

Lake Quilters News

March 2025

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

Spring is just around the corner and I always think of it as the "Month of Color." We are seeing little signs of it in our regional landscape and in our fashions. For my household, is never too soon for flip flops either. Color influences our energy, mood, and perspective. This month's guild presentation is ALL about "Finding Color Inspiration in our Every Day Life." If you are attending any local quilt shows or the Mid-Atlantic Quilt Show over in Hampton Roads, I challenge you to make a few notes to share with us at the guild meeting. Here are a few of the things that I would like for you to look for on the show floors...

1. Can you pick out any "trending" colors?
2. What colors look best under the show floor lights?
3. What colors tend to "recede" into the background of the quilt?
4. What color would you never use in a quilt?
5. What was the name and artist of your favorite quilt?
6. . . . and why?

I really want to thank each and every one of our members for their active volunteerism and participation in our programs. We have such a talented bunch and I am very excited to see what everyone creates this year.

Now...back to the sewing room,
Arlene

**February Meeting is on
March 18, 2025 from 1p-3p
at SML/Moneta Library**

OFFICERS 2025

President: Arlene Blackburn
Membership Chair: Bev Seaver
Membership Elect: Cindy Regan
Program Chair: Flo Hayes
Secretary: Lyn Coleman
Treasurer: Veronica Church
Publicity: Marsha Melkonian
WebMaster: Janet Webster
Editor – Ginger Brothers and Jan Emerick Brothers

If you have a question about a program, or a submission to the Newsletter please email vbrotner88@gmail.com before the 10th of each month.



Sunshine Updates:
Keep your fellow members in mind for any reason to request a guild card contact Ruthe at rploskunyak@outlook.com.

Membership is open! Click on [2025 Membership Form](#) to print and fill out your membership information. Updated membership list will be provided once membership has been processed.



Newsletter Quick Links

- [Calendars and Programs](#)
- [Board Minutes](#)
- [Local Events and Call to Action](#)
- [Call to Action - Community Outreach](#)
- [Charity and Fundraising](#)
- [Connecting Threads: Inspired by YouTube](#)

Calendar and Programs

March 2025		Guild Meeting at SML/Moneta Library 13641 Moneta Rd, Moneta, VA 24121				
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						01 • Mini Quilt Show Setup @SML/Moneta Library 10a
02	03	04 • LQG Board Meeting 1p-3p	05	06 • Bee Artful Bee @ 10a	07	08 • Craft Bazaar at SML Library 10a-7p
09	10	11 • Stitch and Chat 1p-4p	12	13 • Kept in Stitches Bee 10a-2p	14	15
16 • Worker Bee 2p-5p	17	18 • Guild Meeting 1p-4p Colorwork with Arlene	19	20	21	22 • CORE: Virtual Tour of VQM @ SML/Moneta Library 11a
23	24	25 • River Queen Bee 1p-3p	26	27	28	29
30	31					

March 18th, 2025

The March program and meeting will be held at the SML/ Moneta Library. Arlene will lead us in her program, "Finding Color Inspiration in Your Daily Life". Let's consider "breaking the rules" for color in quilts. We will have a fun time with the program Arlene Blackburn has prepared for us. Bring your imaginations to the meeting.



March Extra Events:

- **Mini Quilt Show** - The SML/Moneta Library is hosting a mini quilt show from **March 1st, 2025 through April 30th, 2025.**
- **Craft Bazaar at SML/Moneta Library on March 8th, 2025 from 10a - 7p** - was a success! Not only did we raise funds for our efforts but we also made connections in our community! Thanks to all the volunteers for your time and effort! Totals will be reported in the April meeting!
- **CORE Event: Virtual Tour of the VQM** - Come to the SML/Moneta Library on March 22, 2025 at 11am for a virtual tour of the Virginia Quilt Museum.

Check out the [CORE Call to Action](#) Page for more information on CORE events and how YOU can help!

Calendar and Programs

April 2025

Guild Meeting at Saunders Fire Hall 12253 Smith Mountain Lake Pkwy,
Huddleston VA 24104

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		01 • LQG Board Meeting 1p-3p	02	03 CORE Event: Crazy Block Class 5:30p	04	05
06	07	08 • Stitch and Chat 1p-4p	09	10 • Bee Artful Bee @ 10a	11	12
13 • Worker Bee 2p-5p	14	15 • Guild Meeting Program: Preparing for the Boutique 1p-3p	16	17 • Kept in Stitches Bee 10a-2p	18	19
20	21	22 • River Queen Bee 1p-3p	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30 • Mini Show Breakdown			

April 15th, 2025

April Program- Laura Cox will be presenting a program about Boutique items needed needed for the Quilt Show in 2026.



May Program - Wallet Making

Time: 9:30a-12p

Instructor: Joy Shannahan.

Cost: \$15.00

You must sign up and pay by **March 18th** so the patterns and hardware can be ordered. Be sure to pick up materials sheet when you sign up for the class.



April Extra Events:

- CORE Event: Crazy Block Class at 5:30pm
- Do you have a bunch of scraps? Want to teach community members about this cool modern and traditional block? Do you have friends who are interested in learning more about quilting and making a block? Bring you and your friends to the Crazy Block Class!

Register for this class by calling **540.425.7004**, or emailing JGolston@bpls.org Jenifer Golston, the library manager at SML/Moneta Library.

Break down of the SML/Moneta Library Mini Show is on April 30th, 2025. More details in April's newsletter!

LQG BOARD MEETING MINUTES – March 4th, 2025

March 2025 LQG Board Meeting Minutes – March 4, 2025 1:00 pm

Attendees

<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Arlene Blackburn - President● Lyn Coleman – Secretary● Veronica Church – Treasurer● Judy Edgeworth – Pres. Elect/Beekeeper● Bev Seaver & Cindy Regan – Membership	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Janet Webster – Webmaster● Masha Melkonian - Publicity● Ann Hoar & Mary Colby - Charity● Flo Hayes – Programs● Jan E Brothers – CORE and newsletter with Ginger
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- Arlene announced The Bedford Water Authority has allowed the Guild to meet at the Authority for the rest of the year beginning in May (with the exception of a conflict in July). We will meet as scheduled in March and April at the Moneta Library, and July at the Saunders Volunteer Fire Department facility.
- The requirement for using the Authority – NO door propping because it sets off a computer alarm for an employee. We will need to develop a method to let each other in or out.
- There is an updated Board and Committee list, as well as Bee members. The Board Secretary will maintain it.
- Veronica’s Treasurer Report was reviewed and showed a checkbook balance of \$17,705.34 as of January 31, 2025. The board also reviewed the 2025 budget and current year-to-date as amended and approved at the February meeting.
- Jan did the initial contact to SMAC, and the board is looking for a volunteer to be in charge of the SMAC booth (Note: 5/10/25 8:00 set-up, open to the public from 10-4). SMAC approved an Airing of the Quilts display during that period weather allowing. This could involve gathering colorful quilts from Guild members to display throughout the venue for a “quilt walk.” One 10x10 table. Arlene will be the initial contact for the volunteer.
- The need for a fund-raising committee was suggested and will be addressed at a future Board meeting.
- Ann and Mary (Charity co-chairs) prepared a thank you card to Fork Mountain for their donation of upholstery fabric. Ann will go see some additional fabric that Fork Mountain has indicated they have to donate, keeping in mind future needs and storage space.
- The storage unit needs organizing and managing into five primary zones (Program, Ways & Means, Charity, Retreat, and Quilt Show.) Ann/Mary are requesting one volunteer from each of those committee zones to meet and organize the zones. The Charity committee will also cut up some kits to help reduce volume.
- Bev reminded of the previous discussion of finding a third-party relationship for quilt batting. It was decided to use Arlene’s relationship with Linda Taylor of Linda’s Electric Quilters to purchase at discount one roll of Hobbs 80/20 batting. Veronica reported that the cost of labels had doubled, so it was decided that Veronica will shop, design, and buy a stamp, permanent ink pads in two colors, as well as the roll of batting. Arlene motioned, Bev seconded, unanimous vote passed.
- Bev (Membership with Cindy) reported 68 members which includes four at-large and one potential pending, and reviewed some non-renewals to see if they were still active. Marsha (Publicity) volunteered to take information and forms as part of outreach to the SML Newcomers group and to the AAUW (American Association of University Women) which has 85 members locally.
- Bev also reviewed the feedback form summary which was on the membership renewal forms. The Board members took time to absorb and Arlene requested each board member to check top three for suggestions to Flo to assist in next year’s programs.
- Judy (Bee Keeper) reported there are five bees. At Guild members’ request, we will resume the Bee displays every other month beginning May. It was also suggested the Bee members talk about their Bee and answer any questions. Displays will be scheduled for May, July, September, and November. Veronica motioned, Jan seconded and passed unanimously.

LQG BOARD MEETING MINUTES – March 4th, 2025

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- | | |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Arlene Blackburn - President• Lyn Coleman – Secretary• Veronica Church – Treasurer• Judy Edgeworth – Pres. Elect/Beekeeper• Bev Seaver & Cindy Regan – Membership | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Janet Webster – Webmaster• Masha Melkonian - Publicity• Ann Hoar & Mary Colby - Charity• Flo Hayes – Programs• Jan E Brothers – CORE and newsletter with Ginger |
|---|---|

- Jan (CORE) reported on the upcoming Library Craft Sale to be held on Saturday, March 8. Set-up starts at 8:15, public from 10-6 or until no longer feasible. Unsold items will be returned to donors. Arlene has a cash box; Veronica will provide cash and Square.
- Virtual VA Quilt Museum advertising cards were handed out for members to display as well as info for the 3/22 Crazy Quilt Block gathering. Marsha, as a newcomer, requested that the term “Community Outreach” be emphasized rather than CORE. Janet suggested trying new methods to increase involvement of Guild members to assist rather than all of the responsibility for the program being on Jan. All information on registering for these Community Outreach events will be emphasized in the newsletter, and our Facebook page and web page, so follow carefully.
- Flo announced that Laura Cox (Quilt Show Chairperson) will talk at the March Guild meeting about Boutique items for the 2026 Quilt Show.
- Veronica reported that Ways & Means brought in \$306 from January/February sales. Square will be available with a line item for Ways & Means.
- Marsha (Publicity) will place information on the Community Outreach events on Star Quilters and Peaks and Pieces Facebook pages.
- Veronica (Retreat 10/22-26/2025) reported that the retreat pricing will remain the same as 2024, and she will get information on pricing for people to come as days-only and report at the March Guild meeting.
- Ginger via Jan requested that she receive newsletter items as **early** as possible **before** the 10th of the month. And under the Newsletter Heading “Connecting Threads” – please send her more posts!
- A suggestion was made to consider a Guild merchandise option similar to the canvas bags or quilted lanyards.
- The LQG Board meeting ended at 2:50 with Ann’s motion and Judy’s second, unanimous vote to adjourn.

Quilters Humor



Upcoming Events and Call to Action

Publicity/ Events

[American Quilters Society \(AQS\) Quilt Shows](#)

- March 12-15 Branson, MS 2025

[Mancuso Mid-Atlantic Quilt Festival,](#)

- March 26-29 Quiltfest Virtual Schoolhouse #11

Star Quilters Guild Quilt Show

The Star Quilters Guild Show will be held **Friday and Saturday March 28th and 29th** at the Berglund Center in Roanoke. Quilt check-in is on Wednesday, **March 26th**. Admission is \$10.00 per person. We look forward to seeing you and all your wonderful quilts at the show. Thank you for your support! ~The Star Quilters Guild

Quilting Trivia - Quilt Show Season is upon us!

- The oldest known quilt is the Sicilian Tristan Quilt, made around 1380-1400. It is housed in the Victoria and Albert Museum in London.
- The AIDS Memorial Quilt, started in 1987 is the largest community art project in the world. As of 2020, it contained over 48,000 panels.
- Marie Webster, born in 1859 is considered the first commercial quilt pattern designer. Her book "Quilts: Their Story and How to Make Them (1915) was the first scholarly history of quilting.
- Quilting reduces stress! A 2014 study by the University of Glasgow found that quilting offers cognitive, creative, and emotional benefits, including stress reduction and increased happiness!

Connections Challenge:

For this month, challenge yourselves to invite a friend to one of our community events. We love seeing all of the "shares" on Facebook.

Bonus Challenge: Plan a "girls day" with your friends and come to a CORE event.

2025 RETREAT

Attention all you Lake Quilters! The 2025 Retreat is ready for registrations!!

Our annual Retreat will be held at the 4H Center here at the Lake Wednesday, October 22 through Sunday, October 26. New this year, we will offer day passes for those who wish to sleep in their own beds and bring their own food! We will offer 3 and 4 night options for those who wish to stay overnight with 2 meals each day (we will bring our own lunches to keep the cost down).

It will no doubt be a great time of laughter and fellowship, with plenty of time to catch up on all those pesky UFOs and begin new, fun projects! There will be a day where chair and table massages will be available for an extra charge. Space is limited (20 overnights, 5 day passes) ... so watch our Website and / or come to our next few meetings where the registration forms will be available. Hope to see you there!

Upcoming Events and Call to Action - Cont'

Community Outreach

- CORE= Community Out Reach Events! This is different from charity where we give items. Community out-reach is trying to reach out to people who are interested in joining our quilting community. All of these events are open to the general public, invite friends, family and neighbors to join in! If you have friends who are interested in quilting, invite them out for a friend hangout!

SML/Moneta Library Quilt Updates

March 1st we had 8 people hanging quilts from 13 guild members at the SML/Moneta Library. This show is as diverse as we are! The show will remain up until April 30, 2025. Take down details will be coming in the next newsletter. March 8th was our first effort in meeting our financial needs for the 501c3 status at the Friends of the Library 1st Annual Craft Boutique. Information on how we did will be shared at our next meeting. Thanks to the 14 guild members that created items for sale and volunteers who helped at our tables.

Saturday March 22, 2025 - Explore the Virginia Quilt Museum at 11am

March 22nd is our virtual tour of the Virginia Quilt Museum at the SML/Moneta Library at 11 am. This zoom meeting will be FREE to members only. It is also FREE to those people who sign up through the library. An eblast will be sent to active members only, prior to the tour so that you can access the tour at home. **However, if you do not want to test your internet/skills you must sign up at the library.** Here is the information that you need to sign up at the library: Phone is 540.425.7004. Online registration is www.bedford.librarycalendar.com. Two more guild members will be needed in order to set up chairs, greet potential new members to the guild, and generally welcome the public. See Jan Emerick-Brothers to sign up for the 22nd!

Crazy Quilt Block Class - Thursday April 3rd, 2025 at 5:30p

We will host a class on crazy quilt blocks. If you have friend(s) interested in exploring quilting please invite them to register at the library and attend. If you want to know more about this type of block, please consider attending as well! **If you plan to attend this event, you must sign up!** Phone is 540.425.7004, or email the manager Jenifer at JGolston@bpls.org.

Global Quilters Connections and Commuter Retreat - May 3rd and 4th, 2025 at SML/Moneta Library

Please mark your calendars for the third annual Commuter Retreat at SML/Moneta Library. This event is free to all guild members. Fee for non-members will be set by the board. This will be one of the locations for a watch party for [Global Quilters Connections](#). Remember this is a virtual event that you can watch from anywhere. The link will be provided a week before the event starts through e-blast.

Charity and Fundraising

Charity Report

THANK YOU from the charity committee. The Bedford County and Franklin County homeless cat and dog population (and their caretakers) greatly appreciated the **forty five** pet beds/shelves we made. The majority of the beds were completed on day one of the CHARITY SEW IN on February 17th. The photo below shows the massive pile. A handful were completed at home which is great too! Fork Mountain Quilting donated large pieces of upholstery fabric to support this event. This donation allowed us to make many large and extra large beds. Much was denim which will definitely hold up to large dog usage.

THANK YOU Fork Mountain Quilting!

In May, Catherine Vance from the Bedford County Nursing Home will be speaking at the guild meeting. We'd love to present her with **20 [fidget quilts](#)** and **20 [walker bags](#)**. For ideas on creating these click on the hyperlinks! Use some of your amazing creativity to make one. The charity committee is working with the board to get labeling and batting. So keep on making tops. Looking for a small project for charity? Have extra flannel? Looking for a small project for charity? Consider making some NICU hearts. Have Christmas fabric? Consider making some ornaments or stockings.

~Ann Hoar and Mary Colby - Charity Committee Co-chairs



Ways and Means

Looking for inspiration for a Spring sewing project?

Thanks to your generous donations we have some great new items including an Ottlite and two irons - one full size and one a mini travel size. And, as always, they are priced way below retail! We will be set up by 12:30 to give you plenty of time to browse and shop for all those fabrics, books, patterns and sewing notions we know you NEED!!

June and Cathy

Survey Says . . . Rotary Cutters

In February we asked which rotary cutter you preferred to use. Survey says - Fiskar(12), Olfa(8), Martinelli (ergonomic)(4), Dritz(4) and Quilt Select (1). Your opinion about these survey questions will help our members to determine buying patterns!

Please participate when you attend! Be thinking about colors for the next survey on March 18th! Did you know the first rotary cutter was not invented until 1979? The rotary cutter was invented by Yoshio Okada, the founder of the Japanese company OLFA. For more history on our favorite fabric cutting tool, check out the video below.



Connecting Threads - Member Write In. . . “My First Quilt”

“My first quilt was intended to be a prayer quilt for an adopted granddad, Harold Bethel. He passed before he got to use it, but his family told me that they used the quilt to ‘bring dad home’ and gave it to Harold’s granddaughter.” ~Ginger Brothers

“My first quilt, made in 2017, was a sample of various blocks. I still have it to remind me of those early days learning about all of the quilting specifics - the importance of 1/4 inch seams, not worrying about the “quilt police”, and having FUN! Learning something new and challenging has been a great new adventure!” ~Janet Webster

“I began my quilting journey in my 20's with my grandmother teaching me to hand piece a Lone Star. After she's passed, I couldn't finish it. I still have it, maybe this year I'll do something with it. My first completed quilt was a sampler by Alex Anderson, I gave it to my husband who hung it above our bed for 10 yrs or more. My color selections weren't great and my binding was wrong, but he loved it. We still have it packed away somewhere.” ~Ann Hoar

“My first quilt was made in the 80s. It was light blue with different blocks. It was tied and not “quilted”. It was a wedding present for my brother and his wife.” ~Mary Colby

“My son put [my first quilt] in the box [2013 taxes] when we burned the 2008-2010 taxes. I’m still looking for the binding that’s in a ziplock bag in my studio, it’s quilted and waiting. I originally made my first quilt in 2000.” ~Veronica Church

“I still have my first two quilts! I lost my job after 9/11, so I took a quilting class, learning to quilt by hand and then by machine. It was life changing.” ~Sue Whitney

“In 2016, my first grandchild was on the way - a girl! I wanted to make her a special quilt from Grandma. But, although I could sew, I had no idea how to make a quilt. So I found a local fabric store, plus a group of very nice ladies who helped me. I enjoyed it so much that I made her TWO quilts. And I was hooked on quilting!” ~Karen Taylor

“One of my first quilts was a project that was too ambitious at the time. It was a twin bedspread with a super high polyester loft. Because that’s how quilts get fluffy, right? Never finished it! ~Laura Cox

“My first quilt was never finished! It is an alphabet snowman embroidery quilt. Mostly I do wool applique.” ~Marsha Melkonian

“My first quilt was made in about 1980 of 4” x 4” squares of pink calico as a trip around the world. This was pre rotary cutters. Instructions said to rip the fabric. I thought it was a bad idea so I made a cardboard template and marked my fabric with ink pen. I have learned to do this differently.” ~ Ruth Ploskunyak

Our next member write in (August 2025) will be: “techniques you will never do again and why”. Please write into the editor now to share your story.