

AROUND THE BLOCK

QUILTERS UNLIMITED OF TALLAHASSEE

Volume 43, Issue 3

March 2026

**Next Meeting: March 12, 2026, Temple Israel, 2215 Mahan Drive
Times: 6:00 pm Social, 6:30 pm Meeting**

A Note from this Month's President,

As we are entering into March, hopefully the winter weather is disappearing along with February and the cold temperatures. Of course, we will have along with the warmer temperatures, the pollen that brings sneezing, watery eyes and all that green stuff on the cars that needs washed off! Oh, but the pretty blooms!

Please remember to save water as we are in a drought. I had mentioned in the meeting last month to save by showering with a friend BUT it is crucial to ask your spouse if that is okay!!!

I want to share the message on a wall hanging I saw while we were traveling a few years ago in a quilt shop in Montana. How true the abbreviations are meaningful to quilters.

BOM - Block of the month (We know that one)

DSM - Domestic Sewing Machine

FART - Fabric Acquisition Road Trip

FOB - Fear of Binding

FQ - Fat Quarter (We know that one as well)

HST - Half Square Triangle

LA - Long Armer

LAQ - Long Armer Quilter (I guess she/he does both)

LQS - Local Quilt Shop

MAQ - Mid Arm Quilter

OBW - One Block Wonder

PhD - Project Half Done

PIGS - Projects in Grocery Sacks

PP - Paper Piecing

QAYG - Quilt as You Go

RR - Round Robin

SABLE- Stash Accumulated Beyond Life Expectancy

SEX - Stash Enhancing Experience
(Hope you didn't think anything wayward!)

SID - Stitch in the Ditch

S&W - Stack and Whack

SQUISH - Envelopes filled with Swap Fabric
or gifts sent through the Mail

STASH - Special Treasures all Hidden Secretly

TGIF - Thank God It's Finished

TOT - Tone on Tone

UFO - Unfinished Object (aka WIP - Work in Progress)

VIP - Very Important Project

WHIMM - Works Hidden in My Mind

WISP - Work in Slow Progress

WWIT - What Was I Thinking

WOMBAT - Waste of Money, Batting and Time

Enjoy Jennifer Wagner of Snapdragon Quilting this month.

Peggy Clark, Past President

March Program

Join us at our March 12th meeting for a trunk show by Jennifer Wagner of Snapdragon Quilting.

Jennifer will also be conducting Workshops on March 13th and March 14th, so check out all the details in this newsletter to sign up.



April Program

Philanthropy Quilting — Kara Walker from VITAS Healthcare will present a short talk on the hospice program and their memory bears. There will also be presentations from our QU philanthropy groups on the work they are doing, if they are looking for new members, and sharing any needs they have. QU members are encouraged to share any needs they are aware of in the community to hopefully find someone in the group that can help.

Tracy Wade
Programs Chair

March 2026 Block-of-the-Month – Freestyle 16-patch

Sometimes it seems that Improv quilting should be easier than conventional quilting, after all, there are no precise measurements or strict 90-degree angles. In my experience, this block disproves that assumption. There are surprising ways it can go wrong but I hope these instructions minimize the risk.

1. Choose fabric for this block with strong value contrast, whether you are using multiple colors and prints or two colors.

2. Cut 4 freehand rectangles (really trapezoids) at least 2" longer than your final unfinished block height, and with total width at least 2.5" wider than final unfinished width.



3. Lay these strips out alternating light and dark and wide ends (see photo) and stitch them together. (I like to press the seams open.) Make sure the block is at least as wide as your final unfinished width. (This block will be 5" unfinished.)



4. Cut this block into 4 roughly horizontal, roughly equal strips. Turn 2 of the strips 180 degrees (see photo) and stitch together.



5. Press the seams open and trim to desired size.



What can go wrong?

If the strips were too narrow or the angles too extreme the block will not be big enough (ask me how I know). Sometimes you can fix this by restitching scantier seams.

If the strips are too wide the outside patches will be too small. You can fix this with wider seams, before the final trim.

Ellen Fournier, Block of the Month Chair

April 2026 Block-of-the-Month – String Pieced Improv Block (FPP)

This block doesn't have to use foundation paper piecing (FPP), but for me it works better this way. I learned from last year's Stripper Blocks that without a paper foundation my blocks did not lie flat. If you have better luck than me, feel free to skip the paper.

1. Start by drawing a square the size of your block on a sheet of lightweight paper.
2. Cut several strips of your fabric of different lengths and widths, but at least a few longer than the diagonal of your square. The sides don't need to be exactly parallel, but they should be straight.
3. Using a glue stick or pins, attach one long strip diagonally from corner to corner of the paper square on the wrong side of the paper. The right side of the fabric is facing up. (You can use a light table to check this or hold the paper up to a bright light.)
4. Place a strip of contrasting fabric right side down on this first strip, matching long edges on one side. Make sure it covers the sides of the square on each end.
5. Using short stitches, machine stitch this strip to the first strip along the matching edge and then fold it back (exposing the right side of the fabric) and gently press it down. Repeat these steps with another strip of contrasting fabric on the other long edge of the first strip.
6. Continue to add contrasting fabric strips, working out from the center of the block until the square that you drew is totally covered.
7. Working from the wrong (paper) side, trim the block to desired size. I like to use a ruler instead of the square drawn on the paper because sometimes the stitching causes the square to shrink slightly, especially if there are a lot of pieces.
8. I like to wait to remove the paper until I'm ready to use the block. When you are ready to do this, gently tear the paper along the stitching lines, taking care not to stretch the seams.

Ellen Fournier, Block of the Month Chair

Annual Member Awards 2026

Quilters Unlimited has two annual member awards, one for Distinguished Quilter and one for Volunteer of the Year. More information about the qualifications for these awards can be found on our website under Activities/Projects, drop down to Awards.

Requests for nominations begin two months before the deadline and will be posted in the newsletter. Nominations are made through a form on the website.

Hint: The more information you provide about your nominee, the better! The committee makes its decision based on the nomination forms.

For those who have requested more time to think about who deserves these awards, start thinking now for the Distinguished Quilter award, and keep an eye on our wonderful volunteers for those who go above and beyond for Volunteer of the Year.

Each winner receives a certificate and \$50 check.



For more information, please contact Janet **Hughes**.

Membership

Reminder

*If you've paid your dues,
you can pick up a directory
at the March 12 meeting!*

- Pay that night in **cash** or by **check**
- Pay before the meeting by **credit card** on the website

[https:// www.quilttallahassee.com/membership/forms/dues-payments/](https://www.quilttallahassee.com/membership/forms/dues-payments/)

*Questions? Please contact Sue Isaac,
membership@quilttallahassee.com*



Sue Isaac, Membership VP

Quilt of Valor

Richard Woerner was awarded a Quilt of Valor at his home on February 13, 2026. Richard served in the United States Navy for five years and was a Lieutenant Junior Grade when he left the Navy in 1980. He is shown with his wife Luann holding his Quilt of Valor which was made and quilted by Meredith S.

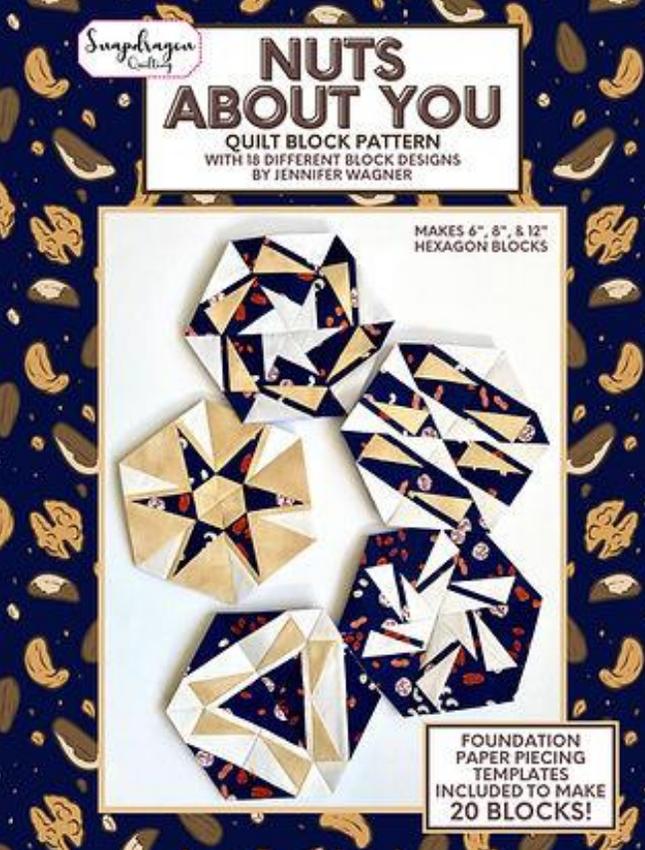


Submitted by Roberta Granville

Workshop - Last chance to sign up for Jennifer Wagner's workshops March 13th and 14th! There are only a few seats left so register today!

JOIN US IN WELCOMING JENNIFER WAGNER OF [SNAPDRAGON QUILTING](#)

Jennifer will be doing a trunk show at our Quilters Unlimited meeting on March 12th and she will offer two workshops: March 13 from 9:30 -3:30 and March 14, 2026 9:30-3:30! (Bring your own lunch or we will order out!).

<p>Friday, March 13th Simply Smooth-Reverse Applique/Small Curves (pattern fee is in addition to workshop class fee) Here is the SUPPLY LIST</p>	<p>Saturday, March 14th Foundation Paper Piecing Basics w/hexagon blocks (pattern fee is in addition to workshop class fee) Here is the SUPPLY LIST</p>
 <p>MINI MOONS Quilt Pattern by Jennifer Wagner Finished Size 22" x 22" or 20" x 20"</p> 	 <p>NUTS ABOUT YOU QUILT BLOCK PATTERN WITH 18 DIFFERENT BLOCK DESIGNS BY JENNIFER WAGNER</p> <p>MAKES 6", 8", & 12" HEXAGON BLOCKS</p> <p>FOUNDATION PAPER PIECING TEMPLATES INCLUDED TO MAKE 20 BLOCKS!</p>

FEE: \$25 for QU members only. All others: \$40.

NO REFUNDS - We will assist you in re-selling your class fee should you not be able to attend.

Contact Cheryl Gratt with any questions.

All the details for the workshop and registration are online by clicking [here](#) to go to the QU website.

Upcoming Quilt Show

Happy New Year from Country Road Quilters, Inc. of Ocala. This is a reminder that our quilt show "Ruby Jubilee of 2026" is fast approaching. It is our hope QU members will be able to join us during this special year as 2026 marks our 40th anniversary.

As with most quilt shows, our show will include:

Quilt Displays - Vendors – Basket Boulevard - Boutique Shop - Door Prizes - Opportunity Quilt

Our guild is proud to announce our Opportunity Quilt named "HOPE" (pictured below) received 1st place in the Collaborative Category (26 entrants) at the Jax Quilt Fest in 2025. The queen sized quilt is stunning in person so please join us.



"Hope"



2026 Opportunity Quilt

Friday, April 17
Saturday, April 18
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Daily Admission \$10

8395 SW 80th St.,
Ocala, FL 34481



Newsletter Info

The deadline for newsletter submissions for the next issue is **March 26, 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.

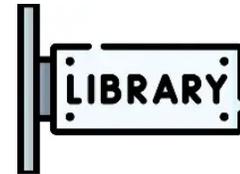


QU Library

We have almost 300 books available to members. Follow this link: [Guild Library](#), to the QU website page containing the list of books. You can search by author, title, or category.

When you find something you would like to check out, note the name of the book and the author and send an email to Michele Hackmeyer (see guild directory) with your request and I will bring the book(s) to the next guild meeting.

Michele Hackmeyer



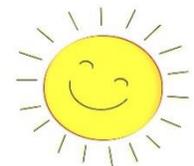
Missing Email Blasts?

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	
Mar 12	Guild Meeting – Jennifer Wagner of Snapdragon Quilting
Apr 9	Guild Meeting – Philanthropy Quilting – Kara Walker from VITAS Healthcare
May 14	Guild Meeting – Jonny Workman from Cookie’s Fabrics
Jun 11	Guild Meeting – Upcycling and Restyling – Carole Gentry and Tracy Wade
Jul 9	Guild Meeting – Quilts of Valor
Aug 13	Guild Meeting -Challenge Quilts
Sep 3	Guild Meeting
Oct 8	Guild Meeting
Nov 12	Guild Meeting
Dec 10	Guild Meeting

2026 QU Steering Committee

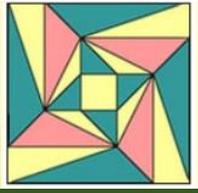
Position	2026
President	<i>Vacant</i>
President-Elect	<i>Vacant</i>
Treasurer	Kerry Cohen
Membership VP	Sue Isaac
Secretary	Janet Taylor
Auditor	Linda Robbins
Awards	Janet Hughes
Block of the Month	Ellen Fournier
Challenge Quilt	Carole Gentry
Door Prize	Wendy Adams Joanne Stock
Equipment	Michele Hackmeyer
Internet/Website	Sue Isaac
Library	Michele Hackmeyer
Newsletter/Email	Darlene Pricher
Opportunity Quilt 2026	<i>Vacant</i>
Opporunity 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	Peggy Sanford
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.