

Foothills Piecemakers Quilting Guild Newsletter

Greenville, SC

foothillsqilts.com



April 2025

Vol 35, No 10

President's Message

Spring has sprung!! This year is flying by to me. I am looking forward to the spring quilting retreat in May with the fellowship among other quilters, the new creations that will be made, and the inspiration that is transforming. Recently, two of our sister quilting guilds had their quilt shows. Both shows were very well done. As I wandered among the displayed quilts, I thought of the many hours that were spent making these beautiful creations. That thought line sends my mind to gratitude. Although my quilting skills are more basic than most of these quilters' skills, I am thankful that I caught the "quilting bug." I am thankful that I have a sewing machine that works well, I have beautiful fabric (that I purchased before I retired), and a small bedroom transformed into a place where I can work on my projects without having to put everything away daily. As you sew this month, remember the attitude of gratitude. We are blessed with so much. Looking forward to the April meeting.

Sincerely, Nancy Jones




Refreshments



Happy Birthday to our April babies, Janine Allen, Debbie Gantt, Pam Kowalk, Carol Myers, Susy Richards, and Dagmar Theodore. These ladies will be providing our refreshments this month. Since our April birthday list is rather short, we are ***also asking anyone who had a birthday in February or March and was not able to bring something to share on her month to do so this month.***



Also, we want to take this opportunity to wish a belated Happy Birthday to our many March birthdays. I was remiss in not getting my newsletter article to Darlene in time to make the March newsletter. Please accept my apology along with March Birthday Wishes to Ruth Bartholomew, Melanie DeMoise, Marilyn Donnell, Dawn Holter, Karen McGraw, Ruth Rembis, Sheryl Sane and Sandy Wolf. Thank you to those ladies who brought refreshments last month despite a lack of reminder!!!

Refreshment committee, Paula Bryan and Lee Wall

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Meeting Minutes

Nancy opened meeting and welcomed everyone with her Shamrock sunglasses. Please make sure everyone has signed in for our attendance records. February minutes: Sandy Wolf gave a motion to accept the meeting minutes; Suzanne Brehm gave 2nd. No corrections. All approved to accept.

Committee meeting reports:

Pam Kowalk regarding our quilting retreat: We have 30 quilters registered. \$50 deposit. 1, 2 and 3 person room occupancies are available.

Linda Ligon – gave the **Treasury** report.

Becky Bates shared we have 2 door prizes tonight.

Dollar door prize was a spring basket with spring fabric won by Linda Ligon.

Name tag door prize was an "Attic Windows" book won by Gayle Johnson.

Jana Fetch with **Membership** team – 43 present and 2 new members SuEllen Johnson and Ana Conniff. We had 2 guests: Wanda and Elaine.

Jana Fetch has agreed to be quilt chair for our 2026 quilt show. Please complete her questionnaire on what we liked about past shows, what you can assist with, etc. Please provide contact name and info and if

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NATURE'S LENS NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY BY ELAINE SMITH

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you are willing to join in with the planning of our next show.

Linda Harper with **Guild Sales**. Sales are going on tonight. We have fabric, buttons, etc. Also, bring any donations you do not need for future guild sales.

Diane Kent with **Philanthropy** group: We received cosmetic bags, pillowcases and completed quilts tonight. Thank you so much. Members shared quilts that have been completed.

Veteran Bears –Diane shared one of Susan Boudreaux' military-themed bears. She is a retired US Navy veteran who lives in our area and is on a mission to encourage as many retired women vets as she can reach. She makes military-themed teddy bears and visits each recipient in person to present the bear and hear stories from their past. You can help Susan's outreach to women vets in our community by collecting your batting scraps for her to use as stuffing. Any size batting scraps will do, even trimmings from finished quilts! You do not need to clean up your scraps or remove any backing. Since Susan doesn't sell her bears or ask for monetary donations, she welcomes any military-themed or patriotic cotton quilting weight fabric you might like to donate that is at least 1/2 yard which would make 1 bear. Susan has already begun her journey of delivering her bears in SC to women veterans in state nursing care facilities in Anderson and Gaffney, and has more bears ready to deliver to Florence, Columbia, and Walterboro. 45,000 women veterans live in SC alone! Once she completes the state facilities, she will continue honoring women vets in private care facilities. If you have batting scraps

and/or patriotic fabric that you would like to contribute, bring your donation to our next meeting. You can drop your donation off at the Philanthropy Table; Diane will make arrangements to pick up.

Leslie Reid discussed our upcoming **programs**:

April 2025 - Kathleen Roundtree will be discussing Whole Cloth Quilts Made from Vintage Table Linens

May 2025 – Annette Ornelas of Southwind Quilts will be presenting her Dimensional Curved Piecing technique. A half -day workshop on this technique is planned for the Wednesday after the meeting, May 5, 2025, from 9 a.m.- 1 p.m. The cost is \$30 and registration will be available at the guild meeting or can be found on our website.

June 2025 - Brenda Grampsas from Conway, SC, will take us on a review of star quilts across the ages in her lecture, "Starry Nights: A Bounty of Star Quilts" from various eras. Brenda is also a certified quilt appraiser and will be available for written and/or verbal quilt appraisal (fee will apply). More details on signing up for an appraisal to come.

Leslie asked for members to please complete the **YLI Thread Survey**. No names are needed, just an email address.

Johellen George with **tip of the month**. Some quilters use voile to back quilts because it is a lighter weight cotton. Think about voile as an alternative fabric for the back of your quilts.

Nominating committee volunteers are Rhonda Johnson, Sylvia Hurst, Linda Ligon, Leslie Reid, Suzanne Brehm, Diane Kent, and Nancy Jones.

We have 7 quilts on display for our **Bird's Eye Challenge**. Please review and cast your vote. View photos in this newsletter.

Show and Share:

Suzanne Brehm made a quilt for a great grandson for Christmas. Grandson wanted handmade items with nothing store bought included. She calls it her family story quilt. Make up stories as you look at this quilt.

Becky Bates showed a quilt she bought on Facebook Marketplace. Beautiful piece. Also, she bought some quilt tops from an estate sale.

Mary Jill Kroske's husband wanted a king size quilt. She made one and didn't care for it. She made a second one and thought it was too bright. The third one is a keeper. She shared a framed wall hanging, "Life is Sew Good".

Barbara Philips considers herself a very traditional quilter. She made a modern quilt.

Jana Fetch took an embroidery class and shared her creation. Textileartist.org has a free class once a year. Like 20 minutes a day for 5 days. She did Self-portrait of weaving.

Linda Ligon asked, "Is it too early for Christmas 2025?" She completed a quilt as you go wall hanging.

Paula Bryan showed a quilt using scraps of blues and greens; it is sort of a quilt as you go. She offered to teach a class on how she made her quilt in sections and pieced it together. She shared a House Top quilt. You start in the middle and you build around it.

Nancy Jones shared a zippered bag and shared her Smokey bear quilt. **Johellen**

George has quilted it.

Elaine Smith is Paula Bryan's sister and wanted to share. She spoke of their property and her love of taking photos of hummingbirds. Her husband likes to roast coffee from all around. They are currently starting to have booths in upcoming shows. They will be selling all kinds of stationery with pictures of the hummingbirds they have taken. We invited her to be a vendor in our quilt show next year.

Our **Quilting Superstar** is **Pamela Kowalk**. Pam's quilting journey began with memories of her grandmother picking out scraps of fabric and making quilt tops. In 4th and 5th grade, Pam knitted and crocheted. Pam had home economics in 7th and 8th grade. In high school, she made jumpers, etc. Pam started making curtains out of bedsheets and advanced to creating beautiful window treatments. She took a quilting class at the community college. Students were required to make a quilt and hand quilt it. Carol Myers, Pam's sister, and Pam have quilted jackets. She has made embroidered table runners, and large, quilted bags, a cheater quilt and more to come! View photos below.

For our **Bird's Eye Challenge**, the votes have been cast!

1st place, a \$50 gift certificate to Carolina Quilt Studio, was awarded to **Sandy Wolf**.

2nd place, a \$30 gift certificate to Bernina.... We're In Stitches was awarded to **Suzanne Brehm**.

3rd place, a \$20 gift certificate to Marietta's Quilt and Sew, was awarded to **Linda Hopkins**.

Jennifer congratulated the winners and thanked the participating quilters. (Photos are below). Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Mellisa Gravitt

Programs

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April 2026 FPQG Quilt Show

Jana Fetch, Quilt Show Chair, is diligently researching places for the quilt show in 2026. We do not have a date yet since the venue needs to be secured first. Jana still needs someone to replace her in the membership committee, so she can focus her efforts on the quilt show. Please consider helping out in this position.

Notes from Philanthropy

Hello Quilters!

In March we received 7 quilts, 3 zippered bags, and 12 pillowcases.



Philanthropy Questions: We've had a few questions that have been asked since our last meeting and we wanted to share the answers with everyone!

How long will you be collecting batting and patriotic fabrics for the Veteran's Bears?

Our last collection will be at our April 1st collecting quilt batting scraps for a lady who is making military-themed handmade bears and she is delivering them to women veterans in nursing homes. She will take any size and fiber-content batting scraps, as well as patriotic themed cotton quilting fabrics. If we need to do another collection in the Fall, we can arrange that.



Are you still collecting bed-sized quilts for the Asheville recovery efforts? Do you need bed-size quilts for Lily Pad?

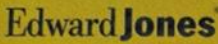
Not at the present time. Our contacts in Asheville have stopped accepting quilts. We are also not taking bed-size quilts for Lily Pad. We are continuing our efforts, however, to make pillowcases for their annual Angel Tree in December. Last year they requested almost 300 pillowcases!


This year, to date, we have made and collected almost 100 pillowcases. This will be an on-going project throughout the year, and we welcome fun, kid-friendly (if possible) pillowcases made from your stash or made from pre-cut kits that we have available for you to pick up each month at the Philanthropy Table.

Philanthropy Workshop:

Our Philanthropy Workshop meets every month at **5:00 p.m.** on the **first Tuesday** of the month, right before our monthly Guild meeting. We meet in a first-floor classroom (go past the kitchen, turn right at the hallway, we are down past the restroom on the left). We sort quilts, match backings for tops, and get items ready to be finished or donated. If you need backing or batting for a Philanthropy quilt, you are welcome to come by and see us – or lend us a hand!

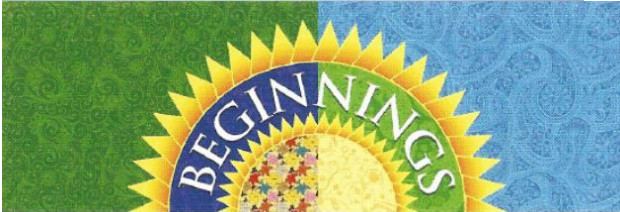
With gratitude, Diane, Melanie, and Deborah





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Happy, Happy Birthday!

April Birthdays

8 Carol Myers

19 Susy Richards

19 Dagmar Theodore

23 Janine Allen

25 Pam Kowalk

26 Debbie Gantt

Upcoming Events

The Smoky Mountain Quilters of Tennessee in Knoxville, TN is having their 44th Annual Quilt Show and Competition in June 20-21, 2025. Deadline for entries to the show is April 12, 2025. There is a bed turning of antique quilts at the show on the Friday.

Cobblestone Quilt Guild in Charleston, SC quilt show, March 20-21, 2026 & maybe the 22nd at Trident Technical College in North Charleston. They want to know if anyone is interested in a bus trip to their show.

Asheville Quilt Show, August 14 & 15 (9-5 pm), & August 16 (9-4 pm), WNC Ag Center, Davis Event Center, 765 Boylston Hwy, Fletcher, NC. Deadline for entries is June 20, 2025.

Spring Retreat

Thank you so much for your enthusiastic response for the upcoming FPQG quilting retreat! We have reached our limit for number of attendees at this point. Any others who desire to go can be placed on a waiting list in the event an opening becomes available. We will have a wonderful and creative time at the beautiful facility in Denton, NC.

Thanks again for your awesome responses!! - Pam Kowalk

Membership

At the March 4th meeting, there were 46 members present. We welcomed 2 new members and 2 guests for a total of 50 in attendance. Please add the following info to your Membership Directory and give a warm welcome to our new members:

Ana Conniff
3 North St
Taylors SC 29687
Phone: 864-561-1117
Email: cocavoly58@gmail.com
Birthday: May 8
Spouse: Jim

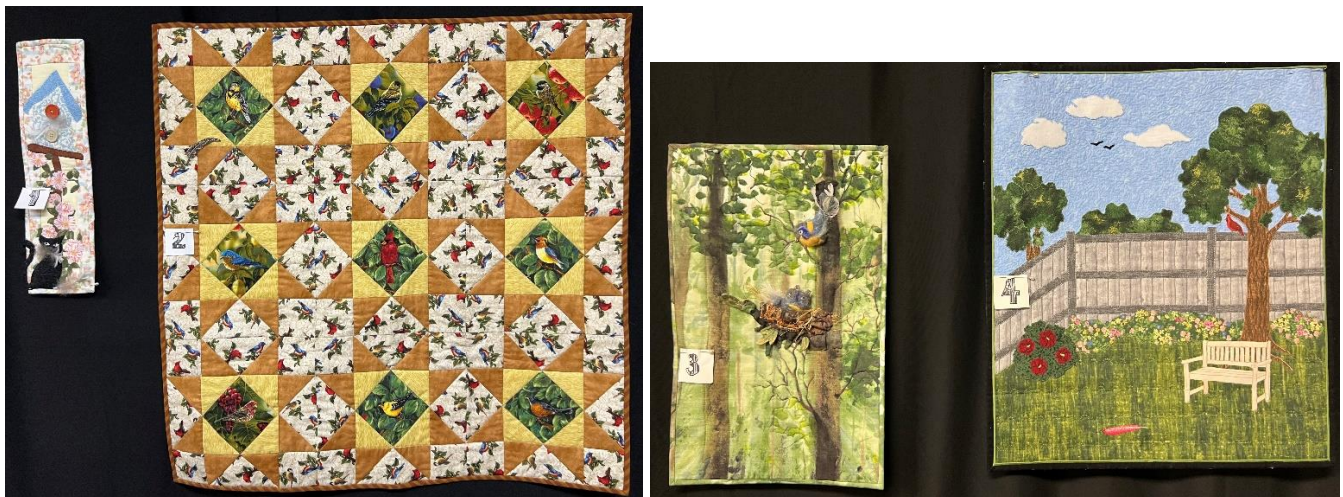
SuEllen Johnson
46 Dauphine Way
Greer, SC 29650
Phone: 909-527-9515
Email: anotherubabe@aol.com
Birthday: Nov 21
Spouse: Shawn

Please make the following correction to your directory:

Jana Fetch
Phone: 724-575-2577

Thank you, Sylvia Hurst and Jana Fetch, Membership Co-Chairs

Bird's Eye Challenge Quilts:



Hanging arrangement to show the size of the Challenge quilts



Hanging arrangement to show the size of the Challenge quilts

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Cat Bird Quilt by Linda Hopkins



Betty Cirillo's Fancy Feather



Betty Cirillo's Many Birds Quilt



Sandy Wolf's Wool Bird's Eye View Quilt



Linda Ligon's Hibiscus Garden Quilt



Gayle Glover's Cardinal Nest Quilt



Nancy Jones' Bluejay Farm Quilt



Suzanne Brehm's Frosty Cardinal Quilt

A Gallery of Pam Kowalk's Quilts and Accessories



Thanks to Hazel Abend for holding quilts.



**Hazel (l) and Pam (r) share the quilted vests
Carol Myers and Pam designed.**

Next Guild Meeting

Tuesday, April 1, 2025

**E. Lee Rd Methodist Church in
Taylors (1377 E. Lee Rd.)**

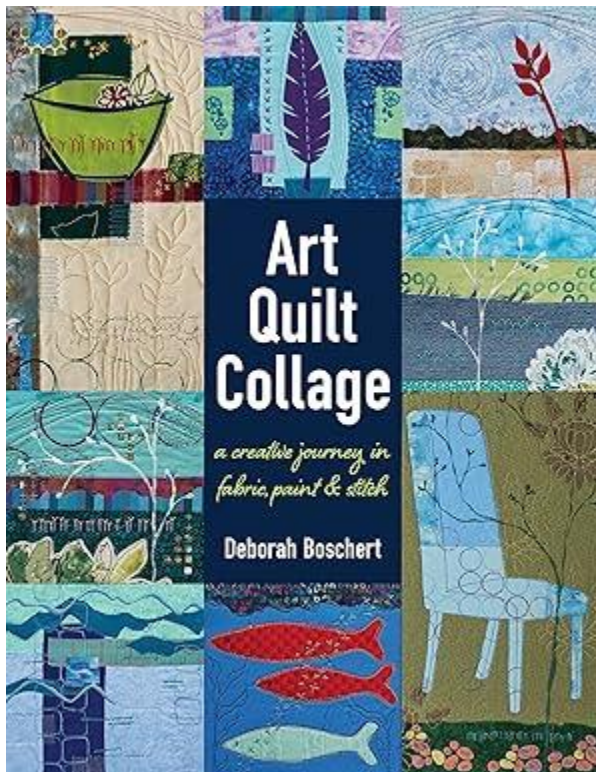
Social time: 6:15 p.m.

Business: 6:45 p.m.

Program: 7:45 p.m.

Notice: The Philanthropy Workshop will meet on April 1, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. in the 1st Floor Main Hall Classroom at Lee Road Methodist Church.

Newsletter Submissions Please submit information for the next Newsletter by **April 19** to Darlene Morse at scfabricdyer@gmail.com.



**Art Quilt Collage: A Creative Journey in Fabric,
Paint & Stitch by Deborah Boschert**

If you've ever wanted to try an art quilt, this is the book for you! I tend to keep with the traditional quilts, but have made an adventure or two out of my comfort zone into the world of art quilts. This book starts with an introduction to needed supplies, fabric selection and inspiration. Once you get started, the sky's the limit! Ms Boschert gives eight design guides for beginning your composition, inspiration suggestions then goes through the steps of shape, construction, surface design & embellishments.

" To make great art, you've got to start! Make treasured art quilts from bits of cloth, stitched motifs, and painted details. This visual, step-by-step guide will help you dip your toes into the world of art quilting with mixed-media techniques, checklists, and work-along projects presented using 8 design guides. Unlock your own artistic vision as you quilt in a series, finish small art pieces, and incorporate meaningful symbols into your work."

— Ruth Bartholomew