



**Please look at the sites listed for meetings as we are moving meetings around in an attempt to accommodate all members of the guild.**

The Northeast Iowa Quilt Guild will meet in person on April 7, 2026, at 2 and 7:00 pm, at Bethel Presbyterian Church. 208 N. Vine St., West Union. Wendy, owner of Happy Heifer Quilting Company in Waukon, will do a trunk show. Wendy is also a new guild member. A Zoom link will be sent out closer to the date of the meeting. .

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**The Northeast Iowa Quilt Guild will meet in person on May 5, 2026, at 6:00 pm, at the Bethel Presbyterian Church. 208 N. Vine St., West Union.**

The potluck will start at 6 with the meeting to follow at 7 p.m. This will be our annual meeting and reveal of the America, Why I Love Her challenge quilts.

**Membership with C-F, last names will provide desserts; last names L-P, please provide salads; last names of S-Y, please bring a hot dish, main dish, or sandwiches.** Please bring your own plates, silverware and cups/glasses. The board members will provide the beverages.



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**The Northeast Iowa Quilt Guild will meet in person on June, 2026, at 2 and 7:00 pm, at the Luana savings Bank, 100 Harvest Drive, Luana, Iowa.**

Haley Madison of Madison's Crafts and Fabrics Store in Monona will present a program on June 2 at the Luana Savings Bank. She will have kits for sale.

# Forest Mills Quilt Shop

Open 10-6 Monday-Saturday  
or by appointment

650 Forest Mills Road (563)568-3807  
Postville, Iowa 52162 Carolyn Clark  
(County Road X16 Dianne Rissman  
between Waukon & Luana) forestmillsquilts@gmail.com

*"Batiks, wildlife & Civil War our specialties"*

## America, Why I Love Her Quilt Challenge

The theme for this coming year is America, Why I Love Her. It is based on the John Wayne song "America, Why I Love Her," to help celebrate America's Quarter Millennial, semiquincentennial, biseciquentennial (250 years).

Rules are pretty simple:

1. Quilt must have a perimeter/circumference of 250" or less.
2. Quilt must have a star or circle the size of a quarter on the front side (minimum size, it may be bigger but not smaller).

3. Project needs to have batting & backing

4. It must have red or blue on the front.

5. You can use any type of fabric or technique, not limited to pieced, applique, embroidered (hand or machine), thread-painted, etc.

Finished quilts will be unveiled at the May 2026 annual meeting.

## President's Notes

I hope this newsletter finds you all doing well and ready for spring/summer to be here.

I want to tell you about a couple things that are coming up. For the past couple of years, we have moved the quilt meetings. The reason for this was to try to get new members and also help those people that drive a long distance each time. We have next year's meetings planned because of the programs. But we will be voting at the annual meeting if we want to go back to one location or keep moving them. We will still show our meetings on zoom if you cannot make it to the physical meeting.

The quilt show is right around the corner. We encourage members to help sell raffle tickets. If your community has a festival, let us know. We would love to show the raffle quilt there and sell tickets.

Hope you are all well.

Thanks,

Lynette

## Quilt Show Report

Exciting news! The raffle quilt is quilted! A big thank you to Roxi Thompson who donated her time and expertise. Next up....the binding. As we reflect on the entire process, the participation has been amazing. I (Sue) have learned so much from the knowledgeable guild members who have donated their time. And that includes a lot of you.

Committee members and chairs have volunteered for most of the positions. This is probably a good time to remind all our members that they will be asked to participate by selling raffle tickets, working in one capacity or another, and/or donating to the pie fund. More info will be forthcoming when we get a little further in our process.

**Big thanks to all who have helped us get to this point!!!**

**Sue and Bert, co-chairs**

### **NEIQG Business Minutes March 3, 2026**

The Northeast Iowa Quilters' Guild meeting was held March 3, 2026 at 2:00 and 7:00 pm with 14 people attending at the afternoon meeting and approximately 8 via Zoom and with 10 people attending at the evening meeting and approximately 9 via Zoom. Program Chair Carolyn Clark introduced the program presented by Megan Bracy on "Bindings and Beyond," with lecture and demonstration focusing on precise machine binding. She showed lots of tips with samples to improve accuracy. Once we had covered basic machine binding, she showed several enhanced binding techniques, including two colors, flange, and Ric Rac. Megan says she always uses lots of clips, practices on 4 inches of the binding, and then checks that it is exactly sewing and covering the edge as she wants it. Megan demonstrated many binding tips and displayed quilts with exceptional bindings.

- Secretary's Report: The February guild minutes were emailed to members and will be printed in the newsletter. Sue Schulz moved the February minutes be approved; Carolyn Clark seconded; minutes approved.
- Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Melodye Protsman reported to the guild of the February beginning balance as \$10,990.32. Melodye reported expenses of the gambling license for the show; income of interest deposit, for an ending balance of \$10,914.78. Jen Hertrampf moved the February report be approved; Carolyn Clark seconded; report approved.

Current membership stands at 61.

#### Committee Reports

**Quilt Show:** Quilt Show Chair Sue Schulz announced that we have chosen the name of the raffle quilt as "Stars & Bars" and the name of our guild show is "Under the Stars". The raffle quilt has been quilted and Sue is going to use one of Megan's procedures to bind the quilt. The committee is still deciding on the price of raffle tickets and then will have the tickets printed. The gambling license has been received. Beth Landas and Candace Arp will assemble all the ribbons for the winning entries. The 2026 NEIQG Quilt Show will be held October 16th -18th, 2026, at the Winneshiek Fairgrounds in the Community Building in Decorah.

#### **Old Business –**

President's Challenge - Lynette's Challenge: I would like to challenge each one of our members to make at least one quilt project to be hung at the show for sale with a price put on the project, along with the name of the charity of your choice. Then the sale price that is put on the quilted item will be paid directly to that charity. The people that purchase the quilts will write the check directly to the charity you pick. Lynette noted that the lap size quilt was very popular. For additional details, please see the guild's website under President's Challenge."America, Why I Love Her" from 1976 to help celebrate America's Quarter Millennial, semi quincentennial, BI sesquicentennial, or 250 years. The challenge projects will be displayed at the May guild meeting.

#### **New Business –**

The Iowa Quilt Museum in Winterset will be holding a Quilt Show on June 5-6. Our guild will be able to sell raffle tickets for our Stars & Bars Raffle Quilt during this show. Lynette is not able to go now; please email Lynette if you are able to sell tickets for the guild.

Lynette has organized a SE Iowa bus trip on June 11th-13th, 2026. Bus trip Information is on the home page of the NEIQG website. The bus trip is open to guild members and the general public. Deposit of \$100; responsible for /your own substitute in case of cancellation/no return on payments in case of cancellation. We currently have 13 signed up and need 36. We need 26 to sign up. Lynette has sent an email to other guilds. Please sign up before the April Meeting. If we don't have 26 people registered, the trip will be cancelled.

Partial list of Stops at Quilt Shops

- The Charmed Needle - Burlington
- Dutchman's Store - Cantril
- The Quilted Frog - Centerville
- Stitch N Sew - Kalona
- Three Sisters Fabric - Montzuma
- Quilters Paradise - Mount Pleasant
- Neal's Vacuum and Sewing Center- Muscatine
- Crazy Redhead Quilting - Newton
- The Sewing House - Ottumwa

- The Quilting Windmill - Pella
- Kalona Historical Museum

Officers - We will vote for officers at the May meeting - We will need a secretary and a program person. Please contact a board member for questions regarding duties for the position.

### **Up-Coming Events:**

Next Meeting: The Northeast Iowa Quilt Guild will meet in person and virtually on April 7, 2026, at 2 pm and 7 pm at Bethel Presbyterian Church 208 N. Vine Street, West Union. There is parking on both the north and south sides of the church and on the street in front of the church. The officers will host a social time after the 2:00 meeting and at 6:30; before the evening meeting. A Zoom link will be sent out closer to the date of the meeting. The program will be presented by Wendy of the Happy Heifer in Waukon.

### Schedule of meeting locations for the rest of the guild year:

April & May – Bethel Presbyterian Church - 208 N. Vine Street, West Union

Spring Quilt Retreat – April 9, 10 11, 12, 2026 at the EWALU Stone Center in Strawberry Point- sign up on the guild's website. We have 13 people signed up; we have room for 16 people. Please sign up on the website.

May Guild meeting – Annual Meeting & Pot Luck - May 5th. Supper at 6PM; we will have our business meeting at 7:00. Historian Candace Arp will have a PowerPoint Program of the Year in Review.

We will be taking membership forms, voting on officers, and voting on location of quilt meetings for May 2027 and after. We will reveal our “America, Why I Love Her” Challenge Projects.

Potluck Assignments: Membership with C-F ( 7 ), last names will provide desserts; last names L-P( 14 ), will provide salads, last names of S-Y ( 15 ), bring hot dishes, main dishes, or sandwiches. Please bring your own plates, silverware and cups/glasses. The board members will provide the beverages.

Melodye Protsman moved the meeting be adjourned; Jen Hertrampf seconded; meeting approved.

We had door prizes and Quiltfolk issued a custom coupon code GUILD37 for us to use on their website. The code will give you 15% off the total amount of your order -through March 31. Quiltfolk.com

Show & Tell

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Bartenhagen, Secretary

### NEIQG Board Meeting Minutes February 17, 2026

The Northeast Iowa Quilters' Guild board met on 2 -17 -2026 meeting @ 6:00 via Zoom

Board members present: Lynette Rose, Martha Bartenhagen, Melodye Protsman, Marge Johnson, Candace Arp, Carolyn Clark, Ila Benzing, Sue Schulz, Tech Support Arlene Klatt

- Secretary's report – Martha sent out minutes of the January board meeting minutes for reminders and corrections. Carolyn Clark made the motion to approve the January Board minutes, Candace Arp seconded, motion passed.

- Treasurer's report – No change from January meeting, so no motion.

### **Old business:**

On June 5th – June 6th the Iowa Quilt Museum Winterset, hosts their Airing of the Quilts; we will be able to sell raffle quilt tickets. 9-4. Lynette will not be able to attend at this time; anyone else interested in selling tickets, please contact Lynette.

Martha Bartenhagen gave a verbal report of the attendance data on guild meetings: staying at one location verses moving to various locations. Acting by consensus, the board recommended to keep the meeting locations moving around until May 2028 (in consideration of Program planning) and the guild membership would vote in May 2026 on this resolution.

### **New business:**

Bus Trip: Lynette is in the process of organizing a SE Iowa bus trip on June 11th-13th, 2026. Bus trip Information is on the home page of the NEIQG website. The bus trip is open to guild members and the general public. Deposit of \$100; responsible for /your own substitute in case of cancellation/no return on payments in case of cancellation. We currently have 12 signed up and need 36. There is a discount until February 28th; sign up on the guild's website. The April meeting will be the cut-off for sign-up. Discussion was held on advertising the bus trip for other quilt guilds and Martha reached out to the Ottumwa quilt guild to see if they would like to join us in the middle of the bus trip as a day trip for their members. The Ottumwa quilt guild responded and are going to present it to their membership at the next meeting.

Partial list of Stops at Quilt Shops - (see March Minutes above)

Quilt Show Sue announced that the members of the guild were sent a request for long arm quilting of the raffle quilt. There was no response, so she is asking for members of the guild to make recommendations of long armers they use. Sue Schulz requested guidance on throwing or keeping old papers from way past quilt shows. Historian Candace Arp asked to review the pages for posterity.

Next Location and Guild Meeting: Tuesday, March 3rd in person and via Zoom at 2:00 and 7:00 - Bethel Presbyterian Church in West Union (208 N. Vine) Social Time: The board members will bring treats for both afternoon and evening meetings. Martha & Arlene will bring treats in March and Ila, Lynnette, Carolyn, and Marge will bring treats in April. The Social hours will be following afternoon meetings and at 6:30, before evening meetings. Treasurer Melody Protsman will furnish the church with a copy of the guild's liability insurance for use of the kitchen.

Coming:

March 3rd Guild meeting; 2:00 pm and 7:00 pm

April 7th Guild meeting; 2:00 pm and 7:00 pm

Spring Quilt Retreat – April 9-12, 2026 at the EWALU Stone Center in Strawberry Point- sign up on the guild's website.

May 5th Guild Annual Meeting; 6:00 pm Pot luck and 7:00 pm meeting

Program chair Ila Benzing asked for recommendation from the Linda Halpin website for the September meeting. We may have her for a workshop between meetings or on a separate day, depending on the workshop.

Spring Retreat EWALU Stone Center

The retreat will be thesecond weekend in April. Lynette reported that the main site at EWALU is remodeling a building that may be a good retreat location. Ten people are signed up with a cap of 16. Discussion was held about a retreat at Beulaland Christian Academy.

- Historian Candace Arp announced she would like to present a PowerPoint Year in Review at the May Annual

Meeting. She and Martha will work on the technical connections at Bethel at the March meeting.

Arlene Klatt reported that Network will be in March or April and the location is to be decided. She will keep us notified.

- Treasurer Melody Protsman reported that the guild is allowed to have CD's (Certificate of Deposits).

The Board voted to give \$100 to the PBS stations in WI and IA. Roberta Hass made the motion, Sue Schulz seconded, motion passed.

- Officers for 2026-2028:

Looking for members to fill the positions of Secretary and Program.

- The Budget will be addressed after the October 2026 Quilt Show.

Arlene Klatt reported that the Zoom registration needed to be renewed. Carolyn Clark made the motion to renew the Zoom registration, Sue Schulz seconded, motion passed.

Carolyn Clark made the motion to adjourn, Ila Benzing seconded, motion passed. Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Bartenhagen, secretary

### **NEIQG Business Minutes February 6, 2026**

The Northeast Iowa Quilters' Guild meeting was held February 6, 2026, at 7:00 pm with approximately 20 people attending via Zoom. Program Chair, Carolyn Clark introduced the program presented by Director Melody Reels of the Iowa Quilt Museum in Winterset. The exhibit is called "Rebound, Renew, Reimagine", from the Manhattan Quilt Guild. Melody showed us a lot of the quilts on display, the stories, and details in the quilts and their makers. Melody told about the museum's offerings such as live events, online events and classes, and their newsletter. <https://www.iowaquiltmuseum.org/>

- Secretary's Report: The January guild minutes were emailed to members and will be printed in the newsletter. Arlene Klatt moved the January minutes be approved; Carolyn Clark seconded; minutes approved.

- Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Melodye Protsman reported to the guild of the January beginning balance as \$11,290.32. Melodye reported expenses of the EWALU retreat fees; no income or bank statement of interest deposit, for an ending balance of \$10,990.32. Sue Schulz moved the January report be approved; Carolyn Clark seconded; report approved.

Current membership stands at 61.

Rhonda Pierce from Schmetz Needles who presented at the January program on needles did not charge for the program. She asked that we donate what we would customarily pay to a cause. The

Board decided to add to the donations for public television when we do them in March.

### **Committee Reports**

Quilt Show: Quilt Show Chair Sue Schulz announced that we have chosen the name of the raffle quilt as "Stars & Bars" and the name of our guild show is "Under the Stars". We are still looking for bids

from long armers to quilt it. The bidding form was emailed to all members. Sue Schulz moved the names of the quilt and show be approved; Carolyn Clark seconded; motion approved. The 2026 NEIQG Quilt Show will be held October 16th -18th, 2026 at the Winneshiek Fairgrounds in the Community Building in Decorah.

### **Old Business –**

President's Challenge - Lynette's Challenge: I would like to challenge each one of our members to make at least one quilt project to be hung at the show for sale with a price put on the project, along with the name of the charity of your choice. Then the sale price that is put on the quilted item will be paid directly to that charity. The people that purchase the quilts will write the check directly to the charity you pick. Lynette noted that the lap size quilt was very popular. For additional details, please see the guild's website under President's Challenge or page 2 of this newsletter.

NEIQG Program Challenge: This challenge is based on the John Wayne song- America, Why I Love Her from 1976 to help celebrate America's Quarter Millennial, semi quincentennial, BI sesquicentennial, or 250 years. For additional details, please see the guild's website under NEIQG Program Challenge.

### **New Business –**

The Iowa Quilt Museum in Winterset will be holding a Quilt Show on June 5-6. Our guild will be able to sell raffle tickets for our Stars & Bars Raffle Quilt during this show. Lynette is not able to go now; please email Lynette if you are able to sell tickets for the guild.

At the last Board meeting, the members decided that the guild will have a Madison Bus trip on the years that the guild does not host their quilt show. Lynette is in the process of organizing a SE Iowa bus trip on June 11th-13th, 2026. Bus trip Information is on the home page of the NEIQG website. The bus trip is open to guild members and the general public. Deposit of \$100; responsible for /your own substitute in case of cancellation/no return on payments in case of cancellation. We currently have 12 signed up and need 36. There is a discount until February 28th; sign up on the guild's website.

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March, April & May – Bethel Presbyterian Church - 208 N. Vine Street, West Union

April Guild meeting – Wendy of the Happy Heifer

Spring Quilt Retreat – April 9, 10 11, 12, 2026 at the EWALU Stone Center in Strawberry Point- sign up on the guild's website.

May Guild meeting – Annual Meeting & Pot Luck

Meeting was Adjourned Show & Tell

Respectfully submitted,

**Martha Bartenhagen, Secretary**

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