HEARTLAND QUILT NETWORK

www.heartlandquiltnetwork.com

Winter 2026

Message from the President



Dear Heartland Quilt Network Members and Friends,

Happy New Year! As we step into 2026, I find myself filled with gratitude for this wonderful community we've built together — a network that truly spans the heartland, connecting quilt guilds, shop owners, professionals, and quilt related businesses.

Looking back at 2025, I'm so proud of how we continued to strengthen our mission: fostering connections, sharing knowledge, and supporting one another through programs, our annual hybrid meeting, and the generous support of our sponsors (a big thank-you to everyone who helped make those events possible!). Whether it was through inspiring presentations, member spotlights, or simply the shared love of fabric and stitches, your energy and creativity made last year special.

January always feels like a fresh start — a blank quilt top waiting for our next beautiful block. Many of us are emerging from the holiday whirlwind, perhaps with new fabric stashes, gifted sewing tools, or those lingering "I'll finish this in the new year" projects calling from our sewing rooms. I hope you're finding some peaceful stitching time amid the winter days.

As always, the strength of the Heartland Quilt Network lies in YOU — the guild leaders who organize monthly meetings, the shop owners who inspire us with fresh collections, the teachers who share techniques, and every quilt related business who brings heart to every stitch.

If you have ideas for how we can better serve the Heartland quilting community, or if your guild would like to be featured in an upcoming newsletter, please don't hesitate to reach out. We love hearing from you.

Wishing you a year full of creative joy, warm friendships, perfectly matched seams, and plenty of time to quilt. May 2026 be your most inspired year yet!

Kathy Limpic, HQN President

Mark Your Calendars: March 28, 2026 HQN Annual Meeting

Spring is the perfect time to gather, connect, and celebrate our shared passion for quilting — and what better way than at our **Annual Meeting** on **Saturday, March 28, 2026**!

The meeting will be held at the Hillside Christian Church, 900 NE Vivion Rd, Kansas City, MO 64118, centrally located hub in the Heartland region. This one-day event brings together quilt guilds, professional instructors/speakers, and quilt related supporting sponsors from across Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma, and Arkansas.

The Annual Meeting is more than just a gathering — it's a valuable networking opportunity. You will have the chance to:

Connect face-to-face with fellow guild representatives and book exciting speakers and workshops for your guild programs.

Display your guild's opportunity quilt and sell raffle tickets to support your guilds.

Share ideas, discover new trends, and strengthen the bonds that keep our quilting community thriving.



Registration is now open and you can find an online registration form on the HQN website at https://heartlandquiltnetwork.com/members-only/. With the delays within postal service, you don't want to miss the deadline to make sure we have your registration by the March 18, 2026 deadline. (Yes, we will still accept a paper registration form, but why chance missing out?). Also, your online registration is a huge help to the Board and organizing the meeting! **Early registration is encouraged to secure your spot.**

Whether you're representing a guild, offering your talents as a professional, or supporting our mission through a sponsorship, your participation makes the Heartland Quilt Network stronger.

For more information, registration forms, or questions, you can visit heartlandquiltnetwork.com or email HQNPresident@gmail.com.

We can’t wait to see you in Kansas City on March 28th — bring your enthusiasm!

The Heartland Quilt Network Board





Applying for the Nancy Wakefield Grant: Supporting Your Guild's Growth



The Nancy Wakefield Grant, named in honor of a pivotal figure in the Heartland Quilt Network's (HQN) history, supports small quilt guilds by funding visits from HQN professionals for workshops, lectures, or programs. This grant celebrates Nancy Wakefield's dedication to fostering the art of quilting and strengthening guild communities across Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, Iowa, Oklahoma, and Arkansas.

The $500 grant is awarded each year at the HQN's annual meeting. To apply, guilds must submit an application by January 31. **The 2026 deadline has been extended to February 15.** The application, found on our website at heartlandquiltnetwork.com, requires details about your guild's planned program, including the proposed teacher or instructor, event goals, and how the grant will benefit your members. Ensure your guild is an active member with HQN before applying. A copy of the application can also be found on page 8.

Applications are reviewed by the HQN board, with recipients announced at the annual meeting. For questions, contact Kathy Limpic at HQNPresident@gmail.com. Don't miss this opportunity to enrich your guild's quilting experience!

New HQN Members in 2025

SUPPORTING SPONSORS

Bloom Haven LLC
Carmon's Quilt Shop (Re-join)
Celtic Quilter LLC (Re-join)
My Quilty Pleasure LLC
Quilters Bliss
Quilt Capital of Kansas
The Sewing Lounge @ The Fabric Chic
Two Woolf Designs

PROFESSIONSALS

3 Dog Designs Company
Andrea LeBeau
By The Numbers
Jenny Allen Textiles
Mary Allen Winter
The Blue Bee
The Sewing Labs
Words & Stitches

MEMBER GUILDS

Central Missouri Long-arm (Re-join)
Central Oklahoma Quilter's Guild (Re-join)
Inspired Quilters Guild (Re-join)
Konza Prairie Quilters' Guild (Re-join)
McPherson Quilt Guild (Re-join)
Omaha Quilters' Guild (Re-join)
QUILT Guild of NWA
Trails End Quilters' Guild (Re-join)
Walnut Valley Quilters Guild (Re-join)



Heartland Quilt Network Membership Referral Program

Refer a Friend, Win a Free Membership!

Dear Heartland Quilt Network Members,

We're excited to announce the Heartland Quilt Network **Membership Referral Program**! The Heartland Quilt Network thrives because of passionate quilters like you, and we want to grow our community across the Midwest..

How It Works:

- **Refer a Friend**: Invite a quilt guild, a quilting instructor/teacher, or a quilting business to join the HQN.
- **They Join**: When your referral signs up for a HQN membership, make sure they mention your name or your guild's name as the referrer.
- **You're Entered**: For every new member referred and they join HQN, you'll be entered into a drawing for a **FREE 2026-2027 HQN Membership**.
- **Membership Year**: A membership year runs from July 1st to June 30th. Invoices are emailed to members for renewal of their membership year and payment is due by July 1st of each year.



How to Refer:

1. Spread the word at your guild meetings, quilt shops, or online.
2. Ask your referral to include your name or your guild's name when they submit their membership application at https://heartlandquiltnetwork.com/join-hqn/.
3. Each successful referral earns you one entry into the drawing!

Drawing Details:

- **Deadline**: Referrals must join by **January 31, 2026**, to qualify.
- **Drawing Date**: Winners will be announced at the March 28, 2026 HQN Annual Meeting.
- **Prize**: 2026-2027 HQN membership.

Let's grow our quilting community together! Your referrals provide your or your guild with a chance to enjoy a year of HQN membership on us.

Happy Quilting,
The Heartland Quilt Network Team
www.heartlandquiltnetwork.com
Connecting quilt guilds, professionals, and shops in the Heartland area.

Confessions of a Retreataholic

Hi, my name is Wendy and I am a Retreataholic. It all started about 30 years ago when my friend saw a sign in a store window advertising the local quilt guild in Cedar Rapids, IA. My friend and I went to check it out and promptly joined. Within just a few months, the guild offered a retreat. I had always loved going on church retreats as a child, so I was all in for this! My friend couldn't go with me, and I felt a little apprehensive when Rich dropped me and my gear off at this camp in the middle of nowhere with a bunch of people I really didn't know. Through all the fun projects they had lined up for us to make, I learned so much from this group of experienced quilters and made lots of new friends! This was the experience that started my Retreataholism.

Just a few short years later, Rich and I moved back to Kansas City. I went to Prairie Point and asked where the local quilt guild meets. I was surprised by the response of, "Which one? There are several in the area." I visited the Olathe Quilters Guild since they weren't too far away. I must have been kismet because the guest speaker that night was Rosemary Cromer. She lived down the street from my parents and used to watch me before school and taught me how to sew! One of the members who came up to greet me turned out to be a neighbor in Lenexa. This was my group!! I convinced my new friend to go to the Prairie Point Retreat with me. We used to buy the same patterns, kits, whatever, and had become competitive with each other on who could finish the project first. (She still holds the title!) This Prairie Point Retreat was at Tall Oaks in Bonner Springs, the same camp I went to as a kid! When we got to the camp, we were in the nice, new lodge and the accommodations were very nice. My friend and I were the last two up, racing to see who would get the most done. When we finally went back to our room at the far end of the hall, it was freezing cold. We slept in our clothes and coats under the covers, dreaming of a hot shower the next morning which was not to be. That's when these two city girls learned the perils of running out of propane! I was so afraid this had ruined retreats for my friend, but she loved it and still retreats today, 20+ years later!

Over the years, I had gained the reputation of being the last quilter quilting at night at retreats. With three kids at home and working, I tried to maximize my sewing time at retreats. At one of the Olathe Guild Retreats, I was the last one up and passed the first one up in the hallway on my way to bed one morning.

Through serving on the board of the Olathe Guild, I had made a lot of great quilting friends. We formed our own retreat group and went to Camp CUMCITO in Warsaw every chance we could. We have so many great memories from our retreats there. One time, one of the girls who had gone to bed early and scared the rest of us who were still up sewing by tapping on the wall from the outside. This is when I found out another of my friends carried a knife in her purse! Three of us went outside to check it out. No one was out there, so we went back inside and down to her room and saw her roommate laughing so hard under her covers!! We did have one of their other roommates who was up sewing with us leave a message written in lipstick on the bathroom mirror for the culprit to find when she got up in the morning! Shenanigans like these are firmly emblazoned in my memory and will keep me retreating far longer than I probably should! I used to always talk to my parents on the phone after every retreat, giving them the play-by-play action from the retreat. My mom told me once that after they had hung up the phone, my dad said, "Well, at least she doesn't drink."



2026 HQN Pros Retreat

Confessions of a Retreataholic cont'd

After all these years of going to Warsaw and our group evolving, it was becoming clear that Warsaw was becoming less desirable because of having to pack bedding, towels, tables, chairs, ironing boards…big stuff. This is why I decided to open KC Quilt Retreat and to have all of these things readily available. Now, we just have to bring our clothes, machines, and projects! We can accommodate up to eight quilters, crafters, or scrapbookers.

If you make it to the HQN annual meeting, make sure to stop by the KC Quilt Retreat table and say "hi" to Rich. I will be in Warsaw with my girls since I just can't give it up quite yet. We retreat a few times a year at KC Quilt Retreat too. Thank goodness there is no 12-step program for this affliction!!

WEBSITE CALENDAR UPDATES!

Happy New Year! Is your calendar filled in for 2026? We need those dates to post on the HQN Website!

GUILD – Draw potential new members to your meetings! The calendar portion is listed on the "public" side, and if someone is looking for a guild meeting in their area, they will see the Events listings. We will also help you promote your guild's quilt show or other events of interest to the public.

PROFESSIONALS – Send us your scheduled programs and workshops – we'll share those on the guild's Facebook page when possible.

SUPPORTING SPONSORS – Send us a list of classes, retreats or events that are coming up for your business.

A goal is to continually promote HQN and its members more often on Facebook.

HELP US HELP YOU TO CONTINUE TO GROW!

Send Calendar Events – Programs, Workshops, Quilt Shows, Special Events – to Rachel at HQNWebmaven@gmail.com.



HQN Officers:

President: Kathy Limpic
HQNPresident@gmail.com

Vice President: Martha Ethridge
methridge70@gmail.com

Secretary: Tricia Morris
HQNSecretary@gmail.com

Website: Julie Kiffin*
HQNWebmaven@gmail.com
573-723-4312

Treasurer: Mary Honas*
HQNTreasurer@gmail.com

Membership: Karen Kazcor
HQNMembership@gmail.com
573-832-2467

Communications: Liz Granberg-Jerome
HQNNewsletter@gmail.com

Member at Large:
Mary Gates, gatesm12@aol.com

*Both past presidents

Mary Ellen Winter

Quilt Educator / Legit Kits Instructor / National Educator



My quilting journey began as a hobby and has grown into a meaningful creative and teaching pursuit. Early on, I developed a strong interest in fabric selection, precision piecing, and design. Overtime, quilting became a way for me to express creativity while continually challenging and improving my skills.

Discovering **Legit Kits** marked an important turning point in my quilting path. The bold designs and foundation paper piecing techniques encouraged me to expand my abilities and approach complex patterns with confidence. Each completed project strengthened my technical skills and deepened my appreciation for the design process behind **Legit Kits.**

To date, I have completed 31 **Legit Kits** quilts, an experience that has given me a strong understanding of the construction process and the challenges quilters may encounter. As my experience grew, I found great satisfaction in teaching and mentoring other quilters. I enjoy breaking down complex techniques into clear, manageable steps and creating a supportive learning environment where students feel encouraged and capable.

At the time of this writing, I am proud to be one of only 21 national educators for **Legit Kits.** I regularly present guild programs and hands-on workshops, where I share techniques, tips, and encouragement with quilters of all skill levels. Becoming a **Certified Legit Kits Instructor** reflects my commitment to education, creativity, and the quilting community. My goal is to help quilter build confidence, develop new skills, and enjoy the process as much as the finished quilt. Groups interested in booking a guild program or workshop are welcome to contact me.

Mary Ellen Winter

MEWinter151@gmail.com





Jenny Allen Textiles

Hand dyed and hand painted fabrics are the foundation of my artistic voice; my practice.

Through playful experimentation and treasure hunting, I have created a library of techniques in surface design. My fiber history - over 40 years, includes garment sewing, quilting, participating in art shows, teaching workshops and lectures. I am passionate about exploring and unlocking the creative spark that promotes personal storytelling.

WORKSHOPS: Fabric Painting with Dye Na Flow and Inktense… an immersive 4-5 hour workshop that explores the magic of this product. All supplies are provided except an apron.

CREATIVE COLLAGE: Collages with fabrics and paper…creating cards and books.

LECTURES: Leaving your Mark and discovering your personal language in Surface Design.

AMULETS AND TALISMANS: Soft sculpture explorations.

JENNY ALLEN: A personal journey in cloth (a lot of show & tell).

I will have a more detailed brochure at the March 2026 HQN Annual Meeting.

Thank you for your interest and time. Let me know if you have questions.

Jenny Allen
jartist8@yahoo.com







Quilt Capital of Kansas

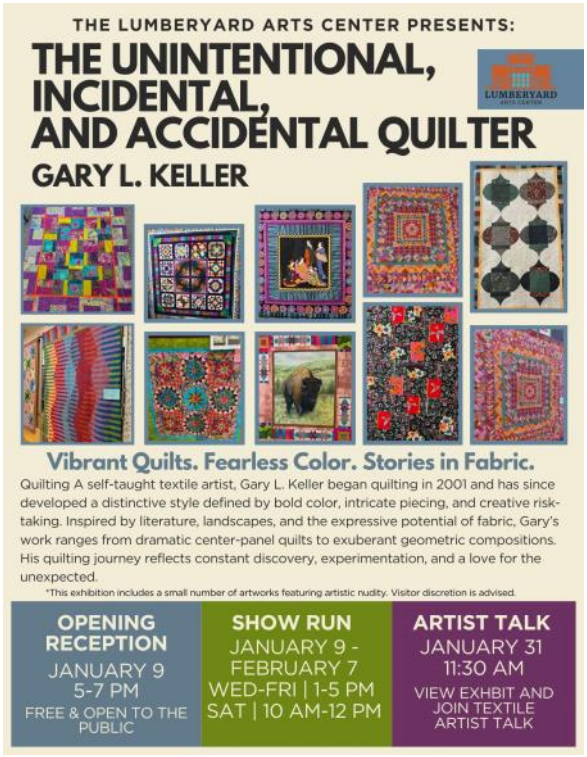
Quilters' Paradise and the Lumberyard Arts Center have partnered to celebrate Baldwin City as the Quilt Capital of Kansas — preserving, sharing, and teaching textile arts across generations.

In 2019, thanks to the leadership of Senator Tom Holland and the vision of Sharon Vesecky, owner of Quilters' Paradise, Baldwin City officially became the Quilt Capital of Kansas. Sharon worked closely with Jeannette Blackmar, Executive Director of the Lumberyard Arts Center, to make this dream into a reality.

Established in 2021, this partnership connects makers and learners, building community through creativity. Together, creating a future that honors tradition, grows tourism and heritage arts.

Join the conversation of shaping Kansas quilting tourism and culture on January 31, 2026 at the Lumberyard Arts Center, Baldwin City, Kansas.







HEARTLAND QUILT NETWORK

MEMBER GUILD OFFICER UPDATE FORM

PLEASE PRINT

MAIL TO: Heartland Quilt Network
Karen Kaczor, Membership Chair
5156 Cottonwood Road
Stover, MO 65078-1392

DATE: _____

If your Guild has a change in Officers after you submit your Renewal Membership Form as of July 1st of each year, please use this form to update the following contact information.

Guild Offical Name: _____
Guild Mailing Address: _____
_____
Guild Email: _____
Guild Website URL: _____
Guild Facebook URL: _____

President (First and Last Name): _____
Cell Phone Number: _____
Email Address: _____

VP/Program Chair (First and Last Name): _____
Cell Phone Number: _____
Email Address: _____

Newsletter Editor (First and Last Name): _____
Cell Phone Number: _____
Email Address: _____

Long-term Contact (First and Last Name): _____
Cell Phone Number: _____
Email Address: _____

CONFIRM MEETING LOCATION, DAY / TIME, INCLUDING ANY EXCEPTIONS:

_____

_____

As new Programs/Workshops are scheduled, please send your guild's information to HQNWebmaven@gmail.com in order for HQN to update the website calendar.

Rev: 07.01.25

HEARTLAND QUILT NETWORK

MEMBER GUILD NANCY WAKEFIELD GRANT APPLICATION

Please find below the information and application to apply for the Member Guild $500 Nancy Wakefield Grant. See Grant specifications listed below.

MEMBER GUILD INFORMATION - PLEASE PRINT

Name of Guild _____

Location (City) _____ (State) _____

Meeting Time: _____

Guild President _____

Phone # _____ Email _____

Program Chair _____

Phone # _____ Email _____

GUILD BACKGROUND (Attach a separate page with this information.)

- Please attach a list of programs offered by your guild from the last two (2) years.
- What are your guild's annual membership dues?
- What is the average membership of your guild from the past three years (# of members)?
- **Please specify how your guild wishes to use the Nancy Wakefield Grant to accomplish your goals. (Ex: *build up membership, improve the quality or quantity of programs, bring in a requested teacher/instructor, etc.*)**
- Please describe your proposed event.
- Which HQN Professional would you request as a teacher/instructor to provide a lecture/workshop?
- What is your guild's preferred date(s) for using the Grant?

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- The guild is required to choose a HQN Professional.
- The guild must be a member of HQN for at least two (2) years before they are eligible to apply for the Nancy Wakefield Grant. The Grant is intended for small guilds with limited membership (less than 50).
- The event should be planned and money spent within a year of receiving the Grant. If there are scheduling issues, please contact the HQN Board of Directors.
- The guild must send a brief update to the HQN President indicating how the Grant was used. Extra money may be kept by the guild for "programming use only".
- If the event is canceled or postponed, the guild must notify the HQN Board of Directors with an alternate plan for the funds or date of the rescheduled event.
- A guild may be granted the Nancy Wakefield Grant once in any three (3) year period.
- Guilds may work together to sponsor a joint event to use the Grant funding.
- Grant applications must be post-marked by January 31, 2026.

_____ _____

Signature of Guild President or Program Chair ***Date***

Mail application and requested documentation to: Wakefield Grant, % HQN President, 4308 NE 70th St, Kansas City, MO 64119.

Rev: 08.01.25

HEARTLAND QUILT NETWORK

2026 ANNUAL MEETING REGISTRATION FORM

In-Person or ZOOM Hybrid Meeting to be held
Saturday, March 28, 2026 - 8:30 Registration / 9:00 Meeting

HILLSIDE CHRISTIAN CHURCH - 900 NE VIVION RD, KANSAS CITY, KS 64118

In-Person registrations with $25 fee per person, can be mailed via US Mail to the address below.

I will be attending ☐ in-person OR ☐ via Zoom:

GUILD/ORGANIZATION/BUSINESS: _____

NAME: _____

POSITION HELD: _____

EMAIL: _____

PHONE (☐ Home OR ☐ Cell): _____

All Registrations must be received no later than March 18, 2026

Make Checks Payable to: **Heartland Quilt Network** *Each person planning to attend MUST register individually*; however, multiple registrations may be mailed together, if desired.

% Kathy Limpic, HQN Annual Meeting
4308 NE 70th St
Kansas City, MO 64119.5215

Zoom only Registrations
may be emailed to:
HQNPresident@gmail.com

A box lunch from Grandma's Catering is included with your registration. Tables will be available to sit and eat your lunch. Bottled water will be available.

Please check your choice:

☐ Chicken Salad on Croissant ***contains nuts*
☐ Smoked Turkey & Provolone on Focaccia
☐ Marinated Vegetable on Focaccia

Please note any have dietary restrictions and HQN will follow up with you. (**Phone # Required**)

CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX BELOW IF YOU NEED A TABLE OR SPACE IN THE DISPLAY AREA

☐ **PROFESSIONALS/SUPPORTING SPONSORS** are invited to bring samples of their work/products/business to set up in the display area for networking after lunch. The tables are provided on a first come, first served basis. NOTE: there are no sales at this meeting.

☐ **QUILT GUILDS** are invited to display their Opportunity Quilts. Please bring your quilt, quilt stand, and a small table. Chairs will be provided.

Date Received: _____ ☐ Online Registration ☐ Check # _____

HQN Supporting Sponsors

You will find ads for the Supporting Sponsors scrolling on the HOME page of the HQN website (www.heartlandquiltnetwork.com). You will also find all of our Supporting Sponsors' contact information, including links to their websites, listed in the "Members Only" section of the HQN website.

HQN appreciates the support these sponsors of our organization and we hope you will support their businesses!















HQN Supporting Sponsors



















Submit your Guild's Story!

Has your guild held a special fundraiser? How about an interesting challenge! Share your guild stories with us to add inspiring ideas for other guilds on how to grow their membership, support their greater communities, and more!

Did you know???

There are images you can download on the HQN website members only section that guilds, professionals, and supporting members can use on their own websites and social media indicating their participation in HQN!





Professionals:

Please take a few minutes and go to the Members Only portion of the website and open the Professional Members file. Read through your information to assure it is current. The website will now list your contact info, as well as a link to either your website or social media page if you have one, or a digital brochure that you may provide. This will insure that up-to-date information is available to our guild members. Please send any updates to

HQNMembership@gmail.com
HQNwebmaven@gmail.com

Member Guilds:

Please review your guild's information on the Member Guilds list in the Members Only portion of the HQN website. Having current officers with their contact information, as well as accurate time and place of your meetings is essential. Be sure to send any officer changes or updates to our membership chair at HQNMembership@gmail.com.

Calendar listings for scheduled programs and workshops, as well as quilt show information, should be sent to HQNwebmaven@gmail.com.

HEARTLAND QUILT NETWORK

Heartland Quilt Network
c/o Karen Kaczor
HQN Membership Chair
5156 Cottonwood Rd
Stover, MO 65078-1392
HQNMembership@gmail.com

PLEASE NOTIFY THE MEMBERSHIP CHAIR WHEN A NEW PROGRAM CHAIR TAKES OFFICE. NEWSLETTER DEADLINES: 1/15; 5/15; 8/30

GUILD PRESIDENTS AND CONTACT PERSONS

We send digital copies of the newsletter to the guilds—to the president, program chair, or contact person. Because guilds change officers at different times of the year, we try to reach at least one person who can pass the newsletter to the current officers. Please help us by submitting the names, phone numbers, and email addresses of new officers as soon as you can. It's easy! Just send them to our website where they'll find the Officer Update Form!

If your guild has a digital mailing list, please feel free to send our newsletter out to the members of your guild.

NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED:
Winter, Summer, Special Fall Edition