

February 9, 2026



FLYING • GEESE • QUILTERS • GUILD

# GOOSE TRACKS



## President's Message

Cindy Hinds

As my term as President comes to a close, I've been reflecting on just how much we have accomplished together as a guild. This past year truly demonstrated what a strong, caring community we are. By working side by side, sharing ideas, and supporting one another, we reached many of our goals and continued to grow both creatively and as an organization.

I am incredibly grateful to everyone who stepped forward to fill board and committee positions this year. Your willingness to serve made all the difference and ensured that our guild remained active, welcoming, and well organized. Volunteering is never a small commitment, and I appreciate each of you more than I can say.

Serving as President has been a meaningful and rewarding experience for me. I've learned so much—about leadership, collaboration, and myself—and I've had the joy of developing friendships that I will treasure. Thank you for your encouragement, patience, and trust throughout my term.

As we look ahead, I am confident that the guild is being left in excellent hands. Mary Branca and the entire incoming board bring important skills, energy, dedication, and fresh ideas, and I know they will continue to guide the guild with care and enthusiasm. It has been an honor to serve you, and I look forward to continuing our journey together as a member and friend.

Fondly, Cindy



next meeting

February 9, 2026

6:00 pm Social

6:30 pm Meeting

In Person | Zoom Provided



Join us at the Stonefire Grill at 4:30 pm before the Guild meeting, to meet our speaker, be with other guild members, and relax before the meeting.



### In This Issue

President's Message	1	Featured Advertiser/Ads	14-19	UFO Challenge	25-27
Meet Your 2026 Officers	2-3	Membership Renewal	20-21	Sew Ins	28
Program Feature/Updates	4-6	Meeting Highlights	22	Philanthropy	29-33
Workshops	7-9	Birthdays	23	Quilty Happenings	34-36
On the Calendar	10-13	Show & Tell	24	Our Next Meeting	37

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# Meet Your New 2026 Officers

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Executive  
Board

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## President — Mary Branca

I have been quilting since 1980 and have been a member of our guild since 2017. I am widowed, have two daughters, and five grandchildren. I share my home with my feisty rescue dog, Buster.

I've held many jobs in my life before discovering my passion for education, where I served 31 years. I was a teacher, an elementary principal, an HR administrator, and Superintendent of Schools.

My focus and theme for FGQG this year will be the one previewed at our 40th anniversary celebration: "Honoring the Past, Stitching the Future." I will form an ad hoc committee to generate ideas and strategies to keep us financially healthy as we look toward the future. Please let me know if you would like to be part of that committee.

I am looking forward to serving as President this year and in getting to know you better!

## First VP — Ellen Reibling

Ellen Reibling is a 5<sup>th</sup> generation Californian who has been in the guild since about 2009. She has served as Membership Chair, Community Education Chair, Assistant Treasurer, and managed the Database for several Quilt Shows.

She started quilting with a group at UCI, where she worked in Student Affairs for 25 years. She later joined the faculty at Loma Linda Emergency Medicine, retiring in 2022.

Outside of quilting, Ellen is an active leader in the Disabilities and Celebrate Recovery Ministries at her church, loves Pilates, and she also attempts to play bridge.

Ellen has four step-kids and 4 step-grandkids, all of whom live in Michigan. She hopes to add a dog to the family this year.

*(Continued on the next page)*

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# Meet Your New 2026 Officers —Continued

## Second VP — Julie Layne

I started sewing in my 20s, focusing on clothing and home décor. When my four daughters were dancing, I began creating ballet costumes, which eventually grew into a business making professional-style tutus.

During COVID, when performance work slowed, I discovered quilting, and it quickly became my main creative focus. After working for a local longarm studio, I opened my own longarm business when the studio closed. I love helping others finish their projects and bring their creative visions to life.

Joining the guild in 2023 was a great choice—I've learned so much and made so many "quilty" friends. When I'm not sewing or quilting, I enjoy traveling with my husband and taking workshops.

As Second Vice President next year, I'm excited to use the connections I've made to bring in engaging speakers and workshops for 2027.

## Secretary — Susan Culhane

Hello everyone, I'm Susan Culhane, a married mother of three and a very proud new grandmother!

Following my retirement last year as a pediatric physical therapist, I've found another "happy place" volunteering as a NICU cuddler.

I have been a member of the Flying Geese Quilt Guild for two years and was happy to serve as interim recording secretary to wrap up 2025.

I went on my first retreat in April 2024 (not knowing anyone) and was met with such warm welcomes that I knew FGQG was the place for me!

## Treasurer — Linda Virden

I've been married to my high school sweetheart for 52 years! We have two kids - one is a teacher, and one works for the teachers union.

I learned to quilt in the late 90's at Tole Tilly and Stitches. My first quilt was a Bargello.

I retired in 2019 from the California Teachers Association where I was an active member of our associate staff union. I served as their treasurer for four years.

I look forward to serving as treasurer for our guild.

# Program Feature — Next Meeting

## February Speaker — Patty Murphy

February 9, 2026

### Lecture: Zero Waste Quilting

Join **Patty Murphy** for an inspiring look at **Zero Waste Quilting**—a mindful, creative approach that celebrates the original spirit of quilting: making something beautiful from every bit of fabric. She'll share ways to shop thoughtfully, design with intention, and turn scraps and leftovers into fresh, modern projects.



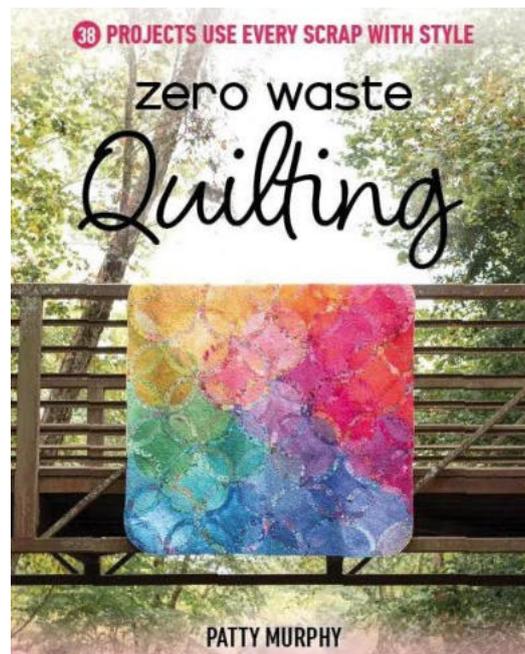
A popular teacher, Patty served at Road to Virginia and will be teaching at Quiltcon 2026. **Zero Waste Quilting** is called “a thoughtful, inspiring guide to making more, using less, and expanding our creativity rather than our fabric stash. Use [Zero Waste Quilting](#) as a guide to make more— to make more with your stash.” (String & Story)

Through her trunk show, Patty will showcase the quilts and projects featured in her book [Zero Waste Quilting](#), offering practical ideas for using your stash, minimizing waste, and embracing sustainability without sacrificing creativity. Discover how small changes can make a big difference— one quilt at a time.

Patty has built her quilting career on both skill and curiosity—knowing the rules, and when to break them. The author of [Piecing Makeover](#), [The Perfect Piecing Pocket Guide](#), and her newest release, [Zero Waste Quilting](#). Her lively, down-to-earth approach will leave you inspired to see your scraps—and your quilting—in a whole new way.

For more information visit:

<https://pattymurphyhandmade.com/>  
Instagram at Pattymurphyhandmade



*A message of thanks from Mary Branca. . .*

Looking back on my year as First VP, we had a diverse line up of precision piecing, appliqué, paper piecing, thread painting, and label making. I hope you enjoyed our workshops and programs and found some tips and tidbits to incorporate in your craft. I think it's always fun to learn something new!

Thank you to everyone who helped me bring these programs to you and assist with our speakers. I could not have done it without you!

I look forward to the upcoming year and the programs that Ellen Reibling, our incoming First VP has in store for us.

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# Program Updates — Coming Attractions

## Sign Up to be a **VIG** (Very Important Goose)

We need your help to support programs and events! If we have lots of volunteers you may only have to serve once or twice.

Tasks include assisting speakers, staffing the sales table, holding up quilts, and helping with set-up and take-down. Contact Ellen to sign up.

Tasks will be assigned based on your comfort level (standing or sitting, etc.), so sign up now!



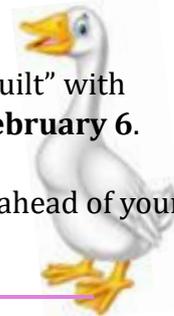
## Master Flying Geese in an Extra Zoom Session



Friday, February 6, 5 PM – 8 PM.

Flying Geese blocks are featured in the February workshop project “Misunderstood Quilt” with Patty Murphy. Master those blocks by attending our **BONUS** Zoom session on **Friday, February 6**.

Our own **Julie Layne** will demonstrate several methods for making Flying Geese. Get ahead of your workshop prep and fly those Geese!



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Demos start after 6 PM. No registration necessary. Zoom link will be shared on Constant Contact the week of February 1.

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## 2026 Programming Preview

Our programming theme for 2026 is “*The Year for Practical Creativity*.” Our goals include:

- Creatively use your fabric stash to make room for more!
- Develop color confidence
- Build skills with smaller projects
- Practice crowdsourcing for feedback and support

Check out our website for details about upcoming speakers and workshops!

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# Program Updates — Coming Attractions

## March 9 — Linda Nitzen

This month our spotlight turns to the **Entrepreneurs of the Guild**—with a special focus on one of our own, **Linda Nitzen**.

We are delighted to welcome Linda as our March guest speaker. Many of our members have taken their passion for quilting beyond the hobby stage and into the world of business, and Linda’s story is a wonderful example of that entrepreneurial spirit.



Linda will take us through her professional journey in the quilting industry, sharing how she grew from a devoted maker into an international instructor, YouTube creator, quilt teacher, and successful business owner. Through her company, **Sewing 101**, she offers beautiful Tilda fabrics along with exclusive kits and patterns.

During her presentation, Linda will talk about the challenges and joys of building a quilting-based business, what inspires her creatively, and how she continues to innovate. She’ll also share a trunk show of her “quilts through the years,” giving us a behind-the-scenes look at her artistic evolution.

Join us for an evening of inspiration as we celebrate creativity, resourcefulness, and entrepreneurship within our guild—starting with Linda’s story!

[For more information visit](http://www.sewing101.co)  
[www.sewing101.co](http://www.sewing101.co)  
Instagram at: [sewing101co](https://www.instagram.com/sewing101co)



A note from Linda & Carl Sullivan —

Dear Mary & Gail,  
Thank you so much for hosting us and for your hospitality and warm reception. Carl & I thoroughly enjoyed the time we spent with you and your guild during our recent workshop and lecture, and we hope you did too! You both are so well organized and made our visit so fun and easygoing! Thank you again and we hope to see you out on the quilt road soon!

Linda & Carl, Colorwerx



# Workshop Updates



WIP (Works in Progress) from Linda Sullivan's Workshop  
A fun class! A fabulous teacher!!

## Patty Murphy — February 9

Did you know that the textile industry is responsible for approximately 6% of global carbon emissions annually? If you too are concerned about planet sustainability, you won't want to miss our workshop with **Patty Murphy** in February. She is all about the environmental crisis and will be offering our guild a workshop in February from her book called Zero Waste Quilting. In this book, Patty offers projects that use every scrap of fabric with style. This book is required for this class and includes many wonderful patterns. It can be purchased from Patty's website or on Amazon.

Patty will be teaching the quilt pattern from her book called "Misunderstood." It is a captivating composition made entirely of flying geese. Don't be intimidated! In her book, she shows a quick and easy way to make flying geese.



As a bonus, our guild is offering a Zoom night featuring demos of flying geese construction methods. **Mark your calendars for Friday, February 6th from 5 to 9pm.**

This quilt uses just two colors to create a stunning sense of movement and depth. Patty will guide participants through the principles of hue, value and color placement while sharing tips for vibrant color schemes. The quilt is divided into six sections, so you can make one section or the whole quilt.

### Workshop Details

This workshop will be on Monday, February 9th, the day after Superbowl Sunday. It will be held at Las Lomas Community Center, 10 Federation Way, Irvine, CA 92603 from 10am to 4pm.

The cost is \$40.

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# Workshop Updates — Coming Attractions

## Linda Nitzen — March 8

In March we are thrilled to have our own **Linda Nitzen** teaching this delightful “**Spring Hare Pillow**” workshop. Linda is a past president and the owner of Sewing 101.

You can make this adorable pillow just in time for spring. It is perfect for your home or to gift to that special child in your life.

### **Pattern & Kit**

Linda will be putting together **kits for \$35** which include Tilda buttons, covered to coordinate with the pillow fabric, or \$23 without the buttons. The pattern is required and is available at no cost at [tildasworld.com](http://tildasworld.com). You can choose a kit from the pink, yellow or green background when you sign up. You can also choose to make an entire “Spring Hare” quilt with a green background. This quilt finishes 55 ½” x 69”.

If you would like to use a different color background, the fabric requirements for the rest of the pillow are in the pattern. Linda will guide us through the cutting process whether you use a kit or your own fabrics.



The pillow finishes 18 ¾” wide by 16 ¼” high. An 18” pillow form works well, or you can make your own filler for a custom look.

This is such a quick, adorable project. You will be able to finish most of the pillow top by the end of the class.

### **Workshop Details**

The workshop will take place on Sunday, March 8, 2026, at Orange Quilt Bee from 10am to 4pm. The cost is \$40.

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# Workshop Updates — Coming Attractions

## Dawn Heese – April 12

**Dawn Heese** will be here in April to teach wool applique. This class is for beginners to advanced appliquers.

Dawn will be teaching the “Bird” block from her “Botanical Sketchbook” quilt. The finished block is 12” square which is great for framing, hanging on a stand or making into a pillow. Dawn will teach techniques for wool applique on a cotton background, as well as how to transfer embroidery motifs.



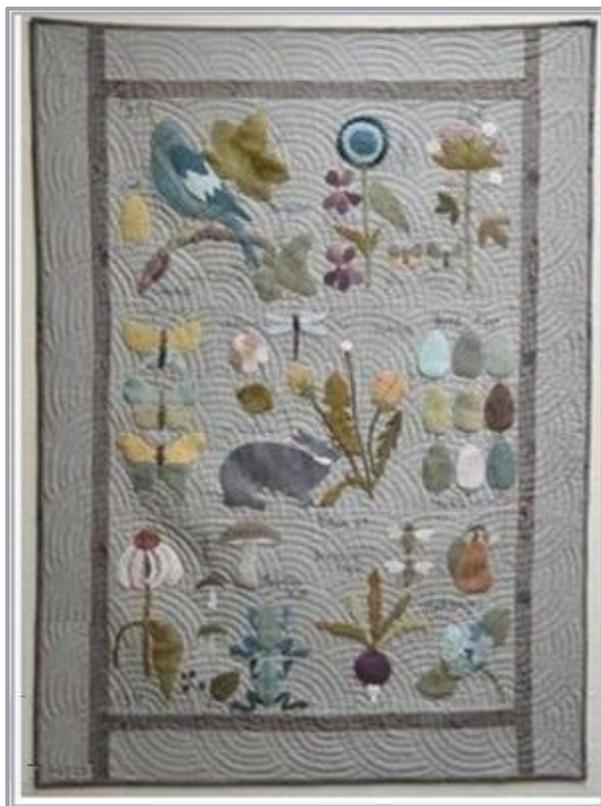
### Pattern & Kit

**Dawn will provide the pattern at no charge.** A kit is available for \$22 and includes background fabric, hand-dyed wool, embroidery floss, and a needle. The kit is not required if you wish to use your own fabrics. If you would like a kit, please let me know by March 25, 2026.

### Workshop Details

The workshop will take place on Sunday, April 12 at Orange Quilt Bee from 10am to 4pm. The cost is \$45 plus \$22 for the optional kit.

You can sign up for any of these workshops at the guild meetings, or by contacting Gail Larderuccio.



# On the Calendar



## Little Red Hen is Coming!

Kathy Keefer

Declutter! Donate! Shop!

It is a new year and time to begin collecting quilting items for our **biannual Little Red Hen Sale on May 11**. This is an opportunity to clean out your quilting supplies and donate items that you no longer need to make creative space for your 2026 quilting dream projects and help the guild raise funds at the same time!

We are looking for fabric, kits, unfinished projects, patterns, tops, batting and quilting tools and notions such as rulers, mats, scissors, rotary cutters, thread, etc. This year we are asking you to separate fabric items from tools/notions. Then please do a preliminary organization of your fabric donations into categories as follows: Backgrounds, solids by color, Batiks, holiday prints, juvenile prints, reproduction, florals, stripes and plaids, panels, patriotic and miscellaneous. **Please make sure that the donated fabric is suitable for quilts such as cotton, wool, flannel, or linen. (Please no home dec or heavy fabric).**



Donations may be brought to the March and April guild meetings NOT before!

### Volunteers Appreciated

I have several volunteers so far but can use several more so if you could help either on the day of the sale (May 11) or preparing and transporting the merchandise beforehand please sign up at the February and March meetings. Also, I have had inquiries about quilting books. I am unable to manage them myself but if one or more of you would like to head up a book subcommittee for the sale, I would be happy to support you!

Declutter! Donate! Shop!

Kathy Keefer  
Little Red Hen Chair

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# On the Calendar — Continued

## 2026 Auction

Sue Glass

### September 26, 2026 2026 “Quilted Treasures” Auction and Dessert

Clifton C. Miller Community Center,  
300 Centennial Way, Tustin, CA

As you all know, not only does it take a village to prepare for our fundraisers, but it takes time and effort on everyone’s part. To that end, I hope you all are working on a quilt or other item to donate for this major fundraiser. We would love to have whatever you care to give, especially seasonal items that focus on Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Hanukkah. Fall is a wonderful time for this event and there will be many people on the lookout for that special item. Your quilts may



be any size and technique, keeping in mind that we have guests who are not quilters. Please, no buttons or other items that may come loose or be ingested by a favorite grandchild or pet.

We will have a **“Buy It Now”** section that will focus on Fall’s activities, and we need seasonal table runners, place mats, napkins, smaller quilts, or other seasonal items. Perhaps you have a pattern for a really cute tree ornament. In case you are new to us and don’t quite understand what “Buy It Now” means, it means each item in this area will have an established price instead of being part of an auction or silent auction. Of course we want your very best work for both the auction and the “Buy It Now” sale area.

Finally we will have a limited number of baskets that will be awarded through a silent auction. We don’t want to interfere with the upcoming (May) Little Red Hen, so just keep in mind as you sort through all your stuff (oh sorry, that should be “essential supplies”) that we will be asking for your new to very slightly used donations for these baskets starting in July.

I have a few block kits left for the Halloween quilt donated by Gail Slagle if you are a hand appliquer, and a really cute Santa tree ornament pattern if you like making smaller items. I would love to visit with you at guild and see what we can cook up together. Thanks

Sue Glass

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# On the Calendar — Continued

## Retreats

Michelle Howe

### Flying Geese Quilters Retreat April 23 – 26, 2026



We are so excited to announce the 2026 Flying Geese Quilters Retreat.

Guild members have an opportunity to spend up to three nights and four days at the relaxing Vina de Lestonnac Retreat Center in Temecula.

The dates are Thursday, April 23 to Sunday, April 26, 2026.

You have the option to choose whether you want to stay 1, 2, or 3 nights. Please be sure to indicate which nights should you choose less than 3.

Should anything change prior to the retreat dates, Michelle Howe will send an email letting you know.

We have 20 confirmed spots available. Once we have reached that number, anyone wishing to sign up will be placed on a waitlist. You will be notified of your placement via email. (Be sure to include it on your registration form.)

All meals and lodging are included in the cost of the retreat.

#### 2026 Prices are as follows:

##### 4 Days & 3 Nights

Double Occupancy \$650

Single Occupancy \$850

##### 3 Days & 2 Nights

Double Occupancy \$450

Single Occupancy \$600

##### 2 Days & 1 Nights

Double Occupancy \$275

Single Occupancy \$350

Day 1 Meals: lunch & dinner

Day 2 Meals: breakfast, lunch & dinner

*(Continued on next page)*

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# On the Calendar — Continued

## Retreats

We are now accepting applications for the retreat. The application is available on the guild's website.

A \$100 deposit is required with your application. Final payment is due by or before April 13, 2026, and can be mailed to Michelle Howe. (Her address is in the directory.)

Please mail your check (written out to Flying Geese Quilters Guild) and completed application to: Michelle Howe.

If you plan to attend this retreat, please email Michelle Howe, to let her know as soon as possible so she can add you to the list and be on the lookout for your application in the mail.



# Featured Advertiser



## BORDERS THAT DON'T WAVE BACK

You've pieced together your beautiful quilt top, and now it's time for the final step: adding your borders! To help make sure your quilt lays flat and looks its best, here are some simple tips to attach your borders correctly and avoid those common "wavy" edges.

Let's begin with some friendly tips to ensure that your quilt top lays flat and square before adding your borders. It will make the whole process so much smoother and more fun!

**ACCURATE CUTTING** - For spot-on cutting that sets you up for quilt success, try a **Quilter's Select Non-Slip Ruler**. You'll feel the difference right from the first slice! This ruler grips your fabric like no other, so no more slipping and sliding that leads to wonky cuts. It makes the whole process way less stressful on your hands, wrists and mind.

**QUARTER INCH SEAMS** - Take some time to perfect your  $\frac{1}{4}$  seaming, it's a game-changer for your quilts. Try nudging your needle position, swapping to a true quarter-inch presser foot, or adding **Cluck Cluck Sew Diagonal Seam Tape** for foolproof guiding. An accurate seam means your blocks fit like puzzle pieces, making assembly a breeze and your quilts super precise every time.

**PROPER PRESSING** - A nice flat block will make you sew happy! Start by pre-starching your fabric to set those seams flat right from the get-go. Many quilters swear by **Magic Premium Quilting & Crafting Spray** - it boosts cutting and sewing accuracy like a dream. Others love steam, a wool mat and a tailor's clapper for next-level results. Follow your patterns' pressing directions (open or to the side), and for tiny blocks try Maywood **Studio's Seams-Flat Pressing Bar**.

**SQUARING UP** - After pressing your block, use your square ruler and give it a quick trim to match your pattern's requirement. It's a simple step that makes your blocks go together beautifully and look neat and polished! **Quilter's Select Non-Slip Square Rulers** come in lots of handy sizes, and a 10.5" ruler will cover most of what you need.

**CUTTING & JOINING** - Cut your borders from the width of fabric - this allows a little extra "give" to ease things in when needed. When joining pieces, sew a straight  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam and press to one side. And skip the diagonal seams for borders; straight joins work best here!

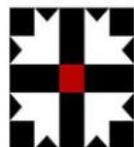
**MEASURING** - Start with your side borders. Measure both sides and through the center of your quilt. Add up those three measurements, find the average, and cut both side borders to that length. Keep a **Dritz 120" Quilter's Measuring Tape** on hand for accuracy, it really helps!

**PINNING & SEWING** - Mark the centers on both your quilt sides and the borders. Match up your center marking and the ends, and pin the entire border, easing where needed. (We love **Taylor Seville Magic Pins**) Stitch and press towards the borders. Repeat the same steps for the top and bottom borders; measuring, pinning and pressing as you go. Continue this process for any additional borders, always starting with the sides first. Hint: Resist the urge to go "Higgledy-piggledy" and start stitching without measuring and pinning first—this is the number one cause of wavy borders.

Announcing **QUILTWORKS NOTIONS** - A carefully curated collection of quilter's notions featuring Quilter's Select Rulers & Mats, Aurifil Thread, Olfa Rotary Cutters & Blades, Quilter's Dream Batting and more. Located at Hathaway Quiltworks, 23011 Moulton Parkway, J-12 Laguna Hills.

Call or Text Laurel - 949-534-2934    [hello@hathawayquiltworks.com](mailto:hello@hathawayquiltworks.com)

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# Membership Renewal

Michelle Howe

TIME TO  
RENEW NOW

## Flying Geese Quilters Guild It's Membership Renewal Time!

### **Please renew your guild membership.**

For both new and returning members, **annual dues of \$50** are **due no later than February 9** at our guild meeting for your information to be included in the directory. You may include all, part, or none of your information in the membership directory.

Please either bring your cash, or check to the February meeting, or mail your check (made payable to Flying Geese Quilters Guild) and the following membership form to:

Flying Geese Quilters Guild  
Attn: Michelle Howe  
15316 Nantes Circle  
Irvine, CA 92604

Please review your name, address, email, phone number, and other details as they appear in the 2025 guild directory (the white one).

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If you have no changes to your information just print your name on the membership form and write "NO CHANGES."

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*(Membership form on the next page)*

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# Membership Renewal — Continued

Flying Geese Quilters Guild  
February 1st Through January 31st  
Membership Form

Due on or before our February meeting date (to be included in directory)

Please **PRINT** the following information:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Today's Date: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ New Member?  Renewing?

Cash/Check#: \_\_\_\_\_

- Do **NOT** include any of my information in the membership list  
 Include **ONLY** the following in the membership list:  
 Name     Address    Home Phone     Cell    Email    Birthday  
 **NO** Change in Information (Please leave the rest of the form **BLANK IF** no changes)

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip+4: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: (Print Clearly) \_\_\_\_\_

Birthday (month/day only) \_\_\_\_\_

**OPTIONAL - Please provide an emergency contact. This information will be kept CONFIDENTIAL.**

Emergency Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to You: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership Fee: \$50 Payable to: Flying Geese Quilters Guild**

Flying Geese Quilters Guild  
Attn: Michelle Howe  
15316 Nantes Circle  
Irvine, CA 92604

**Important Information:** As a Flying Geese Quilters Guild member, your name and contact information will appear in the guild's printed directory, (available only to members.) The guild's website, newsletter, or email announcements will **NOT LIST** your contact information unless we have your permission.

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# Last Meeting Highlights

## Monthly Creation

Cheri Carey-Whitman

**Raelynn Nelson** was the lucky winner of the January Monthly Creation. Raelynn won a Mondo bag made with Kaffe Fassett fabrics and donated by our exceptionally talented Jeanne Stone just in time for Road 2 California. It holds a lot.

Monthly Creation tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00.

Monthly Creation is still in search for items for August through the rest of 2026. Please consider signing up and donating an item for the raffle. All proceeds go directly to the Guild.



## Zoom

Eileen Wintemute



### January 2026

We had 17 Zoom viewers at the January Meeting. The audio worked well once the meeting started and chatter died down. The video was a little out of focus and we are going to see if that can be improved.

We need to make sure people viewing on Zoom are guild members. We are asking everyone to have their name displayed during the meeting. To add your name, move your mouse to the dots at the upper right corner of your video square. Click on "rename" and add your name. Thank you in advance for your help with this.

# Birthdays & New Members

## Happy Birthday to our February Flying Geese!



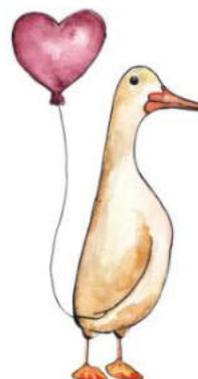
Joanne English  
Kathy Hartmann  
Patty McCormick  
Linda Nitzen  
Elaine Pappas-Puckett  
Emily Mueller Peer  
Jeanne Teeter



*May your birthday be filled with chocolate, roses, and everything sweet.*



*Valentine's Day – February 14<sup>th</sup>*



*Fabric is my love language*

### January Meeting Attendance

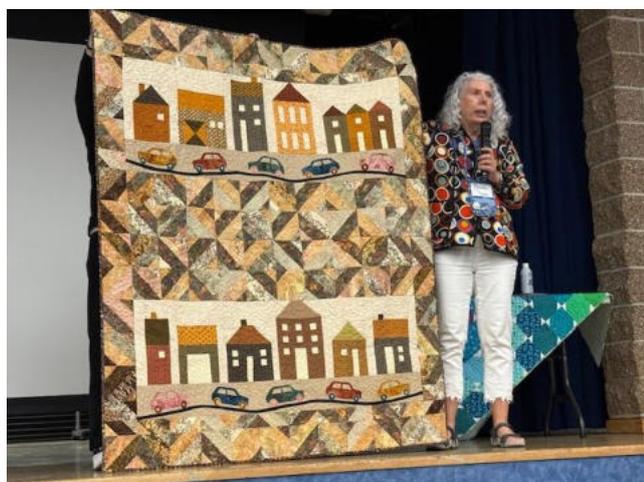
Members	68
Guests	2
Zoom	17
Total	87

# Show & Tell



**Michelle Howe – Garden**

Finished this UFO.



**Michelle Howe – Travel Town**

Finished this UFO, though I'm not sure who originally started it.

**Julie Layne – Sugar Pop**

I made this as a challenge quilt for Sewtopia. They sent us 6 fabrics and we could create anything. I completed the entire top, including cutting in less than 9 hours at a retreat.



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# UFO Challenge

## UFO Challenge — Updates

Kathleen Quinn

We now have two additional turn-in dates for the UFO Challenge. The fourth turn-in will be at the February meeting, and the final turn-in will take place at the April meeting.

**What is a UFO?** UFO stands for **Unfinish Objects**. This means that you have purchased the pattern and the fabrics to get started but never got around to getting it started. It's that partially completed top that you started at a class but haven't finished. It's a finished top that still needs to be quilted. It could even be that quilt that just needs binding and a label, but it's been sitting around a while waiting for you to make them.

**It's not too late to sign up** and get those old UFO projects out of your closets, drawers, boxes—wherever you're hiding those UFOs! Let's get those projects finished so you can cross them off your project to-do list.

You can sign up for one UFO or two. **Better late than never, right?**

And don't forget—you can earn raffle tickets toward the prizes.



We have two more turn-in dates: **February 2026** and last one, **April 2026**.

Send me an email if you want to sign up before the February meeting. **The cost is only \$10.00** to help you finish your UFOs and a chance to win some prizes!!

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# UFO Challenge — Sign Up

## UFO CHALLENGE 2025-2026

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**What is a UFO?** You've purchased the pattern and the fabrics to get started but never got around to getting it started. It's that partially completed top that you started at a class but haven't finished. It's a finished top that still needs to be quilted. It could even be that quilt that just needs binding and a label, but it's been sitting around a while waiting for you to make it. Must have been started prior to December 2024 and a minimum of 200 square inches (Example 20in x 10in.) Whatever the case, let's dust off those older projects and complete some UFOs. You could even win a prize for doing so!

We want this to be fun and doable for everyone so here's how it's going to work. You choose from one to five UFOs you'd like to complete by April 2026. You tell me which month on which quilt will be done. A completed UFO is quilted and bound. We would really like to see labels and hanging sleeves as well, but for this challenge it's not necessary. You sign up below and pay a \$10 entry fee (no matter how many quilts you submit). You will get a ribbon to get started and will earn a special pin for each quilt turned in.

There will be a drawing each month a UFO is due among those who turn for that assigned month. There will be a special drawing for a Grand Prize for those who completed all five quilts on time! Additionally, tickets will be awarded for random drawings throughout our challenge period. Tickets are earned as follows:

- 1 Ticket for each UFO turned in (up to 5)
- 5 Tickets for turning in your UFO on time or earlier
- 3 Tickets for turning in your UFO late
- 1 Ticket if UFO has label
- 1 Ticket if UFO has a hanging sleeve

- 5 Tickets if UFO is older than 2008
- 4 Tickets if UFO is older than 2012
- 3 Tickets if UFO is older than 2016
- 2 Tickets if UFO is older than 2020
- 1 Tickets if UFO is older than 2024

### Quilt Sizes:

- 1 Ticket – Smaller than a Baby Quilt – 2,475 sq in or under
- 2 Tickets – Baby/Crib/Lap – 45 x 55 = 2,475 sq in and higher
- 3 Tickets – Afghan/Throw – 55 x 65 = 3,575 sq in and higher
- 4 Tickets – Twin – 70 x 90 sq in = 6,300 and higher
- 5 Tickets – Double, Queen, and King – 80 x 90 = 7,200 sq in and higher

If you have any questions regarding the above, please do not hesitate to contact Kathleen (check the member directory for contact information).

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# UFO Challenge — Entry Form

## FLYING GEESE QUILTERS GUILD

### UFO QUILT CHALLENGE 2025-2026 – ENTRY FORM

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Entry Fee: \$10.00: Rcvd on \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_  
(Make check payable to Flying Geese Quilters Guild). **Please make a copy of this form for yourself.**

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UFO Project	Description of UFO	Month Due	UFO Started When
UFO #1		July 2025	
UFO #2		September 2025	
UFO #3		November 2025	
UFO #4		February 2026	
UFO #5		April 2026	

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# Virtual Sew-Ins via Zoom



The New Year's Eve Celebration was amazing!

We had 12-15 attendees, some who stayed all the way to midnight. We recalled that this was our 6th celebration. It wasn't until a couple of days later that I realized we had 40 prizes and made the connection that our guild just celebrated our 40th anniversary. We didn't set out to have a certain number - we just did.

Thank you for all the wonderful prizes, your best wishes, and participation.



It's not too early to mark your calendar for **Dec. 31, 2026.**  
Hope to see you there!



**Mondays** from 9 a.m. - 12 noon

January 26

February 2, 9, 16, 23

March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

**Fridays** from 5 p.m. - 9 p.m.

January 23

February 13, 27

March 13, 27



# Philanthropy

Mary Howland

Hello All - welcome to 2026.

Let's start with making sure you know our philanthropy Sew Day is still the third Wednesday of the month - but - we do have a new location.

Park Place Clubhouse  
25 Christamon  
Irvine, CA 92620

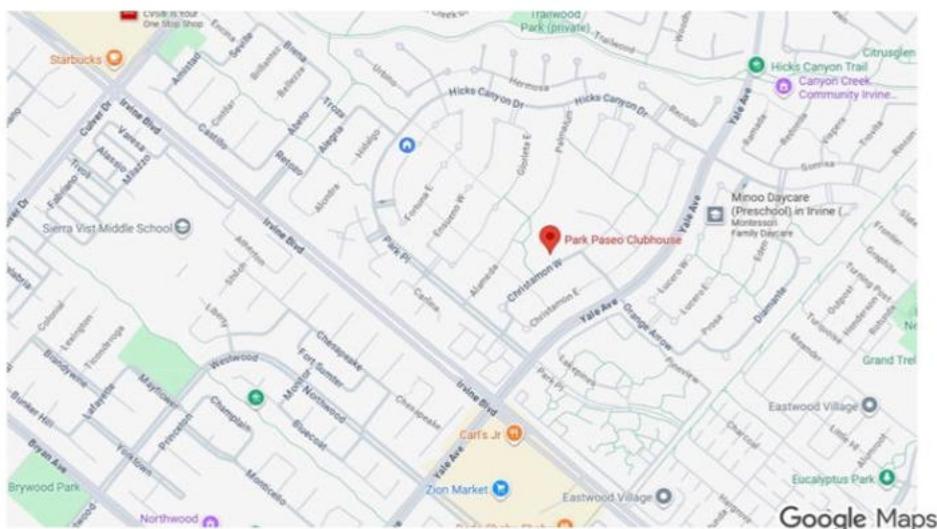
We'll be there from 10 - 1:30 with kits to distribute and you'll be able to drop off finished items. We'll have Show 'n Tell as we distribute the finished items.

Of course, you can come and sew or offer help in making kits. If you have questions, please contact Julie Layne or our new leader, Cheri Carey-Whitman.

Last but not least - we thank you for all your sewing, donations, quilting, and for all the ways you contribute to providing items to our organizations for distribution to those in need of these items.

With your help we'll have a remarkably successful 2026!

Mary Howland



Park Paseo Clubhouse  
25 Christamon West, Irvine, CA 92620

**Philanthropy Sew Day**  
**Wednesday, January 21**  
**10:00 AM to 1:30 PM**

Please join us at our new location.

We will have tables set up for sewing and have 1 cutting station and 2 ironing stations available for use. Please bring your sewing tools and rulers that you will need to sew. There is a refrigerator available to keep your lunch cold.

Contact on Sew Day -  
Jeanne Stone  
714-501-2386

# Philanthropy — Items Donated This Month

*A glimpse of Sew Day at the new location*

Park Place Clubhouse, 25 Christamon, Irvine, CA



# Philanthropy — Items Donated This Month



# Philanthropy — Items Donated This Month



# Philanthropy — Items Donated This Month



# Quilty Happenings

Now thru April 5

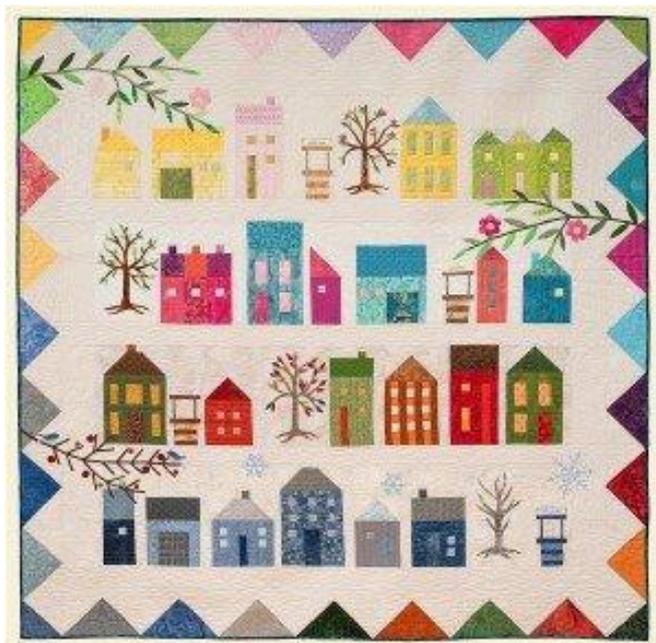
## Bowers Museum Exhibition

The Bowers Museum in Santa Ana is featuring a special exhibition: Global Threads: India's Textile Revolution. This exhibit is about the history of India's chintz production, starting with the cultivation of cotton over 4000 years ago. Indian women spun cotton yarn on whorls and India is credited with the invention of the spinning wheel.

Artisans in India developed methods to adhere natural dyes to cotton cloth, using mordants for some dyes, and resists for other dyes and processes. The exhibit traces the growth of India's chintz production as chintz became the first global trade commodity in world history. Ultimately, desire for chintz for home furnishings and clothing challenged established wool and flax industries in Europe and led to the manufacture of machinery that launched the Industrial Revolution. Today, there is a movement among artisans from families who hold the secrets of their ancestors, to revive the ancient traditions and materials that created these magnificent textiles.

This exhibition was created by the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto. **It will be on view through April 5, 2026. Museum hours are Tuesday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.**

[www.bowers.org](http://www.bowers.org)



## SOUTH BAY QUILTERS GUILD

### 2026 Show Celebrating the Seasons

February 14 & 15, 2026  
10 am – 4 pm

Torrance Cultural Arts Center  
3330 Civic Center Drive  
Torrance, CA 90503

# Quilty Happenings



*Over 150 Quilts on Exhibit  
Opportunity Quilt Drawing  
Raffle Baskets  
Boutique & Vendors*

*Auction Saturday 2:00pm*

## Quilt Show

*April 17-18, 2026*

*Friday 5:30pm — 8pm*

*Fundraiser Preview \$25  
(includes access to Saturday Event,  
Wine Pull, Appetizers & More!)*

*Saturday 10am — 5pm*

*General Admission \$10*

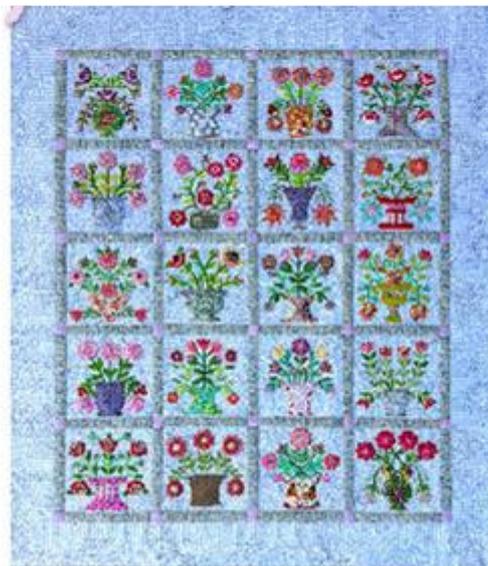


*For more information:  
Beach Cities Quilters Guild  
[www.beachcitiesquilters.org](http://www.beachcitiesquilters.org)*



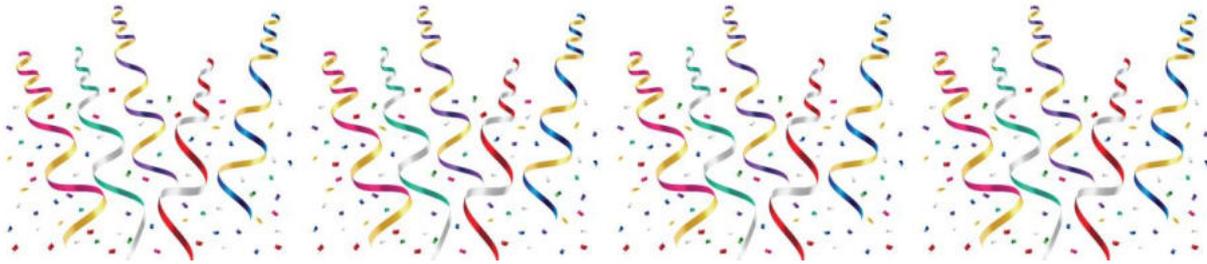
*Norman P. Murray Community & Senior Center  
24932 Veterans Way  
Mission Viejo, CA 92692*

*Air Conditioned—Free Parking  
No strollers please*



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# Quilty Happenings



## Celebrate Quilts Quilt Show 2026

The Los Angeles County Quilters Guild is delighted to announce our **2026 Celebrate Quilts Quilt Show**! Join us for two inspiring days on **Friday, May 8**, from 10am to 5pm **and Saturday, May 9, 2026**, from 9am to 4pm. Each day will be filled with creativity, color, and craftsmanship.

We're excited to introduce our **new venue** for 2026: **Sports Basement Long Beach**, located at **2100 N. Bellflower Blvd., Long Beach, CA 90815**. This spacious new location offers the perfect setting to showcase an extraordinary collection of quilts.

Just in time for **Mother's Day**, this show makes a wonderful gift and a memorable outing. Spend the day with your mom while enjoying stunning quilt displays, trying your luck with **Opportunity Baskets**, bidding in the **Silent Auction**, shopping at the **Vendor Mall**, and hunting for treasures at the **Quilter's Flea Market**.

Come celebrate quilting, community, and creativity with us—we can't wait to see you there!



# Our Next Meeting

## February 9, 2026

6 pm Social  
6:30 pm Meeting  
In Person | Zoom Provided

## Meeting Location

Rancho San Joaquin Middle School  
4861 Michelson Drive  
Irvine, CA 92612



### Please Note:

School rules allow only bottled water in the Multi-purpose room. Food and other drinks are not allowed.



- Come to the meeting
- Check in at the Membership Desk
- Wear your Name Tag
- Introduce yourself to someone new
- Carpool with a friend
- Bring Show & Tell projects to share
- Sign up for a Workshop
- Volunteer

Please be kind to those sensitive to perfumes, and refrain from wearing your fragrances to the Guild meeting.

### Follow Us



[flying-geese.org/](http://flying-geese.org/)



OC Flying Geese Quilting Guild

### Contact Us



[newsletter@flying-geese.org](mailto:newsletter@flying-geese.org)



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