

VALLEY QUILTERS GUILD



President's Letter

Upcoming Events

- **Thursday, December 4**
 - Membership Meeting
 - 7:00pm meeting starts
- **Saturday, December 6**
 - Open Sew 10:00am – 11:30pm
- **Thursday, November 11**
 - Board Meeting 6:30 – 7:30pm

Items to Bring to Membership Meeting

- Name Tag
- Block of the month: Candlelight
- Up to 3 fat quarters Winter Blues Prints
- Birthday, UFO, Bucket List, or Service Quilts
- Money for basket drawing



Woodland Wander Quilt
The Cloth Parcel

Membership Meeting Minutes

**Membership Meeting Minutes
Train Depot, Palmer, Alaska
Membership Meeting Minutes
Train Depot, Palmer, Alaska
November 6, 2025**

Opening: Raye Krueger, Guild President, called the Valley Quilters Guild membership meeting to order on November 6, 2025, at 7:00 pm with 56 members in attendance and 8 people attending virtually.

Welcome to guests. Happy November birthdays.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion: To approve the October 2025 membership meeting minutes as published.

Moved by: Paddy Coan

Seconded by: Karen Keene-Ernest

Vote: Yes (multiple) - No (none)

Action: Motion carried

Treasurer's Report:

Motion: To approve the 2026 budget as published in the newsletter.

Moved by: Cindy Montague

Seconded by: Marcia Healy

Vote: Yes (multiple) - No (none)

Action: Motion carried

Committees: Members are encouraged to sign up for 2026 committees. New chairs are appointed each year.

Membership Renewal Time: Renew your membership on the website for 2026. Those who are over 65 and have 10 years of continuous membership should contact treasurer@valleyquiltersguild.com to apply for lifetime status.

Announcements:

Camp: The camp committee had its first meeting at Luna's and will meet again in December.

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Membership Meeting Minutes Continued

Education: Jeannie Snodgrass said instructions for the blocks of the month will be by video instead of by demonstration at open sew. Orphan block challenge quilts are due at the May 2026 tea party meeting. Education is working on booking teachers Maria Shell and possibly the Quilting Marine for 2026.

Grants: Meg Hills said a Wasilla High School teacher asked for guild members to help in her classroom the last week of November/first week of December. Contact Meg for more information. Meg will do a grant presentation in January 2026.

Hospitality: Emily Kinslow noted that the hospitality team usually meets on the last Saturday of each month. The committee is looking for more members—especially anyone who loves planning parties or decorating—so all are encouraged to sign up.

Raffle Quilt: The committee met, with Darcey serving as chair. The 2026 raffle quilt is currently being bound, and the 2027 quilt design has been selected and is awaiting the designer's approval.

Retreat: The next retreat will be held February 26-March 2 at the Depot. The cost is \$50, and tickets will go on sale on December 5, 2025, at 9 a.m.

Special Events: Bring an unwrapped toy to the December meeting for the Toys for Tots campaign.

Technology: The tech committee is seeking additional volunteers. Tasks include helping develop Zoom/Teams policies and creating a social media plan.

President's Special: Raye provided materials to make a holiday mug rug that's due at the December meeting. Winners, selected by member vote, get prizes.

Program: The education committee reviewed the 2026 blocks of the month.

Drawings Winners

Door prizes - zipper bags donated by

Jackie Endsley Sierra Dorman, Elaine Fergen, Charlotte Honner, Jeannie Snodgrass, Jana Berna, Leslie Skan

November 2025 BOM's Ruth Sielaff

Fat quarter bundles (3) Sierra Dorman, Jeannie Snodgrass, Janelle Huseman

Raffle Basket Elaine Fergen

Bucket List Michelle Buehner

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Submitted by Juli Comer, Secretary.

Board Meeting Minutes

Valley Quilters Guild
Board Meeting Minutes
November 13 2025

Opening

The Valley Quilters Guild Board Meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. on November 13, 2025, by Guild President, Raye Krueger via Zoom.

Board members present:

Raye Krueger, President
Daniel Hughes, Vice-President
Juli Comer, Secretary
Paddy Coan, Treasurer (joined at 6:55pm)
Jana Berna, Parliamentarian
Alex Pine, Librarian
Christina Traeger, Historian

Others present: Linda Conover, Webmaster; Susan Franznick, Service; Marcia Healy, Fair Booth.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion: To approve October 9, 2025, minutes.

Moved by: Juli Comer

Seconded: Daniel Hughes

Vote: Yes (5) - No (0). The president votes only in the event of a tie.

Action: Motion carried

Treasurer's Report: The guild's two \$10,000 CDs matured October 28, 2025.

Motion: To roll over one CD now and the second CD in 3 months.

Moved by: Jana Berna

Seconded: Paddy Coan

Vote: Yes (6) - No (0). The president votes only in the event of a tie.

Action: Motion carried

Christmas Potluck: Options for providing food at the holiday membership meeting were discussed, including Carrs deli trays and hiring a local caterer. To remain within budget, Carrs deli trays appear to be the most practical choice. Marcia Healy raised concern about whether purchasing food was appropriate. It was noted that the guild has purchased food for events such as the ice cream social.

Computers: To effectively support the guild's technology operations, the Tech Committee will likely require a dedicated laptop capable of managing SharePoint, Microsoft Office, email, Teams meetings, the OWL camera, and other related tasks. Beginning January 1, 2026, the committee will be responsible for making equipment and purchase recommendations.

· Fair technology needs: Marcia Healy will email Daniel her fair Excel spreadsheet so he can help reconcile the inventory discrepancies with the Square reports.

Palmer Chamber of Commerce Renewal: After discussion, it was decided that continuing chamber membership is an asset to the guild. Raye will add sign-up sheets for members to volunteer to attend chamber meetings.

Door Prizes: Raye will set out volunteer sign-up sheets for 2026 door prizes.

Raffle ticket pricing: Costs for raffle basket items have gone up, while ticket sales have declined. It was suggested that increasing the ticket price to \$1 would simplify payment handling and account for inflation. No one could recall why only the monthly raffle basket limits how often someone can win—especially since the retreat raffle basket can be won by the same person at both the February and October retreats. Removing the disqualification rule is expected to boost participation and increase revenue to better fund the raffle basket.

Motion: Beginning 1/1/2026, (1) increase the Monthly Raffle Basket ticket price to \$1 and, (2) strike Monthly Raffle Basket, paragraph 4 at pp.12-13 from the Standing Policies as follows: 4. The winner of the monthly Raffle Basket may win only once in a 12-month period (Sept. 2013 Special Board Meeting). For example, if you win in December you are not eligible again until the next December. (FEB 2018 Board Meeting) X-REF Meetings.

Moved by: Paddy Coan

Seconded: Juli Comer

Vote: Yes (6) - No (0). The president votes only in the event of a tie.

Action: Motion carried.

Follow-up: Jana Berna will do some housekeeping updates on the Standing Policies and provide them to Linda Conover so that they can be updated on the website.

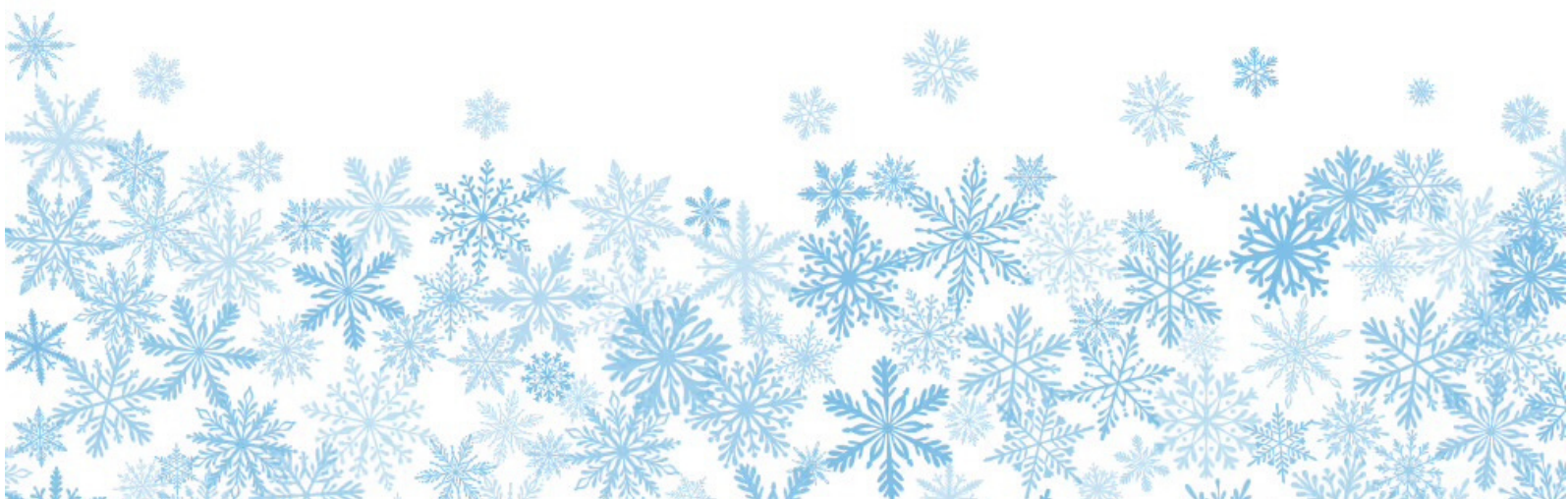
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Board Meeting Minutes Continued

Other Issues:

- **Service:** Susan Franznick said Service took in about \$300 from the garage sale. The funds are to be deposited in the general account. A motion is needed for the membership to vote on whether the \$300 proceeds should be allocated to Service. Susan will give a service presentation at the January 2026 meeting. Daniel will provide access to O365 so she has access to PowerPoint.
 - **Missing batting:** There was no information on the batting missing from the depot, which was about 1/3 of a roll. Various methods were discussed to prevent something like that from happening again.
 - **UFO Auction:** To be held in March to avoid conflicting with the fair booth kickoff in April. Assistance from the Special Events committee is needed for this event.
 - **2026 Programs:** Email Raye ideas for programs for 2026.
 - **Holiday Membership Meeting:** Raye will send a blast email reminding members about the gift exchange at the December 2025 meeting and to vote for volunteer of the year on the website.
 - **Volunteer recognition:** The board discussed spotlighting volunteers throughout the year in the newsletter.
 - **Membership Drive/Marketing:** New brochures and a marketing plan are needed for 2026 to bring in new members. A committee is needed to assist in this initiative, plus the member coordinator and the tech committee may also lend a hand.
 - **Incoming Board Members:** Incoming board members are encouraged to attend the December 2025 board meeting.
- The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Submitted by Juli Comer, Secretary.



EDUCATION NEWS

SEP 2025-MAY 2026 **"ORPHAN BLOCK" CHALLENGE:** Sample ideas and orphan block videos are on the website. There will still be packets available at guild meetings and Open Sew – Just ask an Education member.

1. Choose from a variety of coordinated packets to make yourself, OR choose a friend or friends to make it with. Include any of your own orphan blocks if you wish.
2. Quilts to be donated to Service, a fundraising auction, Fair Booth, or other charity event – If a QOV, please donate to one of the two local QOV groups.
3. Member judging at the July 2026 Guild Mtg. A completed orphan quilt top is all that is required to enter, OR you can enter it quilted and bound. Please keep your quilt until the May meeting. There will not be room at Service for all of them.
4. Winning Prize: A basket of quilting goodies & Gift Certificate. Feel free to donate quality quilting items to the gift basket, available at Education each month. Come and check it out as it grows.

Free Orphan Block HELP will be ongoing at Open Sews, the 8-3:30 Monday and Friday Sew Days at the Palmer Sr Center, and at retreats: Education members (and others) will be available to help you with your orphan block quilts – how to combine blocks, how to connect with coping strips,

etc. ASK FOR additional strips, squares, pinwheels, 4-patches, 9-patches, hourglass blocks, flying geese, etc. in a variety of colors. Ask Susa Franznick/Service for any needed Service fabrics if donating to Service quilts for the community.

ON THE WEBSITE: Quilting Tips & Techniques, Quilt Patterns, AccuQuilt, Common Terms:

*Patterns include a nice variety of precut patterns from Education, plus Service & Fair Booth Patterns.

Fair Booth patterns are Members Only access with this year's code – ask someone.

*VQG-Common Terms" is available for printing under "Resources". Includes explanation of all guild mtg drawings.

*AccuQuilt list of dies, also dies available from Lynn Hubert and Leslie Hinton. If you a new member, an Education member can train you on AccuQuilt use and safety at Open Sew.

December 2025 BOM "Candlelight" – Unfinished Block 12 ½ x 18 ½
"Candlelight"

By Pola Quilting YouTube Magic Numbers #15

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oPWRelbO8uw>



SAMPLE BY JEANNIE

Colors: For the candlelight, snowball the red with yellow squares; 4-patches in Christmas prints; white/light borders. Cut: Scrappy whites: 6 - 2 1/2" x 6 1/2"; and 4 - 2 1/2 x 4 1/2 rectangles; Cut Christmas squares: 4 - 4 1/2"; Cut Yellow 2 - 2 1/2" x 6 1/2"; plus 4 - 2 1/2" squares yellow to snowball the red; Cut Red: 2 - 2 1/2" x 6 1/2"; red. Can use backs of lights for lighter designs on them, as suggested on the video. Piece and press as described in the Pola YouTube. 2026 Blocks of the Month - Blocks will be on the website by December. There will also be videos for each month, with Education members explaining construction of their block(s), in addition to links and block directions. You will also be able to print instructions of each individual month.

January 2026 BOM "Strippy 9-Patch" - Unfinished Block 12 1/2"

Cut: Center 3 1/2" snowman. Cut 5 winter blues 2" x 20". Sew 3 blue strips together and 2 blue strips together. Cut the strip sets into 5" pieces. Lay them out according to the picture in a 9-patch design. Keep colors in the same order for all sections. Darcy will explain in her video.



Bucket List of Your UFOs (Unfinished Quilts) Continues for 2026: Text pics to Jeannie, OR show

completed UFOs each month at Education, and have a chance to win a \$15 local quilt shop Gift Certificate. New members can begin a card any time. Pick a card up at Education. New cards for

2026 will be available at the Dec. Include your name and Bucket List 2026.

December Education Drawings: You are eligible to enter these drawings if you have participated in each:

- 1) Oct Block of the Month - "Candlelight" BOM
- 2) Bucket List \$15 gift certificate from a local quilt shop for completed Bucket List items
- 3) FQ drawing of winter blue prints for the January 2026 "Strippy 9-Patch" BOM
- 4) Education's FQ packet of winter blue prints if you entered a December BOM. Bring up to 3 Winter Blue prints for the FQ Drawing. Sign up and turn in Blocks of the Month & Fat Quarters at Education. FQs are precut quilter's cotton fabrics at quilt shops, or you can cut your own: 1/2 of 1/2 yd OR (18" x 22).

QUILT TECHNIQUES SURVEY: Education will pass out a Quilt Techniques Survey at the Dec Guild Mtg. Let us know what you want to learn or have a refresher on. There will be items to check off and your own suggestions.

Education - Sat, Dec 13 Open Sew:

1 PM - Technique Demo: Orphan Block quilt demos continue with more samples.

2 PM - BOM Demo: The January 2026 "Strippy 9-Patch" BOM by Darcey

Sample made by Darcey

SERVICE NEWS

Service Committee VQG contributes to the welfare of those in need We continue to receive your incredible donations of quilts, pieced tops, and fabric, and we are so thankful that we can return these to the community in the form of completed quilts. So far in 2025, we have given out over 400 quilts! You make a difference!

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Quilts for Special Santa Program I'm delighted to share with you that the Guild donated 50 quilts to the "Special Santa" program! These quilts were specially made for participants of the program - families in need who are vetted and permitted to select gifts for their children at Christmas-time, free of charge. Imagine the joy of these families snuggling in one of our specially-made quilts! The Service Committee section of the Guild website has a photo of the piles of quilts! Take a look!

<https://www.valleyquiltersguild.org/service-quilts>

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Last Call for Birthday Quilts in 2025! A birthday quilt is a completed quilt that you make and donate to Service, in honor of your birthday! It may be donated at any time of the year. We ask that the minimum size be 45" x 65". We will have a drawing at the December 4th meeting: one person who has donated a Birthday Quilt during 2025 will win a \$50 gift certificate to a local quilt shop! Maybe that's you!

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VQG Quilt Request Form Now Available! Service receives LOTS of requests for comfort quilts and fundraising quilts every year! To help us track who is asking for a quilt, and what will become of that quilt if given, we have created a new form. It is available directly from Service Chair Susan Franznick or via the website:

[https://www.valleyquiltersguild.org/\\_files/ugd/e73f97\\_4b3ef791d255474eb1775a886aeb582e.pdf](https://www.valleyquiltersguild.org/_files/ugd/e73f97_4b3ef791d255474eb1775a886aeb582e.pdf)

Please return completed forms to Susan when you request for a comfort quilt, or a raffle/fundraising quilt, from the Guild. Thanks!



Is Your Quilt Top Donation to Service Ready for Quilting? Service receives quilt tops from many sources, and we look forward to moving them through the process to be a complete Service quilt. When quilt tops come in needing to be "finished" in order to make them ready for the quilters, it pulls our limited resources away from Service work, and toward tasks that should be completed by the quilter who pieces the top. Additionally, its important to note that many of our Service quilts are donated to individuals and organizations which require clean and contaminate-free items, for the safety and welfare of clients. We appreciate that our sewists take time to further this goal. Please take a moment to review the new checklist on the Guild website, to be sure your quilt top is ready to be donated to Service: [https://www.valleyquiltersguild.org/\\_files/ugd/e73f97\\_bb4e050f4dd04ffd9bc3e1f2041084a7.pdf](https://www.valleyquiltersguild.org/_files/ugd/e73f97_bb4e050f4dd04ffd9bc3e1f2041084a7.pdf)

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I just wanna sew! Do you get that feeling sometimes, when you want an easy-peasy project to sew, one where you don't have to make a bunch of quilt-math calculations, where the colors and fabrics are already selected to work together well, and the pattern is straight-forward and easy to follow? When you get that feeling - come check out a kit from Service! We have a large variety of kits for tops where the fabric is already cut into ready-to-sew pieces, and all you need to do is confirm your bobbin is full! We also have 3-yard quilt kits - with three coordinating fabrics and a "3 Yard Quilts" book with eight pattern options! And for those who have a pattern of their own they'd like to try - we have coordinating fabric bundles, fabric uncut, that you may check out to make a quilt top of your choice! P.S. Service quilts have no time constraints, generally speaking. No time pressure! Sew as your schedule permits.

SERVICE NEWS CONTINUED

I want to contribute but don't have a ton of time! No worries — the Service Committee has lots of opportunities to pitch in towards our Guild's objectives - and you can pick and choose what you'd like to do, and when you have time. Here are some of the tasks we do — if you'd like to help, please join our Committee, or simply talk with Susan Franznick (Service Chair): Organize fabric and other resources Build kits (match fabric with pattern, cut to size as needed) Prepare backings (select fabrics, measure, perhaps piece together) Prepare batting (we carefully measure, and sometimes piece batting) Check out a kit - make a quilt top! Make bindings! Bind quilts, by machine or by hand! QUILT the kits - on a long-arm or your home machine! Donate quilting cotton, patterns, notions — we use them all! You need not be officially signed up in the Service Committee in order to help now and then - if you find yourself with a little time and a desire to help, please reach out to me at any time. My contact info is included below. ~~~~~Yes! We will have "Service work party" before our next meeting - Thursday, December 4th - the day of our next Guild meeting. Please join us at 1:00pm (or later) at the Depot. This time we will be cutting batting for kits, and selecting (and piecing) backing fabric for kits — please consider bringing your machine to help us. We have a lot of kits ready for batting and backing! You are welcome to contact me in between meetings — sfranznick@gmail.com or (907) 315-3519 call or text — I'm happy to help you! Happy Sewing! Susan Franznick, your Service Committee Chair and the entire Service Committee Team

Happy Birthday



December 7 - Paula Harrison
December 9 - Diana McKenney Bailey
December 10 - Michelle Buehner
December 10 - Karen Tomczak
December 14 - Mark Darrell
December 14 - Jeannie Snodgrass
December 15 - Heather Wagner
December 20 - Beverly Winkler
December 23 - Neena Levan
December 29 - Karen Bates

