NILES PIECEMAKERS QUILT GUILD
NEWSLETTER – MAY 2026

NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY, MAY 26
Hope Community Church
2390 Lake St, Niles, MI

Program: Jan's Jackets – Learn Her Secrets

PRESIDENT'S GREETINGS

I hope you are having a great spring season and are getting ready for summer adventures! How are your Challenge Quilts coming along? The Guild Challenge is to make a Log Cabin quilt block (or many) using the color you received somewhere in your block. We will show our Challenge Quilts at the August Picnic. I am looking forward to seeing your creations!
Sally

CHARITY QUILTS

Once of our quilts is traveling to Hawaii for charity. And one to the Infusion Center in Niles. A couple more will be delivered soon.

BUS TRIP TO AQS QUILT SHOW IN GRAND RAPIDS

Pick up your tickets soon to be sure of getting a seat! The trip is on Friday, August 21 and we meet at Hope Community Church. The bus will leave the parking lot promptly at 8 AM. We board the bus after the show at 4 PM. Tickets cost $60 which includes admission to the show. There is plenty of storage under the bus so you can shop as much as you wish! Here is a link to the show:
https://www.americanquilter.com/quiltweek/show/grand-rapids-2026/

SCAM EMAILS – KNOWN AS PHISHING

There is no need to notify us if you get one, but it would be a VERY GOOD idea to mark it as a scam or "Report Phishing" – use whatever setting you see on your device. We know about it now from multiple people and have no way to make it stop. Some of us have received two or more.

It is a little bit interesting that the messages are getting to be slightly more believable. But the email address they are coming from is definitely not Sally! Plus, she would never ask you to get gift certificates for her for any reason whatsoever.

We fear that the fact that our membership list was on our website may be how they got your email. You need our password to access it, but scammers are smart and may have found a way around it. So that list has been taken down. We COULD post it again as a picture instead of text which would make it harder for the scammers to skim the information, but for now, we are going to leave it off entirely. If you need a list, contact Beth Raker. She can either email you a copy or bring a paper copy to the next meeting.

PIECEMAKERS WEBSITE

It's a miracle! Beth was able to access the site last week and do some updates. Deb Brechtel can also access it. So we still have two people that can make sure it's working and continue updating information. After researching alternatives, we've realized that this site is definitely less expensive than any alternative we've been able to find, so at least for the foreseeable future, we will continue with this one.

We still plan to digitize our archives. Those files will be stored on flash drives rather than on the website. Perhaps some of the most interesting pieces will be put there once we see what we have.

APRIL MEETING MINUTES ARE ATTACHED.

Treasurer's Report - May 2026

4/1/2026 - Overall Beginning Balance	**$**	**14,015.92**
INCOME:		
	$	-
EXPENSES		
2027 Retreat Deposit	$	250.00
Charity Quilt - Backing material	$	271.94
Stamps for Newsletters	$	93.60
4/30/2026 - Checking Account Balance:	**$**	**4,052.78**
Savings Account Balance:	**$**	**9,347.75**
Overall Ending Balance	**$**	**13,400.53**

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

- **May 26 (Tuesday because of Memorial Day):** Jan's Jackets – Learn Her Secrets (Jan Holdeman)
- **June 22:** Quilts of Valor: In the Bend – Everything you want to know about Quilts of Valor. There will be kits available if you'd like to make one and donate it. The program will occur before Show & Tell this month.
- **July 27:** Claudia Lash Trunk Show
- **August 24:** Membership Picnic and Challenge Reveal

SIT & SEW / WORKSHOP MEETING DATES

Details will be included in the newsletter prior to meeting.

- **May 16** – Sit & Sew this month this month is happening at Melody VanLue's church. Please let her know if you're planning to attend. You can call or text Melody at 269-876-7276.
  Location: Calvary Church, 3001 W Cleveland Rd, South Bend
- **June 20:** Miracle Binding/Machine Binding Lesson with Annette, Beth and Pam. There will be charity quilts to bind if you wish AND/OR bring your own projects to work on.

Happy Birthday to Our Members!

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

MAY	JUNE
11 – Pat Turner	7 – Brenda Allison
12 – Tracey Krueger	9 – Cheri Rissman
18 – Carol Fairchild	15 – Kim Barnes
20 – Jenny Chapla	22 – Kim Clark
20 – Judy Bubanovich	26 – Cathy Stair
25 – Lisa Heller	
31 – Dale Dean III	

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 half dues. 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.