

AROUND THE BLOCK

QUILTERS UNLIMITED OF TALLAHASSEE

Volume 43, Issue 8

August 2026

***Next Meeting: August 13, 2026, Temple Israel, 2215 Mahan Drive
Times: 6:00 pm Social, 6:30 pm Meeting***

President's Message

Well, is it hot enough for you? I used to find some comfort in remembering that it may be hot now, but at least in winter we don't get snow! Now I have to qualify that statement just a little. BUT, the ground still doesn't freeze here in winter. Here in the South, I do a lot more quilting in the summer than in the winter, as I just can't take that heat as much as I used to. Just the opposite of those poor folks up north that get snowed in for days at a time during the winter and have nothing else to do but look at seed catalogs and quilt.



The August program will be the presentation and voting of the challenge quilts. It's always so amazing to see how creative some folks can be. They are given the same guidelines but come up with a wide variety of interpretations.

While I can admire and appreciate their work, I know that I am not one of those artists. I'm happiest when I have a pattern to start with. But that's Okay! In the quilting world there is something for everyone. So find your niche and have fun with whatever you choose to do.

Michele Hackmeyer



August Program

August 13, 2026 — Challenge Quilts

August's Program is Challenge Quilts so, good luck to those that have entered something for judging!

September Program

September 3, 2026 — Quilted Garments & Accessories Fashion Show

Don't forget that September's meeting will be the Quilted Fashion and Accessories Show! There will be a sign-up sheet at the door of August's meeting so I can get an estimate of how many of you plan to participate. I hope that you all do! If you used a pattern, please bring the pattern information to the show to share with the group. There will be another sign-up sheet at the door of September's meeting as well so you have plenty of time to get everything finished. Get ready to walk the red carpet and share your amazing makes!

PS- Feel free to email me your fashion show information if you can't make it to the meeting (email in the directory).

******(Please note this is the 1st Thursday of the month)******

Thanks!!
Tracy Wade
Programs Chair

Membership

Thank You!
to the $\frac{2}{3}$ of our members who have paid their 2026 dues!



QU runs because of everyone's participation!

- To pay the rent (and required security guard) for our meeting room
- To pay for insurance and website hosting and our P.O. box and taxes
- For guest presenters, directory printing, distinguished quilter and volunteer of the year awards, door prizes, publicity . . . — *all the fun stuff!*

**Just \$15 for July–December dues by check/cash at a meeting
or by card on our website:**

<https://www.quilttallahassee.com/membership/forms/dues-payments/>

QU Library – Book Sale

The time has finally come to discontinue the QU library. With so much information available online and not being able to store the books where we meet, the books just aren't used enough.

Starting in August, we will be offering the books to QU members for \$2 each. This will be cash only. Those not sold at the meeting will be donated to the Leon County Public Library for their Friends Shop.



If you currently have a book that you checked out, you can bring it back in August or buy it for 2 dollars. Just bring the name of the book with your money to the meeting.

If you know of a book we have that you want, please email me and, if it's still available, I will save it for you.

Michele Hackmeyer, QU Librarian

2026 Volunteer of the Year Award

It is time to think about nominating an active member of Quilters Unlimited for the Volunteer of the Year Award. This award gives us a chance to say "Thank You" to an active member for generously contributing time and expertise to Quilters Unlimited.



The Entry Form has contact information and three sections to describe the nominee:

1. Examples of initiative and/or assuming responsibility & leadership in guild activities
2. Willingness to help with routine tasks and unexpected needs
3. Examples of encouraging member participation in guild-related, community activities

The Award Criteria below is online in the Policies and Procedures:

4. Committee Procedures for Nomination

- a) The Awards Committee shall solicit nominations from active Quilters Unlimited members through forms, published on the guild's web site.
- b) There shall be a nominator and a co-nominator and both shall complete and sign the Nomination Form.
- c) The Awards Committee Chairperson shall not be a nominator or co-nominator. In the case of any tie votes, the Chairperson shall cast the deciding vote.
- d) An Awards Committee member, nominated for an award, shall not participate in discussions or voting pertaining to that award.
- e) The current President is not eligible for the Volunteer of the Year Award.

5. Volunteer of the Year Award Criteria.

- a) The Volunteer of the Year Award will be given to a participating guild member, who: supports the goals and purposes of Quilters Unlimited by promoting knowledge of and interest in quilting and the art of quilting; shows initiative and/or assumes responsibility and leadership; is willing to help with routine tasks and unexpected needs; stimulates participation in guild activities and community-related activities; and gives unselfishly of their time and effort for the benefit of the guild.
- b) The nominee may also: serve as officer or committee chairperson and demonstrates areas of expertise in guild (programs, writing, other).
- c) The Volunteer of the Year Nomination Form is due to the Awards Committee Chairperson no later than October 1st of each year. The form is available on the QU website.

Nomination forms for the Volunteer of the Year Award are online at:

<https://quilttallahassee.com/activities-and-projects/awards/>

The nomination form can be completed and submitted on your computer or on paper. The form must have both a nominator and a co-nominator from the guild.

Nomination forms for the Volunteer of the Year Award are due by October 1.

Contact Janet Hughes with questions about submitting nominations.

Help QU In 2027 – We Need Volunteers!

It's time to volunteer and sign up to help Quilters Unlimited for 2027!

Current Open Officer and Chair positions:

- President-Elect
- Membership VP
- Treasurer
- Annual Quilt Show 2027
- Opportunity Quilt 2027
- Opportunity Quilt 2028
- Philanthropy
- Publicity/Social Media
- Door Prize
- Show and Tell
- Silent Auction 2027
- Welcoming
- Audit
- Awards
- Travel



Please feel free to contact current officers or other steering committee members to find out more information if you are interested in volunteering.

Here are brief descriptions of the officers' positions:

Treasurer: The QU Treasurer is responsible for the money management of the guild and submitting required reports and filings with the IRS and state. The accounting is handled via Excel spreadsheets and online portals and documentation is done via computer files and paper documents, so access to a computer with Excel and a printer is advised.

Membership: Keeps the membership spreadsheet updated re: dues payments & contact info. Greets members and guests at the door and tracks attendance. Provides the most current info for laying out the directories, then gets them printed and mails one to the few who pay extra for that. Provides directory updates as needed.

Positions already filled for 2027: President, Secretary, Annual Quilt Show 2028, Internet/Website, Newsletter/Email, Programs, Workshops, Block of the Month, Challenge Quilts, Equipment, Sit-n-Stitch, and Sunshine.

Upcoming Quilt Show

On behalf of QuiltFest Jacksonville, you are invited to come visit our show this year- hosted by the seven sister guilds of the Jacksonville and St. Augustine area, and themed Give Piece A Chance.

We expect over 400 quilts to hang for the exhibition, with many wonderful vendors and demos to be presented. The show will be held Thursday through Saturday, September 17th -19th, at The Prime Osborn Convention Center. Show times are 9:00am-5:00pm on Thursday and Friday, and 9:00am-4:00pm on Saturday. Regular admission tickets are \$17, senior and military are \$16, and bus group discounts are \$15. All tickets include free parking. Advance tickets are available for groups and buses, so gather your friends and come see all the traditional, modern and art quilts, and shop with the vendors.



August Block of the Month: Don't Trip on the Courthouse Steps!

This is a very traditional block pattern, but done with as much freedom as you want. The only advice on this one is, once again, use lots of contrast!

Here are instructions for an [improv Courthouse Steps](#) block. You can improvise this pattern with various widths and angles using strips that are not all parallel or the same size, or by using a mix of thin and wide strips so that the center block is off-center.

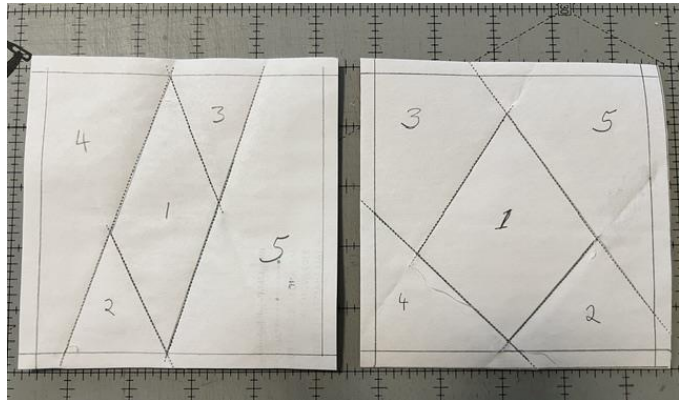
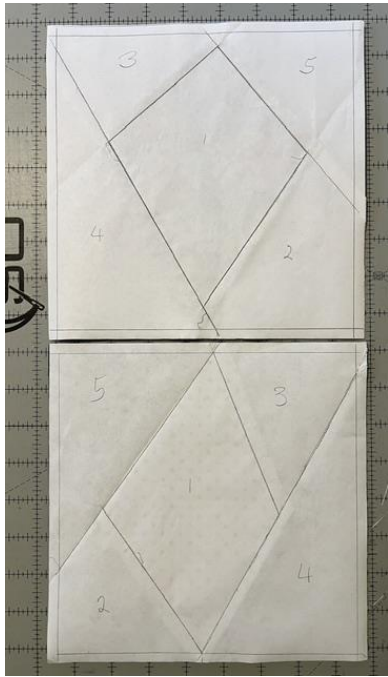
Here are blocks I made—I think I'll make some more!



*Ellen Fournier
Block of the Month*

September Block of the Month: Roughcut Diamonds

Foundation paper piecing (FPP) can be used for extreme precision, but it works for improvisation, too. This month's improv blocks start with FPP patterns that you create.



1. On copier paper or other lightweight paper, draw a square the size of your unfinished block, then draw a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance inside the edges.
2. Sketch a diamond shape inside the smaller square—it can have points at the inner edges or can be smaller.
3. Draw lines on opposite sides of the diamond all the way to the inner edges.
4. Number the sections—1 is the diamond, see the illustration for the rest of the numbers. The sections that go from edge to edge must be 4 and 5.
5. Choose your fabrics—once again contrast is important! The diamond center can be used for a print you want to highlight.
6. Construct the blocks using standard FPP technique.



Ellen Fournier
Block of the Month

Quilts of Valor

At the meeting in July, we awarded three Quilts of Valor to three deserving veterans. All three are women who served our great nation.

They are as follows;

Sgt. Elaine Smith (E-4) served 1983-1991 in the U.S. Army with the 1st Infantry Division as a medic in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Iraq during Operation Desert Storm. Her quilt was made and quilted by Bits & Pieces quilt group.



Specialist Jamila Brown served 2001-2004 in the U.S. Army as a Chemical, Nuclear and Biological Decontamination Specialist with the 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment. Her quilt was made by Toni N.



Quilts of Valor

Petty Officer Paula Hubert (E-6) served 1981-2003 in the U.S. Navy (22 yrs.). Among those years Petty Officer Paula was on a repair tender for three years. She trained recruits during Desert Storm. Her quilt was made by Nancy T.



To let everyone know that we who are members of Quilt of Valor Organization ask each veteran whether they want to be wrapped with their quilt or just hold it up when the picture of award is made. It is up to our veterans to make that decision, not ours.

Thanks to all who have a part in the process as it takes someone to purchase fabric and batting, cutting the fabric, some to sew blocks and/or quilt top and those who quilt it and then those who do the binding. Whew, that is a lot of folks for a quilt that will be given to another! Thanks to everyone who has a part in this wonderful project to cover and thank all veterans.

Peggy Clark, Janet Taylor, Roberta Granville and Ann Gaber

Register for a Workshop!

We are over ½ way to the holidays y'all! It isn't too late to whip out some great projects for gifts...or that new grandbaby...or a friend who needs a new wall hanging!

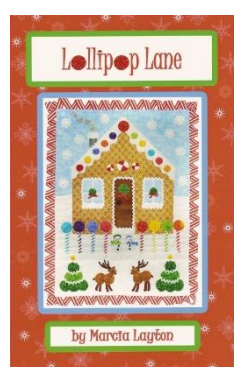
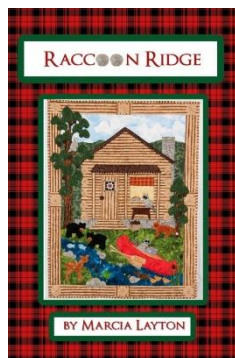
Check out [Marcia Layton](#). Marcia is coming to the guild to share her creations on October 8th at our guild meeting. She is offering two workshops: one on Friday, October 9th and one on Saturday, October 10th.

October 9th workshop is a 3 hour workshop from 10-1 with your choice of one of these projects:



Class fees for the 3 hour class (Friday October 9th) are \$20 for members and \$35 for non-members. You must purchase the pattern; optional kits must be pre-purchased before the workshop.

October 10th workshop is a 6 hour workshop from 10-4 with your choice of one of these projects:



Class fees for the 6 hour workshop (Saturday October 10th) are \$25 for members and \$40 for non-members. You must purchase the pattern; optional kits must be pre-purchased before the workshop.

Naturally she will bring other patterns and fabric and notions - and all kinds of STUFF to buy...so sign up and start putting \$\$ away before October!

Click to Register on QU Website: [QU Workshop Registration](#)

OR Scan the QR code...



Cheryl

Newsletter Info

The deadline for newsletter submissions for the next issue is **August 21, 2026**. Please submit materials to our Newsletter Editor via email at newsletter@quilttallahassee.com. To receive a newsletter by mail, contact the editor for details.



Missing Email Blasts?

Check your email spam filter, check for blocked addresses, and/or add webmaster@quilttallahassee.com to your contact list. Still have problems? Email our Membership VP at membership@quilttallahassee.com. If your email address changes, let us know at the next meeting.

Help Send a Little Sunshine

If a member needs some cheering up, don't forget to let me know. I'll send some sunshine their way on behalf of the guild!

Shelley Woodyard



Follow and "Like" Quilters Unlimited of Tallahassee on Facebook & stay connected.

<https://www.facebook.com/QuiltTallahassee/>

Guild Calendar

2026	What/Where
Guild Meetings are at Temple Israel unless otherwise noted. 6:00pm Social / 6:30pm Meeting	
Aug 13	Guild Meeting - Challenge Quilts
Sep 3	Guild Meeting – Quilted Garments & Accessories Fashion Show – Note: Meeting is first Thursday in September!
Oct 8	Guild Meeting – Marcia Layton – lecture and trunk show called “From Handprints to Yo-Yos!”
Nov 12	Guild Meeting
Dec 10	Guild Meeting – Potluck Celebration

2026 QU Steering Committee

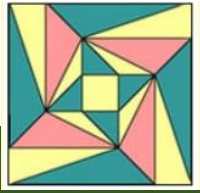
Position	2026
President	<i>Vacant</i>
President-Elect	<i>Vacant</i>
Treasurer	Kerry Cohen
Membership VP	Sue Isaac
Secretary	Janet Taylor
Auditor	Linda Robbins
Awards	Janet Hughes
Block of the Month	Ellen Fournier
Challenge Quilt	Carole Gentry
Door Prize	Wendy Adams Joanne Stock
Equipment	Michele Hackmeyer
Internet/Website	Sue Isaac
Library	Michele Hackmeyer
Newsletter/Email	Darlene Pricher
Opportunity Quilt 2026	<i>Vacant</i>
Opportunity Quilt 2027	<i>Vacant</i>
Past President	Kerry Cohen
Philanthropy	Ann Gaber and Co.
Programs	Tracy Wade
Publicity/Social Media	<i>Vacant</i>
Quilt Show 2026	<i>Vacant</i>
Silent Auction	Dawn Griffin Hanneke Hoxworth
Sit-n-Stitch	Peggy Clark
Sunshine	Shelley Woodyard
Travel	TBD
Welcoming	Ann Gaber
Workshops	Cheryl Gratt

Sit-n-Stitch Groups

A "Sit-n-Stitch" is a group of quilters who meet regularly to work on service projects, learning and practicing quilting techniques, or working on members' individual projects. Some groups meet in members' homes on a rotating basis and others meet at specified locations. If you are interested in joining a sit-n-stitch group, please call Peggy Clark or call the group's contact person. Phone numbers are available to Guild members in the Quilters Unlimited Membership Directory. Members are encouraged to form new sit-n-stitch groups to match their quilting interests.

Monday	Quilting Bees @ Senior Center	Weekly 9 am - 1 pm	Janice Watson
	Southwood Stitchers	Weekly 10 am - 1 pm Southwood Community Center	Jane Kazmer
Tuesday	Bits and Pieces	1 st Tuesday, 11 am - 3 pm Eastside Branch Library 1583 Pedrick Road	Teresa Miller
Tuesday or Thursday	Rags2Bags	Tuesday 10 am – 2 pm OR Thursday 12:30 pm – 3:30 pm Faith Community Outreach Center	Evelyn Gonzalez
Wednesday	Pin Pals*	1st and 3rd Wednesdays Killearn area, 1:00 - 3:30 pm	Teri Smith
Thursday	Sew Arty	3rd Thursday 11:30 am - 1:30 pm Bernina Connection Bring your own lunch.	Marion Millet
	Patchwork & Prayer	1st, 3rd, 4th Thursday 6:30 - 8:30 pm Crawfordville	Judy Stricklin
	Appliqué Addicts	3rd Thursday 11 am - 1:45 pm Northeast Branch Library	Selena Foo
Friday	Frayed Edges*	Weekly, 9:30 am – 12 pm	Loui Tope
Saturday	Sew for HOPE	1st & 3rd Saturday 10 am - 3 pm Bring your own lunch. St. Stephen Lutheran Church, 2198 N. Meridian Road	Sandra Tate, Judy Rainbrook
	Second Saturday	Saturday after guild meeting, 9 am - 4 pm	Connie Beane

*** Group is currently at maximum capacity.**



CLASSIFIED ADS

QUILTERS UNLIMITED OF TALLAHASSEE

*Items for Sale or Free, by Guild Members.
See Directory for Specific Contact Information*

Classified Ads -- Instructions

Only Guild Members can list items for sale, for services, or "free-to-a-good-home". How to request an ad? Email your ad/notices to the Newsletter Editor at newsletter@quilttallahassee.com. Briefly describe the item and asking price.

Your item will be posted for only one month per email submission.

ALL NEGOTIATIONS AND PROBLEMS WITH A SALE OR SERVICES ARE BETWEEN THE BUYER AND SELLER.