



# TCQG News

Serving Northwest Harris,  
Montgomery & Waller  
Counties in Texas

Volume 21 Issue 12  
December 2025

## From The President's Stash

It's hard to believe, but December is upon us! It's time to get our Quilt Show entries submitted, finish our holiday sewing, buy gifts, and decorate for the holidays. At least it's not a long list of things to do!

There will be more information elsewhere in this newsletter, but the deadline for submitting a quilt or project is December 2 at the Holiday Bash. Your entry does not have to be completed by December 2. Look elsewhere in the newsletter to find the requirements for what needs to be done by December 2.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who helps make Tri-County Quilt Guild such a smooth-running organization where everyone works together for the benefit of our members and communities. If you're not sure who these dedicated leaders are, please go to the last page of the newsletter to see a list of everyone who takes a leadership role in the guild. Then there are many who serve on committees and finally those who jump in willingly to help with a specific need when asked. I hope you realize how important your contribution is!

(continued on Page 2)

Meetings begin promptly at 7p.m, 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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### Meetings

Fairfield Baptist Church  
27240 Highway 290  
Cypress, Texas  
On 290 westbound  
between  
Mueschke and Mason Road.  
1st Tuesday of the month,  
7pm-9pm  
[tricityguild@gmail.com](mailto:tricityguild@gmail.com)



If you're wondering about all the fun you've missed by not getting involved, please call me and let's see how we can remedy that. Come join the fun!

Nominations for Officers will be accepted until we're ready to hold our annual election during the business portion of the Holiday Bash, December 2, 2025.

I hope to see you at the Bash. There will be something new to do that night, so come check it out!

Happy Holidays and Happy Sewing!

Elaine Bullard

Elainebullard53@yahoo.com | 918-808-2667

### **PSA from Karl**

**GREAT SITE FOR SCAM PREVENTION INFORMATION:**

[https://www.chase.com/digital/resources/privacy-security/security/how-to-spot-scams/card-holiday-scams?jp\\_cmp=cc/XPI10911/ema/CFXQ4SEC\\_1025\\_v1\\_CARD/Body\\_Textlink\\_1](https://www.chase.com/digital/resources/privacy-security/security/how-to-spot-scams/card-holiday-scams?jp_cmp=cc/XPI10911/ema/CFXQ4SEC_1025_v1_CARD/Body_Textlink_1)

Chase Bank has provided a great starting place for dealing with this Holiday's spate of fraud and scams.

As always, Beware and ever vigilant.



## Annual Meeting Notice 2026 Officer Nominations

It is almost time for our Annual Meeting and Holiday Bash scheduled for December 2<sup>nd</sup> at Fairfield Baptist Church. As always, we will elect executive officers for the coming year and celebrate the season with laughter, fun, and fellowship.



The committee is proposing the following slate of officers for 2026. Any changes that occur will be announced at the Annual Meeting.

**President**

Elaine Bullard

**Vice President for Administration\***

Rhonda Van Alstine

Debbie Zaharis

**Vice President for Financial Oversight**

Donna Vandiver

**Secretary**

Robin Galvin

**Membership Chair**

Jaine Jewell

**Junior Program Chair\***

Kristie Boston

*\*indicates an open position*

Get ready to cast your vote and meet our executive officers at the Annual Meeting in December.

Sincerely,

Tri-County Quilt Guild Election Committee

Stephanie Moss, Rhonda Van Alstine, and Madison Horinek





**A huge THANK YOU to the 200+ members who have already renewed their membership for 25-26!**

Membership will have a table set up at the Holiday Bash for those still needing to pay by cash or check to renew their membership for 2025-2026.

Please make sure to enter all of your information on the membership page of [TriCountyQuiltGuild.org](http://TriCountyQuiltGuild.org) PRIOR to the meeting.

Online credit card payments for membership renewal are fast and preferred!

If you have any questions or concerns, reach out to me at  
[TriCountyGuild@gmail.com](mailto:TriCountyGuild@gmail.com)

Jaine Jewell    Membership 25-26



## Happy Birthday to These Members!

Barbara Pavlas - 1  
Kathy Grimberg - 3  
Debbie Hunter - 4  
Joynell Jones - 5  
Carol Maloney - 6  
Sheila Evans - 6  
Kathy Stoddard - 8  
Joni Weir - 8

Lucy Supler - 10  
Janice Brubaker - 11  
Mary Lynn Kimzey - 12  
Bridgette Woods - 12  
Roxanne Granat - 13  
Judy Klevorn - 14  
Carol Westbrook - 15  
Janice Toler - 19

Pamela Hastings - 22  
Betsy Andjelich - 24  
Denise Hardcastle - 26  
Diana Gilbreath - 27  
Jackie Lindsay - 29  
Kathy Hutt - 30

# welcome

## Welcome to our newest members!

Antionette Anderson  
Kathy Grimberg  
Nina Blair  
Lauren Salinas

Trish Schultz  
Karen Dogay  
Sharon Jones  
Heather Haley

Virginia Hyman  
Pamela Woolsey  
Peg Thomas





## November Show and Tell







## November Show and Tell







## November Show and Tell







## November Show and Tell

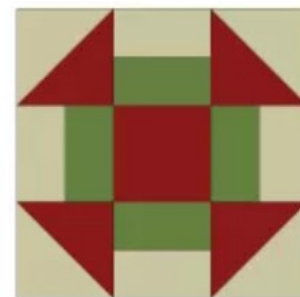






**REMINDER:** The **November block** was the **Churn Dash block**.

I will be collecting these at Holiday Bash.



For every 2 blocks you bring, you will receive a raffle ticket for a BOM door prize!

## December Block of the Month

**December's Block** is this free pattern from Cuddle Cat Quiltworks of a Christmas Tree Block. Here's the free tutorial:

<https://cuddlecattquiltworks.com/blogs/tutorials/christmas-tree-quilt-block-12-finished>



This is a pretty common block - there are tons of free tutorials you can find online for different sizes.

This is for a 12" finished block using scraps and she gives good graphics to see how the block comes together in this tutorial.

See instructions on the next page ➡



## December Block of the Month

### For Background Fabric

- 2 - 2 3/4" squares (for the flying geese unit at the top of the tree)
- 2 - 2 1/2" X 4 1/2" rectangles
- 2 - 2 1/2" X 3 1/2" rectangles
- 2 - 2 1/2" squares
- 2 - 2 1/2" X 1 1/2" rectangles
- 2 - 2 1/2" X 6" rectangles
- 8 - 2 1/2" squares (these will have diagonal lines drawn across them)

### For Trees

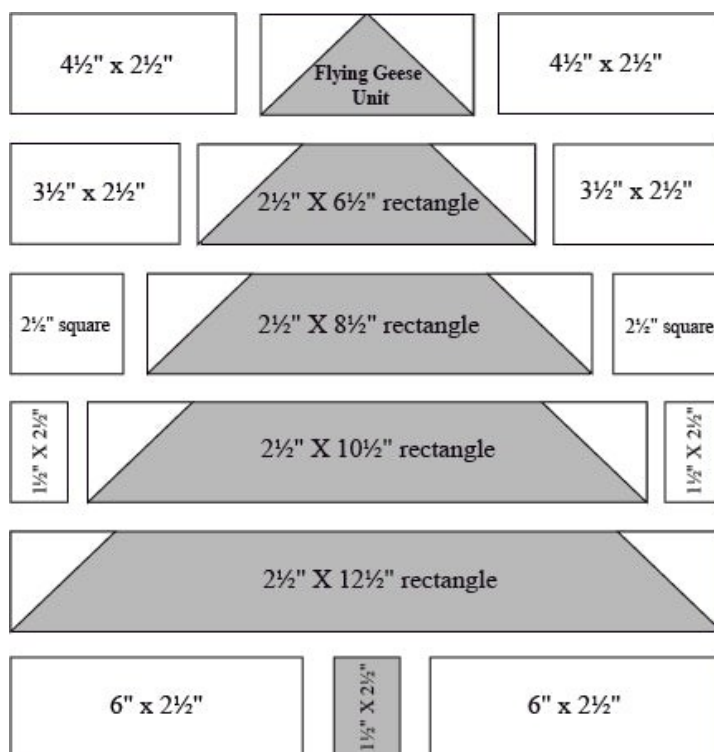
- 1 - 2 3/4" X 4 3/4" rectangle (for flying geese units)
- 1 - 2 1/2" X 6 1/2" rectangle
- 1 - 2 1/2" X 8 1/2" rectangle
- 1 - 2 1/2" X 10 1/2" rectangle
- 1 - 2 1/2" X 12 1/2" rectangle

### For Tree Trunk

- 1 - 2 1/2" X 1 1/2" rectangle

### Steps:

1. Make the flying geese unit with the smallest tree piece and two 2 3/4" background squares
2. Snowball the ends of the remaining tree strips with the 2 1/2" squares.
3. Make the base of the tree following the diagram.
4. Extend each snowballed strip with the correct size background piece following the diagram.
5. Assemble the block as shown above.



There are very detailed photos of each step in the online tutorial so make sure to check that out if you're a visual learner. <https://cuddlecatquiltworks.com/blogs/tutorials/christmas-tree-quilt-block-12-finished>

If you have any questions, email me at [news4tcqg@gmail.com](mailto:news4tcqg@gmail.com)





## Holiday Bash:

Our December meeting will happen during our annual Holiday Bash! This will be in the Education building on the second floor instead of the main sanctuary of the church. If you have questions, reach out to Rhonda Van Alstine or Ginny Hilton.



Can't wait to see you there!

## Upcoming Lectures:

**January:** Sherilyn Mortensen of Sea Sherilyn Sew will be offering a workshop on Free Motion Quilting on the domestic machine on January 7. She is the author of Ultimate Beginner's Guide to Free Motion Quilting and co-author of several other books with her sisters, Jenny Pedigo and Helen Robinson of Sew Kind of Wonderful. Registration will begin at next month's meeting, November 4th. More information to come!



## Celebration 20 Quilt Show News

Wow this year went by fast. It's already December, and the holiday season has started. Only 2 months left to get ready for our 2026 Quilt Show. Treasure Aisle, Boutique, Tin Can Raffle, and Schoolhouse have a few surprises and are making great strides to get everything ready.

There are many opportunities left to get involved. Please pay attention to the emails in the next months about volunteering to help the different areas of the show. It takes a lot of people to make the show a success! Volunteers are the heart of the show. One of the best ways to support the Guild is to get involved. Denise Hardcastle has a list of volunteers needed and you can sign up using Sign Up Genius.

Becky Burkett and Donna Vandiver





## Silent Auction

Thank you everyone! We now have all the quilts we need for the silent auction with the ones coming in this month. Your generosity in donating your quilt to us is much appreciated.

We also want to recognize the quilter whose quilt wins the highest bid by giving a \$50 gift card from her/his favorite local quilt shop.

Please see or contact Charmaine Fritchey for all inquiries.  
[Cfritchey@gmail.com](mailto:Cfritchey@gmail.com)

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Just a reminder that **TIN CAN RAFFLE** still needs large baskets at the December meeting.

Tin Can Raffle will be meeting on December 10th at 10:00 at Elaine's Guest House; please let Bev Volker know if you are coming to help out.





## **December Boutique News**

All our creative efforts are nicely packed into moveable storage bins, ready for pricing. In just a few months, everything many of you have spent time and patience working to accomplish will be on display at the 2026 Quilt Show! How can we adequately say thank you?

As we have created, many of the Boutique Makers have desired to purchase their very own creations! I (Diana) have to admit, with each new project, I often say, "Oh! I want one of these!" So, this year, we will have some of our special projects on display, available for preorder, December 2, at the Holiday Bash. Come early! You will have an opportunity to reserve a favorite (or two or three)! We'll keep them safely tucked away just for you to purchase at the Quilt Show.

We have quite a few unfinished kits that have gone home with willing Makers, and a few have not found their way back home. Each finished project helps support our Quilting Guild as it sells at the Quilt Show. Please give yourself a deadline for finished projects returned by the January meeting.

And speaking of January, we will be gathering January 21 at Bobbins and Threads to work on our final Show and Tell Bags. Those of you who have joined with Debby Dodge and friends for a previous workshop will find it easier to finish a bag in one session. We would like to invite any new members to join us for the first time. It is encouraging to have experienced Makers to help guide us along.

You are invited to help us with the Boutique at the Quilt Show in February. Take a look at the email link for sign up and pick a time and task to volunteer. We grow as friends and quilters every time we spend time together!

Anticipating a great time with friends at the Holiday Bash!

Diana Moore and Elaine Bullard





*“Celebration 20”*

# SCHOOLHOUSE

It's never too late to learn something new. Join us in the Schoolhouse at the 2026 TCQG quilt show. Two days of fun learning, and no test at the end!

- Learn quilting tips from expert quilters and finally figure out how to use those nifty gadgets that have been in your sewing room that have been there so long you forgot what they are used for.
- The bed turning exhibition is back this year celebrating the country's Semiquincentennial.
- Selfie Station and other surprises!



**New this year in the Schoolhouse!**

## **Make Your Own T-Shirt Quilt**

Facilitator: Kristi Grove - TCQG member

**Cost: \$35.00**

*(pre-registration required. class fee includes entry into the 2026 TCQG show)*

Friday, February 27, 2026 2:30pm-4:00pm **Or** Saturday, February 28 8:30am-10:00am

**Additional details and registration coming soon.**

Schoolhouse volunteers are still needed. Sign up today.



## **Bed Turning at the Quilt Show**

We are bringing back the bed turning in 2026 as we celebrate 20 years of our guild. The bed turning will take place in the schoolhouse area during the quilt show.

A bed turning is a presentation where a variety of quilts are shown and discussed. We have done a different theme each time that the bed turning was held in the past.

**2012 was vintage quilts**

**2014 was vintage baby quilts**

**2016 was 2 color quilts**

**2026 will be red, white and blue quilts**

We will use two tables placed side by side to simulate a bed. The head end will be elevated for easier viewing by the audience. All of the quilts are stacked up and after each one is discussed, it is folded back, revealing the quilt underneath it. This is repeated until all quilts have been shown.

Guild members, if you have a red, white and blue quilt that you would like to have featured in the bed turning, please reach out to **Lisa Hart**. There will be a different form for the bed turning than the forms for entering a quilt into the show. This is a display only area, it is not for judged quilts. There are a limited number of spots available.



## Three Tips for December

When identical quilt blocks are sewn together without sashing strips between them, a secondary pattern develops where the blocks meet. To easily preview this pattern with only one block assembled, lay the block facedown on a table. Fold the four corners into the center of the block. The small block formed where the corners match is the secondary pattern you'll see after the blocks are stitched together.



To save time and thread when making Half-Square Triangles, chain piece each square then - while stitched together - iron as a chain, then trim as a chain. After this final step, cut the pieces apart.

### Quilt Rows

When a row of blocks is sewn, mark the top left corner with a pin or note to indicate it's the top left of row 1. Continue numbering additional rows this way so all stay in order.





## 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, [charla361@yahoo.com](mailto:charla361@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](mailto: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 [dpdurr1@yahoo.com](mailto:dpdurr1@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](mailto: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](mailto: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, pixelated 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 accepting new members!** Contact Regina Eardley, Beekeeper, at [Regina.Eardley@gmail.com](mailto:Regina.Eardley@gmail.com).



**Charity Bee:** Meets at Cypress Crossing Christian Church on the 4th Wednesday of each Month from 9:30-1:00. 15751 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 contact Mary Willyerd, Janet Winkler, or Karen Cook.



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Nathan Brown – Senior Program Chair

Regina Eardly – Junior Program Chair

## **Standing Chairs**

Rebecca Garcia – Block of the Month

Mary Willyerd, Janet Winkler, and Karen Cook – Charity Bee

Marie Engelhart – Hospitality

Charmaine Fritchey – Communication

Charla Reese – Head Bee Keeper

Becky Burkett, Donna Vandiver – 2026 Quilt Show

Rebecca Garcia – Newsletter

Rhonda Van Alstine – Publicity/Social Media

Lee Ann McGuinn - Door Prizes

Ginny Hilton and Rhonda Van Alstine - Holiday Bash

Debby Dodge – Magazines

Karl Burkett – Property Management

Lisa Hart – Storybook Quilts

Janice Toler– Web Administrator



### **Donation Opportunity**

These can be done by individual guild members.

Connie Kortz at My Fabric Friends quilt shop in Vactoria is running the Poppy Block drive. She is collecting completed quilts, quilt tops, or just block which they will combine with other donation to compete 1,000 poppy block quilts. They will go to the girls who were at the Hill Country camps on the morning of the flood this past summer. The pattern will be in the email sent to the guild. . The pattern is 5 across and 7 down. Donations of backing or binding ( 7 strips of 42") are also being accepted.

Mary Ellen Adkison ( 713-480-3834) will collect the blocks and get them to Connie. Please get to her by the February meeting.

Mary Ellen is collecting sunflower blocks yellow and blue 12.5 unfinished size. See the email for the pattern.