Starlight Express

Starlight Quilters Guild

On the web at https: starlightquilters.com

On Facebook at www.facebook.com/StarlightQuiltersGuild/

November 9, 2026

Starlight Quilt Guild Officers and Committees

President: Donna Holloway
Heartland Quilt Network Rep: Mary Honas
KCRQF Representative: Tara Culley
Vice President: Janette Sheldon
Guild Meetings Operations Manager: Alison Erickson
Guild Meetings Volunteers: Ann Doherty, Jan Ketchum, Shirley Lewis
Program Committee: Mary Lou Guy
Past President: Amy Ubben
Quilting Activities Manager: Barbara McMahon
Accuquilt: Cheryl Tomson
Community Service: Pam Lanza
Guild Challenge: Karen Edwards & Shirley Lewis
Project Linus: Mary Honas & Kate McCabe
Retreats: Donna Holloway
Workshops: Tammy Smith
Treasurer: Barb Dietz
Membership: Diane Phillips
Monthly Raffle: Janette Sheldon, Donna Holloway, Amy Ubben
Quilt Show: Janette Sheldon, Kim Cawthon, Alison Erickson
Raffle/Opportunity Quilt:
Secretary: Michele Fix (starlightquilters@gmail.com)
Newsletter: Suzanne Andrews (starlightnewsletter@gmail.com)
Photographer/Graphic Design: Laura Bogue
Website Manager: Janice McKee



From the President

How can it already be November? The year has certainly flown by so quickly for me. It's been an honor to be the guild president with such wonderful members! I've enjoyed the variety of programs our guild has offered this year. Each has brought something new to explore and I'm already looking forward to seeing what next year will bring.

One of the greatest joys of quilting is that there is always something new to learn. Whether it's discovering a new technique, exploring a fresh design approach, or finding inspiration in an unexpected place, quilting offers endless opportunities for growth and creativity. Taking a class or watching an online tutorial can open doors to ideas and skills you might never have encountered on your own.

Just as importantly, there is an incredible wealth of knowledge and talent within our own guild. We learn from one another every time we gather, share our projects, and exchange ideas. In many ways, this is the very essence of what a guild is meant to be. A guild is traditionally an association of people who share a common trade, profession, or interest, organized for mutual support, learning, and the advancement of their craft. Historically, guilds of weavers, masons, blacksmiths, and other artisans preserved skills, set standards, and helped members grow from apprentices to masters. While our guild may look different from those of centuries past, the spirit remains the same: learning together, encouraging one another, and helping each member develop their skills.

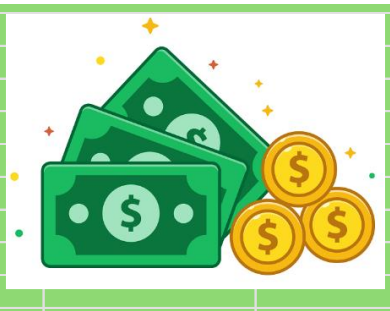
We benefit most when we occasionally step outside our comfort zones. Classes provide the opportunity to experiment in a supportive environment while also learning from fellow quilters whose fabric choices, techniques, and perspectives may inspire you to see your own work in new ways. Online videos are another valuable resource. Sometimes watching a technique demonstrated can make everything click in a way that written instructions cannot. Exploring different instructors and keeping a list of new techniques to try can turn even a few spare minutes into a learning opportunity. ***(continued next page)***

(From the President, cont.)

Give yourself permission to experiment. Make sample blocks. Play with scraps. Try unexpected color combinations. Test a ruler you've never used before. Not every experiment has to become a finished quilt, and not every project has to be perfect. Often, the most valuable lessons come from simply being willing to try. You don't have to master everything. You simply have to stay curious. Sometimes the project that stretches your skills just beyond your comfort zone is the very one that opens the door to an exciting new direction in your quilting journey.

Wishing everyone a wonderful holiday season and looking forward to seeing you all next year!

~Donna Holloway
SQG President



STARLIGHT QUILTERS GUILD
Treasurer's Report
October 2026

		Beginning Checkbook Balance	**$ 10,187.68**	
		CD's at Capitol Federal	**17,681.60**	
		Petty Cash	**60.00**	
Cash Balance				**27,929.28**
Income				
		Membership Dues	52.50	
		Bucket Babes	62.00	
		Retreat	150.00	
		Total Income		**264.50**
Expenses				
		Meeting Facility Rental	230.00	
		Program	1,021.94	
		Storage Expense	130.00	
		Door Prizes	79.66	
		PayPal Fees	2.73	
		Total Expenses		**1,464.33**
		Ending Checkbook Balance	**8,987.85**	
		CD's at Capitol Federal	**17,681.60**	
		Petty Cash	**60.00**	
Cash Balance				**$ 26,729.45**
		Submitted by Barbara Dietz, Treasurer		



November Program – Heart Quilts
Mary Honas, First Rate Designs

I have sewn since I was a child, making my own clothing through high school and working years and have been quilting for over 30 years. Quilting has fit with my other interests from the beginning. I was a stay-at-home mom and an active volunteer for 18 years. Some of my fondest memories during that time are from making quilts to recognize the many volunteers I've known. When my oldest son started college and my youngest was three, I began teaching quilting evenings and weekends at Harper's Fabrics & Quilts in Overland Park. I've always taught "something", Sunday school, aerobics during the Jane Fonda craze, breastfeeding to new moms. Teaching is what I love best. I have taught many different quilting classes over the years and the first class I taught, Quilting 101: the Basics, is still my favorite. I love seeing the light bulb go on with beginners and more experienced quilters who are looking for tips to become more precise.

I consider myself a "contemporary" quilter, using any technique that gives me the result closest to my vision for any given quilt. I started as a hand piecer and hand quilter. Because I want to finish projects during my lifetime, I started machine quilting on my domestic machine. While I now have a long arm and quilt for others, there are times when using my trusty Viking domestic machine gives me the look I want for my quilting. If I'm not teaching, I find great joy in celebrating others' lives in commission memory quilts.

~Mary Lou Guy
Programs



Website Update



Our website is out in public without its lipstick. 

Hello everyone. We've suffered some kind of update that has disconnected the graphic bits of our site with the textual content.

The information is all still available but a little harder to find. When looking at the site, the menu contents are at the top. Scroll down to the bottom to find the information you need. Newsletters, minutes, and links to outside websites are still active.

You may remember Pam Avara who built our current site. I reached out to her first. She doesn't have a solution.
I'm trying not to completely rebuild the site. This may be our solution, but I'm not sure yet. I have one opinion/proposal from an outside source for a rebuild that will cost money upfront but would save on annual hosting cost. I'm getting a second opinion.

Regardless, thanks for your patience and understanding. Hopefully, we will be able to reconnect the text and the graphics so it's beautiful once again.

~Janice McKee
Webfumbler

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Starlight currently has 95 members. Please welcome our newest members:

Bernadine Farrow &
Patty Hildebrand

We had 66 members at last month's meeting.

~Diane Phillips
Membership

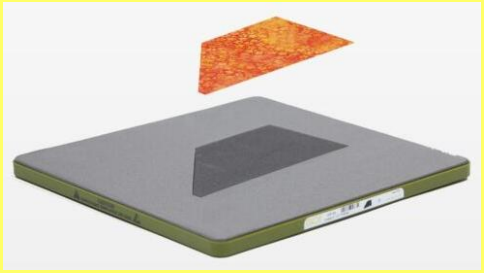
November & December Birthdays

Ngoclang Davis	11/05
Judy Brennan	11/09
Theresa Benson	11/14
Kathleen Purduski	11/21
Cheryl Dvorak	11/22
Jackie Johnson	12/05
Beverly Renner	12/05
Teresa Duwe	12/15
Jackie Evans	12/15
Angie Davies	12/19
Sandy Teeple	12/22
Linda Clatterbuck	12/28
Sharon Slusher	12/29
Michelle Fix	12/31
Mary Funk	12/31

Accuquilt News

This month's featured die is the Chisel. It cuts two pieces at a time, each 3 ½" by 6 ½". The Accuquilt website has dozens of block design patterns, including a scrappy French Braid. You could create an Attic window or frame a block. It's great for using up scraps and has engineered corners so no dogears to trim. The die fits through the Go Me as well as the guild's cutter. As always, contact me to check out the Accuquilt cutter or dies and remember that the Accuquilt is available at every guild sew day. Just let me know which dies you would like to use.

~Cheryl Tomson
Accuquilt Manager







ANIMAL HOUSE!!!!!

Thank all of you who turned in challenge quilts. It was fun to see the variety of quilts and how the challenge was interpreted. You were all winners in our eyes!!

~Karen Edwards &
Shirley Lewis

Starlight Quilters Guild
Fall Retreat 2026



Thanks to Donna Holloway for choosing such a fabulous location for the Fall Retreat! The weather also cooperated, so many attendees took outdoor walking breaks. It was a great time, and many projects were finished.



Additional kudos to Donna for the great food and for everyone who helped with set up and supplied excellent snacks!



Hope to see you all at next year's retreat!

2027 KCRQF Update

Just a reminder that the Showcase Challenge registration is **Open Now,** Registration due December 31, 2026 Visit the website for details here: https://kcrqf.com/2027/showcase-challenge/ this is available to KCRQF guild members ONLY.

Mini Quilt Challenge -Our miniature quilt challenge gives our community of stitchers a creative way to express their own quilting style. As Americans, 2026 brought us a year of pride with the 250th celebration of our country. KCRQF invites you to show your American spirit in your creation of a miniature quilt. Size requirements up to 96" perimeter – any shape, Red, White, Blue colors. Registration Opens January 2027 Fee $20



November Fat Quarters

The October winner of the polka dots chose STRIPES for the November theme. We can't wait to see the fun stripes that YOU come up with!

Mark Your Calendars:

November 17 – SQG November Meeting
(note the date change)
6:30 pm
Merriam Community Center
Featuring Mary Honas

December 2 – Open Sew
6:00-7:30 pm
Central Resource Library
Overland Park

December 3 – Open Sew
6:00-8:00 pm
Indian Creek Library, Olathe

December 31 – Submission Deadline for KCRQF Showcase Quilt

January 26 – SQG January Meeting
6:30 pm
Merriam Community Center

Alphabetical list of JoCo Quilt Shops

(for shopping, classes, and workshops)

Harper's Fabric and Quilt Co. https://www.harpersfabricandquilt.com/
KC Maker Studio & Fabrics https://www.kcmakerstudio.com/
Prairie Point Quilt & Fabric Shop https://prairiepoint.com/
Quilters Bliss https://www.quiltersbliss.com/
Quilters HQ https://www.quiltershq.com/

Project ♥ Linus

Quilts donated at the October 2026 meeting:

Donna Holloway – 1
Tammie Smith – 1
Kathy and Chris Foos – 2
Marsha Reves – 8
Kathy Keehn – 2
Opal Yarnell – 3
Rosemary Watrak – 1
Celeste Karusek – 1
Shirley Lewis – 1

Total for 2026 (so far) – 193

It was announced by Mary at the October meeting that if you have quilts to turn in at our November meeting, please drop them off at Harpers. This is just for our November meeting. **REMEMBER THE NOVEMBER MEETING IS NOVEMBER 17TH.**

~Kate McCabe & Mary Honas
Project Linus

JoCo Christmas Bureau

If you had the chance to make any stockings for the Johnson County Christmas Bureau, PLEASE bring them to the meeting, November 17th. Thank you!





The Last Word…

As you may know, this is my last newsletter as the Editor. Since I first met with Charmaine Ward in late summer of 2021, I have found this job challenging and fun. The challenges came with my (constant) struggles with my ADHD and time management. The fun has been in learning so much about our guild and getting to know so many of you. Don't get me wrong—I'm still terrible with names and appreciate our nametags, but I think editing the newsletter has given me opportunities to interact with more members than I might have been able to meet on my own. Sometimes I even felt a little selfish keeping this position for so long. The little thrill of seeing the finished document and then hitting "send" each month is satisfying. But I missed doing it during the year that I was president, so I kept doing it.

With a new grandbaby coming, heading up the 2028 Quilt Show, and the youngest heading off to college, I think I'm ready to hand the Starlight Express to the new Editor, Donna Holloway. I know she'll do a wonderful job (look at her amazing track record with the guild) and her on-time percentage will be a great improvement for those who have to approve and post the newsletter.

Hope to see you all at the November meeting and enjoy your holidays and the rest of 2026!

~Suzanne Andrews
Editor

Advertisements

City's Edge Quilt Shop has classes and more!
Amy Senatore, Owner www.citysedgestudio.com
616 W. Main Street, Warsaw, MO 65355
Mon-Fri 10a – 5p and Sat 9a – 3p

Custom Machine Embroidery – quilt labels, towels, gifts, T-shirts, logos, banners, and so much more. Fast turnaround time on orders.
Phone **Judy Brennan,** 913-788-0582

C & S Creations – Custom wood working projects. Let us help you with your sewing /hobby room needs. Custom workstations, Featherweight cabinets, ruler holders, scissor racks. **Cheryl & Scott Diebold,**
Phone 913-677-0838

Machine Quilting – Edge-to-Edge
Computerized longarm machine quilting by **Elizabeth Brown.** Phone 913-626-7135
Website www.Duelingthread.com

Rosecliff Quilts – Provide quilting services which include longarm edge-to-edge quilting for unfinished quilt tops, baby quilts, t-shirt memory quilts and embroidery patches.
Phone: **Stephanie Rector,** 816-560-9863
Email: rosecliffquilts@gmail.com

Donna's Singer Service – Does your Featherweight need a good clean and oil? Is it not sewing like it should? I can clean and service your Featherweight including Singer models 15,99, 221, 222, and 301. Reasonable fees & timely service.
Donna di Natale, phone 913-451-0283

Machine Quilting –Machine quilting, all styles of quilting from simple hand-guided designs to custom creations. Guild members, I will piece your backing at no extra charge!
Peggy Skaith 913-341-0525

Keehn 2 Quilt – **Kathy and Erin** provide high quality finishes for every project - custom hand guided and *Prostitcher* edge to edge precision offered. Contact us today to finish your quilt masterpiece!
913-940-9849 www.keehn2quilt.com keehn2quilt@gmail.com