

AROUND THE BLOCK

QUILTERS UNLIMITED OF TALLAHASSEE

Volume 43, Issue 10

October 2026

***Next Meeting: October 8, 2026, Temple Israel, 2215 Mahan Drive
Temple Israel, 2215 Mahan Drive Times: 6:00 pm Social, 6:30 pm Meeting***

President's Message

Fall is in the air, at least for the moment. Outdoor activities ramp up with the cooler weather, but our quilting projects continue. We have a huge number of folks making quilt tops for various philanthropic endeavors. What we really need now are more folks willing to finish the quilt by quilting the layers together. With the advent of spray basting, this is something that anyone can do on a regular-sized home sewing machine. While it may take some finagling to get your sewing area set up to support the quilt as you work, it's really not hard to do. We do want the finished product to be nice looking, but IT DOES NOT HAVE TO BE PERFECT! No one is going to judge your work, no one is going to inspect it. It just needs to get done. I know this isn't nearly as much fun as making the top, but please consider giving this a try.



I will be at the next Bits and Pieces meeting at the Fellowship Presbyterian Church on October 6th, 11:30 AM, machine quilting a quilt if you want to come by and see how it's done.

Michele Hackmeyer



October Program

October 8, 2026 — Marcia Layton Lecture and Trunk Show called “From Handprints to Yo-Yos!”

The October meeting program will a trunk show and talk by Marcia Layton (www.marcialaytondesigns.com) who will also be providing one workshop to enjoy. Please sign up for the workshop on the QU website!

November Program

November 12, 2026 — Susan Wallace will be presenting on quilt repair and restoration.

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!

REMINDER

- 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/>

Americana Challenge NEWS

The 2026 Americana Challenge: Celebrating America's 250th is in the books. We had TWENTY entries this year and TWO judges to choose our place winners! Our judges were Marianne from The Quilt Peddler and Debbie from Bernina Connection. These ladies took on the challenge of judging these entries very seriously as they read each quilter's statement and examined design, color, layout, piecing, binding and overall style. I brought the quilt entries to each store and spent two afternoons with these shop owners, answering questions as they admired each quilt and assigned points based on the rubric.



After tallying the points, we had our ribbon recipients. Because, after all, everyone who enters is a true winner for taking on the challenge. (Did everyone "get" why I choose the 20" x 26" size requirement? If not, read those numbers out loud.)

Judges' Award: **Loui Toupe**

First Place: **Loui Toupe**, "The Birth of Liberty"

Second Place: **Linda Stright**, "Let Freedom Ring"

Third Place: **Nick O'Sullivan and Linda O'Sullivan**, "Purple Mountains Majesty"

The BIG night came and I sure enjoyed preparing for the voting and having my darling husband build the triangle display to show off every quilt. They sure looked amazing displayed all together. Members in attendance were able to vote for two quilts:

MEMBER'S CHOICE

This is the quilt that grabbed your attention, made you look closer and gave you that "WOW" moment. You may like the workmanship, the idea, the colors, or any aspect of the quilt. It is YOUR favorite.

And

MEMBER'S CHOICE: Spirit of Americana

This is the quilt that best represents the spirit of America and the spirit of the Challenge. The maker brought their story to life in the design and execution of their quilt. Their story made you look closer at the details of the quilt or your own heart.

The members chose:



Member's Choice awarded to **Nick O'Sullivan and Linda O'Sullivan** for "Purple Mountains Majesty" and the Spirit of Americana was awarded to **Linda Stright**, "Let Freedom Ring".



All Challenge quilts are safely in my possession. I received notice from the library, and they will display them in November at the Northeast and Eastside branch locations. This is a change from the original Main library location. I will bring them in December to return them to each artist.

I sure hope everyone enjoyed participating in this year's challenge—whether as a quilter or voter. I am excited to run the challenge next year and I have a member who has already volunteered to help! It's going to be a fun one! Quilts will be POPPING!

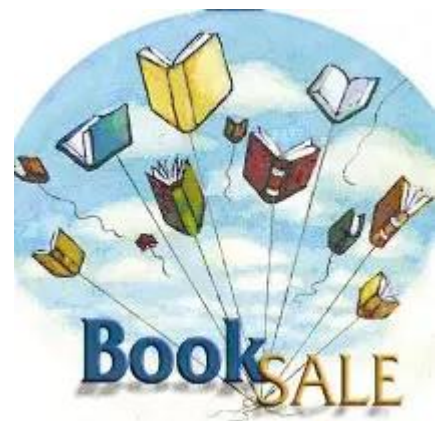
Carole Gentry

QU Library – The Last Chance

The last batch of books will be available for purchase at this meeting. All books are \$2.00 each, cash only.

Any books left at the end of the meeting are taken to the Leon County Public Library for them to try to sell in their 'Friends' gift shops.

Michele Hackmeyer, QU Librarian



Election Time

The Nomination Committee has the following nominations for 2027 Officers to be voted on at our October Meeting: President, Christine Walsh; President-Elect, Carole Gentry; Secretary, Janet Taylor; and Treasurer, Cheryl Gratt.

We still need someone to step forward for the Membership Vice-President. This officer keeps the membership spreadsheet updated with dues payments & current contact info; greets members at the guild meetings and tracks attendance; handles the printing and distribution of the directory (layout of member info and photos is handled by someone else) and supplies information to guests about joining the guild.



If you are interested, please contact Peggy Clark.

2027 QU Steering Committee

A big thank you to everyone who volunteered to be on the 2027 QU Steering Committee in the past month. We only have a few spots left to fill. Please consider undertaking one of these positions or partnering up with a friend to co-chair together!

The committee chair positions for 2027 are listed below with those volunteering and the open positions we still need to fill.

2027 Committee Chairs:

Annual Quilt Show 2028	Cheryl Gratt/Karen Kunz	Opportunity Quilt 2028	Pam Doffek/Karen Kunz
Audit	Susan Thomson	Philanthropy	Ann Gaber
Awards	Leslie Cohen	Programs	Tracy Wade
Block of the Month	Janet Hughes/Loui Tope	Silent Auction	Jennifer Colley
Challenge Quilt	Carole Gentry	Sit-n-Stitch	Teresa Miller
Door Prize	Roberta Granville/Jennifer Colley	Sunshine	Shelley Woodyard
Equipment	Michele Hackmeyer	Travel	Pam Hickox
Internet/Website	Sue Isaac	Welcoming	Sharon Pollock
Newsletter/Email	Kerry Cohen	Workshops	Peggy Clark

Open 2027 Committees:

Annual Quilt Show 2027
Opportunity Quilt 2027
Publicity/Social Media
Show and Tell

If you are interested, please contact Peggy Clark.

Thanks!

Friendship Star Quilters
Quilt Show
November 6th & 7th 2026



Chromatic Beauty

Pattern by: Bound to Be Quilting

Tallahassee Elks Lodge
276 N. Magnolia Dr, Tallahassee FL
Friday Nov 6th - 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Saturday Nov 7th - 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

\$5 Admission

Quilts by Friendship Star Quilters
Vendors
Opportunity Quilt
Boutique
Opportunity Baskets
Scrap Splash
Peddlers Table
Quilts of Valor information
Quilts for sale



Drawings for the Opportunity quilt and baskets will be Saturday. Do not need to be present to win.

Email: friendshipstarquiltersfl@gmail.com Facebook: Friendship Star Quilters

October Block of the Month: Quilt Arithmetic

School is back in session and it's time to review arithmetic! It's simple to create the symbols for basic math operations in improvised quilt blocks.

Each block begins with a background fabric square a little larger than the final block size to allow for trimming, and strips of contrast fabric roughly 1" to 1.5" wide and 3 or 4 times longer than the side of the square.

To make the **addition** block you slice the block roughly in half vertically and insert a contrasting strip. Press this block and slice it horizontally roughly in half and insert another strip, making sure the vertical arms of the plus sign mostly match. Press again and trim the block to desired size.

The **multiplication** block is pretty much the same, except that the slices are diagonal!

The **division** block is a horizontal slice and insert, plus 2 dots! I appliqued the dots on with Mistyfuse and narrow stitching at the edge.

For the **subtraction** block you need to cut a strip of the contrast fabric 1.5" to 2" shorter than the finished width of the block and sew pieces of the background fabric to each end, making it as long as the background square. Slice the background square horizontally, insert the strip, and trim to the desired size.

There are other mathematical symbols that would make easy improvised quilt blocks—I'm thinking about an equal sign and some parentheses.

Ellen Fournier
Block of the Month



Havana, FL's 9th Annual Quilt Sale Event

Dear Quilt Guild Members and Fellow Creative Spirits,

On behalf of Havana Main Street, I would like to extend a formal invitation to your guild members to join us for the end of an era: The Grand Finale: Our 9th Annual Quilt Sale, honoring a legacy of talent, love, and community. For nearly a decade, master quilter Wendy Adams has poured her heart, soul, and thousands of hours into creating beautiful, timeless quilts. Throughout this journey, her dedicated team and various individuals have been instrumental in helping bring these masterpieces to life. Hundreds of their works are cherished in homes across our region and beyond. This upcoming event marks the final chapter of this journey, serving as our last annual sale and a celebration of what Wendy and her team have gifted to our community.

As fellow quilt enthusiasts, we hope that you will be able to attend this special event to celebrate with our quilters and others in the community. We have curated an itinerary for the day that we know will inspire your guild:

- An Extraordinary Showcase: Over 80 quilts will be on display and available for purchase, offering a rare opportunity to bring a piece of this legacy home.
- Linda O'Sullivan Trunk Show: A presentation featuring unique insights, history, and artistry. If you are not familiar with Linda, please look her up online—she has an incredibly interesting history that provides wonderful insight into the craft.
- A hands-on "Slow Stitch" experience: An interactive space for attendees to connect, practice, and experience the mindful, tactile joy of traditional hand-stitching. This activity has been a much-loved feature for several years and is led by Sheila Callahan.
- Quilts of Valor Presentations: A poignant ceremony where crafted quilts will be presented to our esteemed local veterans.
- Specialty Vendor Market: A diverse selection of specialized vendors selling sewing items, notions, textiles, and curated special gifts.
- More surprises: Expected to be added prior to the event.
- DATE: Saturday, October 31st, 2026
- TIME: 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM
- LOCATION: The newly refurbished community room at the Havana History Museum, 204 NW 2nd St in downtown Havana, FL



We would be grateful if you would share this invitation, along with the details of this finale event, with your guild members at your next meeting and via your newsletter/email.

Don't miss this final chance to celebrate Wendy Adams' historic run and the other events that are planned. We look forward to welcoming your guild to historic Havana for a beautiful day shared among those who truly understand the heart behind every stitch.

Please keep up with the event activities by visiting our social media pages where we will share information and the schedule of the day as it evolves.

Website: HavanaMainStreet.com/quiltsale and our
Facebook page: [Havana Main Street](https://www.facebook.com/HavanaMainStreet)

Warmest regards,

Tony Lombardo, Event Chair
Havana Main Street

Register for October 9th Workshop with Marcia Layton!!!

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

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.

Naturally she will bring other patterns and fabric and notions - and all kinds of STUFF to buy...so sign up now!

Click to Register on QU Website: [QU Workshop Registration](#) OR Scan the QR code...



Cheryl

P.S. The Friday, October 9th Workshop is confirmed and and spots are still available so please sign up! The Saturday, October 10th Workshop has been cancelled.

Newsletter Info

The deadline for newsletter submissions for the next issue is **October 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.



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	
Oct 8	Guild Meeting – Marcia Layton – lecture and trunk show called “From Handprints to Yo-Yos!”
Nov 12	Guild Meeting
Nov 17	Steering Committee Meeting 6:00pm at Main Library
Dec 10	Guild Meeting – Potluck Celebration

2026 QU Steering Committee

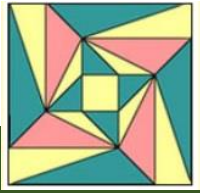
Position	2026
President	<i>Vacant</i>
President-Elect	<i>Vacant</i>
Treasurer	Kerry Cohen
Membership VP	Sue Isaac
Secretary	Janet Taylor
Auditor	Linda Robbins
Awards	Janet Hughes
Block of the Month	Ellen Fournier
Challenge Quilt	Carole Gentry
Door Prize	Wendy Adams Joanne Stock
Equipment	Michele Hackmeyer
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	***CHANGE OF LOCATION*** 1 st Tuesday, 11:15 am – 3:30 pm Fellowship Presbyterian Church 3158 Shamrock St. S, Tallahassee	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*

Vintage 1952 Singer Featherweight 221-1 Sewing Machine

Contact Linda Patton (look up in the QU Directory)
Excellent condition, rewired & sews beautifully!

-- \$450 --



- In excellent physical condition, mechanically smooth, and stitches beautifully.
- Professionally rewired with brand-new, safe wiring so you can sew with peace of mind.
- Stunning Cosmetics: The deep black shiny finish, gold decals, and filigree are in excellent condition with minimal wear.
- Includes the original vintage hard case, ready to transport your machine to classes or retreats.
- Comes with its original factory-issued attachments and presser feet (saving you the hassle of hunting down expensive replacements).
- Includes a clean, easy-to-read reprint of the original user manual – a \$20 bonus!



Carole Gentry, Longarm Quilting Specialist

Look up Carole's contact information in the QU Directory or via Facebook at:

[facebook.com/LollipopLLC](https://www.facebook.com/LollipopLLC)

[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.