



Westerville Quilt Guild

NEWS

Volume 22, No 10 — October 2026



October 27, 2026

Christina Sidebottom —

President - of - the - Month

Sashiko — Japanese Art of Stitching

Christina will be talking about Sashiko:

- What is Sashiko
- The history of Sashiko
- The equipment needed to do Sashiko
- Some examples of Sashiko patterns
- Projects you can make with Sashiko
- Let's trace some patterns onto fabric using Sashiko templates
(I will provide the materials necessary for this)



Secret Sisters

Please remember your Sister this month. If you are not going to be at guild, please find someone else to bring your gift. Thanks!



Queen Bee

Please remember to bring this month's block to the meeting.

If you missed last month, look at our text group to get the pattern. Thank you!



SOCIAL TIME - Meet and Greet - Arrive Early When You Can...

Start gathering around 6:30. Greet friends & MEET new members. **Members:** This month make sure you find someone you would like to know better, a new member or guest, and introduce yourself. **New Members/Guests:** If you are a new member/guest, approach someone you don't know and introduce yourself. Learn a little about the other person and share a bit about yourself! We are a friendly bunch!

We meet on the 4th Tuesday of each month, 6:30 pm Social Time, 7:00 p.m. Meeting, at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 4686 East Walnut Street, Westerville, OH 43081, Web Site: <http://www.WestervilleQuiltGuild.com>, E-mail: westervillequiltguild@gmail.com

Fun With Fabric 2026

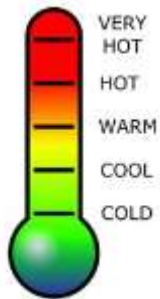
Daytime Sewcial Meetings!

As you probably saw from the Facebook posts, our workdays have been most productive.

Held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, 1-4 pm. Please join us!

FWF Challenges 2026 Due in February

TEMPERATURE QUILT



We hope everyone is having a breezy time with their temperature quilts. If you are doing this year it is really going to be interesting. (I don't know about your garden, but our tomatoes sadly underperformed in the cold nights!) If you've been working along your 3/4s through after September...stay cool and carry on.



AMERICA 250 CELEBRATION BOM

America 250 celebration
BOM month theme blocks:

JAN — Ohio Firsts — Ohio Star
FEB — Ohio Works — Monkey Wrench
MAR — Ohio Entertains — Arts Square
APR — Ohio Moves — Propeller
MAY — Ohio Creates — Flights of Fancy
JUN — Ohio Outdoors — Ohio Trails
JUL — Ohio Gathers — Picnic Basket
AUG — Ohio Goes to the Fair — State Fair

2026 Program Sneak Peek



October 27 - *Sashiko, Japanese Art of Stitching* - Christina Sidebottom

November 17 - Janice Baer, Jeff Bretthauer, & Connie Gelfer — Annual Holiday Party

Raffle Baskets — there will not be raffle baskets for the rest of the year. We are traveling and won't be preparing any baskets.

SEP — Ohio Plays — Pinwheel Variations

OCT — Ohio Grows — Corn and Beans

NOV — Ohio Serves — Sawtooth Star

DEC — Future Ohio — Bright Hopes

For more information on America 250 Ohio go to <https://tka.1c9.myftpupload.com/2026-celebration-themes/>

Freed After Decades of Unjust Imprisonment — Gary Tyler Quilts to Tell His Story

Determined to see the positive in life, Tyler focuses on his art to help others.



Gary Tyler, 67, is a fiber artist living and working in Los Angeles. His memoir, *Stitching Freedom*, was published in 2025.

Quilting is how I tell stories, many of which are drawn from my time on death row. My self-portrait *Captivity* is

inspired by a photo of me standing against a brick wall in jail a few months after I'd been arrested. I stitched it in black and white. I wanted to show that I'd become immersed in the wall, overwhelmed by the forces controlling my life. "I recalled my grandmother making blankets and my mother sewing dresses, creating something new in the world," says Tyler, who made quilts to raise money for the prison's hospice program.

I was 16 when I was arrested for a crime I didn't commit. A protest against school integration had turned violent, and a 13-year-old white boy was shot to death. I was convicted of murder and sentenced to death based on coerced witness testimony that was later recanted. Though my case was the subject of international outcry, I spent 42 years in prison in Louisiana. In the end, my sentence was deemed to be unjust by the U.S. Supreme Court, and I was released in 2016.

Early on, I was bitter and angry. But seeing how this had destroyed other guys in prison, I vowed to channel that negativity into something positive. I gained strength from others who'd endured horrendous conditions but never lost hope, like Nelson Mandela.

So I was one of the first hospice volunteers at Angola. When I went to prison as a teenag-

er, many older guys became like family to me. When they fell ill and faced the end of life, they chose me to care for them. It was a gift and an honor — and it made me whole again.

To raise money for the hospice program, we made quilts. I was reluctant at first; quilting wasn't manly. But I recalled my grandmother making blankets and my mother sewing dresses, creating something new in the world.

As long as I was in prison, I had to rely on lawyers, journalists and activists to speak for me. Now that I'm free, I'm able to speak for myself and stitch stories that otherwise wouldn't be told.

We all have a story to tell. You just have to figure out how to tell yours, so it won't be forgotten.



From: <https://www.aarp.org/family-relationships/gary-tyler-quilter-storyteller/>

2026 Committees

Executive Committee

Janice Baer
Shannon Bartlett
Jeff Bretthauer
Beth Gabel
Becky Lance
Kathy Strohm (Treasurer)
Lisa Smith (Newsletter & Website)

Hospitality:

Becky Lance

Fun with Fabric & Service:

Shannon Bartlett
DeeAnn Haworth
Lisa Smith

Keeper of the WQG Quilts & Scrapbooks:

Shannon Bartlett, Scrapbooks
Quilts at St. Paul's

Membership:

Janice Baer
Kathy Warden

Newsletter/Website/Social Media:

Lisa Smith
Janice Baer
Judy Theil

Monthly Opportunity Basket:

Shannon Bartlett

Sunshine Committee:

Christina Sidebottom

Take Down or Put Away Things

Christina Sidebottom



Westerville Quilt Guild

Sunshine Committee

If you know of a member who is sick, has had surgery, or has had a death in the family, please contact **Christina Sidebottom** who will send a card. E-mail: o-side@att.net, telephone: 614-208-2857 (cell).



October 27 is National Black Cat Day!

It's four days before Halloween. As this spooky holiday arrives, everything is eerie, scary and evil. Black

cats are an ominous and foreboding symbol of the Halloween season. Therefore, it is only fitting we celebrate Black Cat Day today, an October 27 holiday. These cats are a dark, evil symbol of Halloween. Witches and demons are known to be able to transform into a black cat and back again whenever they desire. For example, in the movie Hocus Pocus, a witch transformed back and forth into a black cat. As Halloween nears, witches and demons begin to increasingly appear, temporarily transforming at will into a cat, as needed to escape or get near a human victim. Despite all these ominous superstitions, many people believe these cats have the power to foresee prosperity, fortune, and luck.

Did You Know? Black cats are the least adopted pet cat in the United States. I guess their reputation precedes them.

Are black cats good or evil? The answer to this question depends on where you live. In Celtic folklore, it was believed that cats turned into fairies and back. Upon arriving in the New World, Pilgrims put a twist on this belief. They believe these cats are evil and foreboding. They also believed it was a witch or a demon. Never let a black cat cross your path. It will bring bad luck. In Europe, they were once burned alive. People caught harboring a black cat were severely punished. Yet, in Egypt, Great Britain, and Japan, people have just the opposite opinion of black cats. People there see them as bringing good luck and a good omen.

Quote:

"In ancient times, cats were worshipped as gods. Cats have not forgotten this." Author Anon

From: <https://www.holidayinsights.com/moreholidays/october/black-cat-day.htm>

Newsletter Information

Newsletter submissions should be sent as an attachment or typed in the body of an email to the following email address: westervillequiltguild@gmail.com. The "publication" date for the Newsletter will be the 3rd Tuesday of the month. All items submitted to the Newsletter need to be in by the 2nd Tuesday of the month. If you have any questions or suggestions, contact [Lisa Smith](#), WQG Newsletter Editor.