



# Around the Quilt Patch

Pieces & Patches Quilt Guild  
Vol 46 Issue 1 Jackson, Michigan February 2026

## From the President

Hello everyone. I hope you had a wonderful holiday season. In my last newsletter I challenged you to finish or discard some of your UFOs. How did you do? I finished some Christmas table runners that I had been carrying around for more than 5 years. I still have a stack of projects to finish. Maybe this year!



As we begin the new year, I was thinking about all the wonderful things our guild does: Large group meetings, speakers, demonstrations, a variety of sew days, sew camp, retreats, the newsletter, impromptu sewing lessons, support to try something new, support to finish something old, the Quilt Show, National Quilt Day, food, fellowship with fellow quilters, teaching children to sew, charity sewing, challenge quilts, blotto, and I'm sure other things that don't come to mind right now. I believe we are truly blessed to have such an active guild. I encourage you to find a way to become involved in some of these activities. Val Howard is currently looking for people to fill vacancies on next year's board. Maybe that is you!

As we saw recently, the winter weather can be frightful, so let us sew, let us sew, let us sew.

Blessings to all,

Cindy Fraher, President



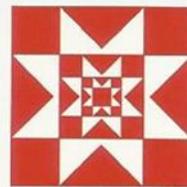
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**Guild Meetings are normally the last Monday of the month and are held at:**

**Rivertree Community Church  
3113 Lansing Avenue, Jackson, MI**

**Demonstrations begin at 6:15 PM**



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Coming  
events



## IN & AROUND THE MITTEN

### February 20 and 21, 2026

**Sewing Day Camp**  
The Coop  
Leslie, MI

### February 23, 2026 **ZOOM MEETING**

**Guild Meeting:** 3D Art Quilts  
Mary O. Gregg

### March 21, 2026

**National Quilt Day**  
The Coop  
Leslie, MI

### March 30, 2026

**Guild Meeting:** Quilting For the Health of It  
Joanne Hubbard  
New Location! Rivertree Community Church

### April 3 and 4, 2026

**Sewing Day Camp**  
The Coop  
Leslie, MI

### April 27, 2026

**Guild Meeting:** Challenge Reveal  
Barb Noble and Joyce Kesterson  
New Location: Rivertree Community Church

### May 18, 2026

**Workshop:** Coiled Rope Clothesline Basket  
Sally Manke  
Location: TBD

### May 18, 2026

**Guild Meeting:** Being Inspired to Try Something  
New  
Sally Manke  
Annual Business Meeting  
New Location: Rivertree Community Church

### **Spring Fiber Expo** **March 28-29, 2026**

Washtenaw Farm Council Ground  
5055 Ann Arbor Saline Road  
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48103  
<https://www.fiberexpo.com>

### **“A Garden of Quilts” Quilt Show** **May 1-2, 2026**

Location: Flushing Community Church of the  
Nazarene  
9500 West Pierson Road  
Flushing, MI 48433  
<https://genstarquilters.org/quilt-show2/>

### **Tulip Time Quilt Show** **May 1-10, 2026**

Location: Midtown Center  
96 West 15th Street  
Holland, MI 49423  
<https://www.tuliptime.com/events/quilt-show>

### **All Michigan Shop Hop** **June 1 – July 31, 2026**

<https://allmichiganshophop.com/>



Pieces and Patches Quilt Guild Jackson Michigan is now on Facebook. Like the page. Become a friend. Share your quilting activities and discoveries. Also find us at:

- [JacksonQuiltGuild.blogspot.com](http://JacksonQuiltGuild.blogspot.com)
- [PiecesandPatchesQuiltGuild@gmail.com](mailto:PiecesandPatchesQuiltGuild@gmail.com)

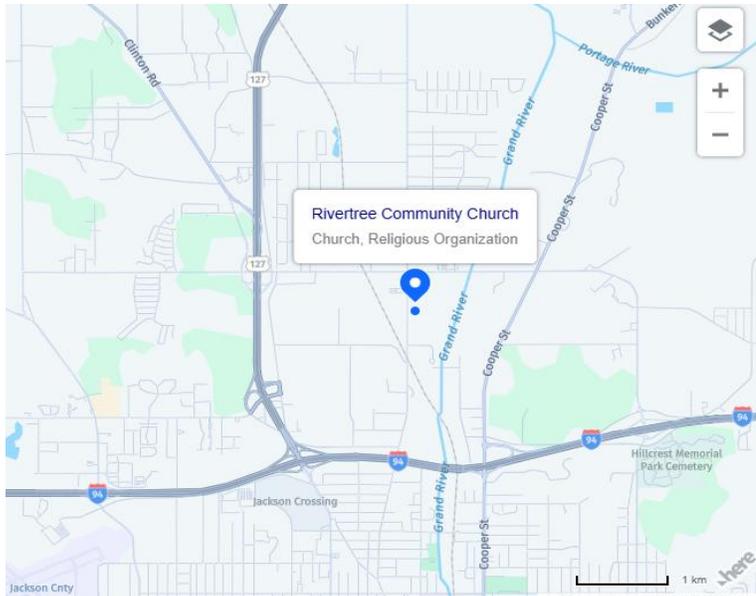
## We're Moving!

We have exciting news! The executive board approved a contract with Rivertree Community Church as the new venue for our monthly guild meetings. As you know, we had a significant rate hike at our current venue, The Ella Sharp Museum. This move will save the guild \$4,100 annually. The savings will help fund future programming and activities for our guild members.

In the meantime, starting with the March 30, 2026 meeting, we will be meeting at Rivertree Church, 3113 Lansing Ave, Jackson. It is a very large space with no steps from handicap parking to the interior. (There are 3 steps from another part of the lighted parking lot). They have a great sound system with a projector, large kitchen, and room for our storage cabinet. Please take a look at the photos from the recent open sew day, hosted by the guild at Rivertree Church.

You will also notice some sweet girl scouts meeting in another part of the building. Smile and say hello, they might be future quilters!

Hope to see you there!  
Karen Clark, Vice-President





**Open Tuesday-Saturday 10-5**

**Closed Sunday & Monday**

**Repairing sewing machines & vacuums**

**Serving our community since 1948**

**A proud participant in the All Michigan Shop Hop!**

## Strings, Strings, Strings!

For our 2026 challenge, we are excited to see your creations made from strings! It can be any size. Show us your quilts, wall hangings, bags or more made from strings! Your creation does not have to be 100% strings. If you do not know what a string is, it is a skinny piece of fabric.

The cost for each entry is \$5. You can enter as many times as you like. The reveal will be at the April guild meeting. The entries with the five highest votes will receive cash prizes.

Barb Noble

Joyce Kesterson



## Sunshine Program

The Sunshine Program is a long-standing tradition of our guild. The guild sends sympathy, get well and thinking of you cards to members to acknowledge events in their lives. We depend on our membership to inform us when a card is needed. If you know about a member that should receive a card from the guild please call or text Janice Stitt at (517)262-4069.

Cards are sent for:

**Get Well** - Illness, injury, surgery or hospitalization of guild member

**Sympathy** - to guild member with loss of a family member and, in the sad event we lose a guild member, to the family of a guild member.

**Thinking of You** - to cheer and support a guild member going through a difficult or challenging time

Janice Stitt - Sunshine Chair



## Purple Bobbin Quilt Shop

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Hours: Tue-Fri 10am-5pm and Sat 9am-4pm

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Est 2017

**We now have TULA PINK fabrics!**  
**The EXCITEMENT of the All Michigan Shop Hop is beginning.**  
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**Follow the Facebook Group: All Michigan Shop Hop.**

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May Your Bobbin Always Be Full

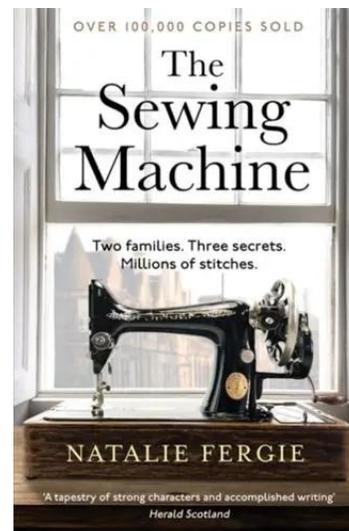
## Book Review

The Sewing Machine, Natalie Fergie, 2018.

I have found a way to do two of my favorite things at the same time; listening to audiobooks and sewing. There are many audiobook CDs that you can borrow from the public library but you can also listen from your phone or computer with a free app called Hoopla. If you haven't tried it yet, I highly recommend it. It's just like checking out an actual book, with a 3-week loan. I was immediately drawn to the title of the book, The Sewing Machine for obvious reasons! It follows the owners of a particular Singer sewing machine from its manufacture in Scotland to present day - over 100 years. It involves historical events, relationships of the owners and both practical and artistic uses of the sewing machine. It is 1911 and Jean is about to join the mass strike at the Singer factory near Glasgow, Scotland. For her, nothing will be the same again. Decades later, Connie sews coded moments of her life into a notebook, as her mother did before her. More than 100 years after his grandmother's sewing machine was made, Fred unpicks the secrets of four generations, one stitch at a time. Natalie Fergie tells a historical fiction story with the common thread of

the Singer sewing machine. Along with learning how the various characters' lives were intertwined, I learned about the history of the Singer factory in Scotland, the working conditions in the early 1900s and cultural attitudes toward the working class. You might enjoy it too!

Becky Kopicko





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(At the third light east of the traffic circle)

[www.quiltsatthemarshallhouse.com](http://www.quiltsatthemarshallhouse.com)

e-mail: [lellc100@gmail.com](mailto:lellc100@gmail.com)

 Find us on Facebook

## National Quilt Day

The 2026 National Quilt Day event is scheduled on Saturday, March 21, 2026 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at The Coop in Leslie, MI. Please save the date!



The committee is working hard to put together an interesting agenda for the day and we want everyone to participate and learn something new. If you are not interested in participating in any of the segments, open sew will be available in the main room of The Coop. We will have a potluck lunch too, which is always great!

Once the agenda is confirmed, I will be sending out emails to membership regarding the RSVP deadline and potluck sign-ups. Stay tuned for updates.

Renee Nelson



## YARDS OF FABRIC

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## Take Me Table

First, I want to thank everyone who has brought things for the Take Me Table, and then take it home afterward if it's still on the table at the end of the evening. And thank you for the ladies that take the forgotten items home!

The first couple months of the year we will be meeting via Zoom, and the Take Me Table lays empty, and sad. Just think of all the things in your sewing room/studio that you don't need or want anymore. Just think if all those things were on the Take Me Table when we meet again in March, and how happy the Table would be!

If you've been watching Karen Brown's daily Declutter Challenge videos, she makes it easy and fun to declutter our precious things. (By the way, Karen Brown is our speaker via zoom in January.)

We have approximately 8 weeks before we meet in person, plenty of time to collect a bag or 2 for the Take Me Table. Let's make the Table happy

Thank you and Happy New Year! 😊

Lu Ann Hammond




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## Upcoming Programs and Workshops

I would like to ask for input from all of our members for what they want to see in the future. We already have 2026 booked thru August: Thank you Angie! What I need is your input for the 2026- 2027 schedule. I know what I get excited about, but I want to know what all of you want to see and learn about! You can send your ideas to me at [jamie6483626@yahoo.com](mailto:jamie6483626@yahoo.com) or text or call me at (208)250-7723. I will then try and get a few of us to research the ideas and get a fun calendar set. If you would like to help pick who we will book, I'm looking for a small group to help me decide. I envision a few short conversations at a time when we are already coming together, such as sew days or before guild meetings.



Our February meeting will be on Zoom. We will have a presentation by Mary O. Gregg of Quilts with Depth; her presentation will be 3D-Art Quilts. "Take your applique to new depths by adding

dimension! Quilts with Depth applique projects are affordable, relatively quick to complete, and make great gifts and wall art. Learn simple techniques to bring your quilt scene to life!"

Mary O. Gregg is the author of the Quilts with Depth applique book series published on Amazon. Her books teach how to construct beautiful 3D Art Quilts by adding dimension with notions and special techniques. She resides in Florida and presents her Trunk Show and Workshops to national and international quilt guilds.



EXPLORE THE WORLD OF 3D ART QUILTS!

Mary O. Gregg's trunk is packed and she is ready to take you on a virtual tour to the world of dimensional applique.

### DISCOVER

- a construction approach that is unique to dimensional quilts
- techniques that all 3D quilts have in common
- simple ways to add dimension
- how easy the pattern books are to use
- the individual published quilts
- soon to be published quilts (sneak peek)

After reviewing her website, I'm really excited to learn more about her process!!

Our March presenter is Joanne Hubbard of Everyone Deserves a Quilt. She will be talking about Quilting for the health of it. "Discover how quilting really is healthy for you! From pumping iron (AKA-pressing seams) to meeting your daily fiber requirements (AKA-using 100% cotton fabric), we'll explore (AKA-make excuses) as to why we NEED to keep on quilting. This is a fun presentation that is sure to "keep you in stitches" as you enjoy LOTS of quilt eye candy."



We will have our challenge reveal in April, I hope everyone is doing well on this, if not this is your reminder that it's time to get started

Jamie Hukill, Director of Programs





### Ann Arbor Sewing Center

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## SUPER BOWL SALE

**HUNDREDS OF SALE ITEMS**  
**East Lansing - February 6th & 7th**

- 100% Cottons - 500 Bolts including Andover, Benartex, Hoffman, Timeless treasure and more - 30-50% Off
- Kits - Selected Kits - 30-50% Off
- Samples for Sale!
- Sewing machine Feet, Hoops & Accessories - 25% Off
- OESD & Floriani Stabilizer - 25% Off

Pfaff, Husqvarna Viking, Baby Lock, Bernina, Juki Sewing machines and cabinets - new & used, overstock, open boxes, old models, new models, lots of machines and cabinets up to 70% off manufacturer's suggested retail

**Jackson - February 6th & 7th**

- Sewing machine Feet, Hoops & Accessories - 25% Off
- Kits - Selected Kits - 30-50% Off
- New! - One-Yard Pieces on Sale
- OESD & Floriani Stabilizer - 25% Off

Pfaff, Husqvarna Viking, Baby Lock, Bernina, Juki Sewing machines and cabinets - new & used, overstock, open boxes, old models, new models, lots of machines and cabinets up to 70% off manufacturer's suggested retail

**Want to learn to sew—or take your skills to the next level?**

We offer weekly classes for every skill level.  
 Make 2026 your most creative year yet!

Scan the QR Codes above to explore our class schedule and find your perfect fit!

*(Classes must be booked at least one week in advance.)*

## LUCK OF THE IRISH SALE

### 20-40% OFF

**IN EAST LANSING & JACKSON**

Spin the wheel and receive from 20% to 40% off fabric, notions, books, patterns, threads, sewing machine accessories, Floriani and OESD products. After spinning you can pick out everything you want to buy and receive your discount.

**MON. MARCH 17 - SAT. MARCH 21**

(Limit one lucky spin per person per day. Not good with other specials. Blue Loyalty Cards not marked.)

## We Need Board Members!

It's the time of year that we start looking for people to join the executive board. We need volunteers to help with all the behind the scenes work to keep our vibrant guild going! Many hands make light work! Please talk to me, Val Howard or any board member to find the right fit for your talents.

Val Howard, Past President



## Featherweight History

Part 1. At a recent estate sale of a fellow quilter, I purchased a little booklet called featherweight 221 - The Perfect Portable, Nancy Johnson-Srebro, 1992. With the interest of so many of our PPQG members in the featherweight and other antique sewing machines, I thought others might be interested in some history. Featherweights are in high demand, especially by quiltmakers - in short, the machine has become a legend! By the late 1920s the words

“sewing machine” usually meant Singer. There were competitors, but Singer had “the name”. Treadle machines were on the way out and the new electrics hit the market. Weight wasn't much of a factor because generally the machines were installed in a cabinet in the home. The Standard Sewing Machine Company was the first to produce a truly portable machine, small, self-contained and light. They called it the Sew-handy. It could operate on a kitchen table without walking around. Little did they know that their product would be so greatly needed in the years ahead. Singer bought The Standard Company and acquired the Sew-handy model in a very significant year - 1929. The stock market crash, the great depression and the dust bowl years initiated the migration of vast numbers of Americans and greatly influenced the need for a portable sewing machine. Singer's engineers kept the desirable features of the Sew-handy model and added improvements and the Singer Featherweight - Model 221 was born; making its debut at the 1933 World's Fair in Chicago. It might have seemed risky to introduce a new model of anything in the middle of the great depression but there was an apparent need and Singer felt that there

Continued on Page 11

Continued from Page 10  
 was money to be made. “The wheels of industry were barely creaking along. How much demand should there have been for new sewing machines, no less a



model that looked like a toy as compared with most other machines in the showrooms? It should have flopped, but it didn't! Singer's Featherweight caught on, built its reputation and endured.” The Singer Featherweight weighed in at 11 pounds, 1 ounce and was truly ultra-light in comparison. It had a look of its own compared to the heavy standard head models of its day. Jumping ahead to the 1970s when a new interest in these little machines grew, it is no wonder that quilters who travel to classes began looking high and low for this little machine for sale.

Next issue: SOME HISTORY ABOUT THE FEATHERWEIGHT - Part 2 The Featherweight Design Features, Production History and Variations

Adapted by Becky Kopicko



### Sew Camp Dates

Save the Date! The next Sew Camp at The Coop is Friday, February 20 & 21, from 10:00 AM to 6:00PM. Then again on April 3 & 4, from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM.

The cost is \$5.00 per day, with lunch provided and a \$5.00 cash donation, per day to The Coop. Make your check payable to PPQG, and send to Pattie Rayl at 3442 Roosevelt Rd, Jackson, MI 49203.

The address for The Coop is 2665 W. Bellevue Rd, Leslie, MI 49251.

Patti Rayl



### SEWING CAMP Registration Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Member: \_\_\_\_\_ Non-Member: \_\_\_\_\_

Sewing Camp Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Registered: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount Due: \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Cash \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Checks should be made payable to: Pieces and Patches Quilt Guild Payments can be mailed to:  
 Pattie Rayl 3442 Roosevelt Rd Jackson, Michigan 49203

**January Guild Meeting : ZOOM only**

**Karen Brown of Just Get it Done Quilts**

**The Best Quilter You Can Be!**

**Hope to see you on ZOOM at January 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM**

**Pieces & Patches  
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Advertising:	Bev Smith
Membership:	Mo Peterson
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