

NEORQC General Meeting Minutes

October 5, 2024 / 10:00 a.m. / VFW Ravenna, Ravenna, OH

Host: NEORQC Executive Board

Minutes By: Mary Rose Norquist, Treasurer
Barbara King, President

Welcome | Barbara King, NEORQC President

Barbara King, President, opened the meeting by welcoming the membership. She reviewed the agenda. The Executive Board members were introduced. Past officers were asked to stand and be recognized. There were two Past President Cindy Casciato and Janis Hittle. Barbara explained the organization is a non-profit organization and the grant recipients presenting today and the newly funding grants supports our mission of promoting the art of quilting in the community.

Minutes | Barbara King, President

The minutes from the June 1, 2024 General Meeting were presented. A motion was made to approve the minutes without changes by Cathy Parker and seconded by Jan Nolan. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report | Mary Rose Nordquist, Treasurer

The balance of the checking account as of October 5, 2024 was \$17,682.43. The savings account balance as of October 5, 2024 was \$8,591.40. Currently the large deposits are Getaway registration deposits. A motion was made then seconded to approve the Treasurers Report. Motion carried. The treasurer's report was filed for audit. Mary Rose informed the membership the organizations taxes were being prepared and expect to receive them shortly. The accountant has been on vacation.

Guild Roll Call | Margaret LaVenja, Vice President

Margaret LaVenja, Vice President, conducted the roll call of guilds. Twenty-four guilds were represented at the meeting. The guilds in attendance provided their guild updates and upcoming activities. Any upcoming events were shared with the membership. One shop was present, Judy Phillips from Sew Déjà vu. Three teachers were present Linda Miller, Cindy Casciato, and Elizabeth Bauman who also provided updates.

Membership Update | Linda Roberto, Membership

Currently the organization consists of approximately 1,517 members from 39 guilds. Linda discussed the membership renewal process will begin in November with membership forms submitted by completed by January 31, 2025. Membership cards will no longer be printed and mailed by the organization. This will be saving to the organization of about \$200.00. A digital file will be mailed to each guild with their membership cards. The file will be formatted to allow each guild to print the membership cards on business size card stock.

Grants| Cathy Parker, Grants Chair

The five 2023-2024 NEORQC Grant recipients made presentations displaying how the

grant funds were utilized.

- Sew4Service presentation was completed by Lucy Kulbago.
- Calico Hearts with Girl Scout Troop 90110 presentation was completed by the Girl Scout Group (Leader and two girls) along with a display board with photos. The troop made cross over bags and pillowcases that were displayed.
- Girl Scout Troop 91278, Ohio Star Quilters presentation was by Pam Workman on behalf of the Troop along with a display board with photos and example headbands. The girl scouts made 150 headbands for children at the Akron Children's Hospital.
- Kids Quilt presentation was completed by Ohio Star Quilt Guild and along with a display board with photos and messages from the children involved with the project. Quilts made were shown and stories shared about the project and the children involved.
- Tuscarawas County 4-H Quilt Day presentation was completed by the 4H Group Leader. The 4H Group made quilts that were displayed and worked on a Quilt of Valor that was presented to the veteran at the County Fair.

Cathy shared we had a record number of grant submissions for 2024-2025. Seven grants were funded for a total of \$2,435.00.

- County Piecemakers for \$500.00 – Teach Hand Quilting. The guild demonstrates hand quilting at the annual county fair. The guild explains and encourages individuals to participate. The guild will provide a simple beginning hand quilting kit to interested individuals along with a list of quilt guilds in Portage County with contact information for a few of the guild members for future help.
- Sew4Service for \$250.00 – Improving Your Quilting Skills. The project includes two workshops each 5 hours long teaching participants how to use the quilting tools that come with their sewing machine. They will learn how to add a border with mitered corners and add binding to a quilt both by hand and machine.
- Ohio Star Quilters for \$250.00 – Kids Quilt 2025. Teaching kids to quilt with the assistance of parents, grandparents, other family, and guild members. This project will increase student interest in the art of quilting. Novice quilters will make an easier pattern quilt and more experienced will use a more challenging pattern. They will learn basic sewing and quilting skills including applique and binding
- Friends Quilt Together for \$350.00 – My First Quilt. Students will gain knowledge of quilting vocabulary, using a sewing machine, pressing, the importance of following a pattern and keeping quilt blocks organized to maintain the layout, and confidence to finish mini steps that will lead to a finished quilt.
- Tuscarawas County 4H for \$300.00 – Veteran's Honor Quilt. The project will introduce 4H members to the world of quilting by making quilts for veterans as a countywide service project. The members will make five quilts that will be presented to veterans at the annual county fair.
- Immaculate Heart of Mary Creative Quilters for \$400.00 – Creative Quilters. The project will teach the basics of sewing and quilting by students making a themed quilt, a pillowcase, a tote bag, a patchwork pincushion, small crossover bag, and other small projects. This will be a 16-week program with the students meeting once a week.
- Girl Scout Troop 91278 for \$385.00 – Teaching Kids to Quilt Making Kennel Mats. The project is for each girl to make a minimum of two kennel mats while learning basic sewing skills and expanding skills for girls that participated in the past years project.

2025 Getaway | Mary Rose Nordquist, Treasurer/Getaway Chair and Barbara King, President

The Getaway is February 14-16, 2025 at the Holiday Inn Canton Belden Village. Registration opened on September 1 and currently there are 105 registered attendees. Space is limited with only 15 spots remaining. The Getaway information and registration form is available on the NEORQC website. Noon Sharpening will be on site on Saturday to sharpen scissors and Dennis from Somewhere Sewing will be on site Saturday and Sunday (if needed) for sewing machine check-up and cleaning. The cost will be \$40.00 per machine for basic cleaning and check-up. There are nine possible classes which will be reduced to five classes and open studio based on registrations.

Newsletter | Jean Krusinski, Newsletter Editor

Please let Jean know the happenings of your guild, shows, and events so she can include them in the newsletter. She is always looking for articles to include in the newsletter. If your guild or you have an article to share please email it to Jean. The newsletter is published one month prior to the general meeting.

Webpage | Sue Straub, Webmaster

Sue asked the membership to provide her with guild updates and events that can be added to the events page. Send information to sstraub@gmail.com. All information on the website is up to date including the Shop Hop card updates, current guild, teacher and shop listings will be updated. She thanked individuals for providing her information and any corrections they notice.

Facebook page | Janis Hittle, Administrator

Janis shared that individuals are trying to invite other people into the Facebook group. She reminded the membership that the group is a private group. Each individual needs to request to join through answering two questions specific to NEORQC. An individual cannot send invitations for others. The group is growing and it is one method that the Executive Board and membership share information with other members.

General Meeting | Margaret LaVenja, Vice President

- March 2025 – North Coast Needlers at Pins and Needles in Middleburg Heights.
- June 2025 – Country Piecemakers
- October 2025 – A host guild is needed.

Presentation | Judy Phillips from Sew Deja Vue Quilt Shop

Shop Hop Drawing | Margaret LaVenja

There were numerous entries and five shop hop winners. The winners receive gift cards to member quilt shops. Please support the shops that support our organization. The Shop Hop Cards are available on the website and include all the shops that are members. You get the shop hop card signed at the shop. Return the card to a general meeting for a chance of a gift card from one of the quilt shops. We buy gift cards from

those shops to be used as prizes for shop hop.

Show and Tell

There were numerous show and tell projects shared by the membership including all the annual challenge projects. Two members both won \$10 gift cards for their show and tell.

New Business / Barbara King, President

- Barbara discussed the need to increase membership rates. The membership rate of \$1.00 per person has been in effect for at least 20 years. Membership fees cover the expenses of the general meeting and operating costs. The grants are funded through the Getaway income. With the increase in room rentals and general costs, the Executive Board has discussed the need to increase membership dues. The membership dues will remain the same for 2025 and increase for 2026. The Executive Board will review the budget needs and operating costs of the organization to determine the increase.
 - The Executive Board received very positive feedback about the Tea Party and suggestions to have the tea party annually. The executive Board discussed and decided to host a Tea Party theme General Meeting every five years on the anniversary years of the organization. This will allow the event to be special and maintain annual budget costs. The Osnaburg Quilt and Fiber Guild is looking for new members. If interested, the guild's information is posted on the NEORQC website.
 - The organization received an email that an individual would like to donate quilting supplies and fabric to a guild. The items were her mother's, who was an avid quilter. If a guild is interested, they can email her at kelliott425@hotmail.com.
 - There were no topics from the membership.
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Annual Challenge | Janice Brown (absent) handled by Janis Hittle

"Zebra With A Kick." was the 2024 annual challenge theme. There were 29 challenge entries. The small quilt category was won by Carolyn Artie, large quilt by Barbie Zwick, and miscellaneous by Cathy Parker for a jacket. Each winner was presented with a \$20.00 check. Janis shared the 2025 Challenge "EYE Spy." The challenge must include an eye. It is encouraged to hide the eye. The three categories will remain the same. The challenge projects are due at the October 2025 General Meeting.

Adjournment| Barbara King

The President thanked the Executive Board for hosting the General Meeting. The membership was reminded that the Streetsboro Quilt Show was still in progress. The President adjourned the meeting.