NOTE DATES: this is the week prior to Thanksgiving

PATCH OF NEWS

November/December 2026

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November Lecture and Class
11-17-2026 at 7:00 p.m.



Andrea Funk
Too Cool T-shirt Quilts

Our November speaker is Andrea Funk from Too Cool T-shirt Quilts. Andrea Funk-- pioneering the T-shirt quilt since 1992. Andrea invented the multi-size block, puzzle-style T-shirt quilt. This method cuts each block to fit the graphic on the T-shirt rather than forcing every T-shirt into a one-size-fits-all square. She founded Too Cool Quilts in 1992 and has spent more than 30 years defining what a T-shirt quilt can be. Her work has evolved from developing the Puzzle style T-shirt quilt to Stained Glass Designs, and most recently to Ultra Modern T-shirt quilts to push the medium into contemporary fiber art.





Class is November 18th 9 - 4
The Class will help you learn basic T-shirt quilting making
and many design options

Cost is $70.00 and includes her book.
This class is limited to just 12 students
This class is full with a wait list

January ZOOM meeting is Bob Parcell owner of YLI



Bob Purcell has been in the sewing industry for 26 years. He and his wife, Heather, started and built one of the most successful specialized thread companies in the world. They sold that company in 2016, with the intent of enjoying life with family and grandchildren. Sadly, Heather passed away from cancer a few years later. In 2023, Bob bought Y.L.I. Threads, a company with a 40-year history in the quilting, embroidery, and sewing world, and Bob is once again doing what he loves — educating the sewing world and supplying the world's best sewing products. Please go to the YLI website and sign up for his newsletter. This will be very helpful when listening to him speak.

YLI THREADS

LONGARM MACHINE Needles and Tension

Product	Size	Needle	Recommended Bobbin Thread	Bobbin Tension
COTTON THREADS				
Dream Seam	50 wt.	#16 or 18	M-style Prewounds, Perfection, or Precision	TOWA Gauge 180
Majestic	40 wt.	#18 or 19	M-style Prewounds, Perfection, or Precision	TOWA Gauge 180
POLYESTER THREADS				
Elite	40 wt.	#18	M-style Prewounds, Perfection, or Precision	TOWA Gauge 180
Invisible Thread Poly	0.005	#14 or 16	M-style Prewounds, Perfection, or Precision	TOWA Gauge 170
Perfection	50 wt.	#16 or 18	M-style Prewounds, Perfection, or Precision	TOWA Gauge 180
Precision	60 wt.	#14 or 16	M-style Prewounds, Perfection, or Precision	TOWA Gauge 180
QuiltMaker	40 wt.	#18 or 19	M-style Prewounds, Perfection, or Precision	TOWA Gauge 180
Super Strong	40 wt.	#18 or 19	M-style Prewounds, Perfection, or Precision	TOWA Gauge 180
Variations	40 wt.	#18 or 19	M-style Prewounds, Perfection, or Precision	TOWA Gauge 180
VariQuilt	40 wt.	#18 or 19	M-style Prewounds, Perfection, or Precision	TOWA Gauge 180

Needle *sizes use longarm notation, such as #18, not Topstitch labels.*

Bobbin Tension *is a reading taken on a TOWA Gauge. Use it as a baseline, then adjust as necessary.*

HOME MACHINE Needles and Tension

Product	Size	Needle	Top Tension	Recommended Bobbin Thread
COTTON THREADS				
Dream Seam	50 wt.	Topstitch #80/12	**3.5**	Dream Seam, Perfection, Precision
Majestic	40 wt.	Topstitch #90/14	**3.0–3.5**	Dream Seam, Perfection, Precision
POLYESTER THREADS				
Elite	40 wt.	Topstitch #80/12	**3.5–4.0**	Perfection or Precision
Invisible Thread Poly	0.005	Topstitch #70/10	**3.0**	Perfection or Precision
Perfection	50 wt.	Topstitch #80/12	**4.0**	Perfection or Precision
Precision	60 wt.	Topstitch #70/10	**4.0**	Perfection or Precision
QuiltMaker	40 wt.	Topstitch #90/14	**3.0–4.0**	Perfection or Precision
Super Strong	40 wt.	Topstitch #90/14	**3.5–4.0**	Perfection or Precision
Variations	40 wt.	Topstitch #90/14	**3.5–4.0**	Perfection or Precision
VariQuilt	40 wt.	Topstitch #90/14	**3.0–4.0**	Perfection or Precision
SILK THREADS				
Silk #100	100 wt.	Topstitch #70/10	**3.0**	Precision

i **Top Tension** *is your home machine's upper-thread dial. Treat each value as a starting point, then test-stitch and adjust as necessary.*

i **PrewoundBobbins** *are available in Class 15, L-style, and M-style. Or wind your bobbins with the recommended thread shown for each thread collection.*

January Class on ZOOM



Krista Moser

Krista Moser is a sewing enthusiast and quilt pattern designer with over thirty patterns to her name since 2016. She's the creative mind behind the popular Creative Grids 60 Degree Diamond Rulers and has taught sewing and quilting for over twenty-five years. With features in quilting magazines, published books, and displays in top quilt shops nationwide, Krista's passion for quilting knows no bounds.

This is one of Krista's latest patterns. It makes a great scrappy quilt for summer or an awesome Quilt of Valor. Krista has taught for us thru ZOOM before – She is right there with us on the big screen – Her instructions are LIVE and she can observe us through our computer camera – we can show her where we need help using the camera and she is right there to help.

Please note : this class will start at 10 PM and go until 5 PM. as Krista is located in the state of Washington.





WMQG 2027 Programs

J A N





Bob Purcell - YLI Threads
Lecture -Tuesday -1/26/27 7 PM - Know Your Threads
Wednesday 1/27/27 ***10-5 Note Time Change***
A Krista Moser sew along with one of her patterns

M A R C H





SallyTerry - fromSallyTerryDesignsLecture
-Tuesday - 3/23/27 7 PM -
The ***Language of Quilting Trunk Show***
Wednesday 3/24/27 9-4
Domestic Machine Quilting w/ Ruler



M A Y



Cyndi McChesney- Cedar Ridge Quilting
Lecture: Tuesday 5/25/277PM
"Panel Palooza Trunk Show"
Wednesday: 5/26 9-4 Panel Palooza Class

Summer Event is July 27th



S E P T



Claudia Lash - Presto Avenue Designs
Lecture: Tuesday 9/28/277PM
"Trunk Show / Embellishing"
Wednesday: 9/29/27 9-4
on Embellished Applique



N O V



Shannon Arnstein - Presto Avenue Designs
Lecture: Tuesday 11/16/277PM
"Trunk Show / Repurposing"
Wednesday: 11/17/27 9-4
on Repurposing using ties, hankies, etc.

WMQG WORKSHOP SIGN UP 2027

Quilter's Name_____

Phone #_____

Email Address_____

Mailing Address_____

Check One: WMQG Guild Member ___ Non-Member _____

INSTRUCTIONS: 1) Fill out form and select workshop opRons, 2***) Please write sperate checks for each class and date the check for the month class is held. Please make checks made out to WMQ.*** 3) Turn in the form and check at the guild meeRng or mail to Claudia Baker 1845 64th ST SW, Byron Center, MI 49315. Checks will not be cashed unRl the day of the class.

Date & Time	LocaRon	Leader	Class	Fee	Sign Up Member/Non-Member
January 27th 10-5	Calvary Christan Reformed Church	Krista Moser	Long Summer Days	member $60 Non-member $70	__$60 /$70
March 24th 9-4	Calvary Christan Reformed Church	Sally Terry	Machine QuilRng with ruler for domesRc machines	member $60 Non-member $70 ***KIT FEE $15***	__$60 /$70
May 26th 9-4	Calvary Christan Reformed Church	Cynthia McChesney -- Cedar Ridge QuilRng	Panel Palooza	member $60 Non-member$70	__$60 /$70
September 29th 9-4	Calvary Christan Reformed Church	Claudia Lash --Presto Avenue Designs	Ferris Wheel Flower Class	member $60 Non-member$70	__$60 /$70
November 17th 9-4	Calvary Christan Reformed Church	Shannon Arnstein	tbd --Repurposing	member $60 Non-member$70	__$60 /$70
				Total Due	

Class Cancella)on Policy

Class students are encouragedto sign up with a check or use Zeffy. This guarantees their place in the class and this check is not cashed unRl theday of the class. Students have unRl 30 days prior to the class to cancel and receive their money back. A`er 30 days only medical emergencies are given consideraRon for return of their funds.

Presidents Report ***November 2026***

At the August WMQG Board Meeting our primary discussion was our budget. We talked about incoming memberships numbers. All committee's reviewed their projected expenses for the year and the treasurer/president reviewed the general expenses like rental, insurance, tech support and much more. Areas where we see notable increases are our Speakers, Classes and Insurance. We concluded with the goal of staying the current course to promote quilting education through great speakers, classes, our library, and bees/open sews that help increase community awareness and learning.

At the September meeting we voted in our new Vice President, Kathy Hill. You know her as our QOV coordinator. Some of those duties have moved over to Brenda Long. Please help me welcoming Kathy. Also Nina Riddle has agreed to continue with another term as our treasurer. Effective January 1st Connie Hall will be taking over the Patches of News. She is your communications connection and we encourage you to help her by keeping her informed. One new item we are going to add is a calendar. So if your group has something coming up on a certain day, please email cihall305@gmail.com. i.e. bees, cut-ins, open sews and events.



Volunteer Needed:

We are in need of a Membership chair. Sue Hooper is rapidly learning ZEFFY and along with Doris Bantjes are doing a great job of welcoming our members as they come in for our meetings. This job uses the program called ZEFFY and definitely make their job easier. If interested see Sue or myself and we would be happy to show you how easy it is.

Q2Q Update

Our 3 year sale has truly become an activity that is known by Michiganders from Detroit to Traverse City. A vote by the board approved continued efforts to move forward. We have a location where we can store fabric/tubes, etc and have times for sorting. We have a BOAT LOAD of donations already to go. We are looking for 6 team leaders that are willing to share the duties. This would insure that you don't have total responsibility for this project. If you can spare a day a week please see myself, Louisa R., Karen G. we would be happy to set up a meeting to discuss how it would work and glean more ideas. ***something to donate*** - contact Louisa R. at louisasews@yahoo.com or myself at nshaarda@gmail.com.



Donations to Charities

The following organizations were gifted funds from WMQG.

NICU "Tie that Binds" - $1200.00 and

IKUS - Indian Trails Camp $1000.00

Talons Out Honor Flight $1000.00

and YWCA Domestic Crisis Center $1000.00

Secretary Report

September 22, 2026 WMQG General Membership Meeting Minutes

Our president announced that we are heading towards our 50th anniversary next year! Plans are underway for our quilt show and celebration activities. Other news follows: our newsletter will include some sewing history. For membership renewal done by the Zeffy app, you will need to print your membership acknowledgment card or save it on your phone.

Jessica Lemon of Lemon Quilts was our vendor, she described her business as focusing on 108" backings, Minky backings and supplies for longarm work. They do longarm quilting too.

The theme for the 2027 AQS Challenge is Pure Michigan. Details of the challenge requirements are in the newsletter. The quilts will be due March 20, 2027.

The Quilts on the Grand Quilt Show will be April 9-10, 2027. Entries will be received online at our website Jan.1 through Jan. 31, 2027. Quilts will be dropped off April 6, 2027. Donation proceeds from the show will go to Ties That Bind our foundation at DeVos Children's Hospital and FoodHugs.org. Jenna Arcidiano the founder and administrator described the charitable work they do in our community. More details about the quilt show and preparations will appear on our website and Facebook.

Our beekeeper Penny McNicholas for sewing groups is hosting an Open Sew Day Nov. 7 at the church 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

In Sept. it was time to nominate and vote for vice president and treasurer. Nina Riddle has been extremely helpful as treasurer, she was nominated and re-elected for a second term. Thank you Louisa Raguckis for your service! Kathy Hill was presented as nominee for vice president. She was accepted by majority vote. These positions officially begin Nov. 1, 2026.

There will be a Quilts of Valor presentation Nov. 14, 2026 10 a.m. at the Grand Rapids Veterans Home. Kathy Hill distributed nomination forms, there will be 20-25 nominees.

This night our generous guild members donated 178 plush toys, dolls and little quilts to the Santa Claus Girls! Thank you all!

There will be a tour of the NICU at DeVos Children's Hospital Oct. 14, 2026 at 1 p.m.

Our guest speaker and teacher was Rona Herman aka Rona the Ribbiter the traveling quilter. Www.ronatheribbiter.com She is Rona the Ribbiter on social media. Her presentation How To Choose Fabric focused on using the color wheel and the effects of color and value. She has designed fabric and patterns, she travels to vend and teach. She will teach Photos to Quilts on Wednesday. Rona hosts retreats and quilt theme tours, go to her website for more info.

The evening finished with Block Party, patriotic color blocks awarded to 4 participants. Show & Tell took place with accompanying raffle drawings, 3 prizes.

The next Membership meeting will be November 17,2027
Submitted by the Secretary Michelle Bausch.



Block Party November 2026
Canning Jar 6” x 9½”
by Rebecca Klanderman

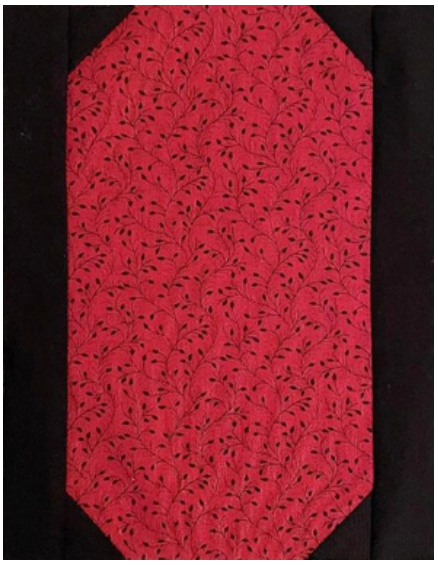
Color Scheme
Jar: Food print or jam color
Lid: Gray
Background: Black

Cutting Instructions
Jar: One 8¼” x 5” rectangle
Lid: One 3¾” x 1¼” strip
Background: One 6½” x 1½” strip, Two 1¼” x 8¼” strips, Two 1⅞” x 1¼” strips, Four 1¼” squares

1. To make the jar unit, draw a diagonal line from corner to corner on the back of each of your 1¼” black squares.
2. Place the black squares at the corners of the jar fabric, right sides together. Sew directly on each drawn line (picture 1). Trim ¼” away from the outside of your seams to create seam allowances. Press your jar unit open. You should now have an 8¼” x 5” rectangle with black corners.
3. Add your 1¼” x 8¼” strips to each side of your jar unit. Press. Your new unit should measure 8¼” x 6½” (picture 2).
4. To make the lid unit, sew your 1⅞” x 1¼” strips to each narrow side of your gray strip, right sides together. Once each seam is pressed open, you should have a lid unit measuring 6½” x 1¼” (picture 3).
5. Attach your final background strip to the top of your lid unit (picture 4)
6. Attach the two sections of your block together and press open (see top image for final block).
7. Square up as necessary. Block should be 6½” wide by 10” tall and will finish at 6” x 9½” in a quilt.

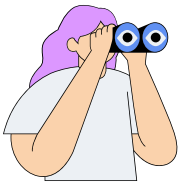
When attaching your completed jars together into a quilt top, it is recommended to add a 1½” to 2” brown strip under each set of jars to function as a “shelf” in the final design.

1. 

2. 

3. 

4. 



Looking Ahead to WMQG 2027 Dates

We meet on the Fourth Tuesday of the Odd Months unless noted below.
2027 Guild Meeting Dates are:

January 26, 2027
March 23, 2027
May 25, 2027
July 27, 2027 Summer Event (Open to ALL)
September 28, 2027
November 16, 2027 (changed due to Thanksgiving)





are you attending a quilting bee?



MAKE FRIENDS, LEARN FROM OTHERS, CATCH UP ON PROJECTS

Beekeeper = We currently have 20 open bees in the Guild. Open bees are being updated on the website. Please visit the website to find the bee that's right for you!

Penny McNicholas, Beekeeper Chair



Neonatal Quilt News

A few weeks ago we were able to bring 310 quilts to the social workers at Helen DeVos Childrens Hospital. They were so grateful, but were also upset to learn that these were the last ones we had on hand.

Since then, after a Facebook post, we have received quite a few and are working hard to provide kits for many who have requested them. Thank you all for the extra effort to fill the storeroom once again.

We were told that the population in the NICU was very large right now, so we need to keep them coming. Please feel free to pick up a kit at the next meeting, and you are also encouraged to use the pattern included in the kit to make another quilt from your own stash.

Please call, text or email any of us on the committee listed below. We are here to answer any questions and help in any way.

Julie Urbancik- 616-560-8864, j.urbancik@comcast.net
Mary Redick- 616-890-7948, mlredick@sbcglobal.net
Sue Botma- 616-633-6462, grndbotma@comcast.net

Quilts of Valor

The Quilts of Valor ceremony is **November 14 at 10:30 i**n the morning at the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans on 2950 Monroe Ave NE, Grand Rapids. 49505

So far, we have 11 veterans to honor, I'm working on getting a 7 more.

Another Ceremony being planned in February at South Grandville CRC

We're working on cutting fabric for signature quilts to be done at the charity booth in the quilt show. Have 100 blocks to start having guests to sign.

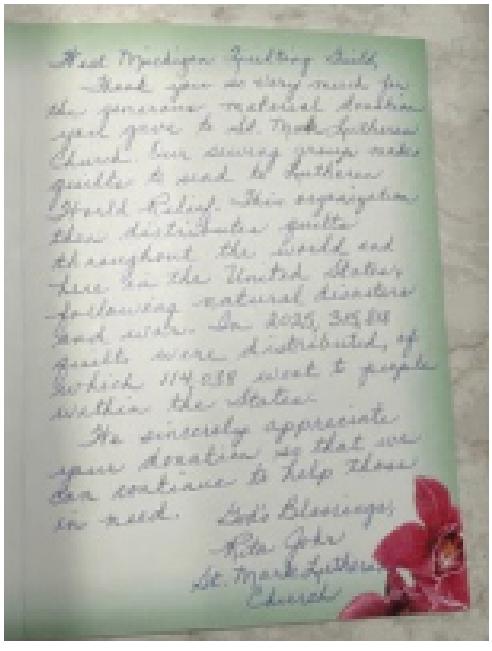
Thank you,
Kathy Hill and Brenda Long
616-862-8613
Kathyhill52@yahoo.com



Santa Claus Girls

Many thanks to you all for donating over 180 stuffed animals and baby dolls with quilts which were taken to Santa Claus Girls Oct. 2. Several bags of doll quilts were also donated at our meeting, many of which we can use next year. However, quite a few are too small. Those were given to In the Image to be distributed as burp cloths for babies. I will be writing up some guidelines in the near future to help define what we need for next year.

Sarabeth Carr





Thank you!

The members of WMQG are amazing!
I missed the bus trip due to an unforeseen stay in the hospital. On returning home, I was showered with so many gifts from those of you on the bus trip. Then on top of that, I was the recipient of the Food Hug from Amore Trattoria Italiana at our last meeting.
Thank you all so much!

Bobbie Vruggink
(who is in much better health)



We have met every month for the last year, and I feel confident this will be a great show. We are working on acquiring the necessary insurance quilts with the help of Norma.

Our raffle quilt is complete, but we found that we did not have prior permission from the designer to use her design for our raffle quilt. I will be contacting her and feel that permission will be given, as most designers love to see their designs be used for such a good cause. he raffle ticket license has been sent in for approval by the state.

Food Hugs is our second charity, after The Ties That Bind. The owner of the charity and of the Amore restaurant) came to our guild meeting and explained what Food Hugs does for the community, and all members seem very pleased with this as our choice.

We will start accepting quilt entries for the show on January 1, 2027, with a cutoff date of February 1, 2027. We can accept 125 quilts for judging and as many as necessary to hang. There is a limit of 4 quilts per person to hang in the show.

Our next meeting is November 10 at 6 pm at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church.

Nancy Roelfsema
Quilts on the Grand Show Chairperson

November Vendor

Ash & Elm
QUILTERY

Be sure to stop by their booth at the November meeting!

Store Hours
Thursday: 10am - 6pm
Friday - Saturday: 10am - 4pm
Sunday: 11am - 4pm
Monday - Wednesday:
By Appointment Only

Phone: (616) 315-0005
Visit us in Eastown at 1501 Lake Dr SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49506

“Pure Michigan Outdoors

2027 AQS Challenge



- 30” x 40” Landscape
- Binding, no border
- Hanging sleeve per AQS instructions
- Label on back, lower corner with your quilt’s name, your name, and WMQG Challenge
- Portray “Michigan Outdoors” in any manner you wish. Think of all the trees, beaches, water, flowers, animals and structures that make our state so great.
- Your quilt must have a quilt shown somewhere within. For example: hanging over a fence, railing, or clothesline, lying on the ground, on the side of a wall. The little quilt can be a maximum of 6” on any side and a minimum of 2” on any side. It can be painted or drawn, appliqued, 3-dimensional, pieced, or even a photo that can be incorporated into your design.

Quilts will be due sometime in early March (exact date will be announced). All quilts entered will be on display at the March 2027 Guild meeting. The top eight, as selected by independent (non-WMQG) judges will be submitted for acceptance by AQS and hopefully will be hanging at Quilt Week 2027.

Please give us a heads-up if you’re planning to make a quilt.

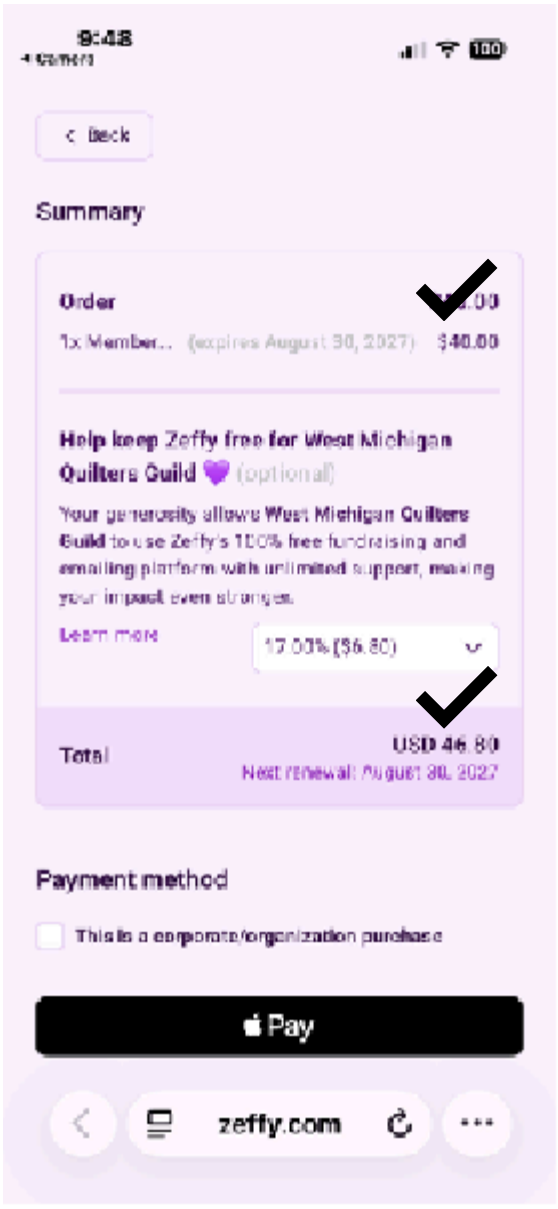
Questions?

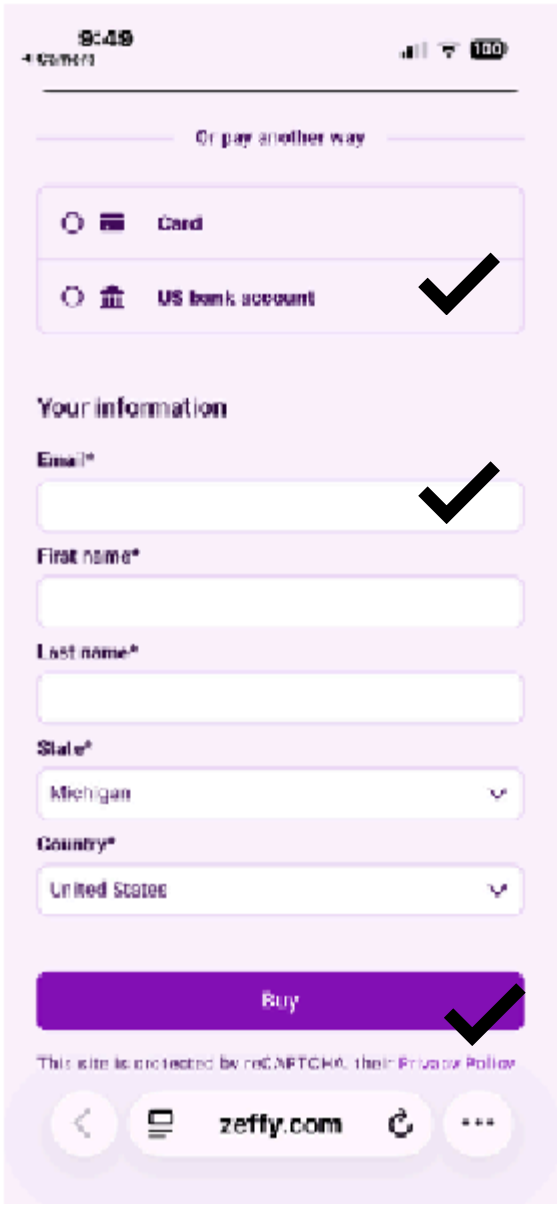
Nancy Roelfsema – QuiltingwithNancy@gmail.com 616-260-8003

Nancy McCormick – nonnie3549@gmail.com 616-822-0516



https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/west-michigan-quilters-guilds-memberships





NOTE:

First ✓ ***membership***

Second ✓ ***Optional Donation***

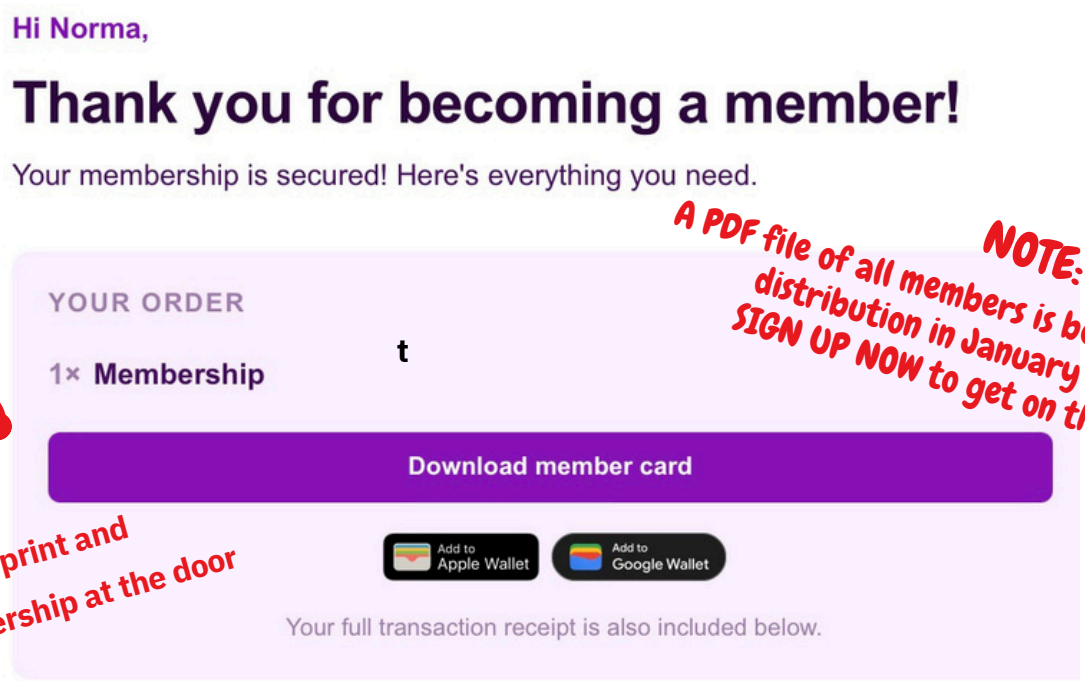
HOW TO - PLEASE READ

In our effort to streamline our membership process and pay no outside company $2.00 out of $40.00 membership we have gone to a non-profit called ZEFFY. Other guilds and organizations have used this for a few years now and it helps ensure that when you get the thank you letter we have the CORRECT EMAIL address for all further communications.

Just a few things to note: If you look on the last page you see an option to gift money to another non-profit. In our case it is our own charity called "Tie That Binds". BUT if you desire to just pay the 40.00 membership fee use the down arrow to "OTHER" then put in "0". Then go forward with the rest of the application.

You will then get a THANK YOU letter as you see below. When you click on the download button you will get your membership card for the 2027 year. Print or take a screenshot to have ready when you come to the meetings.

We are the only the guild that has a membership at just 40.0/yr and gives you five speakers, classes, a library, a free summer event just to name a few benefits. We are not being CHEAP as said, just being WISE stewards with your money to give you the best guild possible.



NOTE: A PDF file of all members is being made for distribution in January 2027. SIGN UP NOW to get on the list.

Take a screen print and show membership at the door

A THANK YOU FROM WEST MICHIGAN QUILTERS GUILD

Hi Norma,

Thank you joining the **WMQG**. **The year 2026-2027 is our guilds 50th year as a guild in Western Michigan.** Lots of great speakers, activities and a **Quilt on the Grand show** will happen during this coming year. Our first of five newsletters will come out in September. This will provide our members with information on activities and where to volunteer.

BE sure to turn in your membership form with your email address clearly printed. These are available online and at the Summer Event on July 28, 2027 at Calvary Church, 3500 Byron Center Ave., Wyoming 49519.