

# Needle Notes

April  
2026

April 9:

General Meeting

Kaye Joachim, 1st VP

Our April program features Mrs. Davis from the Niceville Senior Center, who will be demonstrating how to do chair yoga to keep us fit for all our hours of quilting and sewing.



## April Reminders

- Hostesses: <no signups>
- Door Prizes: Sandra Gannett and Michelle Stout
- Strip club: Batiks
- Row by Row boxes are due
- Blocks for BOM drawing
- Donations for the Food Pantry
- Items for the Free Table

April 23: Workshop

This month, we have **Carol Stearns** teaching the "Fiji Tote." You will be able to use a great feature fabric that you've been saving for the front panel!



## April Calendar

- April 2: Board meeting
- April 2: Sit and Sew
- April 2: Coaching for Beginner's BOM, approx. 10:30 (after the board meeting)
- April 9: General Meeting
- April 11: QoV Presentation, 1:30 pm, Eglin Armament Museum (note time change)
- April 16: Community Services Workshop
- April 23: Fiji Tote Workshop
- April 25: Newsletter content due

## Upcoming Workshops

*Diane Roberson, 2VP*

In March we celebrated National Quilt Day with two wonderful workshops, "Quilted Postcards" by Debi Roderer and "Gift Bag Tote" by Deb Chilcote. We had fun and finished our make and take projects! Let's give a round of applause to our outstanding teachers who gave so generously of their talent and time.

In addition to Carol Stern's workshop in April (see page 1 for details), we have a great lineup of workshops coming up!

In **May**, we have "**Stupendous Stitching**" taught by **Peggy Murrell**. You'll be using those fancy stitches you have on your sewing machine as well as different fiber embellishments. After class, you'll be able to turn that stitched panel into a tote or wall hanging or other item of your choice.



In **June**, we slow things down with **hand stitching "Sashiko"** by Jackie Youngblood.

Sign-up soon for these wonderful skill building opportunities!

As always, we appreciate members helping to tidy up and store supplies after the workshop.

## Upcoming Programs:

*Kaye Joachim, 1VP*

**May: Who's Who** in the Guild. Bring a picture of yourself as a baby or a small child. We will hang the pictures on the wall, and you'll try to guess who everyone is. The person with the most correct answers will win a prize.

May is also our **Spring Potluck**. Members whose last names begin with A through K are asked to bring a dish to share.

**June:** Jamie Bryant of Diana Health will speak on women's health and wellness.



## 2027 Quilt Show: Peggy Murrell

The 2027 Emerald Coast Quilt Show will be here before you know it!

**When:** March 5-6, 2027    **Where:** Rigdon Center, (fka FWB Fairgrounds)

I hope everyone is working on their quilts. We have extra room this time so we can accommodate more quilts, more vendors, and some special displays.

Our show theme will be **"How Does Your Garden Grow."** Think trees, flowers, grasses, leaves, butterflies, bees, and birds, interpreted with piecing, appliqué, embroidery, collage, or simply a floral fabric.

We will have a judged category for the show theme, so be thinking about quilts that fit the theme. We will also have categories for pieced, appliqué, and modern, along with a few more, which we'll be ready to share next month.

Happy quilting!



## 2026 Retreat Recap: Deborah Moen & Debi Roederer

It doesn't seem possible but the books are closed on the 2026 Retreat. It was a grand time for sure with lots of laughter, memories created, new friendships made, long-time friendships deepened, and yes, even some quilting!

An event like this doesn't happen without a collective team effort and we were blessed to have a great team to work with. Please join us in a round of thankful applause for our committee of Kaye Joachim, Lisa Lydston, Diane Roberson, Konnie Glaze, Peggy Murrell, Sherri Hayes, Anne Johnson, Barbi Ouellette, Deb Conway, Tracy Lindsey, Ruthie Reynoso, Kathy Crews, Pat Ferrell, JoAn Martin, Donna Gross. Their dedicated efforts ensured an easy registration process, a smooth event check-in, wonderful teachers, and fun, games and laughter all day and evening, plus a spirited bidding at Quilters Walk, and wonderful door prizes. Kudos!

This seemed to be the retreat for trying new things beginning with a new facility, Home2 Suites, a change in scheduling with the addition of a kick-off event, some new games and activities, as well as a different way of handling door prizes. We appreciate your trust and patience through all of this and we hope these changes enhanced your retreat experience!

And now for the business part of the report. There were a total 73 individual retreaters (including 2 at the door!) signing up for five class offerings, two sit 'n' sew sessions, an evening reception and trunk show from guest teacher Brigit Dermott. Revenue came in at \$9370 with the bulk of it from registrations plus \$1600 from a very successful Quilter's Walk. Expenses totaled \$8714.61 leading to a profit of \$685.39. A couple of major factors in play were an unexpected expense of having to pay sales tax on the reception (due to the type of the guild's sales tax exemption), and not having more students in the guest teacher's class.

We thank you for trusting and supporting us throughout this entire experience. May you all find buttons in your stash thru out the next few months!

## President's Points: Lisa Lydston, President

Well, March came in like a freezing lion and went out like a roasted lamb. Can't wait to see what April brings weather wise, how about you? Showers would be great.

Unlike the Florida weather wackiness, April's Flying Needles events offer a bit more routine and stability, with a high dose of fun. We do have a 5th Thursday this month, so put that on your calendars for fellowship and sewing.

Our next big planning event is the 2027 Quilt Show. Peggy Murrell has a great committee already working on this. As the show gets closer, volunteers will be needed. Our quilt show is a huge undertaking where quilters from any guild or location can enter their creations. Each time we have a show, it seems to grow larger and we are expecting the same in 2027. Because of its growth, more and more of you will be needed to help out wherever you can and for as long as you can. Be on the look out for more information.

I won't take up space going over this month's schedule since it will be in the newsletter, so instead I will say this.....

You all are a dynamite bunch of ladies! Kevin, the same goes for you too! Your smiles, hugs, pats on the back, kindness, food creations, and talent are such a joy.

Thank you so very much!

See y'all April 2nd.

Love ya,

Lisa Lydston

## Hospitality:

*Mary Ann Sharp &  
Barbara Roberts*

Thank you everyone for the food we all enjoy.

Sign up sheets will be on the raffle table. Help is always appreciated.

Barbara Roberts and Mary Ann Sharp

## April Birthdays

Happy birthday quilters!!

Mary Barron
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Kathy Crews
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Betty Davey
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Julie Getting
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Zee Gibson
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Kerry Kastl
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Daryl Riddle
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Diane Roberson
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Pat Walker
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## Community Service:

### Debi Roederer

Thank you so much to the dedicated volunteers who came to community service workshop in March.

With a lot of chatter & laughter, and fueled with a delicious potluck, some great work was accomplished. What an amazing group to work with!

Because of those efforts, we now have several totes full of kits ready to take home, sew at your convenience, and return. You can choose from Christmas stockings, pillowcases, or receiving blankets. We also have a stack of quilt sandwiches ready to be quilted and bound. When you bring back finished items, Polly will be glad to get you some tickets for door prizes!

Please mark April 16 on your calendar for our next workshop. In addition to making kits and sandwiching tops, we will have a Cricut machine there to cut flannel into squares for flannel raggy Quilts. We hope you come join in the fun and fellowship that happens when friends gather for a good cause.

## 2026 Row By Row:

### Kaye Joachim



The row you took home at the February meeting is due back at the April General Meeting. Give the box to Kaye and she will give you the next box, which will be due back in May.

## FWB Library:

### Diane Roberson

In March we displayed "Springtime" made by **Carol Stearns**. I love the spring green color she chose! The pattern was a block of the month from Stitcher's Quest called "Saturday Sampler."

Next month we will display a creation by Kerry Kastl called "Peacock Garden" featuring muted florals. If you have a quilt you would like to loan to the library for June or August, please contact Diane Roberson.



## Quilts for Veterans: Barbi Quelette

FNQG members, spring is here, the clocks have sprung forward and we all "march" (play on words, hahah). Over 50 QfV blocks were completed at the retreat in March. We still have blocks to make, so the red, white and blue basket will be at the membership table if you'd like to take one. You can return completed blocks to Anne Smith at the membership table.

Panel Challenge: How are you all doing with your panel? Please return completed projects to Neva Larson so she can track who has returned their panel masterpiece. Attach a note with the name of your quilt, your name, and the quilter's and binder's name(s). I am pleased with the great response to this challenge. The Guild has so much going on and I know we have to pick and choose what we want to do or have time for.

The 250th Anniversary QfV Opportunity Quilt: Carol Stearns has done an amazing job getting blocks assigned. Most should be back and the top will be ready to assemble. Can't wait to see it all together.

Presentations: The next presentation at the Eglin Air Armament Museum will be on April 9th, 1:30pm (note time change). We will return to the normal time frame in May. I want to give a shout out to Valerie Holmes and Debi Roederer and all the quilters who came out to support them during the March presentation.

5th Thursdays: I have two 5th Thursdays in the 2026 calendar year: April 30 is a Quilt for Valor Sit n Sew Day. If you are working on a patriotic quilt or your challenge panel quilt, this is a great time to work on it. Jeannie Krzan and I will not be there but we hope you have a great sew day.

The next 5th Thursday will be July 30th with quilt kits, pillowcase kits, fabric, patterns, UFOs, door prizes and lunch (potluck/side dishes). I will provide the main course and door prizes. My plan is to have pillowcase kits available also, so bring your serger to make some pillowcases. It will be a fun day for all.

Silver Threads Quilt Guild will host their second annual QfV workshop on August 22 at the American Legion on Hollywood from approx. 9:30am to 3pm. Flying Needles members are welcome to join the fun. Details to follow.

As always, I am honored to do what we do for our local veterans and active duty personnel. But best of all, I couldn't do this without each of you participating and helping me and this great cause. A great big Thank you to all.

## 2026 BOM:

### *Anne Smith*

All of the BOM patterns are available on the Guild's website. Even if you miss a meeting, you can always get the information you need from there.

**April:** Due in April is the Disappearing 9-patch block that was demonstrated by Mary Barron at the March meeting.

**May:** In April, Neva Larson will tell us about Bonnie Hunter's 4-Patch Fun; these blocks are due back in May.

**June:** In May, Diane Roberson will be handing out challenge fabric, and the Challenge blocks are due in June.

## Membership:

### *Anne Smith & Robin Easter-Neubauer*

#### **March Attendance:**

62 members and 3 guests

#### **Guests:**

- Monica Peppler
- Denise Ellis
- Betty Scamahorn, who joined at the meeting

#### **Welcome New Members:**

- Betty Scamahorn:  
[Bscamahorn@hotmail.com](mailto:Bscamahorn@hotmail.com)  
850-225-6854

## Boutique Bites:

### *Carol Stearns*

Just a reminder: the Boutique will have two events this year. We will participate in the Guild's General Meeting scrap sale. Our big event is the Fall Flair at Destin Methodist Church in November 2026. We will also be preparing for the 2027 Quilt Show. Items that have sold well in the past include:

- Potholders
- Tote bags
- Zippered bags
- Small Christmas stockings
- Chicken pincushions (free pattern from Missouri Star Quilt Co on YouTube)
- Other types of pincushions
- Items with collegiate fabrics
- Table runners, especially patriotic
- Lapsize quilts
- Giftcard and ID holders
- Tissue holders
- Cross stitch bookmarks
- Microwave bowl cozies
- Fall themed items

Anything with patriotic fabrics should do very well this year in celebration of the Nation's 250th year.

When making an item, think about whether you would buy it yourself. Keep the fabrics fresh and current. This is a chance to demonstrate our skills as sewists and quiltmakers.

Last year at the Fall Flair we had quite a variety of different items and that is why we did so well.

As always, thank you for sewing and donating!

# Treasurer's Report : Donna Gross, Treasurer

Checkbook Balance: 2/21- 3/20 - \$52,313.29			
2026 PROGRAMS, SERVICES, GENERAL	2026 INCOME BUDGET	MARCH INCOME as of 3/30	TOTAL INCOME
General Grants	\$0.00		\$0.00
Monthly Raffle	\$1,200.00	\$300.00	\$495.00
Door Prizes	\$1,200.00	\$153.00	\$467.00
General Donations	\$0.00		\$500.00
Community Service	\$0.00		\$0.00
Community Service Grants	\$0.00		\$1,500.00
Fundraising/Boutique	\$1,200.00		\$0.00
Membership (100 Members) (income less cc fee)	\$3,500.00	\$33.68	\$446.06
Guild Opportunity Quilt (2027)	\$0.00		\$0.00
General Fundraising	\$300.00		\$0.00
Quilts for Veterans	\$2,000.00	\$26.00	\$1,526.00
QFV grants	\$0.00		\$0.00
2026 QFV Quilt (Opportunity quilt Hiatus for 2026)	\$0.00		\$0.00
Workshop	\$0.00	\$70.00	\$285.00
Quilters Walk	\$0.00		\$0.00
2027 Quilt Show	\$3,000.00		\$0.00
2026 Quilt Retreat (income less cc fee)	\$4,500.00	\$1,680.00	\$1,942.37
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$16,900.00</b>	<b>\$2,262.68</b>	<b>\$7,161.43</b>
2026 PROGRAMS, SERVICES, GENERAL	2026 EXPENSE	MAR EXPENSES	TOTAL EXPENSES
ADMIN - Insurance	\$650.00		\$641.94
ADMIN - Rent	\$2,400.00		\$2,400.00
ADMIN - Fl Dept of Revenue/File fees	\$90.00		\$70.00
ADMIN - Operating/Misc/machine repair/storage	\$500.00	\$161.03	\$161.03
ADMIN - Miscellaneous member give back	\$1,000.00		\$62.64
ADMIN - Technology/GoDaddy/ZOOM/Jotform	\$750.00		\$0.00
ADMIN - Post Office Box	\$180.00		\$0.00
ADMIN - Bank/credit card fees <small>(cc fees not included on totals, for information only)</small>	\$150.00	\$1.32	\$16.57
<b>TOTAL ADMINISTRATION SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>\$5,570.00</b>	<b>\$161.03</b>	<b>\$3,335.61</b>
Community Service (500 rollover from 2025)	\$2,500.00		\$107.50
Community Service Grants	\$0.00		\$0.00
Door Prizes	\$150.00	\$47.66	\$47.66
Fundraising/Boutique	\$50.00		\$0.00
Quilters Walk	\$0.00		\$0.00
Historian	\$80.00		\$0.00
Hospitality	\$150.00		\$31.77
Membership	\$350.00	\$35.00	\$259.00
Guild Opportunity Quilt (2027)	\$500.00		\$0.00
Programs	\$500.00		\$0.00
Publicity (General)	\$250.00		\$0.00
Quilts for Veterans (1301 rollover from 2025)	\$3,301.00	\$664.25	\$1,113.52
QFV Grants	\$0.00		\$0.00
2028 QFV Opportunity Quilt	\$0.00		\$0.00
Sunshine/Shadows	\$150.00		\$0.00
Workshops	\$350.00		\$75.00
2027 Quilt Show	\$5,500.00	\$733.75	\$733.75
2026 Quilt Retreat	\$8,000.00	\$4,562.53	\$7,593.08
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>\$27,401.00</b>	<b>\$6,204.22</b>	<b>\$13,296.89</b>

## Board Meeting Minutes: Eileen Wittic, Secretary

Date: March 5, 2026, Time: 9:00 AM

### I. Call to Order

#### A. Quorum: YES

B. Present: Lisa Lydston, President; Kaye Joachim, 1<sup>st</sup> VP (appeared by phone) Eileen Wittic, Secretary; Donna Gross, Treasurer

Membership Services/Committee Chairs Present: Community Services- Debi Roederer Facilities- Deborah Moen Boutique-Carol Stearns Membership- Robin Easter-Neubauer (sent in note) Quilts for Veterans-Barbi Ouellette 2027 Quilt Show- Peggy Murrell 2026 Retreat-Deborah Moen and Debi Roederer Technology Services-Anne Johnson

### II. Minutes from last meeting approved as written.

### III. Treasurer Report:

- A. Guild: Donna Gross stated that the balance of the account is \$52,997.67. February income \$4106.36 current expenses \$3523.32. Still waiting on final reconciliation of expenses for the 2026 Retreat.
- B. Member Services-Robin Easter-Neubauer sent a note that currently there are 105 members.
- C. Community Services-500 fat quarters were donated. Debi indicated that 100 would be donated to Westwood for their residents.
- D. Quilts for Veterans-Barbi received a \$26.00 donation. There will be a ceremony on 14 March. Barbi will be in CA in May. Currently there are 40 quilts to be presented. Ten quilts need to be quilted and six need binding.
- E. Summary of concerns from a Guild Member: A guild member wrote, via email to the President, some concerns regarding a recent donation received by the guild, specifically the allocation of a donation and whether board members should be involved in soliciting funds. The President brought the email to the board's attention upon receipt and discussion of the concerns held at the board meeting. After reviewing the donation check in question, its memo line designation, as well as talking with guild members who were present when the donation was received, the board determined the check has been appropriately allocated. Regarding the second concern of board members engaging in soliciting funds, a review of both the guild By-laws and SOPP, as well as input from the Parliamentarians, found nothing prohibits a board member from fundraising for the guild.
- F. Boutique-Carol suggested that patriotic items be made and donated for the Fall Flair.

### IV. Action Items

- A. 2026 Retreat - Deborah Moen/Debi Roederer- There are still outstanding receipts that need to be reconciled. Projected profit is \$1070. Retreat committee discovered that services are not covered in tax exempt status.

- B. Amend ByLaws and SOPPs to include Technology Services-Review will be conducted starting in June. Debi Roederer was asked to chair this committee. She will think about it and get back to the president.
- C. 2027 Quilt Show - Peggy Murrell-Currently waiting on contract. Donna Gross was able to assist with the contract. Originally contract was going to be \$6650.00 and Donna was able to get a reduction to \$4700. The first meeting will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday in March.

V. Programs - Kaye Joachim: Judy from Stitchers Quest is scheduled to talk about sewing with panels. April will be Chair Yoga. In May, members will bring a baby picture of themselves for others to guess who they are. A prize will be awarded.

VI. Workshops - Diane Roberson (absent)-See the website under "workshops"for upcoming classes

VII. Open Forum for Non-Board Members-Anne Johnson suggested that we create a donation form that we can present to donors. On that form would be a section as to where to slate the donation. Form could include that we are nonprofit with our ID number so the donor could have a receipt for their donation. Further discussion led to the creation of a receipt that the guild member would fill out and give to the donor. On it would be the amount of the donation, who donated it, what the donor wanted it to be used for, date, and signatures. Copy could be made via a photograph by the member for the Treasurer's records.

VIII. Further Action Needed

- A. T-shirts for members-Next month Donna will have a price and design for a T-shirt
- B. Laptop for Treasurer vs Quick Books user fee- Anne and Donna will give recommendations for the April meeting.
- C. Feasibility of extra storage facility-Deborah Moen will provide information in April.

IX. Meeting adjourned 10:10 AM

## General Meeting Minutes: Eileen Wittic, Secretary

**Date: March 12, 2026**

**Time: 10:00 am**

Prayer and Pledge was led by Linda Weiss. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am

Minutes of last meeting were approved as written.

Treasurer's Report - Donna Gross stated that the checking account has a balance of \$52,208.01. Income of \$4,106.36. Expenses \$3,523.32. A final reconciliation of retreat will be provided at next month's meeting. Linda Hudson requested the monthly expenses be read and noted in the minutes. The president read them as follows: expenses-\$3,569.35. Income-\$3,523,32. Treasurer's report is included in the monthly newsletter.

Program – Kaye had two visitors from Stitchers Quest. Margaret Kota and Sherri Wilson provided information on multiple projects available at Stitchers Quest at their new locations. The guild members were provided handouts for discounts and information on the upcoming Grand opening of Stitchers Quest at their new location. The date of the opening is 26-31 March 2026.

Show and Tell-Completed

Drawing #1-Completed

Back to Business

Block of the Month - Anne Smith provided information for next month's block. Cheryl Tims won the March blocks. Lisa Lydston displayed the next block for the Ultimate Beginner Quilt.

Community Services - Debi Roederer thanked everyone who came and helped with community services. Currently there are kits on the tables that need to be completed. Next community service will focus on pillow case kits. Donna Gross indicated that she had received four tickets for upcoming Sock hop and asked anyone who might be interested in attending to see her for the tickets.

December Block - Deb Chilcote discussed the December blocks. Last turn in will be in November.

Facilities - Deborah Moen-No changes

Strip Club - Grace Grimsley-Laura Peacock won the strips for this month and picked batiks for next month's colors.

Facebook - Konnie Glaze indicated that we have 600 followers on Facebook. People are sharing videos.

Food Pantry - Angel Schauer let everyone know that there will be a special distribution of food for students during Spring break. She will notify the church that we have additional food items.

Boutique - Carol Stearns handed out small stockings to be sewn for the boutique. They were a big seller at the Fall Flair. We are also looking for patriotic themed items.

Historian/photography - Deb Chilcote no update

Hospitality - Barbara Roberts told everyone that there are signup sheets at the back table for food.

Membership - Robin Easter-Neubauer that we had 62 members in attendance today. We had

three guests; Monica Pepler, Denise Ellis and Betty Scamahorn (joined today.)

Newsletter - Peggy Murrell let everyone know that items for the newsletter are due by the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month.

2027 Quilt Show - Peggy Murrell notified the guild that we have signed a contract for the 2027 Quilt show at the Rigdon Center in Ft Walton Beach. The event will be on 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> of March 2027. There have been site upgrades. Donna Gross was able to get the guild a reduced rate for the venue. There will be a committee meeting next week to start the planning for the event.

Opportunity Quilt – The President is still looking for a volunteer to coordinate the selling of tickets for the quilt.

Publicity - Donna Gross-No changes

Row By Row - Kaye Joachim- No changes

2026 Retreat- Debi Roederer/Deborah Moen-We received an update on the successful retreat. Currently the expenses are being reconciled and will be available by the next meeting. It appears that a potential profit of approximately \$1020-\$1200 could have been made. The coordinators asked that everyone who attended to complete their survey.

Quilts for Veterans - Valerie Holmes invited attendees to attend the wrapping of five Veterans on 14<sup>th</sup> of March at the Armament Museum. The event begins at 1230. Today was the last day to join QOV.

Sunshine and Shadows - Ruthie Reynoso-No cards sent out

UFO - Robin Easter-Neubauer UFO#4 will be due at next meeting

Website - Tracy Lindsay-No update

Workshops - Diane Roberson displayed examples of the upcoming events for the next several months. Diane will be updating the quilt displayed at the Ft Walton Beach Florida Library. A quilt by Carol Stearns titled "Springtime" will be on display during March. April's quilt titled "Peacock Garden," by Kerry Kastl will be the next to be displayed.

Final Drawing-completed

Meeting adjourned at 11:31 am.

**Martha Rose** made this "Color Study" quilt using fabrics from Virginia Flournoy



### March Pictures

from our General Meeting

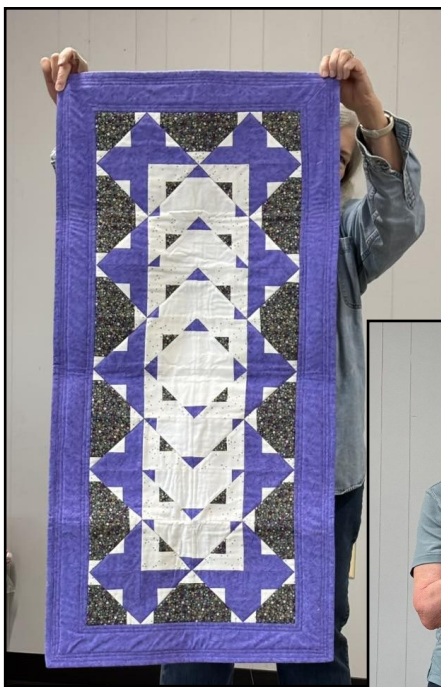
**Program** -- Margaret & Sherry from Stitcher's Quest came to talk about panels and gridded interfacing



**Tracy Lindsay** made an Orca top for her future daughter-in-law



**Lisa Lydston** finished this table topper from her 2025 December Blocks.



A couple table runners that were started in the retreat class called "Hall of Mirrors", led by **Deb Chilcote**. Top runner is by **Anne Johnson**, and **Barbara Roberts** is on the right.



**Deb Chilcote's** New York Beauty top that was started in **Kaye Joachim's** retreat class.

**Robin Easter-Neubauer** made curtains for her sewing room out of selvages.





**Bobbie Dye** made this colorful NY Beauty quilt

**Carol Stearns** made this UFO top that will go to Community Service

**Rosemary Stark** made this appliqued flower quilt that will go to Community Service

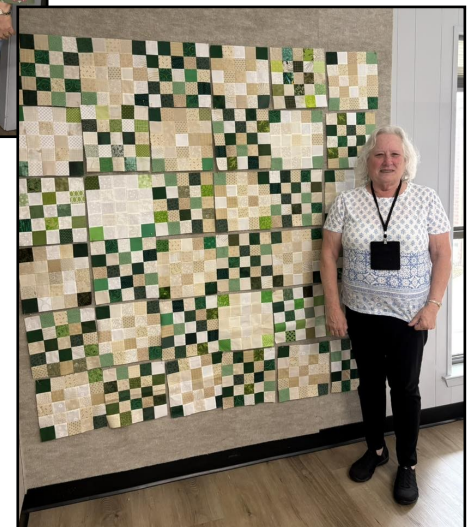


**Janet Kinner** made two quilts (above and below). The top one has chickens on it, and the other is from a previous Jelly Roll Day.

The "Quilt Diva" wallhanging was won by **Sonya Hart!**



Another quilt top going to Uganda, made by **JoAn Martin**



**Cheryl Tims** won the BOM blocks this month, with block patterns offered by **Maureen Farabaugh**

**Kerry Kastl and Linda Weiss** collaborated on this quilt. Kerry bought the fabric with figures, and challenged Linda to design a quilt to show them off. Linda used the trapunto method.

