

Willow Woods Quilt Guild

Newsletter May 2025

Meets the Second Saturday of each
month at Elks Lodge
26584 Highway 18,
Rim Forest, CA

In This Issue:

Messages from our Board Members

- President, Pat Duebbers
- Secretary, Trisha Skalnik

Committee Features:

- Challenges - Jen Lanak

What Have I Been Up To:

- Pat Duebbers
- Jen Lanak
- Bonnie Eggan
- Pamela Abell

Quilt Lessons - Trisha Skalnik

Pics from our last meeting - Trisha Skalnik

Month at a Glance

Upcoming Events for May and
Beyond:

- The next meeting will be Saturday, May 10th at 10:30

Special items to bring to the next
meeting:

- Show & Tell items! What have you been working on?
- Your 2025 Dues \$40
- Something to work on if you are staying for Sit and Sew



President - Pat Duebbers

Hello Fellow Quilters,

Welcome to May! Time is moving much too quickly. Before we know it, the Quilt Walk will be here.

It was decided at our last meeting that instead of a Member's Tea, we will have a potluck. If your last name is in the A-G range, it is requested you bring a main dish. If your name falls in the H to Z range, please bring a dessert or side dish. Also, we will be playing LRC. If you choose to play, you will need to bring 3 fat quarters (red, blue and/or white fabric).

At the last meeting, we were finally able to get the guild handbooks distributed. If you missed the meeting, I have a handbook for you. Also, we voted on the updated bylaws. The changes were unanimously approved by the members attending the meeting. We also welcomed two new members - Lizzie and Malia, and we had a surprise visit from Jeanne Folta.

We will continue having a drawing at each meeting for those who have worked on UFO projects during the past month. Bring your UFO project to share and don't forget to let Jen know when you have completed a UFO from your list. There will be time to share other projects you've completed.

As mentioned above, the Quilt Walk and Auction will be here soon. I will send the sign-up sheet around at the meeting. Our past successes were possible because of the volunteers working before and on the day of the Quilt Walk. Your help is needed. Please sign up for a job.

Finally, the program for the meeting will be the "Around the Word" quilt. I will demo three different ways to make this classic quilt pattern. You don't need to bring anything. I will have handouts for you and samples to view.

Looking to seeing you soon.

Happy Quilting,
Pat Duebbers

Secretary - Trisha Skalnik

WWQG Meeting Minutes 4/12/25

Meeting called to order by President at 10:38 a.m. Seven members in attendance and two guests, Lizzy, Melia.

Birthdays- Kelli, Jeanne, Melia.

Secretary's Report- Minutes from the last meeting approved by Pamela, seconded by Toni.

Treasurers report given by Kelli.

Updates- The World's Fair Quilt- new Jennifer Chiaverini book, Chula Vista quilt show in May, card from Bonnie Egan.

Guild has joined the Lake Arrowhead Chamber of Commerce (100th anniversary year, 1924).

Celebration dinner is scheduled for 4/22/25, \$35.

Challenge Quilts and UFO's- Send Jennifer your list.

Willow Woods Quilt Guild Bylaws unanimously accepted by a final vote from members present.

Copies of bylaws, updated roster, and member Handbook (January, 2025) distributed. The bylaws have been shared and discussed in guild meetings for approximately one year.

Quilt Walk update- Wonderous Wildlife September 20, 2025. Pat D. will be the Auction Chair, volunteers needed for Quilt Chair, Volunteer Coordination, Guild information booth, Hangers (6- 8 people); Judy has contacted the Chamber with our intent to have the quilt walk and auction this year, and has contacted Fife & Drums (newspaper?).

May meeting-

- -Potluck to celebrate Mother's Day; Last names A-G- Main dish, H-W Side Dish/Dessert;
- Bring 3 red, white, blue patriotic colors of fat quarters for L,R,C game.



Secretary - minutes cont. - Trisha Skalnik

- “Quilters Journey” to honor guild members will begin in June. Bring examples of your beginning, mid, and latest quilts and share your quilting evolution and where you would like to head next. We will be celebrating a member of our guild each month. Michelle will be the first member to share.
- Snack Time- Thank You to Michele. Pamela is scheduled for May, Tea & Cake with the LRC game.

Note: The Cotton Gin in Redlands is moving and having a 25% off sale.
Show & Share

Program- Machine Maintenance with Darrell and Sylvia.

Meeting adjourned at noon for afternoon quilting.

Respectfully submitted,
Trisha Skalnik

Challenges - Jen Lanak

UFO Challenge

As requested, we will be having another UFO challenge for the year. So please send me your UFO list via email. I have not received many lists so far. So don't delay if you are considering participating. As a reminder, your list is totally up to you. You can put as many or as few as you like. Whenever you complete a UFO on your list, you will be entered into a drawing for a prize at the end of the year. Good luck!

What Have You Been Up To?

Pat Duebbers

In April, I went to the east coast to visit family and friends. One day we went to the Virginia Quilt Museum. Pat Sloan has mentioned this museum many times in her You Tube videos. The visit was well worth the 90 minute drive. It is in an old mill. There were several displays of quilts. The Log Cabin quilts were from the museum's collection. There were quilts exhibited by Amy Pabst, Micropiecing: Quarter Million. The quilts she had on display had over 250,000 pieces of fabric. There was one 10" x10" quilt with over 10,000 pieces of fabric in it. Amazing! There were also quilts on display from a local Virginia quilter. They even had a gift shop with unbelievable prices - \$2.00 half yards cuts, sets of old embroidered blocks for \$25, and small finished objects for \$5.00. The museum is not huge and the displays were not overwhelming in volume. It was a very enjoyable morning.

Pat Duebbers

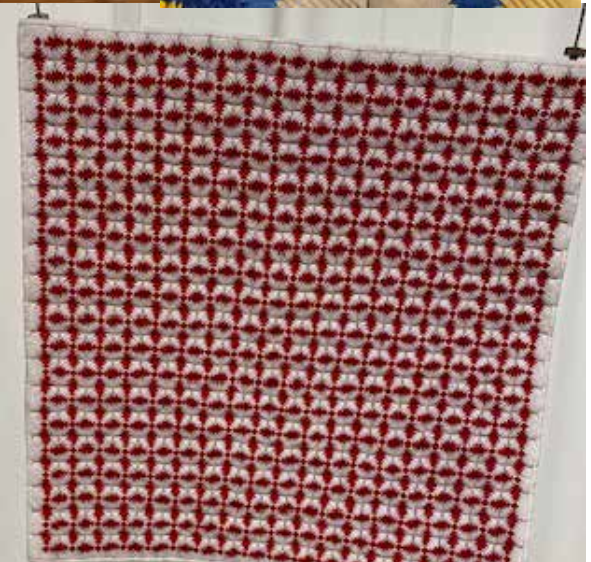




Stars at Night
Le Roy, WV
2020
20" x 32"
Original Design
13,440 pieces



Ten Grand
Le Roy, WV
2020
10" x 10"
Original Design
10,469 pieces



Jen Lanak

It has been a while since I've given an update. A lot has happened. My FIL passed away in February. He was a big presence in our family, and I feel like we are still adjusting to his absence. The girls are doing well. Lizzy and I just got back from Ohio for a diving competition. She qualified for the next competition, so we will be heading back there in June. Ashley is enjoying her first year of college, and Olivia has had a great freshmen year at high school.

I have continued to take classes at the community college nearby - this semester has been a bit of a trial due to my class choices. I am channeling Darrell and taking an intro to woodworking art class. We don't get around to learning wood-turning like Darrell's beautiful pieces, but I have learned a lot about other woodworking tools and using wood in sculpture. It is my favorite class. Unfortunately, I also had the brilliant idea of taking a math class. Midlife is hitting me a bit roughly, and I thought if I engaged the logical side of my brain more often, perhaps I wouldn't feel like I was getting dumber every day. That backfired big time when I signed up for College Algebra. Now I was pretty good at math in my youth and even took advanced calculus in my college days, so I didn't think algebra would be my undoing. I even naively thought maybe some of the math would come back to me. Nope! I am learning it all as if it was the first time, and it is a lot harder at nearly 50 than it was at 14. I have never felt dumber. And yet, I persevere because what message would I send my kids if I dropped a class just because I found it miserable and difficult? Luckily, I only have a few more weeks left. The upside is that I tend to clean when I am procrastinating doing my math homework, so my house has never been more tidy!

Now on to quiltly things - as many of you will remember, I really enjoy doing the Star Wars mini swap on Instagram each year and I signed up again this year. I don't think I've actually made a quilt since last year's swap! My machine had quite a bit of dust on it. Anyhow, the partner that I was assigned to make a mini for really liked the characters Rey and Kylo Ren from the more recent trilogy. She was particularly fond of a fan art illustration by Kerby Rosanes of the two characters in a yin yang orientation. So, I borrowed the composition from the illustration, changed the faces quite a bit and made the quilt below. As an extra for the package, I painted one of the movie poster scenes in watercolor. I received the mini with Yoda and Chewy from the partner who was assigned me - Britt from New York! Isn't it lovely?



Bonnie Eggan

Hello my mountain friends!

I got to go to another 3 daytime quilt retreat at a local town with a beautiful view of the snow covered mountains and got to drive through the snow (on flat, plowed roads!) and stitch away and be fed delicious food.

I decided to finally get some of the quilts I've been really wanting to do, but putting off for some unknown reason. My sister had made this quilt years ago and even gave me lots of her cut pieces and since I adore scrappy, it was super fun having her fabrics in there.

I spent several one days getting it all put together and glueing the appliqué pieces down for hand stitching. Why do we put off these longed-for projects? So glad it's in process now.

I was inspired by you, Pat, when you talked about one new and one old quilt project, so I'm planning on using that this year. I fluctuate between quilting, cross stitch and just sitting and enjoying the beauty around me. We were missing our lovely Oak trees from the cabin, so we planted 3 oaks native to our area and it feels more like home! The cabin finally sold. Glad and sad. Time to move on and live the simple life! I even put myself on a budget for all my hobbies and it feels sooo good! Isn't that wild? Gives me guilt-free purchasing and the focus to work with all my lovely supplies.

Bonnie Eggan



Pamela Abell

May, 2025

Sweet Quilting Sisters,

My older sister, who is a genius with Feng Shui and room arrangements, flew down from the Olympic Peninsula to spend a few days with me to help me get the furniture off the deck and back into the house. Four years ago, I had some construction work done and have been 'camping' at home instead of living there because I had to move so much onto the decks.

She also made space to move my sewing machine from the bedroom into the spare room where I have the fabric. The house has turned back into a home – lovely, half the pictures hung back up, and what is left is something that I can handle and doesn't require 2 people to move, shove, carry, and lug it around.

I have sewed 8 Lemoyne star blocks for her birthday table runner and started to sew over 40 HSTs together from my scrap box, making some very cute or pretty scrap blocks that I will bring to the meeting. Those will be for future quilt backs, based on the colors.

It feels so good to be sewing on quilts again, productive, hopeful and happy.

See you all at our May meeting and look forward to it

Pamela

Quilting Lessons: Practice Over Perfection

- Trisha Skalnik

Dear Quilt Sisters:

Quilting is an expression of love. This gift of ours shares so many special occasions in life, and gives both the quilter and the recipient much comfort.

Recently, I decided to quilt two baby quilts to practice my very dusty quilt skills. After years of putting "this hobby on hold" for other priorities (such as working), I turned on my new sewing machine and decided to begin anew. I went to my well-collected stash and began quilting for a promised guild quilt with squirrels and blue jays. In the meantime, my cousin from Washington contacted me and asked if I would quilt a baby quilt for a young couple that recently had a baby girl that was in the neonatal ICU of the hospital. Her name is Blakley Marie, and she weighed 1 pound, 15.9 ounces. Immediately thinking of the quilt in progress, I accepted the offer and made it a priority to finish soon. I was challenged with the bias finishing. After watching several videos, I completed the quilt. As we texted back and forth with the "delivery details", I didn't like the one set of bias stitching that had shown on the back of the quilt, which was not straight. I hesitated, contacted my cousin, and requested that this quilt not be given to the family. My cousin laughed at me, and stated no one would probably notice, and the baby was scheduled to go home soon. Struggling with perfection, it was evident that there was not enough time left to remake the quilt for the special homecoming. It was expedited to Washington, and the friends of the family signed the back of the quilt. It was blessed by the church pastor, and the family was absolutely elated. My cousin reminded me that the Navajo women always worked in a bad stitch somewhere in the quilt, since none of us are perfect. So practice, practice, practice is what I need to continue...Below are the pictures. Hope you enjoy them.

Trisha





Photos from the April meeting - Trisha Skalnik





