



Diana DeFanti

Crazy Quilters Quilt Guild

We Are Crazy About Quilting

No. 410

www.crazyquilters.org

March 2026

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Jessica Dayon

I hope you are all staying warm and cozy as we get snowstorm after snowstorm! This winter has been colder and snowier than our winters for decades! Spring feels far off, but I know that it will be here eventually. The saying that was always used when I was growing up was 'March comes in like a lion and out like a lamb'. I'm hoping our March is all lamb and no lion!

There are some exciting things in this month's newsletter- we have a new guild challenge for 2026 so read on for more details from our new group of chairs- Kim, Debbie, and Quinn- for the 2026 challenge. Also, we are starting a new round of Better Done Than Perfect! Kim Carlo has graciously volunteered to be our chair for that committee. I'm really looking forward to participating, and I hope many of you will join in for some encouragement and comradery in tackling your WIPs!

This month I will choose a nominating committee to help find nominees for each of the board positions in the guild. If you would be willing to be on the nominating committee- please see me at the March meeting. I'd really love volunteers so that I don't have to choose people at random.

The Crazy Quilters Quilt Guild meets the first Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m.

at Calvary Baptist Church-Allentown

info@crazyquilters.org

www.facebook.com/crazyquiltersquiltguildemmauspa

Guild Officers

President: Jessica Dayon

Vice-President: Donna Gasser

Secretary: Nancy Skok

Treasurer: Linda Johnston

Programming Officer: Cassandra Kriley

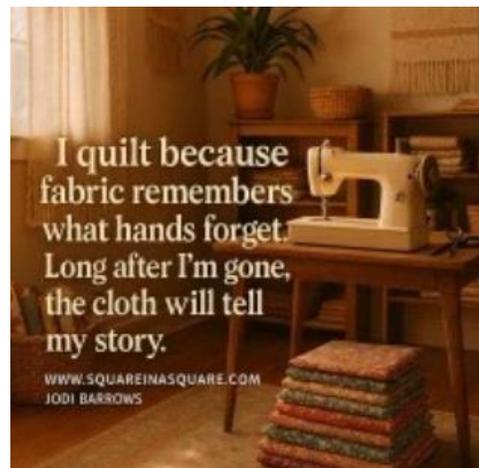
Membership Officers: Pat Piasecki & Quinn Pagano

Guild Calendar

Monthly Guild Meeting: Tuesday, Mar 3rd, 7 p.m.

Quilters Studio starts at 5:45 p.m,

Sit 'n Sews: In-person, Mar 21st, Virtual, Mar 11th & 25th
(See page 7 for times)



President's Message – Continued

MONTHLY CHALLENGE

The President's monthly challenge for the month of February was to make something using half square triangles (HST). If you participated, please bring your HST project to the March meeting to show. The March challenge is make a project using the string quilt block technique.

QUILTERS' STUDIO

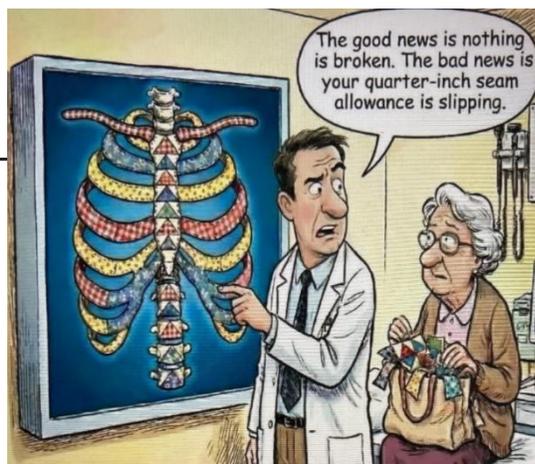
The March Quilters' Studio will start at 5:45 on March 3rd (before our monthly meeting). I will be going over how to piece string quilt blocks.

If you have any ideas or would like to teach at a Quilters' Studio, please let me know.

AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL QUILT ALONG

At the March meeting, we will show Lesson 6 and 7. In March, we will be working on Lesson 8 and will share that at the April meeting. The schedule is below for your reference.

America the Quilt Along Schedule			
Working Period	Assignment	Blocks to Make	When to Share
August	Purchase pattern & gather fabric	None	None
September	Lesson 2- Strip Piecing & Chain Piecing	1 Long Checkerboard, 1 Short Checkerboard, 2 Short Fence Blocks, and 1 Long Fence Block	At the October Meeting
October	Lesson 3- Stitch & Flip	9 Snowball Tree Blocks 4" x 8"	At the December Meeting (November is a Zoom only meeting)
November	Lesson 4- Flying Geese	5 Flying Geese Tree Blocks & Flag Block	At the December Meeting
December	Lesson 5- Pieced Squares	4 Mosaic Blocks & 78 Border Half Square Triangles	At the January Meeting
January	Lesson 6- Making & Using Templates	8 Template Tree Blocks	At the March Meeting (February is a Zoom only meeting)
February	Lesson 7- Arranging Patches	4 House Blocks	At the March Meeting
March	Lesson 8- Half- and Quarter-Square Triangles	1 Fields Block, 1 Mountains Block, 1 Shining Sun Block	At the April Meeting
April	Lesson 9- Pressing Tips & Strategies	3 Bounty Blocks	At the May Meeting
May	Lesson 10- Fabric Considerations	1 Church Block, 1 Schoolhouse Block, 1 Barn Block	At the June Meeting
June	Lesson 11- Applique	Applique stars	At the July Meeting
July	Lesson 12- Assembly, Quilting, Binding	Assembly	At the August Meeting



March 3, 2026- Joyce Hughes- "My Journey into Quilting"



This is a very open and inspiring talk about how I started quilting, leading into Art Quilts with Thread Painting. Finishing with ideas to use with Panels as Art Quilts. Many people leave very excited and enthused to try something new with their quilting. My main subject matter will be working with fabric panels. Showing many "Before and After's". Exploring how panels can be used on personal projects. Many panels are looked at and passed over. I often hear, "What do you do with this? It is so big, The colors are dull, etc., etc.". With added thread painting on the fabric, and possible

additional embellishments, the project soon becomes a piece of Art! Learn about the preparation of the panel for the project and explore the freedom of using thread painting. This shows how the layering of threads lets you achieve the different effects on the quilts. Then, add embellishments of ribbons, fabric markers, crystals, etc. The panel/project is now unique and One of a Kind!

April 7, 2026- Jamie Davis- Loopy Tulip Designs- "History and Mystery of Baltimore Album Quilts"

The history of Baltimore Album quilts is a fascinating journey into an America headed for the Civil War. Discover how the industrial revolution, the struggle over slavery and the social and moral climate of the time contributed to this beautiful art form.

Through stories, Jaimie will explore how the demise of Baltimore Album quilts leads us into the hearts and minds of the women who made them, and find out how a pregnancy, a Christmas gift and a quilt class gone horribly wrong helps to explain the mystery behind why these quilts disappeared almost overnight. It's a funny, provocative and insightful look into some of America's most beautiful treasures.



May 5, 2026- Arlan & Pat Christ- "Pennsylvania Dutch Quilts.... Folklore & Superstitions"

"Pennsylvania Dutch Quilts – Folklore & Superstitions" provides quilts that represent some of the most colorful Pennsylvania quilts made in the mid to late 1800's and early 1900's. Their unique designs and quilting patterns have created the "Dutch" folk art that is collected today. Discussion will include the connection of "quilts", "hex signs" and the world of "folklore and superstitions."

WORKSHOP- May 6, 2026- Arlan & Pat Christ- "Armenian Love"



The "Armenian Love" design was inspired by a doll quilt in the Christ Collection dated circa 1840. This design is often referred to as a "Pomegranate" or "Love Apple." According to Armenian mythology the pomegranate symbolizes fertility, abundance, and good fortune. This workshop will teach you the "prepared edge" technique. You will learn how to create smooth curves...beautiful points and bias stems. The shell of the pomegranate with the large number of seeds can also symbolize the universe with its stars and planets. Applique can bring you endless rewards as you take one step at a time. The world of applique will take you on a trip that goes beyond infinity.

June 2, 2026 - Elizabeth DeCroos – Travel with us across the Canadian border as Elizabeth presents her lecture on "Pojagi – Ancient Korea to Modern Canada." A workshop is planned. Watch your newsletter for updates.

July 7, 2026 – Teresa Duryea Wong - Teresa will present her lecture on "Sewing and Survival" Native American Quilts from 1880 – 2022"

August 4, 2026 – Annual Summer Social!

2026 Challenge

Kim Carlo, Debra Goodwin, Quinn Pagano

Everyone is invited to participate in this year's quilt challenge. This year's challenge will be a little different because there will be two main categories: Upcycled/Recycled and America 250.

For Upcycled/Recycled, make a quilt or other item using repurposed fabric from old clothes or an old quilt. You will be asked to provide a photo of the recycled items used and a description.

For America 250, create something to celebrate America's 250th birthday.

For both of these options, we will have the following categories:

- Large Quilt (40" X 40" or larger)
- Small Quilt (less than 40" X 40")
- Other (placemats, totes, garments. Wearable art, etc.)
- Original (any product, quilt or otherwise, that was not a purchased pattern created by someone else. This must come out of your own imagination. If your product was inspired by another creator, please give them credit).

In addition, we will have some other special awards:

- Best Quilt that falls into both categories
- Best Use of Color
- Best Workmanship
- I Wish I Made That

We hope you will consider joining in the fun this year! All entries will be displayed and voted on at our January 2027 meeting.

If you have any questions, contact Quinn Pagano, Deb Goodwin or Kim Carlo.



Better Done Than Perfect is Back!

Kim Carlo

Do you have a pile of old projects lying around that you have been meaning to finish but never seem to get to? Then this challenge is for you.

Here's how it works:

- Create a list of projects that you would like to complete
- Bring your list to the next guild meeting and give to Kim Carlo. For each item on your list, place a quarter in the "pot". So, for example, if you have a list of 12 projects that you want to finish, place \$3.00 in the collection box. All lists are due by the April meeting (4/7/26).
- We will run this program for one year until April 6, 2027. Throughout the year, if you finish a project on your list, bring it to the guild meeting. We will have a special show and tell for these projects. For each project you complete, your name will go into a drawing. The more projects you finish (from your list), the more times your name will go into the drawing. Note: The quilt must be totally finished, not just a top. It must be quilted and bound.
- At the end of the drawing, we will draw a name and that person will win the money collected at the start of this challenge in 2026.



Contact Kim Carlo with any questions.

Hospitality

Diana DeFanti & Sandy O'Connor

Thank you to the members who provided the refreshments for the February meeting. They were Jessica Dayon, Kathy Moore, Janet Levinson, Nancy Skok and Sue Marin.

Members who signed up for the March meeting are Lori Smith, Nancy Snyder, Irene Oehmke and Linda Griest. If anyone else would like to add their name, please text or email me. Decaf coffee and tea are always available during the evening.

Quiltfolk

Karen Hartzell

The quarterly Quiltfolk Magazine, representing Alaska, was given to Cathleen Kirkpatrick, one of our Guild Challenge coordinators. Each quarter we receive a free gift of the latest release of their magazine, and often other items of merchandise. We also receive a discount code for members of the guild, if you wish to receive 15% off from their site. The code is: GUILD36.

Historical

Karen Hartzell

The first edition of the Crazy Quilters Quilt Guild was published in September 1990. It lists 28 charter members. Three of those still remain as charter members. Do you know how many additional active members joined before 2000? -- Five, including 3 charter members* are:

Lorraine Bujnowski, Diana Campbell, Debbie Heeps, *Tami Jones, *Pat Karo, Ruth Skinner, Deb Veshinsky, *Carole Whaling



The in-person Sit 'n Sew will be held on **Saturday, March 21st, 10:15 – 4 pm**. Bring your project or work on Community Service projects.

The virtual Sit 'n Sews in February will be:

- **Wednesday March 11th from 6:30 – 8:30 pm**
- **Wednesday March 25th from 1:30 – 4 pm**

Community Service

Dawn Dengler & Pat Piasecki

At February's monthly meeting and at the Sit and Sew at Faith Presbyterian, members signed out various precut community service project kits and dropped off numerous completed projects. At the Sit and Sew, some members made kits for others to either sew onsite or to take along home to sew.

Since February's newsletter, we collected:

- **1 EMT bear for a traumatized child** that was delivered to **Neffs Volunteer Fire Company**, <https://www.facebook.com/NeffsVolunteerFireCompany/>
- **12 kennel pads** that were delivered to **Peaceable Kingdom**, <https://www.facebook.com/people/Peaceable-Kingdom-Inc/100064856641308/#>
- **20 blocks for the Quilts of Valor® Foundation's 2026 National Block Drive**, <https://www.qovf.org/national-block-drive/>
- **31 cancer comfort pillows** that were delivered to **The CHEMO Bag** organization to be included in the Bag of Hope totes that they distribute to area infusion centers, <https://www.facebook.com/TheChemoBag/>
- **7 pillowcases for hospitalized children** that will be delivered to Wooden Bridge for distribution to local hospitals by the Lehigh Valley-Berks chapter of Ryan's Case for Smiles, <https://www.facebook.com/people/Case-for-Smiles-Lehigh-Valley-Berks-Chapter/61587626488524/>
- **55 placemats** to add to our annual autumn donation for clients of **Meals on Wheels Greater Lehigh Valley**, <https://mowglv.org/>
- **30 premie blankets** for **LVHN NICU** babies
- **4 wheelchair blankets** to be delivered to **Cedarbrook Senior Care and Rehabilitation**
- **1 quilted blanket**, home to be determined



Any members can sign-out precut community service project kits to sew at home. We'll have a variety of kits near the sign-in table at March 3rd's meeting at Calvary Baptist and again at the March 21st Sit and Sew at Faith Presbyterian.

Hopefully, the next newsletter will include the date and location of our spring Sewcial; watch for details!

Thank you all for your great work!

Show & Tell – February

Anna Blanchette



Cathleen Kilpatrick



Debbie Goodwin



Debbie Heeps



Diana DeFanti



Elizabeth Riccaboni



Karen Shaffer



Kathy Moore



Lori Mauer



Nancy Sheffield



Nancy Skok



Nancy Snyder & Granddaughter



Pat Piasecki



Ruth Smith



Suzanne Nelson



Jane Merkel



- Made from a panel
- Additional fabric used when ran out of panel fabric



Membership

Pat Piasecki & Quinn Pagano

We had 57 members and two guests at our February meeting. We have a total membership of 97.

March Birthdays:



PAGANO	QUINN	1-Mar
O'CONNOR	SANDY	2-Mar
KARO	PATRICIA	9-Mar
VACCARO	PATRICIA	10-Mar
MADALENA	IRENE	12-Mar
DEFANTI	DIANA	15-Mar
KEIFFER	MARGARET	18-Mar
KRILEY	CASSANDRA	18-Mar
RICCABONI	LIZZIE	20-Mar
SHANNON	NANCY	23-Mar
FENINEZ	PATTY	31-Mar

Committees

Challenge: Kim Carlo, Debra Goodwin & Quinn Pagano

Community Service: Dawn Dengler & Pat Piasecki

Fundraising & Ways & Means: Donna Gasser, Julie McDonnell, Pat Piasecki, Jane Merkel, Cathleen Kilpatrick, Gail Shearer, Sue Marin

Historical: Karen Hartzell

Hospitality: Diana DeFanti & Sandy O'Connor

Newsletter & Communications: Karen Rush

Publicity: Linda Wojciechowski

Quilters Studio: Jessica Dayon

Retreat: Sandy O'Conner

Show and Tell: Suzanne Nelson

Sit & Sew: Linda Wojciechowski (In-Person) & Cathleen Kilpatrick (Virtual)

Sunshine and Shadows: Linda Anderson

Technology: Kim Bringham, Katrina Idelman, Cathleen Kilpatrick, Jane Merkel, Gail Shearer

Website: Nancy Scholz



**Reminder: Newsletter Deadline is always the 21st of the Month
Mark your calendars!**

Repeat from email sent on 2/14. Please consider how you can participate in your guild.

Hello Crazy Quilters,

Two years goes by really fast! It's time to nominate new leadership for our guild. As Jessica mentioned at the last meeting, the term for all Officers ends this year.

The most pressing position to be filled immediately is Programming Officer. As President, Jessica Dayon has stepped up to assist with programs scheduled through July. After July we have no programs planned.

I realize some of you are hesitant about volunteering because you aren't sure what's involved in each position. To that end, I am including a brief description of each position and a contact if you want more information.

All are two year commitments.

PRESIDENT – Jessica Dayon

Preside over Guild and Executive Board meetings and provide agendas. Serve as non-voting member of all committees and monitor proceedings. Monitor treasurer creation of budget and note monthly finances. Submit monthly article to Newsletter Chair. Appoint members to Nominating and Audit Committees.

VICE-PRESIDENT – Donna Gasser

Assist president whenever necessary and support committees.

SECRETARY - Nancy Skok

Record minutes of monthly Guild and Executive board meetings. Submit minutes document to Newsletter Chair for email distribution and website postings. Be responsible for all general correspondence and maintain current Guild By-laws.

TREASURER – Linda Johnston

Handle all Guild financial transactions, (using deposit and check request forms) that are within approved budget. Reconcile monthly bank accounts. Update income summary and submit to Newsletter Chair for email distribution. In July, gather submissions from president and committee chairs to assemble annual budget. File required non-profit tax Form 990 in January.

PROGRAMS & WORKSHOPS (CAN BE CO-CHAIRS) – Jessica Dayon

Seek out speakers for meetings, and/or for half-day or full-day workshops. Schedule venues. Execute contracts and arrange timetable with speakers. Occasionally recruit Guild member talent for demonstrations or teaching techniques, or offer other activities (e.g., indoor picnic, game night, etc.) Submit information to Newsletter Chair monthly. Submit annual calendar of events to Website & Newsletter chairs.

MEMBERSHIP (CO-CHAIRS RECOMMENDED) – Pat Piasecki

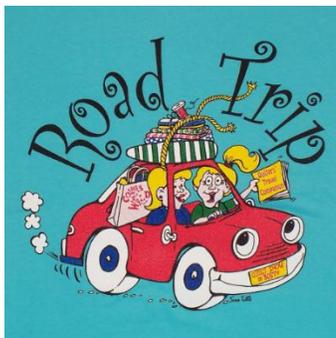
Meet & greet members as they arrive. Gather check-ins and answer questions. Sign up new members. Collect annual dues and document payment. Maintain current membership list and submit to Newsletter Chair.

We also need volunteers for a nominating committee, unless, of course, members volunteer to fill the positions. Please contact Jessica if you would be willing to volunteer for the nominating committee.

Please start thinking about where you can help and be an active participant in your guild. We need everyone's help to keep the guild fresh and vibrant.

Many hands make light work!

UPCOMING EVENTS



2026

Feb 26, 9 am – Noon -- Pillowcase Sew Day at Wooden Bridge for the Lehigh/Berks Chapter of Ryan's Case for Smiles --- Carpooling with one of our Community Service Committee Chairs might be possible.

March 19-21 – [Homemakers Country Quilters, Biannual Fabric Sale](#). Farm, Home & Youth Complex, 1015 Bridge Road, Collegeville

March 19, 9 am - Noon - Pillowcase Sew Day for the Lehigh Valley-Berks Chapter of Ryan's Case for Smiles at Wooden Bridge Dry Goods, 195 Deysher Rd, Kutztown

Anyone can participate. If you have questions or are interested in carpooling, contact Dawn Dengler or Pat Piasecki. Kim Lutz, organizer of the Lehigh Valley-Berks chapter, started a new chapter Facebook page that they're encouraging people to follow: <https://www.facebook.com/people/Case-for-Smiles-Lehigh-Valley-Berks-Chapter/61587626488524/>

March 21, 12:15 - 2:15 - Craft & Fabric Swap at Parkland Community Library, 4422 Walbert Ave, Allentown <https://parkland-pa.whofi.com/calendar/event/375644?method=embed> Bring your clean, usable craft and fabric supplies to share. Please only bring items that are in good condition that you would want to bring home. Browse the swap tables and take what sparks your creativity—no need to bring something to participate! Donations are welcome and will help stock future programs and community crafting kits.

March 25-28 – The Lancaster Quilt Show, Lebanon Valley Expo Center

April 8-11 – AQS Quilt Week, Hartford, CT [New England 2026 - American Quilter's Society](#)

April 10-12 – [Northern Shenandoah Valley Quilt Show](#) presents “A Kaleidoscope of Color”. Clarke County Parks & Rec Center, Berryville, Virginia

May 6 – Workshop – Arlan & Pat Christ, "Armenian Love"

May 15-16 – [Four Country Quilters Quilt Show](#), “When Life Gives You Scraps, Make a Quilt”. Frederick Event Center, 5400 Holiday Drive, Frederick, MD 21703

May 29-31 – Brandywine Valley Quilt Show, “1776-2026 Evolution & Revolution”. Neumann University Mirenda Center, 501 Convent Drive, Aston, PA [2026 Quilt Show - Brandywine Valley Quilters](#)

June 18-20 – A Quilter’s Destination Quilt Show, Burlington, Vermont [Vermont Show Info | A Quilter's Destination](#)

June 19-20 – Quilters in Bloom Quilt Show. Central Columbia High School, 4777 Old Berwick Road, Bloomsburg, PA.

July 23-25 – A Quilters Destination, NE Ohio Guild show, Ashland, Ohio [Ashland, OH | AQuiltersDestination](#)

Sept 17-20 – Pennsylvania National Quilt Show Extravaganza, Oaks, PA [Pennsylvania National Quilt Extravaganza » Mancuso Show Management](#)

October 2-3 – Berks Quilters Guild quilt show, “Quilts From the Heart of Berks”, Leesport Farmers Market, 312 Gernants Church Road, Leesport, PA.

October 9-10 – Keystone Quilters Quilt Show, “Freedom of Expression”, Finland Mennonite Church, 1750 Ziegler Rd, Pennsburg, PA. [Keystone Quilters](#)

November 6-8 – Fall Harvest of Quilts, Pleasant Valley Community Firehall in Westminster, MD

Workshops highlighted in red are Crazy Quilter Guild events.

If you discover any events to be added, please send to Karen Rush.