

Mountain Laurel Quilters Guild

151 Shady Lane
Toccoa, GA 30577

www.mlqg.org

Volume XXXII 10

IN PERSON MEETING -
Tuesday, October 21, 2025

VFW
174 Cornelia Crossing
Cornelia, GA 30531



Founded 1994

October 2025

Meeting & Program for October 2025

This month's meeting will be on October 21, 2025, at the Grant-Reeves Veterans Community Center (hereinafter referred to as the VFW Hall) in Cornelia. Doors open at 11:30 am.

We have an exciting program for October: Michael DeGrave will have a few more sewing machine tips for us and then we will hear from our Bees: Bee Artful, Bee Handy, and Bee Sharps. We'll learn what they're doing, see demo's of their projects, and what they have planned for next year.. We'll also learn how to become more involved.

Michael DeGrave will be at the October 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 October 14th.

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.

OCTOBER WORKSHOP NEWS

Our October 2025 workshop will be devoted to cutting, sewing, assembling and finishing charity projects - these include comfort quilts, donation quilts and pillowcases. There is a place for all skill levels and interests at our service and charity projects workshops - cutting, sewing, finishing, teaching, learning and best of all - time well spent with friends, new and old. Public service is a central element of the Mountain Laurel Quilter's stated purpose and all members are encouraged to participate. There is no charge to members for this workshop. The fee for non-members is \$15.00.

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.

President's Message

Where are the cooler temperatures? As I write this article for the newsletter, I am hot and sweaty. (I guess that is TMI.) I spent the last few days in Hiawassee with my friend, and it was cold every night and cooler than it is here! Oh well, that's all I'll say about that.

It was a great trip. My friend was making some bags for gifts. She sewed blocks for seven bags that she is making for family and friends. I completed making all the blocks for my CHALLENGE QUILT. I will be putting those blocks together next week and completing my quilt. HAVE YOU STARTED YOUR CHALLENGE QUILT??? DON'T PANIC YOU STILL HAVE TIME.

October will be a busy month for me. I hope that everyone is looking forward to the October meeting and workshop. Remember this workshop will be the final opportunity for all of us to make the items that will be given to all the charities that we support. If you can't plan to participate, please check with Pat Mahoney for a pillowcase kit at the regular meeting. The pillowcases can then be returned at the November meeting. The goal set for pillowcases is 100 and at the last meeting we were at 50% of that goal.

I will be working on quilting a LOT of quilts during this month. My shelves are full of quilts to be quilted and bound. This is a priority since I don't have any more storage on my shelves. I know that this is not a problem for some of you, but I have gotten way behind.

October is my favorite month of the year! (That might be because it is my birthday month.) I hope that each of you will find time to explore and see the leaves change, attend a quilt retreat, or just stay at home and prepare for the busier events ahead.

Last but not least, enjoy time with your family! Until next month - That's all folks!!!

Libby

PRESIDENT'S CHALLENGE

Due December 16th Meeting

Several people have asked for clarification of the rules for the President's Challenge:

The following items are allowed - Quilts, table runners, etc. All entries must be in a Log Cabin pattern. At the beginning, I stated that it must be Batik fabrics or Patriotic. All entries can be fabrics of your choice. I chose this pattern because it was the first quilt pattern that I made when I began quilting. I hope that we will have a lot of participation!!!



In the 1930s in the United States, sacks containing flour and grain were made of cloth, primarily cotton. The Kansas Wheat company, in the midst of the Great Depression, realized that the poorest families were reusing them to sew dresses for women and girls, so to make them more captivating they decided to print them with floral and colorful motifs.

The initiative was a huge success: they made sure that the ink used for the logos would fade after a simple wash, and some bags even had the patterns already drawn on the fabric, ready to be cut and sewn.

A marketing tactic that helped American families get through a particularly difficult period, also useful as a source of income for women who would later sell their recycled models.

Basting

Anyone who wants to bring a quilt for basting must let the Basting Chairperson know no later than Saturday, October 11th. Can text, call or e-mail to Pat Mahoney, 770-294-2043, patriciafmahoney@gmail.com.

Guild Meeting Minutes

16 September 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 September birthdays : Tanya Cole, Bev Mannes, Angie Gibson, Becky Wynne from TN, Pam McBride, Bonnie Finne, Laura Leiden, Connie Walters, Vicki Volpi and Linda Coulombe.

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! Shockingly there were no Donation quilts this month!

7 pillowcases were handed in from Nancy Kennedy (3), Dottie Wonders (2) and Janet Horn (2).

SHOW AND TELL please fill in a form.

Mitzi Lantz - Bears, top only

Peggy Saum - gold, brown log cabin, embroidered label

Cathy Hebert - 1. Grandeur by Deb Heatherly, October Mystery, quilted by Peggy Saum

2. Bear Paw/ Log Cabin Dottie Wonders - started by Claire Panetta, finished by Dottie and MaryAnn Prue, blue, gold stripes quilted by Kathy Bavington

Pat Mahoney - WS Attic windows, quilted by Jan Carlson

Janice Chiaffredo - juried in with Susan Barrett and Silke Cliatt, 330 entered 85 accepted

Barb Westbrook - table topper, oranges, quilted by Barb

DOOR PRIZES Ginny Fagen, Pam McBride - earned \$120

Winners were - Mitzi, Kiki, Pat Mahoney, Jeanie, Sharon and Dottie.

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

MINUTES Gini Cawood - as printed in Newsletter, motioned Carol Gardiner, seconded by JoAnne Valanzola, approved

MEMBERSHIP Mary Oliver - 37 members signed in, Savannah Clemons, guest

Please return plastic name tags to the box at Membership.

AUDITORS Gini Cawood, MaryAnn Prue, Mitzi Lantz - July, August September to be audited in October

BASTING Pat Mahoney - 4 basted quilts today, 3 for donation; if basting needed, contact Pat for October

CIRCLE OF HOPE Rosale Bolstad - Thank you for ladies items : next month - childrens' clothing 8 - 12

COMFORT QUILTS Pat Statler - 5 comfort quilts ready, hope that they are not needed.

FACILITATORS Gini Cawood, Sharon Ruth - all on, all good. Coffee at back. New Garbage cans. Take old if desired.

HISTORIAN Jeanie Whitworth - no new news

HOSTESS Mitzi Lantz - next event Christmas luncheon

NEWSLETTER Betty Massey - deadline for Newsletter articles 25th

OFFICIAL HUGGER - Rita Sander - much better joined local knitting group

OPPORTUNITY QUILT - Janice Chiaffredo - Thank you to Dottie, Amanda and Mary in 3 hours collected \$130 - next event 4 October FoxFire at Clayton Pavilions, need demonstrators, volunteers, contact Janice

Black Friday Clayton street corner (last year \$600!) Bingo event at VFW in December.

PARLIAMENTARIAN - Lucia Scroggs - not present

PUBLICITY - Barb Westbrook - contacting papers, pictures on Facebook

QOV Karen Trombley - next 19 September, 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 has supplies for wheelchair quilts 45" x 45".

Volunteers needed for 27 Sept at VFW awarding quilts

10 year anniversary for the NGA Chapter in March 2026. \$250 donated from DAV.

ROSTER/WEBMASTER Kathy Wasden, send information. Comfort Quilt pattern has been updated. Roster with Bev Mannes and Linda Barron.

SUNSHINE MaryAnn Prue - birthday cards sent, please let her know if get well cards are needed. Terry Wright's husband Steve in Hospital all summer, Vicki Volpi heart problems. CDC rebuilding.

PROGRAMS Beth Fannin - not present. Ask an Expert for next month.

Today will be Michael DeGrave to present program with Q & A.

WORKSHOPS Pat Mahoney - 26 September Quilted Jacket, Kelly Akers, 4 patterns on website, \$20 members includes pattern, (\$30 guests) Old quilt or quilted fabric required.

DEADLINE 16 SEPTEMBER 10 pm to get patterns/sizes ready by teacher

24 October - Charity and Service projects, pillowcase kits available today. Workshop space available to sew your personal projects, all members welcome.

BEE ARTFUL Janice Chiaffredo - 2nd Tuesday of the month - 14 October - 9:30 am doors open, 10 am start, until 2 pm, VFW Hall. Bring your lunch, show and tell and a project to work on.

BEE HANDY Caroline Warren - 4th Wednesday of the month - 24 September, 10 to 2:30 - NOTE CHANGE OF TIME AND VENUE - Ebenezer Methodist Church, 4000 Hollywood Hwy, Hollywood. 22 October, November and December meetings to be discussed, BYO lunch, 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 - 2 October - 10-2 - St. James Episcopal, Clayton. Bring your lunch, a project, an extension if sewing by machine. Coffee provided. All members welcome. LuAnne needs help trimming 2026 Opportunity Quilt, please bring small scissors, tweezers and your glasses!

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.

Fox Fire Event again this year, first weekend of October. Two quilts made by fair goers to be presented to Fox Fire for display or to be raffled.

Place of Hope "Picnic for a Purpose" 18 September, 6 pm - 9 pm. Clayton Baptist Church Activities Hall. Appreciation to MLQG for donations of quilts and pillowcases. 56 pillowcases donated as of date.

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. Michael Dale, VFW QM, said building sold, AllState moved, we will stay until December, will review in November.

NEW BUSINESS Proofs available for review of Trifold leaflet and Flyer. To be reprinted.

PROGRAM Beth Fannin not present. Libby introduced Michael DeGraves, Sewing Expert.

Michael is our in-house sewing machine service man and shared many tips on sewing machine maintenance.

YES! You can oil your machine. Metal moving parts like the needle bar and bobbin case need a drop of oil.

NO POWER if using compressed air to clean your machine as risk of explosion. Do not use WD40 as it dries out.

Sewing machine oil is designed to not stain your fabric. Several Bernina machines have battery packs that need to be run to recharge and maintain power. You can use button thread to "floss" your tension bars.

Michael showed us several machines, including an old single stitch machine and showed where to clean and where to oil. Michael entertained us with many of his stories and repair episodes. Michael had many entertaining games (one rather confusing!) and many generous prizes! Members were each given a yard of fabric and the big prize was a free service! Thank you for a great program!

Ask An Expert was started off with Michael DeGrave - bring sewing related questions for next meeting.

We have many experts amongst us - but who to ask?

Libby Armstrong adjourned the meeting at 3:00pm.

Respectfully submitted, Gini Cawood, Secretary

Please note Michael DeGrave's new card which he handed out at the September meeting.



Treasurer's Report

Income		Budget	Income	YTD	Remaining
	Door Prizes	1,500.00	120.00	1,099.00	401.00
	Fundraisers	500.00		0.00	500.00
	Membership	2,200.00		1,873.50	326.50
	Raffle Quilt	2,400.00	131.00	2,570.50	-170.50
	Workshops	3,000.00	185.00	230.00	2,770.00
Expenses					
	Door Prizes	1,000.00	32.38	325.52	674.48
	Membership	500.00		99.66	400.34
	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	38.62	1,011.02	2,488.98
	Programs	1,700.00		892.00	808.00
	Sunshine	75.00		58.40	16.60
	Raffle Quilt	50.00		0.00	50.00
	Workshops	2,000.00	162.28	742.28	1,257.72

Circle of Hope

Donations for October - Child's needs to size 8 - Socks/underwear, pajamas, t-shirts, boys shirts to size 12, girls blouses to size 12.

Thanks, Rosale!

The Great American Birthday Quilt - Williamsburg 250



As America approaches its 250th anniversary, there is no destination more fitting to commemorate this milestone than Virginia's Historic Triangle—Williamsburg, Jamestown, and Yorktown. Known as the Birthplace of America and home to the world's largest living U.S. history museum, this is where the nation's story began. It is where the first permanent English settlement took root, the ideals of liberty were forged, and the fight for independence was won. Visitors can step into history by walking the streets where revolutionaries once debated, standing on the battlefield where victory was secured, and experiencing the journey from colony to country firsthand.

Visit Williamsburg is bringing the nation together one stitch at a time by celebrating America250 and Virginia250 with the creation of The Great American Birthday Quilt. The goal of this project is to engage people from all over our country to handcraft a powerful tribute to America that can be admired by many generations to come. This collaborative project will be led by Steve Prince, Director of Engagement and Distinguished Artist in Residence at the Muscarelle Museum of Art at The College of William & Mary, in partnership with Visit Williamsburg.

The finished quilt will be unveiled in Williamsburg in 2026 and put on display at the Colonial Williamsburg Visitor Center.

For Submission Guidelines and Video Tutorials, please click the link below:

<https://www.visitwilliamsburg.com/williamsburg-250/american-birthday-quilt/>

Opportunity Quilt

October 4, Saturday, our Guild will be participating in the Foxfire event called Mountaineer Festival. We would love to see you there. If you plan to spend a little time volunteering in our booth (2 hours) let the gate keepers know you are with our Guild. Contact Janice Chiaffredo if it is your first time volunteering. Text or call 831.801.3365.

Mountaineer Festival Clayton GA

201 West Savannah St., Clayton, GA 30525

A vintage black sewing machine sits on a wooden table in a grassy field. In the background, there are rolling green hills and mountains under a clear sky. The scene is peaceful and scenic.

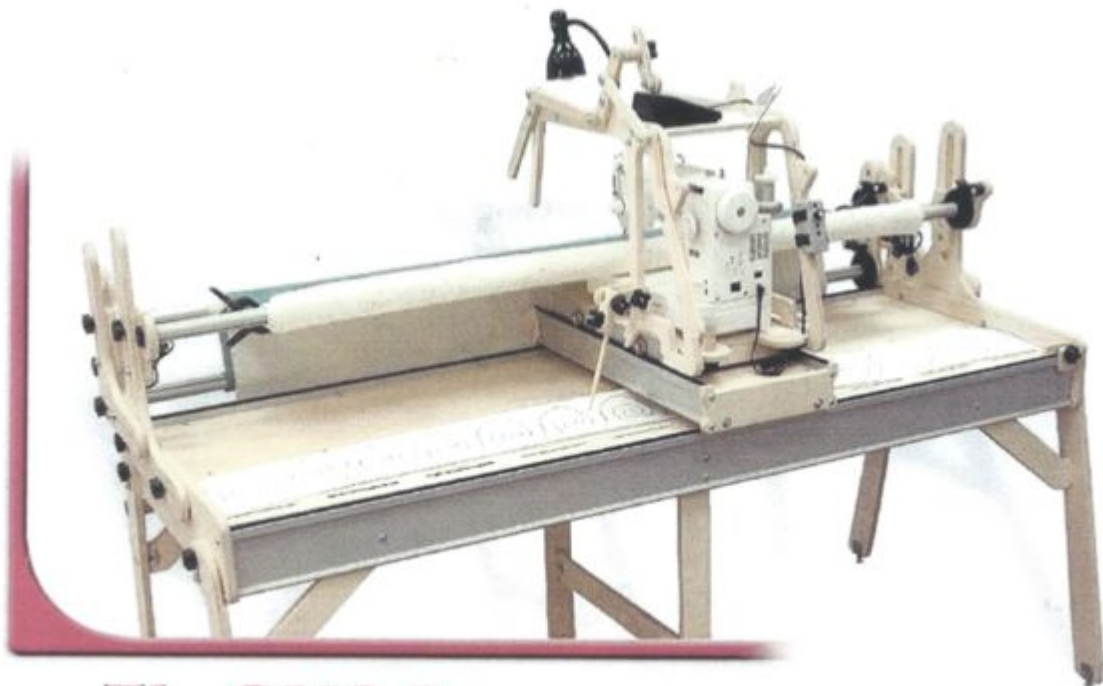
Event Time: 10:00 to 4:00
Bring Something to Stitch
Plan to Stay 2 Hours at Booth

FREE TO ANYONE WHO WANTS IT

Wooden GMQ-Pro Grace frame, currently queen size, you can expand it for a king size quilt or make it small for a lap quilt.

It has a large collection of Pantogram papers and a laser pointer to guide you.

Also included is a **Baby Lock Quilter's Choice Professional machine** 8 " throat, straight stitch. All the feet are included so it can be used for piecing tops and free-motion quilting. It sews nicely.



The GMQ-Pro

You will need to drive to my house south of Dacula, about a half hour south of the Mall of Georgia to pick it up and disassemble it so you know how to put it back together when you get it home.

Bev Mannes 706-490-1708 beverlymannes@gmail.com



BEE HANDY

The Bee Handy group will meet October 22 at Ebenezer Methodist Church, 4000 Hollywood Hwy, Clarkesville, from 10 am - 2:30 pm. 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, 2 October 2025. Bring your lunch and sewing supplies, an extension for your machine and \$3 for the church. Coffee will be provided. We need help in trimming the 2026 Opportunity Quilt. Please bring small scissors, tweezers and your glasses! The Bee Sharps will be having a "Sleep-in-your-own-Bed" retreat 27 through 31 October at Sky Valley/Scaly Mountain Fire Station. 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 9:30 am) until 2 pm at the VFW Hall on the second Tuesday, 14 October 2025.

Bring your lunch, Show and Tell and a project on which to work.

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	Linda Barron Bev Mannes Kathy Wasden
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

Kristie Jarrett	1
Mary Murrelle	
Sue Allison	
Pat Mahoney	2
Melinda Oliver	8
Vesta Ramsey	10
Julie Claxton	17
Gini Cawood	18
Lynda Doll	
Peggy Saum	22
Libby Armstrong	
Kathy Booker	31





October 2025



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

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 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.