

Mother Lode Quilters' Guild Newsletter



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Volume 23, No.1

Meetings are held the 4th Monday of each month and there is no meeting in December. Meetings begin at 6:30 pm at the Creekside United Methodist Church in Sutter Creek.

January 2026

Remember to wear your name badge, bring Comfort Quilts and Show and Tell. When it's your turn, bring snacks. See you January 26, 2026

From our MLQG President –Penni Parsons

Happy New Year, Quilters!

Welcome to 2026! I'm honored to serve as your new president and excited for the creative journey ahead. Quilting is more than fabric and thread—it's a story we share with our hearts and hands.

This year, let's inspire each other, try new patterns, and celebrate the joy of making. Every quilt begins with a single piece—let's make 2026 a year of beautiful quilts and lasting friendships!

HAPPY NEW YEAR

From our MLQG Vice President – Rebecca Albin

Happy New Year, quilters! As we embark on another creative journey, may your bobbins stay full, your stitches strong, and your inspiration endless. Whether you're finishing that cherished project or starting a brand-new quilt, may this year bring you joy in every patch and peace with every seam. Here's to discovering fresh patterns, vibrant fabrics, and moments of warmth shared with fellow quilting friends. Wishing you a year filled with creativity, comfort, and the heartfelt satisfaction that comes only from making something beautiful by hand.

Rather than focusing on a UFO (UnFinished Objects) list that highlights what remains incomplete, consider compiling a record of the projects you've finished—no matter their size or significance. Shifting your perspective from what's left undone to what you've accomplished can be incredibly motivating. Each completed project, whether a small mending task or a large creative endeavor, deserves recognition and celebration. By documenting your successes, you'll cultivate a sense of achievement that propels you forward, turning your attention away from lingering guilt and toward the satisfaction of progress. Let's embrace our achievements and celebrate each finished project as a testament to our creativity and perseverance.

At the January meeting, I am excited to feature Mar Douglas as our speaker, as she recounts captivating tales from her extraordinary journey across Europe.

Mother Lode Quilters' Guild
General Membership Meeting
November 24, 2025

Officers Present: Vice President Trudy Bauman, Treasurer Becky Podesta, Secretary Misty Hall, Past President Anelie Belden. Absent: President Carlene Drake

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm

Members: 26 Guests: 2

Approval of previous month's minutes: 1st Terrie, 2nd Anelie

Visiting Guild: Loomis Quilt and Fiber Guild. Mary Farnsworth introduced their Opportunity Quilt "Flowers in the Garden." They will be hosting their quilt show May 15-16, 2026 from 10:00-4:00 pm and food will be available.

No Correspondence.

Treasurer's Report: Started with \$14,531.82 with \$25 incoming, \$100 expenses. Ending with \$14406.82

Dawn and Trudy donated quilts for the ARC fundraiser and Trudy was able to get them delivered.

Reminders: \$35 membership dues are due in January. Reminder, the money you donate at the sign in table, those funds go toward our rent for the church.

Giving Tuesday: We are a non-profit organization and donate to the community. We are going to look into Giving Tuesday and see if we qualify to be a recipient.

2026 Budget: Rita made a motion to approve the budget and Trudy seconded. Votes all for aye, no votes for nay.

Anelie conducted an amazing installation for the new board members. She choreographed and wrote a song similar to YMCA called the MLQG and it was fantastic. Great job Anelie! The following individuals were inducted as our new board:

President: Penni Parsons; Vice President Rebecca Albin; Treasurer Joanne Coss; Secretary Terrie Van Syoc.

Country Store: Heather wished everyone a Merry Christmas, and she will have patterns in January.

Membership: \$35 dues will be due in January. We can take cash, check or square payments.

Newsletter: Articles are due January 10, 2026.

Show and Tell

Meeting adjourned at 8:16 pm

Let's Get Acquainted Rhonda Simpson

Each month Rhonda is going to interview a member. January's interviewee is Rita Maddock.

MLQG: How long have you lived in Amador County?

RM: My husband, Ted, of 58 years, and I purchased property up country in Amador Pines when we were in college. However, we've been in Jackson/ Pioneer for 20 years.

MLQG: Where did you move from?

RM: We came from Antioch where Ted was a High School teacher and I held several managerial positions in schools and in the dental industry, but my dream job was working at a Jr. Intermediate School, which led us to becoming youth counselors. We were also both involved in Kairos, which is a prison ministry. Ted was at Vacaville State Prison where he was specifically involved with AIDS inmates, and I was at the women's Federal Correctional Institution Dublin.

MLQG: Wow! I bet you have some interesting stories. What did you do to relax?

RM: We had two RVs but also loved to take Wind Jammer Cruises taking our teenage son with us. I've traveled to Missouri Star with my cousin, but the most memorable trip was to Tahiti on a Wind Jammer cruise.

MLQG: When did you start sewing/quilting?

RM: I started sewing in the 9th grade and my first project was an apron. I used to make my clothing in High School and College. Recently, my brother-in-law put together a "through the years" slide show of Ted and myself and I was surprised to notice how many of the outfits I was wearing were ones I made. I also made my wedding dress. I've been quilting for about 30 years and used to repair vintage quilts by replacing the damaged fabrics and would match the original hand stitching. I also won a best in show in 2018 for a quilt I named "Ted's Quilt". It was made of rainbow colors because Ted was known for wearing tie dye T-shirts.

MLQG: Oh, I love that! How did you get involved with Singer Featherweights?

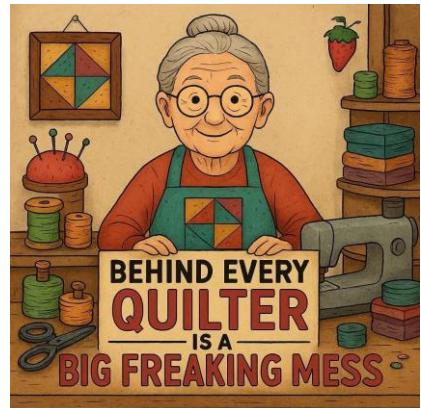
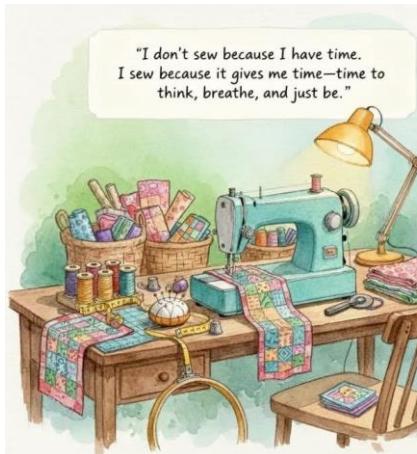
RM: My mother bought one from a neighbor and I just became fascinated with them. I find that you either love them or don't. I taught classes for 4 years and even taught a class in Hawaii.

MLQG: What do you think is the best and worst part of quilting? Also, do you pre-wash?

RM: I love all of it! I don't use kits because I love picking out the fabrics, I love using my rotary cutter and quilting the final project. I guess if I had to say worse, it would be I don't like paper piecing or making art quilts. Although Anelie has challenged me from time to time on that. I only pre-wash batik fabrics and anything that's blue or red.

MLQG: Shoe on or off?

RM: Definitely off. I can feel the speed of the machine better without a shoe.



Country Store Heather Beers

Happy New Year

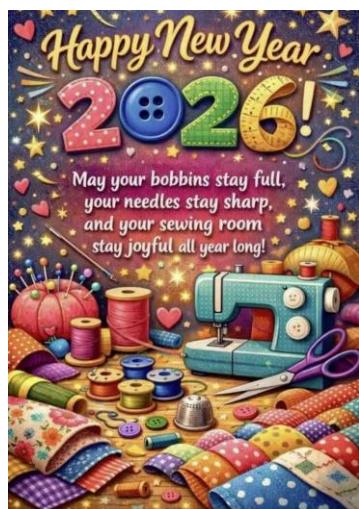
Hello Ladies! Well, it's 2026 and we have nine months to get going. First, any fabric donations and notion donation needs to be in no later than June. It takes a lot of time to go through the fabric, sort notions, and price everything. Please consider that.

Second, I will bring back some of our old patterns. I just feel that too many different items don't work. If anybody knows how to make purses and cute bags we sold a lot of them last show. We would love to have some for the Country Store.

Third, if you are already making bowl cozies, pot holders, and other items think about making a few extra.

We are working together. We can do this.

Smiles, Heather



Amador County Fair 2026 Becky Podesta

The dates and theme have been announced for the 2026 Amador County Fair. The theme is: **"More Cowbells!"**

Fair dates are Thursday, July 30 – Sunday, August 2.

So, get your thinking caps on and your creative juices flowing and enter some items.

Membership Kathy Beach – Rebecca Albin

This evening's meeting was attended by 23 members, along with two guests from the Loomis Quilt and Fiber Guild.



Treasurer's Report Becky Podesta

Treasurer's Report for November 2025

\$	14,531.82	Beginning Balance
\$	220.00	Income
\$	242.00	Expenses
\$	14,509.82	Ending Balance

**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY**

Mar Douglas 1/7



Fabric stash: proof that
I'm an optimist with
unrealistic sewing timelines.
www.squareinasquare.com

Let's Get Acquainted Rhonda Simpson

Each month Rhonda is going to interview a member. December's interviewee is Joanne Coss

MLQG: Where were you born?

JC: I was born in PA but was raised on the Monterey Peninsula. I worked at Driscoll until I moved here a couple of years ago.

MLQG: What did you do at Driscoll?

JC: I helped develop new strawberry varieties. Most people don't realize there are different varietals of strawberries and a patent will only last 20 years. The San Juan strawberry variety was my favorite because of how sweet they are along with color, shelf life and yield however it is no longer grown commercially. I like fresh strawberries but I don't think you should have to add sugar to sweeten them. Here in the U.S., we grow many varieties depending on different climates but don't sell by varieties, however in Europe they do put the variety on their labels. Before Driscoll's I worked in the lettuce industry and even tried teaching junior high students.

MLQG: Wow! I feel I know a little more about strawberries. When did you start quilting?

JC: I started quilting in the 1980's but find more time to quilt now that I'm retired.

MLQG: What kind of quilts do you prefer making?

JC: I'm drawn to traditional or scrappy quilts but have made a few art quilts. I've taken classes from Jean Wells, Ruth McDowell and Sue Benner. I like learning new techniques and trying new designs.

MLQG: What's the best and least favorite part of quilting for you?

JC: I like selecting the fabric and find I am drawn to blues and greens. I prefer sewing geometric shapes and blocks as opposed to applique. I enjoy looking at a quilt block and figuring out how to make them without an official pattern or reshape them using my own color scheme. I try to use up my stash doing that. I don't usually start a new quilt until I've finished the one I'm working on. My least favorite part of quilting would be hand sewing the binding.

MLQG: Do you give away a lot of your quilts or keep them?

JC: Since my nephew and niece are all stocked up on my quilts, I've donated most of my recent quilts to my church. We make prayer quilts, which are tied, each tie represents a prayer. When the person is wrapped in the quilt, it's like they're surrounded by prayers.

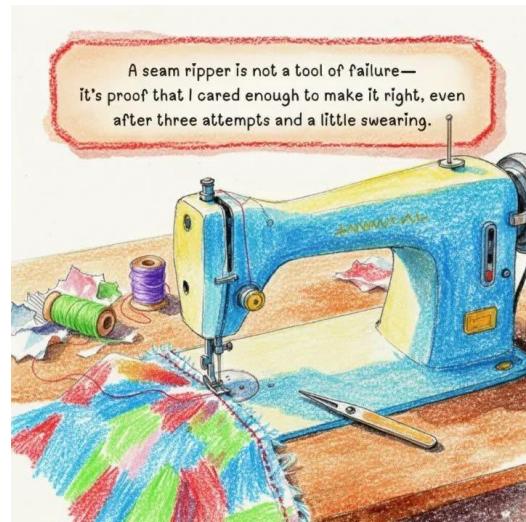
MLQG: That's beautiful. Do you pre-wash your fabrics and do you sew with or without a shoe?

JC: I won't pre-wash my fabrics unless it's red, black or feels like there's too much sizing in it. I most definitely sew without shoes.



Hospitality

Becky Podesta
Terrie Van Scyoc
Misty Hall
Sherry Duke



It's Quilt Show Year!!!
Stars, Stripes and Stitches
October 3rd and 4th 2026

Our Guild is not large but we are always able, through the help of you as volunteers, to put on a great quilt show. Please help us make this a reality once again this October.

How can you help?

Along with volunteering to help or take on a committee which is fun and a great experience, you can also help our show by doing the following;

Quilts – Submit one or two quilts (made in the last 2 years) to display in the show. Finish those quilts early to avoid pre-show stress. Entry forms will be available in the May newsletter. The final date to turn in your entry paperwork is the August meeting where you can bring your quilt(s) to be photographed if needed.

Show Boutique – Make a few items to sell at the Boutique. Heather has many ideas and patterns to share, and most are quick, fun and easy to make in multiples. It is always a beautiful display.

Country Store – Donate gently used items such as notions, trims, fabrics, craft items, yarns, tools and machines to name a few.

Silent Auction – We need between 35 and 45 items to hold the auction. These items can be small quilts, table runners or toppers, napkin or placemat sets, pillow cases, pillows, aprons, purses and totes, rugs, stuffed and crocheted items, wreaths, jewelry and sewing machine lamps. We have had it all!

Town Merchants – Another form of advertising for the show is to place posters and a small quilted item in participating Merchants in Sutter Creek from Labor Day weekend until our show. These items do not have to have been recently made.

If you have questions about any of this please talk to one of us at a meeting.

Sincerely,

Quilt Show Committee

Anelie Belden, Terrie Van Scyoc, Dawn Schaaf, Heather Beers, Rebecca and Lorrie Albin, Donna Swanner, Trudy Bauman and Carlene Drake

Upcoming Quilt Shows



Road to California
January 21-24, 2026
Ontario Convention Center
200 E. Convention Center Way
Ontario, CA 91764
roaddrocalifornia.com

Folsom Quilt & Fiber Guild
February 6-8, 2026
10am - 4pm Daily
Folsom Community Center
52 Natoma St
Folsom, CA 95630
folsomquilt.org

November Show and Tell

