



AMHERST
QUILTERS GUILD

Upcoming Events - by Patricia Ohtake and Gail Kratt

Amherst Quilt Guild meeting will take place on Thursday, February 26 (that is the fourth Thursday) at the Audubon Library. Program Co-Chairs Gail Kratt and Patricia Ohtake will describe the 2026 Year of Inspiration. Monthly programs will begin with ideas for quilt inspiration and design, and continue with explorations of different piecing techniques, creative discussions, and conclude with embellishment and quilting design ideas. Trunk shows are also scheduled to illustrate design and technical concepts. Each program will feature guest speakers, interactive experiences, and member show and share.

2025 MODERN QUILT CHALLENGE

The 2025 Modern Quilt Challenge entries will be shared at this meeting and members will select their favorite quilts.

Amherst Quilters Meeting Notes - 1/22/26

Meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

The meeting began with the President's Report by Kathleen Karnath. As this was the first meeting of the year, Kathleen presented our 2025 Annual Report and conducted installation of new officers.

Summary of Annual Report - Kathleen Karnath

The year included a few curveballs, which we managed to overcome: The sale of our meeting location (Faith UMC). New meeting location - Audubon

Public Library (at zero cost!) Website issues (requiring a new “host”) New Website manager - Carolyn Krupp

The year included a lot of positives: Turned our stored items into cash (fabric, accuquilt cutter) Community Outreach activities: Conducted a “learn to sew” program (Burrito pillowcase) for youth (at the library) ○ Buffalo Niagara Heritage Village Agricultural Fair booth helping youths and adults design their own quilt block from ½ square triangles. These blocks will be turned into a quilt to be donated to Buffalo Children’s Hospital The Guilds budget starts with a surplus of about \$1K. Our 2025 expenses were lower than expected.

The Guild ended the year at 60 members; 14 of which were new. Our facebook page at 39,000 views, 735 followers (2026 goal is 1,000 followers) and our highest viewed content was the library display at ~7,400 views.

Kathleen noted her appreciation of outgoing officers - Joann Kelsch (Secretary), Judy Phillips and Rebecca Ribis (co-1st VPs and Programs). She also thanked 2025 Board and Committee members for their participation, hard work and leadership throughout the year. Some highlights included: Barn Quilt Workshop, Guild brochure/business cards, Community Service “jelly roll race” quilts and quilt kits, Opportunity Quilt and 2026 Quilt Show planning efforts.

New Officer Installation (all presented with corresponding mug rugs):

Patti Young - Secretary

Patricia Ohtake / Gail Kratt - co-1st VP/Programs

Carol Roy - Treasurer

January Program - Hexi’s - Presented by Maryann Braunscheidel Maryann demonstrated the process and tools. She also shared some hands-on kit and advice. Her finished items were on display (very beautiful!)

New Business/Committee Reports:

Community Service - Kits and patterns available to make dresses for young girls in Uganda. These dresses require about 2 yards of fabric for sizes 12/14.

Challenge Quilt - 5 weeks to go! Will be shown at February meeting.

Quilt Show - Maryann noted the paperwork necessary to register and label your quilts for exhibition at the show, She is still in need of volunteers and

large sheets/tablecloths for stacking quilts prior to hanging. Brochures and posters are available for members to share at shops or other locations to get our advertising out and around town. Kathy will email members a sample letter to request gift basket donations from local businesses. Volunteer(s) is necessary to help coordinate getting vendors for the show. Anticipate needing about 6. We are asking vendors for \$50 to participate as well as to provide a gift basket or certificate to raffle.

Programs - Patricia and Gail noted the Program theme for 2026 is "Year of Innovation" with programs building on each other over the course of the year.

Membership - Conducted fat quarter raffle and noted 33 members have renewed to date. Meeting adjourned 8:15 p.m.

President's Message - by Kathleen Karnath

Punxsutawney Plil saw his shadow and predicted six more weeks of winter, but Dunkirk Dave did NOT see his shadow! I hope Dunkirk Dave is right and we get early spring weather! But for now, let's use the cold weather as a great reason to stay in and sew...and finish those quilts for the Quilt Show!

As reported at the January membership meeting, we have a budget in place for 2026, new officers have been installed and our committee chairpersons are all in place for 2026:

1st VP/Program – Patricia Ohtake, Gail Kratt

Treasurer – Carol Roy

Secretary – Patti Young

Challenge Quilt – Patricia Ohtake

Community Service – Jean Miller

Education – Linda Hunter, Rebecca Ribis

Hospitality – MaryAnn Braunscheidel

Nominating - Loretta Cadwallader

Media: Facebook – Heather Buechi

Newsletter – MaryAnn Krafft

Website – Carolynn Krupp

Opportunity Quilt – Sally Ginsberg
PM Quilters – MaryAnn Krafft
QCNYS Liason – Patti Young
Quilt Show 2026 – MaryAnn Krafft
Quilt Project – JoAnn Castiglia
Sunshine and Shadows – Linda Hunter

We have 2 new committees! PM quilters is not exactly a committee, but a group that meets the second Thursday of the month, 10 am – 12 noonish, at Beechwood Nursing Home. The group talks about quilting, shares quilting magazines, sometimes does a quilt project (block exchange, mystery quilt, etc.), has a show and share, etc. This group formed years ago with a group of members that worked and thus couldn't meet during working hours and met instead in the evening (PM). Now it works well for those members who are unable or uncomfortable driving at night and the group is open to any Amherst Quilters Guild member. Please contact MaryAnn Krafft if you are interested in being part of this group.

We haven't come up with a catchy title for the second committee, but I am referring to it as "Quilt Project" and JoAnn Castiglia has volunteered to chair that group. The idea is to come up with a project that any or all members would do – maybe it will be sharing a pattern and suggesting that multiple people each make the same quilt, or maybe it will be a block exchange or a mystery quilt. Once the quilt show is over, JoAnn is planning to present a round robin block exchange – details after the quilt show.

If you are interested in participating in any of these committees, please contact the chairperson! Please join me in thanking our out-going officers for their outstanding service to the
Guild:Secretary JoAnn Kelsch
1st VPs/Program Judy Phillips, Rebecca Ribis
Treasurer JoAnn Castiglia

Membership by Heather Beuchi

Spring will be here before you know it!

Please remember to renew your membership if you haven't already!! Its \$40 for the Fiscal year.

As reminders, emails have been sent out.

Please take the time to remind others to renew!

We have a total of 37 members that have renewed. Last year we ended the year with 60 members. (13 of which were new) Lets aim for 10 new members this year.

Quilt Show Basket Raffle - Sally Ginsberg

Time is going by fast!

If you are willing to donate items to put into baskets, baskets themselves (definitely in need of these!), whole completed baskets, asking local businesses that you frequent to donate gift cards, please do so soon.

We are also in need of 6 pairs of matching tumblers to go with 6 bottles of liquor that was donated. If you can think of other items to go with the bottles in the baskets to match, i.e. shaker bottles, etc., additional items would be greatly appreciated. There are 2 bottles of Recipe blended whiskey, 1 bottle of New Amsterdam Gin, 1 bottle of JP Wisers Whiskey, 1 bottle of Captain Morgan spiced Rum, and 1 bottle of Mafia Sauce (I have a hand knit red, white and blue hat to go with it- more Bills color or items for this one would be great).

Remember baskets can be full of any kind of related items. I already have two baking related items baskets, one new pair of sneakers, one dessert serving set, a couple of fall related ones, and one with kids toys, for example. More ideas would be beach items, more kids related baskets, bath items, etc.

If you could please bring the items to the February meeting so we can start assembling them to be ready for the show.

If you are donating a whole basket and can't give it to me till the March

meeting, that is more than fine.

If you are not able to come to either of the meetings, and have items to donate, you can call me to set up a time and place for me to get them. Thank you all who have given me items already and thank you to those who bring in more. We all appreciate your time and donations.

Quilt Show - MaryAnn Krafft

It's time to dig into your storage chest and find all those wonderful creations you've made in the past four years. Each item will need an entry registration form and entry ID labels. We only ask that the item was not exhibited in any past AQG Quilt Show.

<https://amherstquiltersguild.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/AQG-Registration-directions-Show-2026.pdf>

<https://amherstquiltersguild.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/AQG-Entry-Info-pg1-Show-2026.pdf>

<https://amherstquiltersguild.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/AQG-Entry-ID-Labels-pg2-Show-2026.pdf>

Registration forms can be submitted to Carolyn Krupp at the February 26 meeting or any time before March 19.

Quilt Show Committee Chairs - MaryAnn Krafft

A great big thank you to all who volunteered to chair a committee.

Publicity - Heather Buechi

Registration & Labels - Carolyn Krupp
Take-In - MaryAnn Krafft
Hanging - Loretta Cadwallader
Vendors - Maryann Braunscheidel
Basket Raffle - Sally Ginsberg
Boutique - Kathleen Karnath
Admissions - Sharon Militello
Peoples & Members Choice - Judy Phillips & Linda Hunter

We are still on the lookout for someone to chair Take Down on Sunday and someone to feed the workers on Tuesday (hanging day).

Community Service by Jean Miller

will be held at the Audubon Library on **February 26th**. Bring projects for community service or your own projects to work on and socialize! I still have batting and backing if anyone needs it!

Sunshine & Shadows - Linda Hunter

Sue McKie recently had knee replacement surgery. Surgery went well, she is now home and on the road to recovery. Sadly, her dog passed away just recently.

Mickey Wittliff has recently been diagnosed with a cancerous blood disorder. However, she has been taking a simple chemo medication and her blood count is in the normal range. Her prognosis is excellent.
We are keeping these members in our thoughts and prayers.

Hospitality The following members have agreed to bring refreshments:

Sue Keppel - a beverage

Rebecca Ribis - a snack

Save the Dates 2026

Thurs , Feb 26, (note the date change)

10am Community Service/Open Sew at the Audubon Library

6:00 Linda Hunter will discuss 'Preparing Quilts for a Quilt Show.'

6:30pm - show your 'Modern' challenge quilt

Officers

President - Kathleen Karnath

First Vice President - Patricia Ohtake & Gayle Kratt

Second Vice President - Heather Buechi

Secretary - Patti Young

Treasurer - Carol Roy

Committee Chairs

Challenge Quilts - Patricia Ohtake

Community Service - Jean Miller & Judy Balcerzak

Education - Rebecca Ribis, Linda Hunter & Sally Ginsberg

Facebook - Heather Buechi

Hospitality - MaryAnn Braunscheidle

Program - Patricia Ohtake & Gayle Kratt

Publishing Editor - MaryAnn Krafft

Sunshine & Shadows - Linda Hunter

Website - Carolynn Krupp