



Q.U.I.L.T.S

Quilters United in Learning Together, Schenectady

<http://quiltschenectady.org>

Meetings-First Thursday of Month from September to June

Spring 2026

President's Message from Virginia Hunt

The annual end of the year picnic will be Thursday, June 4th at the South Schenectady Fire House Pavilion. Members are asked to bring the following dishes to share based on the first letter of their last name:

A-F main dish

G-L side dish

M-R beverages, such as iced tea, lemon aide, water, etc. (soda is not popular)

S-Z dessert

As in the past, please bring your own utensils as we will have a limited supply of utensils on hand.

Volunteers are needed for the Nominating Committee . At present we have 2 board vacancies for the positions of Membership and Newsletter editor. Additionally, there may be another position open as well. If anyone is interested in serving on the Board and/or if they are interested in serving on the Nominating Committee , please contact Virginia Hunt at 646-335-2336 as soon as possible.

Beginning with the April meeting we will be asking members to sign up to help put the table and chairs away . If we do not get enough volunteers to help with this task the guild may need to pay the church staff to perform this function. If the guild has to hire the custodian we may need to raise dues to cover the additional cost. Please consider volunteering 10 to 15 minutes of your time at the end of our meetings to help tidy up the meeting space.

Plans for the Quilt Show are developing nicely. I hope everyone seriously considers entering something in the show as the work that has been displayed at Show and Tell is spectacular and deserves to be in this year's show.

Membership Arilee Bagley, VP Membership

The guild welcomes new members! Membership dues are \$30 for the 2025-2026 guild-year, which runs July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026. Membership can be initiated or renewed by visiting the membership desk at any monthly guild meeting. The website also has links to download the membership form for the current year which can be submitted by mail with a check or if one wishes to pay using the PayPal link, a \$1 convenience fee will be added. The online link for the 2025-2026 membership dues is: <https://forms.gle/EJi2S7U1F8SWqjeE9>

Membership dues for next year will be accepted starting with the June meeting. Members can pay in person with cash or check. You will be notified when a new link for online payments for next year's dues becomes available

Please feel free to ask someone you know to attend a monthly meeting as a guest if they'd like to check us out or refer them to the guild website for more information:

<http://quiltschenectady.org>. Note: Guests may be asked to pay a fee to attend depending on the type of meeting, but guest fees may be put toward the annual membership dues if a guest decides to join the guild.

Guild members are encouraged to wear a hand-made name tag to in-person meetings and wearing a name tag qualifies members to enter the monthly drawings for a gift certificate to a local quilt shop. Here is a suggested pattern for the nametag: [QUILTS Name Tag.pdf \(quiltschenectady.org\)](#)

Arilee Bagley
VP Membership

Programs Committee Connie Trigger, VP Program

Celebrate Spring with new quilting skills!

So far this year Q.U.I.L.T.S. has offered its members five workshop opportunities, on techniques and projects, on Fridays or Saturdays, by Zoom or in person, with local or out of town teachers. We learned an easy method for making the Orange Peel block. We experienced the magic of the Abracadabra block process and were taught how to make the American Beauty block - with some paper piecing thrown in. Over 20 members in two classes worked on free motion quilting with an expert member. The \$20 Workshop Credit Program continues to be popular, with a third of our members taking advantage of it so far this year.



Several spots are still available for our March 7th workshop where we'll learn an embellishment technique to enhance our quilt projects, couching, by Zoom with Rachel Derstine of Philadelphia, PA.

To learn more about Rachel, click here: <https://www.rachelderstinedesigns.com/about-the-artist>

For a fuller description of the workshop and to register, click here: <https://forms.gle/MwdANUWgn1nD3bt1A>

Registration for our April 10th in-person workshop with Amy Friend of West Newbury, MA, is now open to the general membership. Amy will lead us through a series of exercises where we will design 6 paper pieced blocks, each with a different type of curve. We'll learn about modern quilt layouts that include negative space and alternate grid work. Using our paper pieced curves, negative space and alternate gridwork, we'll each create an 18" mini quilt or pillow cover.



Learn more about Amy here: <https://duringquiettime.com/#about>
Register to take the workshop here: <https://forms.gle/U6RfCDB19jJQKRQE9>.



You know how we've been saying, "Save your strips!"? Here's why! Registration will be open soon for our Friday, May 8th, in person workshop with Marge Tucker of Rockland, MA. Marge will help us use up all those leftover strips and strings from previous projects and turn them into a Harlequin Diamond Romance quilt! Improvisationally pieced rectangles make light and dark diamonds when placed together. This results in a visually graphic layout, and with very little cutting and prep, we can get right to the fun.

Learn more about Marge here: <https://www.margetuckerquilts.com/about>

We're excited to see what you create for this year's Member Challenge! Due at our June 4th end of year potluck dinner, there are just two parameters: the size, 24" x 24", and the theme, "On The Road!" We are celebrating travel in any way you choose to depict it. If you can explain how your entry is travel related, you're in! Projects will be eligible for inclusion in the October Autumn Inspiration Quilt Show's 2026 Member Challenge display. There will also be a display of 2025 Member Challenge submissions.

Happy learning!
Connie Trigger

SFTH Kids' Quilts Maggie Katz, Chair

I will be doing kit making workshops on March 18, 19, 25 and 26 from 9:30-2:00.

People can come for whole time or any length of time they are able.

If they are able to attend, they can send me an email at margretkatz@msn.com

Thanks,

Maggie

Guidelines for quilts:

Fabrics: Colorful, child/teen-oriented fabrics such as sports, animals, flowers, trucks, fishing, space, princesses, dinosaurs, etc.

Quilt Sizes:

36" x 36"/40" (baby/toddlers)

42" x 48" (children approximately 4 – 7 years old)

48" x 54"/60" (children approximately 8 – 12 years old)

54" x 72" (12 – 18 years old)

Design/Pattern: Entirely up to you!

Veterans' Quilts Lisa Wend, Chair



The next **Veterans' Quilt Sew-in** is being planned for Wednesday, March 18, 2026 from 10-4 at the Rotterdam Community Center, 705 Curry Road in Rotterdam. This will be the second of our themed sew-ins. For this one we will be making quilt tops with Jelly Rolls and pre-cut 2 ½" scrappy strips. We'll even hold a Jelly Roll Race and YES, there will be prizes (plural)! How fast can YOU complete a Jelly Roll Race (aka Lasagna) quilt top? How many quilt tops can you complete at one sew-in? Our third and final themed sew-in this program year will be scheduled for mid-May. The theme will be Disappearing blocks (4-patch and 9-patch). This will be a fun way to practice some of those fun blocks that Brita Nelson showed us in January 2025.

As always, the guild provides Veterans' quilt kits (free of charge) at each guild meeting to guild members who would like to take one to make. Kits include fabric for making the quilt top, backing, and binding as well as batting and a fabric label. Alternatively, you can use your own pattern and fabric. Guidelines are below. We can provide a 60" x 80" batting. There is a brief history of this service project on our website https://quiltschenectady.org/?page_id=53 if you would like more information.

Thank you to all who continue to make Veterans' Quilts. We recently delivered **18 quilts** to the Albany Stratton VA Hospital and **9 quilts** to the Fisher House. If anyone is interested in going with us to hand out quilts next time, please let me know. It is truly a heartwarming experience.

General Guidelines for our Veterans' Quilts

Size: Approximately 50" x 70".

Fabric & Design: 100% cotton fabric. Colors and patterns are your choice. However, most recipients are men and they don't often choose the patriotic ones. Please take this into consideration when making your selections.

Label: Please place a label on the back of the quilt with your name, Schenectady Q.U.I.L.T.S. and a brief thank you. Example: "Thank you for your service. Made by Mary Smith, Q.U.I.L.T.Schenectady, December 2025". It is a means to identify the origin of the quilt and often we will receive a thank you note from the recipient. We also attach a note from the guild to each quilt.

Lisa Wend

Autumn Inspirations 2026 Quilt Show *Linda Tripoli & Sonya Nachbar, Co-Chairs*

The Quilt Show Committee has met again, and we are making great progress. We have a great team assembled and we will have a great show! We will be sending out descriptions for the various volunteer opportunities available during the show to give members an idea of what they can sign up for.

This time we will speak to working at the admission and Veterans' quilts tables:

Do you enjoy meeting dazed & confused people? Do you enjoy handling money and placing wristbands on people? Do you enjoy giving directions and repeating yourself over and over again? If you do, volunteering for the admission table is the job for you! I describe the position pretty tongue and cheek, but I have worked the admission table myself and it was fun to see friends, neighbors and family come to the show, and I enjoyed getting to know and work with poor Patti Muselbeck, who had to listen to me as I honed my script to a thing of beauty over our two hour shift. She became wristband applier extraordinaire and we were a powerful team! Suzanne Bernadt is an extremely organized and patient Chair, with a great sense of humor, and our shift flew by. There are usually 2-3 people per shift, so you are not alone. I had never worked this position before and really enjoyed it. The Committee is also looking for someone to shadow Suzanne so that she can finally have a break after many years in this position. Sign-ups will begin soon.

Another volunteer position involves helping to set up the Veterans' Quilts Committee display on the Friday before the show, under the direction of Lisa Wend, Committee Chair, and staffing the table during the show to answer questions about this wonderful service project.

For every shift you work, members receive \$2 off the price of admission. So, the more shifts you work, the more members you meet and the more money you have for the boutique and vendors! Who doesn't need more fabric?????

Block of the Month Susan Baron & Sandi Butcher, Co-Chairs

It's hard to believe that we are almost through with the 2025-2026 Schenectady QUILTS year. There will be only 2 more opportunities to grab a Block of the Month kit and get yourself closer to winning completed blocks to put together the fastest quilt ever. With that said, those of you who have supported BOM by taking a kit, please be sure to bring it completed to the next in-person meeting. We are still looking to receive BOM blocks from October (Potato Chip Block), November (Toy Box block) and December (Buzz Saw block) Just a reminder, our November and December BOM winners are listed below. Please be sure to stop by the BOM table at our next in-person meeting to pick up your winnings or reach out to me (Sue 518-866-4559) and we'll together arrange for you to get them. See you in April!
Sue and Sandi

November - Lori Lambolt for the Toy Box block
December winner - Janice Wilson for the Buzz Saw block

Fat Quarters Anita Paul, Chair

Fat quarter themes for the remaining guild year:

- March - Green
- April - Lavender & purple
- May - Florals
- June - Red/white/blue prints

Since the March membership meeting is on ZOOM, both the March and April FQ drawings will take place at the April in-person meeting.

Membership Meeting Dates for the remainder of the 2025-2026 guild year:

- March 5th - ZOOM
 - April 9th
 - May 7th
 - June 4th - South Schenectady Fire Department Pavillion
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Quilting Services Offered by Our Members

Chrissy's Contemporary Quilting

Computerized long-arming services
Quick turn-around time approximately 3 to 4 weeks
Call or text Chrissy 518-605-3813
-Long arms services
-Large selection of edge to edge, block designs and thread colors.

Michael Palitsch

832-693-3701
Michael_palitsch@yahoo.com
Located in Stillwater,
32 Olympia Ct Mechanicville 12118

Finish Line Quilting – Computerized Longarm Quilting by Kathy Wagner, 518-369-3376

Other Items of Interest

This announcement was provided by Lisa Wend

FREE ONLINE QUILTING CONFERENCE

The Quilters Paradise 2026 Summit is coming, and we are bringing you a full week of inspiration, "From Foundation to Freedom!"

We're talking about 25+ free workshops covering:

- ✦ Manx Quilting (Hand piecing with no rulers!)
- ✦ Serger Hacks for piecing and binding
- ✦ Scrap Busting strategies for every stash
- ✦ Art Quilting, FPP, Resizing Math, and so much more.

Best part? It's completely FREE to attend. 🙌 Register now to save your spot: www.masteryroute.com/quilters

- ❖ Please note, there will be a push to upgrade to a paid version but it is not necessary to enjoy the online workshops during the conference week.

Officers and Committee Heads for 2025-2026

- President – Virginia Hunt
- Vice President – Anita Paul

- VP, Membership – Arilee Bagley
 - VP, Program – Connie Trigger
 - Treasurer – Cathryn Larkin
 - Secretary – Kathy Wagner
 - Newsletter – Debbie West
 - Webmaster – Kathy Wagner
 - Quilt Show Co-Chairs – Linda Tripoli & Sonya Nachbar
 - Straight From the Heart Kids' Quilts – Maggie Katz
 - Veterans Quilts – Lisa Wend
 - Block of the Month – Susan Baron & Sandi Butcher
 - Fat Quarters – Anita Paul
 - Goodie Baskets – Janet Mattis & Felicia Campo
 - Library – Kathy Hermance
 - Historian – currently vacant
 - Pet Beds – Jane Martinec
 - Hospitality – Sharon O'Connor
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Q.U.I.L.T.Schenectady Website and Contact Information

Website: www.QUILTSchenectady.org
Programs: QUILTSprogram@gmail.com
Newsletter: QUILTSnewsletter@gmail.com
Webmaster: QUILTSwebsite@gmail.com