NILES PIECEMAKERS QUILT GUILD
NEWSLETTER – JULY 2026

NEXT MEETING: JULY 27, 2026
Hope Community Church
2390 Lake St, Niles, MI

Program: Claudia Lash Trunk Show of Presto Avenue Designs
She will also be vending so you may want to bring money!

PRESIDENT'S GREETINGS

Happy 250th Birthday, America!

How are you celebrating? We had a great presentation from Quilts of Valor: In the Bend, and an invitation to help make patriotic quilts for veterans. I hope you are enjoying your summer and will get to see the beauty of our nation as you travel and as you participate in campfires and county fairs!
Enjoy!
Sally

CHARITY QUILTS

It was a busy month! Many thanks to everyone who makes this possible!
Nancy Dunning took 4 quilts to the Niles Infusion Center and 2 to LifePlan. Cheri Rissman will take 3 of the lap size qio;ts to local rest homes soon and Jenny Chapla took 8 quilts to the Salvation Army this month.

BUS TRIP TO AQS QUILT SHOW IN GRAND RAPIDS

Just 13 seats left!

2027 QUILT SHOW CHAIR(S)

We are VERY pleased to announce that Deb Brechtel has volunteered to be our chair. She has hit the ground running thinking of ideas for a name & theme; looking into dates and thinking about pros and cons for the various dates that are possible in October 2027. If you are interested in co-chairing the show, please let Deb or Sally know.

AUGUST MEETING – 'PICNIC' AND THE CHALLENGE QUILT

Our traditional August carry-in "picnic" will begin at 6 PM, earlier than our usual meeting time. The guild will provide fried chicken, paper plates, silverware, and napkins. Please bring a dish to share, such as a vegetable, salad, bread, or dessert. We will eat first, followed by the business meeting, the BIG REVEAL of the Secret Pals, voting, and recognition of the winning Challenge Quilt. Please note that there will be no Show and Tell at this meeting.

August marks the beginning of our new membership year, so this is a great time to pay your dues. Deb, our membership chair, will be very happy to receive them at the meeting!

The Quilters Hall of Fame in Marion, Indiana is holding a celebration for Judy Martin on July 23-25. They are located at 926 S Washington St, Marion, IN. There is a quilt show, vending and classes with more information on the website at www.quiltershalloffame.net.. They also have a display of Ricky Tims' quilts through August 1.

JUNE MEETING MINUTES ARE ATTACHED.

Treasurer's Report - July 2026	
6/1/2026 - Overall Beginning Balance	$14,759.72
INCOME:	
Bus Tickets	$ 360.00
EXPENSES	
July Program	$ 458.45
October Workshop	$ 725.00
Charity Supplies	$ 17.31
June Program	$ 100.00
6/30/2026 - Checking Account Balance:	$ 4,471.05
Savings Account Balance:	$ 9,348.06
Overall Ending Balance	$13,819.11

GUILD MEETINGS - 4TH MONDAY OF EACH MONTH

See the January newsletter for meeting dates and Sit & Sew dates for 2026.

6 PM: Check in & social hour
7 PM: Business Meeting, Show & Tell, Program

- **July 27:** Claudia Lash Trunk Show of Presto Avenue Designs. Her website is https://www.prestoavenuedesigns.com/
- **August 24:** Membership Picnic, Challenge Vote and Secret Pal Reveal – This meeting is the beginning of our Membership Year and Deb Brechtel will be very pleased if you pay your 2026-2027 dues at the meeting. The dues are still $30 per year unless you're 80 or older and willing to tell Deb so! It is your responsibility to make her aware.

SIT & SEW / WORKSHOP MEETING DATES

Details will be included in the newsletter prior to meeting.

- **No Sit & Sew in July or August**

Happy Birthday to Our Members!

Please notify Beth Raker if your birthday is missing or incorrect.

JULY	July Continued…	AUGUST
3 – Carol Peters	20 – Carolyn Ernsperger	3 – Mary Gilbert
8 – Grace Cronin	21 – Melody VanLue	5 – Cathy Robison
12 – Janice Rajski	23 – Deborah Brechtel	8 – Sally Hanson
13 – Marilu Franks	23 – Alechia Evans	8 – Gina Schimmel
17 – Virginia Kraft	24 – Barbara Chestovich	14 – Sue Counts
18 – Beej Zenk	26 – Stephanie Anders	15 – Arlene Parker
19 – Connie Gless	27 – Laurie Fenske	17 – Lilly Saucier
		27 – Denise Gmeiner

MEMBER NEWS & CONCERNS

Please send information to Virginia Kraft if you hear of a member who might appreciate a card from the Guild. Her address is 31224 Worrell St, Niles, MI, 49120, or call 574-274+1692 (cell)

Board Members & People Who Help in Many Ways

Please let the board know of any concerns or questions you might have.

President: Sally Hanson.....(574) 339-2475, sallyannehan@aol.com
Vice-President: Melody VanLue……. ..... 269-876-7276, gerryandmelodyv@gmail.com
Treasurer: Beth Raker .....(574) 220-0116, bethraker@gmail.com
Secretary: Pam Holt.....(574) 532-1575, haypamholt@gmail.com

- **Archivist** – Looking for someone!
- **Batting Storage** – Beth Raker – Contact Beth with dimensions when you need batting.
- **Charity Quilt Distribution** – Nancy Dunning… (574) 210-1559, nancydunning@att.net & Jenny Chapla…(269) 683-2740), jchapla@sbcglobal.net
- **Charity Quilt Longarmers** – Stephanie Anders, Annette Blaschuk, Sue Counts, Gene Hubbard, Beth Raker, Stephanie Savona. (If you were left out, please notify Beth Raker.)
  NOTE – We also have several people who quilt the charity quilts on their domestic machines.
- **Courtesy Committee** – Virginia Kraft…(574) 274-1692, kraftyquilts@yahoo.com
- **Door Prizes –** Bettye Green…(574) 292-0036, boopbettye64@gmail.com
- **Facebook** – Beth Raker
- **Free Table/Flea Storage** – Jenny Chapla
- **Hospitality Chair** – Nancy Dunning, Lola Woolett…(574) 612-1086 & Mary Ann Jackson…(574) 329-0521, LMJackson66@comcast.net
- **Kit Supplies Storage** (kits, fabric, patterns, bags) – Sally Hanson
- **Membership Chair –** Deb Brechtel.....(317) 416-7992, indydeba23@outlook.com
- **Newsletter Editor** – Beth Raker
- **Port Pillow Kits and Distribution** – Cindy Mehaney…269-816-1207, newfponyfg@gmail.com
- **Quilt Tops & Backs (Ready to Quilt) Storage** – Sally Hanson
- **Secret Pals** – Nancy Breidenbach…(574) 256-5391, dnbreidenbach@gmail.com
- **Sit & Sew/Workshop Supplies Storage** – Annette Blaschuk…269-845-6005, annetteblaschuk@aol.com
- **Trailer and Drapes Storage** – Jody Crandall… (269) 591-1162, jodycrandall@yahoo.com
- **Web Master** – Deb Brechtel

We meet on the 4th Monday of every month except we do not meet in December.

Visitors are welcome and can attend two meetings without joining. Membership dues are $30 per year and the year is from August through July. Seniors ages 80+ pay $15 per year. Dues are also prorated for new members by the half year. So any new members joining in August through January pay full dues, but in February through July will pay half dues.

Website: ***www.nilespiecemakers.com***
Password: fourflags

Facebook: ***www.facebook.com/NilesPiecemakersQuiltGuild***

Charity Quilt Sizes Needed:

These sizes are approximate, and any size will be accepted.
The two sizes we give most are:

40x56 for baby quilts and 60x72 for cancer and infusion patients.

We also need:

- St. Margaret's House: Twin bed size quilts which are about 72x90, or even bigger.
- Wheelchair lap quilts: About 30x30 up to 40x40.
- NICU: 20x20 up to 24x24 small quilts for the NICU. It's appreciated to have flannel on the back to make them especially soft as they are used to cover the babies as they leave the hospital so that their eyes aren't hurt by the bright lights.
- NICU: 40x40 blankets to cover the Isolettes.
- NICU: Flannel hearts about 5-6" made of doubled flannel to be given to moms and babies to carry the scent for comfort. Each mother needs four.
- Port pillows – used on the seatbelt to protect the port worn during chemo or after other surgeries. Kits are often available at meetings. The directions are also available on our website.

QUILTERS DREAM ESTATE SALE FOR SUSAN WEAVER

July 17-18th & July 24-25th – 8 to 5 Eastern
No Early Birds
1579 Riverside Rd. Niles, MI 49120

Handi-Quilter Long Arm Machine and accessories

Baby Lock Sewing machine and accessories

Other items for sale:

- Quilt Shop Quality Fabric Yardage -Pre-cuts, Fat Quarters, Panels (approx. 500 yards of fabric)
- Multiple quilt kits
- Wide selection of Quilting Rulers
- Notions—Irons, Scissors, Batting, and Patterns
- Embroidery-crewel-needlepoint Items—kits, tools, and accessories
- Other Miscellaneous items—including heirloom handmade quilts

No cards accepted—cash or check—all items from a Pet & Smoke Free Home
***Questions—Contact Stephen Weaver 269-684-8755 or Linda Lizenby 574-298-1845