

Mountain Laurel Quilters Guild

151 Shady Lane
Toccoa, GA 30577

www.mlqg.org

Volume XXXII 12

IN PERSON MEETING -
Tuesday, December 16, 2025

VFW
174 Cornelia Crossing
Cornelia, GA 30531



Founded 1994

December 2025

Meeting & Program for December 2025

This month's meeting will be on December 16, 2025, at the Grant-Reeves Veterans Community Center (hereinafter referred to as the VFW Hall) in Cornelia. This month we will be enjoying a full Christmas buffet with bonus gifts and door prizes. Lunch will begin at 11:30 am. Bring your roll up silverware case you received at the May luncheon and cash for tips for the buffet catering and for the cupcake maker. (Chocolate & gluten free carrots cakes) Feel free to bring a sugar free dessert, if desired, to share.

Michael DeGrave will be at the December 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 December 9th.

Ask An Expert? - If you have any quilting related questions, please send them to Beth Fannin at (352) 816-3074. We'll try to get them answered in our next meeting.



All I want for Christmas is more time to
quilt!



DECEMBER WORKSHOP NEWS

No workshop in December - Merry Christmas!!

For information on January and February workshops, please see page 2.

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.

Future Workshops

MOUNTAIN LAUREL QUILTERS GUILD 2026 WORKSHOP #1

FREE MOTION QUILTING w/Chris Stephenson

January 23, 2026 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Chris Stephenson is well known to many of our guild members and was specially requested as an instructor for free motion quilting by several guild members. Chris lives in Franklin, NC with her husband Bruce, their dog and two cats. She started quilting in 2013 and never looked back! Moving to Franklin, NC from Marietta, GA, in 2017, she is very involved in the Franklin quilting community and is an active member of the Smoky Mountain Quilters Guild of Western North Carolina. She currently serves as Education and Program co-chair for the guild.

An award winning quilter, Chris loves all aspects of quilting and has taught classes and workshops on free motion quilting, quilting with a walking foot, various types of applique, English paper piecing, Millefiore quilts, improvisational piecing, and creative embellishment.

The cost for this workshop is \$20 for members and \$25 for non-members. This workshop will be geared for all skill levels – it will be a great starting point for free-motion beginners and there will be lots to learn for the more experienced. A \$10 non-refundable deposit is required to signup for this workshop. The deposit applies to the \$20 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.

(Note: this is a change in instructor from what was announced at our November meeting. Sylvia Schaefer will lead our April workshop, different topic, TBD).

MOUNTAIN LAUREL QUILTERS GUILD 2026 WORKSHOP #2

A Maze Ing Quilt with Candace Hassen

February 27, 2026 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Additional information forthcoming in December. A \$10 non-refundable deposit will be required to signup for this workshop. The deposit will apply to the \$20 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.

Welcome New Member



Connie Petre
199 Grindstone Creek Drive
Clarkesville, GA 30523
770-855-6184
connie.petre@outlook.com
Birthday - April 30

Basting

No basting in December.

We will have basting in advance of our January 20, 2026 guild meeting. Saturday January 17 is the cutoff date to get your name on the list. Contact Pat Mahoney by e-mail at patriciafmahoney@gmail.com or text message to 770-294-2043.

Thanks, Pat

President's Message

I hope that everyone is preparing for their Thanksgiving feast, whether you are cooking for a crowd or preparing a dish to take to a family or friends get-together. I have purchased the turkey for my husband to deep fry once again. He will NOT be moving the hot grease from one location to the next this year. For those of you who are unaware, he was taken to the Burn Center in Augusta last year on Thanksgiving evening. All is well now, but he will have several supervisors this year. After the trauma, our kids and grandkids have let him know he is now on the National list of individuals that have been burned while cooking a Turkey. Have you begun to put up your Christmas decorations? My husband put up our Christmas tree last night. It is not decorated yet; I'm leaving that for the elves that will be helping me cook our Thanksgiving meal. No, I am not a Scrooge—I will be helping also.

My calendar is getting full for December with all the fun get-togethers. Our December meeting is a great time for us to share a meal where we don't have to cook, spend time with our friends, and share quilts that have been made.

I want to take this opportunity to THANK all our Officers, Committee Chairpersons, and our members for all the help and support given to me throughout this year. Yes, there have been some bumps on the road and some upsets, but friendships have been restored and will remain.

Many of our members, including myself, have experienced the loss of loved ones and friends and others are dealing with sickness in families and friends. Please keep the meaning of Christmas in your heart as we go through this month and into the New Year.

Santa said it best - MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL AND TO ALL A GOOD NIGHT!!!!

Libby

Guild Meeting Minutes 18 November 2025

Libby Armstrong, President, opened the meeting at 12:30 pm.

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 November birthdays : Shirley Umberhandt, Florine Johnson, Linda Barron, Sandra Barron, Barbara Westbrook, Rosale Bolstad, Susan Atkins, Shirley Wilson, Sissy Anderson, Nancy Kennedy and Dot Clemente will be 100!

DONATION SHOW AND TELL please fill in a form.

Piecers and Quilters will be recorded for prizes at the end of the year - make sure you fill in a form!

Mitzi Lantz - 8 pillowcases

Pat Statler - WS kit - youth (Pat)

Ann Humphries - QOV - (Ann) (ex-member)

Bev Mannes - QOV - (Linda Coulombe)

Gini Cawood with Gail R, Barb W and Rita S - youth - (Barb)

Rosale Bolstad - 1. QOV lap 2. Place of Hope twin (both Cathy Bavington ex-member) 3. 4. 5. youth, all quilted by Rosale and 1 pillowcase

12 pillowcases : Pam McBride (3), Mitzi Lantz (8), Rosale Bolstad (1) were received.

SHOW AND TELL please fill in a form.

Quilts were shown this month - please view on Facebook.

Kathy Igmundson, Jeanie Whitworth, Beth Fannin, Pat Mahoney, Gini Cawood and Rosale Bolstad.

DOOR PRIZES Ginny Fagen, Pam McBride - earned \$112

Winners were - Connie Petre (new member), Mitzi Lantz, Pat Mahoney, Ashlie Poole, Rosale Bolstad, Gail Routt.

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

MINUTES Gini Cawood - as printed in Newsletter, motioned Mitzi Lantz, seconded by Kathy Wasden, approved

MEMBERSHIP Mary Oliver - 36 members signed in, Connie Petre, new member. Please return plastic name tags to the box at Membership.

AUDITORS Gini Cawood, MaryAnn Prue, Mitzi Lantz - October audit; all in order, next audit January.

BASTING Pat Mahoney - no basting today or December, if basting needed, contact Pat for January meeting, before 17 January.

CIRCLE OF HOPE Rosale Bolstad, Thank you for toys : next month - household cleaning products.

COMFORT QUILTS Pat Statler - 5 comfort quilts ready, hope that they are not needed. Terry Wright received one by Sharon Ruth.

FACILITATORS Gini Cawood, Sharon Ruth - all on, all good. Coffee at back.

HISTORIAN Jeanie Whitworth - news up to date. Jeannie needs help or replacement.

HOSTESS Mitzi Lantz - next event Christmas luncheon, short committee meeting took place today.

Busy meeting for December : catered lunch, Opportunity Quilt 2025 awarded and 2026 presented. Donation Quilts awards presented: first, second and third and most quilted. Presidents' Challenge Quilts presented and participation gifts and possible "Viewers Choice". Table settings planned and gifts for each member.

NEWSLETTER Betty Massey - deadline for Newsletter articles 25th

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

OPPORTUNITY QUILT - Janice Chiaffredo, Next event 29 November, Black Friday Clayton street corner (last year \$600!)

Bingo event at VFW 4 December, volunteers needed 4:30 pm til 6:30 pm

\$50 collected by one member, \$10 each member for 2026 renewal of membership.

SPECIAL INVITATION - Dinner at VFW Monday, 15 December, 6 pm, bring canned goods.

PARLIAMENTARIAN - Lucia Scroggs - not present

PUBLICITY - Barb Westbrook (not present) - contacting papers, pictures on Facebook

QOV Karen Trombley - next 21 November, 3rd Friday at Ebenezer Church, come sew, we have supplies. AcuQuilt for cutting scraps. Raffle tickets for sale today, quilt displayed.

Vet to Vet awards, Clayton. Sharon Ruth can set up supplies for wheelchair quilts 45" x 45" if requested. 10 year anniversary for the NGA Chapter in March 2026. \$250 donated from DAV. Thank you to Ashlie Poole for help at the 1 November VFW event that was poorly attended.

ROSTER/WEBMASTER Kathy Wasden, send information. Roster with Bev Mannes and Linda Barron.

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

PROGRAMS Beth Fannin - "Ask an Expert" ideas for each month. Debbie Chastain Trunk Show for November.

December program will be the Luncheon. January we will have trunk Show by Vicki Lynn of Smoky Mountain Quilt Guild.

WORKSHOPS Pat Mahoney - No WSs for November or December. January WS will be Free Motion Quilting with Sylvia Schafer. Members can free motion sew on any machine if feed dogs are covered with tape or credit card! \$25 for members with a \$10 non-refundable deposit at sign-up. Beginners: start somewhere; practice, practice, practice; experienced - learn new tricks! Workshop space available to sew your personal projects, all members welcome. (Please see page 2 for updated information on this workshop.)

Other Workshops 1. Bee Artful (9 Dec VFW 10 am) Fusible Flowers with Silke

2. Wednesday Art Club at Piedmont University 2026 Year of Crafts (contact Janice Chiaffredo)

3. High School Seniors, 1 hour WS to teach crochet, knit, cross stitch, etc. (contact Pat Mahoney)

4. Bee Artful show at museum at Piedmont (contact Janice Chiaffredo)

Does anyone have contact information for Teri Biglands, Cosplay Designer at SE Textile Museum - please contact Pat Mahoney.(3rd Wed)

BEE ARTFUL Janice Chiaffredo - regular meeting 2nd Tuesday of the month, 9 December Christmas Party and Kiss-It-Goodbye, see BA Newsletter online for details. 14 enjoyed the Retreat 10 - 14 November at Scaly Mountain/Sky Valley Fire Station.

BEE HANDY Caroline Warren - Usually (!) 4th Wednesday of the month - 20 November (Thursday), 10:00 to 2:00 Ebenezer Methodist Church, 4000 Hollywood Hwy, Hollywood.

17 December (3rd Wed) meeting will be the Christmas event; bring a treat to eat and/or share, BYO lunch, an unwrapped toy (birth to 12 years), and a table decoration. Work will continue on wool applique, crochet, knitting, cross stitch, needle point, Sashiko, etc. Thank you to Mary Oliver for organizing the church hall as we outgrew the market quickly! All members are welcome, sewing machines not "sew" much!

BEE SHARPS Gini Cawood - 1st Thursday of the month - 4 December - 10 - 2 - St. James Episcopal, Clayton. Bring your lunch, a project, an extension if sewing by machine. Coffee provided. All members welcome. Christmas Party on 4th - BYO lunch and/or treat to share, 2 dozen cookies for cookie exchange, an unwrapped toy (birth to 12 years) and a Christmas decoration for the table. Big Away Hinton Retreat 8 - 13 February has 15 attendees (cap at 20)

ANNOUNCEMENTS - Mitzi Lantz is collecting small scraps to be shredded, spun and woven as children's project. Also collecting 2 1/2" scraps or strips. Mitzi will trade Fat Quarters for 2 1/2" scraps.

Pillowcase kits, 18 handed out to be sewed, please return to Pat Mahoney when complete. 104 pillowcases donated as of today's date. Well done as our goal was 100! thank you!

OLD BUSINESS -

Vote held for 2026 budget, which was printed in November's newsletter. motioned by Beth Fannin, seconded by Sharon Ruth. Approved.

Membership Dues start to be collected in November, \$30 to renew plus \$10 for Opportunity tickets. New Rosters to be printed in March.

Facilitator 2026 Pat Statler.

Comfort Quilts 2026 Gini Cawood

Opportunity Quilt 2026 Barb Westbrook, Caroline Warren

NEW BUSINESS

Jeanie Whitworth needs assistance or replacement for Historian Chair.

PROGRAM Beth Fannin introduced Debbie Chastain from Smoky Mountain Quilters Guild.

Debbie showed us her beautifully made quilts as she displays them monthly in her home. She had two Round Robins and a Row Robin done with friends. A few Cindy Williams patterns were shown ("Bliss", "Lallapoloosa", "Blue Velvet". "Double Feathered Star") in addition to "Lo and Behold", "Circle of Nine", "Harmony" and Edyta Sitar's Umbrellas, "Alaska" and Baskets. All of the members were enthralled by the workmanship and the variety. Debbie folds her quilts on the diagonal for storage and gave a demonstration of the technique. Thank you, too, to her friends, Cindy Williams and Debbie Bolotte (plus our own Sharon Ruth) for their help in showing the quilts.

Beth Fannin thanked Debbie Chastain and said "Now you know why we invited Debbie to show her beautiful work!"

Libby Armstrong adjourned the meeting at 2:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Gini Cawood, Secretary

Treasurer's Report

Income		Budget	Income	YTD	Remaining
	Door Prizes	1,500.00	112.00	1,326.00	174.00
	Fundraisers	500.00		0.00	500.00
	Membership	2,200.00		1,873.50	326.50
	Raffle Quilt	2,400.00	57.00	2,945.50	-545.50
	Workshops	3,000.00	20.00	250.00	2,750.00
Expenses					
	Door Prizes	1,000.00	395.92	721.44	278.56
	Membership	500.00		162.49	337.51
	Miscellaneous				0.00
	Achievement	300.00		0.00	300.00
	Guild Activities	400.00		233.49	166.51
	Newsletter	75.00		0.00	75.00
	Operations	3,500.00	124.09	1,147.27	2,352.73
	Programs	1,700.00	170.00	1,062.00	638.00
	Sunshine	75.00		58.40	16.60
	Raffle Quilt	50.00		0.00	50.00
	Workshops	2,000.00		742.28	1,257.72

Circle of Hope

Donations for December - Cleaning supplies - laundry and dish soap, toilet cleaner and brushes, bleach, Pine Sol, brooms, sponges

Thanks, Rosale!



Grant-Reeves VFW Post 7720 Joint-Organization Christmas Dinner

Monday, December 15th
6PM - 8PM

Members and families of VFW Post 7720, VFW Auxiliary,
American Legion Post 84, and Auxiliary Unit,
Sons of Confederate Veterans.

Sponsor Recognition

Complete holiday meal, desserts, drinks!

Please RSVP via email to:
admin@GrantReevesVeteran.center



2026 Dues

Reminder - It is time to renew your membership for 2026!

Dues are as follows:

Renewing members - \$40 which includes the Opportunity Quilt commitment.

For members who are 80 years of age or older, renewal is \$10 for Opportunity Quilt.

New members - \$45 which includes your pin and Opportunity Quilt commitment.

All members of the Guild are required to purchase \$10 worth of raffle tickets (12 tickets) for the Opportunity Quilt. It is one of our main fundraisers. You may sell your tickets to someone else or enter them in your own name.

Checks should be made out to Mountain Laurel Quilters Guild. Please see me at the November meeting or mail to:

Mary Oliver
185 Sarah Lane
Cornelia, GA. 30531

The tickets will be filled out in your name and entered into the raffle.

MOUNTAIN LAUREL QUILTERS' GUILD
Membership Form

NEW _____ RENEWAL _____
YEAR 20____

Name _____ Spouse _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone _____ Birthday _____

Email address _____



A HEARTFELT THANK YOU!

To Our Amazing Volunteers:

Kathy Dottie Ashlie

For Selling Chances to Win This Beautiful Quilt!

Join Us!

Bingo Night

Thursday, Dec. 4th

VFW Cornelia GA

Your Support Makes a Difference!

BEE HANDY - *Note Date Changes for Dec*

The Bee Handy group will meet **December 17th** at Ebenezer Methodist Church, 4000 Hollywood Hwy, Clarkesville, from **10:00 am - 2:00 pm**. (Have to be out by 2 pm because of a church event.) Bring your lunch, drink and any hand stitching. We will have Show and Tell and door prizes.

For further information, please contact Caroline Warren, 770-656-4846 or Warren.carolinee@gmail.com.

Thanks, Caroline



BEE SHARPS

The Bee Sharps will meet for their regular meeting at St. James Episcopal Church Hall, Clayton, 10 am until 2 pm on the first Thursday, 4 December 2025. Bring your lunch and sewing supplies, an extension for your machine and \$3 for the church. Coffee will be provided. We will be celebrating Christmas with a cookie exchange (please bring 2 dozen cookies and a container), BYO lunch and/or a treat to share and an unwrapped toy (birth to 12 years) for Place of Hope, Clayton. Please bring a Christmas decoration for the table. All members are welcome. For details or questions, contact Gini Cawood 706.599.3263.



BEE ARTFUL

The Bee Artful Group will meet at 10 am (doors will be open at 9:30am) until 2 pm at the VFW Hall on the second Tuesday, 9 December 2025.

Bring your lunch and Show and Tell. We will be working on the Fusible Flower project led by Silke - supplies will be listed in the Bee Artful Newsletter that can be found on the MLQG site.

Also bring your Kiss-It-Goodbye. Coffee will be provided. All members are welcome. For questions or details, contact Janice Chiaffredo 831.801.3365.



Officers 2025

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

Committee Chairs for 2025

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

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

Caroline Warren	4
Glenda Hall	6
Alene Kempton	10
Pat Statler	17
Lucia Scroggs	21
Ashlie Poole	22
Janice Chiaffredo	23
Kathy Ingmundson	31





December 2025



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4 10 am-Bee Sharps 4:30-6:30-VFW Opportunity Quilt	5	6
7	8	9 10 am - Bee Artful	10	11	12	13
14	15 6 pm - VFW Christmas Party	16 11:30-Lunch 12:30 pm - Monthly Meeting	17 10 am - Bee Handy	18	19 10 am - QOV	20
21	22	23 Newsletter Deadline	24	25 Christmas	26	27
28	29	30	31			

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. (This month December 17th)

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 Janice Chiaffredo, 831-801-3365.

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.