



THE BRIDGE

*Make friends.
Share what we know.
Learn from each other.*

January 2026
Vol. 11 No. 1

A publication of the Alameda Quilt Guild, founded 2015

LEADERSHIP MESSAGE

Welcome to the new year! Our Guild has plenty in store for 2026. Thank you to our many volunteers who keep us going with contagious positivity!

As usual, we will have eleven in-person meetings and one on Zoom in January. We have four speakers lined up, our always fun auction, and technique and gift demonstrations. And we have set aside plenty of time for show & tell, donation night, kiss-it-goodbye, and social activities.

Outside of our regular monthly general meeting, we have monthly workshops, open sew, sew 'n chat, and friendship groups. We are proud of our continuing donation activities with some of the quilts being completed collectively through our Community Quilters program

Also, we have our out-of-town retreat week and an in-town mini-retreat weekend. And additional fun activities: the Block of the Moment, a medallion round robin, a new UFO challenge (that is Unfinished Object, of which I have many), and this year's Sew Along.

I bet I have forgotten something! But among all these choices, I hope everyone finds lots to love about the Alameda Quilt Guild in 2026. Happy New Year!

UPCOMING DATES

Sat, Jan 3	1 pm – 3 pm Sew 'N Chat / Look for Zoom link
Thu, Jan 8	7 pm General Mtg / Look for Zoom link
Sat, Jan 10	10am – 3pm Workshop Corica Golf Course
Fri, Jan 16	11am – 3pm Open Sew Trinity Lutheran, 1323 Central
Sat, Jan 17	1 pm – 3 pm Sew 'N Chat / Annual race Look for Zoom link
Tue, Jan 27	1pm Board Meeting. at Trinity Lutheran 1323 Central
Fri, Feb 6	11:30 AM Field trip to Kimonomomo. To go, please email Terry at terrychodges@aol.com by Jan 31 st

Alameda Quilt Guild Board, Committee & Volunteer Roster 2026	
OFFICERS	
President/Leadership Committee	Pauline Marx
Secretary/Leadership Committee/ Immediate Past President	Sally Mirault
Treasurer	Rikki Henneman
Programming / NCQC Rep	Carol Bernard
Membership	Dianne Rodrigues & Debbie Falzone
STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS	
BOM	Suzanne Duran & Joy Beireis Molnar
Hospitality	Rachelle King & Jean Wolslegel
Newsletter	Elana Swartzman, Dorothy Kerwin
Opportunity Quilts	Kathleen Fennelly
Outreach/Donation quilts & items	Jeanne Heffernan & Helene Young
Auburn Retreat	Marge McLean
Mini-Retreat	Terry Hodges
Webmaster	Marge McLean
Workshops, Special Events	Terry Hodges
OTHER VOLUNTEER ROLES	
Monday Memo	Carole King, Dorothy Kerwin
Friendship Group Coordinator	Carol Cislowski
Photographer	Jennifer Serr & Susan Correa
Kiss-It-Goodbye Chair	Jolie McRae
Publicity	Dorothy Kerwin
Social Sewing (Open Sew and Sew & Chat)	Dorothy Kerwin
Social Media	Kathleen Fennelly, Mitzi Wong-Nguyen

The Alameda Quilt Guild wants to thank Corica Golf Course for generously letting us use their community rooms for our classes.

GENERAL MEETING – January 8 (via Zoom)

Join us on Zoom for our next meeting, 7pm, Thursday, January 8. The Zoom link will be sent on Wednesday, Jan 7 – look for it. (if it doesn't come through, let me know elana94501@gmail.com)

April Sproule, an artist whose medium is textiles, will present "From Technician to Artist". April has a great love of design and the many ways it can be used to enrich our lives. Since 2001, April has been a full-time studio artist who works as a designer and workshop facilitator.

MEMBERSHIP

Our current paid membership for 2026 is 32. Based on last year, we expect another 41, for a total of 73. Send your 2026 dues of \$50 ASAP to PO Box 2724, Alameda, 94501.

A gentle reminder – guests to our meetings must pay a \$5 fee.

Dianne Rodrigues - phidi@sbcglobal.net / Debbie Falzone – debbie.falzone@gmail.com

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS



Every birthday is a time to celebrate. Reach out and send good wishes to our sister quilters with birthdays this month!

Suzanne Duran, Penny Matheny, Jolie McRae, Joy Beireis-Molnar, Patricia Smith, Sharon Flores, Ginger Atkinson, Sally Mirault, Heidi Schultz

BLOCK OF THE MOMENT – NONE FOR JANUARY

It is fine to bring late BOMs to meetings. We have a list of past winners and they will be appreciated. Look for the next BOM in February.

Suzanne Duran & Joy Beireis-Molnar

SEW 'N CHAT – JANUARY 3 & 17 ANNUAL RACE – JANUARY 17

Join us for a chance to work, see, and talk with friends on-line. We meet the first & third Saturday, January 3 & 17 from 1pm-3pm.

The January 17 Sew 'N Chat is our annual race. You can just join in to sew with us or race for prizes, your choice.

Look for the Zoom link.

ROUND ROBIN PROJECT – STARTS IN FEBRUARY

Participants will be in groups of 6. Participants bring a center block between 12 & 15 inches, in a tote bag containing a small notebook. Notebook will list any likes, dislikes, color palette or theme. Fabric may or may not be added to bag. Bring your tote bag with center block to the February AQG general meeting and Suzanne Duran at the back table.

Center block passes to each person in group to add a border sized 3 to 6 inches. A skinny sashing can be used to separate borders if needed.

Each person has 2 months to complete a border & return to hostess, Suzanne Duran. She will give it to next person in your group. This will be done at AQG general meetings at the back table.

After the group has added borders we will have a big reveal, returning to maker of the center block.

Please call Suzanne Duran (510 326-7931) if you would like to participate & haven't signed up yet.

OPEN SEW – JANUARY 16

Open Sew is back at Trinity Lutheran. We meet from 11am to 3pm on the third Friday.

Bring hand or machine sewing, see what others are doing, or ask for opinions / assistance. It's a lot of fun and we bring pot luck to share for lunch.

SPRING RETREAT 2026

Save the date for our **2026 Spring Retreat**. We have a confirmed reservation for Monday, June 1, 2026 to Friday, June 5, 2026, at the Mercy Center Auburn. Cost will be \$600.

Reservations are now open. \$200 (1/3) is due by the January 2026 meeting, 2nd \$200 due at the March 2026 meeting and final \$200 will be due at the April 2026 meeting. Check to be made out to Alameda Quilt Guild.

FRIENDSHIP GROUPS

Friendship groups are a great way to get to know sister guild members in a smaller setting. The group typically meets once a month – it can rotate among member houses or stay at one locale. If you are interested in joining or starting a group - email Carol at ccislowski@gmail.com

QUILTED ART EXHIBIT

The Blue Dot Café and Coffee Bar in Alameda decorates its walls with art created by local artists. Their work is normally on exhibit for a month. Blue Dot's owner is very interested in AQG being part of the rotation by displaying samples of quilted items. The café's wall space is limited so submissions need to be relatively small such as mini quilts, fidget quilts, table toppers, placemats, etc. and a variety of techniques are encouraged (applique, Sashiko, Kawandi, multimedia, collage, English paper or foundation piecing).

A show of interest by members is needed before AQG makes a commitment to Blue Dot. Please contact Sally Mirault by text ((510)326-0601) or email (sallymirault@comcast.net) if you're interested in participating.

OUTREACH ACTIVITIES - Jeanne Heffernan and Helene Young

Our next Donation Night is in July and will include: Foster Youth, Sutter Hospice, patriotic and fidget quilts.

Any outreach queries call/text ((650) 888-8959) or email Jeanne Heffernan, jmh8346@sbcglobal.net

OUTREACH - THE COMMUNITY QUILTERS

Any AQG member can donate a pieced quilt top (preferably with batting and back) at any general meeting. This donation, once finished, will go directly to our selected charities: Sutter Care at Home, Alameda; Midway Shelter, Alameda; EBCLO-East Bay Children's Law Office for foster youth, Alameda County. All quilts will be displayed at our donation events and photographed for the online AQG newsletter. Jeanne Heffernan is Committee chair; Marge McLean will receive at our member meetings any quilt tops (and batting/back if possible).

If there are any questions call Jeanne Heffernan. We are hoping that this effort boosts the AQG number of donated quilts for our community giving.



PROPOSAL FOR AQG TO PARTICIPATE IN THE 2026 4TH OF JULY PARADE

Ask yourself ...

- Are you willing/available to walk 3.5 miles passing out flyers?
- Are you willing/available to decorate a float?
- Are you willing/available to co-chair a committee?
- Are you willing/available to loan us a truck for the day?
- Help in any other way

If so, please contact Dianne Rodrigues at land line 510-521-4327

FABRIC AND THREAD - RIDWELL RECYCLE

AQG has joined the Ridwell family. This is a way to recycle fabric scraps and threads. We will collect your scraps at the monthly meetings and Ridwell will pick them up and put them to good use.

Check out the Ridwell website for info on how this happens.



PROGRAM SCHEDULE FOR 2026

All meetings are at Trinity Lutheran at 7pm on the second Thursday unless otherwise indicated.
Doors open at 6:30pm for socializing.

JANUARY:	Speaker/Zoom – April Sproule, “Technician to Artist”; Intro to UFO Challenge
FEBRUARY:	Speaker/in person – Leona McCann, “Echoes of my Ancestors: Celtic Design”; Round Robin begins
MARCH:	Annual Auction – this is the major fund raiser for our Guild. We ask every member to contribute one new or like-new item that they would like to bid on. It can be fun and rowdy, be prepared.
APRIL*:	Speaker/in person – Colleen Pelfrey, “Life with a Border Around It”
MAY*:	AQG 11 th Birthday Potluck, Show’NTell - All and Everything, a chance to show all that you do. Surprise Us!
JUNE*:	Techniques Demonstration – subjects to be announced
JULY*:	Donation Night – Foster Youth, Sutter Hospice, Patriotic, Fidget quilts; Guild Survey; Sew-Along Reveal, Quilt Games
AUGUST*:	Gift Demonstrations – subjects to be announced
SEPTEMBER*:	Speaker/in person – Karen Bolan, “Engineer Your Quilts”
OCTOBER*:	Guild Board nominations; Show’NTell - All and Everything, a chance to show all that you do. Surprise Us!
NOVEMBER*:	Donation Night – Foster Youth, Midway Shelter; Election of Officers; UFO Challenge Reveal

DECEMBER:

Holiday Potluck; Board Inductions Incoming 2027 Officers; Gift exchange

Meetings with stars* have a Kiss-It-Goodbye table. Bring what you don't want, take what you do!

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE FOR 2026

All workshops are taught at Corica Golf Course from 10am - 3pm
ALL KIT FEES TO BE PAID TO THE TEACHER THE DAY OF THE CLASS



FYI

This pin is an acknowledgement of a member's generous donation of time and talent to teach a workshop.

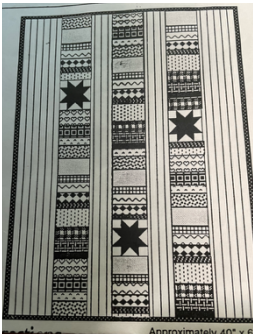


CLOSED: January 10 - Fabric Bowls, Teacher Marlene Miller, class fee \$20.00; kit fee \$20.00

Spend the day learning to sew these fun, addictive and lovely bowls. The technique is similar to English Paper Piecing and it makes it a very portable project. These bowls are so much fun to personalize and make as gifts...I bet you can't make just one!

Kit (\$20.00) includes: small bowl pattern, master templates, template plastic, Peltex 70, and a hand sewing needle.

February Workshop cancelled



March 14 -Stack the Scraps, Teacher Leslie Sorenson, class fee \$20.00

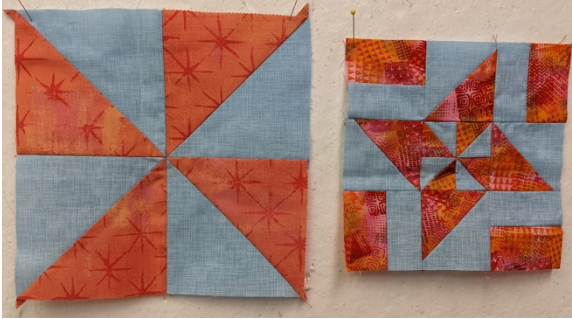
This is for the fearless quilter who does not have to have everything "matchy-matchy". We will be working on a variety of leftover 2 ½" strips. We'll bring our fabric strips in a bag and share them. To make things go faster, I am going to ask you to make 3 star blocks ahead of time (instructions included). If you can't get them done, we will make them in class. These would make great donation quilts.



April 11 – Quilted Jacket Teacher: Diane Rodrigues, class fee \$20.00

Create a jacket using an old or new quilt. Make a one-of-a-kind jacket for yourself or a friend. A great way to recycle a work of art.

May – NO WORKSHOP (*Happy Mother's Day*)



June 13 – Disappearing Pinwheel – Teacher: Jane Strem, class fee \$20.00

Make an adorable pinwheel quilt, from table runner size to king size, you decide. This quilt is layer cake friendly. With one layer cake, a 10" square of fabric and one 10" square of background fabric, you will get two blocks. An entire layer cake will give you an 80 block quilt. There will also be sashing and cornerstones in Jane's finished quilt.



July 11 – Applique Three Ways: Teacher: Jennifer Serr, class fee \$20.00

We will explore techniques including fusible web method, interfacing method (for a clean finish) and needle turn. Each technique offers a different end finish. In this fun workshop students will learn 3 ways to applique using this cute tomato pincushion pattern.

August – NO WORKSHOP



September 12- Snazzy Shirt/Jacket – teacher: Joyce Teekell, class fee \$50.00

SIGN UPS FOR THIS CLASS STOP IN AUGUST, THIS CLASS MUST BE FULL TO GO FORWARD

Using a man's shirt (upcycled or new) as a foundation for our snazzy shirt. We will modify and embellish the shirt to create a "one of a kind" fashion statement. Incorporate fabrics that you love to blend or contrast with your shirt print. Multiple fabrics are encouraged. Warning: this can be addictive!



October 10 – Japanese Rice Bag – teacher Terry Hodges, class fee \$20.00

Create a modern take on the traditional pouch used in Japan to carry rice offerings to the temple. Use yours to carry small projects, your knitting, your English paper piecing, or whatever you want. This is a perfect project to use up those extra scraps. This makes a great gift!



November 14 – Portrait or Self-Portrait in Fabric:

Freddy's Faces – teacher Pauline Marx, class fee \$20.00

We will craft expressive faces with fabric scraps and we will be working in the style of renowned quilter Freddy Moran, who passed away in 2024 at the age of 94. You will create a collage using fabric and a glue stick. Pieces can be quilted and bound later in any manner you choose.

December – NO WORKSHOP

EVENTS CALENDAR – (Send submissions to the newsletter editor elana94501@gmail.com)

Tues Jan 25, 7-9 pm. GQCCC with speaker Christina Cameli “The Big Ideas” (Zoom meeting)
Christina shares the biggest "aha!" moments she's had in her years as a quilter, teacher, and pattern and fabric designer.

For more information and to register please visit: <https://gqccc.org/event-5289999>

Fri – Sun Feb 6 – 8, 10am to 4pm. Quilt Show: Folsom Quilt & Fiber Guild 40th Anniversary Quilt Show: "Ruby Celebration - 40 Years of Quilting Stars. Folsom Community Center, 52 Natoma St, Folsom, CA 95630, USA
More information: <https://www.folsomquilt.org/quilt-show---2026.html>

Tues Feb 17, 7-9pm. GQCCC with speaker Ellen Linder “Confessions of a Fabric Whisperer” (Zoom meeting)
What do 750 pins, window screening, and paint have in common? They’ve all been used by Ellen Lindner in creative ways as she’s made art quilts.

For more information and to register please visit: <https://gqccc.org/event-5784584>

Sat – Sun April 18 – 19, 10am to 3 pm. Quilt Show: Silicon Valley Modern Quilt Guild
Join us to celebrate the world of modern quilts. Our members will showcase guild group projects, classes, small group work, and well over 100 member quilts that display the wide range of modern quilts, from improvisational piecing to modern traditionalism! Covington Elementary, 205 Covington Rd, Los Altos CA 94024

For more information and to purchase tickets please visit: <https://siliconvalleymqg.com/guildshow/>

Sat – Sun April 25, 10am-4pm, April 26, 10am-3pm. Quilt Show: Amador Valley Quilters
"Quilting with Friends". Trinity Church Gymnasium, 557 Olivina Ave, Livermore
More information: <https://www.amadorvalleyquilters.org/Wordpress/2026-quilt-show/>

2025 AFFILIATES

The Sewing Room, 1419 Park St Ste G, Alameda
New Pieces Quilt Shop, Inc, 766 Gilman, Berkeley

510 710-9525 thesewingroomalameda.com
510-527-6779 newpiecesstaff@gmail.com
www.newpieces.com

Re-Crafting, 2449 Santa Clara, Alameda
Bay Quilts, 5327 Jacuzzi St, Richmond

510-263-0249 therecraftingco.com
510 558-0218 create@sfbayquilts.com
www.sfbayquilts.com

Stone Mountain & Daughter, 2518 Shattuck, Berkeley

510 845-6106 info@stonemountainfabric.com

Be sure to mention you saw them in this newsletter.

GUILD CONTACT INFO

Alameda Quilt Guild
PO Box 2724
2201 Shoreline Drive
Alameda, CA 94501

E Mail: alamedaquiltguild@gmail.com
Website: www.alamedaquiltguild.com
Facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1753886584897576>

January 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3 1pm – 3pm Sew 'N Chat Zoom
4	5	6	7	8 7PM General Mtg Zoom	9	10 10am – 3pm Workshop Corica Golf Course
11	12	13	14	15	16 11am – 3pm Open Sew Trinity Lutheran	17 1pm – 3pm Sew 'N Chat Zoom
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27 1pm – 3pm Board Mtg Trinity Lutheran	28	29	30	

PHOTOS FROM OUR 2025 YEAR-END HOLIDAY PARTY

Pot-luck, sock gift-exchange & bingo! Thanks to all for a fun evening





ALAMEDA QUILT GUILD SCHEDULE 2026

<i>Month</i>	General Mtg	Board Mtg	Open Sew	Sew 'N Chat/Zoom	Workshops
	2nd Thurs	4th Tues	3rd Fri	1 st & 3 rd Sat	2nd Sat
	6:30 – 8:30	1:00 – 2:30	11:00 – 3:00	1:00 – 3:00	10:00 – 3:00
<i>January</i>	8-Jan	27-Jan	16-Jan	3, 17-Jan	10-Jan
<i>February</i>	12-Feb	24-Feb	20-Feb	7, 21-Feb	None
<i>March</i>	12-Mar	24-Mar	20-Mar	7, 21-Mar	14-Mar
<i>April</i>	9-Apr	28-Apr	17-Apr	4, 18-Apr	11-Apr
<i>May</i>	14-May	26-May	15-May	2, 16-May	None
<i>June</i>	11-Jun	23-Jun	19-Jun	6, 20-Jun	13-Jun
<i>July</i>	9-Jul	28-Jul	17-Jul	4, 18-Jul	11-Jul
<i>August</i>	13-Aug	25-Aug	21-Aug	1, 15-Aug	None
<i>September</i>	10-Sep	22-Sep	18-Sep	5, 19-Sep	12-Sep
<i>October</i>	8-Oct	27-Oct	16-Oct	3, 17-Oct	10-Oct
<i>November</i>	12-Nov	24-Nov	20-Nov	7, 21-Nov	14-Nov
<i>December</i>	10-Dec	None	None	5, 19-Dec	None