



Patchwork Press

April 2026

Volume 42, No. 4

Calendar

Meetings:

Board Meeting: Thursday, April 2, 2026 at 6pm via Zoom

Guild Meetings: Thurs. April 9, 2026 10 am & 6:30 pm Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

Program: TBA - Look for an e-blast prior to mtg.

Mission Day

There will be no Mission Day in April due to our quilt show.

Sit 'n Sew

Thursday Mornings (except meeting days) 9:30-11:30 am Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
Currently no evening Sit 'n Sew is in place.

Quilt of Valor Presentation

April 25, 2026 in downtown Hickory at the Multi-Cultural Festival. Under "The Sails on the Square" at 4 p.m.

Quilt Shows, Hops, & Events

April 13, 2026 at 11:15 AM - WHKY radio show (1290 AM or 102.3 FM). The topic will be our quilt show. Please, tune in!

Fri. – Sat. Apr. 24-25, 2026 Foothills Piecemakers Quilt Show Greenville, SC

May 1 - June 30, 2026 All Blue Ridge Shop Hop 80 stores throughout NC, VA, WV. Details online at: <https://allblueridgeshop.com>

Fri. – Sat. May 1-2, 2026 Central Carolina Quilt Fair, West End Plaza, 1935 Jake Alexander Blvd., Salisbury, NC

Fri. –Sat. May 15-16, 2026 Western Carolina Quilt Guild – A Garden of Quilts Show

Bonclarken Conference Center, Flat Rock NC

Tues-Fri. May 5-8, 2026 Our Holston Retreat

Banner Elk—Email Nancy Garchek at sewnag@gmail.com to register. Limited to 17 participants. Full, but there is a waiting list. If you have already paid a deposit of \$130, the balance of \$140 is due at the April meeting for a total of \$270. If you did not pay a deposit, the entire amount of \$270 is due.

Our Quilt Show

Fri. – Sat. Apr. 17-18, 2026 Spring Celebration of Quilts

Highland Recreation Center, 1451 8th St Dr NE, Hickory

Important Quilt Show Deadlines -

Apr. 16, 2026	Hanging
Apr. 17-18, 2026	Quilt Show
Apr. 18, 2026	Return Quilts

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Minutes, Morning Meeting, March 12, 2026

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

Vice President Barb Mahnke called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. Patricia Scronce was introduced as a guest. There were no new members.

SUNSHINE AND SHADOWS

Suzanne Sproul's husband and Becky Butler's mother have passed away. Jill Wells has a new granddaughter. Diane Gantt's daughter was recently married. Cindy Smith's sister had knee replacement surgery. Elle Clemens requested prayers for her granddaughter Caroline who was born Oct. 31 with health problems. Kay Dwyer thanked everyone who gave support following the recent passing of her mother and of her father last year.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Elle Clemens moved to accept the February minutes as written, and Susan Fontyn seconded. Approved.

ATTENDANCE AND PRIZE DRAWING

Millie Kaufman reported 55 in attendance. Debra Eckerd won for attendance, and Lori Skinner won for name tag. Note: the prize box is in need of replenishment.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Joyce Gates reported a current balance of \$13,842.23. An audit was completed with just a few minor recommendations. QOV received a \$300 donation from the Marine Corps League. Joyce is collecting deposits and payments for the Spring Retreat. All spots have been reserved.

QUILT SHOW

Lily Boutique: Catherine Caswell has printed name tags to go in the member lanyards as well as some lanyards for purchase. She also has price labels for donated items. Turn in donated items by the next meeting. More helpers for clean-up after the show are needed.

Judging: Barb Mahnke has so far received over 140 pre-registration forms for quilts to be judged. No additional quilts that are intended for judging will be accepted after the March 20-21 "Turn In" dates, but quilts for display-only will still be accepted. The goal is to have 200 judged quilts. Barb is working on the availability of advance

purchase tickets. Some members would like to gift admission tickets to family or friends.

Raffle Quilt: Sherry Huffman requested volunteers to sell tickets during the show.

Vendors: Teena McRary reported that there will be 15 vendors. Names are posted on the website. Recently added were vendors of chocolates, jewelry, and screen-printed t-shirts. The scissors sharpening vendor will be at the show only on Friday (\$10 for regular scissors, \$15 for pinking shears).

Hospitality: Kandi Peterson explained the duties of "White Glove" and vendor helpers and passed a clipboard seeking volunteers and time commitments.

15" Signature blocks continue to be collected by Barb Mahnke and Nancy Garchek

Layout: Michelle Macy is working on the show layout. There will be only one entry door for vendors.

Kay Dwyer requested volunteers to help vendors with unloading and loading; Barb Mahnke is arranging for additional helpers other than guild members.

Show Committee Meeting: March 21

PUBLICITY

Tina Downward reported that she has given shout-outs to vendors in guild publicity, and she has submitted more articles, particularly on QOV, to local newspapers. A new-member welcome event took place on March 9. The next radio program participation will be on April 13 and Tina will promote the quilt show. The guild Facebook page has been receiving lots of engagements and response.

NEW BUSINESS

Amanda Truett has patriotic-themed panels available for QOV projects or for the guild's summer challenge projects.

Barb Mahnke read a letter received from Children's Advocacy with acknowledgment of receipt of six quilts from the guild.

Cyndi Smith recommended a new retreat facility in Gastonia, The Castle on Kendrick, located 5 miles from Sew Much Fun. She and her sister have recently attended a retreat there. Approximately \$100 a night per person for 4 to 7 people with a 3 night minimum. See Cyndi for business cards and further information.

There is a possibility of forming an evening Sit and Sew group. Contact Barb Mahnke to coordinate with the church facility.

Kathleen Sigmon honored her mother-in-law and former guild member Libby Sigmon, who passed away last June, and told how much the friendships formed from guild membership meant to Libby. Kathleen thanked Libby's Lovely Ladies, a support group of friends who rallied around Libby after the passing of her husband Rex in 2020. The group helped the Sigmon family host a sale of much of Libby's sewing supplies in January and raised enough money to cover the expenses of two Susan Edmonson programs (morning and evening) in July as well as most of the costs of a Friday and Saturday workshop by Susan. There will be a nominal fee for workshop attendees, which will include the pattern (a bird-themed project), but there is no cost to the guild for the programs or workshops. Kathleen thanked everyone who offered support and friendship to Libby and her family and who came to the sale.

SHOW AND TELL

Susan Fontyn – 2 personal projects, Serengeti Serendipity and Carpenter's Star (8 year UFO!)

Elle Clemens – 1 personal project
 Lisa Eckerd – 4 items for Lily Boutique: wall quilt, tablecloth, patriotic themed aprons
 Peggy Poe – 3 personal projects
 Diane Amos – 6 pillowcases for Sunshine and 1 personal project, a 20" square "neighborhood" quilt
 Tanya Hodge – 1 personal project quilt for her niece
 Sherry Huffman – 1 Quilt of Valor
 Barb McKeever – 1 personal project
 Tina Downward – 2 personal projects: baby quilt and her signature block
 Maureen Teague – 1 personal project, "The Dress" by Laura Heine
 Dotty Williams – 1 Quilt of Valor and 1 embroidery project for Lily Boutique
 Connie Bumgarner – a purchased woven table runner from an antique store, idea for a guild workshop?

PROGRAM

Rona Herman, known as Rona the Ribbeter, presented a program and trunk show on Traditional to Modern quilts. Rona gives quilt-related travel tours, teaches, and designs patterns, often using EQ8. Rona traveled to Hickory from her home in Nevada but previously lived in the Charlotte area for 10 years.

STITCHING THE GLOBE WITH RONA

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Respectfully submitted,
 Chris Appenzeller, Morning Secretary

Minutes, Evening Meeting, March 12, 2026

The evening Guild meeting was called to order by president Dawn Cole around 6:30 p.m. There were three visitors, Carol Weeks' sister and nephew, Terrie and Jay, and Alena Shaw, Melissa's sister-in-law. There were also 31 members in attendance.

SUNSHINE AND SHADOWS

- Susan Sproul's husband has passed away.
 - Jill Wells has a new granddaughter, this is her and her husband's ninth grandchild.

- Becky Butler's mother has passed.
 - Melissa Shaw's ankle is finally starting to show improvement. It has been a long haul.
 - Terrie Townsend's brother Bill is in the ICU. They are draining the fluid from around his lungs and he is waiting to improve so he can have two toes removed.
 - Wanda Bombyk's daughter Kelly is back from a three week vacation in Europe.



Last month's minutes were approved and passed with a first and second coming from Debbie Smith and Shelley Thompson.

The door prizes were won by Gail Meyers, attendance and Pat Sain, name tag.

Dawn read a thank you note the Guild received from the Child Advocacy Center for quilts donated.

Libby Sigmon's family donated \$1,600 and are sponsoring the July program and a workshop.

The Quilts of Valor received a \$300 donation from the Marine Corps League, Detachment 1163.

The Treasurer's audit has been completed.

QUILT SHOW

Cathy Starnes discussed what will be on the billboard for the quilt show and signs that will be going up along the road. Tina Downward went over publicity for the show and the Guild. There will be a radio show on March 25 for the QOV. On April 13 there will be a radio show about the quilt show. Susan Fontyn has 14 baskets ready for the Fat Quarter Raffle at the quilt show. Barb Mahnke and Nancy Garchek are still collecting 15" signature blocks for the show. As of Wednesday, March 11, 143 quilts have been pre-registered. Terrie Townsend is making pre-paid tickets for the show if anyone would like to purchase them for family and friends.

Diana Weber is stepping down from The Patchwork Press and has handed the reins over to Judy Edberg. Dawn Cole volunteered to help her.

There is interest in starting the Thursday evening Sit and Sew back up, but that will be After The Quilt Show!

SHOW AND TELL

- Carol Weeks - 1 baby girl quilt for the Lily Boutique, 5 baby quilts for personal projects and 4 hearts for the NICU.

- Judy Edberg - 15" signature block, Birthday month challenge for the quilt show, the grid challenge and 3 strawberry foldable shopping bags for the Lily Boutique.

Mary Whipkey - 3 pin holders.

- Amanda Truett - 1 Quilt of Valor and 2 personal quilts including the Mouse Trap quilt.

- Rebecca Watts - a plaid quilt.

- Dawn Cole - 1 quilt for her friend who is recovering from open heart surgery and a quilt donated to the Guild that she bound and Melissa Shaw had hand quilted. (Sandy Herman bought it as the quilt had originally come from Kansas, which is where Sandy is from.)

- Jill Wells - 4 children's Sunshine quilts for donation and a couch Christmas quilt for her oldest daughter.

- Tina Downward - a baby shower gift which was done in Aztec pink.

- Judi Eller - 2 premie quilts and 3 pillowcases.

- Catherine Caswell - rope trivets and a quilt made from a Susan Edmonson pattern.

- Shelley Thompson - a penguin child's quilt and a child's fish quilt.

- Terrie Townsend - a Loose Change quilt and embroidered towels for Pink Heal.

- Susan Bisulca - 1 Quilt of Valor, 7 bears for the Lily Boutique, 3 pattern keepers, 6 jar openers, and her signature block.

- Cathy Starnes - 3 sunflower quilts made of panels with different style borders on each.

- Sandy Herman - 2 quilts, one featuring purples and one for a Yellow Star family.

- Elle Clemens - 1 quilt that looks like stained glass.

- Susan Fontyn - a Carpenter Square wall hanging, and an African quilt.

After a brief recess the program began with Rona the Ribbeter. She showed quilts from Modern to Traditional and discussed color in quilts with contrast in design and bold and small prints.

Respectfully submitted,
Jill Wells, Evening Secretary



Rona Herman

If you enjoyed Rona’s presentation at one or both of the March guild meetings and you would like to learn more from Rona or explore her books, patterns, trips, or swag; you can find her at:

STITCHING THE GLOBE WITH RONA

RonatheRibbeter.com

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NEWS LETTER NEWS - again

Hello, Everyone!

Welcome along on my maiden voyage with the newsletter! Diana Weber has been awesome at helping me with the transition. I am using a different app to produce this, since the PC app that Diana was using is no longer available and I am a dedicated Apple loyalist. Whereas I’ve used this app previously, my learning curve has been high as I learn to incorporate all the information for the CVQG newsletter. I have tried to follow Diana’s formatting as much as possible (why fix something that is so wonderful?), some things needed to take on a different look just because it is different software. Diana has graciously volunteered to continue to coach me with the newsletter. Two members have, also, generously offered to help with editing: Dawn Cole who is currently the evening president and Diane Amos who has only recently joined the guild). I will be so lucky to have a team to help each month! It is extremely difficult it is to catch your own errors when creating documents and I am very fortunate to have a whole team of assistants who will be checking this over, before you see it.

Hopefully, you will enjoy my inaugural edition of the newsletter and, please, be kind! I’m learning!

See you in May!

Judy Edberg

