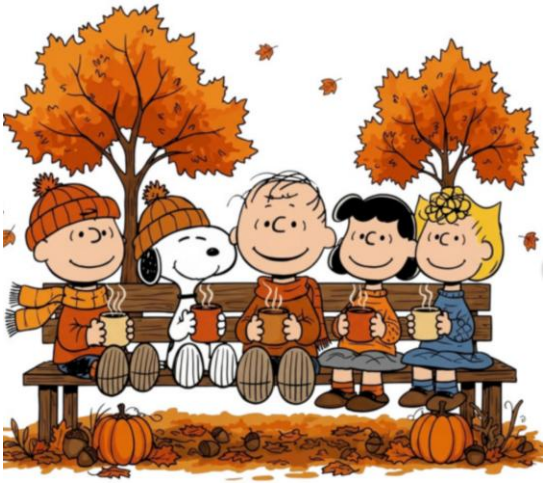
UpCountry Quilters Guild

Newsletter

November 2026



Next Meeting
Tuesday, December 8, 2026
From 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm
Pickens Presbyteran Church
311 W. Main ST.
Pickens, SC 29671

Rosemary Goodall	November 17
Peggy Edwards	December 1
Carol Kaufman	December 11
Brenda Sort	December 12
Edith Page	December 20
Jo Anne Gessell	December 25



2026 Officers	
President	Tami McLaren
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 McLaren
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

Vice President –Cheryl Budnaitis

I hope everyone enjoyed the ice cream sundaes! It was a fun, enjoyable meeting with lots of information. See the minutes section for more details. Janice is working with Cathy on the website to add a section for the new upcoming classes to be offered at the Pickens Hagood Community Center, watch for upcoming information as this develops!

2027 is going to be an exciting year for the quilt show - thank you Nancy for taking on the chair role. We will need lots of volunteers to help make it successful. More opportunities and information will be posted both in the newsletter and the website. Please consider adding your talents as a volunteer as well as making a quilt (or two or more!) for the show. My goal would be for every member to have a quilt in the show!

The 3rd annual Holiday Museum exhibit will run through December 2nd, 2026 to January 16, 2027. We are still accepting quilts for this display. This is a non-judged exhibit, just to bring joy to others at a beautiful, historic venue. Holiday quilts preferred but any quilt welcome. You can sign up on the website or email Cheryl to submit your quilt name and measurements through November 20th. We will be accepting quilts on Monday November 30th 1pm - 5pm (location TBD). There will be an open house reception on Saturday, December 5th 2pm - 4pm. Please invite friends and family to join us for the reception and see the beautiful display.

We will be voting on new officers in the December meeting. We still need a President or Vice President (I will be one or the other as needed), Secretary (Donna will continue if no other nominations), Membership, Hospitality and Special Events.

- President sets the agenda, with assistance from the board, runs the meeting, and approves the minutes/newsletter/budget.
- Vice President organizes programming for the next year (assist with 2027 and work on 2028) with assistance of the board and Special Events Coordinator. Watches for programs/instructors that would be interesting to the guild as well as planning sewing/social days.
- Membership Chair maintains the membership list, greets members and visitors and assists with dues collection.
- Hospitality Chair keeps the paper goods and box of supplies, brings to meetings/picnic when needed.
- Special Events Coordinator works with the Vice President on special programming such as the retreat and other complex programs.

Please submit nominations of the above position as soon as possible to Cheryl B. so we have a full slate of offices and chair people for December's election.

10/27/2026 Minutes – Donna Anderson

Meeting called to order by Cheryl Budnaitis.

Minutes of the September 2026 meeting were approved as distributed on the website.

Vice President Report: Winner for summer opportunity quilt was drawn. Winner will be notified by Cheryl.

Marina introduced Ereca from the Prym Dritz company. Ereca is local to the area and we have been collaborating with several events, beneficial to both her company and our guild. She and the Prym Dritz company have donated rulers and other sewing notions for our retreat and at the meeting tonight. We look forward to other collaborations in the future.

Nominations for 2017 officers and committee chairs was presented on a handout. Several positions are still without candidates: President, Treasurer, Hospitality, Publicity Co-chair, Community Co-chair, Special Events, and Quilt Show Co-chair. Cheryl reminded members that "Many of these members have been in these positions before so would be willing to mentor another member who would like to try these positions. Please feel free to add your name to any position (descriptions are in the bylaws on the website). Marina Gill will assist in another position if needed so Membership may be open. Donna Anderson will do Secretary but if anyone else would like this position, she will pass it on."

Treasurer's Report: None presented as Linda Cassell was not present.

Cathy Coster: presented the information for the Nov 14, 9a-2p Free Motion Class at Grace Methodist Church. Class involves making a wreath. Sign up sheet was available. Cathy requested participants NOT do any cut outs prior to class, just bring supplies. (Supply list will be the last page of the Newsletter). Kwandii demo will also be done that day. Bring your own lunch. Coffee will be available.

Cathy Coster provided information on sewing class opportunities at the Pickens Hagood Community Center starting January 2027. She is looking for instructors that would teach classes, available day on Thursday and Saturday (or working around existing events if needed). Swoopadaisies will provide a discount on supplies for students signed up for classes. They will also assist with advertising. Contact Cathy if you are interested in teaching (or taking) a class. Teachers will decide their own classes, fees for student, etc. The Board of Directors for Hagood Community Center will charge a rental fee for use of the facility and the teacher will be responsible to pay that fee. There will be 4-5 sewing machines available for students' use. Other machine donations are welcome.

Museum display of Christmas quilts sign up sheets are available on the website. Information is needed by November 18 (on-line or hard copy). These quilts must have a 4" hanging sleeve. Measurements of quilts documented on the entry form MUST BE CORRECT AS TO LENGTH AND WIDTH. Length is top to bottom measurement and width is left to right measurement. Quilts will be accepted at the Hagood Community Center on November 30 from 1-4 p.m. Keep an eye on our Facebook site for details.

There will be no meeting in November, but the Christmas party will be December 8 at Grace Methodist from 6-8 p.m. Members are asked to bring appetizers, potluck, cookies, treats, etc. to eat. Also, those wishing to exchange gifts are asked to bring a homemade or purchased fun or real gift with $20 limit. Game will be played in exchanging gifts.

Membership: 30 members present with 2 guests. Gretchen Conway was the winner of the name tag drawing. Marina reminded guild that dues are $35.00 and are due by December 8 get-together.

New guild business cards were available. Cards have a QR code that links to website.

Carol Clanton reminded members that the next Hand Work group would meet November 11 at the Hagood Center from 1:30-3:30 p.m. Also Carol will do a zoom call on November 12 on applique. Contact her for details.

Newsletter: Reminder that articles and reports for the newsletter be sent to Beth Eastman by the first day of the month so that she will have time to put it all together by the 8th of the month.

Website: Janice Hinton shared that she has made some changes to the menu bar. Also, she has added a page for the 2027 Quilt Guild Show. Calendar dates have been corrected. See full report in this newsletter.

Tea and Sympathy: Stacy Thompson has not been feeling well, Donna Anderson has been sick and took a fall, hitting her eye, Mary Pruitt will have surgery November 12 to have a kidney mass removed, Helene Campbell's husband has been diagnosed with liver and abdominal cancer. Please remember these members and their families in your thoughts and prayers.

Hospitality: No report

Public Relations: Tiffany Kelly stated that demonstrations at the Appalachian Festival was very successful.

Guild made $3,336 between raffle and boutique item sales. She stated that we need more Boutique items like bags, card playing discs, bowl cozies, and floor turtles.

Community Service: Kay McKinney reminded members that she has batting available. We also need new quilts to display for the Chamber of Commerce and Clemson Extension.

Website: Janice Hinson reported website had 3000 view, 1200 visitors, 4 requests for contact and some vendor interest for our quilt show.

Special Events: Kris VanReken reported that the recent retreat was a success. Members reported it was fun and that the goody bags were great. Extra polka dot fabric is available.

Quilt Show: Nancy Swanner, Quilt Show Chair, presented information regarding location of our 2027 Quilt Show. It will be at Bagwell Gym, which is part of the JB Owens complex in Easley. Set up will be October 7 and show will be October 8-9. It was decided that it will be a judged show. Carol Clanton will find a judge.

Vendors will have to pay a $20 permit fee. We still need a vendor coordinator. Marina has already sent out a “save the date” to previous years vendors. Cheryl Budnaitis is in charge of the layout of the show and the presentation quilt. A quilt pattern, “Flock Together” by Jason Yenter has been determined and fabric has been donated. This will be a group made quilt. Beth has volunteered to use the Brother Scan-n-Cut to cut out all the pieces for the quilt. There are thirty 12” blocks, a little applique required, machine blanket stitch. Individual kits for members to sew will be available December 8 at the party.

Show and Tell was done.

Meeting adjourned.

Membership – Marina Gill

There was a total of 30 members in attendance for October.

We also had 2 **visitors**.

Name tag winner: Gretchen Conway.

Marina reminded guild that dues are $35.00 and are due by December 8 get-together

Community Service – Kay McKinney

In September we received:

- 12 walker bags for Warmth and Comfort
- 8 lap quilts for Warmth and Comfort
- 12 dignity bibs for Warmth and Comfort
- 8 bereavement blankets
- 10 blankets for Preemies of Carolinas
- 1 quilt for Pickens County Sheriff's Department

In October we received:

- 1 quilt for Warmth and Comfort
- 1 walker bag for Warmth and Comfort
- 7 dignity bibs for Warmth and ComfortWe have 4 opportunities to serve our community this year.
- Warmth and Comfort for the Elderly (WCFE)

We have 4 opportunities to serve our community this year.

- Warmth and Comfort for the Elderly (WCFE)

  Items such as:

  1. Wheelchair 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)
- Preemies of the Carolina- They can use flannel blankets size 20" x 20" up to 34" x 34". All donations to them need to be washed. Because flannel shrinks, it is best to wash the flannel before making the blankets.
- Bereavement blankets for still born babies. These need to be 18" x 18". (At the time they have a good supply of these blankets.)

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

2027 Quilt Show News – Nancy Swanner

Thank you to all members who have committed to be a leader for our show next year! Below is the stats for the quilt show so far and I think we have made a great effort to have everything covered. There are a few places that need a leader still and I am hopeful someone will be able to step into these roles. Let me know if you have any questions? I do have several people who have also signed up for general volunteering and when we get to sign up time for specific day/events you'll be able to sign up then.

Location: Larry Bagwell Gym (on property of JB Red Owens Complex) 111 Walkers Way, Easley 29642

October 7th – set up day

October 8-9th show open days 10-4pm

- Quilt Show Chair – Nancy Swanner
  - Financial – Treasurer/ Nancy Swanner & Beth Eastman (square/Venmo)
  - Judge – Carol Clanton
  - Publicity/Marketing – Jakki Wiseman & Monique Damiano
  - Vendors – Katie Holder & Marina Gill
  - Venue – Nancy Swanner
  - Quilt Intake and Distribution Process includes (CHAIRED BY Marina Gill)
    - Quilt Intake Online form Application – Janice Hinson
    - Volunteers to take home and bring back quilts for judging
    - Quilt Show Brochures – Jakki & Monique
    - Quilt Show Placards – Jakki & Monique
    - Ribbons – Janice
    - Judging Day in September – will need volunteers (10+) and someone to organize food for that day
  - Quilt Show Setup and Break Down (CHAIRED BY Cheryl Budnaitis)
    - Memorial Quilt Display
    - Pipe & Drape – Linda Cassell
    - Show Set Up Day (Thursday Oct 7th)
    - Show Break Down (Saturday Oct 9th)
    - Quilt Hanging Materials – Cathy Coster
  - Presentation Quilt - Cheryl
    - Presentation Quilt ticket Sales – volunteers to man booth Fri & Sat of show
  - Merchandise
    - Boutique - Gretchen
    - Fat Quarter Basket – we already have baskets and FQ, just need someone to put together and man ticket sales.
    - Second Time Around
    - Reception – Jean Gardner
    - Float staff – Beth Eastman (to help give breaks and general help during show).

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

Those comforted as of October 31, 2026:

Last Month – 2697

Year to Date – 27,150

Lifetime Total – 463,129

It has been a busy month for QOV presentations. I presented 8 veterans with QOVs and Pam and Rick presented

Sewing continues and look forward to seeing you all.

I have moved the date for Sit-n-Sew. I will not be in town as I will be helping my daughter-n-law cook her first turkey. I have moved Sit-n-Sew to November 13th in case you want to sew or pick up material.

Sit-n-Sew	November 13th	1000 to 1600
QOV Sewing	November 20th	1000 to 1600

Bring your own lunch.

Show-N-Tell



Beth Jacobs
Bees and Blooms



Beth Jacobs
Deco Quilt



Beth Jacobs
Poinsette Quilt



Beth Jacobs
Spinning to Blue Quilt





Cathy Coster
Community Service Quilts



Cathy Coster
Crossover Bag



Cathy Coster
OBW Hummingbird Quilt



Gail Sexton
Quilted Jacket



Gail Sexton
Scrappy Flower Garden Quilt



Gretchen Conway
Circle Quilt



Gretchen Conway
Clemson Quilt



Gretchen Conway
Sampler Quilt



Jae Smith
Exploding Star Quilt



Janice Henson
Polka Work Shop Quilt



Janice Henson
Christmas Wall Hanging



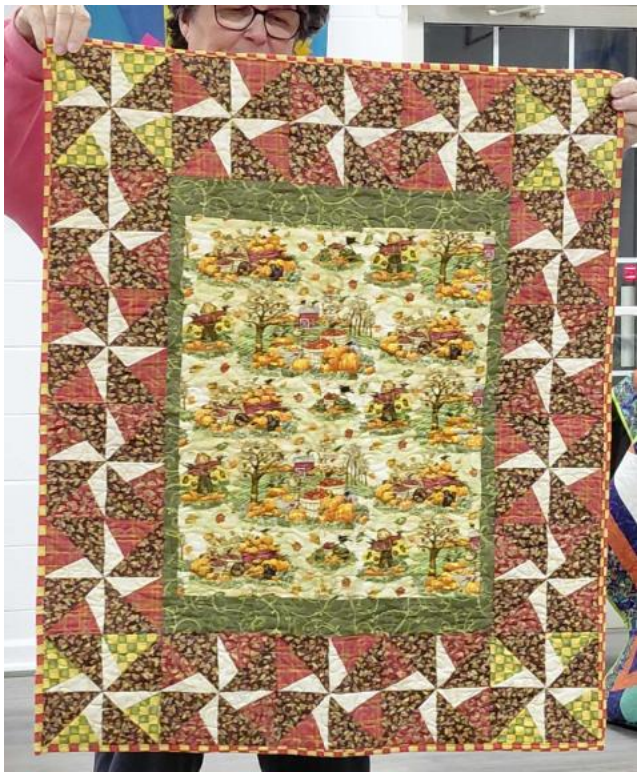
Joyce Thompson
Covid Quilt



Joyce Thompson
Halloween Quilt



Joyce Thompson
Hodgepodge Patchwork Quilt



Joyce Thompson
Small Halloween Quilt





Katie Holder
Wall Quilts



Katie Holder
Starburst Quilt



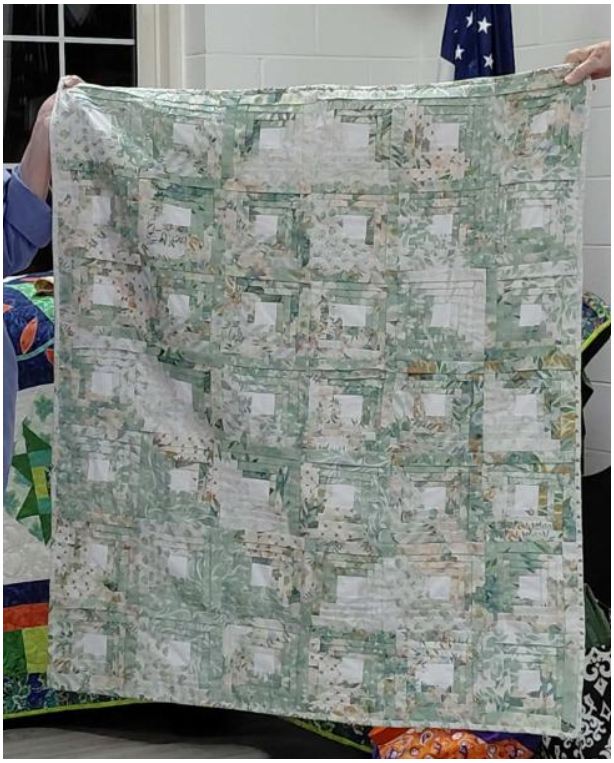
Nancy Swanner
Boo Table Runner



Nancy Swanner
Mystery Table Runner



Nancy Swanner
Pumpkin Table Runner



Pam Hunt
Manx Quilt (Handsewn)



Robin McCarthy
Nordic Star





Peggy Edwards
Rag Quilt (Front & Back)



Toby Mercer
Bluebird Panel Quilt



Free Motion Holly Wreath

Supplies for a 16” wreath

8 pieces of dark green felt. 9”x12” 1 pieces of red
felt. 9”x12”

2- 9x12” pieces of red fabric for the berries

8- 9”x12” pieces of medium to dark greens for the leaves
8- 9”x12” pieces of green backing fabric. These will not be seen. 1 FQ of desired bow material and matching thread.

9” x 21” piece of batting Red and green
thread Marking pen

Template material. Plastic or card stock. Glue stick

Fabric marking pen

Free motion/ darning foot for your machine and walking foot Glue gun. (We will have a few to borrow.)

Sharp scissors to cut out shapes.

Cathy will have the templetes available before the class