



THE BRIDGE

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

February 2026
Vol. 11 No. 2

A publication of the Alameda Quilt Guild, founded 2015

LEADERSHIP MESSAGE

Welcome to the February 2026 Alameda Quilt Guild Newsletter! Now that it is February, it is time to remind those who have not sent in their membership dues, to take care of that soon. Your checks are welcome in person or by mail. And of course, cash is also accepted at the monthly meeting.

In addition to welcoming our February speaker Leona McCann whose talk is entitled: Echoes of My Ancestors: Celtic Design, this month we begin a new era as the many-years old Wednesday morning hand-sewing gathering moves to the Corica Golf Course meeting room and becomes available to all of our members. I love the ideas that people can get together weekly to sew, exchange ideas, and commiserate in person. I haven't made it on a Wednesday morning yet, but hope to see you there!

Pauline

UPCOMING DATES

Sat, Feb 7	1 pm – 3 pm Sew 'N Chat / Look for Zoom link
Thu, Feb 12	7 pm General Mtg Trinity Lutheran, 1323 Central
Fri, Feb 20	11 am – 3 pm Open Sew Trinity Lutheran, 1323 Central
Sat, Feb 21	1 pm – 3 pm Sew 'N Chat / Look for Zoom link
Tue, Feb 24	1 pm Board Meeting at Trinity Lutheran 1323 Central

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 – February 12

Leona McCann joins us this month as guest speaker. Her talk is entitled “Echoes of My Ancestors: Celtic Design”. The Round Robin also begins.

Door open at 6:30 for socializing, meeting at 7 pm. Hope to see you there! And don't forget to bring your scraps and threads for our Ridwell recycle program.

MEMBERSHIP

Our current paid membership for 2026 is 44. We are missing payment from 28 members. Send your 2026 dues of \$50 ASAP to PO Box 2724, Alameda, 94501 or bring them to our next General Meeting on February 12.

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

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS



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

Dianne Marangio, Diane Simoni, Karen Rush, Bonnie Leber, Kathleen Fennelly, Mitzi Wong-Nguyen, Kim Orzell, Debbie Falzone, Nellie Chiang

BLOCK OF THE MOMENT

February BOM is scraptastic star. Kits are available for \$2, to be returned at the March Guild meeting. Finished blocks will be awarded via drawing. Remember to return any previously finished blocks. We have a list of past winners and they will be appreciated.

Suzanne Duran & Joy Beireis-Molnar



SEW 'N CHAT – February 7 & 21

Join us for a chance to work, see, and talk with friends on-line. We meet the first & third Saturday, February 7 & 21 from 1 pm-3 pm.

Look for the Zoom link.

OPEN SEW – February 20

We meet from 11am to 3pm on the third Friday at Trinity Church, 1323 Central

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.

WEDNESDAY STITCHERS

Check out the new hand sewing group every Wednesday from 10-12 at Corica Golf Course. It's in the classroom, first door to your left as you enter the patio, just drop in no need to sign up.

Quilt Zoom Race Results

The Quilt Zoom Race in January was attended by 15 members. First place winner was Jolie McRae, second place Susan Correa & third place Dianne Rodrigues. See their quilt tops near the end of this newsletter. Go on our Facebook page to see other members race day quilts

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.

UFO CHALLENGE 2026 – STARTS IN FEBRUARY & REVEAL IS IN NOVEMBER

The UFO (UnFinished Objects) contest 2026 will begin in February! So get your UFOs moving toward the finish line!

Entry fee is \$5.00 per person, regardless of the number of UFOs on your list. Value of the cash prizes will be determined by the number of entries. Winners are determined by random drawing. For every UFO you finish by the November meeting, you'll get a chance at a prize. No limit to your number of prize chances, but only one prize will be awarded per person. Also, you must show your completed object during the meeting.

What qualifies as a UFO? Any unfinished quilty object: quilts of all shapes and sizes, placemats, tote bags, applique pillow projects, etc. We're not super picky.

Entry forms will be available at the February guild meeting. Fill out the form and list the projects you are going to enter.

AUCTION FUNDRAISER – March 12

Our annual auction is the major fund raiser for our Guild. It allows us to hire speakers and underwrite our many activities. Its success depends on your participation, both in donating items and active bidding.

We ask each member to donate one item. This can be fabric - a yard, a jelly roll, or a fat quarter bundle. It could also be books, patterns, or tools. It could be an unfinished project, but please make sure that all the pattern pieces and directions are included. Please limit your donation to a single bidding item (it could be a variety of items in a basket). It should also be something new or gently used – this is not a Kiss-It-Goodbye event.

This is a great event to invite a friend / potential member along. The more, the merrier!

GIRL SCOUTS ENGAGEMENT

In an effort to attract new young students to our guild, and to pass along our skills to interested youth, we are working on some ways the guild can connect and collaborate with Alameda Girl Scouts. Kawandi stitching was suggested as a great, entry level project for a workshop during one of their meetings. Also suggested: youth memberships, special youth meetings and mentorships.

If you are interested in volunteering and/ or have ideas about this collaboration, please contact Jennifer@TheSewingRoomAlameda.com

EMAIL SCAM ALERT

Be vigilant for email messages that seem to originate from guild members requesting help with transferring funds or a similar matter. Do not respond to the email or call the number provided in the message. If you're uncertain, refer to the contact information in the membership directory to reach out to the member.

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) was due by the January 2026 meeting, 2nd \$200 is 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.

Every member is encouraged to make at least one item for AQG charities. The item choices are quilts, pillow cases (pattern available), fidget quilts, shopping totes, and zippered humbags (triangular bags)

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.

- 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 11th 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

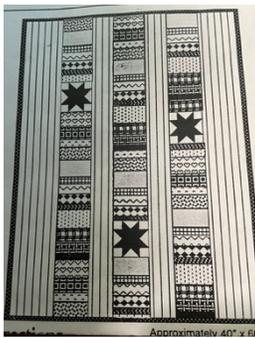
All workshops are taught at Corica Golf Course from 10am - 3pm
ALL KIT FEES TO BE PAID TO THE TEACHER THE DAY OF THE CLASS



FYI

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

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)

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	510 710-9525	thesewingroomalameda.com
New Pieces Quilt Shop, Inc, 766 Gilman, Berkeley	510 527-6779	newpiecesstaff@gmail.com www.newpieces.com
Re-Crafting, 2449 Santa Clara, Alameda	510 263-0249	therecraftingco.com
Bay Quilts, 5327 Jacuzzi St, Richmond	510 558-0218	create@sfbayquilts.com www.sfbayquilts.com
Stone Mountain & Daughter, 2518 Shattuck, Berkeley	510 845-6106	info@stonemountainfabric.com
Malcolm Hill Quilts, 493 Dolores Ave., San Leandro	415 828-6296	malcolmhillquilts.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>

February 2026

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

JANUARY QUILT ZOOM RACE

Congratulations to our winners!

Jolie McRae (1st)



Susan Correa (2nd)



Dianne Rodrigues (3rd)



JANUARY OPEN SEW



JANUARY WORKSHOP

Thank you, Marlene, for the fun Fabric Bowl class!



ALAMEDA QUILT GUILD SCHEDULE 2026

Month	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