

TCQG News

Serving Northwest Harris, Montgomery & Waller Counties, Texas

Volume 21 Issue 2

February 2025

From The President's Stash

Happy February!

With Valentine's Day coming up, they say "Love is in the Air". Is anyone making a "Love" themed quilt? Bring a Valentine's Day related quilt or project for February's Show and Tell if you have one.

Next week, I'll get busy on some projects that have sat so patiently while I started and completed other projects. I'm committed to getting these projects finished before our show in February 2026! How about you? Have you set some sewing/quilting goals for this year? It's time to get working on them! The 2026 show will be here before we know it. Other guilds are gearing up for their quilt shows, and I hope you go and support their efforts. If you go to another guild's show, wear you TCQG logo t-shirt to let them know we're there for them. There's information on upcoming shows in our newsletter.

On another note, we have so many opportunities to contribute to our guild and the charity work we're involved in. We still need another quilt show co-chair and a few committee chairs for the show. Please consider helping with the show. Many hands make light work. If you're not sure you up to a bigger role, just let Becky Burkett or Donna Vandiver, 2026 Quilt Show Co-Chairs, know that you'd like to help, and they'll find a way for you to get involved. This is a great group of quilters, and the more you get involved, the more fun you have!

For February's meeting wear your quilted jacket if you've made one! We'd love to see who all has been bitten by the quilted jacket bug! Happy sewing!

Elaine Bullard

Meetings begin promptly at 7pm, so we can adjourn on time. The front doors will be closed at 6:55, and the members will be asked to take their seats. This will allow the various committee heads & board members to get into the meeting on time. Come early so you have time to sign in, check out any raffles or upcoming workshops, visit the magazines, etc.

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February Block of the Month



Meetings

Fairfield Baptist Church
27240 Highway 290
Cypress, Texas
On 290 westbound
between
Mueschke and Mason Road.
Ist Tuesday of the month,
7pm-9pm
tricountyguild@gmail.com



Welcome to all Members!!

Many of you put in volunteer hours each month but cannot always make a guild meeting; just email me at the guild's email address {tricountyguild@gmail.com} and let me know your hours so I can include those in our monthly report. Also, please...when signing in for the guild meeting, give yourself two (2) hours credit for participation plus any volunteer hours you have accumulated.

- Jaine Jewell, Membership Chair



Happy Birthday to These Members!

Cleo Luellen - 1st
Julie Vaugn - 4th
Bobbi Miller - 4th
Laura Hart - 6th
Barbara Craven - 7th
Mindy Boyd - 8th
Lucy Kowis - 10th
Lynn Loyd - 13th

Karen Potter - 13th
Judy Cryer - 13th
Mary Laskowski - 14th
Vicky Brown - 14th
Sue Walker - 15th
Jeanne Brown - 16th
Kayleigh Mossop - 17th
Sarah Irwin - 18th

Sophia Reyna - 18th Lynn Kirchner - 21st Marty Lockard - 25th Mary Martinez - 26th Valerie Jolly - 29th Susan Tillman - 29th

Welcome to our newest members!

Cindy Ball and Lidia Martinez



Congratulations to one of our members, Lynn Kirchner, who won the Christmas farrow quilt from the Coastal Prairie Quilt Guild of Texas!



January Show and Tell



















January Show and Tell















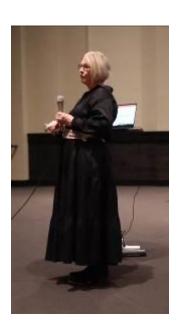


January Show and Tell











SCAMMERS ARE EVERYWHERE!!!

There's a new way scammers are attacking us. QR Codes are being deployed that direct you to a malicious web site under the control of the spammer.

Why is this important?

QR Codes have become a universal way to get to a specific web site. There have been many legitimate uses for these over the last five years or so, and we're now used to using them without thinking about them. That is no longer a safe behavior.

Don't trust QR Codes from: Random Email; Text Messages; Social Media; Poster; Flyers; Strange Packages on your doorstep; Stickers on the outside of legitimate packages or mail; From UNKNOWN email sender; ...

Some QR Code scanners (on your phone) will show you the URL you're being directed to. Look at the URL very, very carefully making sure there are no spelling errors or oddities in the URL. If so, don't go there.

If you end up on a website, don't supply login, passwords, or personal information **NO MATTER HOW LEGITIMATE THE SITE LOOKS.**

Bottom line: Know the source of the QR Code and be suspicious of everything.

Also, scammers are spoofing phone numbers and will pretend to be an employee of a company you use. Don't give them any information. Tell them, you'll call the company directly and DON'T use any number they provide. Look up the company number in some other way. Back of debit/credit cards contain contact numbers if it's a bank or credit card company. Use the official website for the company to get a contact number. As always, be suspicious of everything.

END PSA.

Thanks,

Karl



REMINDER: The **January block** was the **String Block** made with your own scraps.

I will be collecting these at the meeting on February 4th.



As long as we receive enough to complete a top for a charity quilt, the blocks will be sorted into two piles - one for a charity quilt and one for a lucky guild member. For every 2 blocks that you turn in, you will receive a raffle ticket. At the end of the meeting, I will draw a ticket, and the winners



can choose to take half of the blocks to make their own quilt if they'd like.

A baby/wheelchair quilt needs between 20 and 24 string blocks. For a throw sized string quilt, 42 blocks.

February Block of the Month

February's Block is the **Simple 16**, also known as the **St. Louis** block. We will be using 10" squares from yardage, but you could also use layer cakes for a fun, scrappy twist.

There will be 12 kits available at the meeting on February 4th if you'd like to help make one of the charity quilts.

Any additional blocks brought to the March meeting will be included in the bundle for the raffle winner at the meeting. If you would like to make some blocks from your stash, please use green and brown like the example/kit, or a low volume and either brown, green, or blue.

Stitch these up and bring them to the March meeting on **Tuesday, March 4th**. I can't wait to see what you all create!

See instructions on the next page ⇒



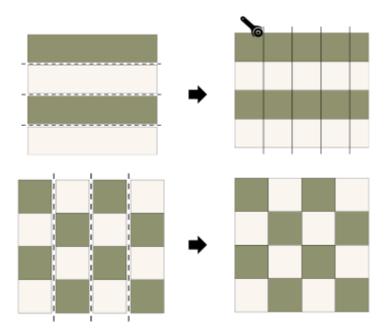
February Block of the Month

What you'll need:

2 - 10" squares of contrasting fabric

Steps:

- Place squares RST, cut into 4 2 1/2" strips
- Stitch a 1/4" seam along the right side of each strip set
- Place 2 strip sets RST and stitch a 1/4" seam along the long side, press all seams the same direction.
- Cut each of these units into 4 2 1/2" strips
- Lay out the units in sets of 4. Rotate 2 of these units upside down to create a 16 patch (this should create nested seams)
- Using a SCANT $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam, sew the strips together to create 2 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ " square blocks pressing these seams open will help keep the block true to size, as well as using the scant $\frac{1}{4}$ ". You should not need to trim the block.



If you have any questions, email me at news4tcqg@gmail.com

Image from haileystitches.com

Speakers and Workshops and Fun Stuff!



We still have spots available for the below workshops.

If anyone would like to sign up please contact Nathan Brown at njbrownservices@gmail.com or text/call (346) 672-0736.

Annie McHuggs - picture window reverse appliqué large Dresden plate quilt at Bobbins and Threads on 2/5/25 - 7 spots left

Dianna Martinez - stack n whack at the Quilty Shop on 3/5/25 - 6 spots left

Debbie Walters - designing with strips and curves, lines and curves - Drunkards Path at the Quilty Shop on 4/2/25 - 8 spots left

Also, If you have signed up for Anna Maria Horner, please make sure you have 1/2 of your payment in by the April 1st Guild meeting. You can contact me anytime to make a payment via square. The final payment is due by the June Guild meeting so please take note and make preparation accordingly.

If you took the Michele Markey class in October 2025, please bring your finished bags to the March Guild Meeting so we can take a group picture and tag Michele Markey from our Guild FB and Instagram pages.

February 5th Workshop: Picture Window Reverse Applique Large Dresden Plate Quilt (Bobbins and Threads \$35)

A wonderful class for everyone who wants to learn to use the Picture Window Reverse Applique Method! A 22" picture window Dresden plate will be completed. Participants will bring supplies (fabric for blades, fabrics to fussy cut, and a background).

March 5th Workshop: Stack and Whack, NOT a One Block Wonder (The Quilty Shop \$35)

April 2nd Workshop: Designing with Strips and Curves (The Quilty Shop) This workshop introduces quilters to the Basic Set cutting templates and the Drunkard's Path block with its many (MANY!) variations.



2025 is our guild's 20th anniversary; let's celebrate!



It's a New Year, and Tri-County Quit Guild is celebrating its 20th Anniversary! So, what's more fitting than "Celebration 20" as our theme for our next show! The 2026 raffle quilt was unveiled at the Holiday Bash in December and will be taken to local guilds and shops starting in February. Raffle tickets will be available for purchase soon.

Start thinking about your entries for the 2026 show. The categories and rules will be on the website soon. Our challenge categories for this show are "Let's Party!" and "What's Up With the Weather?"

There are many volunteer opportunities throughout the year for you to help make this a great quilt show. Share your skills and knowledge, make new friends and support the guild by volunteering. One critical need the Quilt Show has is we need someone who is very comfortable with technology, specifically Square (Point-of-Sale system). While Donna and I are familiar with it, we are not experts and would really appreciate the help of someone who is. Please contact one of us if you can help us out.

We are looking forward to a fun and busy year! Let's make this the best show ever!

Quilt Show Chairs, Becky Burkett and Donna Vandiver

Tin Can Raffle – if you have any donations, please give them to Bev Volker or Mary Ellen Adkison. If you can't find them, you can leave them in the door prize area at the meetings, and they will be given to Bev or Mary Ellen.

Treasure Isle - if you have any donations, please give them to Sharon Castillo.



BOUTIQUE NEWS

The Boutique Committee is responsible for making gift items to sell at the Boutique Gift Shop booth during our Guild Quilt Show. Like elves behind the scenes, we are currently at work preparing for the 2026 Quilt Show. We gather together for specific project workshops on the third Wednesday of each month at Bobbins and Threads Quilt Store. All members are invited to join our merry-making team of volunteers. This year several of our creative and very generous members and bees have been creating and donating beautiful items that appeal to quilters, travelers, cooks, and children.

A LOOK AHEAD:

February - the cutest pie pincushions ever led by Donna Vandiver, We are making small square pin cushions with special embroidery by Shelly

March - the famous Show and Tell bags led by Debbie Dodge. There are several steps in accomplishing the very popular bags. We have received at least 10 complete supply kits for the Show and Tell bags. If you would like to participate, please contact Diana Moore, 281.435.7144, or Elaine Bullard, 918.808.2667.

April - Laurie Loasby will be leading us in a fun, scrappy binding sewing project. We will be making bunding yardage in throw, twin, queen, and king sizes and rolling them up to be sold at the 2026 Quilt Show.

If you're unable to attend our Boutique Sewing Days, we will have kits with instructions available in the lobby before each regular meeting. You can take a kit or two home to complete and return when finished. We also are interested in any projects you create on your own!

- Diana Moore and Elaine Bullard



Matching up sides correctly when sewing triangles was always a problem for me until a workshop teacher told us to leave our "dog ears" on to help match the sides correctly. I didn't understand what she was referring to until it was time to start sewing triangles together. Then I knew what she was referring to and that tip has made a huge difference.

You can see the dog ears sticking out in several places on the half-hexies. Now I need to attach the two half-hexies along an angled side.

need to ngled

I've matched the dog ears on one end.

Here's the other end and you can see that with the points matched up, a "v" is at 1/4". Perfect for our seam.



Sew the I/4" seam from the top "v" to the bottom "v". Press your seam allowance open and admire how your two units line up perfectly!



Happy sewing! Elaine





Tri-County's Fabulous Bees



Remember: you must be a paid member to participate in our Bees.



Our Bees create a strong sense of a quilting community within the guild. Consider becoming a Beekeeper! Organize your bee, find a location, contact the Queen Bee Chair to let her know, and go from there!

Charla Reese, Queen Bee, charla 361@yahoo.com



BEE Czars: Meets the 4th Saturday of the month at The Quilty Shop. We choose projects as a group or work on our UFO's. We plan on two retreats a year. If you are interested in joining this be please call to be put on a waiting list.

Bee Keepers: Ann Keilers 832-515-1081 or Marian Page 281-797-3014.



Day Strippers: Daystrippers is the only bee that has been with TCQG since its beginning. It meets at Cypress Crossing Christian Church on the second Friday of each month from 10 - 2. They work on personal projects and occasionally go on retreats and to quilt shows together. There are currently no openings in this bee. However, you can contact the beekeeper to be put on a waiting list. New members have been moving in through the list!

Bee Keeper: Judy Klevorn Jkklevorn@gmail.com



Quilty Pleasures Meets on the second and fourth Monday from 1:30-4:30 at The Quilty Shop. We mostly work on individual projects with an occasional group project. Our Bee is currently closed to new members but contact either of the CoBee Keepers to be added to a waiting list. Bee Keepers: Deb Durr dpdurr @yahoo.com and Anita Arendall



Quilter's Dozen: Meets the 4th Thursdays at The Quilty Shop from 10-4:30. We have great times together! This bee has openings.

Bee Keeper: Charmaine Fritchey cfritchey@gmail.com



Grateful Threads: Formerly "We Be Quilters". We have changed our meeting time to the THIRD THURSDAY -once a month- at the Quilty Shop in Tomball from 10:00 am to 4:30 pm. Now a full day!! We are a "sassy" group of Quilters who meet to sew whatever you are working on, a long lost "UFO", hand work, etc. Come to share tips, get ideas, and socialize. Come when you can, no experience necessary. Contact Bee Keeper, Stacy Chandler, to be included in our great group. An email is sent out prior to the Bee to remind you to RSVP. Come and have a great sewing day with us in a beautiful quilting shop.

Bee Keeper, Stacy Chandler stacey1622003@yahoo.com

Quirky Quilters: This bee is for those quilters who want to push the boundaries of traditional quilting by exploring textile art. This may include, but not limited to, collage, fabric painting, mixed media, free motion quilting, slow stitching, raw edge applique, pixeled blocks, foundation paper piecing, and thread painting. The purpose is to share ideas and techniques, encourage creativity, and seek feedback in a safe environment. We will work on our own projects, possibly invite guest speakers, and learn from one another. If this sounds like fun, give this bee a try. Quirky Quilters meets at The Quilty Shop on the third Thursday of each month from 5-9pm. This bee is currently full. To be put on the wait list, contact Regina Eardley, Beekeeper, at Regina.Eardley@gmail.com.





Charity Bee: Meets at Cypress Crossing Christian Church on the 4th Wednesday of each Month from 9:30-2:00. I 575 I Cypress Rosehill Rd, Cypress, TX 77429. Charity Bee needs new members and volunteers. We are growing and we need help in getting our project needs fulfilled. The activities we perform are not difficult; just very busy. We will help you learn everything you need to know.

Any questions, please call Sharon Castillo (713)828-0861.

CHARITY BEE



TCQG and Charity Bee support the following 6 charities:



Nora's Home- a resource for transplant recipients and their caregiver by providing a place to stay while they are receiving treatment and monitoring in the

Texas Medical Center. The patients receive a lap quilt on their first check-in to the facility. The majority of the clients are MEN, and we always need more men's quilts!!

Be An Angel – their goal is to improve the quality of BE AN ANGEL life for special needs children by providing equipment, respite care, hearing aids and other devices. We donate to their camp program which has 4 camps each year. They like to get the drawstring bags, pillowcases and quilts, both regular and wheelchair quilts.



Two Lives Changed- a program offering young mothers support and encouragement from pregnancy to birth and after. We provide a baby quilt for each baby who comes into the program.

Kenmar is a program that offers residential services to persons with developmental disabilities. We make sure every resident has a quilt and a filled Christmas stocking. We give the clients a quilt when they come into the program, and we do



replace quilts that have been loved to death. Kenmar residents will receive a lap quilt or a wheelchair quilt, whichever is most appropriate for the client.

Helping Hands works with the homeless and struggling families. Our drawstring bags are used in their pantry distribution program. We also give them Christmas stockings which they fill.



Boys and Girls Country is a licensed residential program for children in crisis. Their goal is for every child to have a place to grow up and a sense of being home . We give them quilts for boys (another group does quilts for girls), Christmas stockings as needed and stocking stuffing items.

CHARITY BEE



According to our records, as a guild, we completed 393 quilts this year. Plus we had some remaining from 2022 and 2023 that had not been quilted. Jennifer Cutler took on this task to get us caught up. She quilted 231 quilts for the guild in 2024. Let's hear it for Jennifer!!!

In 2024 we distributed 287 lap quilts, 35 wheelchair quilts, 58 baby quilts and 147 pillow-cases and maybe a few more. Then, we also donated a whole lot of drawstring bags and Christmas stockings.

Please note that we give lap quilts, not bed quilts. A large number of our recipients are adult men who sometimes need a lap quilt that is longer than traditionally made. Also consider that many men would prefer to have a quilt that is not pinks with flowers. A huge thank you to the guild members who came to Charity Bee to work, to those who came by to drop off or pick up items for Charity Bee, and to those of you who donated money or goods for stocking stuffers. Thank you for participating!

And to the many of you who come to the guild meetings and come up here to the Charity Bee corner and pick up and/or return kits for making quilts, quilts to quilt or bind, to turn in quilt top, pillowcases, bags, Christmas stockings, fabric donations, and more - Thank you!

Now, what does Charity Bee need for 2025? More of you attending Charity Bee!

We need a couple of people to help cut backing and batting. We need someone to help log quilts in and out. We need more people to come to make quilt top kits, sew bags and Christmas stockings, to work on quilt tops, to piece together backing fabrics, to make and sew on labels for our quilts. We also need you to come help us set up for bee and then stay to help clean up at the end of our time. We also need you to be willing to help in any and all areas although we will try to give you tasks you enjoy. Many hands make light work, especially when we are putting those 8 foot tables back in the storage area! Charity Bee's meets the 4th Wednesday (NOT the last Wednesday) of the month, except for November and December. We start at 9:30 and end at 2. Bring your lunch, your tools, maybe your sewing machine and a task light. Talk to Sharon, Eileen, Mary, Janet, Ida, Mindy or Jean if you have questions. We'd love to have you join us! It's a great way to get involved in the guild and to get acquainted with some of the members.



Texas Quilt Museum

140 W Colorado Street, La Grange, Texas 78945

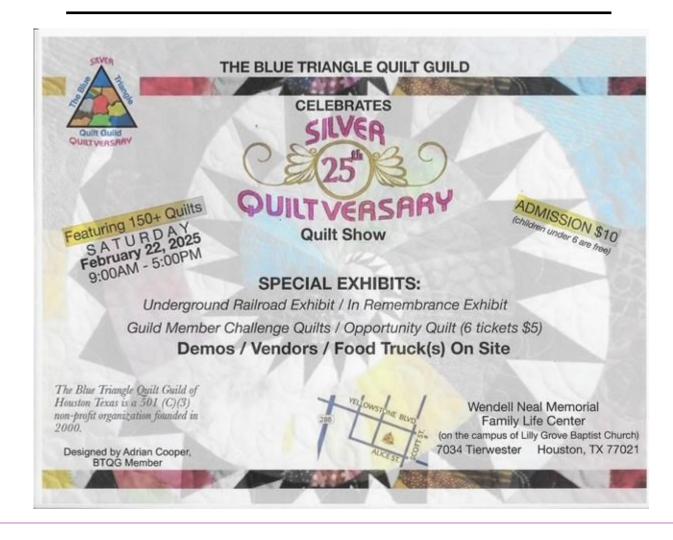


"Red, White and Blue Quilts from International Quilt Festival's 50th Anniversary," "International Quilt Festival 2024 Judged Show Prizewinners," and "Libby Lehman: The Art of Quilting."

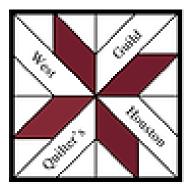
The exhibits will open on January 9 and run through April 26.











West Houston Quilter's Guild Springtime in Texas

February 28 and March 1, 2025 Berry Center 8877 Barker Cypress Rd., Cypress, Texas 77433



The Public Library has TONS of your favorite quilting magazines, totally FREE on your phone or tablet?? If you have a library card, you can use the Libby app to check out any of the magazines you want. Find some new quilt patterns, read tips from your favorite quilters, all without having to buy a subscription.



It's Hip To Be Square - An Adult Quilting Demo for Beginners

Wednesday, February 5, 2025 from 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM

Fairbanks Branch Library 7122 Gessner Road Houston TX 77040 Phone: (832) 927-7890

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Have you always looked at Grandma's quilts and wondered if you could ever make one? Join us for this demonstration of quilting basics taught by an experienced quilter. She'll show you the basics and what you'll need to know to get started! Call Fairbanks Library to register. Space is limited.

Let's Go Shopping!



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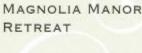
www.quilterscabin.com

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