

Mountain Laurel Quilters Guild

151 Shady Lane
Toccoa, GA 30577

www.mlqg.org

Volume XXXIII 4

IN PERSON MEETING -
Tuesday, April 21, 2026

VFW
174 Cornelia Crossing
Cornelia, GA 30531



Founded 1994

April 2026

Meeting & Program for April 2026

This month's meeting will be on April 21, 2026, at the Grant-Reeves Veterans Community Center (hereinafter referred to as the VFW Hall) in Cornelia. Sylvia Schaefer will be giving our program and also our workshop this month. The program title is What is Modern Quilting/Quilt Show. Sylvia has been quilting since 2007. Her background in science often inspires her quilt designs, both directly and indirectly. Her quilts and patterns have been published in magazines both online and in print. Sylvia's work has been exhibited and has won awards regionally and nationally. In 2017, she was awarded the second annual Craftsy Quilt Designer Fellowship, allowing her to start her own line of printed patterns sold in quilt shops around the world. She has also appeared on camera in *Fresh Quilting* and *Patchwork Nation*. Her books, *The Quilter's Negative Space Handbook* and *Modern Scrap Quilts*, are guides to designing modern quilts from traditional blocks.



Michael DeGrave will be at the March meeting for sewing machine cleaning and repairs. For an appointment, please contact Beth Fannin (352) 816-3074 at least one week prior to our guild meeting, which will be April 14th.

April Workshop - April 24, 2026
9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

April Workshop will be Ombre' Symphony by Sylvia Schaefer, Flying Parrot Quilts. Details on pages 2 and 3.

Contact Pat Mahoney by e-mail at patriciafmahoney@gmail.com or text message to 770-294-2043.

Pat

Mission Statement

The purpose of the guild is to promote and perpetuate the art of quilting. The work of the guild is designed to benefit and educate those interested in preserving, continuing, and advancing this art. The guild is a Not-for-Profit Educational organization.

Ombre' Symphony

Sylvia Schaefer, Flying Parrot Quilts

April 24, 2026

9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Sylvia is a pattern designer, teacher, author and award-winning quilter. She has graduate and post-graduate degrees in ecology and oceanography. It is a natural evolution that her quilt designs are often inspired by science and the natural world. Sylvia is a master at putting a fun modern twist on traditional quilt blocks using traditional methods and paper piecing.

This workshop will explore curved piecing with the Ombre' Symphony project from Sylvia's book *Modern Scrap Quilts*. This project is designed to help use up your scraps as you create a dramatic gradient with your fabrics. We will spend some time sorting through fabrics, then learn how to piece curves for this project featuring 3" finished blocks.

The fee for this workshop is \$30 for members and \$35 for non-members. The workshop fee includes the pattern and a copy of Sylvia's book "Modern Scrap Quilts". A \$15 non-refundable deposit will be required to sign-up for this workshop; the deposit will apply to the workshop fee. Deposit payment can be made by cash or check to the Workshops Chairperson. Checks should be made out to Mountain Laurel Quilters Guild. Contact Pat Mahoney by e-mail at patriciafmahoney@gmail.com or text message to 770-294-2043.

Basting

We will have basting in advance of our April 21, 2026, meeting.

Thanks, Pat

Ombre Symphony Supply List

Kit Fees

\$25 includes a copy of *Modern Scrap Quilts*

Fabric for class

We will not be able to make the full quilt in one three-hour class; these are the minimum fabric requirements. See box for requirements for full quilt.

Solid Background Fabric (off-white in sample): 3-4 strips 3¾" × width of fabric.

Scrappy Fabrics (see below for other color variants): Each scrap should be 3½" square at minimum.

- ▶ **Pinks:** the equivalent of around ½ yard of assorted pinks, light to dark.
Please note that the greater the variety of fabrics you can bring, the more work on your gradient we will be able to do. Swapping with classmates using the same colors is also encouraged!
- ▶ **Low volume/light gray:** equivalent of around ¼ yard



Additional Materials

Sewing thread to match the background

Basic sewing supplies (pins, seam ripper, etc.)

3½" square ruler

Heavy-duty template plastic (2 pieces,
each approximately 4" square)

Rotary cutter (28mm preferred)

Fabric requirements for full quilt

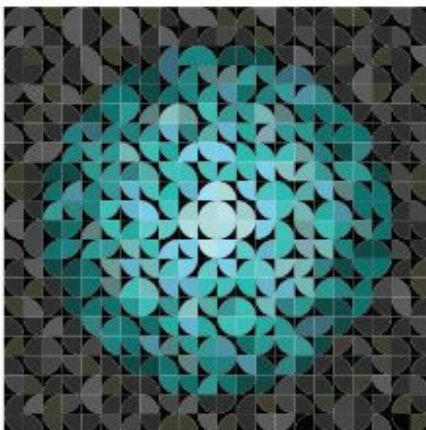
Solid Background Fabric (off-white in sample): 3½ yards

Scrappy Fabrics (see below for other color variants); each scrap should be 3½" square at minimum:

- ▶ **Dark pink scraps:** equivalent to ¼ yard
- ▶ **Medium dark pink scraps:** equivalent to ½ yard
- ▶ **Medium light pink scraps:** equivalent to ¾ yard
- ▶ **Light pink scraps:** equivalent to 1½ yards
- ▶ **Low volume/light gray scraps:** equivalent to 2¼ yards

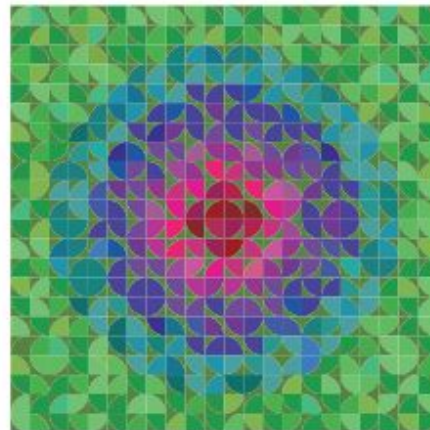
Color Inspiration

Here are a couple of color variations and their fabric requirements.
Feel free to use these as a springboard for your own color choices!



DARK VERSION

- ▶ Substitute **black solid** for background
- ▶ Substitute **black/dark gray prints** for low volume/gray
- ▶ Substitute **dark teal** for light pink
- ▶ Substitute **medium dark teal** for medium light pink
- ▶ Substitute **medium light teal** for medium dark pink
- ▶ Substitute **light teal** for dark pink



COLOR GRADIENT VERSION

- ▶ Substitute **green solid** for background
- ▶ Substitute **green prints** for low volume/gray
- ▶ Substitute **teal** for light pink
- ▶ Substitute **blue** for medium light pink
- ▶ Substitute **purple and pink** for medium dark pink
- ▶ Substitute **red** for dark pink

Sylvia Schaefer • sylvia@flyingparrotquilts.com • www.flyingparrotquilts.com

Welcome Our New Member



Barbara Collins
Husband - Chris
65 Lavista Drive
Cleveland, GA 30528
Phone - 678-576-4720
Email - irish.chain1322@gmail.com
Birthday - February 15

President's Message

Can you believe that April is just a week away? I hope that the temperatures will decide if it is going to be warm, cool, or just plain hot. Time to turn on the air conditioner. Also, Easter is only about 10 days away! I guess it is true that the older you get, the faster time flies.

My husband has begun to plant the garden. I asked him not to plant as much as last year, but that went in one ear and out the other. I'll keep you posted on what vegetables we can give away as the garden progresses.

I want to say a BIG, HUGE, THANK YOU TO EVERYONE THAT WORKED AT THE EXPO EVENT!!!!!! If you missed the March meeting, Barb shared that they made over \$1400.00. What a great start! Barb also thanked every member that donated books, fabrics, etc from their stash. These items were a hit to a lot of quilters young and old. Again, my thanks to everyone for a great job.

I hope that everyone is working on the Presidents Challenge. Remember that the quilt must be in Red, White, and Blue. ALL ENTRIES MUST MEET THE FOLLOWING GUIDELINES -- TABLE RUNNER WITH AT LEAST 3 BLOCKS OR MORE, THROW, OR LARGER QUILT. (QUILTS WITH PANELS WILL BE ACCEPTED AS LONG AS IT IS INCLUDING THE COLORS REQUIRED.)

Please make plans to attend the April meeting. A vote regarding the changes to be made to MLQG BYLAWS and POLICIES AND PROCEDURES will be held. This information is on the Website and in the March Newsletter.

In the next few months, I will be speaking with the current Board members and the Committee Chairpersons regarding positions that will be open for 2027. If you have thought about any of these positions, please let me know. A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL WHO ARE CURRENTLY SERVING!

Hope you have a great time with your family during the Easter holiday! (P.S. Eat your favorite chocolates before they are all gone.)

Libby

Guild Meeting Minutes 17 March 2026

Libby Armstrong, President, opened the meeting at 12:35 pm and wished everyone a happy St. Patrick's Day! Door locked and monitored. Please sit at back if you need to leave early. Emergency exits at front and back. Libby asked all present to wear their official MLQG name tag or get a plastic clip-on from Membership.

BIRTHDAYS - Happy March birthdays : Terry Wright, Beverly Daubenspeck, Jeanie Whitworth, Marge Striggow and Linda Russ.

DONATION SHOW AND TELL Piecers and Quilters will be recorded for prizes at the end of the year - make sure you fill in a Show and Tell form for each quilt!

6 pillowcases were handed in - thank you to Betty Massey (2), Bev Mannes (2) and Beverly Daubenspeck (2).

Betty Massey - 1. youth - yellow/blue flowers 2. youth - pink sparkle -both quilted by Betty Sharon Ruth showed Linda Hynninen's wheelchair quilt - RWB quilted by Linda

Rosale Bolstad - QOV large quilted by Karen Trombley

Dottie Wonders showed Linda Hynninen's quilts - 1. youth, striped 2. youth, blocks 3. youth, large blocks all quilted by Linda Hynninen

SHOW AND TELL Piecers and Quilters will be recorded for prizes at the end of the year - make sure you fill in a form for each quilt you show!

Venita Wheeler (guest) : Around the World, (Jan Carlson), Pat Mahoney : 1970's blocks, (Jan Carlson), Rosale Bolstad : 1. Teddy (Kathy Bavington) 2. Baby quilt (Rosale), Katie Thomas :

Applique (Katie), Beverly Daubenspeck : 1. Sampler, 2. Bowties by Mom, 3. Seahawks (all 3 by Beverly), Cathy Hebert : Curvy Log Cabin (Connie Mock), MaryAnn and Chris Prue : 1. Blue/Green floral 2. Black with Red 3. Small Squares 4. Leaves (Kathy Bavington)

DOOR PRIZES Ginny Fagen, Pam McBride - earned \$93.

Winners were - Dottie Wonders, Kiki Williamson, Katie Thomas (x2!) Janet Horn and Shirley Umberhandt.

TREASURER'S REPORT Betty Massey - as printed in Newsletter, motioned by Kiki Williamson, seconded by Mitzi Lantz, approved

MINUTES Gini Cawood - as printed in Newsletter, motioned by MaryAnn Prue, seconded by Sharon Ruth, approved

MEMBERSHIP Mary Oliver - 30 members signed in, new member Barbara Collins, 2 Visitors; Venita and Alice. Please return plastic name tags to the box at Membership.

AUDITORS Gini Cawood - all in order, next audit in April.

BASTING Pat Mahoney - BASTING today, one only. Let Pat know week before next Guild meeting if needed in April.

CIRCLE OF HOPE Rosale Bolstad - Thank you for feminine products. Next month - shampoo, hand lotion, etc.

COMFORT QUILTS - Gini Cawood - 2 comfort quilts ready, 4 in progress. Paths and Stiles pattern is on Quilter's Cache. March Workshop will be Service projects - please help by cutting out and/or sewing a comfort quilt.

Quilt presented to Rosale Bolstad. Thank you to Ginny Fagen for quilting many comfort quilts .

FACILITATORS - Pat Statler, all on, coffee moved to new convenient location - thank you Pat!

HISTORIAN Jeanie Whitworth - not present - news up to date. Please announce any news during meeting (which will be minuted) and present items to be filed to Libby or Gini.

HOSTESS Mitzi Lantz - We were happy to see Mitzi after her recent illness. She expressed thank yous for comfort pillow, cards and help. Spring Luncheon - next event - competition for best hat.

NEWSLETTER Betty Massey - deadline for Newsletter articles 25th March.

OFFICIAL HUGGER - Rita Sander - not present but doing ok.

OPPORTUNITY QUILT - Barb Westbrook and Caroline Warren - Sewing Expo held 12, 13, 14 March was a great success! \$1147 plus another \$300 from photos online posted by Kiki. Barb thanked her volunteers, sewists and the quilter of the quilt and Pam Prosser for help with hotel. Books, kits and scrap bags bolstered the income (and tidied the shelves!) Many participants at the Expo raved over the beauty of the quilt, which was hung during the meeting, and made us proud. Thank you to all involved!

PARLIAMENTARIAN - Lucia Scroggs - not present

PUBLICITY - Barb Westbrook - Contacting papers, pictures on Facebook

QOV Karen Trombley - not present - Sharon Ruth reminded us that we meet on the 3rd Friday at Ebenezer Church, come sew, we have supplies. AcuQuilt for cutting scraps. 10 year anniversary for the NGA Chapter in March 2026. More than 1000 quilts awarded. Wheelchair quilts 45" x 45" : do not need to be red, white and blue for hospice. 10 until 2. Sew with us 20 March. Sew for a Cause was a success at the Expo.

ROSTER/WEBMASTER Kathy Wasden, send information. We were happy to have Kathy back with us after her recent illness. Kathy thanked us for the comfort quilt, cards and best wishes. New Directory in the works, new photos can be sent to Kathy.

SUNSHINE MaryAnn Prue - birthday cards sent, please let her know if get well cards are needed.

PROGRAMS Beth Fannin - not present - new grandchild! "Ask an Expert" ideas for each month.

WORKSHOPS Pat Mahoney - Workshop space available to sew your personal projects, all members welcome.

27 March Workshop - Service projects : pillowcases, donation quilts and comfort quilts.

24 April Workshop - Sylvia Schaeffer - Ombre Symphony, deposit of \$15 required, class \$30.

BEE ARTFUL Bev Mannes - Regular meeting 2nd Tuesday of the month, 14 April, will be held during the Sleep-in-Your-Own-Bed (or rent one) Retreat, 13 through 17 April 2026 at Scaly Mountain/Sky Valley Fire Station. Libby Armstrong will notify Micheal Dale that we will not be at the VFW Hall that day. All welcome, \$20 per person, BYOL, 9 am to 4 pm each day. Bev Mannes will present the Weaving Fabric project. Contact Gini Cawood for details 706.599.3263.

BEE HANDY Caroline Warren - 4th Wednesday of the month - 25 March, 10 am to 2:00 pm, BYOL. Ebenezer United Methodist Church, 4000 Hollywood Hwy, Hollywood. Door prizes! Also 22 April. Work will continue on wool applique, crochet, knitting, cross stitch, needle point, Sashiko, etc.

Thank you to Mary Oliver for organizing the church hall. All members are welcome, sewing machines not "sew" much!

BEE SHARPS Gini Cawood - Regular meeting 1st Thursday of the month - 2 April, will be held during our Sleep-in-Your-Own-Bed (or rent one) Retreat, 30 March through 3 April at Scaly Mountain /Sky Valley Fire Station. All members welcome, \$20 per person, BYOL, 9 am to 4 pm each day. Contact Gini Cawood for details. 706.599.3263.

OLD BUSINESS -

Liquor store will be opening almost next store and the VFW has advised us to lock the door while in meetings. During the MLQG meetings the door will be locked at 12:30 and monitored for late entrance and exit. Additionally, if you are not able to stay for the entire Program, please leave before the Program begins or sit at the back for a quiet exit. Please lock your cars in the parking lot.

New Rosters to be printed in March 2026.

Changes made by the Board and Chairpersons last month, were in the March Newsletter and will be approved by membership vote at the April Guild Meeting. The changes appear on our website.

ANNOUNCEMENTS - Michael DeGraves also sharpens knives for us during our meetings.

The 2027 Opportunity Quilt requires a new volunteer, help and guidance available. Buttons jar competition was suggested. (One member stepped up after the meeting - contact Gini Cawood for details.)

Pillowcases - please hand in to Barb Westbrook after giving name and count to the secretary, who will record your work with donations.

President's Challenge for 2026 - To celebrate the 250th Anniversary of the US : use red white and blue in a quilt that can be a table runner, lap, full, youth, queen or king. A panel may be used. Presentation at December Luncheon.

PROGRAM

Libby Armstrong introduced our member-speaker, LuAnn Luedtke. LuAnn started quilting under the impression that everyone did it and consequently had few reservations or challenges! She was encouraged by Sissy Anderson, watched some videos online and never looked back. She has developed into a fantastic free motion quilter by watching videos and many hours of practice. She follows the motif in the piecing or fabric and lets the patterns speak to her as she bastes the quilt. Several of her favorite designs include loops, swirls, paisley and feathers. She uses a Martelli ring to help move the quilt on her sit-down long arm machine. If there is negative space then anything goes. She advised us to practice, practice, practice and not give the donation quilts to someone else, but use them to PRACTICE! Tracing the design by pencil or marker on clear plastic sheets (think cheap shower curtains) will help develop muscle memory and assist in designing the quilting for that quilt. In addition to some of the quilts LuAnn showed, many of the guild members brought quilts that LuAnn had worked her magic on and they were displayed on the tables. (I could have brought 20 or more!) Thank you LuAnn for sharing your beautiful talent and encouraging us all to try quilting!

Libby thanked LuAnn for her program and adjourned the meeting at 2 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Gini Cawood, Secretary

Treasurer's Report

Income	Budget	Income	YTD	Remaining
Door Prizes	2,000.00	93.00	358.00	1,642.00
Fundraisers	500.00		100.00	400.00
Membership	2,200.00	95.00	1,607.50	592.50
Raffle Quilt	2,400.00	1,377.00	2,017.00	383.00
Workshops	3,300.00		420.00	2,880.00
Expenses				
Door Prizes	1,000.00		0.00	1,000.00
Membership	500.00		0.00	500.00
Miscellaneous				
Achievement	500.00		0.00	500.00
Guild Activities	1,000.00		0.00	1,000.00
Newsletter	75.00		0.00	75.00
Operations	3,500.00	120.79	562.09	2,937.91
Programs	1,700.00		345.00	1,355.00
Sunshine	75.00	78.00	78.00	-3.00
Raffle Quilt	50.00		0.00	50.00
Workshops	2,000.00		666.60	1,333.40

Circle of Hope

Donations for April women's personal items - shampoo, hand lotion, etc.

Thanks, Rosale!

Bee Artful and Mountain Laurel Quilters Guild Members

We are excited to announce a call for art for the upcoming juried show, "Tales in Shapes and Color: Fiber Art," at the Mason Scharfenstein Museum of Art in Demorest, GA. The exhibition will highlight the Fiber Art of the Bee Artfuls and Mountain Laurel Quilters Guild Members. The exhibition opens in September 2026 with an artist reception and art will remain on display until February or March 2027.



Please begin reviewing your original fiber works (wall quilts) for submission. The show will be juried by Rebecca Brantley, Professor at Piedmont University.

Submission Details:

- Entry Form: Submit up to seven original pieces via the online form (<https://forms.office.com/r/8EFSXSs25h>).
- Deadline: Entries must be submitted by May 2026.
- Fees & Sales: There is no entry fee. Works may be listed for sale, but all accepted art must remain available for the duration of the show.
- Notification: The date for acceptance notifications is currently TBD.

The Bee Artful group is available to assist you with every step of the process, including completing the entry form, photographing your work, and providing museum hanging devices.

The "Shape and Color" exhibit will be held at the Mason Scharfenstein Museum on the Piedmont University campus in Demorest, GA, in September 2026.

The Bee Artfuls are volunteering to assist any Guild Member with the submission of your own original wall quilts for the show. If you need your work photographed or require assistance generating the computer form, there are two available drop-off times:

- During the Bee Sharp April retreat.
- During the Bee Artful April retreat.

All original wall quilts will be returned to guild members during the MLQG April meeting.

If you have any questions or need further information, please contact Janice Chiaffredo at 831-801-3365



BEE HANDY

The Bee Handy group will meet April 22nd at Ebenezer Methodist Church, 4000 Hollywood Hwy, Clarkesville, from 10 am to 2:30 pm.

Bring your lunch, drink and any hand stitching. We will have Show and Tell. For further information, please contact Caroline Warren, 770-656-4846 or Warren.carolinee@gmail.com.

Thanks, Caroline



BEE SHARPS

The Bee Sharp regular meeting, first Thursday of the month, 2 April 2026, will be held during our Sleep-in-your-Own Bed Retreat, 30 March through 3 April, Monday through Friday, 9 am arrive and stay until 4 pm or later. Scaly Mountain / Sky Valley Fire Station. All guild members are welcome. \$20 per person for the week, BYOL. Contact Gini Cawood for details.



BEE ARTFUL

The Bee Artful regular meeting, the 2nd Tuesday of the month, 14 April 2026, will be held during our Sleep-in-your-Own Bed Retreat, 13 through 17 April, Monday through Friday, 9 am arrive and stay until 4 pm or later. Scaly Mountain / Sky Valley Fire Station. All Guild members are welcome. \$20 per person for the week, BYOL. Bev Mannes will present the Weaving Fabric Workshop on Wednesday. Contact Gini Cawood for details 706.599.3263.

Officers 2026

President	Libby Armstrong
1st VP Programs	Beth Fannin
2nd VP Workshops	Pat Mahoney
Secretary	Gini Cawood
Treasurer	Betty Massey

Committee Chairs for 2026

Auditors	Gini Cawood Mitzi Lantz MaryAnn Prue
Basting	Pat Mahoney
Bee Keepers	Gini Cawood (Sharps) Bev Mannes (Artful) Caroline Warren (Handy)
Circle of Hope	Rosale Bolstad
Comfort Quilts	Gini Cawood
Door Prizes	Ginny Fagen Pam McBride
FaceBook	Barb Westbrook Kathy Wasden
Facilitator	Pat Statler
Historian	Jeanie Whitworth
Hostess	Mitzi Lantz
Membership	Mary Oliver
Newsletter	Betty Massey
Official Hugger	Rita Sander
Opportunity Quilt	Caroline Warren Barb Westbrook
Parliamentarian	Lucia Scroggs
Publicity	Barb Westbrook
Quilts of Valor	Karen Trombley
Roster Team/ICD (Instant Church Directory)	Kathy Wasden Bev Mannes
Sunshine	MaryAnn Prue
Webmaster	Kathy Wasden
Backup -	Beverly Daubenspeck

Basting - Pin or Thread

Basting is held on the third Tuesday of the month at 10 am (before our monthly meeting) at the VFW Hall. Members must contact the basting chairperson (Pat Mahoney) to let her know that they have a quilt to baste. Members can have their quilts basted for free providing they help baste other people's quilts. Fees for non-members will be \$25 (single), \$30 (full/queen) and \$35 (king).

Donation Quilts

We will be tracking Donation quilts and awarding prizes at the December luncheon. Please fill in form at sign in with name and size - any team quilts must include all names. Quilts only qualify.

Birthdays

Pam Prosser	6
Karen Trombley	11
Katie Thomas	18
Helen Barrett	20
Sharon Ruth	21
Connie Petre	30





April 2026



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	31	1 April Fool's Day	2	3	4
-----Bee Sharps Retreat - Scaly Mtn-----						
5 Easter	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17 10 am - QOV	18
-----Bee Artful Retreat - Scaly Mountain-----						
19	20	21 10:00 am - Basting 12:30 pm - Monthly Meeting	22 10 am - Bee Handy	23	24 Workshop	25 Newsletter Deadline
26	27	28	29	30		

Bee Buzziness - Normal Meeting Times - Check Calendar for any changes
REMEMBER, ALL MEMBERS CAN GO TO BEES

Bee Handy - Meets 4th Wednesday, 10 am - 2:30 pm. Ebenezer Methodist Church in Hollywood, GA. - contact Caroline Warren at 770-656-4846 for more information.

Bee Sharps - Meets 10 am 1st Thursday of each month, St. James Episcopal Church in Clayton, GA. For more information contact Gini Cawood, istitch18@gmail.com or call 706-599-3263.

Bee Artful - Meets 10:00 am 2nd Tuesday at VFW. Doors open at 9:30 am. For more information contact Bev Mannes, 706-490-1708 or beverlymannes@gmail.com.

QOV Workshop - Meets 10:00 am, 3rd Friday of the month. We will be meeting at the Ebenezer Methodist Church in Hollywood, GA. Contact Karen Trombley at 706-982-9396 or ktrombley55@gmail.com.