

Mountain Laurel Quilters Guild

151 Shady Lane
Toccoa, GA 30577

www.mlqg.org

Volume XXXIII 3

IN PERSON MEETING -
Tuesday, March 17, 2026

VFW
174 Cornelia Crossing
Cornelia, GA 30531



Founded 1994

March 2026

Meeting & Program for March 2026

This month's meeting will be on March 17, 2026, at the Grant-Reeves Veterans Community Center (hereinafter referred to as the VFW Hall) in Cornelia.

We are pleased to have LuAnn Luedtke as our speaker at our March meeting. So many of you have had your quilts quilted by LuAnn. Following is a little bit about LuAnn's quilting journey. She will be talking about how she gets her inspiration for a quilting design on quilts. I started sewing when I was about 10 years old. I made a lot of my clothes growing up so sewing was not new to me. My daughter wouldn't wear store bought clothes when she was young because she hated the tags. Then I had a long dry spell of not sewing for about 20 years before I started quilting. I got interested in quilting about 13 years ago. It was a totally new experience. Piecing was no problem since I had a history of sewing. I loved how you could sew blocks together, then cut them up and resew them into a totally cool pattern. Quilting was totally new to me. I thought that everyone who made quilts also did their own quilting, so I set out to learn how to quilt. I watched plenty of YouTube videos and started practicing by making lap quilts for my little dog. I never took any classes in quilting because I wanted to do my own thing and not have to worry about following any rules. That's it. Because I thought everyone did their own quilting I had no fear of it: just a lot of determination. Now it is my favorite part of making quilts. I do all free motion and have found that it is my happy place. I do semi custom and custom quilting and love a challenge. I thank you all for letting me quilt your quilts for you. There is so much talent in this guild. 😊 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 March 10th.

MARCH WORKSHOP NEWS

March Workshop will be Service projects - please help by cutting out and/or sewing a comfort quilt.

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.

Welcome New Member



Linda Russ - husband Rusty
1495 Long Laurel Ridge Drive
Lakemont, GA 30552
Phone: 864-449-3346
Birthday: March 29
Email: lindaholder1945@gmail.com

President's Message

Today is my DEADLINE to get this newsletter to Betty. It is going to be short and sweet. I have so much going on and my brain is in 90 different directions. I know that probably some of you have days like this.

I am preparing for the February Friday workshop. I hope that we have a good crowd attending. I can't believe that February ends in just 3 days.

The Executive/Committee Chair meeting was held before the February meeting. The By-Laws and Policies and Procedures were discussed. Some changes were made and those will be available on our website. The changes are highlighted in yellow. A vote will be held at the April 21 meeting by the members present.

March is going to be a busy month. The Quilt Expo is being held on March 12-14, 2026. If you are available to help, please contact Barb Westbrook or Caroline Warren. Our guild meeting will be on March 17 which is St. Patrick's Day. Don't forget to wear your green. The guild workshop will be on March 27. At this workshop we will be working on Charity projects. Hope to see you there.

I want to express my appreciation for all of our members. Look forward to seeing you soon!

Libby

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.

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 February 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.

Guild Meeting Minutes 17 February 2026

Libby Armstrong, President, opened the meeting at 12:35 pm and spoke about Mardi Gras! 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 January birthdays : Amanda Moriarty, Cathy Hebert, Jan Pittman, Kiki Williamson, Renee Lowery, Nina Fry, Julie Housley and Bonnie Burden.

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!

9 pillowcases were handed in - thank you to Libby Armstrong (4), Bev Mannes (3) and Janet Horn (2).

Betty Massey - 1. youth - red flying geese 2. youth - Cheaper by the Dozen- both quilted by Betty

Pat Mahoney - 1. youth, purple blocks, 2. youth, purple blocks - both quilted by Pat

SHOW AND TELL please fill in a form. Quilts were shown this month - please view on Facebook.

Betty Massey - blue, youth, quilted by Quilt n Kaboodle, Janet Horn - framed Bunny, Jan Pitman - framed floral from Bee Artful WS, Gini Cawood - Large 4.5", Sentimental Stitches, quilted by Pam McBride.

DOOR PRIZES Ginny Fagen, Pam McBride - earned \$130.

Winners were - Betty Massey, Pat Mahoney, Barb Westbrook (x2!), Linda Coulombe, JoAnn Valanzola.

TREASURER'S REPORT Betty Massey - as printed in Newsletter, motioned by Ginny Fagen, seconded by Cathy Hebert, approved

MINUTES Gini Cawood - as printed in Newsletter, motioned by Karen Trombley, seconded by Barb Westbrook, approved

MEMBERSHIP Mary Oliver - 31 members signed in, many paid 2026 dues, new member Linda Russ, Lakemont. Please return plastic name tags to the box at Membership.

AUDITORS Gini Cawood, MaryAnn Prue, Mitzi Lantz - all in order, next audit in April.

BASTING Pat Mahoney - NO BASTING today, let Pat know week before next Guild meeting if needed in March.

CIRCLE OF HOPE Rosale Bolstad not present - Thank you for canned goods. Next month - feminine products.

COMFORT QUILTS - Gini Cawood - 2 comfort quilts ready. 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 sent to Kathy Wasden, pillow sent to Mitzi Lantz. Mitzi home today, Kathy at home.

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

HISTORIAN Jeanie Whitworth - 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 - not present - Spring Luncheon - next event - competition for best hat.

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

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

OPPORTUNITY QUILT - Barb Westbrook and Caroline Warren - Sign-up sheets at back.

Please go online or reply to Sign-Up Genie to volunteer to be an Ambassador (help make our booth free : 20 hours required) Sewingexpo.com, 12, 13, 14 March.

Sign-up sheets also for our Opportunity Quilt sales booth. Volunteer as ambassador to do the Sew For a Cause booth and help QOV at the same time! Free admission for volunteers! Bigger and more vendors than ever before! 12, 13, 14 March 2026 at Gas Light Centre in Duluth.

PARLIAMENTARIAN - Lucia Scroggs - not present

PUBLICITY - Barb Westbrook - Contacting papers, pictures on Facebook

QOV Karen Trombley - 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 February. Several members presented several quilts this month and last. Thank you to Judy and friends for a wonderful lunch - great pickles!

ROSTER/WEBMASTER Kathy Wasden, send information. Kathy has been in hospital and will have many months of rehab. She is at home and well enough to update web site - Thank you Kathy! Roster managed by Bev Mannes.

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.

WORKSHOPS Pat Mahoney - 27 February "A-Maze-ing" Candace Haasen

\$20 for members with a \$10 non-refundable deposit - please see Pat to sign up and pay deposit. Workshop space available to sew your personal projects, all members welcome.

27 February Workshop - Candace Hassen "A-Maze-Ing" \$20 with deposit \$10. Supply list to be posted online.

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

24 April Workshop - Slyvia Schaffer - Ombre Symphony

BEE ARTFUL Bev Mannes - regular meeting 2nd Tuesday of the month, 10 March VFW, 10 am to 2 pm. Geri Beam will present a program on Over Dying. All welcome.

BEE HANDY Caroline Warren - 4th Wednesday of the month - 25 February, 10 am to 2:30 pm Ebenezer United Methodist Church, 4000 Hollywood Hwy, Hollywood. Door prizes! Also 25 March. 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 - 1st Thursday of the month - 5 March - 10-2 - St. James Episcopal, Clayton. Bring your lunch, a project, an extension if sewing by machine. Coffee provided. All members welcome. Big Away Hinton Retreat 8 - 13 February was a success! Lots of fun and lots of sewing!

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.

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.

Membership Dues - started collection in November, \$30 to renew plus \$10 for Opportunity tickets. New Rosters to be printed in March 2026. **Please pay by March meeting.**

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

NEW BUSINESS -

Meeting of Board Members and Chairpersons on 17 February 2026 at 10:30 am before regular meeting. By-Laws and Policies and Procedures were reviewed and changes will be published in the March Newsletter, and member vote of approval will be held at the April meeting, after a 30 day review by all members.

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

Beth Fannin introduced our speaker, Donna Orford, from Franklin, NC. Donna showed us her first quilt, a beautiful star medallion. Donna uses the Tucker Tools (keep your points!) to her advantage in producing sharp pointed stars - and many of them! Donna has worked at A Stitch in Time, Franklin and as a certified Tucker Tools instructor, teaches classes there. She also enjoys foundation paper piecing and does classes. Donna showed several complicated quilts done in Cindy Williams' Feathered Star retreats. The Tucker Tools are available online with videos of instructions and prices vary from \$23 to \$50. Donna did a hands-on demonstration after her trunk show, and explained that each ruler can be used for several different shapes and designs. We all enjoyed seeing Donna's beautiful quilts.

Libby thanked Donna and adjourned the meeting at 1:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Gini Cawood, Secretary



Executive Committee Meeting Changes to By-Laws and Policies and Procedures

Please review. These will be voted on at the April meeting:

All dates in header and first paragraph of both to reflect current year - 2026 - 16 Jan to read 17 Feb; 15 Feb to read 17 Mar; and 19 Mar to read 21 Apr

By-Laws

Art IV - Sec 6 - add the word 'is' after member; delete the word 'a' after have; delete ',' after under (cleaning up grammar)

Art V - Sec 2 - delete 'not to exceed two consecutive terms'

Art IX - Sec 1 - change 'by the President each year' to say 'by the President each election year'

Policies and Procedures

Meeting Times and Places - change the word 'others' to 'other'; delete the word 'potluck'

Bee Groups - change day to days

Membership - delete 'once a year'

Membership Directory - change 'in April' to 'in April every other year'

Workshops - Change 'No refunds will be given' to 'Refunds may be given at the discretion of the Workshop Chairperson'

Opportunity Quilt - Change 'Membership Chairperson' to 'Opportunity Quilt Chairperson'; change lottery license renewal from 'six (6)' to 'twelve (12)' months

Basting

We will have basting in advance of our March 17, 2026, meeting.

Thanks, Pat

Treasurer's Report

Income	Budget	Income	YTD	Remaining
Door Prizes	2,000.00	130.00	265.00	1,735.00
Fundraisers & Misc	500.00	100.00	100.00	400.00
Membership	2,200.00	95.00	1,512.50	687.50
Raffle Quilt	2,400.00	50.00	640.00	1,760.00
Workshops	3,300.00	200.00	420.00	2,880.00
Expenses				
Door Prizes	1,000.00		0.00	1,000.00
Membership	200.00		0.00	500.00
Miscellaneous				
Achievement	300.00		0.00	500.00
Guild Activities	400.00		0.00	1,000.00
Newsletter	150.00		0.00	75.00
Operations	2,500.00	191.30	441.30	3,058.70
Programs	1,500.00	187.00	345.00	1,355.00
Sunshine	300.00		0.00	75.00
Raffle Quilt	50.00		0.00	50.00
Workshops	1,800.00	431.60	666.60	1,333.40

Circle of Hope

Donations for March - Personal items for women - Klennex, nail clippers, tampons - all sizes, shaving gel, noxzema, tweezers, razors, deodorant.

Thanks, Rosale!

Heat Press Success: Fast and Beautiful Botanical Printing



Ready to explore botanical printing? This hands-on class is the perfect introduction to creating beautiful prints from leaves and flowers using a heat press for fast, consistent results. Learn how to transform natural materials into

stunning designs on paper, fabric, and scarves.

What You'll Learn:

Using a Heat Press: Understand the benefits of botanical printing with a heat press and what to look for or what to avoid when choosing one.

Preparing to Print: Learn how to set up your studio, prepare papers and fabrics, and work safely with chemicals, accessories and tools.

Printing with Plants: Gain hands-on experience printing with foliage and flowers while understanding how variables like moisture, pressure and heat affect results.

Composition & Color: Explore layout, scale and enhancement techniques, including the use of carriers and colored backgrounds.

Working Larger & Finishing: Print larger pieces such as scarves, then discover how to seal, protect, embellish and display your finished work.

Category: Class

Topic: Dyeing

Start Date: Jun 20, 2026

Location: 3420 W. Hospital Ave., Chamblee, GA 30341

By the end of the class, you'll leave with the confidence to continue botanical printing at home, along with approximately 20 completed prints on paper and fabric and access to reference materials to support your future projects.

This class is packed with creative exploration, practical knowledge, and plenty of hands-on making. Your instructor, Geri Beam, is a multidisciplinary fiber artist and educator who is always exploring new ideas and creative adventures in the fiber arts. She completed Jane Dunnewold's highly respected Art Cloth Mastery Program in 2012 and brings together hands-on textile experience with strong digital and design skills to create a unique and engaging learning environment. Geri is known for her encouraging teaching style and her passion for helping students build confidence while expanding their skills and creative vision. To find out more about Geri [click here!](#)

\$170 - \$200

Additional Supply Fee: None. The \$30 supply fee is included in the cost of the class. This includes almost everything you need to print 20 pieces. Each student will receive the following substrate materials:

One 8"x54" silk scarf
Four 11"x11" silk handkerchiefs
Four 11"x11" pieces of raw silk
Two 11"x11" pieces of cotton broadcloth
Four 8"x8" squares of watercolor paper
Five 4"x6" pieces of watercolor paper

Required Student Supplies to bring:
4 Teflon sheets cut to 16" x 20"
8 pieces of white acrylic craft felt cut 16" x 20"
Latex or vinyl gloves

Dust mask
Optional: small notebook and pencil to take notes
Optional but highly recommended, Jane Dunnewold's [Collaborate with Mother Nature: Botanical Printing with a Heat Press](#)

Scholarship Available: No.

Level: Open to all levels.

Minimum Number of Students: 7 by June 6, 2026

Maximum Number of Students: 10

Class Schedule: The class will be in person at the SEFAA Center on Saturday, June 20 from 1-6pm and Sunday June 21 from 10-6 pm. There will be a short 1/2-hour break for lunch, so we encourage you to bring your lunch with you. We have a small refrigerator and microwave available for your use.

Requested Pattern

Beth said several people wanted to know the name of this pattern at the January meeting. It is still in print.





BEE HANDY

The Bee Handy group will meet March 25th 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 Sharps will meet for their regular meeting at St. James Episcopal Church Hall, Clayton, 10 am until 2 pm on the first Thursday, 5 March 2026. Bring your lunch and sewing supplies, an extension for your machine and \$3 for the church. Coffee will be provided. BYO lunch. All members are welcome. For details or questions, contact Gini Cawood 706.599.3263.

ATTENTION: bring the Shoebox!



BEE ARTFUL

The Bee Artful will meet at the VFW on the regular scheduled day - 2nd Tuesday - 10 Mar, 10 am until 2 pm. Bring your lunch and show and tell. For details contact Bev Mannes 706.490.1708. Geri Beam will be doing a demonstration on Over Dying. Do you have some ugly fabric that needs to be salvaged? How about some tired pieces of clothing you'd like to spice up? Did you inherit some nice clothing but it just isn't your color? Are you trying to match some fabric you ran out of but don't want to buy any new fabric? Over dying may be the answer to these questions. Knowing what kind of fabric and a little color theory you can accomplish a lot. It is easier than you think and using a microwave makes it quick and permanent. In a little over a hour lecture, Geri will show you what over dying is, what you need and how to do it. All members are welcome - Geri always has many new ideas and techniques to share!



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

Terry Wright	6
Beverly Daubenspeck	7
Jeanie Whitworth	22
Marge Striggow	26
Linda Russ	29





March 2026



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5 10 am - Bee Sharps	6	7
8 Daylight Saving Time	9	10 10 am - Bee Artful	11	12	13	14
				-----Quilt Expo - Duluth-----		
15	16	17 10:00 am - Basting 12:30 pm - Monthly Meeting	18	19	20 10 am - QOV 1st Day of Spring	21
22	23	24	25 10 am - Bee Handy Newsletter Deadline	26	27 Workshop	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.

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.

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.