

Quilting Times

2026

March

Volume 28 Issue 7

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 you all enjoyed the panel discussion we had at our last meeting. Thank you, Susie, Lisa, Carol and Martha, for sharing your tips and tricks on labelling the quilts and thank you for the valuable input from the audience!

At the next meeting, we will be having our annual "Destash" sale. Let us know if you need a table set up for your sale items. Shoppers, bring your cash, and sellers, bring small change. We are looking forward to stash hunting!

Last week, Nadia attended QuiltCon 2026. You can read her review in this newsletter and get inspiration for the Log Cabin challenge.

Looking forward to seeing you on March 14th at our next meeting.

Nadia, Lori and Julie – Your Leadership Team

Welcome new members!

Join the TRPQG Members Facebook page

Our Next Meeting

Saturday March 14, 2026

9:00AM Imperial Centre

Bring a Friend

Wear Your Name Tag

Return Borrowed Library Books

Tar River Piecemakers Quilting Guild Meeting Minutes – February 14, 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 February.

A motion to approve the Meeting Minutes for January was made by Donna Allen and seconded by Harvey Sopher. A motion to approve the Treasurer's Report for January was made by Mary Selecky and seconded by Pam Smith. Both motions passed.

Committee Reports:

Charity Outreach: Kits are ongoingly available.

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: The bees now meet at the Englewood Presbyterian Church at 100 S Englewood Drive, Rocky Mount. The 28th of February is the 4th Saturday "Sew Social".

Webpage: No news.

New Business: Please do not put the freebie table in front of the exit doors.

Upcoming Monthly Programs:

1. March: Yard sale of quilting supplies. All revenues will go to sellers. Cash only, must provide change. Bring small bills.
2. April: Plans for a weaving loom demo and a small trunk show.
3. June: Log cabin challenge show for 2026. The minimum dimensions are 48" square. This will be a judged event, with four total prizes.
4. Interest in a Barn Quilt Paint Demo was judged.
5. The Art Center is asking us to provide several classes for the public in the fall, making holiday ornaments, we will need volunteers.

Monthly Program: Labelling quilts, Why we do it and how? Panelists included Lisa Clark, Martha Blount, Susie Baker, and Carol Gates. Options include machine embroidery, prebought label sheets, hand embroidery, a stamp template, or certain fabric specific gel pens.

Membership Report: Jinx Abernathy: 30 members and 3 guests were in attendance. The guild has approximately 80 active members.

Drawings:

Donations: Mary Selecky

Sew & Tell: Nadia Pshenitsyna

Membership: (blue tickets) Sharon Wilson and Marilyn Hooton

Jinx Patch: Donna Allen

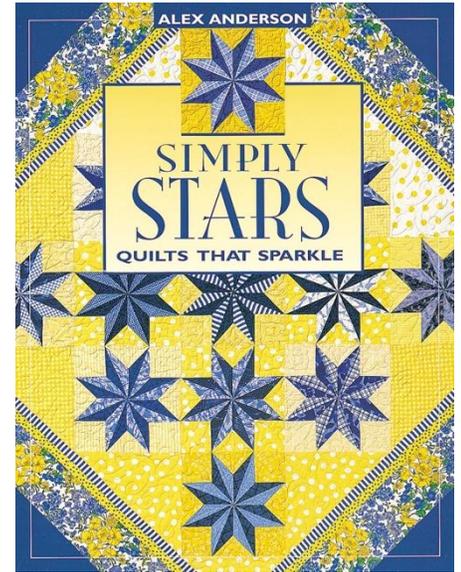
Respectly Submitted,
Sarah Oberlin, Secretary

Book Review

Simply Stars: Quilts that Sparkle

By Alex Anderson

Alex Anderson has long been recognized for her Star Quilts. She explains how to make stars with squares and triangles, stars made of an Isosceles Triangle Square, and stars made of diamonds and y seams. The star blocks are arranged in the book in the order of difficulty. There are twelve different projects presented in the book. Ms. Anderson says it is important that the outside edge is always placed on the straight of grain so that the block will not stretch out of shape. She uses magic numbers to make her triangles: for half square triangles, cut the finished size + $\frac{7}{8}$ " ; for quarter square triangles, cut the finished size + $1\frac{1}{4}$ " ; and for an isosceles triangle in a square, cut the finished size + $\frac{3}{4}$ " . She also says that if you are sewing two units on a bias, do not try to rip out the seam; use new fabric, as your units are certain to stretch. She also says to pick out every third stitch on one side and lift the thread on the other side. I don't think I have ever seen directions on ripping out a seam (which I do quite a lot!).



In this book, the reader is given suggestions for fabric selection, hints on cutting the fabric, and hints for pressing seams. This book would be a good textbook for assembling any quilt with stars. By following the suggestions in the book, you should be able to assemble a stunning star quilt.

Your Quilt Librarian
Martha Blount

March Welcome – Tar River Piecemakers Quilting Guild

Welcome, March! As the days grow a little longer and hints of spring begin to appear, it's the perfect time for fresh ideas, bright fabrics, and renewed quilting inspiration.

The Tar River Piecemakers Quilting Guild is blooming right along with the season! Whether you've been stitching through the winter to finish UFOs or you're ready to start something brand new, we look forward to sharing creativity, encouragement, and friendship with each of you.

March is a wonderful time to try a new technique, experiment with cheerful spring colors, or simply enjoy the fellowship that makes our guild so special. Don't forget to bring your Show & Tell projects — we all love seeing what's been happening in your sewing rooms!

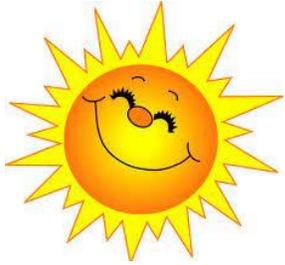
If you're new or thinking about visiting, we extend a warm welcome. There's always room at the table for another quilter and another story stitched in fabric.

Here's to a month of inspiration, productivity, and beautiful stitches!

Submitted by Harvey Sopher

A Quilters Tale

My name is Lianne McLaughlin. My husband, Larry Daughtridge and I moved to Wilson in 2025 after living in Charlotte for 37 years. Rocky Mount is Larry's hometown. Prior to living in Charlotte, I never lived anywhere more than six years. Besides North Carolina, I've lived in New York, Massachusetts, California, Texas, Virginia and Maryland. I took my first quilting class in the 1990s at the urging of a close friend who was hooked on quilting. I was not hooked until I finished my first lap quilt about 3 years ago. I love quilting because I love geometry. I usually choose a pattern first, one with a clean, modern design, and then look for fabrics. I choose a new project to learn a new skill, practice and improve my technique, or learn more about color and design. I love choosing fabric, but I find choosing the right background color challenging, especially if I plan to use white or other light neutrals. In 2026, I plan to make a few quilts with white backgrounds. My other goal for 2026 is to quilt at least two quilts on my sewing machine and big stitch one by hand instead of hiring a longarmer. I look forward to learning new skills and techniques from my fellow quilters in the guild. I enjoy everyone's passion and talent for their art and commitment to serving our community.



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



MARCH BIRTHDAYS



Susie Baker

Lucinda Deans

Dell Forrester

Cynthia Griner

Joyce Klett

Ann Layton

Sharon Wilson



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

*** Charity/Outreach Update: February 4,2026 Bonnie passed along 8 quilts to Maryann Rettino and 9 (Maryann added one) were delivered to Tarboro hospital cancer unit.. ***

If you have any questions about Charity/Outreach please reach out to Bonnie Przelomski or Carol Gates.

Facebook TRPQG Members Only Update

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

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.

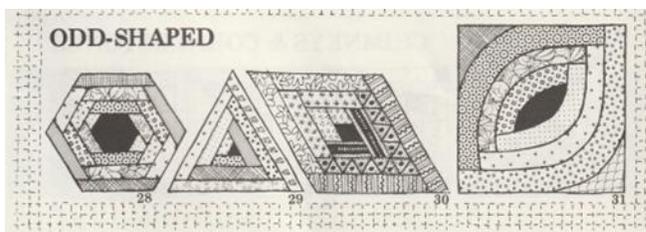
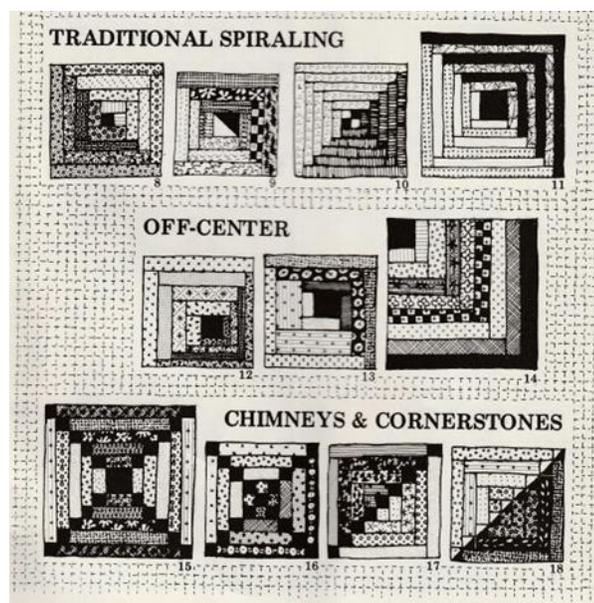
The criteria is simple

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

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

Capital Quilters Quilt Show, NC State Fairgrounds, Raleigh, NC
Central Carolina Biennial Quilt Fair, West End Plaza, Salisbury, NC
Cabarrus Quilters Guild Splash of Color, 601 Milestone Venue, Concord, NC

March 13-14
May 1-2
June 19-20



National Potato Chip Day ~ 14 March 2026

Courtesy Jinx Abernathy

While much of history comprises many people doing singular things, in certain cases one or two people seem to do an awful lot. For instance, it seems that everything we enjoy today was invented by the ancient Chinese &/or concocted by Thomas Jefferson. Thus, we have Thomas Jefferson perfecting ice cream recipes (*originally created as fruit-ice by the Chinese & then to gelato in Renaissance Florence*). Jefferson returning from Europe with the first pasta machine (*pasta was ALSO invented by the Chinese*), & at the same time bringing the recipe for French fries, called “*potatoes fried in the French manner.*” No Chinese influence here! The potato originated in Peru & was brought to Europe by the Spanish Conquistadors. From TJ’s elegant dining room in Monticello in 1789, French-fried potatoes spread quickly & afar. The style of the time was a thick-cut fried & not the slender julienne *frites* of today. That came later!

Picture it: 1853 - yet another elegant dining room - Moon Lake Lodge, Saratoga, New York - Commodore Cornelius Vanderbilt, sent his food back to the kitchen, complaining that the fried potatoes were not sliced thin enough & were too soggy! The cook, George Crum (*a Native American of the Huron tribe*), cut & fried a thinner batch, but these, too, were rejected. Crum sliced potatoes wafer-thin, frying them to a crisp in boiling oil and over-salting them. He was rewarded with compliments! Long story short, “*Saratoga Chips*” began to appear on the menu as a “House Specialty”, & Chef George Crum became the inadvertent inventor of the “Potato Chip”! In 2009, entrepreneurs in Saratoga revived the “*Saratoga Chips*” brand, using the box art from a an original tin found in the Saratoga Museum. Crum’s recipe was used & now the original “*Saratoga Chips*” are back.

You can order them from The Nibble Gourmet Market ~ <https://thenibble.com>



Smaczno! ~ Happy Eating!





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



**Capital Quilter's Guild
Quilt Show**

March 13th & 14th
9am-5pm
NC State Fairgrounds
Kerr Scott Building
Free drawing, tons of great
products at sale prices.
Come see us.

We have so many great classes & events every month at our shop.
Blue Ridge Shop hop magazines are now available. We ship!

**Let Freedom Ring by Claudia Dinnell
April 27th-29th and/or April 30th-May 2nd, 9:30-4:30**

A machine embroidery mastery course! Quilt & embroidery design, and lunch provided.
Bring your friends & have a fun time. Call to sign up today.

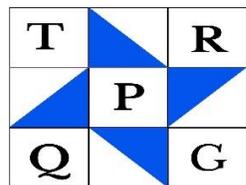
OESD Stitch Trip

2-Day Embroidery Event March 27th & 28th 9:30-4:30
Early Bird Special on fee is now extended thru March 9th!
Machines, kits & lunch provided. Sign up at our website, or call.

BERNINA
made to create



Tar River Piecemakers Quilting Guild



P.O. Box 7041 Rocky Mount NC 27804

Leadership Team:

Julie Green

Lori Mann

Nadia Pshenitrsyna

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

Premie 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.

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

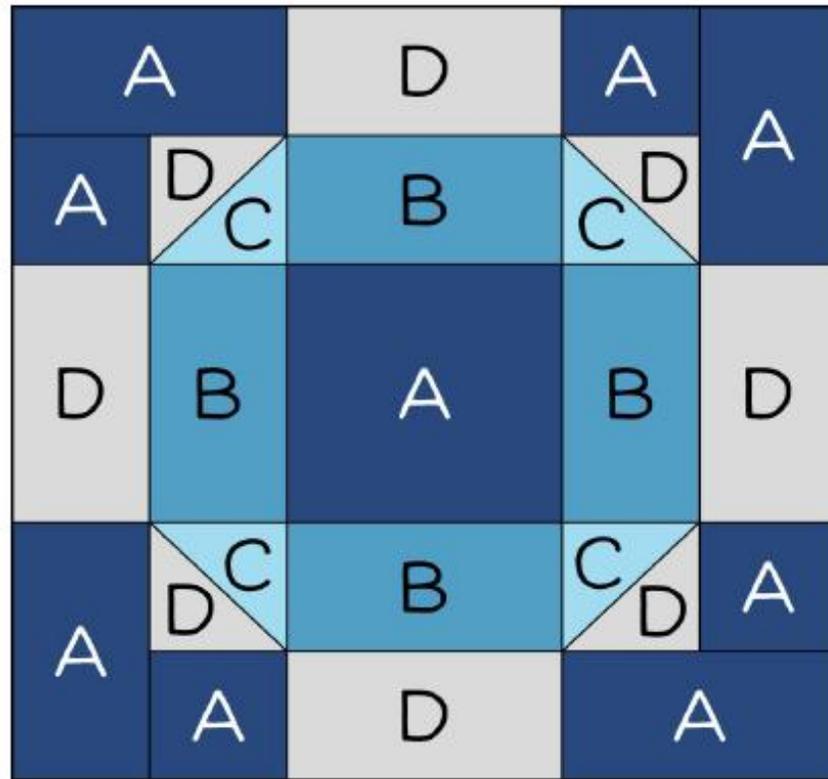
2026 Greeters
 March - Beverly Couch
 April – Billie Howell & Beverly Wilson

Coffee & Snacks
 March – Lianne McLaughlin
 April – Billie Howell & Beverly Wilson

MEMBERSHIP

STATISTICS

QUILTOLOGY – March 2026
 ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ March Giant Quilt Block ~ ~ ~ ~ ~



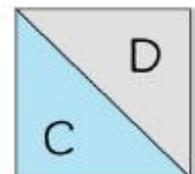
Listed below are cutting instructions for making a 24" or 36" block.

CUTTING INSTRUCTIONS

	A	B	C	D
24" BLOCK	(1) 8.5" X 8.5" (4) 4.5" X 4.5" (4) 4.5" X 8.5"	(4) 4.5" X 8.5"	(2) 5" X 5"	(2) 5" X 5" (4) 4.5" X 8.5"
36" BLOCK	(1) 12.5" X 12.5" (4) 6.5" X 6.5" (4) 6.5" X 12.5"	(4) 6.5" X 12.5"	(2) 7" X 7"	(2) 7" X 7" (4) 6.5" X 12.5"

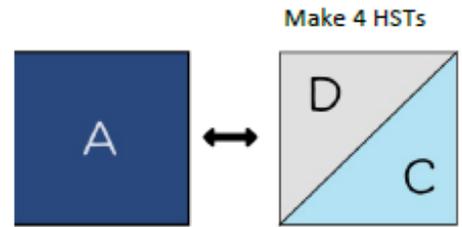
Unit-1 - Make 4:

From the C/D, 5" Fabric Squares, make four HSTs, using YOUR favorite method.
 For the 24" blocks, trim Unit-1 to 4.5" Squares.
 For the 36" blocks, trim Unit-1 to 6.5" square.



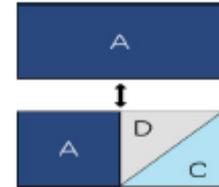
Unit-2:

For the 24" blocks, sew a 4.5" A-square to a 4.5" D / C Unit-1
For the 36" blocks, sew a 6.5" A-square to a 6.5" D / C-Unit-1



Unit-3:

For the 24" blocks, sew a 4.5"x8.5" A-rectangle to a Unit-2 rectangle.
For the 36" blocks, sew a 6.5"x12.5" A-rectangle to a Unit-2 rectangle.



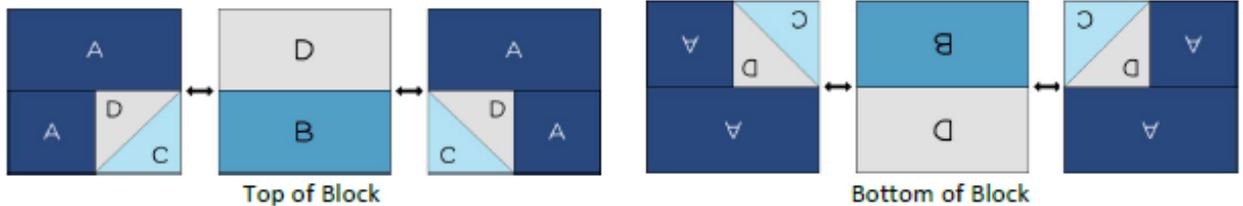
Unit-4 - Make 4:

For the 24" blocks, sew a 4.5"x8.5" B-rectangle to a 4.5"x8.5" D-rectangle.
For the 36" blocks, sew a 6.5"x12.5" D-rectangle to a 6.5"x12.5" D-rectangle.



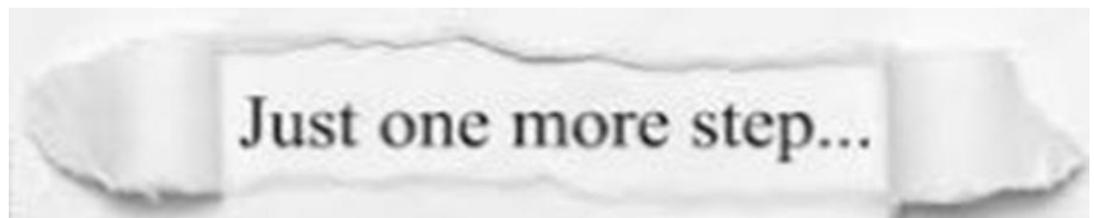
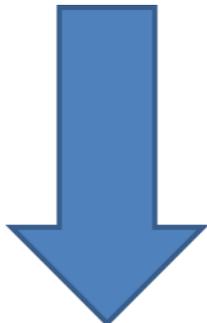
Unit-5 - Make 2:

Sew together Unit-3, Unit-4, Unit-3, as indicated.



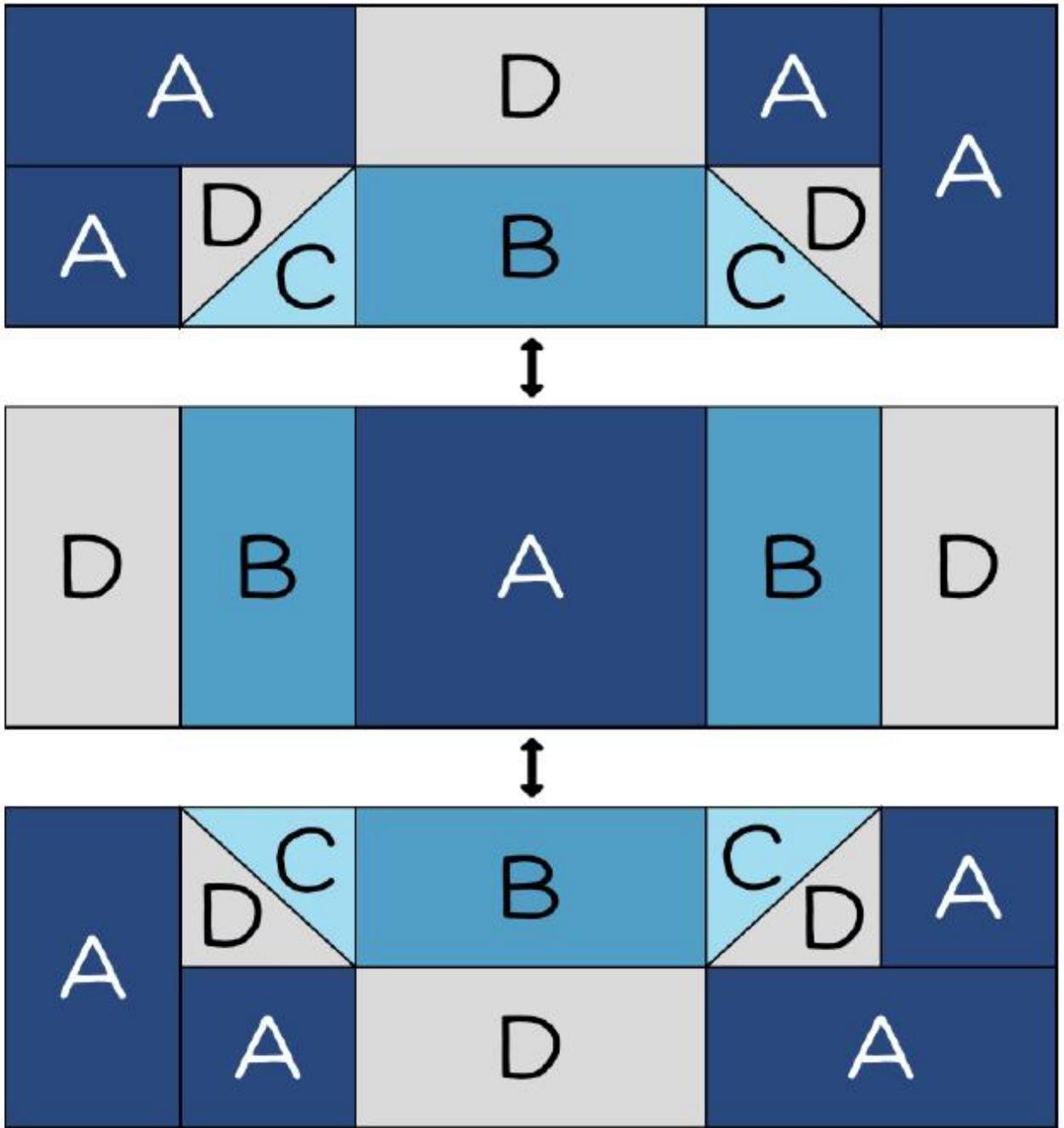
Unit-6:

For the 24" blocks, sew a Unit-4 to a 8.5" A-square, to another Unit-4.
For the 36" blocks, sew a Unit-4 to a 12.5" A-square, to another Unit-4, as indicated.

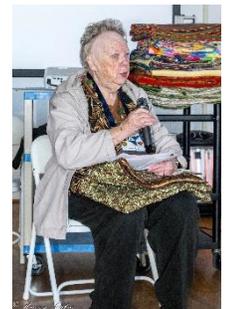


Unit-7 - Finished Block:

Sew together Unit-5, Unit-6, Unit-5, as indicated.



HAPPY QUILTING!!



- FABRICS
- PATTERNS
- QUILTING SERVICES
- MACHINE SERVICE & REPAIR

Quilts Like Crazy and Embroidery

Quilting, Sewing, Embroidery Supplies & More!

STORE HOURS

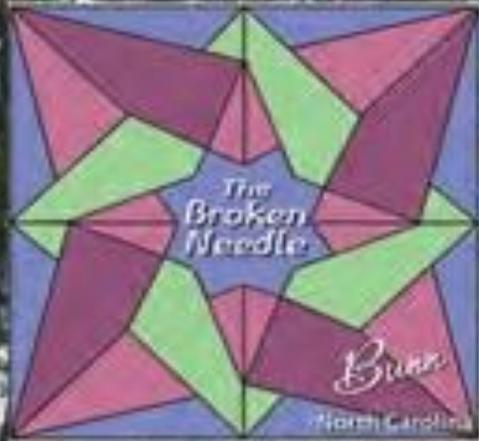
M-F 10AM - 5PM
SAT 10AM - 3PM
SUN CLOSED



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

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JANOME

Fabric - Notions - Patterns - Kits - Classes

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	Meetings are on the 2 nd Tuesday of each month at 10AM Meeting Place is Englewood Presbyterian Church 100 S Englewood Drive RMT Queen Bee is Lisa Clark.
Cutting Corners	Meetings are on the 3 rd Friday of the month at 10AM Meeting Place is 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. Please contact Pam Smith.
EQ8 Electric Quilt	Imperial Art Centre 10 am. - 4th Saturday of each month. Queen Bee is Debbie Nivison.
Patriotic	Meetings are on the 1 st Tuesday of each month at 10AM Meeting Place is Englewood Presbyterian Church 100 S Englewood Drive, RMT Bee Leaders are Jinx Abernathy & Duane Carpentier.



Log Cabin inspirations from QuiltCon 2026 Submitted by Nadia Pshenitrsyna

QuiltCon is called “the biggest quilting event of the year” for many good reasons. 470 quilts displayed in the exhibition area from 300+ makers from 11 countries. Thousands of visitors across 4 days of the show. Tens of fun and insightful classes with the best quilt makers around the world. Well-known vendors from local Cary Quilting to Moda Fabrics, Handquilter, and many more. A unique opportunity to meet and connect with fellow artists, watch the fashion show, get up close and study the best quilts of the year.

I visited all four days of the show, volunteered in the exhibition area, went to four classes. My brain is still buzzing from this rich experience. QuiltCon, organized by the Modern Quilt Guild, is famous for expanding the limits of traditional quilting by showcasing unique artful approaches. Yet I noticed that many even most innovative quilts were based on traditional patterns, including Log Cabin, our guilds summer challenge team. Take a look at how versatile Log Cabin block can be.

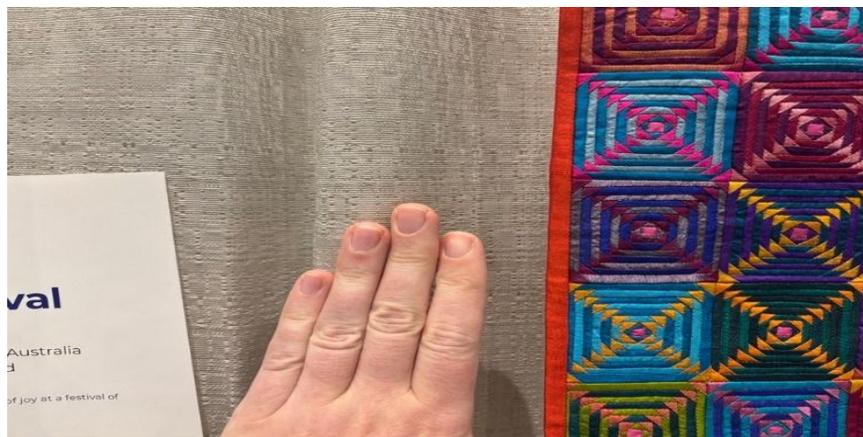
Log Cabins can be combined with other visual elements on a quilt



The visual effect in this quilt is achieved by the use of bright neon threads in the piecing



The Pineapple block (a variation on the Log Cabin) was used in this tiny quilt. Each block is machine pieced and measures 2-inch square.



Carefully selected colors create a 3D effect in this quilt



More traditional interpretation of the Log Cabin was also on display in the special feature exhibition of Hilary Goodwin's works



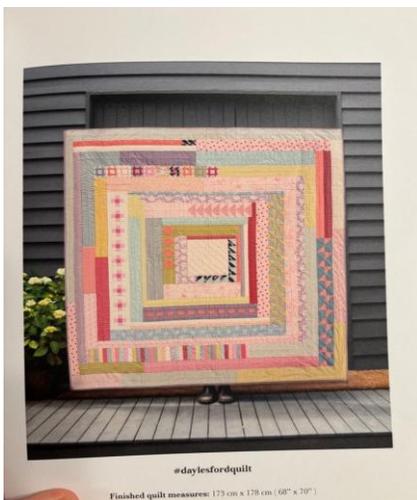
Log Cabin blocks can be embellished by pieced strips of fabric in their construction



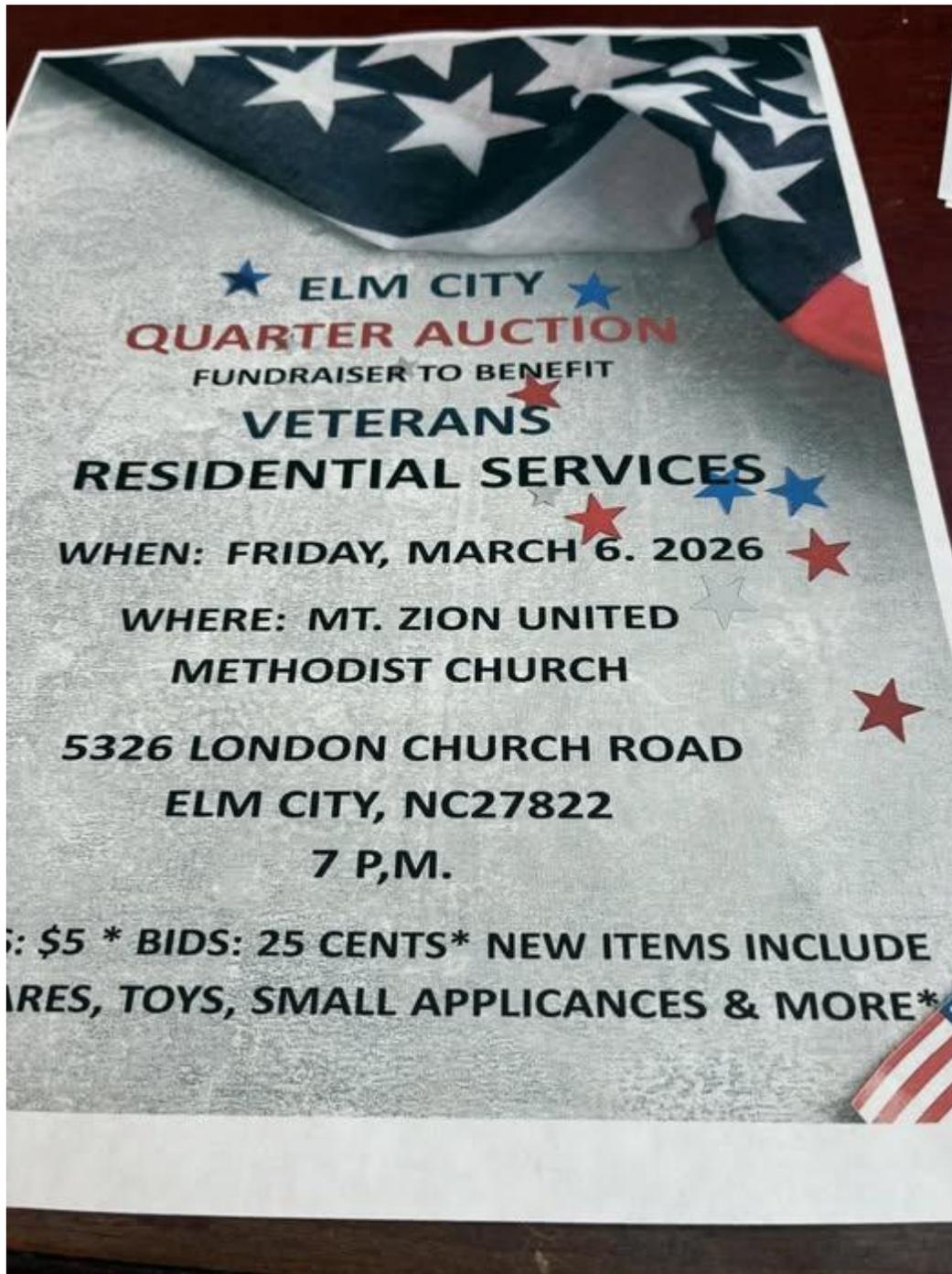
Oversized Log Cabin block is the base of this colorful design



I also had a chance to meet and greet with the famous Jen Kingwell who signed her book for me. Look what I found in the book! another example of embellished Log Cabin.



QuiltCon was a great inspirational event, and I hope that my review gave you some inspiration too!



We have been invited by the Smoky Mountain Quilters of Tennessee in Knoxville, TN, to enter any quilts in their 2026 Quilt Show and Competition on June 19th and 20th. Deadline for entries is April 18, 2026. There are an entry form and more information about the categories and show attached to this email.

TRPQG AGENDA MARCH 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: Susie Baker, Lucinda Deans, Laura Earp, Dell Forrester, Cynthia Griner, Joyce Klett, Ann Layton, Sharon Wilson

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 – Attention ALL new folks!! We want to get to know you! Give those to Sarah Wade of Michele Carpentier.
2. Sign up to be a greeter or coffee/snacks.
3. Freebee table- DO NOT put it in front of the exit doors.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Log cabin challenge- Note Nadia's review in the Newsletter
2. April- Our own Ligeia Brown will demonstrate how she weaves her own fabric. She will also bring some items that she has made.
3. August- Barn Quilt Paint Workshop. Workshop will be after our regular August 8th meeting. Signups will begin when cost is finalized. Payment for workshop will be required at signup.
4. Working on providing several classes for public through the Art Center- Making ornaments for the Holidays. More details and opportunities to help coming.

SEW AND TELL

BREAK

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: Jinx Abernathy

DRAWINGS

SALE!

FINAL REMINDERS