



Lighthouse Quilters Guild

February 2026

Lighthouse Laura



Inside This Issue

| | |
|--|----|
| Board Members, Birthdays, 2026 Programs | 2 |
| Program Notes Hospitality | 3 |
| Historian's Corner Quilt Camps 2026 | 4 |
| Quilts for the Community | 5 |
| Quilting Events | 6 |
| Memorial Tributes | 7 |
| In Case You Missed It Congratulations | 8 |
| Membership Form 2026 | 9 |
| Messages | 10 |

I'm WAS so excited to begin the new quilting year as President of this wonderful guild and such an amazing group of quilters! Then we decided to cancel our January meeting out of an abundance of caution due to the weather. My own husband's car wound up in the ditch that snowy week, and Cassandra and I had to rescue him and the poor dogs while we waited for a tow truck.

This does mean that our February meeting will be packed. We will renew our memberships, hear from our speakers, talk about the renewal of the Quilting Bees program, and see a backlog of show and tell since it's been over three months since we've met in person!

Please join us in person or on Zoom if you are unable to attend in person. As always, the newsletter is full of useful information and our meeting will be canceled if Racine Unified closes due to inclement weather.

Laura Bond, President

Zoom Available

For members who live out of town, or are on vacation or are unable to attend the meetings in person, you may attend the meetings on Zoom!

Zoom Link is mailed out to all members before the meeting or you may request a link from



Sue Causey or
Sharon Matusevicius

Check out Facebook!

Please **LIKE** our page and **share** it with your friends!

Updates to meetings and workshops will be posted



facebook.com/lighthousequiltersguild

Next meeting

6:30 pm, February 23, 2026
Hybrid: In person or by zoom

Lutheran Church of the Resurrection
322 Ohio Street, Racine

Wear your name tag
Bring hospitality donation
Bring Show and Tell and a good idea gone bad

2026 LHQ Board Members

President

Laura Bond

Vice President of Programs

Mary Jo Diem

Vice Presidents of Planning

Leslie Graeber

Michelle Hughes

Vice Presidents of Membership

Stacy (Gavin) Cicero

Darlene Krueger

Secretaries

Mary Wolter

Christy Peters

Treasurer

Grace Kragness

Hospitality

Autumn Latimore

Librarians

Judy Stapleman-Kroes

Marlene Quigg

Historian

Elveda Morrill

Publicity

Pat Henningfeld

Social Media/Newsletter

Sharon Matusevicius

Sue Causey

2026 Programs

All programs begin at 6:3

| | |
|--------------|---|
| February 23 | James Pruitt, Quilters' Wills Susan McKinney, trunk show |
| March 30 | Charity Quilt Panel |
| April 27 | Joan Cain Evolution of a Modern Quilter |
| May 18 | Patty Martin Wearable Art Jacket |
| June 29 | Phyllis Stengel Cecilia Johnson Gellies & Sun Dyes |
| July 27 | Rummage Sale |
| August 31 | Angie Dugan The Quilting Connection Longarm Quilting |
| September 28 | Schoolhouse (presenters TBD) |
| October 26 | Jim Deibler Scary Maintenance Tales |
| November 30 | Holiday Party |



February and March Birthdays



| | |
|---------------------|------|
| Rhonda Westmoreland | 2/08 |
| Kathy Lijewski | 2/13 |
| Betty Suiter | 2/18 |
| Catherine Neal | 2/21 |
| Mary Piper | 2/22 |
| Mary Risler | 2/22 |
| Jacky Tomkins | 2/26 |
| Ginger Wanserski | 2/28 |

| | |
|------------------|------|
| Catherine Neal | 3/2 |
| Autumn Latimore | 3/19 |
| Dianna Zimmerman | 3/19 |



Program Notes



James Pruitt – Pruitt Zabkowicz S.C.

Estate planning is not just for the wealthy. James Pruitt will share practical ways to ensure that our quilting supplies, tools, and creative legacy are passed on according to our wishes. Many of us express our intentions verbally to family members, but without proper legal planning, those wishes may not be carried out. James will explain simple, effective steps to preserve family values, avoid conflict, and provide financial security for loved ones after we are gone. His guidance will help us protect both our families and the quilting traditions we cherish.

Susan McKinney – Quilter



Susan McKinney, who recently visited the Stitched Quilt Shop, returns to share a trunk show of her modern bespoke quilts—each one created entirely without patterns. Her process relies on intuition, courage, and years of refined skill stitched into every piece.

Susan's quilts are bold, electric works of art, many finished with glow-in-the-dark quilting thread that makes them truly unforgettable. The combination of fearless design and meticulous craftsmanship sets her work apart in ways that must be seen to be believed.

Her artistry, generosity, and creative spirit will leave us deeply inspired. What a gift she is to our quilting community.

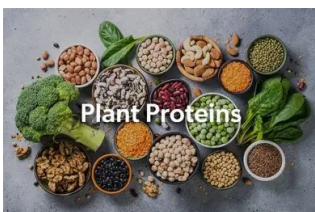


Play the Train Wreck game - Entry fee is one fat quarter.

Hospitality

The board agreed to continue our ongoing donation of food and funds to the Food Bank. This month's focus is protein, including items such as canned meats, beans, peanut butter, and other shelf-stable protein sources. Our continued generosity helps support families in our community and strengthens the mission we share.

Autumn will present an update on the Hives program during the business meeting.



Historian's Corner

The guild continues to make history with the members being so willing to be flexible and to care so much for this organization. The members today show the same care for each other as they have in the past. Here are some interesting tidbits.

LQG 2002

Mary Ann Staube was the winner of the 2001 raffle quilt

All 52 packets of fabric for the 2003 quilt challenge have been sold

The guild entered the Nashville Guild Challenge

Betty Suiter won her second Best of Show the Paducah Quilt Show

The LHQ challenge quilts got juried in at Nashville

Kathleen Trimberger won the Margaret Lizdas Award at the county fair

Mary Piper was a state fair winner

The ninth annual avenue of quilts was held

Quilt Camps 2026

LUTHERDALE: Lauderdale Lakes near Elkhorn Arrival/Price Options below March 11-12-13-14-15, 2026. Contact Lutherdale directly at 262-742-2352 to register

Wed 3/11 ~ \$374 Triple, \$409 Double, \$569 Single Thu 3/12 ~ \$324 Triple, \$349 Double, \$484 Single

Fri 3/13~ \$549 Triple, \$279 Double, \$379 Single Meals begin Wed supper and end with Sunday breakfast

Quilt and sleep in the NEW Hope Center ~ no bunk beds! Meals a very short walk away in the Dining Hall.

The rest of my camps are in May, September and October. YOU decide when you can come to each retreat. NO requirements to work on a group project. Come when you can and work on your OWN projects. ALL my camps are open to ALL quilters and even those who love camp but don't quilt at all. So gather your friends and decide which camp but do this SOON! You can get my complete list by sending me an email at qltingb@gmail.com Thank you and hope 2026 is the year you get to come back to a camp as a QUILTING CAMPER! Barbara Vallone

Quilts for the Community

QUILTS for the COMMUNITY

We had a good 2025 and our 2025 Final Report is HERE!!!
THANK YOU FOR DONATING THIS YEAR!

QUILTS for the COMMUNITY 2025 REPORT

Lighthouse, Peaceful and Rainbow Quilters donated a total of 171 quilts in 2025 recorded by Barbara Vallone! I am sure more were given by many of you as well as more have been stored by many of you!!!

| | |
|------------|--|
| 29 | Racine Foster Children! |
| 37 | St Monica's and other local needs in Racine AND Kenosha |
| 8 | Union Grove Veterans Home ~ Regina's Lighthouse Project |
| 71 | Camp Serenity |
| 26 | Quilts for Soldiers (sent with the Camp Serenity Quilts) |
| 171 | TOTAL GIVEN out in 2025 |

The estimated total of 171 given quilts is over **\$76,000!!!** This total includes fabric used and time served! Pretty amazing!!

We did a good job in 2025 for Racine Foster Kids Program, Camp Serenity, Wounded Warriors, local veterans and MANY other places in Racine and Kenosha Counties so keep making quilts in sizes 36 x 36 to 60 x 70! We also pray that 2026 will keep us ALL safe with time to use our stash and skill to meet the needs of others!
THANK YOU!!! Nancy Larsen, Regina Scott Brooks, Barbara Vallone, and TC Wiley

QUILTS for the COMMUNITY ~ 2026!

Our January meeting was cancelled because of extreme cold!
Please bring your quilts to our February meeting. THANK YOU!

Four members distribute quilts this year:

Nancy Larsen for Women's Resource Center

Baby to Lap size--36x36 to 55x70, pieced, cheaters, fleece, crocheted and knitted items.

Regina Scott Brooks for Quilts for VA Home in Union Grove

Twin size--70"x60" ~ fabrics can be either for men or women

Barbara Vallone for Quilts for the Community which includes:

All Saints NICU, Racine

Baby to Lap size--36x36 to 55x70

St. Monica's Home plus other local needs

Small Lap--45x50 to Nap Lap--55x70

Operation Snuggles – quilts for soldiers' children and Wounded Warriors

Baby to twin bed—36x36 to 60x75

TC Wiley for Foster Children's Project

Baby to Large Lap—40x40 to 55x70

Quilt size can range from 36 x36 to 70 x 90—see sizes above. **Please keep your biggest quilt to twin bed size.**

THANK YOU!!! Nancy Larsen, Regina Scott Brooks, Barbara Vallone, and TC Wiley

Quilting Events

Mar. 2. Empty Bowls Racine. Festival Hall, 5 Fifth St. Lunch, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.; dinner, 4-7 p.m. \$20 fee. Choose a handmade bowl and enjoy soup and bread prepared and donated by local businesses. (Go to In Case You Missed it for list of dates and venues to paint a bowl.)

Mar. 19-21. Stitches and Stems Embroidery Art Exhibit. Green Bay Area Embroiders' Guild. Green Bay Botanical Gardens, 2600 Larsen Rd., Green Bay. Thurs., 5-7 p.m.; Fri., 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sat., 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Free admission.

Mar. 28-29. Crazy Quilters Quilt Show. Parkview Middle School, 930 N. Rochester St., Mukwonago. Admission, \$8. Sat., 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sun., 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Apr. 11. A Pop-Up Shop. Faithful Circle Quilters. Faith United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall., 432 59th St., Downers Grove, Ill. Admission, \$2. Guild members have destashed a large variety of quilts, fabrics, supplies, etc.

Apr. 11-12. Northwoods Quilters Show. Marinette Rec Center, 2501 Pierce Ave., Marinette.

Sat., 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sun., 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Admission \$5.

Sept. 23-25. 2026 Bobbin Bus Tour. Quilt shop hopping to and from Shipshewana. Sew 'n Save. Early registration suggested as seating is limited. Registration form on line. \$499 pp. For more information, 262-554-8708.

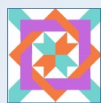
Fancy That
DESIGN HOUSE
& Co



You are invited to a Print & Pattern Revival – a free, live workshop running until February 24. Surface pattern design allows artists to create the designs that can be printed onto fabric, wallpaper, gift wrap and home décor. This workshop is four days of instruction where you are going to go from a blank page to a finished repeating pattern and see it on a real product like fabric, wallpaper, or gift wrap.

Admission is free but you must register in advance. Click on this link or go to www.bonniechristine.com/patternrevival

<https://www.bonniechristine.com/patternrevival?ref=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.bonniechristine.com%2Fa%2F2148231059%2F8SqXyGun>



Sleep in your own bed quilt retreat

Siena Retreat Center, 5637 Erie Street, Racine

3 day retreat, April 20-22, 2026 on the shore of Lake Michigan

Cost: \$195. for the 3 days. Includes all day sewing from 9am to 9 pm

Includes lunch and dinner, a 6 ft. table per person,
plus cutting and ironing stations, with irons

Space for 15 participants, 8 openings remain

\$50.00 reservation fee required, which may be refunded up to 30 days
before the event. Final payment is due by March 31.

Rooms are available on site for an additional \$90 per night



For more information contact,

Ginger Wanserski
Email: gingerw1@att.net
Phone: 262-939-4808



Memorial Tributes



Mary Grande — November 16, 2025

Mary Grande, age 94, passed away on Sunday, November 16, 2025, in Glen Ellyn, Illinois. Mary enjoyed spending her days sewing, quilting, traveling, discovering the best garage sales, relaxing at the cottage, gardening, and caring for her beloved violets. She loved hosting family and friends and was known for offering food the moment you walked through her door. Meals were simply the gateway to her delicious desserts. For Mary, food was love, and she shared that love generously.



Donna Hansen — January 26, 2026

Donna was a longtime member of the Lighthouse Quilters Guild who loved sewing and hand quilting. Her work reflected careful craftsmanship and a warm, creative spirit that she shared generously with friends and neighbors. We remember her for the beautiful pieces she created and the kindness she brought to every guild gathering.

The guild gratefully acknowledges a memorial gift from Sharon Guetzlaff, Donna's good friend and former neighbor. Sharon requested that the gift be used to purchase a book for the guild library in Donna's memory.



Linda Lewis — February 7, 2026

Linda was a relatively new member of the Lighthouse Quilters Guild who brought quiet generosity and a deep love of quilting to our group. An avid quilter, she enjoyed attending quilting retreats, spending time at her family cabin, and working part time at Millhouse Quilts. Linda quietly promoted the common good through her time, talent, and financial support, always ready to help others without seeking recognition. We remember her warm spirit and her dedication to community.



Roxanne Mierow — February 9, 2026

Roxanne was a long-time member of the Lighthouse Quilters Guild and the Mississippi Valley Quilters Guild, and a founding member of the Twisted Sisters quilting group. Beyond work and family, she found joy in crafting, quilting, and baseball. Roxanne created many prize-winning quilts that reflected her patient approach, keen creativity, and precise workmanship. We remember her leadership, her quiet encouragement of others, and the beautiful pieces she shared with our community.

In Case You Missed It

The Empty Bowls annual event will be held Monday, Mar. 2 at Festival Hall to benefit local food initiatives. There still are several painting sessions available at local businesses:

Feb. 19, Thurs., 5:30-8 p.m. The Depot Tavern, 11402 County Rd. 6, Caledonia.

Feb. 21. Sat., 11 a.m.-2 p.m. On a Whim Creative Collective, 2940 Wisconsin St., Sturtevant.

Feb. 25. Wed., 6 p.m. Village Hall, 2801 89th St., Sturtevant.

Feb. 26. Thurs., 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Sew 'n Save, 3710 Durand Ave. Call 262-554-8708, to register.

Cost to paint: \$20 covers bowl, painting, glazing and firing.

Pat Henningfeld, Publicity

Congratulations



We are proud to recognize Autumn Latimore, owner of Stitched Quilt Shop, 505 Sixth St., the winner of the Best New Small Business Award by the Racine Downtown Corp. The shop has definitely become a downtown destination. It is a colorful, well-detailed creative space. Her selection of fabric, along with lectures and workshops encourages new and seasoned quilters. The award was presented Jan. 27 for capturing the attention of the marketplace and helping to enhance downtown.



FPP Class—February 2026—Shamrock



Foundation paper piecing allows you to create accurate patchwork blocks quickly and easily. Even if you have never made a piece of patchwork before, you can make wonderful blocks the first time you try machine paper piecing!

Tuesday, February 24, 2026
12:00 to 4:00 pm
\$40*

We will be creating this lucky shamrock using FPP. Use fabric from your stash and make it scrappy, or yardage requirements will be provided if you prefer a color-coordinated project.

This simple project is geared toward beginners who are familiar with basic sewing skills and knowledgeable about the functions of their sewing machine.



*Class fee covers class instruction time. Additional supplies will be necessary to complete this project. Supply list will be provided at the time of registration. We offer a discount on class supplies to paid participants. Please purchase all supplies prior to the start of the class.

Call or stop in at Sew 'n Save to reserve your spot!
262-554-8708



Sew 'n Save
of Racine

To date the Empty Bowls fundraiser has raised over HALF A MILLION DOLLARS for Halo and the Racine Co. Food Bank to fight hunger and homelessness right here in our local community and we are so honored to continue to support EB 2026 this year! All of our bowls are HANDMADE by yours truly in Sturtevant at On A Whim



2026 Membership Form

ALL members, new and returning, must complete a membership form.

Dues are \$30 (\$15 under the age of 18)

Checks should be made payable to Lighthouse Quilters Guild

Your information will not be shared outside the guild

**Bring this form and payment
to the January or February meeting
or mail it before February 15th to:**

Lighthouse Quilters Guild
c/o Membership Vice-President
PO Box 081153
Racine, WI 53408 – 1153

All members are requested to make and donate one quilt/year for one of our charities

Name: _____

Address: _____

City

State

Zip

Winter Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

E-mail address: _____

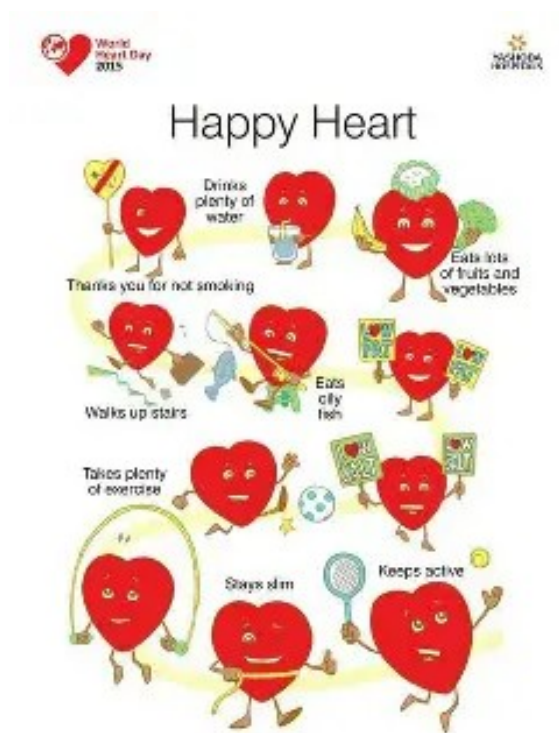
Birthday: Month _____ Day _____

Area of expertise/interest: _____

(English paper piecing, charity quilts, applique, machine quilting, wool, art quilts, etc.)



Lighthouse Quilters Guild
P. O. Box 081153
Racine, WI 53408-1153
www.lighthousequiltersguild.com



Deadline for submitting articles for the newsletter is on or before the 8th day of the month.

Submit articles to:

Newsletter/Facebook Editors

Sharon Matusevicius matusevicius@att.net

Sue Causey LHQSueCausey@hotmail.com