



Patchwork Press

March 2026

Catawba Valley Quilters Guild
Volume 42, No. 3
March 2026

C A L E N D A R

MEETINGS

BOARD MEETING MON. MARCH 5, 2026 at 6pm via Zoom

GUILD MEETINGS THURS. MARCH 12, 2026 10 am & 6:30 pm Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

PROGRAM: RONA HERMAN, ALSO KNOWN AS RONA THE RIBBITER, author, teacher, pattern designer and YouTube host with a passion to experience all that life (and quilting) has to offer. Rona's unique pattern style of pairing traditional quilt block piecing with a modern look and utilizing direction and fabric placement allows her to combine both her love of art and mathematics. Her quilts may look difficult. But, in truth, they are as easy to assemble as any traditional quilt. Today Rona is traveling the globe sharing her tips, tricks, inspiration and travel adventures with quilters the world over.

MISSION DAY

MARCH 14 9 am – 3 pm

None in April due to the show.

SIT 'N SEW

THURSDAY MORNINGS (except meeting days) 9:30-11:30 am Holy Trinity Lutheran Church.

SIT N SEW EVENINGS will resume after the time change March 8, 2026.



QUILT SHOWS

MARCH 11 - MAY 2, 2026 PROFESSIONAL ART QUILTERS ALLIANCE-SOUTH 2026 EXHIBITION ARTQUILTS *JOURNEY* Page-Walker Arts & History Center, Cary, North Carolina

FRI.-SAT. MAR. 13-14, 2026 CAPITAL QUILTERS GUILD QUILT SHOW NC State Fairgrounds Raleigh, NC

OUR QUILT SHOW FRI.—SAT. APR. 17-18, 2026 SPRING CELEBRATION OF QUILTS Highland Recreation Center 1451 8th St Dr NE, Hickory

FRI. –SAT. APR. 24-25, 2026 FOOTHILLS PIECEMAKERS QUILT SHOW Greenville, SC

TUES-FRI. MAY 5-8, 2026 OUR HOLSTON RETREAT BANNER ELK—Email Nancy Garchek at sewnag@gmail.com to register. Spaces limited. Deposit \$130 due at February or March meeting.

FRI. –SAT. MAY 15-16, 2026 WESTERN CAROLINA QUILT GUILD – A GARDEN OF QUILTS SHOW Bonclarken Conference Center, Flat Rock NC

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Catawba Valley Quilters Guild
 2425 North Center Street #222
 Hickory, North Carolina 28601

March Birthdays



1	Joyce Gates
4	Jan Higgins
5	Martha Brown
8	Lucy Kearns
16	Michele Ferber
22	Bonnie Gold
29	Susan Deal
31	Diana Weber

Officers & Worker Bees

	Day	Night
President	Nancy Garchek	Dawn Cole
Vice President	Barbara Mahnke	Terrie Townsend
Secretary	Chris Appenzeller	Jill Wells
Treasurer	Joyce Gates	
Members-at-Large	Michele Hester	Janet Hunt

CATAWBA VALLEY QUILTERS GUILD TREASURER'S REPORT JANUARY 1-31, 2026

Membership – Millie Kaufman Chair

/ Melissa Shaw

Newsletter – Judy Edberg *Newsletter deadline: third Monday of prior month*

Publicity – Tina Downward Send items to
 CVQGPublicity@gmail.com

Webmistress / Quilts of Valor – Amanda Truett

Workshops – Debra Eckard

Lisa Echerd

Meeting Dates / Times Second Thursdays 10 am/6:30 pm /
 Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 547 6th Street NW, Hickory, NC
 Mail: 2425 N. Center St. # 222; Hickory, NC 28601
 catawbavalleyquiltersguild.com / Facebook Catawba Valley
 Quilters Guild / Instagram @CVquiltersguild



MINUTES, MORNING MEETING, FEBRUARY 12, 2026

CALL TO ORDER – WELCOME

President Nancy Garchek called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. There were no guests or new members. Nancy introduced member Kathleen Sigmon and thanked her for bringing in the remainder of the items from the recent sale of Libby Sigmon's sewing supplies.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES & TREASURER'S REPORT

Sherry Huffman moved to approve the January minutes. Kathleen Whiddon seconded the motion. The motion passed, and the minutes were approved as written.

Treasurer Joyce Gates reported a balance of \$12,533.51 in the checking and savings account. An audit will be performed on February 15 and completed by the end of the month.

ATTENDANCE AND DRAWINGS

Membership Chair Millie Kaufman reported an attendance of 45. Jan Carpenter won the drawing for attendance and Mary Bucy for nametag.

SUNSHINE AND SHADOWS.

- Kay Dwyer's mother passed away.
- Mary Long is at Abernethy Laurels Rehab Center. She would like visitors, but please call her husband Bill (828 638-1301) before visiting.
- Dawn Barbersek has an upper respiratory illness.
- The husband of Kathleen Dukelow passed away.

OLD BUSINESS – QUILT SHOW

QUILT SHOW PUBLICITY Chair Tina Downward reported on the progress of publicity for the guild and the show with the following updates: 1. 19,464 interactions on Facebook page in the last month, 12 new followers 2. Not yet on Instagram 3. Newton newspaper ran an article and would like more stories from the guild, particularly human interest stories, guild news, the history or making of a quilt. Articles should be 2-3 paragraphs long; photos are

requested. Send them to Tina at CVQGPublicity@gmail.com or Tdownward@gmail.com. The paper will also help promote the quilt show. Tina will assist Joyce Gates in writing an article about the recent guild participation in creating a fundraiser quilt for the Hickory Day School and provide a photo. 4. The guild cannot sell raffle quilt tickets on Facebook since our page is not yet set up as a non-profit account. 5. The Catawba Valley Arts Council website, the Office of Commerce, and multiple other sites will also post information about the guild. 6. The local radio station wants to do a program segment on Quilts of Valor on March 25. Peggy Poe volunteered to participate. 7. A roving reporter from the radio station will attend the show on Friday and possibly Saturday to make a recorded segment, particularly on the Quilts of Valor presentations. 8. Petra Weishaupt-Smith suggested the guild inquire about opportunities to promote the guild and quilting at the Learning Lab on the second floor of the Patrick Beaver Library.

SIGNATURE BLOCKS 15" signature blocks from members are being collected up until quilt turn-in on March 20.

SHOW VOLUNTEER SIGN-UPS Members are encouraged to sign-up to volunteer on available clipboard sheets for shifts at the Admission Table, the Lily Boutique, and Hospitality ("White Glove" volunteers answer questions and help protect the quilts on display; Vendor assistants help provide water and snacks to the vendors and booth sit during vendor restroom breaks.) The sign-up sheets will continue to be available at the March meetings.

RAFFLE TICKETS Sherry Huffman reported that 1,816 raffle quilt tickets have been sold for a total of \$1,598. \$120 was made from selling tickets on Friday of the Statesville show in January. Members are encouraged to continue selling tickets, and recent new members should be offered tickets to sell. Recommendations for additional sales locations are needed.

LILY BOUTIQUE Catherine Caswell has price tags avail-



able; note your member number on the back if you would like the donated item to be returned to you if it does not sell. She also has bags for scrap bag sales and nametag/lanyards available for \$10 for those who did not sew their own. Bring boutique donations to Catherine by the next meeting.

RAFFLE BASKETS Susan Fontyn offered thanks for donations.

JUDGING Barb Mahnke said that judging help sign-ups done last month now have been converted to specific assignments and dates. Please look over the new schedule and sign off for your commitment. She has more publicity postcards available for distribution. Quilt registration forms were sent to members via email. They may also be accessed and printed via the guild website under the Quilt Show 2026 heading at the top of the page. Those entering quilts (for judging or not) are asked to Pre-Register to help the committee estimate the number of quilts at the show. Attach a photo even if the quilt is not quite completed and fill out the backstory/blurb at the bottom of the page. Hand, text, mail, or email the forms to Barb by March 1 if at all possible.

VENDORS Teena McRary reported that there will be 13 vendors. She provided a list of the vendors with their contact and booth information. The vendors committee is to let Barb Mahnke know if they need additional volunteers to help the vendors unload and set-up. These would be in addition to those Barb is getting to help set up the pipes and drapes.

SPRING CAMP HOLSTON RETREAT Reservations have been accepted for 15 of the 16 spots. After the last open spot is reserved, a waiting list will be started. Attendees need to pay at least \$130 by the time of the March guild meeting, and the remaining balance is due by the end of April.

SHOW AND TELL

- Joyce Gates – 1 Quilt of Valor quilt and 1 donation (children's drawn blocks) for Hickory Day School

- Teena McRary – 1 personal project wedding quilt
- Tanya Hodge – 1 personal project, completion of her mother's bargello quilt
- Peggy Barton – 1 personal project, quilted jacket of William Morris designed fabric by Moda
- Sue Reimlinger – 1 personal project
- Reba Walden – 1 preemie and 1 personal project
- Jackie Crocker – 3 personal projects, 1993 memory Christmas tree, snow globes
- Chris Appenzeller – 3 donation quilts made by former member Libby Sigmon
- Catherine Caswell – 5 personal projects, a fall quilt and 4 rope bowls
- Wanda Greer – 5 Sunshine donations
- Kathleen Whiddon – 1 personal project, a Christmas Tree quilt

PROGRAM

Carol Harris of the Mooresville guild and the Cabarrus guild presented a program on panel quilts and unique, colorful borders. Carol recommended the free patterns of equilter.com.

The meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Wells





MINUTES, EVENING MEETING, FEBRUARY 12, 2026

Evening president Dawn Cole opened the meeting around 6:30 p.m. with around 28 people present.

SUNSHINE AND SHADOWS

- Kay Dwyer's mother passed away.
- Mary Long is at Abernathy Rehab.
- Dawn Cole's boss' wife needs open heart surgery.
- Suzanne Sproul's husband is in the hospital.
- Cathy Starnes' husband still has double vision from having the flu in December.
- Melissa Shaw's ankle is not healing from the surgery she had in December to remove her ankle hardware and she may need further surgery. On a happy note, Melissa and her husband are supposed to travel to Ireland in May.

Last month's meeting minutes were approved by Susan Fontyn and Debbie Smith and then okayed by all.

The drawings were won by Mary Whipkey, attendance and Susan Bisulca, name tag.

QUILT SHOW

Barbara Mahnke gave an update and gave everyone who signed up their assignments for Quilt Show jobs. The signature 15" squares are being collected by Nancy Garchek in the morning meetings and Barb in the evenings. Susan Fontyn has completed 12 or 13 fat quarter baskets. Catherine Caswell has asked that items for the Lily Boutique be turned in by the March Meeting if possible. Tina Downward has been churning out a lot of publicity for the show and doing a great job. The Blue Bird Boutique in Newton is selling raffle tickets for the Guild.

SPRING HOLSTON RETREAT

Dawn reports that 15 of the 16 spots for the May 5-8 retreat have been filled. After the last spot has been filled a waiting list will be started. A deposit of at least \$130 is due by the March Meeting. The remaining balance is due by the end of April.

SHOW AND TELL

- Judy Edberg, two journal covers and strawberry bags for the Lily Boutique.
- Monique Kusick, a baby quilt, 40 x 44, made with

Marvel Hero fabric.

- Janet Hunt, made a scrappy quilt for the Morganton Rotary Club spring breakfast and raffle event.
- Lisa Miller, a baby quilt.
- Susan Bisulca, 20 blocks for Quilts of Valor and a preemie quilt.
- Sandy Herman, a Quilt of Valor and a space-oriented quilt for her great nephew.
- Patty Iovale, the beginnings of a drum quilt.
- Catherine Caswell, a fall quilt and four rope bowls.
- Shelley Thompson a full bag of hearts for the NICU unit at the hospital, and a very touching 15" patriotic square for the quilt show.
- Michele Hester, a jelly roll quilt.
- Jill Wells, eight Sunshine quilts, some baby and some older children and a knitted Afghan for the Lily Boutique.
- Michelle Macy, one personal project.
- Melissa Shaw, a Labyrinth quilt made for a co-worker.

PROGRAM

After a short break the program from Carol Harris began. Carol showed a wide assortment of mostly panel quilts made with some very interesting borders. There was a big interest in having Carol do a workshop showing some of her techniques.

Amanda Truett had a tote of Quilts of Valor panels that were snatched up with the program inspiring lots of us to try new borders.

Missions days were/will be Feb. 21 and March 14.

The meeting was adjourned with motions made by Shelley Thompson and Amanda Truett.

Respectfully submitted, Jill Wells

March 8 (2 am) set your clocks forward 1 hour.





NEWSLETTER NEWS

By Diana Weber



Good News: Judy Edberg volunteered to take on the responsibilities of the newsletter. She has been my righthand woman since joining the guild, proof-reading, suggesting changes and generally keeping me on the right track. I cannot express how helpful she has been; nor how grateful I am that she is willing to take over this responsibility.

Judy would like to have an assistant, preferably someone who attends the morning meeting, since she attends evening meetings. Sometimes topics come up that should be in the newsletter, but are not passed on to us. Any volunteers?

March will be my last issue. Judy takes over in April.

Hasta la vista,

Diana



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