diane Foos (dianemfoos@gmail.com) reminds members with last names beginning **G, H, or I** to bring a light snack to share.

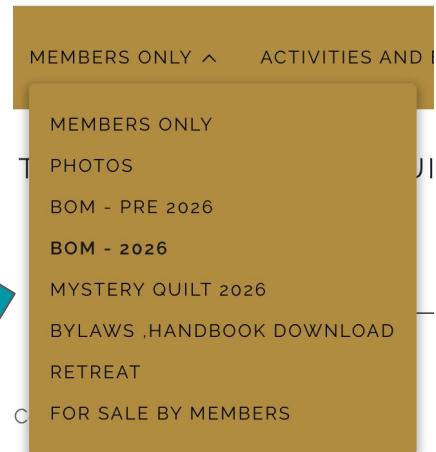
Please note: We will no longer be able to provide drinks - we don't have storage, so please remember to bring your own hot or cold drinks. We will continue to offer snacks

Lottery Block

The **March Lottery Block**, is Cathy's take on a block shared by the Patchwork by Nona YouTube channel. The finished size is 12.5" x 12.5" with two requirements: 1) a pop of pink somewhere in the block and 2) black in the corner indicated, to unify the blocks. Directions are available in the [members-only](#) section of our website, under BOM - 2026. Each block is \$1. The more blocks you make, the more chances you have to win them all!

Mystery Quilt

Our **9-month Mystery Quilt**, led by Suzanne Wulf and Gail Forthoffer, is moving right along as we follow the clues!. Fabric requirements and cutting instructions are posted in the [members-only](#) section, under Mystery Quilt 2026. The final reveal is planned for November. A huge thank you to Suzanne's daughter for delivering our Feb clue to those of us attending in person during the snowstorm!



Yuletide Fair 2026 – Planning Ahead

Beth Diamond, our Yuletide Fair Chair, has assembled a committee and they are already hard at work putting their ideas together to share with us soon! Thank you Janet Cass, Marylee, Elysia, Casey, Maggie, & Margaret for volunteering your time to be part of this committee! Questions can be directed to **Beth Diamond** (diamondbeth66@gmail.com).

We have a raffle quilt top (donated by Mary Young) that needs to be finished! The top will be at the March meeting - fabric for backing and batting is available to the one who can generously volunteer to finish our next raffle quilt!!

Badges

Please continue to come to meetings wearing your badge! We have so many new members, and wearing your badge is a great way to appear more approachable. As an incentive, everyone wearing their name badge will receive a raffle ticket and there will be a drawing for a door prize during the meeting. (If you forget your badge, but would still like to enter the raffle, tickets are available for \$1)

Congratulations to **Elysia Williams**, winner of this month's door prize — a hera marker/point turner and a 5" ruler. Don't forget to wear your name badge!

The name badge pattern is found in the [members-only](#) section of our website!

Looking Ahead/Miscellaneous

Sunday Sew Days: these are held every third Sunday, 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m., at the Merrimack Police Station

Additional fairs: we're exploring several, including the New Castle Fair in July. If you know of events we should consider, please contact Joanne.

Google Group Etiquette: If you reply to a group message, it will go to the entire group. Even if you click on "reply" rather than "reply all". If you want to reply to one person, send your message to their specific email. We will continue to look at alternatives.

Free Table: The free table will exist in our new spot! Bring your no longer wanted fabric, notions or books and take home some new to you items!

Website

Our website is a source of important information for our members! Special thanks to Diana Irish & Sally Cedarholm for all the work you do! Julie O left her position in good hands!

Show and Tell

A reminder that you can view members' amazing quilts on our [Quilt Stories](#) section of the SMQG website!



March Meeting Checklist

- Name badge
- Hospitality table donation (if G-H-I last name)
- Lottery Block and dollar bill(s)
- Show 'n Share quilt or other item
- Quilt(s) to donate to Community outreach
- Items for the free table