

January 13, 2025



Our Next Meeting will be on Monday, January 13 at 6:30 pm, in person. Zoom will be provided.

FLYING GEESE QUILTERS GUILD

FGQG Goose Tracks

Email Address:

newsletter@flying-geese.org

President's Message

By Trudy Cleveland

Where did the time go? My term as president went so fast...

Together we have continued to be a vibrant part of the quilting scene in Orange County. New members joining our guild in 2024 totaled 31. We had meetings where we averaged 90 members attending, this included our members who couldn't attend in person via Zoom. All of our workshops filled, and we managed to accommodate members on the waitlist. We even scrambled and added an extra workshop when members declared interest.

Our two fundraisers: Little Red Hen, managed by Katie LeFlore and The Auction, managed by Kathy Keefer, were huge successes. The Little Red Hen had the highest attendance we've ever had, and we had the highest bid on record for an auction quilt. Both fundraisers exceeded our expectations.

But even more important are the little deeds our members do to help each other. I have often been told about actions our members have taken, sometimes anonymously, in order to help a fellow member. It always makes me proud to be associated with this guild when I hear about our generosity and kindness to each other, and in the community.

When I started my term I picked the theme, "Getting It Done." I feel as if the guild membership rose to this challenge and exemplified my theme. Thank you, it has been an honor to lead this wonderful organization.

Join us at the Stonefire Grill at 4:30pm before the Guild meeting, to meet our speaker, be with other guild members, and relax before the meeting.



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Program Feature—Next Meeting



Featured Quilter of the Guild

Showcasing
Bretta Gunther

Our Featured Quilter for January is **Bretta Gunther**. Bretta has been a member of the Flying Geese Quilters Guild for 10 years and won the “Best in Show” ribbon last year for her beautiful appliqué quilt, Spring Bouquet.

Bretta strives for perfection in everything she does. In her quilt room, she has painted a saying on the wall that reads, "Anything worth doing is worth doing well." These are words she lives by.

Bretta, the youngest of four children, grew up in a household where her father encouraged artistic and creative expression. She embraced this from an early age, helping her dad build things and work around the house. Her job was to spot any mistakes he made, and we credit this with her ability to achieve perfection and detect errors!



Program Feature—Continued

Featured Quilter of the Guild—Bretta Gunther

Her quilting journey began with piecing and later expanded to include appliqué. She has perfected the freezer paper and starch method but is always eager to learn and discover easier and better ways to do things. She also loves embroidery and has attended three Crabapple Hill retreats in Washington. She has participated in the Spring, Summer, and Halloween retreats, and is scheduled to return for next year's Christmas retreat.

Bretta was a homemaker until her children were grown. She then returned to college and earned her teaching degree. She taught fifth grade for many years and served as a facilitator at the Williamsburg Institute for teachers. Every year, she brought history to life for her students by teaching them how to churn butter, sew, and do needlecrafts.

Bretta was voted the district teacher of the year, providing excellent instruction for her students. She is generous with her time and talents, always seeking better and easier ways to do things and willingly teaching others as well.

She and her husband love to cruise and have taken many trips throughout the world. Their next adventure will be a Viking cruise that begins in Florida and ends in Canada.

I know you will enjoy getting to know Bretta and seeing her collection of beautiful quilts as we welcome her as our Featured Quilter in January.



Coming Attractions — Program Updates Continued



Panel Palooza

Cyndi McChesney

February 10, 2025



Pre-printed panels! We love them, we buy them, and then what? **Cyndi McChesney** will take us through many ideas to solve this problem with her lecture, Panel Palooza. Cyndi is an author, teacher, long-armer and loves to design quilts using panels. She loves to find simple solutions to complex questions about quilt design. She is the author of two books, Fun With Panels, and Playful Panel Quilts. Her trunk show will inspire us to get out our panels and get those creative juices flowing!



Engineer your Quilts

With Karen Bolan

March 10, 2025

In March, we welcome modern quilter **Karen Bolan**. She is drawn to the layers of design and expression possible in quilting and loves the learning that comes from experimenting. Her designs are out of the box, and integrate a love of geometry, experimentation, interconnection, depth, and texture.

Her work has been featured in magazines and exhibited at local and international quilt shows.

She will show us how to free ourselves from the need to use someone else's pattern and appoint each of us head of own design empire.

We will see a gallery of original quilts and learn how to apply the engineering design process to your quilts. We will learn to find and use sources of inspiration, harness nifty software and manual tools, and get inspired by approachable improvisational techniques.

Coming Attractions — Program Updates Continued



Quilt Labels to Love

David Owen Hastings

April 14, 2025

David Owen Hastings is a graphic designer and quilter. In this live stream Zoom lecture he will show us how to combine computer-printed custom labels with a woven logo label on our quilts to give them a professional finish, and to record important details for posterity (or for the recipient). Quilts are a wonderful art form, and he feels you should sign your work with a distinctive label. It's a great opportunity for you to consistently brand your quilts, especially those you gift to others on holidays or other special occasions.

It's also an opportunity to weave in the story of your quilt, so the story doesn't get lost. Was the quilt made for a special occasion? Was it made from a pattern, based on tradition, or is it a unique design? Who were the makers, and where was it made? Are there special fabrics used that require particular care? Imagine someone seeing your creation in the future: what would you want them to know?

David will walk participants through the steps to create these beautiful labels and will share alternate labeling methods that draw from his graphic design background.

In David's live stream Zoom lecture he will share a template with us for making simple and stylish labels for our quilts, as well as links to the materials and suppliers he recommends. The template includes his top tips for producing beautiful quilt labels.



Coming Attractions — Workshop Updates

February 9, 2025—Cyndi McChesney

On Sunday, February 9th, 2025, we present Cyndi McChesney who will teach us how to enhance printed fabric panels with her class entitled “Panel Palooza.” In this workshop, quilters will take that panel they fell in love with and turn it into something truly unique. Cyndi will discuss how to square up your panel and add interesting block treatments and borders. She will cover the basics of graphing, adding coping strips and more, all guaranteed to make your panel project a success.

Cyndi’s book, Fun With Panels, is required for the class, so please order yours on-line ahead of time.

The class will take place at Orange Quilt Bee from 10 am to 4 pm. The cost of the class is \$45.



Currently, the class is full. But please get on the wait list if you’re interested. And if you don’t get into the class, Cyndi’s book is full of wonderful ideas to create your panel quilt on your own.

March 9, 2025—Karen Bolan

On Sunday, March 9th, 2025, we welcome modern quilter Karen Bolan whose workshop is entitled “Design an Original Modern Quilt.” For all of our creative quilters, this is your chance to shine. Have you ever seen a photo, drawing or piece of artwork and wondered, “How can I make that into a quilt?” Then this class is for you!

This is a technique workshop that can be used for modern, as well as traditional quilts which will elevate your quilting skill level. It will be one more tool in your toolbox so you can create your own interpretation of an image.



Karen’s quilt is an example of what you can create. You will turn your own original design into a mini quilt by drafting your own foundation paper piecing pattern. Karen’s method uses freezer paper instead of the traditional foundation paper piecing which makes easier for construction. You will also learn tricks for efficient use of fabric.

For more inspiration and information, check out Karen Bolan’s website or Instagram page.

The class will be held at Orange Quilt Bee and costs \$40. **Sign up at the next guild meeting on January 13, 2025.**

2025 Opportunity Quilt Ticket Sales

By Michelle Howe, & Mary Lu Booker

Opportunity Quilt Ticket Sales Begin January 13, 2025

Our stunning **2025 Opportunity Quilt** will be on display at our January 13 guild meeting, and we will begin selling Opportunity Quilt tickets to our guild members.

Our goal is to raise \$10,000 with this beautiful quilt.

The packet of tickets is \$35 – (7 sets of 6 tickets, our usual \$1 each or 6 tickets for \$5).

To make things easier for everyone, we are asking you to pay for your tickets when you get them. Then, if you wish to sell them, you may.

Please bring your \$35 cash or check (make check payable to Flying Geese Quilters Guild) to our January meeting.

- Fabulous prize for the top seller.
- Monthly drawings for a \$20 gift certificate to Orange Quilt Bee for those turning in \$35 worth of ticket sales (which includes January's meeting.) Anyone picking up their packet is entered into the evening's drawing.

We need all of our guild members to buy a packet of tickets and support the guild as we fundraise to keep bringing in all the wonderful speakers you love to hear.

Opportunity Quilt Sales Co-Chairs
Michelle Howe and Mary Lu Booker



2025 Membership Renewal

By Michelle Howe

It's Membership Renewal Time!

For both new and returning members, annual dues of **\$50** are due no later than February 10th at our guild meeting for your information to be included in the directory. You may include all, part, or none of your information in the membership directory.

Please either bring your cash or check to the January 13, 2025, or February 10, 2025, meeting or mail your check (made payable to Flying Geese Quilters Guild) and the membership form to:

Flying Geese Quilters Guild
Attn: Membership
PO Box 14271
Irvine, CA 92623-4271

Please review your name, address, email, phone, etc., listed in the 2024 guild directory – (it's the yellow one). If you have no changes to your information just print your name on the membership form (on the next page) and check the “NO CHANGES” box.

**RENEWAL
REMINDER**

2025 Membership Renewal Form

By Michelle Howe

Flying Geese Quilters Guild
February 1st Through January 31st
Membership Form

Due on or before our February meeting date (to be included in directory)

Please **PRINT** the following information:

Name: _____

Today's Date: ___/___/___ New Member? Renewing?

Cash/Check#: _____

- Do **NOT** include any of my information in the membership list
 Include **ONLY** the following in the membership list:
 Name Address Home Phone Cell Email Birthday
 NO Change in Information (Please leave the rest of the form BLANK IF no changes)

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip+4: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Email Address: (Print Clearly) _____

Birthday (month/day only) _____

OPTIONAL - Please provide an emergency contact. This information will be kept CONFIDENTIAL.

Emergency Contact Name: _____ Phone: _____

Relationship to You: _____ Email: _____

Membership Fee: \$50 Payable to: Flying Geese Quilters Guild

Flying Geese Quilters Guild

Attn: Membership

P.O. Box 14271, Irvine, CA 92623-4271

Important Information: As a Flying Geese Quilters Guild member, your name and contact information will appear in the guild's printed directory, (available only to members.) The guild's website, newsletter, or email announcements will NOT LIST your contact information unless we have your permission.

Featured Advertiser

By Julia Renaud

BACKINGS FOR THE LONGARM

by Laurel Hathaway

You've completed your quilt top and now it's time to get your backing ready for your longarmer. It is my pleasure to offer these suggestions for your quilt backings to ensure the best results for your finished quilt.

Size

Your longarm quilter will specify requirements for the size of your backing. The extra fabric enables the quilter to roll the backing onto the bars and place clamps on the sides. Although most ask for 8" wider and 8" longer than the top of your quilt, exceptions can be made to accommodate the amount of fabric you have on hand if it is not big enough. Every longarm quilter will have their own exceptions, so if you find yourself in a pickle, reach out to see if there is something that can be done.

Wide 108" backing is available and eliminates the need for piecing. It is best to purchase an 1/8- 1/4 yard extra to ensure that it can be squared up properly.

Seams

If you need to piece your backing, it is best to use 1/2" or larger seams and press to one side. (Quarter inch seams in backing tend to stand straight up once the backing is loaded on the longarm and could cause lumps in the quilt.) Be certain to remove the selvages in your seams. This helps the backing lay flatter on the longarm, and since selvages are woven tighter and will not shrink or wear much as the rest of the quilt, they may cause stiff areas in the quilt over time.

Pattern Matching

If the design on your backing fabric has a large focal print, plaid or stripes, you may want to consider pattern matching the seams for a perfect finish. This requires additional yardage and a bit of patience, and it is well worth the extra effort.

Square the Back

Keep in mind that your backing piece must be squared so that it can be loaded on the longarm correctly. Not everyone has a good working space to do this, so ask your longarmer for help if you need it.

Special Backs

Pieced blocks and multi-seamed backings are beautiful although sometimes difficult to center on a longarm. For best results, design backs that do not have an exact center or borders. It is best to have offset seams either vertically or horizontally. When in doubt, ask your longarmer for their input before piecing your backing.

Featured Advertiser—Continued

By Julia Renaud

Special Fabrics

Minky and Cuddle fabrics make cozy backings, and it is best to purchase your yardage so that the selvages run down the sides of the quilt. This helps the fabric from stretching too much when loaded on the longarm and ensures that the nap is running along the length of the quilt for a beautiful, smooth finish. Hathaway Quiltworks offers Quilter's Dream Poly Request batting for use with Minky and Cuddle fabrics. It is lightweight and pairs well with those polyester backings.

Thread Color

When planning your backing always consider the thread color you might choose for the front of your quilt and how it will look on the backing. A solid backing can really show off the quilting with the right thread choice.



Examples of backings that make the quilting shine!

Hathaway Quiltworks offers edge-to-edge computerized longarm quilting in Laguna Hills.
Other services include back seaming, pattern matching, basting, binding and batting.
For more information contact Laurel at hello@hathawayquiltworks.com



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Thank you to Lisa & Pebble for the use of the sewing room at The Orange Quilt Bee for our Philanthropy Days!



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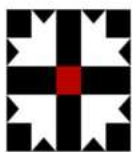
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Last Meeting's Highlights

Monthly Creation

By Diane Jardon

Congratulations to **Carol Moore** who was the winner of the December Monthly Creation. Carol won this beautiful, hand quilted vintage Christmas sampler quilt **donated by Darla Cox**. Perfect for the holidays!

Thank you, Darla for this quilt . . . you make selling tickets easy! I look forward to seeing you all in the New Year!

If you would like to donate a creation for our monthly drawings, please let me know . . . we're putting together the 2025 list soon!

Thank you,
Diane Jardon



Zoom

By Eileen Wintemute

There was no Zoom provided in December due to the format of the meeting. However, there will be Zoom offered at the January meeting. See you there!



December Birthdays & New Members

Happy Birthday to our *January Flying Geese!*



- Tamara Ambroson
- Louise Berkley
- Kay Cotton
- Joan Curtis
- Karen Ericksen
- Mary Fitzgerald
- Sue Fukuda
- Nancy Mueller
- Florann Ramsey
- Jennifer Rowe
- Maria Sandoval
- Carolle Schuegraf
- Linda Schultz
- Karen Simpson
- Mary G. Smith
- Espie Teter
- Andrea Wellman
- Jo Whitley
- Kay Yu-Kim



***Please welcome our newest
Flying Geese member***

Vilma Bagdasarian

December Meeting Attendance

Members 65

New Members 1

Total 66



Show and Tell

Kathleen Quinn—Deep as the Ocean Blue

Kathleen started her quilt, Deep as the Ocean Blue, many years ago with a jelly roll from the Christmas Exchange. She found the pattern in a magazine. Its original name was Cold Snap, but she wanted her quilt to represent everything she's done at the ocean. The descriptions of her ocean connections are amply described on the label.



Eileen Thiessen—Mice, Squirrels, and Birds, Oh My!

Eileen fell in love with the mice in Tilda's Hibernation fabric. The fabric is full of other little animals, too. Many of the accompanying fabrics came from the Little Red Hen, giving it an old-timey feel. It is her first quilt using green because her husband can't stand that color!



Bretta Gunther—Christmas Tree

Bretta's holiday quilt, Christmas Tree, was a Christmas tree pattern by Meg Hawkey from Crabtree Designs.



Show and Tell—Continued

Bretta Gunther—Birds in Toyland Holiday Sweatshirt

Bretta used one pattern from Birds in Toyland by Becky Goldsmith to create her charming Holiday Sweatshirt. She hand appliquéd the motif onto a sweatshirt from Kohl's and embellished it with embroidery, using her own color combination: aqua, soft green and soft red. She says that the birds talk to her at Christmas!



Mary Branca and Anna Lee—Plumeria by Joanna Figueroa

Mary and Anna Lee both took Joanna's workshop. They worked on their Plumeria quilts together, finishing the tops at a retreat, and putting the bindings on at their friendship group meeting.



Tom Stevens—Trippin' Tula

Tom reimagined a traditional Trip around the World pattern using all Tula Pink fabrics from her Pink Everglow and Neon True Colors fabric lines. He was proud to announce that his Trippin' Tula quilt will hang in the atrium at the 2025 Road 2CA Quilt Show!



Show and Tell—Continued

Dorothy Bullard—Christmas Table Runner

Dorothy's Christmas Table Runner was a project to use up some Christmas fabric scraps. She designed her own ornaments, tilted them in all different directions, then appliquéd them onto the background fabric. She finished it that afternoon, just in time to share at our meeting!



Dorothy Bullard—Vintage Fabric Throw

Dorothy used old-fashioned holiday fabric fussy cut into small vignettes to create her Vintage Fabric Throw. The vignettes are absolutely charming!

Michelle Howe—The Christmas Dress

Michelle reimagined Laura Heine's pattern The Dress to create her own The Christmas Dress. She reduced the size of the original quilt to fit on her wall. It had always bothered her that the original girl had only one eye and no feet. Michelle's has two eyes, a nose, a mouth, and boots! The background is a Moda fabric, and embellishments are from our Little Red Hen. Michelle says, "In her red petticoat she is dressed for success and ready for Christmas!"



Show and Tell—Continued

Darla Cox—Christmas Snowman

Darla skillfully machine embroidered her cheerful Snowman Frolicking.



Darla Cox—Two Christmas Tree Skirts

Darla shared two Christmas tree skirts. One is from a Krista Moser kit and is for her daughter-in-law. The other is for her own daughter. She quilted both skirts on her domestic machine.

Trudy Teshima—Puppy Love/Let's Love Dogs

Trudy made her heartfelt quilt Puppy Love/Let's Love Dogs for her hairdresser's wife. It's a very special memory quilt of all of their dogs. Trudy's sister Helene Born quilted it.



New Year's Eve Sew-In Update!

By Mary Howland

This year's **New Year's Eve Zoom Celebration** will be from 6pm - 12 midnight on December 31st. Please join us for an evening of chat, sewing, games, and fellowship.



Zoom-O Game

We'll be playing games so use the Zoom-O example to make a couple cards. Then write in your favorite words to make your own playing cards. The middle space is Free so no word is needed there.

Zoom-O card and Word List found on the next page.

Unique Zoom Link

So far, we have eight prizes but could use a few more. Let me know if you have something you'd like to donate. Remember - you don't have to donate a prize to join us and there's no reservation needed - just log on and participate. Be sure to use the **unique New Year's Eve Zoom link!** It's not the one we use for the Monday and Friday Zoom meetings.

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87006464891?pwd=1yGeAnAugEze1GmxdsQRwwVgUnSCn8.1>
Meeting ID: 870 0646 4891
Passcode: 283144

Any questions- contact me. Hope to see you on Zoom on December 31st! ~ Mary



Regular Monday & Friday Zoom Schedule:

Mondays from 9 a.m. - 12 noon

December 23, 30

January 6, 13, 20, 27

February 3, 10, 17, 24

Fridays from 5 p.m. - 9 p.m.

December 27

January 10, 24

February 14, 28

Please join us. We'd love to see you!

New Year's Eve Sew-In Update! — Continued

Z O O M O

		FREE		

ZOOMO Word List

Thread. Scissors. Pins. Fabric. Safety pins. Seam ripper. Shears. Basting
1/4 inch seam. Rip out. Rotary cutter. Cotton. Wool. Binding. Batting. Quilt.
 Guild. Pattern. Road trip. Oops! Purple thang. Appliqué. Patchwork. Piecing Buttons
 Zoom. Philanthropy. Sew in. Sew Day. Meeting. Shopping. Quilt show. Needles
 Bobbin. Bernina. Pfaff. Singer. Featherweight. Janome. Husqvarna Viking.
 Color. Value. Friendships, Chocolate. Bolt of fabric. Fat Quarter. Yard. Fat 1/8th.
 Layer Cake. Jelly Roll. Jolly Bar. Workshop. Quilters. Baby Lock. Brother. Elna. Juki

Philanthropy

By Mary Howland

Am I the only one asking . . .

“Where did this year go to?” or saying, “It can’t be December - it’s just not possible.” Does anyone remember December 1999 and how many people thought all these horrible things would happen as the calendar turned to January 1, 2000?

Well, I don’t know what else to say except, time doesn’t stop. We just need to keep putting one foot in front of the other and keep moving. Actually that’s what so many Flying Geese members have done as you continue to sew, quilt, and bind to provide for our charitable organizations.

So, as we move closer to 2025, let’s start by applauding your placemat making - you exceeded the goal of 300! Thanks to all of you for your holiday placemat sewing and thanks to Sharon Ludwig and Barbara Kerns for creating so many placemat kits this past year.



December — There’s no Sew Day.

January — Please join us on Wednesday, January 15th from 10a - 2p at Orange Quilt Bee for our first Sew Day in 2025. You might want to mark your calendar for the remainder of the year. We’ll meet on the third Wednesday of each month except December.

Philanthropy will have our usual items available at the January guild meeting. Please stop by and say hello. You may want to select something to take home with you. Just work on it and bring it back when it’s done or ready to pass on to the next sewist.

Quilts needed

We need adult themed and sized quilt tops. We have kits available or make up your own tops from your stash. Perhaps you received a new quilt book and want to test a few blocks before cutting into your favorite fabrics. Or start the year with choosing a different color combination for a lap quilt.

Want to help?

Finally - would you like to serve on the philanthropy planning team? Talk to Jeanne Stone to volunteer or get more information.

Thank you for sewing throughout the year. Our organizations appreciate your efforts so very much.

May you all have a **Merry Christmas, Happy Chanukah, Happy Kwanzaa, or Happy Holidays! Happy New Year,** too!



Quilty Happenings



2025 Show Dates

January 22 - 25, 2025

Hosted by:

Ontario Convention Center
2000 E Convention Center Way
Ontario, CA 91764



Valley Quilters Guild Quilt Show

February 7-8, 2025
10 am to 4:00 pm

Valley Wide Recreation Center
901 W. Esplanade St.
San Jacinto, CA. 92582



Quilty Happenings

**South Bay
Quilters Guild
2025 Quilt Show**

“Our Quilt Garden”

**February 22-23, 2025
10am-4pm**

**Opportunity Quilt
“Our Whimsical Garden”
Drawing Feb 23th, 4pm**

**In Person & Zoom Auction
New Date & Time
Feb 22nd, 3:30pm**



62" x 74"

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Torrance, CA



HI DESERT QUILT GUILD

“DESERT VIEWS - SUNSET HUES”

QUILT SHOW

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OVER 200 QUILTS!!!

Vendors

Raffles

Fabric Bargain Tables

Small Quilt Auction on Sunday

Opportunity Quilt Raffle

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO THE HI DESERT QUILT GUILD

Follow Us on Facebook! HI Desert Quilt Guild

Our Next Meeting

Monday, January 13, 2025

**Meeting: 6:30 PM
In Person. Zoom will be
Provided.**

Meeting Location:
Rancho San Joaquin Middle School
4861 Michelson Drive
Irvine

Please Note: School rules allow only bottled water in the Multi-purpose room. Food and other drinks are not allowed.

Covid 19 Precautions: The guild will be following the guidelines set up by the school district and in accordance with the local and state government. We will not be checking for your immunization record at this time. You are on the honor system.

Please be kind to those sensitive to perfumes, and refrain from wearing your fragrances to the Guild meeting.

Come to the meeting
Check in at the Membership Desk
Wear your Name Tag
Introduce yourself to someone new
Carpool with a buddy
Bring Show & Tell projects to share
Sign up for a Workshop
Volunteer

Flying Geese Quilters Guild is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization dedicated to promoting the art of quilting. Goose Tracks is a monthly publication of the Flying Geese Quilters Guild. Deadline for newsletter submission is Friday after the second Monday of each month. Articles in the newsletter may be reprinted if proper credit is given. Copyrighted artwork may not be reprinted without the permission of the artist. Website: <http://www.flying-geese.org/>.