



West Virginia Quilt Festival Newsletter

Newsletter of West Virginia Quilters, Inc. since 1993

April 2025

501(c)(3)

www.wvquilters.org

Thank You to the 2025 West Virginia Quilt Festival's sponsors:

Bolts and Quarters Quilt Shop and Renee's Fabric and Gift Shop

President's Message

My first introduction to WVQI was the Quilt Festival. I loved the atmosphere, the quilters, the quilts, the vendors, everything...I was hooked. I spent a few years learning everything I could about the show and then several years as the Festival chair. Now I am in charge of the Judging Room, as well as being the Guild's president for this year.

By necessity we had to move the Festival and it will look a little different this year. While some changes may give us pause, we are excited about these changes...new categories, new booths, new awards, a fresh look, and more. Come check us out and let us know what you think. Give us your feedback. It is your state guild, and we want to know what you want and hope for us all.

We are growing and changing. If you would like to help, become involved, or volunteer, please contact me. I would love to come to any of your guild or group meetings to meet you and talk about the Festival and/or state guild. We are always looking for fresh faces, new energy, and innovative ideas for our state guild. If you are interested, contact me, or show up at a meeting.

Connie Forth 304-633-2290 cell

Do you know of a business who might also be interested in sponsoring the WV Quilt Festival? We are seeking more sponsors! Please see the enclosed sponsor descriptions sheet!

WVQI Dates to Remember

Documentation Dates 2025

May 31, Ohio County Public Library, Wheeling
July 11-12, Location TBA, Petersburg
September 11-13, Cedar Lakes Conference Center, Ripley
October 18, Arthurdale Heritage Center, Arthurdale

Summer Meeting

June 28, noon, Nicholas County Senior Center, Summersville

Fall Meeting

September 11, 7 pm, Jackson Hall, Cedar Lakes Conference Center, Ripley

Quilt Festival 2025

September 11 - 13. Cedar Lakes Conference Center, Ripley

Fall Retreat 2025

November 4-9, Cedar Lakes Conference Center, Ripley

Festival Daily Admission \$10

Festival Hours

Thursday 9 am – 5 pm

Friday 9 am – 8 pm

Saturday 9 am – 4 pm

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SCHEDULE

Tuesday, September 9

9 am – Noon Quilt Intake (Drop off)
Assembly Hall Remember your forms!

Noon – 5 pm Judging and Hanging
Assembly & Dining Hall

Wednesday, September 10

8 am - ? Judging and Hanging
Assembly & Dining Hall

8 am – 6 pm Vendor set-up
Assembly & Dining Hall

Thursday, September 11

9 am – 5 pm Quilt Displays &
Assembly & Dining Hall Vendor open

9 am – 3 pm Silent Little Quilt
Assembly Hall Auction open

9:30 am – 12:30 pm Class:
Assembly Hall Room 1 “*Heirloom Hand Quilting*”

2:30 – 4:30 pm Class:
Assembly Hall Room 1 “*Longarm Free-motion Quilting*”

7 pm Fall General Meeting
Jackson Hall

Friday, September 12

9 am – 8 pm Quilt Displays &
Assembly & Dining Hall Vendors open

9 am – 3 pm Silent Little Quilt
Assembly Hall Auction open

10 am – noon Class:
Assembly Hall Room 1 “*AccuQuilt Deep Dive*”

2 – 4 pm Class:
Assembly Hall Room 1 “*Flying Geese 5 Different Ways – Really 7*”

5:30 – 7:30 Class:
Assembly Hall Room 1 “*Longarm Ruler Work*”

Saturday, September 13

9 am – 4 pm Quilt Displays &
Assembly & Dining Hall Vendors open

9 am – 3 pm Silent Little Quilt
Assembly Hall Auction open

10 am – noon Teachers’ Medley
Assembly Hall Room 1

5 – 6 pm Quilt pick-up at the Assembly Hall
Remember your forms!

Numbers for picking quilts up at 5 pm will be available at the Assembly Hall Entrance Table at noon on Saturday.

Admission Cost

One-day wrist bands are being sold outside, near the parking lot.

Adult: \$10
Children Under 12: \$5
Children Under 2: Free

Class Schedule

All classes will be taught in Room 1 in the Assembly Hall.

Class Fees do NOT include admission to the Festival.

Thursday, September 9

9:30 – 12:30 “*Heirloom Hand Quilting*”
Teacher: Joni Hoffman

2:30 – 4:30 “*Longarm Free-motion Quilting*”
Teacher: Brian McCoy

Friday, September 12

10:00 – Noon “*AccuQuilt Deep Dive*”
Teacher: Ashley Maass

2:00 pm – 4:00 pm “*Flying Geese 5 Different Ways – Really 7*”
Teacher: Ashley Maass

5:30 – 7:30 pm “*Longarm Ruler Work*”
Teacher: Brian McCoy

Saturday, September 13

10 am – Noon Teachers’ Medley
7 Teachers in 2 Hours

Message from the Coordinator, Barbara Green

I'm pleased to be writing to you from the desk of the Festival Coordinator. This is where I also got my start in the WVQI organization!

WVQI has seen many changes to the Festival over the years. We've been in Charleston, Tamarack, Fairmont, Morgantown, Summersville, and now we are in Ripley! We've been a "quilt show," AND a "Festival." We've also had the Festival at various times of the year.

This year's festival will be a true festival. The quilt displays will be located in two of Cedar Lakes' largest buildings, the Assembly Hall and the Dining Hall. We will have food trucks to take care of your dining needs, and Jackson Hall (and the Jackson Hall pavilion) will be available for you to sit and enjoy your meals. There will even be golf carts to transport those who have trouble walking! The Quilt Documentation will be taking place in the Vocational Building, and classes will be in the Assembly Hall-attached classrooms.

You will be able to purchase your wrist band after you park in our designated parking areas as you walk to the quilt exhibits. Parking will be available for Documentation across from the Vo Ag Building.

LABELS You must have a label with at least a project name and your name on the back of your quilt. It is especially important that we can connect your quilt to your entry form at the show.

LODGING There will be rooms available at Holt Lodge for overnight guests. There are other buildings with private rooms that guilds can rent, such as Mountaineer Lodge. A description of those options is included in this newsletter. Please call Cedar Lakes directly to reserve rooms in one of those buildings. 304-372-7860

LOCAL GUILD PROGRAM AVAILABLE Connie has offered to come and talk to your guild before July 3 about how to figure out exactly in which category your quilt belongs. Please reach out to her directly. 304-633-2290 cell

SUPPORT THE WV QUILT FESTIVAL Enter a quilt * Find or be a sponsor * Make a Little Quilt for the Auction * Donate an item for our new WVQI Market * Take a class *

Judge Karen Kendo



Karen is a retired chemistry and physics teacher who lives close to Charleston, SC. She is active in her state guild, Quilters of South Carolina, and her local guild, Cobblestone Quilters Guild of Charleston SC. Karen is a quilt teacher, quilt judge, quilt lecturer and a longarm quilter. She is on the board of the National Association of Certified Quilt Judges as the Candidate Coordinator.

From the judging room By Connie Forth

A New Design Style for West Virginia Quilt Festival

We have an addition to our quilt show line-up this year. In response to our ever-changing quilt world, we are adding an Art, Fiber & Textile Category. This is a completely new category style for us. We have had several entries in the last few years that cried out for this addition.

Our quilters make beautiful quilts with different techniques and styles. In the past, we have placed them into the following three categories....

1.Traditional Quilts (for lack of a better defining word) are a style that usually contains piecing, applique and/or embroidery. The fabrics are printed and solid, new and old, large print and small print,

current looks or reproductions. The quilting techniques vary from hand- to machine- quilting, feathers and swirls, closely quilted to loosely quilted. On our entry form, these would be the pieced, appliqued, mixed, grouped categories, etc. Traditional can represent a long-existing block design with new fabrics and an up-to-date look or a throwback to what our grandmothers made.

2.Modern Quilts are inspired by simplistic design. These quilts include minimalism such as simple piecing or few blocks. Their placement may be off-center with expansive negative or open space. The quilting is usually straight lines or circles with a geometric flavor instead of swirls or feathers of any kind. The piecing may be improvisational and bold with neutral colors or solid fabrics; prints are cautiously if ever used. They may feature a new interpretation of traditional blocks or lack visible block structure.

3.Pictorial Quilts are representational, and feature a person, place, or thing, such as a landscape, still life, or portrait of a person or animal. Pictorial quilts can be any subject or style, from photo-realistic to whimsical. These quilts may be a nearly exact or slightly abstract representation. These quilts are often a combination of paints, inks, threads, and fabric to create a “picture.” They are often created more for the sake of design than with an intended function and are usually displayed on a wall rather than a bed.

And now, our new category...

4.Art, Fiber & Textile Quilts feature innovative construction and themes. They may or may not be abstract in design. These quilts are usually three-dimensional with unique attachments of many different medias and textiles...beads, buttons, ribbons, laces, papers, plastics, fabrics, fibers, and much more. Construction may be executed by a variety of threads or an adhesive.

It is a design of the maker...it may be inspired by a class or fellow quilter, but never an exact copy.

Because we are a quilt show, we require that the art quilt have three basic layers: surface, batting, and backing. While the construction of the surface may contain many different elements of attachment, these three layers must be “quilted” together by hand or machine.

The perimeter can be free form or asymmetric. However, it must be equipped to hang, and to hang flat for WVQI purposes.

The following is the official WVQI quilt show entry form definition of an Art, Fiber & Textile Quilt for our show...

Art, Fiber & Textile Quilts are a work of original design, although it may be inspired by a class. The quilt should reflect innovative construction and design techniques, themes, subject matter, textiles, and fibers. It must have 3 basic layers: surface, batting, and backing, and must be quilted by hand or machine. Perimeter can be free form, but must be equipped to hang, and to hang flat for WVQI purposes. Perimeter must measure 200 inches or less.

How Do You Tell Which Category?

Examples and Samples

They say a picture is worth a thousand words, so some our WVQI members and I have made some samples to show the highlights of these different categories. We purposefully made these quilts to share some characteristics such as block pattern and color theme, in an effort to highlight the distinct techniques and particular styles of each category. Many times it is the combination of characteristics that designate the category.

Traditional

This pieced and appliqued quilt features the churn dash pattern and an appliqued flower in blue and yellow. It is symmetrical and constructed in a nine-patch setting. It is machine quilted in the ditch and some areas are echo quilted. It is all fabric with no

embellishments or attachments. What defines it as traditional is the fabric, the style, the setting, and the quilting.



Modern

This piece is also blue and yellow and features a churn dash block, but it is made completely with solid fabrics. It contains one block set in upper left corner, leaving lots of negative space for quilting. The quilting is a series of straight geometric lines. The fabric, the setting and the quilting all work together to define this piece as modern.



Top by Connie Forth
Quilted by Diana Beverage

Pictorial

This blue and tan piece has a churn dash constructed in the frame. The fabrics are prints but could have been solids to fit the color scheme. It is a representation of the country cabin scene done in inks and thread. The center defines the pictorial category. Pictorial effects can also be achieved with fabric. The quilting adds to the pictorial imagery.



Art, Fiber & Textile

This quilt also has the blue and yellow color scheme with printed fabrics. From there the design style varies. The flower and butterfly are three dimensional. The clouds are layered with special color thread and a rayon, filmy fabric to create depth. Many different ribbons and decorative threads have been used, along with beads and crystals. It is rectangular but could have been made with freeform or asymmetrical borders. There are beads attached and hanging from the bottom. It has three layers, surface, batting and backing. It is machine quilted and the surface construction is thread, glue, glitter, crystals, charms, and tiles with handwork and machine work. It is comprised of many different textiles, many different medias, and many different techniques.

Here are more fun and creative art quilts with an abstract design and style. Notice these have “scrappy” fabrics but the design elements and attachments clearly gives each a unique and “artsy” look.



Connie Forth



Mavis Strakal





Mavis Strakal



Entering Your Quilt In This Year's Festival Placing Your Quilt in a Category:

First, Is your quilt made by one person from beginning to finish, two people, or three or more? Pick the appropriate category... Individual, Duet or Group.

The remaining categories are Non-Judged and Youth.

Second, Is your quilt Pieced, Appliquéd or a Mix of techniques? This should narrow your choices to two or three possibilities.

Third, Our new category, Art, Fiber, & Textile highlights innovative construction and themes.

Fourth, Measure the outside or the perimeter of your quilt and check the box that fits your quilt. Reminder —Your quilt must have been completed after January 1, 2020.

Finally...Sleeves— All quilts must have a 4-inch hanging sleeve securely attached to the back of your quilt. This sleeve should measure 86 inches from the bottom of the quilt to the top of the sleeve. See the Festival Entry Instructions for more information or visit our website.

Quilt Documentation

Disclaimer! As always there are some quilts that can qualify for a variety of categories, so it is unfair to say anyone's quilt can only be in one category. Traditionally Pieced and Appliqued categories can contain quilts with crystals and threadwork. Quilts with inks and threadwork can be placed in Art, Fiber, and Textile, Pictorial or Pieced category, depending on what technique is predominant. The judges appreciate it when we get our quilts in a category that is easily associated with the look and design of our quilt.

Roberta Gellner and the documentation team will be in the Vocational Building documenting quilts. Please contact Roberta to make an appointment. 304-893-8324 or umwelthund@frontier.com

There will be a meeting of those who participate in the Documentation project on Saturday at 10:00 am in the Vocational Building.

Little Quilt Auction

There is an open Silent Auction Thursday – Saturday from 9am-3pm. Each day brings a different selection of Little Quilts for silent auction.

The Little Quilts contain a wide variety of techniques. Did you know that Little Quilt Auction bidders have become extremely interested in your machine-embroidered pieces? They have proven to be popular items. We would love to have some of your beautiful creations of any technique in this year's Festival.

Co-Chairs Claudia Covey and Jeanie Brown welcome your contributions. Please send them to arrive by August 30, 2025 to: Claudia Covey 49 Grapevine Circle Gassaway, WV 26624

We will also accept Little Quilts in person on Tuesday, September 9 at the Cedar Lakes Conference Center.

Please send a Little Quilt Auction form with each quilt that you donate.

Sponsorships

We are very appreciative that as of April, two of our long-time vendors have volunteered to sponsor the Festival. Thank you, **Bolts and Quarters Quilt Shop** and **Rene's Fabric and Gift Shop!** There are still a few sponsorships left, so please contact Barbara Green if you are interested. (304-614-5452)

Please note that we have a non-vendor category of sponsorship that is perfect for non-quilting businesses, guilds, or individuals to donate to the Festival. See the sponsorship description attached to this newsletter. Remember, all donations are tax deductible.

West Virginia Legends Theme

Our theme for the Festival this year is "West Virginia Legends." A special award will be given for the entry that most successfully incorporates this theme.

The team awarding this ribbon will be separate from the Judging Room members and the NACQJ judge. We will invite folks that know West Virginia and know our stories for this award. On the Entry Form page 1, column 1, near the bottom, there is a line asking if you want your quilt considered for this award. Participate, show us your creativity, and have fun with us!

We look forward to seeing your take on any person or aspect of West Virginia history and culture that you think should be called "Legend."

WVQI Quilt Market

With the change in storage options this year, we are regretfully unable to offer the Boutique. It has always been a good fund raiser for us. This year we are introducing a new booth, the WVQI Quilt Market. We hope and plan to supply the new booth with finished items for sale.

We are asking members and guilds to donate these finished, salable items. They may be similar to the items you make and donate for the Little Quilt Auction, or they may be different, such as pillows, potholders, aprons, Christmas ornaments, placemats, etc. We are asking for your participation and talents...so please consider donating something or a few somethings for both of these necessary fundraisers. We will display it and price to sell it. Would you be willing to donate something or a collection of homemade "quilty" items? If we don't sell your donation, we will return it to you after the Festival.

You can mail your donations by August 25 to **Connie Forth at 1009 Big Bend Road, Barboursville, WV25504** You can also drop them off at the Festival on Tuesday or Wednesday.

Please use the donation form included in the Newsletter.

Vendors

Bolts and Quarters Quilt Shop (\$2500 WV Quilt Festival Sponsor) Brian McCoy has been building this Parkersburg quilting business for over ten years, but he has been quilting and designing for over 22 years. Brian is a Certified Instructor with Deb Tucker and Studio 180 Design. He offers classes, machine technical services, long arm rentals, and yards and yards of fabric. This quilt shop is open seven days a week.

Email boltsandquartersquiltshop@yahoo.com or call 304-428-4933.

Renee's Fabric & Gift Shop (\$1,000) WV Quilt Festival Sponsor) This family-run business is located in Clay, West Virginia. Owner René Moore now stocks over 5,000 bolts of quilter-quality fabrics, and is known for having a good selection of wide backings. She carries Jack Dempsey cross-stitched quilt blocks, a large stock of embroidery floss, yarns for knitting, many notions, and loads of quilt panels and novelty prints. She can meet most of your needs with a smile, and also ships her merchandise across the U.S. The shop is open six days a week. You can find them on Facebook at Fabric & Gift Shop or call 304-587-7530.

Reynolds Sharpening Are you having issues with your scissors? What about your kitchen knives? Once again, Don Reynolds will be at the Festival to take care of all of your sharpening needs. You can contact him by emailing sirdonr@yahoo.com, or calling 304-872-4008 (H) 304-619-7594 (C). His website is reynoldssharpener.com

Side Stitchin' Quilt Shop After a 35-year teaching career, owner Shirley Cox was able to retire from the classroom to open her shop in 2021. She now devotes all her time to her quilt shop. From pre-cuts and panels to wide backings and wool kits, Side Stitchin' has continued to grow with the addition of classes and online sales. Shirley focuses on meeting the needs of her customers, and welcomes you to visit her shop and let her help you make your next quilt a success. You may contact her at sidestitchin@gmail.com or phone the shop at 740-780-4072.

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