

UpCountry Quilters Guild

Newsletter
January 2025



Next Meeting

Thursday, February 25, 2024 @ 7:00 pm
@ Pickens Presbyterian Church
311 S. Main St.
Pickens, SC 29671

2025 Officers

President	Cheryl B
Vice President	Gretchen C
Treasurer	Linda C
Secretary	Donna A
Newsletter Editors	Janice H, Cheryl B
Tea & Sympathy	Stacey T
Show & Tell	Beth E
Membership	Marina G
Hospitality	Mary P
Publicity/Public Relations	Tami McL
Community Service	Edith P, Kay M, Pam J
2025 Quilt Show Chair	Cheryl B
Co-Chairs	Kris V,
Sew-In	Kris V
Website	Janice L
Co-Chair	Beth E
Presentation Quilt	Cheryl B

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Birthdays

JANUARY	FEBRUARY
7 – Joyce T 13 – Andrea C 18 – Chris G	19 – Marjorie I

Minutes of the January 28, 2025 Meeting – Donna A

UQG Meeting Minutes, January 28, 2025

Meeting called to order by Cheryl Budnaitis.

Invocation by Mary Pruitt. Mary shared a tribute to a quilter.

Soups were prepared by several members for our “Souper Celebration”. The soups were delicious and were enjoyed by all the members.

Minutes of the December guild meeting were approved.

Treasurer’s report was given by Linda C.. Cheryl announced that she had received budget information from several officers and that she and Linda would prepare the 2025 budget and present at February’s meeting.

Community Service: We continue with QOV. We have been asked for 83 quilts for local National Guard that will be returning home in October. QOV sewing group meets at Dacusville Community Center. Fabric and batting are available there for anyone wanting to help. Also they have a long arm quilting machine there.

We also have chosen Hands of Home Pediatric Hospice Care for our service project. These children range in age from birth to 12 years. The guild has 45” x 45” batting available if needed. Also there is a roll of batting at the Hagood Center. Linda C. also has larger pieces of batting she is willing to give. Kay reminded members to wash the fabric we use for these quilts prior to making or gifting them. The quilts should be no larger than twin size.

Avia Susan Boudreaux (Navy Veteran) has requested batting scraps to make stuffed bears for veterans (mostly female) in area nursing homes. She uses the batting as the back of the bears and smaller pieces for stuffing. Please contact Cheryl B. or Susan (boudreauxavias@gmail.com) if you would like to donate pieces of batting for this project.

Membership: There were 33 members present with 1 visitor. Members were reminded that annual dues are being collected. Nancy S. was the winner of the name tag drawing.

Special Events information was given by Nancy S, as Kris V was not present. Detailed information regarding the Challenge Quilt is not on our website under “quilt show”. Handouts were distributed. The Challenge Quilts need to be completed and presented at the July meeting where members will judge those quilts.

Publicity and Public Relations: This position has not been filled, however, a new member Tammy M. has volunteered to fill this position. Tammy was not present, as she was out of town. Members approved Tammy filling this position.

Tea and Sympathy: Stacy T. has agreed to fill this position. Names mentioned for us to remember in our thoughts and prayers were Beth, Carolyn, and Kris. See report in the Newsletter for details.

Newletter articles: Janice requested that any reports and articles for the newsletter to be sent to her by February 4. Janicelhinson@gmail.com

Carol C. reported that there is a quilting exhibit at the Upcountry History Museum in Greenville through mid March. This museum is closed on Mondays.

Website: Janice H. gave a report on the website. A couple of surrounding guilds have requested that we advertise their upcoming quilt shows and a 4-H club has requested information about partnering with them to offer sewing lessons. Members asked Cheryl to find out what the commitment would involve, i.e., how many days, times, machines available.

Upcoming Events:

Workshop: March program will be by Rona the Ribbiter: Misadventures of precision points, Y-seams, and perfect circles. The lecture will be March 26 at our regular meeting and workshop will be the next day. Sign up will be at the February meeting. More details about cost and kits will be forth coming.

Quilt Show: Gretchen requested that every member (55 members) donate 1-2 items for the Boutique. She showed several examples that have already been made and donated. There is fabric available at the Hagood Community Center that could be used for this purpose.

Gretchen also reminded members to be making the jar openers that we will give as a gift to all who attend our quilt show. There are fabric and shelf liner cut for the project and available at the Hagood Community Center as well as at guild meetings.

Presentation Quilt: Big thank you to Nancy and Cathy who prepared the kits for our presentation quilt. All the houses have been completed and sewn together. The quilt has been prepared in two different sections so that multiple people can applique at the same time. We now need to find somebody to quilt the quilt. The quilt must be completed with quilting and binding by March so that it can be displayed at different events and raffle tickets sold.

A judge for our quilt show has been obtained. Quilts will be judged September 16, so quilts will be due the first week of September.

Gretchen and Mary are chairing the Boutique. Tammy, Kay and Edith are chairing the “2nd time around”. Decision has been made not to have a consignment booth this year. There is room available at the Hagood Community Center to store any items for the Boutique or 2nd time around booths. The quilt show will be October 10 and 11th. Set-up and hanging of quilts will be October 9. All members will be needed. Please block your calendars now to be able to help. Husbands and older children are also invited to help.

The **Azalea Festival** is April 26 and 27. We will display our Presentation quilt and sell raffle tickets. We could also sell boutique items at this time.

Cheryl B. is now the District 1B representative of the Quilters of South Carolina. This is a statewide quilt guild that presents retreats throughout the state several times a year as well as promoting communication between guilds. Cheryl represents 4 other quilt guilds: Pickens, Lake and Mountain, Prickly Fingers, Electric City, and Keowee Quilters.

The **Spring meeting for Quilters of SC** is March 14-16. Classes will be offered.
Busy Bee Quilt Guild's quilt show is March 7-9, 2025.
Landrum quilt show is March 13-15, 2025.

Show and Tell was presented. See pictures in this newsletter.

Linda C. has an Amish Quilt top for sale. Please contact Linda for information.

Meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by Donna A.

Newsletter – Janice H, Cheryl B

Janice is the newsletter editor as of January 2025, with Cheryl as the co-chair.

Reminder: Newsletter content is due to Janice by the 4th day of each month.

Website – Janice H

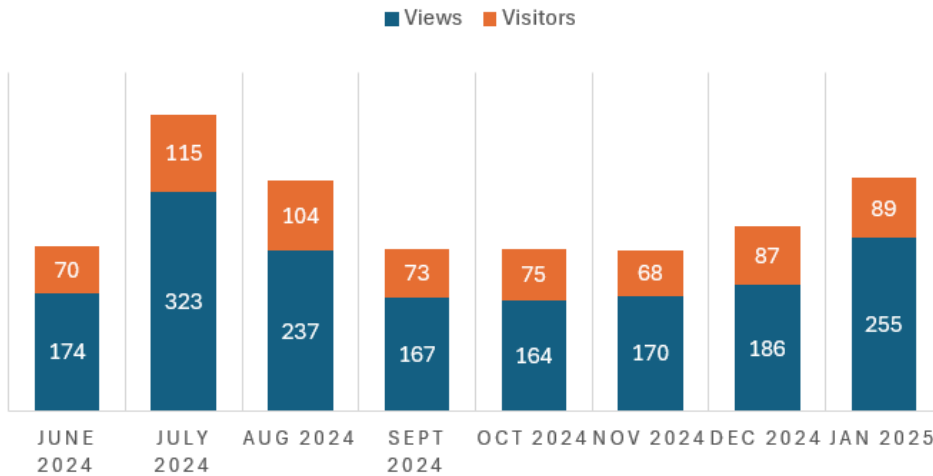
Website URL: <https://upcountryquiltersguild.com>

Contact us: 2 'Contact Us' forms were submitted in January 2025:

- Pickens county 4-H agent is looking for volunteers
 - 2025 Landrum Quilt Show Publicity chair asking if we can post a flyer about their show
-

Website Statistics: June 1, 2024 – January 28, 2025

WEBSITE STATISTICS



Website stats: June 1, 2024 – January 28, 2025

Web Page views:

Page	Number of Views
Home	723
Calendar/Activities/Events	209
For Members Only	81
2023 Quilt Show	76
Membership	71
2024 UFO Challenge	47
Sewing Bee / Handwork Group	40

Referrers*

Source	Number of Views
Search Engines	371
Facebook	27
Quiltguilds.com	18
Carolinaforestvacuum.com	18
Mariettasquiltandsew.com	6
Uhqt.org	3

**A referrer is a website that had the link to our site that a visitor clicked to get to our site.*

President's Notes – Cheryl B

I hope everyone enjoyed the meeting and seeing all the class/workshop projects as well as the wonderful show and tell from members. It has encouraged me to finish some of those class projects so they can be enjoyed! Hopefully we can see some of the UFO's

turned into finished quilts and entered into this year's quilt show.

More opportunities for different workshops coming up as well as quilt shows to get ideas for finishing UFO's or starting new projects with a different technique. See the events page at the end of the newsletter for dates and locations.

The registration form and supply list for the March 26th workshop will be sent with the newsletter and also available at the meeting. Please let us know soon if you plan to attend. This is a nationally and internationally known speaker and looking forward to hearing about her adventures as well as her techniques for perfecting our piecing.

The Azalea Festival is April 26th. We will be having a booth between Domino's and the Full Circle shop. The Presentation Quilt will make its debut and we will be selling tickets for drawing at the fall quilt show. We also will have small items for sale - this was a winner last year so if you have any items to donate for sale, would be appreciated. The sign up sheet for workers will be available at the meeting so you can plan your schedule for helping with staffing the booth (1-hour time slots).

Remember to bring your dues payment for 2025 guild membership (\$35).

Vice President's Notes – Gretchen C

What a fun "Soup"er Bowl Celebration we had this month. Members brought projects, finished or unfinished, from classes they had taken during this last year. Unbelievable! Our quilt guild members are all so talented!

The soups were delicious. Thanks to Judy H. for her yummy chicken and dumplings, Cindy C for her delicious vegetable soup. and the tasty taco soup from the Community Center.

Please check out the Program Calendar for 2025. Every month has something everyone should enjoy. **February 25th's** program will have Carol Clanton presenting, "The Importance of Quilt Labels".

Our **March 25th** meeting, Rona the Ribbiter will present a lecture titled "Adventures of the Traveling Quilter". Then the next day, Wednesday March 26th, she will offer a 6 hour workshop titled, "Perfect Points". She will teach her techniques for perfect pinwheels, perfect curves and perfect Y-seams. Her website is <https://ronatheribbiter.com> , Misadventures of the Traveling Quilter.

Membership – Marina G

There were 33 guild members in attendance at the January 2025 meeting. There was 1 guest, Ashland D. The winner of the name tag draw for January was Nancy S.

Publicity/PR – Tami McL

Several quilts are needed for May-July, to hang in the Clemson Extension Office Chamber of Commerce. Please contact Tami if you have some. Bring the quilts to the April guild meeting.

Community Service – Edith P, Pam J, Kay M

We have two opportunities to help people in our community this year. The first one is making quilts for Quilts of Valor. We are wanting to cover a National Guard unit that will be returning home in October. You can come to Dacusville Community Center every Friday to work together or come get fabric to complete the quilt at home. If you want to quilt it yourself you can also get fabric for the backing and batting. You may choose to complete just the quilt top and turn it in to be quilted at the center. If you turn in a quilt top, please stitch $\frac{1}{8}$ " around the edge for preventing stretching and edge seams splitting during the longarm process.

QOV size guidelines: (recommended size: 60x80)

Width – 55 – 65 inches

Length – 73 – 90 inches

The other project is quilts for Hands of Hope Pediatric Hospice through Agape Missions. Please wash either the fabric before making the quilt or the finished quilt and attach a piece of paper with the estimated time you spent on making the quilt. The quilts need to be no larger than a twin size. Lap quilts are fine. We also asked about the bibs and were told that they can use them in various sizes. The organization ministers to small babies through teens. The bibs will need to be washed and please attach the estimated time to make the bib. So far we've had 10 quilt donations for this organization!

Batting will be at the meetings for you to use if needed. The batting will be cut 45"x45".

You can take two pieces if you need batting for a larger quilt. You can also contact Kay M. if you need a specific size of batting cut and she will get it to you at the next guild meeting. Batting is also kept at the Hagood Community Center.

Tea & Sympathy – Stacey T

- Both of Beth E.'s surgeries went well, and she is recovering nicely at home
- Kris V. has gotten over the flu and is doing much better
- Carolyn G. is still recovering from a broken arm

Oconee/Pickens County QOV/ Sit-N-Sew – Beth E

**Those comforted as of
December 31, 2024:**

Last Month – 2,569

Year to Date – 38,029

Lifetime Total – 401,361

2024 has come and gone. May 2025 be a great year for all of us.

We awarded 2 Veterans with beautiful quilts in January. One of these Vets has been living in Florida with his daughter during his wife's illness and passing. We made a decision to mail this quilt to him. I included a typed letter with the presentation that would have been verbally expressed to him.

I would like to again thank all of the ladies in UQG who are working on quilts to help us accomplish the making of 83 quilts for the Easley National Guard.

Dacusville Community Center will be open for sewing every Friday of the month from 0900 to 1600 until we get caught up with quilts. Please bring your own lunch if you plan to stay all day. You may drop by and pick up material to sew at home. This is a great opportunity for all of us.

Other – Cheryl B

- Judy H. suggests watching "Sewing With Nancy: Beginning Landscape Quilting - Part 3" on YouTube, for those who are interested in ideas for their "My Hometown" 2025 quilt show challenge quilt. It can be found at <https://youtu.be/nTsb8TnUahI?si=3TzHndwtT1EXdTj>

- Judy's dumpling recipe will be available at the meeting! It was yummy and great on a cold night.
- Emma Jane, who presented a program to our guild and held a workshop last fall, recently sent the following note to the guild:

When I presented to your guild, I promised members free access to my online workshop Managing Unfinished Projects!

The workshop begins on Saturday, February 8th. It runs as weekly sessions over the month of February. It is my presentation broken down into steps, with bonus material on the recommended reading.

I hope your guild members will enjoy free access by using this code at checkout: **guildfreebie**

Here is the link to the course:

<https://dreamitquiltit.com/courses/>

Thanks so much for having me present this to your guild, I hope it has been inspirational to you all!

Happy quilting,
Emma Jane

- Two of our guild members have opened online shops. Check them out:

Janice H

- <https://www.etsy.com/shop/BlueDandelionGoods>
- <https://bluedandeliondesigns.com>

Gail S

- <https://www.etsy.com/shop/sunsetartisanquilts>

January Meeting – Show & Tell Photos



Gretchen C



Jean G



Rosemary G



Janice H



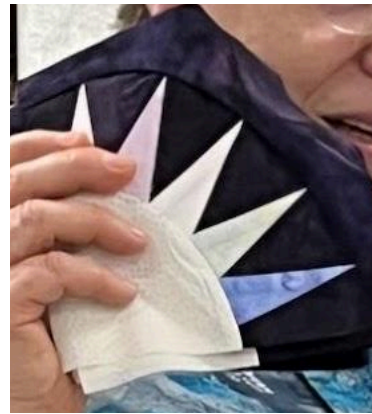
Carol C



Kay M



Nancy S



Donated to NC



Donated to NC

Cheryl B



Tasha & daughter (beautiful work on the puppy! Welcome to quilting)



Katie H



Linda C



Kay M



Judy H



Monique



Gail S



Marina G



Beth E (donated to the Pickens County Sheriff's department)



Judy H

Events – Cheryl B

February 2025 Events

2/4/2025 Wednesday Hand Quilting Group 9am - 11am

Location: Hagood Community Center, 129 Schoolhouse Street, Pickens

Small group meeting every Wednesday (February 5, 12, 19, 26) to hand quilt on a stationary frame. Current project: Full-size embroidered quilt by Debra Wardlaw. Anyone with an interest in hand quilting is welcome!

2/5/2025 Tuesday Sewing Bee 10am - 4pm

Location: Hagood Community Center, 129 Schoolhouse Street, Pickens

Sewing either by machine or a handwork project every Tuesday (February 4, 11, 18, 25). Members work on individual or charity projects as well as mini workshops on techniques or patterns as requested. Bring your lunch or enjoy a soup/bread meal at the Center for \$3.00 and join us for a fun-filled day of getting to know your fellow quilters!

*****Community service kits and materials available*****

2/7/2025 Friday Quilt of Valor 9am - 4pm

Location: Dacusville Community Center, 2671 Earls Bridge Road, Dacusville

QOV members meet **every Friday** of the month (February 7, 14, 21, 28). Members work on creating beautiful patriotic quilts for veterans of Pickens and Oconee counties. Bring your lunch! Currently working on creating 83 quilts by October 2025 for Easley Reserve Unit currently serving in Syria.

2/25/2025 Tuesday Upcountry Quilters Guild 7pm - 9pm

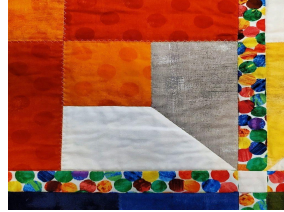
Location: Pickens Presbyterian Church, 311 W. Main St, Pickens

Program: The importance of putting a label on your quilt - Carol Clanton

Upcoming Upcountry Quilters Guild 2025 Programs

Rona the Ribbiter –

- Lecture Tuesday March 25th Tips for the Traveling Quilter
- Workshop Wednesday March 26th 9-4 - Perfect Points



Upcoming Quilt Shows & Events

Honey of a Quilt Show - Busy Bees Quilt Guild - Fountain Inn Activities Center

Friday March 7, 2025 noon - 5:00pm

Saturday March 8, 2025 10:00am - 5:00pm

Sunday March 9, 2025 11:00am - 4:00pm

Admission \$5.00

2025 Landrum Quilt Show - Landrum Quilters in partnership with the City of Landrum - The Cunningham Market Pavilion, 221 West Rutherford Street

Thursday March 13 at 10:00am - Saturday March 15th at 4:00pm

Admission \$6.00

Quilters of South Carolina annual Spring Meeting Saturday March 15th at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center; 1101 Lincoln St., Columbia, SC 29201
Workshops with Kelli Young on March 14th & 16th 9am - 4pm at the Cathy Novinger Girl Scouts Leadership Center.

UFO Challenge

Continue to work on UFO's!

AccuQuilt GO Cutter

The guild has an electronic cutter for guild members to rent at \$10 a week. It is a handy item that we often overlook - especially for people with hand or shoulder problems that make standard rotary cutting difficult. The guild also has a standard 12" cube that has a variety of different dies with instructions to make 12" blocks. Many members have other cutting dies for various projects as well.