

# Quilters' will



May 2026

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

## News of the Twin Rivers Quilter's Guild New Bern, North Carolina



### From the President

What a wonderful way to welcome May – together under sunny skies, sharing good food, laughter, and of course plenty of quilting stories at our annual picnic. Thank you to everyone who came out and helped make the day so special. The food was amazing; I didn't get a chance to taste it all and was thinking about it later in the day. It's always a great reminder that our guild is about much more than fabric and thread. It's the friendships made, encouragement and shared creativity that keep our group stitched together year after year. I loved seeing everyone relax and enjoy time together outside our usual meetings. We missed all who could not make it!

I would like to again thank Laure Manette for putting together our amazing Day of Sharing. It was a great time! Everyone who worked so hard on their table designs should be congratulated for going above and beyond...it's a day we will remember for quite some time.

The year still holds some upcoming programs, workshops, community sewing and meetings that I hope will be filled with inspiration. We look forward to seeing both familiar and new faces at all future events like the New Member Tea which is just around the corner on May 23. Carolyn Hansen is busy organizing a fun time for us to get to know each other a little better. I'll see you there.

As we move into the busy summer months, I hope you'll continue finding time for quilting, learning new techniques and maybe even finishing a few UFO's that have been patiently waiting.

Enjoy the beautiful month of May, keep stitching and remember – every quilt tells a story, and so does every friendship we make along the way.

Hugs and Stitches,

*Fran*



### 2026 OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

President: Fran Rice

Vice President/Programs: Laure Manette

Treasurer: Claudia Moran

Secretary: Chris Youngs

Block of the Month: Susan Faith & Chris Youngs

Community Quilts:

- Children—Lorraine Wocel
- Military — Mary Daugherty/Jackie Harrison
- My Sister's House — Pat Kruger
- Nursing Home — Nancy Houyoux

Community Relief Fund: Executive Committee

- Coastal Center for Hope & Healing — Nancy Hausman

Community Service: Mary Quay

Day of Sharing: Laure Manette

Door Monitoring: Sandra Egolf

Duffy Exhibit: Lu Anne Tridico

Library: Claudia Moran/Gail Dorman

Membership & Member Spotlight: Lynnet Keeley

Member Outreach: Cathy Cox

New Member Mentoring & New Member Tea:  
Carolyn Hansen

Newsletter: Paula Gramley

Quilt Raffle Ticket Sales: Mary Daugherty

Quilt Show: Janet Olsen

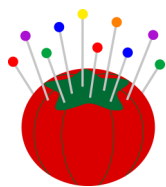
Sunshine: Kay Amend/Evelyn Bernhardt

Website/Facebook — Fran Rice

2026 Winter Retreat: Sue Kleeman/Ed Dzioba

2026 Spring Retreat: Kathy Farrar/Sandy  
Drechsler

2026 Fall Retreat: Sandy Smith/Katherine Haleen



## Program News from the Vice President

It's May! Spring is in the air with a hint of summer on the way. It has been a busy year so far as we welcomed guest speakers and teachers, planned for the Day of Sharing and enjoyed two retreats. We are going to slow things down a bit as our thoughts turn to summer vacations and our 2027 Quilt Show.

We will also be looking forward as we plan for next year. ***We are in the process of forming a Planning Committee.*** The purpose of the Planning Committee will be to assist the Vice President in all aspects of planning workshops. This will include selecting workshops and teachers, making arrangements for teachers, setting up the workshops, and handling sign-up sheets. If you are interested in joining the Planning Committee, please email me at [Lmanette59@gmail.com](mailto:Lmanette59@gmail.com).

***In addition, we will have a Planning Survey for members to complete at the June Business Meeting, so be thinking about what type of classes you would like to have. Your opinion matters as we begin planning for next year.***

**UPCOMING SEPTEMBER THREAD PAINTING CLASS:** On Sept. 24, Carolyn Tabarini will be our guest teacher. The cost of the class is \$50. I will have a sign-up sheet, and supply list at the June Business Meeting.

**Class Description:** Thread painting, or free-motion machine embroidery, is a unique way of embellishing your quilts or creating one of a kind works of art by "painting" the images using thread. Fabric is your canvas and thread is your paint. You are only limited to your imagination as to what images you can "paint" on your fabric.

Learn to create your own art piece using thread and free motion quilting basics on your own sewing machine.

Learn: thread basics, needle basics, machine basics and set up, free motion quilting basics (skill level; intermediate sewing, prior sewing experience necessary).

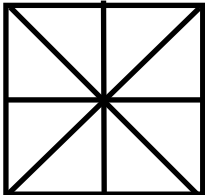
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### Prairie Point Mat Class Thursday, May 28, 9:30 a.m. at the Church

#### SUPPLIES

Octagon: 4 different Fabrics

Square: 5 Different Fabrics

- One 15-inch square piece of muslin or lightweight foundation fabric, marked  as shown above
- One 15-inch square of backing fabric
- One 15-inch square of batting or fleece, or Insulbrite if you are using it for hot items
- Five 5-inch squares of fabric 1
- Eight 6-inch squares of fabric 2
- Eight 7-inch squares of fabric 3
- Eight 8-inch squares of fabric 4
- Four 9-inch squares of fabric 5 if you are making the square version
- Sewing machine & general sewing supplies
- Glue stick/basting stick
- You may want your walking foot and a quilting needle

***\*You may want to bring extra fabric ( in case, heaven forbid, we make a mistake )\****





## *New Member Tea*

*Saturday, May 23, Noon-3 p.m.*

*Tabernacle Church Family Life Center  
Auditorium*

Park behind the church and enter through  
the rear portico.

All new members from 2025-26 and their mentors should have received an invitation to the tea.

Bring a tea cup with a story to tell. We will have extra tea cups available if you do not have one. We will have a contest for the most original spring hat if you wish to participate.

This is a fun event and we will match you up with your mentor. If this is your second year as a new member, you will be graduating and will receive a pin.

If you have not already done so, please RSVP to me after you receive your invitation.

Questions? Carolyn Hansen at 252-675-8994



### **In this May's newsletter we get to welcome another five new members!**

**Julia Narjarian** comes to us via an invitation from her mother-in-law Dorothy Najarian, who says she's been trying to get Julia to join for a year! Julia says she moved to New Bern 10 years ago and started quilting just two years ago.

**Beth Brobst** is originally from Maryland, but moved to Raleigh and lived there for 20 years. Since moving to New Bern, she says she took up quilting when her daughter became pregnant six years ago. She took classes at Sewing on the River.

**Debra Murnane** comes to us through an invitation she received from Sandy Smith; thank you Sandy! Debra lives in Jacksonville. She reports that she has been quilting off and on since the early 1990s. She enjoys sports and travelling as well.

**Christy Lynn Hoosier** is mother to three and grandmother to seven! She says on her application that she LOVES her sewing room and her dogs. She has four dogs and one sewing room, which she considers to be her sanctuary. She has a history of teaching beginner and intermediate quilting classes.

Finally, we have **Betty Lou Krasenics**, who is a returning member— welcome back Betty Lou! She writes on her application that she moved to New Bern in 2005 from Connecticut. She enjoys knitting, reading and Mah-Jong.

Welcome to our new members! On behalf on the guild I can say we are all so happy to see you and look forward to getting to know you.

-- Lynnet Keeley

## Quilt Show News!

### Meet the Judge for our 2027 Show

Since our last guild meeting, the quilt show judging team (Chris Gillespie, Claudia Moran and Lynn Peck-Collins) have signed a contract with Scott Murkin to be a judge at our 2027 quilt show. This will be the third time Scott will judge our show. He has always been an excellent judge and has an outstanding reputation throughout the



*Binding Friendships*



quilting world. We know that he is extremely knowledgeable and professional in judging criteria. He has also become an award-winning modern quilter and we are thrilled to have such an excellent judge for our show.

#### **The Following is his Quilting Bio**

Scott Murkin, MD, is a hospice physician from North Carolina. Originally from a quilting family in Illinois, he currently designs original quilts for the bed and wall. Scott exhibits nationally and internationally, has his textile artworks in prestigious public and private collections, and has had his quilts appear in numerous publications including *American Quilter*, *Quilter's Newsletter Magazine*, *Quiltmaker*, *Quilting Quarterly* and *Great American Quilts*.

Scott is an NACQJ Certified Quilt Judge who has judged throughout the country, including American Quilter's Society, National Quilt Association, QuiltCon and International Quilt Association.

## Start Your Entry for the 2027 Quilt Show Challenge!

Our 2027 quilt show is just 11 months away!

**The theme of the show is Binding Friendships, and that's also the theme of the 2027 Challenge Quilt Category.**

This category is open only to TRQG members.

### **2027 QUILT SHOW CHALLENGE - BINDING FRIENDSHIPS**

1. The perimeter of the finished quilt can be **no larger than 120 inches**. It does NOT have to be square or rectangular.
2. The body of the quilt should be **something that symbolizes friendship or reflects what friendship means to you**.
3. **Anything can be used for the binding EXCEPT a standard binding**. Examples of acceptable bindings include, but are not limited to, flanges, scallops, curves, a knife-edge finish, or prairie points.
4. You can find great examples of different bindings in our library and in online tutorials. If you have questions about whether your binding qualifies, contact Chris Babich or Sharon Rhoton and we will make a determination.

### **QUILT SHOW RIBBON COMMITTEE MEETS JUNE 18**

All the supplies are in and we can begin making ribbons for the 2027 Quilt Show! **Our first meeting will be at the church on June 18**. Please arrive by 9:30, so our door monitor can also be present to let you in. Thank you!

—Mary Daugherty

## Raffle Quilt Ticket Sales are Underway!

**We ask that each of our TRQG members assist us in selling raffle quilt tickets.** Every member is requested to pick up an envelope that contains four packets of six tickets that you can sell to family, friends or neighbors. Please provide \$20 for these tickets. When you sell them, you keep the proceeds to repay your investment. There is a ticket envelope available with your name on it. **If you have not yet gotten your envelope, please pick it up at the June business meeting.** Questions? Contact Mary Daugherty.

### FARMERS MARKET

Raffle Quilt Ticket Sales will resume on May 30. We will be at the Farmers Market every two weeks or so until the end of June. We will begin sales again in September. We must be set up before 7:30 a.m., with the first shift 8-11 a.m. People on the second shift cover from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. The second shift takes the quilt down. We need at least two people for each shift. It's a great way for our guild to gain visibility in the community... and you can get your vegetables too! Please sign up when you can. Please note that these tickets sales are separate from the envelope of tickets that each of our members are asked to sell to family/friends. Please do not sell your tickets at the farmer's market.

If you need help setting up or taking down the quilt and packing up the frame etc, please let me know.

### The schedule currently stands as listed:

**May 30**, First Shift: Mary Daugherty & Marsha McConnell

Second: Evelyn Bernhardt & Claudia Moran

**June 13**, First Shift: Cathy Cox & Laurene Gaskins

Second: Rolayne Schwendy & Julie Robertson & Nancy Hill

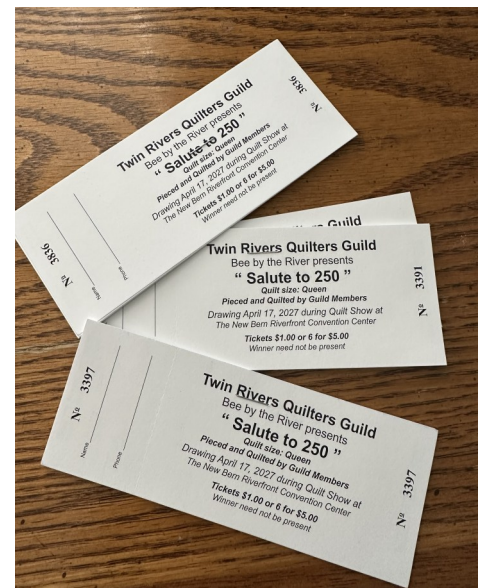
**June 27**, First Shift: Barbara Scavuzzo

Second: Sandy Drechsler & Kathy Farrar

**Sept 12**, First Shift: **OPEN**

Second Shift: Mary Jo Grote & Susan Faith

**If you have to change your schedule or can help if there is no one scheduled, please contact Mary Daugherty. Thank you!**



## DAY OF SHARING

What an amazing job you all did on the Day of Sharing! I am so proud to be a member of this guild. Thank you to everyone who stepped up to help make the Day of Sharing a huge success. There is a saying that team work makes the dream work and that is certainly true at Twin Rivers Quilters Guild. Each person who helped to decorate a table, brought food, donated door prizes, worked on raffle baskets or volunteered their time to help during the event, was an important part of the Day of Sharing. Well done!

— Laure Manette



**FOR SALE**

TRQG member Lilly Lucier is offering the following sewing machines for sale. Please contact her at 252-244-1988.



Bernette embroidery machine made by Bernina and Broadway; I tested it out — \$100.



Husqvarna Viking H class E10, used very little. I tested it and it works fine — \$100.



Bernina 1130 Sewing Machine; sews perfectly — \$300



Singer Featherweight, sews perfectly — \$350



I just cleaned out my freezer. That sounds so much better than, "I just finished off a carton of ice cream."



7076 Ramsey St./HWY 401  
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**SHOP HOP MAGAZINES AVAILABLE!**

**30<sup>th</sup> YOU'RE INVITED!**  
 ANNIVERSARY

Loving Stitches is proudly commemorating its 30th anniversary on July 8th, 2026.

**30%\* OFF THE ENTIRE STORE!!!!**

**Enter Our Quilt Competition to win free gift!**

**GAMES**

AND PRIZES!!

**\*SOME EXCLUSIONS APPLY**



☆ **990 EVENT** ☆

MAY 29: 12:30-5

\$15

**PLAN NOW TO ATTEND OUR IN-STORE QUILTING EVENT ON THE BIG BEAUTIFUL BERNINA 990!**

**CONNIE FANDERS WITH BERNINA WILL BE JOINING US VIRTUALLY IN-STORE. THIS EVENT IS FOR BEGINNER AND EXPERIENCED SEWERS. IN-STORE DEMONSTRATIONS AS WELL! LEARN, DISCOVER, AND MAYBE UPGRADE YOUR MACHINE! FREE ACCESSORIES!**

**SIGN UP IN STORE, BY PHONE, OR THROUGH OUR WEBSITE.**

**USED LONG ARMS FOR SALE!**

**BERNINA**  
*made to create*

**May Picnic**



# In the Spotlight

By Lynnet Keeley

For May's Member Spotlight I visited with yet another one of our new members, **Karen Gray**.

Karen comes to us by way of New Bern Fabric Center and our amazing quilt show last year.

Karen's father's first career was in the United States Marine Corp, which of course meant frequent moves up and down the east coast. Her mom was a stay-at-home mom and Karen also had two younger brothers. When Karen was in junior high school, her dad retired and the family moved to Raleigh, where he went back to school and started a second career in business administration. Karen was very happy to stay in one place for a while, allowing her to complete high school without moving.

Karen went right into nursing school and spent many years working as a trauma nurse in her local emergency department. She married and had two sons. Although she and her husband divorced, they remained amicable and supportive. As a single mom, Karen was lucky enough to only have to work

weekends. She says this allowed her to be so much more involved in her boys' lives. After several years working in the ED, she was able to take on a new job working from home, auditing charts. But this grew tiresome and she decided to attend culinary school! She completed school and then taught there for several years. Then she went back to work in the ED for a short time before the COVID pandemic, when she retired.

In the midst of all of this, she married her current husband Ralph. They had been friends for a several years and built a strong relationship. He has a son and a daughter from his previous marriage as well.

When Ralph inherited 72 acres in Trenton, Karen said, "Let's go!" So, they built a home and have been building their life here since; cruising, riding motorcycles, and being involved with charity work such as Daughters of the American Revolution and Paws for War. They have hosted an exchange students and also have dogs, chickens...you name it.

Karen says she LOVES crafting and she does pretty much anything. She did learn to quilt nearly 30 years ago; however, she has gained a renewed interest and has been taking a variety of classes in efforts to broaden her skill set.

Welcome Karen! We are happy to have you.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

### May Birthdays

Lynnet Keeley	5/16
Julia Najarian	5/19
Marsha McConnell	5/22
Tori Smith	5/26
Millie Trezza	5/28
Emily Lewandowski	5/29
Fran Rice	5/30



**Us older folks know all about living on the edge. We used to answer the phone without knowing who it was.**

**I just fired myself from cleaning my house. I don't like my attitude. I got caught quilting while on the job.**





## Community Quilts

### Children's Quilts

On April 21, I delivered 9 quilts to Community Health Center.

At this week's picnic 5 quilts were turned in from the following: Mary Quay 1, Suzie Tibbetts 2, and Sally Cornford 2.

Thank you all, Lorraine Wocel

***Please continue making quilts for children...they can be for all ages, and do not have to be a particular size. We provide quilts year-round to agencies who assist children in our community.***

### Nursing Home Quilts

The picnic was great fun and great food.

AND the donation of quilts for those in our 14 nursing homes was plentiful!

Quilts came from: Becky Barnes 3, Jenny Nebe 3, Emily Lewandowski 5, Sally Cornford 1, and Rae Gee 2. The magic number 14!

—Nancy Houyoux

### Coastal Center for Help and Healing



Thank you, thank you, thank you for your generosity in providing activities for the children to enjoy this summer. I hope you had as much fun shopping for items as the children will have playing with these items, which completely filled the back seat of my car.

The next collection of items will be in August and September when we will **collect school supplies**. It is a shame summer will end so soon! Of course, we will soon return to gathering monetary donations toward our Christmas gifting to two families. Special thanks to those who have already stated they will provide a quilt for each family. A total of 6 would provide one for each family member. Just let me know. Many thanks for your continued support. —Nancy Hausman (617-6041)

### Community Sewing

Thank you everyone who sewed a patriotic pillowcase to commemorate our 250<sup>th</sup> year American celebration. I gave them to Mary Daugherty to hand out to our military veterans.

**No community sewing days are scheduled for the next several months in the summer. Please continue to work on projects from home.**

This summer, please finish the **pillowcase dress kits** for the Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes. We assist Tabernacle Church by sewing for this project. If you have any questions about the dresses please contact **Claudia Hughes** at 252-617-0533

If you have more time, the chairs for our **children's quilt donations** (Lorraine Wocel) and **nursing home donations** (Nancy Houyoux) have asked for additional quilts. Quilts for children can be various sizes, and for all ages, baby through teens. Lap quilts for nursing homes are sized 40x40 or 40x50.

Thank you everyone who has supported our community by sewing. If you have questions, contact Mary Quay.

### Military Quilts

Thank you Lilly Lucier, Emily Lewandowski and Jenny Nebe for the lovely quilts for our service members/veterans. They will be appreciated.

And thank you to Mary Quay and all those who made patriotic pillow cases! We will see that they are given to veterans or service members!

Please remember that for stretcher quilts we send to the military hospital for wounded service members, the size requested is **40 inches by 60 inches**. The size is specific so they do not get caught on the stretchers used by the hospital. These quilts do not have to be patriotic colors.

— Mary Daugherty & Jackie Harrison

# Show & Tell







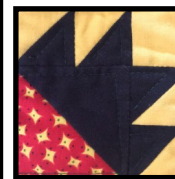
## Twin Rivers Quilter's Guild

Regular meetings are held at Tabernacle Baptist Church, 616 Broad Street in New Bern.

**Monthly Board Meetings begin at 9:30 a.m.** on designated dates for all officers and committee chairs (meeting is open to all members). The door is open at 9.

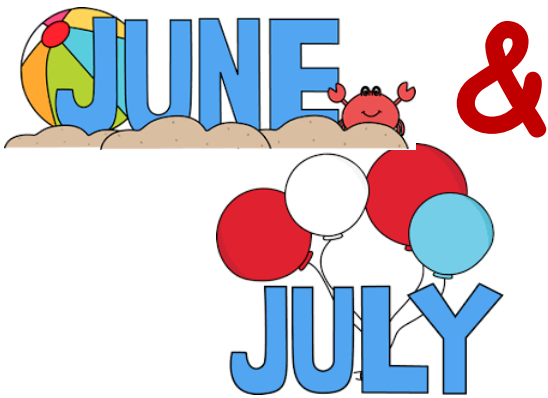
**Monthly Business Meetings begin at 10 a.m.** on designated dates (open to all members and visitors); the door is open at 9. We recommend you arrive no later than 9:30 to sign up for events, turn in donations, etc.

- Annual Dues: \$30
- Member-led demonstrations and workshops: Free, open for members
- Professional Teacher Workshops: \$10 for half-day; \$20 for full day (nonrefundable, due at sign up), open for members







**REMINDER:** The official TRQG nametag must be worn to all meetings at Tabernacle Baptist Church to maintain building security for the church's preschool and other programs. Members should enter through our designated door, where a door monitor will let you in. **The doors will be monitored:**

- 9-10 a.m. on Business Meeting Thursdays
- 9-9:30 a.m. on other Thursday meeting dates
- If you arrive late you will need to call a friend already at the meeting or Sandra Egolf to get someone to open the door.



**Additional Dates**

- May 23—New Member Tea, noon-3 p.m.
- May 28—Prairie Point Mat class with Fran
- June 21-27—Church Vacation Bible School, no TRQG activities at church
- **NO BOARD MTG OR BUSINESS MTG IN JULY!**
- Sept. 24—Thread painting class
- Dec. 9—Holiday Luncheon
- **MARK YOU CALENDAR!** April 2027—TRQG Quilt Show

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
May 17	May 18	May 19	May 20	May 21 9:30 Stitch & Chat	May 22 	May 23 NEW MEMBER TEA Noon-3
May 24	May 25 	May 26	May 27	May 28 9:30 Stitch & Chat Prairie Point Mat Class with Fran	May 29	May 30
May 31	June 1	June 2	June 3	June 4 9:30 Board Mtg Stitch & Chat 10:45 Quilt Show Mtg	June 5	June 6
June 7	June 8	June 9	June 10	June 11 10:00 Business Mtg	June 12	June 13
June 14	June 15	June 16	June 17	June 18 Stitch & Chat	June 19	June 20
JUNE 21-27 	Vacation Bible School at Tabernacle Baptist Church, NO TRQG ACTIVITIES					
June 28	June 29	June 30	July 1	July 2 9:30 Stitch & Chat <u>NO BOARD MTG or QUILT SHOW MTG</u>	July 3	
July 5	July 6	July 7	July 8	July 9 9:30 Stitch & Chat <u>NO BUSINESS MTG</u>	July 10	July 11
July 12	July 13	July 14	July 15	July 16 9:30 Stitch & Chat	July 17	July 18
July 19	July 20	July 21	July 22	July 23 9:30 Stitch & Chat	July 24	July 25
July 26	July 27	July 28	July 29	July 30 9:30 Stitch & Chat	July 31	Aug. 1
Aug. 2	Aug. 3	Aug. 4	Aug. 5	Aug. 6 9:30 Stitch & Chat Board Mtg. followed by Quilt Show Mtg.	Aug. 7	Aug. 8