



Rocky Mountain Wa Shonaji Quilt Guild

JULY 2026

Upcoming Wa Shonaji Programs

July 18, 2026–Christmas Brown Bag Challenge Quilt with Geneva Lottie/Lynette Johnson

Contact Linda White. No member Fee.

August 1, 2026–Valentine Table Runner with Karen von Phul

Contact Linda White. \$10 member fee.

Karen von Phul has enjoyed a creative career that has evolved from fashion design to quilting and, most recently, fiber art. She was a member of the National Association of Fashion and Accessory Designers (NAFAD) for five years and participated in numerous fashion shows featuring her original designs before the Denver chapter dissolved.

Today, Karen is an active member of the Rocky Mountain Wa Shonaji Quilt Guild and Front Range Contemporary Quilters. Her artistic interests have expanded to encompass fiber art, with a particular focus on creating art quilts that incorporate copper and other mixed-media elements. She is passionate about

transforming fabric through innovative techniques and unexpected artistic expression.

Karen regularly exhibits her work in regional exhibitions throughout the Denver area and has also participated in national exhibitions, including shows in North Charleston, South Carolina. Her work reflects a continuous exploration of texture, materials, and creative possibilities within the fiber arts.



September 12, 2026 – Quilt Exhibit and Art Fair

See flyer on page 2. If you would like to have a table to sell crafts, contact Priscilla Brown. Lead members: Joette Bailey-Keown and Priscilla Brown. Committee members: Linda White and Joanne Walton

September 19, 26 & October 10, 17, 2026 – Beginner Quilting Class

Contact Linda White. \$40 for members, \$80 for non members (includes ½ year membership).

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UPCOMING PROGRAMS:

- July 18 – Christmas Brown Bag Challenge
- August 1 – Valentine Table Runner
- September 12 – Quilt Exhibit & Art Fair
- September 19, 26 & October 10, 17 – Beginner Quilting Class
- October 3 – Schlep Bag
- October 8-11 – Retreat

Upcoming Programs Cont'd

October 3, 2026 –Schlep Bag with Joanne Walton

Contact Linda White. \$10 member fee.

Joanne Walton- Unlike many of you, I do not come from a quilting family. When we moved from Michigan to Colorado in 2002, I knew that I wanted to learn to quilt and meet new friends. So, by happenstance, I found Rocky Mountain Wa Shonaji Quilt Guild via an obituary in the Denver Post regarding a member of the Guild who had transitioned. I garnered information from that obituary and contacted Helen Kearney,



who is the founder of Rocky Mountain Wa Shonaji Quilt Guild. I attended my first meeting in 2003 and became a member. I moved with my fabric in a shoebox, and now... I have been either a Board member or committee member every year since I joined. RMWSQG has been a source of learning and everlasting friendships for me. Yes...Wa Shonaji is AWESOME.

October 8-11, 2026 – Retreat

Join Wa Shonaji for the annual Fall quilt retreat in Allenspark, CO. Contact Karen von Phul for more information. Registration forms and payment information can be found at washonaji.org.

WA SHONAJI QUILT & ART FAIR
SEPTEMBER 12, 2026 10:00am-3:00pm
CrossPurpose 3050 Richard Allen Ct., Denver, CO 80207



**WE GATHER TO SHARE OUR QUILTS, ARTS & CRAFTS,
& QUILTING KNOWLEDGE.**

WE LEARN FROM EACH OTHER. OUR MOTTO IS
" EACH ONE TEACH ONE"

FOOD – FUN – GIFTS - SHOP
MAKE & TAKE AWAY TABLE –
LIVE & LAUGH & LEARN
EVERYONE IS INVITED!!!!

Contact: WASHONAJI@GMAIL.COM



The objective of the Guild is to embody a viable, professional organization representing an interest in quilt making and other fiber arts primarily from an African-American perspective. We work to promote the work and accomplishments of our members and to preserve the tradition, culture, and history of quilting.

We enjoy, rather than judge each other's work.

The name *Wa Shonaji* comes from the Swahili language and translates literally as "People Who Sew."

P.O. Box 370405
Denver, CO 80237-0405
www.washonaji.org

For More Information Visit our Website!

President's Message

What should I do? A quilt conundrum

Hello Wa Shonaji. As you have likely noticed, I usually write articles to talk about something new in my quilting experience. Well, this time, I want to talk about something old: an old quilt. I was asked by my cousin if the quilt pictured below, could be fixed. If you're able to expand this picture, you can see that it is severely damaged/worn. The borders were mostly in shreds and large patches in the quilt top or back are missing. My Cousin says the quilt belonged to and was potentially made by our grandparents which could mean it was made in the 1920 or 1930's. The estimate is based on when my grandparents were born. Here are other facts about this quilt:

- It's made of cotton,
- It has, what appears to be, regular batting (i.e., not shredded cotton)
- The 1 ½ inch squares appear to be precisely cut,
- The fabrics are varied and used consistently,
- It is hand sewn, and
- The backing is muslin.

Before I get to the conundrum part of this story, the part where I figure out what I do, if anything, to save this quilt, I am struggling with the question... who actually made this quilt? Note that my grandparents had a farm, and were employed as factory workers and housekeepers. They were also very active in church. I'm doubting that they would have had the time to produce a quilt with the precision and materials this quilt would have required.

Now to the conundrum... what do I do with this quilt? My first thought is that it is too damaged to be repaired. I cut off the damaged border. Given the age of the quilt, it would be nearly impossible to match or even closely approximate,

the fabrics in the quilt. It would take a lot of time/effort to repair the holes and replace the quilt batting. I'm leaning towards cutting out a few of the salvageable blocks and framing them then throwing away the rest of the quilt. What would you do?

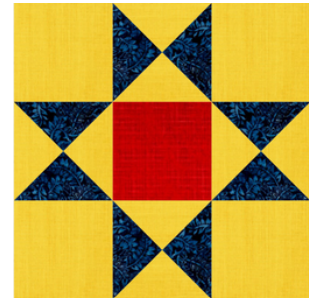
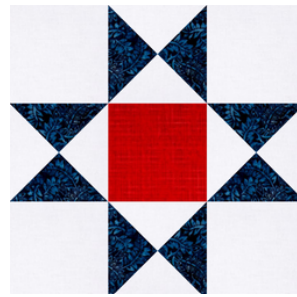
Finally, this quilt conundrum just confirms that quilts should be labeled and potentially documented. If I were more convinced that my grandparents made this quilt (and I do have one of their quilts), I'd be more inclined to work hard to save it. After showing the quilt to an antique quilt specialist, it was determined that the quilt cannot be saved. Therefore, blocks of the quilt will be framed in shadow boxes.

– Joette Bailey-Keown, President



July Block of the Month (BOM)

July's block of the month is the Ohio Star block. The colors are white/yellow background, red and blue. These will be due at the July 18th meeting. Please ensure that your block is 12.5"x12.5". Members are encouraged to make 2 blocks.



July 2026 BOM

Ohio Star

You will learn to make an hour glass block

12.5" Block

Colors

Red E

White A - B - D OR yellow

Blue C

	cut	need	size
A	4 [W]	4 []	4 1/2 white
B	1 [W]	4 []	5 1/4 white
C	2 [B]	8 []	5 1/4 Blue
D	1 [W]	4 []	5 1/4 white
E	1 [R]	1 []	4 1/2 Red

- Make the hour glass blocks
 - Sew C to B to make right square triangles cut on solid line
 - sew D to C to make right square triangles
- Pair 2 Right square triangles so that the Blue sections lines up with a white placing right sides together
 - *press well
 - Blue white + White Blue
 - you put the block together, draw a line down the center. Sew 1/4 inch on either side of line

When you cut it down the center the Block will look like an hour glass

OVER →

July BOM Cont'd

3. Row 1 sew A - hour glass - A
 Row 2 sew hour glass - E - hour glass
 Row 3 sew A - hour glass - A

4. Sew Row 1 to Row 2
 sew Row 3 to Row 2

5 Press well

12.5"

August Block of the Month (BOM)

August's block of the month is the Churn Dash block. The colors are orange and blue. These will be due at the August 1st meeting. Please ensure that your block is 12.5"x12.5". Members are encouraged to make 2 blocks.



August 2026 BOM

Churn Dash

Colors Orange and Blue

A	C	A
B	D	B
C	E	C
B	D	B
A	C	A

Blue sections A-C-E

Orange sections B-D

12.5" Block

	Cut	need	size
A	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	4 7/8
B	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	4 7/8
C	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 1/2 x 4 1/2
D	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 1/2 x 4 1/2
E	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 1/2

1. Sew A to B and create a right triangle
 (A/B unit) should have 4
2. Sew C to D to create a square
 (C/D unit) should have 4
3. Row 1 sew A/B to C/D then add another A/B
4. Row 2 sew C/D + E then add another C/D
5. Row 3 sew A/B to C/D then add another A/B
- * Pay attention to the position of colors
6. Sew Row 1 to Row 2
 sew Row 3 to Row 2
7. Press well

UFO Challenge

From UFOs (Unfinished Objects) to OFUs (Objects Finished Up)

With the many ongoing RMWSQG projects in action, RMWSQG UFO challenge participants continue to strive hard to turn their UFOs into OFUs. Congratulations to Lynette Johnson and again to Wendy Williams who finished their July UFOs early. As a reminder, each time you complete a UFO on time or prior to the suspense date your name is entered into the drawing that will take place at the October meeting. If you will not be present for the meeting when it is due, you must send me a picture of your completed OFU. Completed means totally quilted, bound, decorated, labeled (if you choose) and ready for use.

UFO Remaining Schedule:

The schedule for the completion of UFOs continues as follows:

UFO #1 is due at the July 18th meeting.

UFO #3 is due at the October 3rd meeting.

-- Reniese Johnson

Upcoming Exhibits and Trunk Show

Where does the time go? Here we are with deadlines for making sure we have successful and engaging Exhibits and a Trunk Show. As you know, without your quilts, there will not be venues for you to show and display your awesome quilts. Because you know....Wa Shonaji is AWESOME!!!

July 18, 2026 - First up is the deadline for quilt drop off for quilts for the exhibit at Blair-Caldwell African American Research Library – Located at 2401 Welton Street –Denver, CO. The committee has met with Dexter Nelson, who is our

contact person at the library numerous times. We have measured the space where our quilts will be on exhibit on the second floor. Thus, we feel that we are on task to make the 250th year celebration of the United States a remembrance with our quilts on display on the second floor of the library. This celebration marks the semi-quincentennial - 250 years since the Declaration of Independence was adopted on July 4, 1776. We will also celebrate and commemorate Colorado as a state with our quilts. Colorado became the 38th state on August 1, 1876. It has the nickname of the Centennial state because it joined the Union 100 years after the Declaration of Independence was signed.

On Saturday, August 15, 2026 from 12:00 – 2:00, we will have a reception at the Library. It will be catered by TeeLee's Teahouse and Bookstore. They are located at 611 22 nd Street – Denver, CO. More details to follow as the date gets closer and the plans for the event are more solidified. Please invite your family, friends and the quilting community to this event.

September 12, 2026 – Wa Shonaji Quilt and Craft Fair at CrossPurpose. This event will be from 10:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m. We will have your quilts on display in the auditorium. If you did not sign up to have a quilt or two in the exhibit, please contact Joanne Walton with the name and size of your quilt. We want to fill the space with your AWESOME quilts.

September 14, 2026 – Exhibit at Columbine Quilt Guild – Arvada, CO. They meet at the Denver Church of Christ – 6925 Carr Street – Arvada, CO. Visit their website at columbinequiltguild.org

Arrival for setup is 5:30. The program starts at 6:30. I will be contacting

Upcoming Exhibits and Trunk Show Cont'd

many of you for your quilts as I work on the script for the program. Do you have a specific quilt you'd like to have in this Trunk Show? The Chorus will be in perfect harmony to put the binding on our Trunk Show. Mary Lassiter, director, will be in touch with you regarding upcoming rehearsals. Or better yet, reach out to Mary if you want to be a part of this AWESOME chorus! There are so many wonderful voices within Wa Shonaji. Please use your talents.

– Joanne Walton

Sunshine and Shadows:

July Birthdays:

- 2nd – Lynesha Laws
- 13th – Brenda Ames
- 14th – Mary Toliver-Davis
- 16th – Lynette Johnson
- 18th – Chris Jacques
- 18th – Varna Nolen
- 18th – Mary Pilling
- 19th – Annie Mabry (Honorary Member)
- 22nd – Bryce von Phul-Chewning
- 23rd – Louie Walker



Happy birthday! May your bobbins be overflowing!

August Birthdays:

- 5th – Chelese Ransom
- 16th – Connie Turner
- 20th – Moira Jackson



Happy Birthday! May your stash be rich, colorful, and abundant.

Wa Shonaji's Newest Honorary Members

During the June 6th meeting, long time Wa Shonaji members Milinda Walker and Camilla Edwards received honorary memberships as a celebration of their tenures in the guild. Both Milinda and Camilla have made invaluable contributions to Wa Shonaji over the years. Milinda has been a guild member since 1995. She was recognized for her outstanding service through quilting. She served four terms and seven years as President. She also facilitated classes, and is a member of the Wa Shonaji Chorus. Camilla has been a guild member since 2000. She served as the VP of Programs and Hospitality Chairperson. She also facilitated many classes, and is a member of the chorus. Thank you, Milinda and Camilla! Wa Shonaji is so grateful for you!



Left: Milinda Walker Right: Quilt by Milinda Walker



Left: Camilla Edwards Right: Quilt by Camilla Edwards

May Show n Share



Quilt by Geneva Lottie



Quilt Top by Joyce Spear



Quilt Top by Elaine Miller



Quilts by Yvette Lewis-Molock



Quilts from Mini Landscape Class: Karen von Phul, Kathy Byers, Billie Hall and Deb Sweatt

Completed UFO's



Quilt by Lynette Johnson



Quilt by Elaine Miller



Quilt by Priscilla Brown

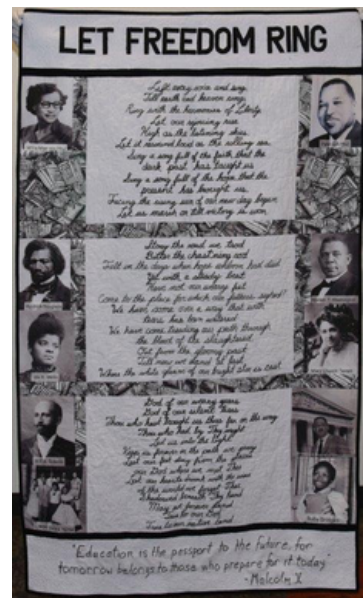
June Show n Share



Quilt by Yvette Lewis-Molock



Quilt by De Lois Powell



Quilt by Karen von Phul



Quilt by Elaine Miller



Foster Donation Quilt



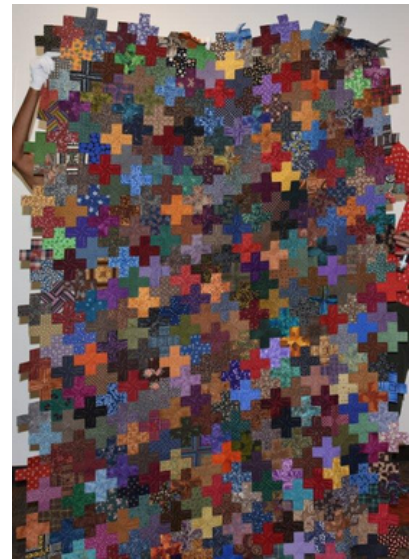
Foster Donation Quilt



Quilt by Geneva Lottie



January BOM completed Quilt



Quilt by Deb Sweatt



Quilt by Kathy Byers



Blocks from Appliqué Class:
Yvette Lewis-Molock, Billie Hall
and Sandra Coleman



Quilt by Shirley Thomas

Removing Pencil Marks from Your Quilt

OOPS I did It again!

This information is from a demonstration I did at the 6 June 2026 Guild meeting. I acquired a top in two pieces partially marked with pencil. As I would not be hand quilting, I decided to try to remove the pencil marking. Hand quilters, Lynette Johnson and Netta Toll, did not have a technique for removing pencil marks. They both said they avoid doing pencil marking. Netta did some investigating and found a YouTube video-Caterpillar Cross Stitch who had a formula. I tracked down the video for the formula and filled an 8oz spray bottle –

1. Ethanol, Isopropyl alcohol - Not rubbing alcohol or Everclear which I had from making Limoncello.
- 2 T. if using one of the first two, or 1T. if using the third option.
2. 1T. blue Dawn
3. Fill the remainder of the bottle with water

Spray area and gently rub with a soft toothbrush, moving in all directions. It was working well until I realized the red sashing was bleeding. I finished removing pencil marks from the 4 blocks in the first piece. In sunlight, I double checked that the pencil marks were gone. On to stopping the bleeding. I followed the steps from “Save My Bleeding Quilt” by Vicki Welsh AGAIN. Since it was a partial top, I only had to fill a ¼ of the tub with hot water and one tablespoon of clear Dawn. Using rubber gloves, I swished the top in the water, left, returned to swish for 5-10 minutes. Before going to bed, I emptied the tub and refilled it with hot water but did not add more soap as there was enough in the top. The next morning, the water had a slight color, so I emptied and refilled the tub and began

swishing to rinse. When the water was clear and the soap gone, I rolled the top in towels to press out the water. I could already see the bleeding had stopped and the white areas were clear of the red dye. This was the seventh time using this process—successfully!

How to check for possible bleeding? Lay a small piece of wet fabric on a paper towel to see if any color shows on the paper towel, or you can drop a scrap in cup of HOT water. Let it sit and see if any color is in the water.

Color Catchers – These do not stop bleeding; they grab the loose dye in the water. If you do not stop the bleeding, you will need Color Catchers every time you wash the quilt. I used the plural because you may need several if it is a big quilt.

How to mark a quilt? There is no magic marking tool, or someone would be making a lot of money from quilters. You need to see the markings but not for all eternity. The marker needs a fine point, and the markings need to go away when you are done sewing. Experiment with the different products available. Make sure the items are for fabric use. And always test on a scrap from the quilt for ease of removal before marking a quilt.

--Linda White

Save My Bleeding Quilt

How to best remove excess dye from a quilt (and prewash fabric to prevent the problem)

by Vicki Welsh, colorwaysbyvicki.com

There's nothing worse for a quilter than washing our quilt for the first time, pulling it out of the washing machine and

Save My Bleeding Quilt Cont'd

finding out that one of the fabrics has run and ruined your quilt. It happens with both hand dyed and commercial fabrics. Dyeing processes vary so much and different colors of dyes react differently on different fabrics so it's impossible for a fabric manufacturer to make all fabric perfectly colorfast.....just think about how much our clothes run in the wash.

As a fabric dyer, I have spent hours testing washing processes to make my fabrics as colorfast as possible. My quilts use hand dyed and commercial fabrics. As a result, I have developed the following guidelines for getting excess dye out of your quilt and for pre-washing fabric.

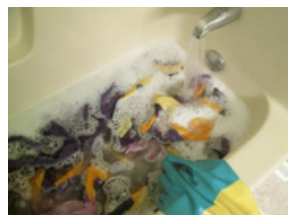
Whether your quilt has already been washed and dried, you can still do this process to remove excess dye, but it's best if this is the process that you use for the first wash.

It's important to have a large volume of water for the quilt to soak in. I use my bathtub. There isn't enough water or room for the quilt in the washing machine. The quilt needs to be loose in the water. The water holds the excess dye, so the more water the better.

Start filling the tub with hot water. It doesn't have to be boiling but the hotter the better. I have the hot water heater in my house set to 140F so it's quite hot coming out of the tap. If your water isn't very hot, you can add some pots of boiling water. The truth is that time is more important than heat, but the heat does help the process.

Add soap and the quilt. For a large quilt I will use as much as a half cup of soap. The soap is what keeps the dye particles from

re-adhering to your quilt, so don't be stingy. My preference is Dawn Pure Dish detergent. I have used a Free & Clear type laundry detergent with success. Avoid using any detergent with fragrances or additives. The additives can have chemical structures that cause particles to adhere to your quilt or additives that may fade fabric. I have only tested unscented products. Do not use Dharma Textile Detergent or Synthrapol or Retayne especially if you have any commercial fabrics in your quilt. My testing has proven that these detergents do not behave well with some commercial fabrics and it's impossible to tell which fabrics will have problems. Dharma Textile Detergent can cause backstaining on some fabrics, and Synthrapol will fade some fabrics. Retayne is for a completely different use. Do not ever use it unless you are very familiar with the product. Once the tub is about half full of water you can add the quilt.



While the tub is filling, agitate and move the quilt in the water. The quilt should have plenty of room to move around in the water, and it needs to be agitated for a while. I'll agitate it while it's filling and for another 5 or 10 minutes after the tub is full. If the water gets VERY dark right away let it soak (agitating every 10 minutes or so) for an hour and then drain the water and start over.



Make sure the entire quilt is under water and let the quilt soak for 12 hours. I use plastic bin lids and containers of water to weigh the quilt and make sure it stays underwater. If any part of the quilt sticks above the water, dye will stick to the quilt at the water line.

Save My Bleeding Quilt Cont'd

You can see the dye catching sheet in the water, but it's not necessary. The important thing is time. I've found that there is a point in the soak where the fabric seems to "burp" and release the rest of the dye. That can happen between 3 and 12 hours. Blue is the most difficult dye to get out (especially turquoise blues), and red is the most likely to stain the quilt. The soap is what keeps the dye particles suspended in the water.



Repeat until the water is clear. If there is color in the water after 12 hours, repeat the entire process until the water remains clear for at least 6 hours. I do not add a lot of soap to each subsequent soak. I make a judgement call on each soak to determine how much I need. In this wash I knew that most of the dye was gone, so I did not add more soap. There was soap still in the quilt and that was plenty.

Carefully drain and remove the quilt. You can rinse it either in the tub with cold water or in the washing machine.

I can't promise that this will work 100% of the time because different fabrics react differently, but this has worked for me consistently with commercial and hand dyed cotton fabrics. Test on swatches of fabric if you are unsure or are using different fiber content fabrics. The quilt in the photos is one that I knew would run, and that's why I chose it for testing the process. If you have different results and want to discuss them, please contact me at vickiwelsh.com.

For new fabric I do this process in the washing machine. I tested it by running a new batch of fabric through a wash cycle with a dye catching sheet. After a normal

wash cycle in hot water, the dye sheet was clean. Next, I soaked the same fabric for 12 hours using the process above. After 12 hours the dye catching sheet was very dark! At some point in the soaking the fabric released the excess dye. That dye would have eventually released onto my quilt. (SCARY!) Maybe not in the first wash, but eventually. Better safe than sorry.

Quilter's Last Will and Testament

By Barbara Black

<https://bbquiltmaker.blogspot.com>

I wanted to help my family prepare for the day this all becomes theirs by creating a Quilter's Last Will and Testament. Here are 10 Top Tips on what I think your family needs to know about your stuff:

1. Who to call? Which quilter friends are willing to help your family sort through and arrange to sell or give away all this stuff? Name at least 3 good friends, provide their phone numbers. Discuss this with those friends in advance--are they willing to take on this task?

2. Sewing Machines: how many do you have, where are they, serial numbers, when did you buy them and for how much? I currently have two Singer Featherweights, a Bernina 765 in an expensive cabinet and my beloved Bernina Q20 sit-down longarm. When I bought that in 2015, I told my husband it was really "expensive". Note I was not asking his permission to buy it, my money as a professional quiltmaker and teacher did that. But he only understood what that word meant when he saw the credit card bill. Your family has no idea how much your very valuable machines cost or are worth today. The Featherweights are often thought to be "toy machines". One of mine I had painted so I have almost \$700 invested in that baby--I want that to go to

Quilter's Last Will and Testament Cont'd

my granddaughter someday.

3. Your Important Quilts: Which mean the most to you and are the ones you really want to stay with your family? Do you have some that have won major awards or been published that will increase their value? These "Best Quilts" need to be documented in writing, with photos, to help ensure that information stays with those quilts. Make a LIST--who do you want to get your favorite quilts? There are a few I want to go to my grandchildren when they are old enough to appreciate them. Yes, I have given them baby quilts and kid quilts already. I mean the ones I want them to share with their children, long after I'm gone, when they talk about their "BB."

4. Your Quilts You Would Like to Give to Someone: make a list of any quilts you want given to a specific friend or family member. The "quilt worthy" person who will be so happy to have a piece of you in their life. If you are lucky enough to know when your end is near, add their name to those quilts in advance. Or BETTER YET--give that special friend that special quilt while you are able to see them receive it.

5. Your Quilts that can be Sold or Given Away: is there an organization you want to support? Project Linus, Quilts of Valor, Guild Comfy/Charity Quilts all come to mind. But there are organizations that conduct fundraisers which might appreciate a quilt or two. Educational organizations and those that support children in need are possible candidates. I easily have 50 small wall quilts laying around that have little value for sale but could raise a little money for charity.

6. Put Labels on ALL your quilts.

If you don't automatically put labels on ALL your quilts, start doing that today.

7. Important Quilts Still Under Construction--again, if you know your time is short, find those good friends and ask them if they would be willing to finish that really important quilt you are working on, as a gift for your family. Not every quilt you ever started--just that special one you ran out of time to finish. Someone will say "yes."

8. Be aware that most of our stuff has little value to others, even quilters. The books, patterns you plan to make "someday," magazine articles you saved for 30 years, the 200 pens/markers in a box, even all your rulers, cutters and mats. People will be happy to take some of it off your hands, but not for money. Now is the best time to start purging that stuff. Have a "swap" or "giveaway" for close quilting friends. This takes work but you bought it all, so you really ought to help your family by dealing with some of this stuff now, before it becomes their problem. The only special "thing" I want saved for my family are my thimbles. Some are sterling silver; some are inexpensive brass topped thimbles I first learned to hand-quilt with. They are my most meaningful "tools" and take up very little room. I am looking for a special box I can store them in--I will include the story of those thimbles in the box.

9. The Fabric: It has value, to a lot of quilters. But, again, it's a matter of quantity. I am really in the purge mode this year as I try to reduce some of the "sinful" amount I have. There is a sale/swap/giveaway in my future this year. Just as soon as I sort through those closets again. Do you LOVE all the fabric you currently own?

10. Antique Quilts and Tops: I almost forgot this category--I have about a dozen antique quilts and tops; some cost me a

Quilter's Last Will and Testament Cont'd

good bit of money, some I lucked into for very little. They are stored away from my quilts, in a closet. I must take time to create a LIST of these, what I know about them, what I paid and where I bought them. Sure don't want my kids to think these are just junky old rags...

11. Lastly, write a note to the future about what quilting has meant to you.

It has been my most important passion for more than 35 years, more dear to me than anything other than my family. It has gotten me through tough times, brought more joy than I could have imagined, and added dear friends to my life that mean so much--you know who you are. Over the years I have saved a lot of notes I have received from friends and students--they are in a beautiful basket for my kids to find someday. That is a good place for my "letter to the future" to reside.

If you have a will, then you are probably familiar with the Personal Property Memorandum. This is a list of items handwritten by you but not included in your will that you want to go to specific people. Store with your will.

eQuilter Welcomes New Owners

Collin & Christina Summers Stewart Carry the Needle Forward

By Luana Rubin Boulder, Colorado – June 10, 2026

After 27 years of pioneering online quilting retail under Luana and Paul Rubin, Boulder's beloved eQuilter.com finds a passionate new home.

eQuilter.com, one of the world's largest and most beloved online quilt fabric

retailers, today announced the completion of its acquisition by Collin and Christina Summers Stewart. The Stewarts become only the second owners in eQuilter's history, succeeding founders Luana and Paul Rubin, who built the company from the basement of their Boulder home in March of 1999 into a global destination serving quilters, fiber artists, and makers in virtually every country on earth.

For over a quarter century, Luana and Paul Rubin poured their hearts into everything eQuilter became. Luana's extraordinary background – spanning fashion design in Hong Kong, 7th Avenue in New York, international color trend consulting, fine arts, and textile activism – gave the company a creative soul that customers around the world felt in every curated collection. Paul's engineering and management acumen gave it structure, precision, and reliability. Together, they built a 14,000-square-foot operation in Boulder, grew its catalog to over 15,000 products, launched an industry-leading charity program that has raised more than \$2 million for causes ranging from breast cancer research to disaster relief, and earned the devotion of a global customer community that genuinely loves this brand.

"Luana and Paul built something that is genuinely rare – a business with both an exceptional product and an exceptional soul. The curatorial eye, the relationships, the community they've nurtured over 27 years – we are deeply proud to carry that forward and excited to write the next chapter together."

– Collin Summers Stewart, incoming co-owner, eQuilter

Christina Summers Stewart is a lifelong maker and crafter whose interests span sewing, fiber arts, and everything in between – someone for whom the world of fabric and fiber has always been a source of joy and creative expression. She has channeled that same love of artistry and

eQuilter Welcomes New Owners Cont'd

community into her work as co-owner of the couple's Eileen's Colossal Cookies shop in Highlands Ranch, where she has built a beloved local business around the idea that a beautifully designed, custom-crafted cookie is more than a treat – it is an act of connection. Running that business has sharpened her instincts for team management, day-to-day operations, and what it means to truly serve a community. It is a philosophy that translates directly and naturally to eQuilter.

Collin Summers Stewart brings nearly 15 years of marketing experience, including deep familiarity with the quilting community and what its members love, value, and respond to. He knows this audience – not just as a marketer, but as someone who has spent years engaged with the passion and creativity that defines it. He will assist in day-to-day operations and marketing efforts directly, with a particular focus on helping the brand connect with new audiences while deepening its relationship with the quilters who have made it what it is today.

This acquisition is not a leap into the unknown. The Stewarts came to eQuilter deliberately, after years of learning what it truly takes to run a business with care. eQuilter's existing team is expected to remain in place through the transition.

“Paul and I are delighted to have found this husband-and-wife team to continue the eQuilter tradition of service and creative inspiration for the quilting community. Collin and Christina won us over with their enthusiasm and passion for our company, and the industry. They remind me of Paul and I when we started the business....raising a family while following their entrepreneurial dreams. We look forward to supporting the Stewarts as they

launch a new chapter for eQuilter, and we are so gratified to know that what we built will continue to serve our friends and customers around the world.”

– Luana Rubin, co-founder, eQuilter

Luana is not leaving the industry, but plans a horizontal move: She will return to her work as a full time artist and designer in a new studio space. Follow her artist blog at www.luanarubin.com

Customers can look forward to continuity in all the things they love – the vast, constantly-refreshed catalog of over 1,000 new products each month, the fast and reliable service, the curated designer collections, and the free patterns that have made eQuilter a destination for quilters around the world. The Rubins will remain involved through a careful transition to ensure the knowledge, relationships, and culture they've built over 27 years carry forward seamlessly.

Local Customers – PLEASE NOTE:

As of Monday, June 22 our new mailing address will be:

12100 W 52nd Ave, Unit 111
Wheatridge CO, 80033

As of Monday June 29 customers can interact with us and pick up orders at the new address, which is about 15 minutes NorthEast of the Rocky Mountain Quilt Museum. (East of Table Mountain)

Last day to place Retail Pickup orders at the Boulder address is Weds June 16, with last pickup there on Friday June 19.

The acquisition marks both a meaningful ending and a thrilling beginning. The quilting world has gained two new champions in Collin and Christina Summers Stewart – people who arrived at this moment with intention, experience, and genuine love for what eQuilter represents. Its story is far from finished.

Area Textile Events:

[Face of Fiber in the Rockies](#)

Through July 11. Open daily 11-5. Art Center of Estes Park, 517 Big Thompson Ave., Unit 201, Estes Park, CO. Free admission & parking.
www.FiberArtsEP.com

This year's FACE of Fiber in the Rockies has over 30 art quilts! In addition, there are wonderful pieces that are weaving, bead weaving, felting and more. Come check out the beauty and see techniques that you may want to use in your own creations.

This is an invitational show with some of the best artisans. Some of the 2025 winners will be showing new works. Also, Wool Market will be at the fairgrounds June 13-14.

Twenty-five fiber artists represent twelve states. Colorado art quilters are represented by Barb Beasley, with 3 new pieces in the show. A real treat for those who know her work.

[Rocky Mountain Quilt Museum](#)

1) July 6– Patriotic Project Day 9:30-3:30pm Join RMQM staff and Volunteers on a Journey to create your own commemorative quilt project to celebrate America's 250th! Learn about many commemorative quilts – and use the many resources we will have available – to get started on your own project.

2) Through July 18–Medallion Quilts by Cindy Vermillion Hamilton --- Cindy has won numerous awards and has designed quilts for a fabric company as well as having her quilt images on magazine covers such as Quilter's Newsletter, authored Medallion Quilts: Inspiration & Patterns and has quilts in several museum collections, most recently Rocky Mountain Quilt Museum

3) July 12 – Sunday at the Museum The RMQM ANTIQUE QUILT ROAD SHOW is back! This is the day to bring an antique quilt and have the panelists review it and give you all kinds of info and details, to help you know about your quilt. First come, first serve to have your quilt reviewed – so check out the details on the website RMQM.org. The audience learns from every quilt – as the room is set up to allow all to see and hear the discussion. Register at RMQM.org.

4) July 19 SUNDAY -closed for exhibit change.

5) July 20 New exhibits open July 24 – Opening reception for show. 6-8pm for member and guests. From the Collection: New Discoveries & Enduring Favorites Step into the heart of the Rocky Mountain Quilt Museum collection with a vibrant exhibition that brings together newly acquired works and beloved favorites.

20 Perspectives | Conversing w/ the Earth. 20 Perspectives began during COVID when many of the group were looking to make new connections. Ultimately, the members who joined together come from nine countries and four continents, including the US, Canada, Ireland, England, France, Germany, Hungary, Argentina, and Australia. The group meets twice monthly via Zoon to discuss their work and decide upon themes that lead to **three quilt collections a year.**

6) August 22– RMQM Trash to Treasures Garage Sale – Donations for the Garage Sale are being taken now until Aug 1. Members get in 1 hour before the public, so make sure your membership is up to date.

Members Free- Non-Members \$12, (+65) \$10, 6-12 \$6, and under 6 Free.
www.rmqm.org

Area Textile Events

Cont'd

[42nd Annual New Legacies: Contemporary Art Quilts](#)

Exhibit Dates: June 26–August 28 The Lincoln Center Art Gallery 417 W. Magnolia St. Fort Collins, CO 80521
Gallery hours: ONLY Wednesday and Friday, 1-6 p.m. <https://www.lctix.com/art-gallery/>

This juried exhibition features the current work of the finest national contemporary quilt artists. Art quilts accepted exemplify innovation in quilting and surface design techniques as well as excellence in artistic composition and craftsmanship. The goal of the exhibition is to recognize the world's finest contemporary quilt artists and to advance the art form.

[Longmont Quilters Guild](#)

July 14th 6:30 pm Speaker– Susan Cleveland: July brings us speaker and designer, Susan K. Cleveland of Pieces be With You. She'll be presenting her lecture, "My Eclectic Quilt Pageant". Susan is one of the world's most enthusiastic quilting personalities ready to teach us a plethora of tips to increase accuracy and add fresh, interesting details to quilts with piping, prairie points, heavy threads, and embellishments. See how to take show pieces to new levels and add charming surprises to simple pieces. You may recognize many of her quilts as winners in AQS Paducah shows and International Quilt Festivals in Houston.

Workshop with Susan Cleveland

"Ringie Dingies" Date: July 15, 2026

Time: 9 am to 4 pm with 1 hr. lunch break. The Moose Lodge, 2210 Pratt St., Longmont Cost: \$50 (member), \$60 (non-member). Double points put a contemporary spin on the long-time favorite Dresden Plate block, yet

eliminating the need to applique the circle in the center. You can also create interlocking rings! Learn Susan's tips for speedily turning wedge points with the Prairie Pointer Tool. Design possibilities are endless with this fun, energizing, traditional-meets-modern class. Contact Programs@longmontquiltguild.org to register & with any inquiries.

[2026 Boulder County Fair Quilt Show](#)
Show Open to the public Thursday, August 6 - Sunday August 9, 10am - 10pm

Judging open to the public July 30 8AM to finish

<http://boco.fairentry.com>

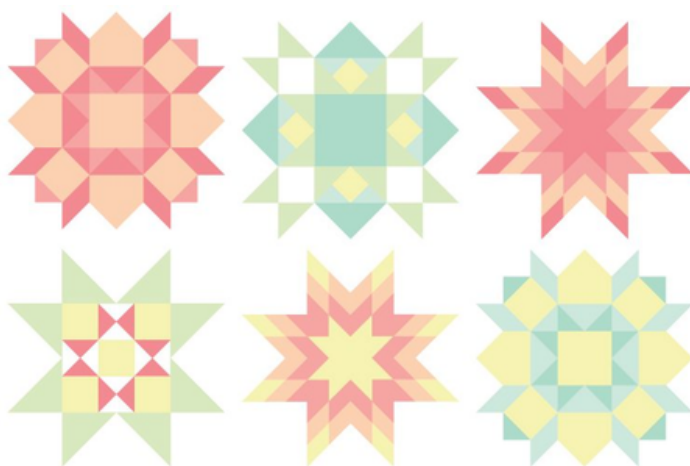
[Twisted Stitches Retreat Center](#)

New Summer Hours. On Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays, open 9:00 am to 9:00 pm.

Closed on Monday, and open 10:00 am to 4:00 pm on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

Twisted Stitches received an amazing award, the 2026 Creative Business of the Year by the Superior Chamber of Commerce.

405 Center Dr. Superior, CO



Acknowledgements

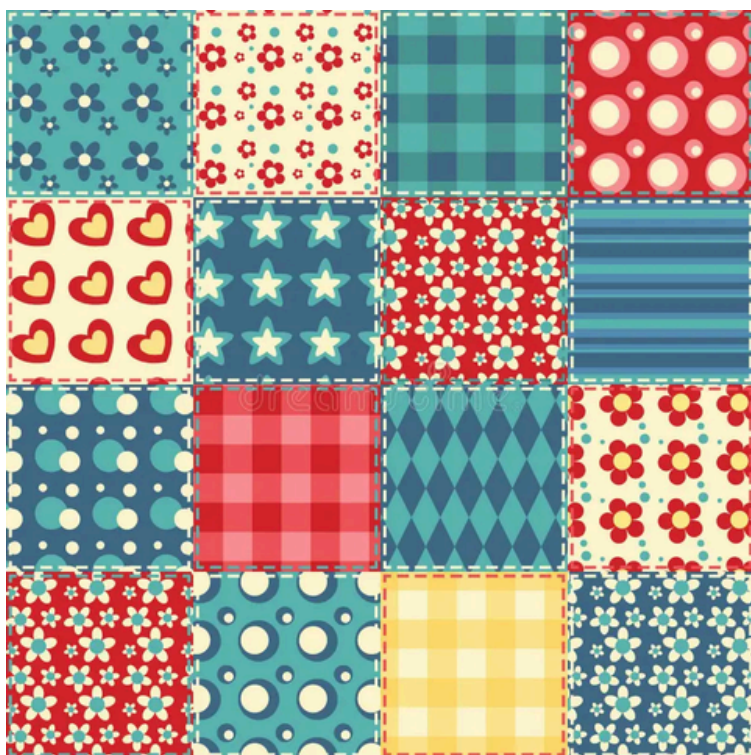
Rocky Mountain Wa Shonaji Quilt Guild

Wa Shonaji provides a warm, nurturing atmosphere to promote an interest in quilt making and other fiber arts primarily from an African-American perspective. We educate ourselves and share our knowledge with others, based on the motto "Each One Teach One."

We seek to encourage the work and accomplishments of our members and to preserve the tradition, culture, and history of quilting. Rather than judge each other's work, we learn from it and revel in it.

All quilters, regardless of their interests or skill levels, are welcome. MONTHLY MEETINGS 11 am, first Saturday of each month (unless it's a holiday) at CrossPurpose, 3050 Richard Allen Court, Denver 80205

For more information, visit www.washonaji.org or email washonaji@gmail.com



Thank you to our contributors Linda White, Joette Bailey-Keown, Reniese Johnson, Luana Rubin, Vicki Welsh and Barbara Black for their wonderful additions to this newsletter.

–Editor Daryn Miller

SHOW AND SHARE Completed Quilt

Please PRINT LEGIBLY—2 forms per quilt

Date: _____ Dimensions _____ width X _____ length

Quilt Name: _____ Dominant Color _____

Maker Name: _____

Name of Quilter (if artist did not quilt): _____

Pattern Source or Original Design? Inspiration? No more than 3 sentences.

SHOW AND SHARE Completed Quilt

Please PRINT LEGIBLY—2 forms per quilt

Date: _____ Dimensions _____ width X _____ length

Quilt Name: _____ Dominant Color _____

Maker Name: _____

Name of Quilter (if artist did not quilt): _____

Pattern Source or Original Design? Inspiration? No more than 3 sentences.

UFO for SHOW AND SHARE Completed Quilt

Please PRINT LEGIBLY

Date: _____ Dimensions _____ width X _____ length

Quilt Name: _____ Dominant Color _____

Maker Name: _____ Age of Quilt _____

Name of Quilter (if artist did not quilt): _____

Pattern Source or Original Design? What was the inspiration? No more than 3 sentences.

UFO for SHOW AND SHARE Completed Quilt

Please PRINT LEGIBLY

Date: _____ Dimensions _____ width X _____ length

Quilt Name: _____ Dominant Color _____

Maker Name: _____ Age of Quilt _____

Name of Quilter (if artist did not quilt): _____

Pattern Source or Original Design? What was the inspiration? No more than 3 sentences.
