



UpCountry Quilters Guild

Newsletter

August 2026



Next Meeting

Tuesday, September 1, 2026
From 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm
Dacusville Community Center
2671 Earls Bridge Rd
Easley, SC 29640

Marina Gill	5 th
Angela "Angie" Davis	6 th
Cindy Carter	7 th
Donna Anderson	8 th
Barbara Day	10 th
Kay McKinney	21 st
Pam Jones	22 nd
Shelby Anders	25 th



2026 Officers

President	Tami M ^c Laren
Vice President	Cheryl Budnaitis
Treasurer	Linda Cassell
Secretary	Donna Anderson
Newsletter Editor	Beth Eastman
Tea and Sympathy	Stacey Thompson
Show and Tell	Gretchen Conway
Membership	Marina Gill
Hospitality	Rosemary Goodall
Publicity/Public Relations	Tiffany Kelley
Co-Chair	Tami M ^c Laren
Community Service	Kay McKinney
Co-Chair	Edith Paige / Pam Jones
Special Events	Kris VanReken
Quilt Show Chair (2 Year)	OPEN
Website	Janice Hinson
Co-Chair	Beth Eastman
Presentation Quilt	Cheryl Budnaitis

President –Tami McLaren

At the picnic; now on September 1st and inside an air conditioned building, we will have a meeting along with show and tell.

The week before the picnic you'll receive an email with the meeting agenda for that night. Items can be added to the agenda by emailing me at mclarentam@gmail.com prior to September 1.

The guild board and committee members will be meeting prior to the picnic to discuss and make a recommendation to the guild members at the picnic - concerning the 2027 guild meeting location, start time, and possible weeknight change.

Marina brought up the quilt show timeline and suggested that positions and responsibilities at the show report to group chairs to reduce the work of the Show chair.

More about the group chair idea will be discussed at the September meeting and sign up for show positions and duties will be at the October meeting.

Vice President –Cheryl Budnaitis (Notes also)

Jean Gardiner gave us a very nice class in making an iron tote and Carol Clanton showed us how to make Rushed Roses in fabric. Jean has some extra marked silver fabric available if anyone would like to make a tote either for themselves or for the quilt show boutique. We added these Saturday sew days for members to get to know one another better as well as sew on some fun projects (or work on your own).

Upcoming programs: August 12th Handwork group will meet at the Pickens Hagood Community Center 1:30 - 3:30pm. Carol will demonstrate how to do Brordie Purse - should be fun and a possible way to do your 2027 challenge quilt! On September 9th, Carol will be demonstrating reverse applique.

September 1st (August meeting and picnic with YARD SALE!!!)

September Retreat will be 24th - 26th at Grace United Methodist Church. The class on Friday is called Let's Polka. Kris has collected over 200 fat quarters of stripes, circles and solid fabrics for you to use for class if you desire to try these techniques without buying additional fabrics.

October 27th Quilt Show 2027 kick-off party! The meeting will include quilt show discussion, game night and ice-cream!

November 14th (Saturday sew day at Grace UMC 10-2) Cathy C will show how to make a free motion quilted wreath using individual leaves - great project for fall or

Christmas as well as an easy introduction to free motion if you have not done it before. We will also be demonstrating some different forms of hand work - Kawandi, Sashiko and Boro type of stitches (think big stitch quilting!)

December 8th Christmas Party at Pickens Presbyterian Church 6 - 8 pm.

Membership – Marina Gill

10 people were in attendance for the workshop and Nancy Swanner won the name tag gift.

Community Service – Kay McKinney

We have 4 opportunities to serve our community this year.

- Warmth and Comfort for the Elderly (WCFE)

Items such as:

1. Wheel chair or lap quilts (36"-39" wide and 42"long)
2. Quilted hugs
3. Dignity bibs/scarves
4. Walker or wheelchair bags

- Children's quilts for the Pickens County Sheriff's Department (Infant to Teen size)
- Children's quilts for the local police department
- Premie blankets for still born babies (18" x 18" – 2 layers, no batting required) There is also a need for flannel blankets for babies in the NICU through Premies of the Carolinas if you would like to make these. They can be 22", 24" or 30".

Precut batting is available at the meetings. They are 45" x 45". Contact Kay McKinney if you need a different size of batting.

Show-N-Tell



Gretchen Conway
Baby Quilt



Cheryl Budnaitis
Carol Clanton's Flower Project



Cheryl Budnaitis
Emma Jane Powell Project



Nancy Swanner
Kids Cross Stitch Quilt



Nancy Skinner
Baby Quilt for Nephew



Tami McLaren
Red and Black Flannel Quilt

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

Those comforted as of
July 31, 2026:

Last Month – 3,018

Year to Date – 18,221

Lifetime Total – 454,200

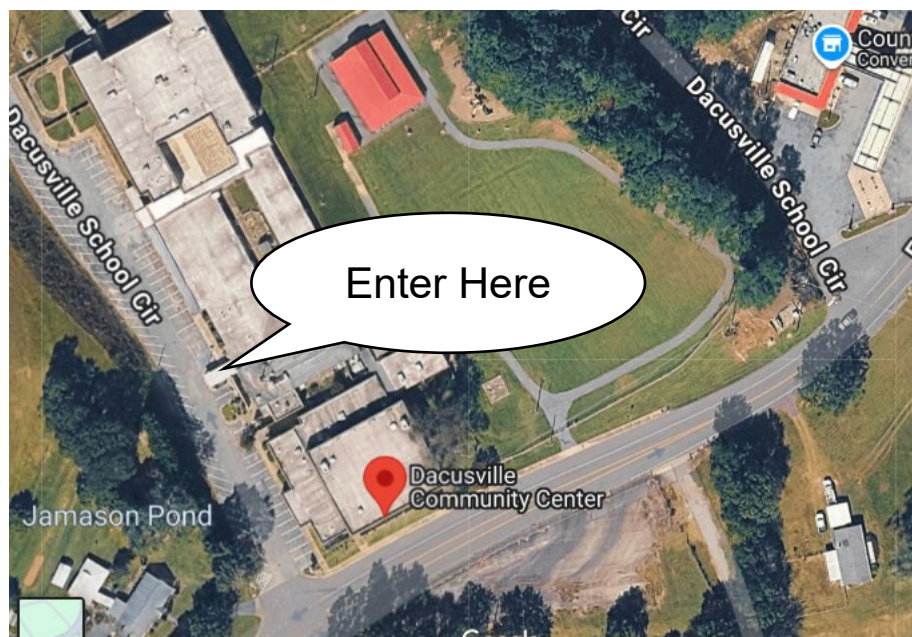
Christmas in July was held at the Dacusville Community Center on July 25th. Turnout was disappointing. I guess the rain kept people in their house. I will be bringing 2 tubs of fat quarters to the picnic to sell. Will be \$1 each and I'll accept check or cash. Money gathered will be divided between the sewing groups at DCC. Also, I want to thank Cathy Coster for helping me out.

Our next meetings is August 21 for QOV and August 28 for Sit-N-Sew. Bring your lunch and prepare yourself to have a good time and Sew, Eat, Talk, and Sew.

Upcoming Events –Kris VanReken

Upcountry Quilters Annual Picnic

Picnic will be held at the Dacusville Community pavilion on Tuesday, September 1st. You may arrive at 5:30 to set up. Supper will be served at 6:00 pm.





2026 Upcountry Quilters Guild Picnic Yard Sale SELLER REGISTRATION FORM

Each guild member that wants to sell items at the 2026 Guild Picnic Yard Sale needs to fill out and turn this form in to Janice Hinson. Advance registration is preferred, but you can also register at the event at the check-in desk during the set-up time.

Please print clearly.

1. Guild Member's Name: _____

2. Email: _____

3. Phone: _____

4. Briefly list the quilting related items you'll be selling:

5. I agree to the UQG Guild's 2026 Picnic Yard Sale Guidelines* (check one)

☐ Yes ☐ No

6. Payment Types Accepted: (checkmark the ones you'll accept)

☐ Cash ☐ Check ☐ Credit Card/Debit Card ☐ Venmo ☐ Cashapp

7. Guild Member Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

The following section of the form is for administrative use:

1. Guild Member's Name: _____

2. Yard Sale 20% donation amount: \$_____

UQG Guild's 2026 Picnic Yard Sale Guidelines*

- **GUILD YARD SALE TEAM:**

- Will receive, process and retain the Seller Registration Forms
- Upon Seller's check-in during the Yard Sale set up time, will assign each Seller to a specific location in the facility, and will provide Seller with a placard for them to hang on their table

- **GUILD MEMBER SELLER:**

- Will submit a completed Seller Registration Form prior to setting up their yard sale table(s) at the guild picnic
- Will supply own yard sale table(s) and chair(s), cash box, and quilted related items to sell
- Will use the yard sale location assigned to them by the Yard Sales Team
- Is responsible for setting up and taking down their sales table area during the specified times
- Is responsible for manning their yard sale table(s) during the yard sale shopping time
- Is responsible for collecting sales monies, and tracking the grand total amount of sales
- If using electronic payments, must provide and use own equipment and own internet connectivity (do not rely on it being provided by anyone else)
- Will use the Honor System to determine the sum that will be donated to the Guild and will ensure the donation is submitted to the Guild Treasurer (Linda Cassell) on or before the September 2026 guild meeting. (Note: Linda will collect money at the picnic and at the September guild meeting).

- **Notes:**

- *The donation amount should be 20% of the seller's gross sales.*
 - *Donations can be made either by check (written out to the Upcountry Quilters Guild, or by cash.)*

UQG Guild's 2026 Picnic/ Yard Sale Timeline (Tuesday, September 1, 2026)

Time	Event	Notes
5:15pm-6:00pm	• Yard Sale Seller check in • Yard sale seller space assignment • Yard sale seller space setup • Picnic setup	No yard sales during this time
6pm	Picnic and guild meeting	
After dinner is over	Yard Sale and games	
8pm	Picnic and yard sale break down time	No yard sales during this time

Upcountry Quilters 2026 Fall Retreat

Date: September 9/24 through 9/26

Location: Grace United Methodist Church
309 E Cedar Rock St.
Pickens, SC 29671

Schedule: Thursday 9/24 - 7 to 9 pm Lecture: Inspiration Trunk Show
(All members welcome to attend.)

Friday 9/25 - 9 am to 4 pm Workshop: Let's Polka (Limited to 25 participants)

Saturday 9/26 – 9 am to 4 pm Independent sewing (Choose your own project)

Meals: Light breakfast, coffee, lunch and afternoon snacks provided Friday and Saturday

Total Cost or workshop, pattern, and meals - \$58.

Questions? Contact Kris VanReken 864-518-9389

Let's Polka quilt pattern sample



(Sign-up sheet on last page of newsletter)



**2026 Sew-In
Sign-up Sheet**

Name _____
Phone _____
Email _____

Total \$58 (to be paid at time of registration)

Sign up due by August 25, 2026

Checks payable to Upcountry Quilters Guild

Paid Date _____

Check # _____ Cash _____

Additional comments, dietary restriction, etc. _____
