

# The Running Stitch

stitches bind us together

Newsletter of the Withlacoochee Quilters Guild Volume 40, Issue 1



## From Our President, Damaris Lane

Good Morning, Quilters!

This morning, I was thinking back to my first sewing project as a child. I used one of my own shirts as a pattern and just sewed around the sides and made a "dress" for one of my younger cousins. I excitedly mailed it off! She was dressed in it, and they sent me a picture. What fun!

I honed my skill in high school in home economics when they offered two classes: sewing and cooking. I was excited to sign up for both.

My next project that sticks out in my mind are small clothes I made when expecting my daughter. Years went by, and I enjoyed making clothes for my grandchildren until they were too old and refused to wear the clothes I made.

Now, my passion is the quilts I make and gift to my family. I started quilting after 2016, and it has become an obsession. It's amazing how much fabric I've accumulated in just seven years of quilting.

I've made quite a few quilts during that seven-year period. As they started accumulating, I asked Chris what I was going to do with all the quilts. Her answer? Just put them on the stack! Well, I'm going to continue quilting and "putting them on the stack". I'm trying to grow and stretch my quilting knowledge and abilities.

As quilters, we are following a time-honored tradition. Women would come together, quilt together and share stories and ideas. I love that as a guild, we are coming together monthly to eat, talk and share our ideas, following the traditions of our ancestors.

Happy Quilting!  
Damaris

January 2024



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**Follow Damaris as she travels to Honduras. She will be visiting villages and handing out dresses and backpacks. Facebook page: Lizzie Project 2024**

## Withlacoochee Quilters Guild Minutes

January 8, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by President Damaris Lane. She wished everyone a happy new year and thanked the hostesses for this evening's refreshments (Chris Summers, Mary Ann Magee, Barb Linares, Sandy Willis, and Damaris Lane), February refreshments will be provided by Patti McGuffin, Sandy Willis, Dianne Dees, and Joy Bass..

**Birthdays:** Zella Fuller, Dianne Melendez, Ceil Wagaman, Jennifer Crane.

### **Minutes:**

A call for approval of minutes as written in the newsletter was made; motion to accept the minutes as written was given by Chris Summers, motion seconded by Jerry McGuffin.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

Patti M reported.

### **Hospitality:**

Members present: 27 members including, Patti McGuffin, Jerry McGuffin, Dianne Dees, Damaris Lane, Chris Summers, Joy Bass, Sandy Willis, Joyce Herrin, Pat Hawkins, Gail Posey, Marsha Tyson, Barbara Lindner, Connie Syford, Kathleen Haehnel, Linda Bacon, Dianne Melendez, Lynn Parrish, Heather Dixon, Barbara Jordan, Teresa Lavind, Barb Linares, Hedy Parrish, MaryAnn Magee, Diane Kelley, Lee Brooks, Ann Hoover, Elsie Crane.

Gail Posey volunteered to make our new member, Linda Bacon, a name badge.

Guests: none this evening

2 Door prizes won by Gail Posey and Teresa Lavind

### **Membership:**

Time to renew membership for 2024. If you have not already done so, please get forms and payments to Chris Summers.

### **Round to it:**

Elsie shared her lovely projects that were completed and drew Teresa Lavind's name as the recipient of the Round to it for February.

### **Old Business:**

Chris Summers presented a nametag to Barb Linares.

Barb provided information about how the Bingo block game will work; this will be the April program. Bingo blocks must be completed by that meeting. Bingo Kits are available for purchase (\$10.00). Due to the number of kits available, members may only purchase one Bingo kit. Half of the purchase price will go to the Guild; the other half will be awarded to the winner of the Bingo game that night. Other prizes will also be awarded that evening. Barb Linares (Crafty Threads) is providing the fabric for the Bingo blocks and other prizes for the Bingo block game at the April meeting. Blocks may be purchased at the February meeting if you did not get one at the January meeting.

The Spring Retreat is scheduled for April 19-21, 2024. See Joy Bass to sign up.

The Children's Advocacy Center is the current guild project and Damaris will contact the Advocacy Center to find out what specific needs they might have. Bags and blankets might be a good option for them. This particular project will be for the first 6 months and then other projects may be considered for the guild.

### **New Business:**

Damaris requested that members sign up for refreshments and asked that a limit of three (3) people sign up each month so that all months will be covered. She also provided a sign-up sheet for saying the blessing prior to enjoying the refreshments provided. A sign-up sheet for presenting a demonstration/program for the meetings was also circulated during the meeting.

The President's Challenge project will be announced in March.

Damaris will be away on a mission trip to the Honduras and will not be at the February meeting. Barb Linares will cover the meeting in February.

**Program:**

Barbara Jordan provided information on the Red/White half square triangle project. Members who wished to participate brought 6 inches by WOF strips to share. The strips were placed in a box and then circulated so that all those participating could pull out strips (according to how many they brought to share) to use in creating a half square triangle project of their choice. These will be shared at the April meeting.

**Show and Tell:**

Damaris Lane and Dianne Dees shared projects during Show and Tell.

Respectfully submitted,

Dianne Dees, recording secretary.

# Huge Shoutout to Barb Linares and Crafty Threads!!!!

Barb provided all the fabric and prizes for our Quilt Bingo fundraiser/program. During our April Business Meeting we will play fabric bingo. Each player will have a bingo card that was purchased as a kit and constructed. Prizes will be awarded after each game. A grand prize of 1/2 of the money collected AND all of the bingo "cards" will be won at the finale by a lucky quilter.

Get your kit before we run out!

*Joy Bass will do our February Program,  
so be sure to attend!*

## Guild Challenge to be announced in March!

Treasurer's Report	
Balance as of November 30, 2023: 1939.60	
Income:	
Christmas Party	254.00
Hospitality	9.00
Sit & Sew	215.00
<b>Total Income:</b>	<b>478.56</b>
Expenses:	
Christmas Party	443.26
<b>Total Expenses:</b>	<b>443.26</b>
Balance as of December 31, 2023: 1974.90	



# Half-Square Triangle Project



Last month, Barbara Jordan said she wanted to make red half-square triangle blocks and make a quilt. She suggested that we bring 6” strips of red fabric to exchange for a guild project. She explained that she wanted to add a white fabric with the red and make a two color quilt and invited anyone who wanted to join her to make a quilt of their choice with their strips. The results will be displayed at the April business meeting.



Chris gives participants a chance to draw out a red strip.



Barbara shared ideas on what to use the half square triangles for.



6:48 AM Wed Jan 10



7:19 AM Thu Jan 11



*What will you do with your half square triangles?*





getting a round-to-it

Elsie tells us about the UFO project that she finished for the round-to-it.

## Show and Tell



Dianne displays a finished crocheted project.



Damaris shows this big beauty that she pieced and machine quilted.

## 2024 Membership Form

To renew your membership or become a new member please complete the form below. You may mail your check to the address listed or pay in cash or check to the Membership Chairperson at the monthly meeting. Dues are \$20.00 for regular members and \$10.00 for out-of-state or junior members.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

\*Email \_\_\_\_\_

Birth Date \_\_\_\_\_

Membership type:

Renewal or new member \$20

Out of state or junior \$10

Form of Payment:

Check made payable to WQG\*\*

Cash (do not mail)

\*Email address is very important as this is how you receive your newsletter. Please print plainly.

\*\*Mail check and form to: Withlacoochee Quilters Guild

Attn: Membership

PO Box 3262

Valdosta, GA 31604

OR present it to the membership chairman.

## 2024 Membership List

Bacon, Linda	Haehnel, Kathleen	Magee, MaryAnn
Bass, Joy	Hall, Pat	Melendez, Dianne
Bell, Rhonda	Hawkins, Patricia	Parrish, Hedy
Best, Ava	Herrin, Joyce	Parrish, Lynn
Brock, Loretta	Hoover, Ann	Posey, Gail
Brooks, Lee Michelle	Johnson, Betty	Southall, Elaine
Brown, Deborah	Johnson, Sue	Strand, Rhonda
Burmaster, Grace	Jordan, Barbara	Summers, Chris
Crane, Elsie	Lane, Damaris	Syford, Connie
Crane, Jennifer	Lavind, Teresa	Taylor, Elaine
Dees, Dianne	Linares, Barbara	Tyson, Marsha
Dixon, Heather	Loveless, Judie	Wagaman, Cecelia
Eldridge, Lynn	Luke, Floye & Michael	Willis, Sandy

We had trouble with folks not receiving their newsletter last year. I will try to get to the bottom of it if I can. First order of business is to get a list of current members and enter their email addresses right off of the membership form. If your name isn't on the list above, we have not received a new membership form. I will start to purge the newsletter address list next month so if you intend to renew, please do so. Chris 229-563-0617

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## About Our Guild

The Withlacoochee Quilters Guild is a non-profit organization for those interested in quilts and quilting. This guild was organized to preserve and promote the art of quilting. Monthly meetings are held on the second Monday of the month at 6:30 pm at Grace Bible Church, 401 East Park Avenue, Valdosta, Georgia. Guests are always welcome!

Dues, renewable by January 1<sup>st</sup> each year, are \$20 per year for

adults. Youth membership (ages 6-16) is \$10. After June 30<sup>th</sup>, dues are one half the regular fee for the remainder of the year.

Questions about the Guild?  
Please contact a Board Member.

Withlacoochee Quilters' Guild  
PO Box 3262  
Valdosta, GA 31604

Newsletter Editor:  
Chris Summers  
quiltychris@gmail.com

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## 2024 WQG OFFICERS

President  
Damaris Lane

Vice President  
Barb Linares

Secretary  
Diane Dees

Treasurer  
Patti McGuffin

Assistant Treasurer  
Joy Bass

Members at Large  
Mary Ann McGee  
Sandy Willis