

The Procrastinating Quilters Guild March 2026 Newsletter

Sylvan Abbey United Methodist Church
2817 Sunset Point Rd, Clearwater, FL 33759

PQ website: [ProcrastinatingQuilters.com](https://www.procrastinatingquilters.com)

PQ Facebook page:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/469944486465125/>

2026 Officers and Committee Chairs:

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Audit

Robin VanScoy

Community Outreach

Gale Pittman

Fifty/Fifty

Vacant

Historian

Tahnee Eaton

Membership

Vacant

Interim: Denise Appleman



President's Message

Mary Ann Pickard

March is the beginning of spring with all the trees and flowers putting out their first buds. Nature promises a new start despite the storms, droughts and pollution. We all feel a bit younger and more hopeful in this season, despite illnesses, injuries and the aging process. I wish I could easily do all the things I used to be able to do, but I refuse to give up! Sewing and quilting allows us all to participate at some level. Some members hesitate to jump in because they are

Brown Bag Challenge

Pat Holliday

Newsletter editor

Amy Mullins

Nominating Committee**Parliamentarian**

Penny Black

Party Coordinator

vacant

Party Blocks

vacant

Programs

Robin VanScoy

Gretchen Vautier

Retreat Planner (2026)

Judy Wedekind

Sunshine

Penny Black

Website

Joan DeSantis

"just beginners". So watch, learn, study and absorb all the visual inspiration. Go to quilt shows, ask questions to see what you love most. Some of us have done this for years and don't feel the energy for big projects but we can encourage, teach and inspire others. There are lots of small projects and a lot of tools and aids to make it easier. I started using electric scissors, Accuquilt cutters, gadgets that are easier to grip and quilting with an embroidery machine. I am sorry to miss this meeting, but the sooner my hand is fixed, the sooner I can get back to all the things I love.

Happy Spring!

Mary Ann

Membership 2026

Denise Appleman

To remain an active member of the guild, membership dues are owed no later than March to remain active this year. Please do so at our March 19, 2026 meeting. Dues are \$30.00.

Membership tags can be ordered for an additional \$10.

Please place your payment in an envelope with your name on the front. Indicate if the payment is just for membership or if you also want to purchase a name tag. Envelopes will be provided at the meeting if you need one. If you can't pay in person, please mail me your payment. My address is:

2968 Windridge Oaks Dr
Palm Harbor, FL 34684

Thank you,
Denise

Community Outreach

Gail Pittman

Hello Quilters!

I recently made a donation to the hospital. There was a great assortment of items this month. I'm incredibly impressed to be getting donations from friends of members who just want to contribute even though they are not members. Amazing!

NICU hearts 28

Burp cloths 11

Heart pillows 7

Teddy bears 30

Adult bibs 15

Infusion throws 9

Baby afghans 1

Baby quilts 9

I asked what they need the most, and they are giving out lots of baby quilts. They can also use the infusion throw quilts without batting. My friend at the hospital is getting info together about the mesh bags used to hold drains after surgery. She will get back to me asap. I thought we could do them at retreat to get a visual on how they are made rather than instructions on paper only. They are made a specific way with a mesh that the patients can wear in the shower. If you can't make it to retreat you will still be included if you like.

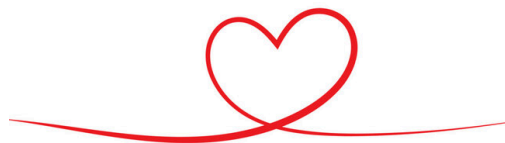
As always, these projects are in no way mandatory. Use what you have on hand to make what you enjoy. There is no specific skill level needed either so everyone can participate.

Thanks all,

Gale

Text to 727-510-7559 or

Galepittman@hotmail.com



2026 Annual PQ Retreat

Judy Wedekind

Theme: April Showers bring May Flowers

We have **TWO** openings available. Please let me know if you want to claim one of these last coveted spots. The deposit is \$50 to hold your spot with the balance due by the April meeting. Contact me directly or come see me at the March meeting.

The 2026 PQ Retreat is at the Hampton Inn, [4017 Tampa Road, Oldsmar, FL](#), beginning Thursday, April 30, 2026, at noon and concluding on Sunday, May 3, 2026, at 3:00 pm. All fees remain the same as last year and you must have an active membership:

- **Retreat Fee:** \$130
- **Hotel Rates** (exclude tax/fees):
 - o \$119/night – 2 queen beds
 - o \$139/night – studio with 2 queen beds
- *****April 16, 2026*****
 - o **Balance due for Retreat**
 - o **Reserve hotel room by midnight**

Looking forward to another wonderful weekend of quilting, friendship, shenanigans, and snacks.

Thanks,
Judy



Programs

Robin VanScoy/Gretchen Vautier

March Meeting:

Back by popular demand, this month Cathleene Tokish returns to show us the Laura Heine Collage Quilts that she could not show last month. One of them is a recent award winner and not to be missed! In addition, Cathleene will demo the Inksense pencils and coloring techniques that she mentioned in her presentation. Based on interest, we will be setting up a workshop. Details to be shared once we schedule. Cathleene mentioned the Video on how to FACE a quilt. This is the Link for that 4-minute video. <https://youtu.be/pbwDW0XqSEI?si=ArbM5CqFINcZTGVx>

April Meeting:

Presidents Challenge

May Meeting:

Julie Luoma from Off the Wall Quilts in Deland will be our speaker and teacher. Her presentation is called Dancing on the Borders. In the workshop, she states “The students bring a center to start with then we build borders with very little measuring and lots of creativity. The idea is to get the quilter thinking outside the box. Quilters come in fairly nervous but leave having done things they never expected.” We will pass a sign-up sheet starting in March – workshop fee \$60.00

June Meeting:

Spring Gathering – Celebrate the Semiquincentennial of America!
We will be scheduling a summer Sit-n-Sew and the Dresden House Wall Hanging with Robin Beall. More to come once we can nail down the schedule.

UFO Challenge

Find inspiration and a little nudging by joining in on our UFO Challenge. 9 projects 12 months, you can do this! See previous newsletter and email communications for specifics. 14 members have already signed up to participate. The final submission of your list is the March Meeting.

Last month we picked number 4 as the project of the month to work on and hopefully finish! Bring your completed projects to show and tell and earn credit for completion. Name goes in the bucket for prize drawings at the Dec Gathering! Contact Robin VanScoy for more details!

50/50

Thank you to Lily Ames for working the 50/50 sales in February. Our winner was Mary Ann Pickard who graciously donated her winnings back into the fund! Thank you, Mary Ann! Bring your dollars to play 50/50 and help fund our Annual Sylvan Abbey Angel Tree Donation! Small bills help, got to be in it to win it!



March

03/06 Susan Evans
03/31 Mary Tittle

April

04/08 Tahnee Eaton
04/10 Theresa Hicks
04/14 Penny Beamon
04/22 Janell Cleveland
04/27 Karen Pieczonka
04/30 Michelle Crook

Upcoming Florida Quilt Shows

- March 19-21 Original Sewing & Quilt Expo in Lakeland
- April 17-18 Country Road Quilters Ruby Jubilee Show in Ocala

And don't forget...

- March 1 – April 30 All Florida Shop Hop

A new study shows that
buying fabric and
sewing supplies
prolongs your life.

Looks like I'm going
to be immortal.

