



Needle Notes

January
2026

January 8: General Meeting Kaye Joachim, 1st VP

Our January program will be **Mistake Month**. This will be a lighthearted session where members share quilting mistakes and how they fixed them.

Diane Robinson will lead this discussion.

January Reminders

- Hostesses: <no signups>
- Door Prizes: Donna Gross, Sonya Hart
- Strip color: Blue
- Row by Row participants: bring your boxes
- Bring items for the Free Table

January Calendar

- January 1: Board meeting, 10am
- January 1: Sit 'n' Sew, 10am
- January 8: General Meeting
- January 10: QoV Presentation, 1pm, Eglin Armament Museum
- January 15: Community Services Workshop
- January 15: **Last day to register for Retreat**
- January 22: Piecing with Curves Workshop
- January 25: Newsletter content due
- January 29: Sit 'n' Sew

January 22: Workshop

Diane Robinson, 2nd VP

The January workshop will be an innovative inset circle class called "**Piecing with Curves and Circles**" taught by Anne Johnson. If you love seeing circles in quilting but have not been happy with your applique results, this class is for you!

Bring your supplies and fabric and get ready to learn this technique. All the details can be found on the FNQG website. There is no pattern to purchase, no special ruler, and Anne will provide the freezer paper and Steam-a-Seam.

Come join the fun of learning a new skill.



2026 Retreat: Deborah Moen & Debi Roederer

And just like that - the calendar page has flipped and suddenly, it is January! My gosh, the month of December just always seems to fly by so quickly. We hope you were able to find your way to moments of peace and joy before launching helter-skelter into 2026.

How many of us start out a new year with a promise of good intentions and resolutions? Typical ones might be to get more fit, lose weight, stay on budget, etc. But what if our good intentions focused instead on treating ourselves with the same level of care that we so freely give others? This guild works hard all year long making, sewing and giving to others. Burnout and fatigue can be real.

A quilt retreat can be the perfect way to get refreshed, learn a new skill, find some motivation & inspiration, spend quality time with dear friends and maybe make a new friend. FNQG is hosting a retreat that can meet all of these goals: the 2026 retreat "Shaping Friendships"!

The retreat is February 26-28 at the Home2 Suites hotel in Fort Walton Beach. **Registration is open through January 15**, so if you haven't yet registered, now's the time. The registration form is on the guild Web site, or reach out to Deborah Moen or Debi Roederer with questions or for assistance.

Are you looking to learn a new skill? We have a variety of classes ranging from paper piecing, to hand work, to design opportunities! Are you just wanting some time with friends to finish a project you are carrying over from another year? Saturday Sit & Sew is the place for you! Are you ready for a nice evening out with friends? Come join us for our kick-off event beginning with a reception followed by a great program, "From Soho to Savannah: A Quilting Journey," presented by Brigit Gail Dermott. Has your December been spent organizing, hostessing and taking care of others? Let the retreat committee do all of the planning and organizing, leaving you free to just "shape friendships." Come enjoy all the activities the entertainment committee has lined up!

Plus there will be a Quilter's Walk, door prizes, and a vendor on site. And friends. Lots of friends! We look forward to spending a great couple of days together with you.

Flying Needles Quilt Guild
Quilt Retreat
Shaping Friendships
February 26 -28, 2026

KICK OFF EVENT
THURSDAY EVENING
Reception: 5:30pm - 6:30pm
Hot/Cold Appetizers with cash bar.
Program: 7:00pm with Brigit Gail Dermott
From Soho to Savannah: A Quilting Journey

FRIDAY EVENING
Fun and Games with quilting friends: 7:00pm

FRIDAY CLASSES*
Brigit Gail Dermott - Playing with Shapes
Deb Chilcote - Hall of Mirrors
Marcy Gallagher - Octagon Shimmer
Linda Weiss - Blue Bird Wool Appliqué
Sit and Sew

SATURDAY CLASSES*
Kaye Joachim - New York Beauty
Anne Johnson - Quilt Binding Secrets
Sit and Sew
*9am -12pm ♥ Lunch ♥ 1:30pm - 4:30pm

Guest Teacher:
Brigit Gail Dermott

Brigit created Brigit Gail - www.brigitgail.com - as a way to share her love of modern quilts, color and design. She had the honor of being featured in Quilt-folk, Modern Patchwork and the Modern Quilt Guild Quarterly. Many of her quilts have been shown at the Modern Quilt Guild's QuiltCon. In addition to writing patterns, she also teaches modern quilting workshops. She taught at QuiltCon and at local guilds. She lives in Gainesville, Florida, with her husband and daughter.

Registration
now open for
FNQG members:
opens, October 1
for non-members. Go to:
www.Flyingneedlesquiltguild.com
for more information and link for accommodations, now available.

**Home2Suites and
Holiday Inn Express**
Lewis Turner Blvd.
FWB

scan me for complete details 

2027 Quilt Show:

Peggy Murrell

Planning is already underway for the **2027 Emerald Coast Quilt Show** as we finalize details on our venue. Mark your calendars for **February 19-20, 2027**, and start working on those quilts! We'd love for all members to have quilts in the show.

We are still in need of help on our Publicity subcommittee. Thanks to Donna Gross, Debi Roederer, and Carol Stearns, who have already stepped up. Won't you join them?

Thanks also to the many members who have agreed to be a part of the committee. We have openings, so let me know if you'd like to help.

We'll be back later this year to ask for help with the flurry of activities taking place during show week, and I know we can count on your help.

Stay tuned for updates throughout the year.

Opportunity Quilt:

Diane Roberson

We are pleased to announce that the 2025 Opportunity Quilt, Boho Heart, was awarded at the December General Meeting to our own **Pat Ferrell**, one of our founding and honorary members. (See Pat's picture on the last page of this newsletter.)

The blocks were made by many members of the guild, assembled by Ruthie Reynoso, quilted by Peggy Murrell, and bound/finished by LaLani James. The finished quilt was appraised at \$1,375 by a certified quilt appraiser.

This fundraiser began in January 2025 with displays at various quilt shops, community festivals and fairs and the quilt show. Tickets and donations generated over \$2,700 benefiting the Guild's community service.

President's Points:

Lisa Lydston, President

Well, Happy New Year Everyone!

2026 is already stacking up to be a busy one, so sharpen those scissors, replace those rotary blades, take inventory of your stash, pull out those WIPs, clean your sewing machine, and let's get 'er done!

Our monthly schedule remains the same as always, with one small change:

- ❑ Jan 1: Sit and Sew/Board Meeting but we won't start until 10!
- ❑ Jan 8: General Meeting
- ❑ Jan 15: Community Services workshop
- ❑ Jan 22: Workshop
- ❑ Jan 29: Sit and Sew for the 5th Thursday

The board has a lot planned this year, to include a year long quilt project for our beginner quilters to help you with cutting, piecing, borders, backing, and binding. And maybe, just maybe, some free motion quilting too. More info on this project will be given at our General Meeting, so come and sign up.

See you Thursday. It's going to be a great year y'all! Why? Because of YOU!

Love ya!
Lisa Lydston
President



Quilts for Veterans: Barbi Quelette

Hello FNQG friends. What a busy 2025 for our Quilts for Veterans program. Proud is not a strong enough word to say how I feel about what has been accomplished. This program would not exist without each and every one of you who participated.

We have 39 nominees waiting for quilts to be awarded. We'll be working to catch up in January and February. We will host monthly presentations throughout 2026. Presentations will take place at the Eglin Armament Museum for 2026, at 1pm on the second Saturday of each month.

We awarded quilts to 62 veterans in 2025. We completed 67 quilts and have 72 more in process. We received 3 completed quilts from Silver Threads Quilt Guild in Fort Walton Beach and 3 quilts from Saltwater Piecers in Navarre.

Nationally, 344,000 quilts have been awarded through the National Quilts of Valor Foundation, with FNQG, as a member organization, awarding a total of 1184 since 2008.

Networking during the past three years really paid off this year with generous donations from the following:

- Leah Barnes, Scarborough ME, in memory of Carolyn Tilburg, a member who was very active in QoV
- Military Appreciation Day cash donations
- The final months of the QoV Opportunity Quilt ticket sales
- Personal donations from Joyful Place
- MCB 11 Association Reunion committee for awarding five quilts in September
- VFW Post 7674 Auxiliary
- Harvey F Eckhoff VFW Post 7674

I sent personal thank you cards to each of the donors thanking them for their support. I can only hope to continue receiving the generous donations from the community.

Because of the generous donations in 2025, we will not be doing a 2026 Quilts for Veterans Opportunity Quilt.

What am I thinking for 2026? We want to make it easy for those who want to participate, but don't have the time to do a complete quilt. Thanks to Anne Smith, we have come up with a couple of ideas: a block of the month, a mystery quilt, just to give you a hint. If you have any ideas, please let me know. Beyond that, we have 19 quilt kits and 3 UFOs available. Let me know if you are interested in taking one (or more) of these on, either to finish, or to take it to the next step. I want to thank the members of the Flying Needles, Silver Threads, Saltwater Stitchers, Coastal Stitchers, Sewing and Training Center, and Stitcher's Quest for all their support. I am proud to be a leader in a group of quilters who value our freedom because Freedom is not Free.

Happy New Year Quilters!

Community Service:

Debi Roederer

Did you ever notice the allure of a corner? It can feel so cozy, especially if enjoying a cup of coffee and a good chat with a friend at the corner table of your favorite restaurant. That is the feeling I get when gathering with all of my fellow quilting friends at a Community Service workshop! In my mind, Community Service and fellowship are the benchmarks of what the Flying Needles Quilt Guild mean to me, and I am truly honored to take a turn at coordinating this year's efforts to serve those of our community that are in need.

Most quilters I know are familiar with the concept of using what you have and adjusting. Well, our guild has been the recipient of some very generous donations of flannel; approximately 100 yards of it is baby themed and in 1 or 1.5 yard pieces. I have organized these into kits for members to make baby blankets.

Jenny Doan of Missouri Star Quilt Co. has a great tutorial for quick self-binding receiving blankets on YouTube. See https://youtu.be/lqwdNqMZ8Ro?si=sGxJHb_HQKLcNvum. I made one and this is truly easy to make even for the beginning sewers in the group.

January 15 will be the first Community Service workshop in 2026. We will be cutting kits for Christmas stockings and pillowcases in preparation for members to take and sew. We also have a tote of completed tops that need to be sandwiched with backing and batting. I will bring a machine and give a short demo on how to make a receiving blanket. I look forward to gathering with you as we begin a new year of service.

Hugs, Debi

FWB Library:

Diane Roberson

LaLani James provided this beautiful quilt "Florida Christmas" for display at the Fort Walton Beach Library main entrance in December. It is festive and has just the right touch of embellishments. It was beautifully quilted by Kevin Holland. Thanks to all of the quilters who displayed quilts in the library in 2025.

I look forward to sharing more quilts, table runners/toppers, and other projects in 2026.



2026 Workshops

Diane Roberson, 2VP

February: All workshops are at the Flying Needles Quilt Guild Retreat, “**Shaping Friendships.**” Make sure you register for one or two classes. With six to choose from, you are sure to find something that interests you.

March: Come celebrate **National Quilting Day on Saturday, March 21**, from 9 am – 4 pm with two “**Make-and-Take**” projects.

The first hour will be taught by Debi Roederer, a “**Quilted Postcard**” class that is fast and easy. Bring a postcard, approximately 4” x 6” (or we will provide one), a cute block or favorite fabric to fit your card, and Wonder Under (or other fusible web) to attach the fabric to the postcard.



The second project, taught by Deb Chilcote, is a beautiful “**Gift Bag Tote.**” This pattern uses one fat quarter for the exterior and one for the interior but can be customized to whatever size you would like. You can have two completed handmade items to take home on National Quilting Day. Details will be posted on the Guild’s website.

March Workshop: Linda Hudson will be teaching a time saving technique in a class called “**Easy Peasy Placemats**” on **March 26**. You will use a fusible interfacing with a pre-printed 2.5-inch grid to create your placemats. This is a great project to use lots of 2.5-inch squares that we have all been saving. So dig through your basket of scraps for this fun project. You can make one or a set of placemats. Check out the details on our website.



2026 Programs

Kaye Joachim, 1VP

February's program: Valentine's Day Potholder Swap.

You will make your potholder ahead of time. Use all cotton fabrics and threads, two pieces of insul-bright (preferred) or cotton batting (be sure to add a couple of pieces for insulation). Make a creative Valentine's Day potholder in any size you want, using any technique you want, including foundation paper piecing, English paper piecing, art, pieced, appliqué, or any other technique. Bring your completed potholder to the February meeting. You do not have to put it in a brown bag.

We will play a game to swap with other participating members.



2026 December Block

Deb Chilcote

The kickoff for the yearlong December Blocks program starts this month! This year the theme is **Tiny Houses and Trees!**

Come see what it's all about at the January General Meeting. Details will also be in our website.



2026 Row By Row:

Kaye Joachim



The first row (your own) is due at the January 8th general meeting. I will not be at that meeting, but look for an email from me stating who you will need to give your box to and who will be giving you their box.

Membership:

Anne Smith & Robin
Easter-Neubauer

December Attendance

We had **55** members and **2** guests at the December meeting. Guests were Cherinn Norman and Leann Lawrence, with Leann becoming a new member at the meeting.

Welcome New Members!

Sandra Gannet
Leann Lawrence
Daryl Riddle

Their contact information will be included in the 2026 directory to be distributed at the January meeting.

Hospitality:

Mary Ann Sharp

Well ladies, we closed out another great guild year with a delicious buffet of dishes which we all enjoyed. Thank you!

Barbara and I would also like to thank all of you who help us in the kitchen. It is much appreciated.

Happy New Year to you all.

Barbara Roberts and Mary Ann Sharp

January Birthdays

Happy birthday friends!!

Shirlee Carter
Robin Easter-Neubauer
Monique Holland
Michelle Jackson
Billece Morrison
Anne Smith
Harriett Standifer
Betty Voss
Eileen Wittic

FNQG Website: Kaye Joachim

www.FlyingNeedlesQuiltGuild.org

We are still in need of someone to take over the website in 2026. Contact Lisa Lydston if you are interested.

Jean Towery

Long time member Jean Towery passed away December 23. Burial will be in Kentucky. There will be no services locally. More information will be passed along as it is known.

Prayers are ascending for her loved ones.

Treasurer's Report : Donna Gross, Treasurer

Checkbook Balance as of Dec 25: \$58,522.62			
2025 PROGRAMS, SERVICES, GENERAL	2025 INCOME BUDGET	DECEMBER INCOME	TOTAL INCOME YTD
In-Kind and Grants	\$2,000.00		\$ -
Monthly Raffle	\$1,200.00	\$30.00	\$1,140.00
General Donations	\$0.00		\$1,615.06
Community Service	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$625.00
Door Prizes	\$1,200.00	\$156.00	\$1,137.00
Fundraising/Boutique	\$1,215.00		\$1,652.78
Membership (100 Members)	\$3,500.00	\$961.88	\$3,342.06
Guild Opportunity Quilt (2025)	\$1,000.00	\$375.00	\$2,799.00
Quilts for Veterans	\$2,000.00		\$5,709.00
2025 QFV Opportunity Quilt (Ticket Sales)	\$600.00		\$435.00
Workshop	\$0.00		\$632.00
2025 Quilt Show	\$0.00		\$16,153.60
2026 Quilt Retreat (amt less cc fees)	\$16,000.00	\$400.00	\$7,440.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$28,715.00	\$2,422.88	\$ 42,680.50
2025 PROGRAMS, SERVICES, GENERAL	2025 EXPENSE BUDGET	DECEMBER EXPENSE	TOTAL EXPENSES YTD
ADMIN - Insurance	\$650.00		\$641.94
ADMIN - Rent	\$2,400.00		\$2,400.00
ADMIN - FI Dept of Revenue	\$200.00		\$70.00
ADMIN - Operating/Misc	\$175.00	\$110.50	\$2,972.72
ADMIN - Technology/Website	\$650.00		\$756.14
ADMIN - Post Office Box	\$176.00	\$192.00	\$192.00
TOTAL ADMINISTRATION	\$4,251.00	\$302.50	\$7,032.80
Community Svc (Increased to \$2k Grants)	\$2,000.00		\$2,166.74
Door Prizes	\$150.00		\$42.79
Fundraising/Boutique	\$100.00		\$131.38
Historian	\$85.00		\$124.99
Hospitality	\$175.00		\$141.18
Membership (100 Members)	\$350.00		\$316.36
Newsletter	\$0.00		\$0.00
Guild Opportunity Quilt (2026)	\$500.00		\$144.95
Programs	\$300.00		\$256.79
Publicity (General)	\$250.00		\$92.25
Quilts for Veterans (1.5k +1770.67 2024 Rollover)	\$3,270.67	\$669.71	\$6,613.25
2025 QFV Opp Quilt	\$500.00		\$0.00
Sunshine/Shadows	\$175.00		\$83.69
Workshops	\$350.00		\$845.00
2025 Quilt Show	\$8,000.00		\$11,524.28
2026 Quilt Retreat	\$3,000.00	\$102.00	\$1,121.53
	\$23,456.67	\$1,074.21	\$ 30,637.98

Treasurer's Report : Donna Gross, Treasurer

Breakdown of our major expenses for 2025

<u>Quilts for Veterans</u>		<u>Community Service</u>	
Long Arm Quilting	\$1,743.41	X-mas fabric	\$124.00
Fabric	\$3,695.05	Muslin	\$691.15
Publicity	\$248.49	Batting	\$982.70
Laundry	\$256.00	Supplies/Other	\$109.80
Batting	\$440.00	Freight	\$259.09
Labels	\$79.50		\$2,166.74
Supplies	\$150.80		
	\$6,613.25		

It has been a privilege to serve as your treasurer for 2025. It has been a learning experience. I look forward to serving the Guild again in 2026.

Donna

Board Meeting Minutes: Robin Easter-Neubauer, Secretary

December 4, 2025

I. The meeting was called to order at 9:00.

A. Quorum: YES

B. Present: Lisa Lydston, President; Jackie Youngblood, 1st VP; Robin Easter-Neubauer, Secretary; Donna Gross, Treasurer

Others/Committee Chairs Present

Community Services - Diane Roberson (new chairs will be Debi Roederer and Laura Peacock)

Facilities - Deborah Moen

Facebook - Konnie Glaze

Boutique - Carol Stearns

Membership - Anne Johnson (new chairs will be Anne Smith and Robin Easter-Neubauer)

Publicity-Donna Gross

Quilts for Veterans: Barbi Ouellette

Webmaster - Kaye Joachim

2027 Quilt Show - Peggy Murrell (Ruthie Reynoso will be assisting)

2026 Retreat - Deborah Moen and Debi Roederer

Technology Services - Anne Johnson

Anne Smith

Deb Chilcote

Kerry Kastl

II. Approve Last Board minutes: With no changes noted by the board, the last meeting minutes were approved as written.

III. Treasurer Report/Review Committee Budgets:

Guild: Donna Gross reported a bank balance of \$57,329.86.

She said that she had filed the IRS 990 form which states that we made less than \$50,000.00 and are exempt from income taxes. She also filed the necessary paperwork with the Florida Department of Agriculture.

Lisa inquired as to how much of the bank balance is from the retreat and Debi Roederer estimated the retreat income to be \$6,830.00.

B. Member Services: Anne Johnson stated that 60 members have renewed and expects many members to renew in December.

Community Services: Diane Roberson reported that the guild members made 2199 items this year and all items were distributed. See attached distribution list.

Donna said that she had sent information about the distribution to a couple of newspapers, but it was not printed.

She stated that she had \$700.00 left in the budget for the year and used that to purchase batting and muslin for the stocking linings and leaves the service group with a surplus of supplies for the new year.

The new service group chair Debi Roederer said after seeing the number of supplies donated, that she has put Laura Peacock in charge of the donation intake next year with Polly Shields assistance. Kaye said that she would send any future supply donor inquiries to Laura.

Debi said that she would be working on organizing the supply closet Thursday December 18th.

Quilts for Veterans: Barbi Ouellette completed an end-of-year inventory. Please see the attached report.

Donna Gross noted that they reconciled the QFV budget and all was good.

Lisa asked Barbi where she stood with next year's budget and Barbi said that she has \$2,000.00 in the budget and \$1,543.22 is left over out of the \$4,000.00 that was received in donations this year.

Barbi said that she does not have any other events planned for the rest of the year.

Boutique: Carol Stearns said that the boutique had done well this year with over \$1,200.00 made at the Fall Flair and over \$2,000.00 from the Quilt Show. She indicated that inventory is low at this time.

She said she had a lot of help from Sonja Hart, Eillen Wittic and Laura Peacock.

She is planning on the Fall Flair next year and the “Share Your Stash” that Kaye has planned for March. She plans to put out quilter related items at the “Share Your Stash”.

Lisa then looked up the months that would have a 5th Thursday, which are January, April, July and October. It was noted that with the first Thursday being on the 1st, meetings may be pushed back a week and so the 5th Thursday may not be open. After the Member Services discussed it, Community Service will take April, QFV will take July, and the Boutique will take October.

Diane brought up National Jelly Roll Day which is the 3Rd Saturday in September and that there is National Quilt Day on March 21st for the board to keep in mind.

IV. Action Items:

Storage of historical documents: Deb Chilcote asked that with the digital age upon us and the space that all the binders are taking up in the storeroom that the board reviews how we save the guild’s history.

She compiles a binder for each year that includes Needle Notes which average 20 pages, flyers, obituaries, and photos. When she took over 8 years ago, she went through and made a summary notebook for each year which included a list of the board and committee members, programs and workshops. She has a binder on the Opportunity Quilt History that includes the size, who worked on it, the appraisal and who won it. She also has a binder of patterns. There is also a thumb drive for each binder.

She suggested that the binders for the prior years be boxed up to make room in the cabinet.

Anne Johnson said that she could set up a Historian tab in Google Drive after it was mentioned that the thumb drive may also one day be obsolete.

There was discussion on should 10, 7, or 5 years be kept. Debi Roederer advised that the charter year and the last 5 years be kept. It was decided that going forward the charter year, the last five years, a thumb drive in each summary binder and google drive would be how the guild would keep the history of the guild.

Deborah Moen raised concern for the loss of photos. Deb did say that they could be scanned in.

Donna Gross was concerned about possibly losing important paperwork. Deb said that there was no important paperwork included in the binders.

It was decided to offer the old binders to the members before they were gotten rid of and there was no timeline for Deb to get this done.

2026 Retreat: Debi Roederer said that there are 50 participants who signed up for the Kickoff Reception. The Saturday Sit & Sew is still open along with spots left in “Playing with Shapes” taught by Brigit Dermott and “Octagon Shimmer” taught by Marcy Gallagher. There are 43 quilters signed up for the “Secret Quilter”.

There will not be a December committee meeting but there will be an onsite meeting at H2S in January. After that meeting, Debi and Peggy Murrell will be meeting with catering to lock down the final menu.

Debi said she felt that they are on target with the budget and anticipate seeing a \$1,000.00 profit. That being a conservative estimate and does not foresee going in the red.

Amend By Laws and SOPPs to include the new Technology Services: Peggy Murrell indicated that there are

a few items that the Parliamentarians will look at in 2026 including the new Technology Services. She is planning to start the process in June and having it ready to present it to the Board Members in August to review. It then would be presented to the members and then voted on in the September Annual Meeting.

She said that there are no major changes outside of Technology Services other than making some items clearer.

December 18th Sit & Sew: Lisa asked about having a sit & sew on December 18th even with it being so close to Christmas that some may want it. It was decided to have a general sit & sew open to everyone. Debi Roederer asked that everyone be aware that the Community Service supplies would not be available that day while she works on the organization of the supplies.

January Board Meeting & Sit and Sew: There was additional discussion about the first Thursday being on the 1st. It was decided that the General Meeting would still be held on the 8th and the workshop on the 22nd, which would then leave the 5th Thursday open. The 5th Thursday will then be a general sit & sew.

Lisa said that she would send out an email to next year's Board Members to set a time and place for them to meet.

2027 Quilt Show: Peggy Murrell said that she had been in touch with a couple of venues and it is not a sure thing to have it back at the fairgrounds. Linda Weiss had told her that at the last show she was informed that the guild would no longer get special pricing. Peggy was also concerned with the security and the integrity of the building.

She said she will be going tomorrow with Donna Gross to the Chamber of Commerce meeting.

She would like a 2027 Opportunity Quilt to sell tickets and the Boutique stock up for the show.

She said that she would be reaching out to members for help.

The date range she is looking at is mid-February to early April, but it was mentioned that pricing goes up in March.

She is planning to organize her committee members in January and to kick off monthly meetings in March.

She will have information in the next newsletter.

V. Programs: Jackie Youngblood 2025/Kaye Joachim 2026:

Incumbent 1st VP Kaye Joachim has asked for additional funds for the 2026 budget so that she can give a \$20.00 gift card to the instructor as well as cost of travel for those out of the area.

Slated for 2026:

January: Judy Musteric from Stitcher's Quest will talk about using panels in our quilting.

February: Rachel Reid to give a presentation on skin health for mature women.

March: "Share Your Stash Sale"

April: Mrs. Davis from the Niceville Senior Center will teach chair yoga.

May: Biannual Social with A-K bringing a dish to share.

June: Jamie Bryant of Diana Health to speak on women's health & wellness.

July: Open right now but would like Children in Crisis and Guardian Ad Litem to speak about their services and how they interact with each other's agencies.

August: Karen Williamson from Pensacola Quilt Guild to give a trunk show and talk about using men's shirts in quilting.

September: The Election or Meet the New Board Members.

October: Jackie Youngblood, CZT, will demonstrate Zentangle and how it could relate to quilting.

November: Sherry Burkhalter from Quilted Creations will speak on the history of quilting.

December: Biannual Social with L-Z bring a dish to share. During the social there will be a gift exchange of a \$15.00 max which does not have to be sewing related.

Kaye's original request was for a total budget of around \$510.00 depending on the travel expenses which would need board approval of an additional \$210.00 over the \$300.00 budget. Lisa and Debi noted that Children in Crisis and Guardian Ad Litem would not be able to accept the thank you gift card.

Kaye brought to the Board's attention Section 8 in the SOPPs regarding Teachers, which states that an agreement must be in writing when the Guild contracts with a teacher for a Program, Workshop, or Retreat. Peggy said that this was mainly used for the Retreat. Lisa asked Anne Johnson and Kaye to revise the Retreat contract, making a simple contract and sending it to the Board to review prior to it being sent out.

Deborah Moen asked that she be notified ahead of time of the needs the instructors have for the programs. It was then noted that both Deborah and Anne would need a copy of the contract with the needs of the instructor.

Jackie mentioned that since the purchase of the camera, which was very useful with Bobby's presentation, that the guild look into purchasing a larger TV to make it easier for all the members to see.

Jackie Youngblood made a motion to add an additional \$200.00 to the 2026 Program's budget and Donna Gross seconded and was passed with the rest of the board's approval.

VI. Workshops 2026: Diane Roberson introduced the following workshops for next year:

January: Anne Johnson – Piecing with Curves and Circles

February: Retreat

March: Linda Hudson – Fused Piecing which is using a grid interfacing.

April: Carol Stearns – Fiji Tote Beach Bag

May: Peggy Murrell – Stupendous Stitching using book "Stupendous Stitching How to Make Fun and Fabulous Fiber Art" by Carol Ann Waugh.

June: Jackie Youngblood – Hand Stitching: Sashiko

July: Lisa Lydston – Beginner Quilting

August: Kaye Joachim – Curved Piecing with the "Deja Vue" pattern.

September: Mystery Shopping Trip and Jellyroll Day with LaLani James

October: Jackie Youngblood Certified Instructor – Zentangle

Diane said that the Beginning Quilting workshop was due to the number of new members that are new to quilting and that it was highly requested in the survey.

Lisa reminded all that with any money exchanges the monies need to be turned into to either Donna or herself with the proper documentation.

Diane reminded everyone that the Opportunity Quilt drawing would be at the next General Meeting. She reported that the quilt raised \$2,364.00 dollars including the \$250.00 she had to turn into Donna today.

VIII. Open Forum for Non-Board Members:

Peggy Murrell asked for clarification on the IRS 990 form. She wanted to know if the guild had raised more than \$50,000.00 and Donna said that we did not.

Deborah Meon asked if anyone had used the white cutting station in the last year. After it was determined that no one had used it, Lisa said it was okay to get rid of it.

Konnie Glaze brought up how the workshop monies had been handled in the past. There was a time when the members paid the instructor at the time of the workshop but there was a large amount of no shows. To try and elevate this the \$5.00 class fee was to be paid at the time of sign-up. It was convenient for her to hold onto the monies to have change and quickly refund a member if needed. Lisa said that depositing the workshop money came from the Financial Review Committee's review. Konnie wanted to make sure that if the member could not attend there was not a refund for any kit that was purchased.

IX. Further Action Needed/Tabled Items:

A. T-shirts for members: Lisa said that this is still tabled for now.

Laptop for the Treasurer: Lisa asked Anne Johnson to price a laptop that would accommodate QuickBooks and Microsoft Word. It was mentioned that the old laptop could be used for Programs or Workshops

X. The meeting was adjourned at 10:33am.

Editor's Note:

Attached to the Board Meeting Minutes are two additional documents: year-end reports from Quilts for Veterans and Community Service. These reports can be found on the following two pages.

Quilts for Veterans: Quilt Inventory, as of Dec 1, 2025

39 Quilts ready to be awarded

In the works, not completed (72) -- (does not include completed quilts ready for award)

31 quilts ready for backing and batting

14 quilts to be quilted

6 quilts ready for laundry

1 quilt needs binding

10 labels to be sewn on completed quilts before laundry

10 labels ordered Dec

19 quilt kits (includes 2 precut ready for stitching)

3 UFOs

3 quilts were received from Saltwater Stitchers (2) and Silver Threads (3) this year to date (included in the appropriate area of completed or in the works)

Currently we have approx. 25 quilts to be included in the inventory. They are not signed out to anyone now. These were not included in the above count.

Completed 67 quilts in the works beginning Jan 1, 2025.

Currently we have projects lining up for Feb Quilt Retreat, 250th Anniversary Quilt Challenge, QoV FNQG workshop and 2nd Annual QoV STQG workshop (dates to be announced later).

NAMS, the QoV database currently has 34 for Flying Needles, these nominations change as we award or nominations are assigned to us.

Have awarded 70 to local area veterans to date.

Jan and Feb 2026 were projected to have between 5-8 veterans for catchup from government shutdown. Working with those who were postponed getting them on the books first.

FABRIC/BACKING/BATTING

40" WIDE

Approx 200 yds various prints and solids/blenders/scraps

108" Wide (Backing)

Approx 147 yds various prints and solids

90" Batting 30 yd rolls

2.75 Rolls or approximately 74 yds of batting

PLAN OF ACTION FOR USAGE

Batting and backing for quilt tops ready to be quilted

31 Ready for backing/batting

Backing at 108" x 2.25 yd min = 69.75 (31 x 2.25 = 69.75 yd)

Batting at 90" x 2.25 yd min = 69.75 (31 x 2.25 yd = 69.75)

72 In the works

Backing at 108" x 2.25 yd min = 162 yds (72 x 2.25 yd) (currently short)

40' Wide fabric will be used also for backing

Batting at 90" x 2.25 yd min = 162 yds (72 x 2.25 yd) (will purchase more batting as needed)

Approx. total backing/batting is 231.75 yd for 2026

40" Wide FABRIC = 200 yds

Coordinating backing colors approx. 6 yds - ?? quilts

Coordinating binding colors/borders/pillowcases/finishing UFOs, QoV challenge, workshop

2 huge bags of scraps for our scrappy quilters.

Donation of fabric is highly appreciated and is why yardage is high.

In finishing, I want to thank the members of the FNQG, STQG, Saltwater Stitchers, Coastal Stitchers, Sewing and Training Center, and Stitchers Quest for all the support that is given to make this happen for our veterans. I am very proud to be a leader in a group of quilters who value our freedom because freedom is not free.

Community Service Distribution, 2025

	Stockings	Quilts	Pillowcases	Drawstring bags	Walker Bags	Booties	Total	
Available to distribute 2025	1527	129	388	75	49	31	2199	
Pregnancy Resource Center - 31 Booties ****						31	31	
9:45 Beds for Everyone; Diane Freeman/Laura 850-280-5519		55	55				110	
10:00 Guardian Ad Litem; Donna Franke 850-865-1404	650		175				825	
10:15 Children in Crisis ; Sara Traver 850-864-4242	100		75	25			200	
10:30 Twin Cities Pavilion; Karen Blaise/Beth McDonald 850-582-6530	50		50		49		149	
10:45 Children Advocacy ; Hailey White/Sarah Kate Newton 850-833-9237	140						140	
11:00 Shelter House; Abigail 850-243-1201	50	37	33				120	
11:15 Opportunity Place; Balon Lofton 850-659-3190	150	37		35			222	
11:30 PEARL; Leslie Fuller 850-243-0315	75			15			90	
11:45 Point Washington Med Clinic; Hillary/Shawn/Jackie 850-213-1133	85						85	
12:00 Safe Connections; 850-609-1850	161						161	
New Hope Baptist Church; Bunny 850-678-4399	66						66	
Total	1527	129	388	75	49	31	2199	2199

General Meeting Minutes: Robin Easter-Neubauer, Secretary

December 11, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 9:59 with the prayer and pledge being led by Linda Weiss.

The last General Meeting Minutes were approved as written after there were no changes noted by the attendees.

Treasurer's Report: Donna Gross reported a bank balance of \$57,021.22. She was asked if there were any expenses and she said that the PO Box was paid and noted that it went up to \$192.00 from \$176.00 the previous year.

Lisa asked the members to keep in mind the money from the retreat and membership is making the bank balance as large as it is. She said that if you take off \$7,000.00 for retreat money and \$3,500.00 for membership dues that will take the balance back to between \$46,000.00 and \$47,000.00.

Donna said that she filed the IRS Easy 990 form that states that we made less than \$50,000.00. She also filed the form with Florida Agriculture and has received the compliance letter back.

Show and Tell: Prior to show and Tell Zee Gibson asked the members to open the gift bags that she had handed out at the sign-in table. She has been teaching our guest Cherinn Norman how to sew. They made tulip pins for each of the members out of scrap Christmas fabric.

Lisa said that the cross-stitch ornaments that were also at the sign-in table for members were donated anonymously and she would relay a thank you to that person.

Drawing #1

The potluck luncheon started after Donna returned with the meat. She said that there was a misunderstanding that the turkey was just the breast not the whole turkey, but they also gave us 3 lbs. of ham to compensate She was also given a 20% discount and a \$50.00 gift certificate to use as a door prize at the retreat.

Back to Business

Block of the Month: Konnie Glaze said that there were 10 participants this month with two making two sets. Diane Roberson won the blocks.

Anne Smith, who will take over for Konnie next year, told the members that she intends to keep up with raffling off the blocks each month. They will be easy blocks that are chosen by a different guild member each month.

Community Services: Diane Roberson said that the members made 2199 items this year and they were given out to over 10 charities within Walton and Okaloosa County. See the attached report for the distribution figures.

She said that Debi Roederer is in great shape for next year in way of supplies.

Debi Roederer said that there was a large donation of flannel fabric and 99% had a baby theme. She is

planning on using this fabric to make Self Binding Baby Blankets for the Pregnancy Resource Center. The Community Service Workshop coming up will be making stocking and pillowcase kits.

Lisa said that next week there be a general sit and sew, she would like to work on the Friendship Blocks. She asked for a new volunteer for the Friendship Blocks. They have not been worked on in a while. She said to follow the pattern that is on the guild website. It was mentioned that the block color turned was determined by the color chosen by the winner of the 2 ½ strip for the next month. Lisa said that was fine or could use any color.

December Block: Deb Chilcote gave a sneak peek of next year's blocks which are scrapy 4 ½ x 6-inch house blocks with a tree block for every 4 houses made. These will use up 2 ½, 1 ½, 2-inch strips and 2 ½ inch squares scraps with off white as the background. The block sign-up sheet will be out on the table in January, and she will email the instructions. The last turn in date will be at the November General Meeting.

Facilities: Deborah Moen reminded the members that storage has limited space.

Strip Club: Grace Grimsley explained that a member could put in up to three 2 ½ inch strip in the color chosen the month prior. Mary Barron was the winner and chose blue for next month.

Facebook: Konnie Glaze had nothing new to report.

Boutique: Carol Stearns said that \$4,000.00 was raised this year with the largest income coming from the Quilt Show and The Fall Flair. She is taking a break for now but will start again next year.

Food Pantry: Angel Schauer said that there would not be a food giveaway in December but there were the Angel Tree gifts going out. She did receive a couple of money donations.

Hospitality: Mary Ann Sharp and Barbara Roberts thanked everyone for the food and all the ladies who helped with getting the food out on the tables.

Membership: In Anne Johnson's absence, Anne Smith said there were 55 members signed in and two new members, Karen Payne and Leann Lawrence. She reminded members to pay their dues.

Birthdays: Paula Jurgonski was the winner of the Birthday Gift Certificate.

Newsletter: Peggy Murrell said that items for the newsletter need to be in by December 27th.

2027 Quilt Show: Peggy Murrell said that the first thing on the list of things to do is lock down the venue. She said that she and Donna had a phone call yesterday and it looks like they may have the venue. She is working on getting her planning committee members together and does have a need for someone in publicity. There are three things each member could do.

Plan on entering a quilt. She would like to see everyone have at least one in the show.

Volunteer for Show week.

Volunteer on the Planning Committee.

Opportunity Quilt: Diane Roberson said that the quilt raised \$2,799.00 and it was appraised at \$1,375.00. Pat Ferrell's name was drawn.

There is a need for a volunteer to promote the quilt that was donated by Kerry Kastl.

They are currently looking for a quilt kit that was donated along with the Heart quilt kit that was just raffled. It is believed to have been in a paper bag with 2 blocks already done.

Row By Row: Kaye Joachim said that nine people have signed up for next year. She briefly explained the rules and said that the first turn in is January. She would not be at the meeting but would email the participants who they needed to get their box to.

2026 Retreat: Debi Roederer said that registration is going well. They have made a visit to all the local quilt guilds and shops. They plan to meet on site at H2S on the 3rd Tuesday in January.

Quilts for Veterans: Barbi Ouellette said that she had completed an inventory. She has 39 quilts ready to be awarded and 72 quilts in the works. There are 34 veterans in NAMS system. Those not given out due to the government shut down will be moved to next year. 70 quilts have been awarded to veterans this year.

Laura Peacock volunteered to launder the quilts prior to being awarded.

She thanked all the quilt shops and volunteers that helped QFV be a success this year.

A member asked for the total number of quilts that Doris Olig has made for QFV and Barbi replied 138.

Sunshine and Shadows: Ruthie Reynoso said that she sent out 4 cards last month.

UFO: Robin Easter-Neubauer held the drawing for the money in the kitty. Each participant received two entries each time they had their project done on time and one if it was completed by the next quarter. Diane Roberson won for the second year in a row. Robin briefly explained the rules for 2026 and drew the number 3 for the project that is due at the February general meeting. The rules and form are on the website.

Website: There is still a need for someone to take over for Kaye Joachim.

Workshops: Diane Roberson has Anne Johnson teaching "Piecing with Curves and Circles" in January, Linda Hudson teaching "Fused Piecing" in March and April Carol Stearns will be teaching "Fiji Tote Beach Bag".

Diane announced that for National Quilt Day which is March 21st there will be a "Make & Take" workshop. One of the items will be a Postcard that can be put in the mail and Deb Chilcote will be teaching a tote bag.

The final drawing was held for the In-house item and Zee Gibson was the winner.

Lisa thanked all her current board members for their hard work throughout the year.

Kaye Joachim announced that the program for January would be Judy Musteric from Stitcher's Quest talking about how to utilize a panel.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50.

December Pictures

at the General Meeting



Our Holiday Potluck



Z Gibson has been teaching **Cherinn Norman** how to sew, and she ended up sewing these fabric tulip pins to give everyone at our meeting.



Laura Peacock started this rag quilt on the left 19 years ago, and finally finished it! The Christmas quilt shown above is a Disappearing 9-patch, with minky on the back. And the baby quilt below will go to Community Service.



Deb Chilcote made two pot holders and a one-handle fabric basket



Carol Stearns made this wallhanging as part of an Ugly Fabric Challenge (the print on the elephant blanket)





Paula Jurgonski showed four projects with flanged bindings



Pat Ferrell showed three quilts -- the scrappy Christmas quilt on the right, the 9-Patch on the far right, and a BOM with a barn below



JoAn Martin showed a Dusty Rose quilt top



Martha Rose made several Boro fabric boxes from learning to make them while watching a program on Create.TV.



Diane Roberson showed the quilt on the left that was made from yardage, and not a panel. She also finished a UFO -- her 2024 Row by Row. Diane was also the winner of the UFO program, finishing more unfinished projects than any other person in that group this year!



Donna Gross showed a trivet made for her by **Linda Weiss** -- the middle is in the shape of the Star of David.



Cheryl Tims and her Dancing Stars Quilt of Valor on the left.

Linda Weiss got small panels of birds from the Free Table, and created this quilt.



Z Gibson won our In-House Opportunity which was an 3-D embroidered Christmas tree made by her daughter, member **Angel Shauer!** (**Polly Shields** shown next to her)

And the moment we've been waiting for! Our 2025 "Boho Heart" Opportunity Quilt was won by long-time member Pat Ferrell!



Diane Roberson won the Poinsettia Blocks of the Month for December!

