



NBQA General Membership Meeting
February 19, 2026 – Zoom
6:30-8:30 p.m.
MINUTES

At 6:30 p.m. Gail invited Lisa to introduce the speaker Tina Curran. Tina explained that she uses traditional techniques and traditional patterns with modern fabrics. She lived in downtown Chicago and was highly motivated by Freddy Moran who created brightly colored scrap quilts. She has had no formal training and began her quilting journey after college using a 1952 Featherweight machine. Over the course of her presentation she showed many of her quilts and gave details and explanations of how they came about. An interesting addition was that many of her designs and ideas become Christmas Quilts that become her Christmas card each year. The chronology of how this came to be and the result was very interesting. Now she uses a Bernina sewing machine, has an Etsy shop that includes downloadable patterns and a monthly newsletter that you can request. She also presents Zoom classes that are applicable for everyone.

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 Gail welcomed everyone and introduced our new member, Susan Eastman and welcomed back Mary Elizabeth Palumbo and Evie Chermers.

The request was made for any corrections to the minutes of the January 15, 2026 General Membership meeting that was emailed to all. There were no corrections made. Gail made a motion to accept the minutes of the January 15, 2026, meeting. All were in favor. The motion passed.

REPORTS

Gail Macera, President

Gail reminded the members that there are vacancies on the Board for the NBQA 2026/2027 year: President, Vice President, Secretary, Historian, Membership. Please contact Robin Gardner if you are interested in any of these positions. Also, we are still looking for someone who has been a part of the guild for a while to work alongside Robin as a member of the nominating committee.

Gail announced that the next board meeting was going to be on March 5th, 2026 in person at Island Creations by Louise.

Tina Zuffoletti, Vice President

There are still tickets available for the Shoe Fly raffle quilt. Contact her if you would like some.

Joan Potter, Quilt Show update

Joan explained that the deadline for submission of applications was the day of the meeting, February 19th and that at that time there were 191 submissions. She said that it is critical to respect the deadline because of the work needed to be completed for the organizing still to be done. She has been reviewing guild scrapbooks and is looking for special pictures and info that can be used to spotlight occasions from the past. She noted that in years past the guild meetings often had wine and cheese meetings. She will bring the scrapbooks to the March

meeting and the next meeting and the quilt show. If you recognize something that is not captioned please feel free to add the information on that page. Also, there are flyers and bookmarks available at Louise's shop. Please bring some home to distribute.

There will be sign-up sheets at the March meeting for volunteer opportunities. Please sign up. There has been a change in the actual set-up schedule. The Civic Center is not available on Thursday as originally planned. There is hope that some of the materials can be dropped off on Thursday but for now set up will be starting on Friday morning. The time is to be determined. Please bring friends and family to help!

There is still a need for basket raffle items and silent auction items. Geri Bergren will be having a meeting in March if you can help assemble the baskets. If you have created baskets you can drop them off on Friday March 17th at the Civic Center.

If you have small items for the Silent Auction please get in touch with Alice Hourihan.

The committee will be meeting soon to fine-tune the set up plan and will have that info as soon as possible.

Volunteers are needed at the March meeting to take and place street signs in areas of good traffic.

Marylou Umbriano, Traveling Treasurer

Marylou asked that from now on please be sure to date all checks used to sign up for workshops. All checks will be deposited as they are received. The checking account balance is \$5,301.70, the savings account balance is \$23,215.69, the CD balance is \$8,403.49. There is a total of 36,920.88 in our accounts. The check that has been outstanding is going to be shredded.

The motion was made to accept the Treasurers' report. All were in favor, the motion passed.

Karen Iris, Secretary/QOV

Karen reported that there was an award ceremony on Sunday February 15th at the Seabee Museum and Memorial Park. This was unusual because the museum wasn't open. There was one veteran who was draped with a Quilt of Valor. This is the first Sunday ceremony that we have held and the first where family and friends came to Hut 3 and stayed to visit. We were able to show the process of a quilt and answer lots of questions. This was the first time that our veteran shared a number of his stories with us and his friends and family.

Sunday ceremonies may happen more often. We are still meeting on Wednesday mornings in Hut 3 although weather often determines if that happens. As the conditions warm up we will provide a weekend a month when we will sew on Friday and Saturday. If the response is good this can become more regular.

We are getting more and more veterans nominated. If you are able to help with any aspect of the program your help will be greatly appreciated. We know now that we will be having a ceremony for 4 veterans on March 4th, at least 6 veterans are scheduled to be awarded in August and in October we are making plans for 15. We will plan to have kits available in April and May for you to take if you can sew this summer. We have fabric and patterns that we can loan, if you complete a quilt top we will take care of the batting and backing and will complete the quilting process.

Thank you in advance for any and all help. The next ceremony will be on March 4th at the Chapel in the Pines on the Seabee property at 11:00 a.m. for four veterans. Please join us if you are able.

Programs, Lisa Bagian and Robin Gardner

Lisa reported that there were 9 people signed up for the Saturday workshop. There are only 3 signed up for the next one in March. If you are wanting to attend please notify Lisa or Robin. You can find all the information for all upcoming workshops on both the website and on the Facebook account.

Gail explained that the Zoom link would be sent out on Friday morning. Gail will open the room on Saturday. Robin will work with Gail to follow up.

Sheri Bolduc, Pat Hendrickson, Membership

The NBQA membership now stands at 175. There were 63 members in attendance tonight.

Michele Varin, Newsletter

Michele has started to gather information for the next newsletter. It will go out shortly after the Board meeting that will be on March 5th, 2026

Roxanne Williams, Historian

All is going well.

Pat Kiley – Hospitality

Status Quo

Patricia Andraka, Maria Knight, Website

The website has been updated. They have no pictures for the May workshop that will be done by Billie and Kassie. The title for the workshop is Potato Chip Flip. More information will come soon.

Comfort Quilts

The person who will be speaking at the General Membership Meeting is going to be vending materials and has asked that she be the only vendor so we will not be hosting The Boutique.

The Comfort Quilt Committee is looking at dates in the Spring for a sew-in. Information will be available soon.

Cindy Corey, Door Prizes

The Door Prize drawing will be back in March when we meet in person.

Peggy Lane, Education Committee

Myra reported for Peggy. The committee is looking for additional venues to work. They will be doing a 2-day workshop at the Hope Alzheimer Center. In addition, they will be working with groups at the Narragansett Library for a multi-visit quilting project for 6-8 people and at the Warwick library they have been asked to offer 2 activities related to their "America 250" theme. At the quilt show they will be using the Strawberry Pin Cushion kits that were made for a prior event as handouts. They are going to have a special raffle basket that will be using an Irish theme. If you have any items such as teas, biscuits, books, hankies etc. they will be appreciated.

Louise Pankiewicz, Special Events

The bus for the trip to the AQS Quilt Show in Hartford, Connecticut is full. There are some who have not paid and if they don't pay soon there may be some seats available. Louise has made arrangements to take a bus to the New England Quilt Museum on May 13th, 2026. The bus that is being used is smaller and will only hold 36

people. This trip is only for NBQA members. There will be a flyer on the website and it will be announced in the NBQA newsletter.

Tina Zuffoletti, Facebook

Status quo.

Alice Hourihan, New England Quilt Museum

Alice reiterated the information related to the bus trip to the New England Quilt Museum. Another benefit to this trip is that there will be no admission charge for NBQA members. If you have items that can be used for the Silent Auction please get them to Alice at the March meeting or at any time possible. Alice reminded us that the speaker for the April general membership meeting will be Pam Weeks from the NEQM.

OTHER:

Robin Gardner asked that if you are interested in being a part of the NBQA board please contact her to be included in the nomination process.

Lori Lambert asked where the table for demonstrations at the quilt show would be. At this time it is expected to be near the Education/Vendors' area.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:09. The next General Membership meeting will be an in-person meeting on March 19th, 2026 at the usual location - United Methodist Church of East Greenwich, 1558 South County Trail.

Respectfully submitted

Karen Iris, Secretary