

2026

February

Volume 28 Issue 6

Quilting Times

Join us!!

Tar River Piecemakers Quilting Guild

Meets at 9:00 the second Saturday of every month at
the Arts Center at the Imperial Centre for Arts & Sciences
344 Falls Road, Rocky Mount, NC. 27804

From The Leadership Team

Greetings Quilters,

We hope that you were able to benefit from the "3-quilt rated" winter storm of this past weekend and catch up on your crafts.

We are looking forward to trying out a new presentation format at the next meeting. We have invited our own guild members to tell us how they label their quilts and why it is an important step in the quilting process. You will be able to hear them speak about their experience and techniques, see their beautifully labelled quilts and ask practical questions.

Looking forward to seeing you all on February 14th

Nadia, Lori and Julie – Your Leadership Team

Welcome new members!

Join the TRPQG Members Facebook page

Our Next Meeting

Saturday February 14, 2026

9:00AM Imperial Centre

Bring a Friend

Wear Your Name Tag

Return Borrowed Library Books

Tar River Piecemakers Quilting Guild Meeting Minutes – January 10, 2026

Julie Green called the TRPQG meeting to order at 09:30 am and welcomed everyone. Julie wished Happy Birthday to all with a birthday in January.

A motion to approve the Meeting Minutes for December was made by Pam Smith and seconded by Nancy Knapp. A motion to approve the Treasurer's Report for December was made by Nancy Knapp and seconded by Harvey Sopher. Both motions passed.

Committee Reports:

Charity Outreach: Bonnie is taking donations. Carol Gates has 3 completed quilt kits! They are asking for volunteers to longarm quilt charity quilts.

Sunshine and Shadows: Nancy Knapp: No news.

Library: Martha Blount: No news.

Newsletter: Michele Carpentier: No news.

Facebook: Jennie Wright: No news.

Programs: Leadership Team – See below under New Business.

Public Relations: Harvey Sopher and Lin Varney: No news.

Bee Keeper: Pam Smith: New quilting bees may be formed this year. January 24th is Open Sew Saturday.

Webpage: No news.

Duane: The Ride of Honor awarded us \$4,000 for our Quilts of Valor efforts!

New Business: Nadia's Mystery Quilt project has finished, and the finished quilts were revealed.

NYE resolution cards were announced.

5-inch squares of novelty prints were collected for charity quilts.

The 2026 February – June Challenge will be: Log Cabin Quilts, in any style. They are due at the June 13th meeting and must be a minimum of 48 inches square.

Upcoming Monthly Programs:

1. February: A panel will discuss & interviews will be conducted regarding quilt labelling.
2. March: Spring Annual Destash Sale! All proceeds kept by original owners.
3. Looking into donating in the future to Project Linus, an organization that provides children 0-18 with handmade blankets.
4. On March 7th, there is a Make a Quilt Event in Wake County/Raleigh area.

Monthly Program: Lori demonstrated how to make project bags with zippers.

Membership Report: Jinx Abernathy: 36 members, 3 guests and 1 new member in attendance.

Drawings:

Donations: Duane Carpentier

Sew & Tell: Lisa Clark

Membership: (blue tickets) Duane Carpentier

Next meeting will be on February 14th. Meeting Adjourned at 11:30 am.

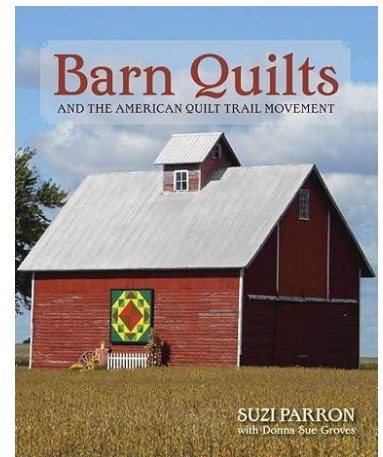
Respectly Submitted,
Sarah Oberlin, Secretary

Book Review

Barn Quilts and the American Quilt Trail Movement

By Suzi Parron with Donna Sue Groves

Suzi Parron set out to document the American Quilt Trail Movement. She planned to spend six months researching barn quilts. She was in Cadiz, Kentucky when she saw the first barn quilt. She was planning to camp out about thirty miles beyond the spot where she saw the first barn quilt. She drove on to her campsite, about thirty miles away. The next day she drove back to the place where she had seen the quilt painted on a barn. No one she questioned along the way knew why the barn had a quilt painted on it but everyone said they thought it was really pretty. Ms. Parron drove to the barn where she saw her first quilt block and asked the lady of the house to tell her about the barn. The lady told her that someone thought that putting quilt squares on barns would celebrate a woman's role on the farm. As Ms. Parron drove further on route 91 she saw more and more quilts. The blocks were painted in bright contrasting colors so that they were easily visible from the road.



Ms. Parron was given a lady's name at the Kentucky Arts Council. That person told Ms. Parron that Donna Sue Groves had created the first barn quilt and that she should tell the story. She gave Ms. Parron Donna Sue's phone number. Donna Sue was originally from West Virginia. Donna Sue's mother started a game for her children of counting barns while driving to visit their grandparents in Ohio. Some barns were worth two points; others were worth more in their game. The children and their mother discussed the barns they passed along the way. When they got to the Pennsylvania Turnpike, they spotted the Pennsylvania Dutch barns with hex signs on them. They were worth fifty points in their car game. The game was always in Donna Sue's mind as she got older.

Donna Sue's grandmother quilted. She had Donna Sue select her three favorite maple leaves one fall. She didn't tell Donna Sue what she planned to do with the leaves. At Christmas, her grandmother gave Donna Sue a quilt with maple leaves in the blocks. Donna Sue was fascinated with her quilt. Her family moved from West Virginia to Xenia, Ohio. After her father died, she and her mother bought a farm with a small barn on it. The barn was ugly, in Donna Sue's opinion, but she thought color would help. She decided to paint a quilt square on it. Years passed before she got it done. She and her friends decided it would be fun to paint multiple blocks on barns and encourage folks to take a driving tour of their county in hopes of inspiring tourism. She was also hoping to help the local artists. She formed a committee to plan the trail. Her mother was a quilter and quilt historian. She was elected to select the blocks that would be used. They decided to start with twenty blocks, a typical number of blocks in a bed quilt. Her mother made a sampler quilt using the twenty blocks she had selected. Those who wanted to paint blocks on their barns came to the Groves house to select their block. Local artists painted the blocks for the barns. Adams County started with twenty blocks. There are far more now. The trail has spread across thirty states and there are more than three thousand painted quilt squares across the country along with a sampler of the original twenty quilt blocks in Ontario, Canada.

An unexpected outcome has been with the involvement of young people. Seventy youth groups in Iowa have been involved in painting the squares. This book is a fascinating history of quilt trails across the country.

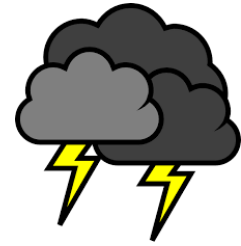
There are several quilt trails in counties around Nash County. We had a speaker talk to the guild about painting the squares. I would love to see one on our quilt guild building. To my knowledge there are no squares actually in our county. It would be wonderful if we could start the trail with the first block. I am willing to contribute toward having it done. Are you?

Your Quilt Librarian
Martha Blount



Sunshine & Shadow

We don't want you to go through it alone! If you have anyone you want remembered, please email: Nancy Knapp at HUDSONPUPPY@earthlink.net



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS



Martha Blount

Ann Davis

Carolyn Evans



A BIG TRPQG THANK YOU

Everyone who sews for Outreach

Everyone who contributes to the TRPQG Newsletter

Everyone that shares at Sew & Tell

The Queen Bees

Harvey for mailing the newsletters & taking pictures at the meetings

*** Outreach Update: 1/27/2026 10 knit caps and 2 quilts were received by the Danny Talbott Cancer Center at UNC Nash. The Women's Center (UNC Nash) received 5 infant quilts, 1 knitted infant blanket, and 11 preemie/infant knit caps. ***



If you would like to join the TRPQG Members Only Facebook page.
Go to <https://www.facebook.com/groups/475820599214904> and request to be added.

Please send an email to rite1@mindspring.com and let me know that you have sent a request. Occasionally the name in the TRPQG Membership Directory is not the same as your Facebook name. If you will let me know your name in the directory and your name on your Facebook page you can help me speed up the approval process.
Jennie Wright

Happy February, Piecemakers! ❤️

This month we're celebrating Valentine's Day and all the things we love most—friendship, creativity, and the joy of quilting together. Whether you're stitching with hearts, working on a favorite project, or just enjoying the company of fellow quilters, we're so glad you're here. May your seams be straight, your colors inspiring, and your time together filled with laughter and love.

We look forward to another cozy, creative gathering with our wonderful guild family!

Submitted by Harvey Sopher

Challenge: Log Cabin

Try a new technique, or add to the skills you already have - when creating a log cabin quilt.

What Is a Log Cabin?

A block created with strips of fabric sewn around a core shape.

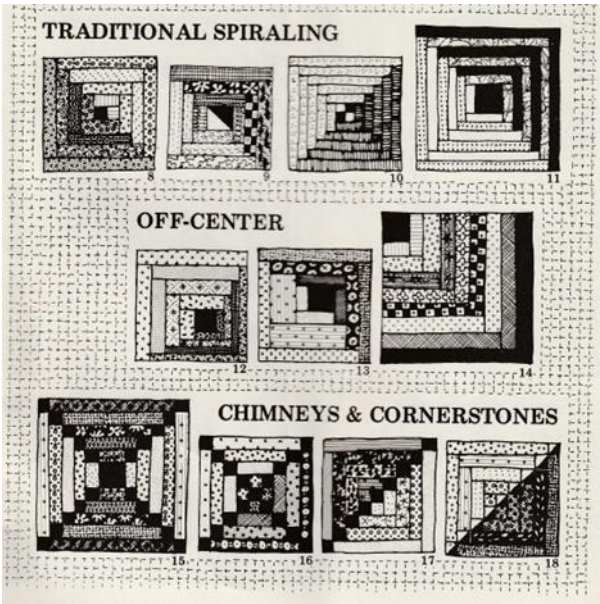
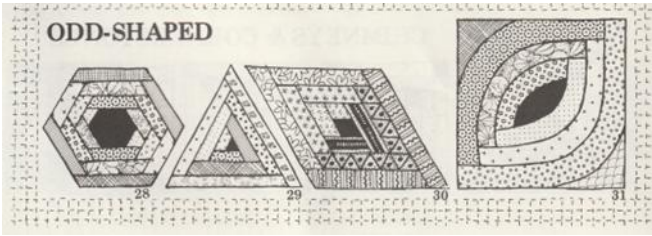
The criteria is simple

Use whatever combination of colors and pattern(s) you like.

Size: at least 48 inches Square

Must be made using traditional or variations of the Log Cabin Block.

Finished quilts must be submitted at the June 2026 TRPQG meeting.



HAVE FUN AND CREATE!!

If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to the leadership team.

SAVE THE DATES

TRPQG MEETING

February 14th Meeting: Imperial Centre
Deadline for newsletter submissions is the 25th

QUILTCON, Raleigh Convention Center, Raleigh, NC

February 19-22

Mid Atlantic Quilt Festival, Hampton, VA

February 26-March 1

Capital Quilters Quilt Show, NC State Fairgrounds, Raleigh, NC

March 13-14

~Strawberry Palmiers ~ February 2026

Courtesy Jinx Abernathy

Level: Easy Time: 35 minutes Yield: 24 Palmiers



Ingredients:

2 sheets of Puff Pastry, thawed but still cold
18oz Strawberry Jam
Red Decorating Sugar



Directions:

1. Line 2 baking sheets with parchment paper & set aside.
>Preheat oven to 400°.
2. Unfold one of the thawed pastry sheets onto a sheet of freezer paper;
>Gently roll into a 13-inch square;
>Spread each pastry sheet with strawberry jam.
3. Roll the opposite sides of the pastry sheet toward the center of the square, so they meet in the middle.
4. Slice the rolled pastry into 1" thick slices;
>Arrange the slices on the prepared baking sheets, about 2" apart;
>Carefully pinch & mold the slices into a heart-shape;
>Sprinkled with Red Decorating Sugar.
5. Bake 1 pan at a time, at 400°, until golden, 6-8 minutes per side;
>Let cool.
6. While the first batch is baking, repeat Steps 2-5, with the second pastry sheet.

Smaczne! ~ Happy Eating!



**7076 Ramsey St./HWY 401
Fayetteville, NC 28311
(910) 630-3912 Mon-Sat 9 am—5 pm
<https://www.lovingstitches.net>**

Customer Appreciation Month at Loving Stitches!



Most Bernina & bernette models & Accessories will be on SALE 20% off! Financing available.

Let Freedom Ring by Claudia Dinnell April 27th-29th and April 30th-May 2nd

A machine embroidery mastery course! Bring your friends & have a fun time. Call to sign up today.

Build Your Skills Sewing Class

Mondays 1:30-4:30 February 2, 9, 16, 23.
Join anytime. Sew much to learn, sew little time.

BERNINA
made to create





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- PATTERNS
- QUILTING SERVICES
- MACHINE SERVICE & REPAIR

Quilts Like Crazy and Embroidery

Quilting, Sewing, Embroidery Supplies & More!

STORE HOURS

M-F	10AM - 5PM
SAT	10AM - 3PM
SUN	CLOSED

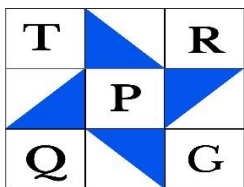


1241-08 S Main St, Wake Forest, NC 27587
www.quiltslikecrazy.com (984) 237-0071

Follow us!



Tar River Piecemakers Quilting Guild



P.O. Box 7041 Rocky Mount NC 27804

Leadership Team:

Julie Green

Lori Mann

Nadia Pshenitsyna

Secretary: Sarah Oberlin

Treasurer: Rosalyn Ryers

Sunshine & Shadow: Nancy Knapp

Membership:

Jinx Abernathy

Amanda Jackson

Joyce Kirby

Library: Maryann Rettino

Martha Blount

Beekeeper: Pam Smith

Website: Harvey Sopher

Newsletter: Michele Carpentier

Facebook: Jennie Wright

Charity Outreach:

Katherine Saunders

Hospitality: Lin Varney

Public Relations: Lin Varney

Harvey Sopher

All area codes are 252 unless noted

TRPQG Official Charities

QOV: preferred size 60"x80", minimum size 55"x 65".

100%cotton preferred. Patriotic fabric themes are encouraged, but not mandatory.

Quilts for Christian Adoption Agency: any size

Please include a sample square from the quilt pattern which is given to the birth mother.

Isolette covers for Vidant Hospital: should be no larger than 36 x 36 .

Quilts for Nash Hospital Nursery: Accept any size quilts they use to send the babies home. We will accept smaller blankets that are knitted or crocheted. We can always find someone who has a need.

Additional charities our TRPQG members support

Oncology Department Quilts:lap size quilts and mug rugs

Bereavement wraps: 12" x 12" or 15" x 15" (use pattern)

Mother's Hearts: ask for pattern used for preemies in neonatal

Preemie Beanies: (knitted) ask for pattern or Google them

Adult Beanies: (knitted) ask for pattern or Google them

Comfort Bags: For Police department bags

Newsletter Advertising for TRPQG Members

If you are a TRPQG member and have personal sewing related items you no longer want or use and you would like to sell or gift them you can list them in the newsletter. Please send the item description, price and your contact information to michele251970@gmail.com. This section of the newsletter will be removed from the newsletter before being posted on the public website. Items will be limited to space available in the newsletter and first come first serve. The newsletter and the TRPQG are not responsible in any way for any transactions resulting from these advertisements. The newsletter is simply providing what we hope is a benefit for the members of the TRPQG guild.



If you are a member of the TRPQG and you machine quilt for others please send your name, phone number and email address to michele251970@gmail.com. In future issues of the newsletter I will list your contact information so TRPQG members can contact you for their quilting needs.



Anna Grace Niece

As of 10 JAN 2026:
 78 Regular Members
 7 Founding Members
 2 Honorary Members
 1 Junior Members
88 Total Members

2026 Greeters

February – Lianne McLaughlin
 March - Beverly Couch
 April – Billie Howell & Beverly Wilson

Coffee & Snacks

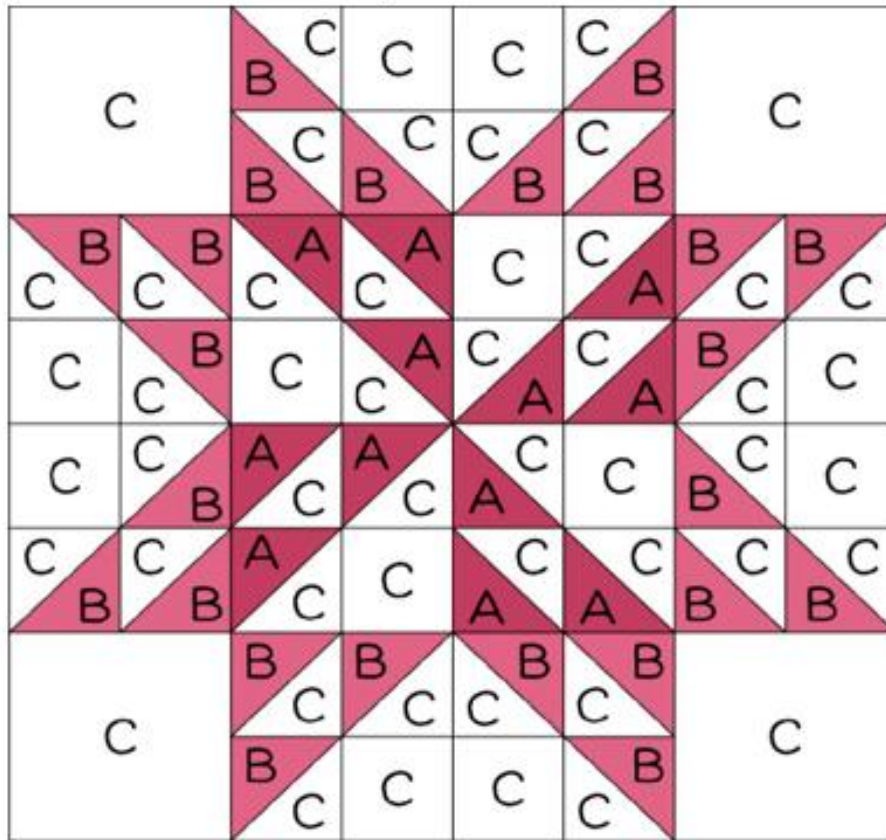
February – Shandra Stocks
 March – Lianne McLaughlin
 April – Billie Howell & Beverly Wilson

MEMBERSHIP

STATISTICS



QUILTOLGY – February 2026
 ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ February Giant Quilt Block ~ ~ ~ ~ ~



Listed below are cutting instructions for making a 24" or 36" block.

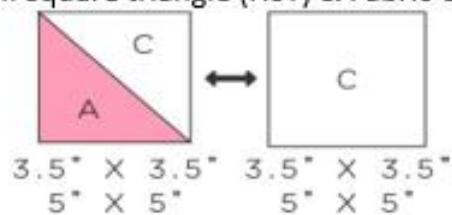
Step-1: Cutting instructions

	A	B	C
24" BLOCK	(6) 4" X 4"	(12) 4" X 4"	(18) 4" X 4" (12) 3.5" X 3.5" (4) 6.5" X 6.5"
36" BLOCK	(6) 5.5" X 5.5"	(12) 5.5" X 5.5"	(18) 5.5" X 5.5" (12) 5" X 5" (4) 9.5" X 9.5"

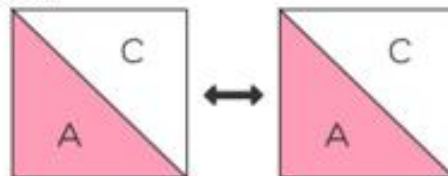
Step-2: Make half square triangles using your desired method with the 4" squares for the 24" blocks & the 5.5" squares for the 36" blocks.



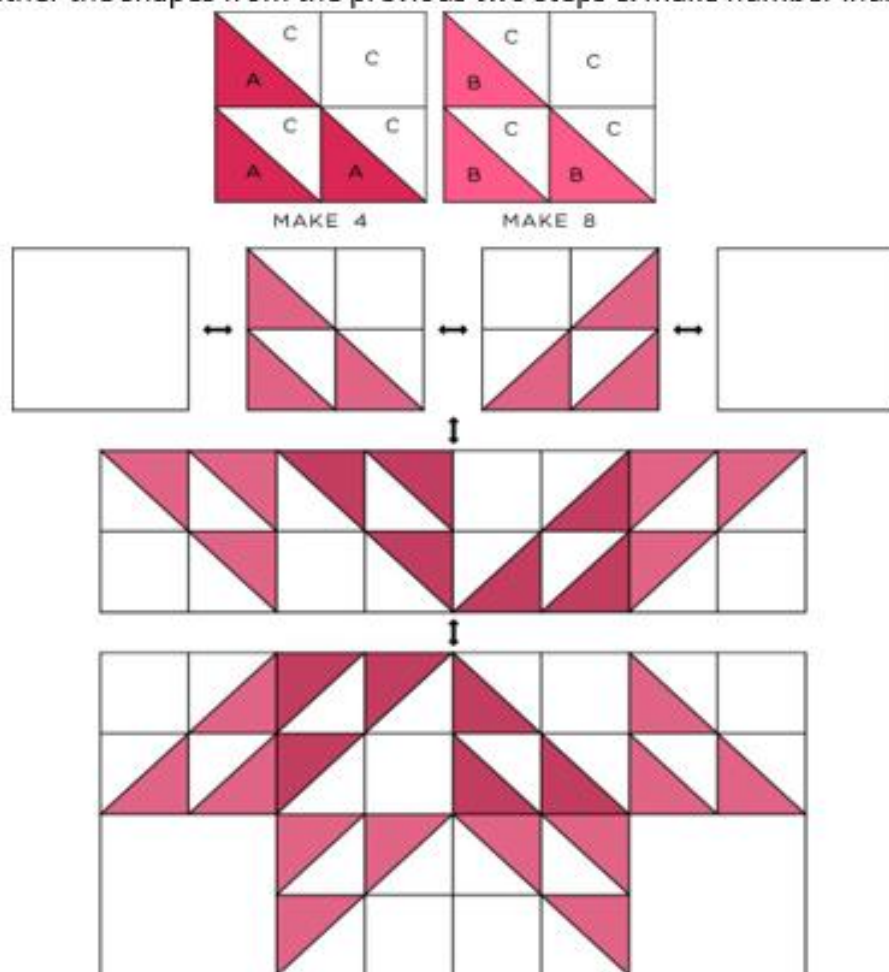
Step-3: Sew together an A/C half square triangle (HST) & Fabric C square.



Step-4: Piece together (2) A/C HSTs.



Step-5: Sew together the shapes from the previous two steps & make number indicated.



Step-5: Sew together all the pieces to complete the block ~ DONE!!!

HAPPY QUILTING



Quilting Bees



A Quilting Bee is a gathering for quilters to foster creativity, connection, and community so that others feel a sense of belonging.

Busy Bees	Imperial Art Centre 2nd Tuesday of each month @ 10 am Meeting Place: Englewood Presbyterian Church 100 S Englewood Drive RMT Queen Bee is Lisa Clark.
Cutting Corners	Braswell Library on the 3rd Friday of the month @ 10 am Meeting Place: Englewood Presbyterian Church 100 S Englewood Drive RMT Queen Bee is Ramona Orzell.
Happy Hooper's	Meetings 3rd Saturday of each month @ 10 am at the home of Frankie Powell. Queen Bee is Frankie Powell.
Sew-Social	Open Sew Format @ the Imperial Art Centre on the 4th Saturday of each month. Door to the Education Building open at 9:30AM. Everyone is welcome – bring your UFO's, or any project you'd like to finish or just come chat and see what projects are being worked on. Next meeting will be February 28, 2026 Please contact Pam Smith.
EQ8 Electric Quilt	Imperial Art Centre 10 am. - 4th Saturday of each month. Queen Bee is Debbie Nivison.
Patriotic	1 st Tuesday of each month at 10 am Meeting Place: Englewood Presbyterian Church 100 S Englewood Drive, RMT Bee Leaders are Jinx Abernathy & Duane Carpentier.





PROJECT LINUS

WAKE COUNTY CHAPTER

2026

MAKE A BLANKET DAY

FREE COMMUNITY EVENT * NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED

HELP MAKE BLANKETS FOR CHILDREN IN NEED

**SATURDAY
MARCH 7TH**

RAFFLE!
FUN PRIZES!
(BRING CASH)

12PM TO 4PM

GREYSTONE BAPTIST CHURCH

FELLOWSHIP HALL

7509 LEAD MINE RD

RALEIGH, NC 27615

**BRING, START
OR DROP OFF A
BLANKET!**

**FLEECE AND YARN WILL
BE AVAILABLE TO MAKE
BLANKETS AT THE EVENT**

**LOTS OF FABRIC FOR
QUILTING WILL BE
AVAILABLE DUE TO
DONATIONS**



Scan me!

**BRING ANY BLANKET
MAKING SUPPLIES
YOU WOULD LIKE TO
DONATE!**

Project ♥ Linus
Providing Security Through Blankets
Wake County, NC Chapter

FOLLOW OUR FACEBOOK PAGE!

TRPQG AGENDA FEBRUARY 14, 2026

SOCIAL/SIGN IN: 9:00 to 9:30 AM

MINUTES OF THE PREV. MONTH APPROVED AS PUBLISHED IN THE NEWSLETTER

1. MOTION TO APPROVE & 2ND

TREASURERS REPORT APPROVED AS PUBLISHED IN THE NEWSLETTER

1. MOTION TO APPROVE & 2ND

BIRTHDAYS: Martha Blount, Ann Davis, Carolyn Evans

Committee Reports/Short summaries

Outreach - Katherine Saunders/Bonnie Przelomski
Sunshine and Shadow - Nancy Knapp
Library - Martha Blount
Newsletter - Michele Carpentier
Facebook - Jennie Wright
Bee Keeper - Pam Smith
Programs - Leadership Team
Public Relations - Harvey Sopher, Lin Varney
Website – Harvey Sopher

OLD BUSINESS

1. Bio Forms - We want to get to know you! Give those to Sarah Wade or Michele Carpentier.
2. Sign up to be a greeter or coffee/snacks.
3. Freebee table

NEW BUSINESS

1. Log cabin challenge
2. March yard Sale – who, what, when, where and how

SEW AND TELL

BREAK

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: Jinx Abernathy

DRAWINGS

TODAYS PROGRAM: Labeling Quilts – Why we do it? How we do it?

FINAL REMINDERS