



Upcoming Programs by Rebecca Ribis & Judy Phillips

Our March program will feature Joanna Christopher Zoe, a certified Qigong instructor, at Faith United Church of Christ, 1300 Maple Road Amherst, NY at **6:30 pm**.

We may be 50 but we don't look it - especially with learning new things!! Come celebrate our birthday with us on March 20th with a two-part program! First, doors will open at 5:45 for a card-making activity! Join us as we come together to make cards for local Senior Facilities. It's a nice opportunity to socialize, learn a new skill, and make someone else's day better. Supplies will be provided.

Next, our program will begin at **6:30** with an activity by certified qigong instructor Joanna Zoe Christopher from Hearts Desire Hypnosis and Wellness Center. Qigong, also known as "moving meditation," involves gentle movements that everyone can do. Joanna will focus on areas of the body that get stiff when sewing (think shoulders, necks, hands), and relaxation techniques to help clear our heads of stress and frustration, allowing creativity to flow.

President's Message by Kathleen Karnath

Happy 50th Birthday to Amherst Quilters Guild and Happy National Quilt Month! I hope you were busy sewing on National Quilting Day on

Saturday, March 15th and took the opportunity to display your quilt(s) on your porch, in a window or on your front door.

The National Quilting Association started National Quilting Day in 1991 and since then it has grown into a global celebration for all quilt lovers and makers. The word 'quilt' comes from the Latin word 'culcita,' which means stuffed sack, it became adapted to the English language from the French word 'cuilte.'

The AQG board and committee chairs have been busy this month, which you will read more about in their reports in this newsletter. I am most excited that the board **approved** AQG to hold a quilt show at the Buffalo Niagara Heritage Village next year on April 17 – 19, 2026!

The board also approved the appointment of Carol Roy to assist Joanne Castiglia with the Treasurer position, particularly as Joanne is not able to attend evening meetings. Congratulations and thank you Carol!

Knowing that we will have a quilt show next year, I'm motivated to tackle a big project. But I find myself easily distracted by so many quilt project

ideas every time I get a pinterest email, go to a quilt shop, look at a quilting magazine, see your beautiful quilts at show and share, etc.! I found a great article titled "Better than a Sewing Planner" that helped me to focus a bit, choose my priorities and plan my quilting projects. Check it out here: <https://theruffledpurse.com/better-than-a-sewing-planner/>.

AQG Meeting Notes - by JoAnn Kelsch.

February Program: Faye Lone, Fiber Artist, is a member of the Seneca Nation Hawk Clan. Faye's presentation took us on an artistic journey that highlighted her unique and original creations that depict the life of indigenous people. Faye's free-motion and long-arm quilting designs portray the true heritage and history of indigenous people; she uses these fiber art compositions to teach the world and to dispel false stereotypes about Native American people and culture. Pictures of Faye's artwork and videos describing her designs can be found on her website: <https://longhausoflone.com>

President's Update: Kathleen Karnath, AQG President -
Fabric and Quilting Books & Patterns Sale: the guild will have fabric, quilting books and patterns for sale at the monthly meetings. The funds raised will go towards the 2025 Budget's Donation Fundraising Goal of \$750. The guild is planning a bigger sale in the May or June time frame.

Monthly Meeting Time and Location: the guild meetings will take place either at the Audubon Library or at Faith UCC. The location will be determined by the Vice Presidents for Programs based on the program presentation scheduled for that month. Open Sew and Community Service events will continue to be held at Faith UCC; and the guild's supplies are maintained in the rental closet at the church. The meeting will begin at 6:30 regardless of the location.

March is designated as National Quilting Month and March 15th is the official National Quilting Day. Quilters are encouraged to hang/display a quilt at their homes to promote the quilting arts.

2025 Quilting Goals: Kathleen encouraged members to consider having a goal to complete a charity quilt this year.

50/50 Raffle: Sally Ginsberg introduced a new opportunity for members to participate in a 50/50 raffle that will be held at the monthly meetings. The funds raised from this activity will augment the AQG Programs budget and supplement the funds needed to cover the guild's monthly program/presentation honorariums and costs.

Education Committee: Linda Hunter and Rebecca Ribis –
Making a Quilted Jacket Workshop with Bridget Spitler. Classes will be at Faith United, 1300 Maple Road on Thursday Nights from 6-9 pm. Class dates are April 3, April 10, April 24, May 8, and May 22. Cost is \$60 and pattern is \$18 for pdf and \$22 for paper. Contact Rebecca Ribis if you are interested.

RebeccaChristene@Hotmail.com or 716-256-0438. Text is ok.

Barn Quilt Class with Heather Buechi is another event being organized for this summer

AQG March Board Meeting Notes by JoAnn Kelsch

Treasurer's Report: JoAnn Castiglia

AQG is incorporated as a 501(c) (7) which the IRS designates as a 'Social Club.'

The guild is not eligible for NYS sales tax exemption.

Assistant Treasurer proposal: Kathleen proposed a candidate for this position: Carol Roy. Carol is a math major and on several other boards; she is willing to accept the position and potentially move into the Treasurer role in the future.

2nd VP Membership Report: Heather Buechi •

2025 Membership: 49; 15 renewals remain outstanding. Heather has contacted the 2024 members who have not renewed. Renew your membership by the end of this month or you will be removed from the AQG roster.

President's Report: Kathleen Karnath •

Membership meeting time changed to **6:30–8:30 pm**, members who attended the AQG February meeting were in agreement.

The rental agreement has been signed for the Faith United Church Meeting location through June 2025;

The library display cabinet is reserved for the guild for September.

Education: Linda Hunter, Rebecca Ribis, Sally Ginsberg

Quilted Jacket class – 2 more people are needed to sign up so that the guild will break even and cover its costs.

Nominating Committee:

Kathleen would like to get a committee in place; she recommends someone to lead the committee who knows a lot of the people/members.

Open positions for 2026: VP Programs, Secretary, Treasurer.

Membership by Heather Buechi

Its already March!

Glad to report we have 50 total members that have renewed their membership. An email reminder to all the remaining members has been sent out. If you still need to renew, please send me your renewal as soon as possible. Heather Buechi, 107 Pine Ridge Road, Buffalo, NY 14211 Please make check out to Amherst Quilters Guild.

If not received by the end of the month of March you will be taken off the

newsletter and website list.

We really appreciate all of our members! I'm excited for all the great programs we will have this year!

2026 Quilt Show by MaryAnn Krafft

Planning for the 2026 upcoming quilt show has started. Dates are April 17-19, 2026 at the BNHV. Do you have any clever names or should we just stick with "2026 Quilt Show". Submit your suggestions to ma.krafft@yahoo.com and we will vote on a name at the March meeting. This is the last call.

AQG 2025 Challenge Quilt by Patricia Ohtake

Make It Modern - The 2025 Challenge Quilt theme is Modern Quilts. Members are encouraged to create a small quilt that incorporates one or more of the principles of modern quilting:

Rules Challenge quilts will be:

- original design
- no larger than 120" perimeter
- comprised of three layers (top, batting, and backing)
- bound and quilted through all three layers and have visible quilting by hand, by machine, or both
- made using fabrics of any color
- made using any of the following techniques: pieced, foundation pieced, English paper pieced, hand or machine appliqued, hand or machine embroidered.

The deadline for the quilt submission is the December 2025 Holiday Party. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Patricia Ohtake at patricia2576@gmail.com

QCNYS (Quilters Consortium of NYS) - by Patti Young

Registration for the QCNYS bus trip to Mississauga, Ontario (near Toronto) for the Quilt Canada 2025 show June 19-20, 2025 is now open. General information can be found on the Quilt Canada website. A NON-REFUNDABLE deposit secures your reservation and is due by March 18. The workshops and lectures look quite interesting and require registration. <https://canadianquilter.com/quilt-canada-2025/>

The first quarterly meeting for 2025 will be held March 19, 2025: Hosted by the Piecemakers Quilt Guild of Illion in Mohawk, NY.

If anyone has joined the mystery quilt, I'd love to see your progress and share mine.

Sunshine & Shadows - by Linda Hunter

While on a cruise to the Bahamas Linda Hunter's husband, Dan, had a heart attack. After spending four days in a Nassau hospital and four days at Buffalo General Hospital in Buffalo, he had 3 stents and all is good. He came home Friday, 3/7 and is doing well.

Linda would welcome any news from our members at hunterlj@roadrunner.com or 716-622-3560. - talk or text. Thank you.

All New York Shop Hop by Sew What

All New York Shop Hop is right around the corner. This year, we have started something new and the hop will be across the whole state, instead of just between Buffalo and Rochester as in years past.

The dates of the [ALL NEW WORK SHOP HOP](#) are May 1 through June 30, with two Sundays that almost everyone will be open. If you finish a "Region" (such as WNY), you will be entered to win prizes for that region, and any get entered for any additional regions you complete. Or you can go to any random 29 shops and be entered for prizes. Almost all the shops in the area are participating and have extended hours to make the event fun for you.

All the information you need is in the [ALL NEW YORK SHOP HOP MAGAZINE](#), which is available at [SEW WHAT](#) and any of the other participating shops.

Community Service - by Jean Miller

Thursday, March 27 10am-2pm at Faith UCC. Come and help sort and cut 2 1/2 inch strips to be made into kits!

Save the Dates -

Thurs, March 20 - monthly meeting at 6:30pm at Faith UCC

Thurs, March 27 - open sew at Faith UCC 10am-2pm

Friday, April 11-12 - Clarence Log Cabin Quilt show 10am-5pm
Sunday, April 13 11am-3pm

May 1 - June 30 All New York Shop Hop

Thurs April 3, April 10, April 24, May 8, and May 22.

Quilted Jacket class from 6-9 pm at Faith UCC.

June 19-21 - Quilt Canada at the Interational Centre in Mississauga, ON- <https://canadianquilter.com/quilt-canada-2025/>

Officers

President - Kathleen Karnath

First Vice President - Rebecca Ribis & Judy Phillips

Second Vice President - Heather Buechi

Secretary - JoAnn Kelsch

Treasurer - Joanne Castiglia

Committee Chairs

Accuquilt - JoAnn Kelsch

Challenge Quilts - Patricia Ohtake

Community Service - Jean Miller & Judy Balcerzak

Quilts For Courage - Sylvia Siegel

Education - Rebecca Ribis & Linda Hunter

Facebook - Sylvia Siegel

Hospitality - MaryAnn Braunscheidle

QCNY Consortium - Patti Young

Program - Rebecca Ribis & Judy Phillips

Publishing Editor - MaryAnn Krafft

Sunshine & Shadows - Linda Hunter

Website - Marie Buchanan

