



Village Squares Quilters

Newsletter – April 2026

Editors: Candice Abraham, Carol Williams

FROM THE DESK OF PRESIDENT JANET BOZZONE

Dear Village Squares Quilters,

Well, my iPhone says it 61° F out today, so I don't know if I am jinxing us by saying that March came in like a lion and is going out like a lamb. I'm happy to see that the mounds of snow have finally disappeared and signs of spring are popping up in our lawns and gardens. Now, the conundrum will be whether to weed or sew.

I wanted to thank Jean Borsellino and Jim Seisfeld for making our last month's "*Members Teaching Members*" program a success. I hope everyone enjoyed our presentations. I am still trying to master some of these technological advances we have available to us, but...if the stars have aligned properly...I will have uploaded the videos and presentations from our last meeting to the members only section of our website.

At our next meeting on Tuesday, April 14, 2026, we will host our annual Charity Sew-A-Thon. This special event is dedicated to working on both individual and group projects for the organizations we support. Everyone is encouraged to participate in whatever way they enjoy, whether designing, cutting, sewing, or pressing. Susan Wolman has suggested creating quilts featuring half-square triangles for creative inspiration, but you are welcome to work on any project that speaks to you. For those who attended our last meeting, I demonstrated several methods for making half-square triangles and have since prepared an updated video to help clarify the process. I've also included several links with additional ideas, techniques, and design options to inspire your quilting.

We're looking forward to a fun and productive day creating beautiful quilts! You're welcome to set up any time after 11:00 a.m., and I'll be available for hands-on demos as needed. Our room will have several electrical connections, and I'll be sending out a quick survey to see how many plan to bring sewing machines. We'll also take a break for our business meeting and Show-N-Tell—so be sure to bring any projects you've completed over the winter to share.

Reminder: Janice Ewing will be bringing fabric from her stash for sale, so be sure to bring cash or a checkbook to take advantage of some great bargains. We're also happy to accept Zelle! All proceeds will be donated to the guild. With rain in the forecast for the rest of the week, it sounds like the perfect excuse to spend some extra time in the sewing studio—working on half-square triangles and postponing yard work for another day. I'm sure many of you will be making the most of this creative time as well.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at our next meeting and until then I will try to keep the Village Squares Quilters in stitches!

J Bo

REMINDERS

- **Food restrictions at WRT – no pork products, no shellfish and no nuts**
- **Should there be any last-minute changes to the meeting location, VSQ will contact you via email (for those with email) or phone (all others) as per VSQ's snow emergency procedures. So, please check email (or voicemail) before leaving home for the meeting.**
- **Please wear your name tag.**



CALENDAR – Upcoming VSQ Meetings

2026	Format
April 14	in person
May 12	in person
June 9	Annual Luncheon



Annual Charity Sew-A-Thon – April 14, 2026

Get ready for a fun, inspiring day of creativity! Whether you enjoy designing, cutting, sewing, or pressing, there's a place for you. Every stitch counts in supporting the organizations we care about—so come join us and be part of something special!



WELCOME, NEW MEMBER!

Jean Borsellino

We're excited to welcome our newest members to the guild! It's always a joy to see our quilting family grow, and we look forward to getting to know each of you and your creativity. See bios:

Daniela Datcu - I was born in Romania and moved to Long Island in 2013. Since quilting isn't part of Romanian tradition, attending my first quilt show was a true revelation — I quickly discovered that quilting is far more than a technique; it's a genuine art form. I took my first steps in the craft with the Northern Star Quilting Guild, and this past February I joined VSQ since the daytime meetings fit my schedule perfectly. I'm eager to learn paper piecing, appliqué, and free motion quilting — though my earlier FMQ attempts on a home machine were a bit of a disaster without a longarm! I've also made many lap quilts for charity and look forward to meeting everyone and sharing ideas.

See some of Daniela's work below.



Marianne Ciulla - comes to VSQ with a strong sewing background spanning clothing, home décor, and quilting. Originally a member of Town and Country Quilts of Delaware City, she relocated to Hawthorne in July 2025 and joined VSQ this past March. She looks forward to connecting with fellow members who share her passion for the craft!



March 2026 Quilt Donations Report

Maria Eyckmans

Donor	Number of Quilts	Recipient
Jean Borsellino &	1	Elizabeth Seton
Daniela Datcu	1	Elizabeth Seton
Maureen Carline	1	Project Linus
Ronnie Huvane	2	Elizabeth Seton
Deb Johnson	1	Elizabeth Seton
Visit the VSQ website to explore all our donation sites		

A Heartfelt thank you from Elizabeth Seton Children of Yonkers to VSQ -- ""Thank you for the beautiful handmade quilts crafted with love for the children and young adults residing at Elizabeth Ann Seton Children's Center. Our mission is to give a full and happy life to children and young adults facing the most challenging medical conditions. Your generosity brings comfort to those entrusted to our care."



Migrant Women Catholic Charities

(Peggy Altman, Mary Ann Byrnes, Doris Capello, Deb Johnston, Connie Walsh)

We are happy to announce that Catholic Charities, in Yonkers, has invited us back to offer a sewing workshop for migrant women in their community. The class will include 8-9 women, some with little or no sewing experience, who will work on the following projects: reading pillows, aprons and placemats, lap quilts, tote bags. We would like to include some children's books with reading pillows, to encourage the love of reading among their children.

If you have any **gently used** children's books that you would like to donate to the migrant women, please bring them to the next VSQ meeting in April. You can give the books to Deb Johnston. Thank you for your constant support of Migrant Moms.



QUILT SHOWS, EXHIBITS OF INTEREST (and other miscellaneous quiltingrelated info)

A website that may be of interest - www.shophopinc.com: Here you will find Shop Hops organized in the different regions of the U.S.

Hurricane Helene Relief (ongoing) Keepsake Quilting, a shop in North Carolina, is collecting and distributing quilts to hurricane victims. Please send donations to: Keepsake Quilting, 505 Aztec Drive, Archdale, NC 27265.

Handwork: Celebrating American Craft 2026: Craft in America (www.craftinamerica.org) is a LA-based non-profit organization founded in 2004 with the mission to promote and advance original handcrafted work through programs in all media. Craft in America has announced Handwork: Celebrating American Craft 2026, a year-long collaboration among organizations, educators, and makers to celebrate the diversity of the crafts that define America, bringing compelling stories and underrepresented art and artists into the spotlight. The Renwick Gallery of the Smithsonian American Art Museum is the lead partner for the initiative and will host the core exhibition for the project. For more info: www.craftinamerica.org

Mancuso Show Management – VSQ member Kate Pendzuk, recommends Mancuso Show Management quiltfest.com, which organizes quilt shows in Virginia, Pennsylvania and virtual. Their shows include three different areas of quilt competition, workshops and many vendors. Accommodation for overnight stays are convenient to the venue. There also is the opportunity to volunteer and in return one gets credit towards a workshop. It is worth checking out the website. If you have questions, I attended the PA Show last September and I will be attending the VA Show in February.

Miscellaneous

Fabric Sale (Apr meeting) – Janice Ewing will be selling quilting cottons at just \$4 per yard at the April meeting, with all proceeds going directly to VSQ. She may also have some shirting, silk and other miscellaneous fabrics available as well. Don't miss out — come ready to shop! 📁 A Tip from Janice - Watch Out for Bleeding Fabrics! Not all fabric is colorfast, even today! Batiks and hand-dyed fabrics are especially prone to color bleeding. This was discovered the hard way after piecing a table runner and had to work to minimize the damage. Always test your fabrics before starting your next project!

Quilting & Sewing event – (Katherine Pendzuk) see the link to All New York Shop Hop, a statewide quilting and sewing event: <https://allnewyorkshophop.com/>

Hour Children event – (Janet Bozzone) – see the RSVP invite in link to the Hour Children special evening on April 15, 2026 honoring ongoing support and dedication to Host families. Hour Children operates the nursery inside Bedford Hills Correctional Facility. [Host Family Event at Bedford Playhouse](#)

Sewing Machines – **Susan Wolman** announced that Mitchell at Sewing Machines, located at 6 N. Central Avenue in Hartsdale, NY, is offering **50% off all notions**. For more information, please call **(914) 682-0595**. This sale is **not open to the general public**— so be sure to **mention Susan's name** to receive the discount.

Mailing Tip - Rene Santos shared a great tip for saving on shipping costs when sending packages via UPS or USPS. By using Pirate Ship, shipping expenses can be reduced to as little as **one-third of the standard counter or online rates**. For example, a 5-pound box of quilts shipped to Rhode Island would have cost about \$24 with either carrier, but through Pirate Ship it cost just **a little over \$8**. Rene also noted that using the **smallest possible box based on length × width × height** helps secure the lowest price for the same weight. Pirate Ship offers **bulk-rate discounts** with major carriers and passes those savings on to users. Best of all, **there's no cost to sign up**. Check it out here <https://ship.pirateship.com/>

Refreshments - We are looking for volunteers to provide refreshments for our upcoming meetings! We currently have several open slots for the remainder of the year. If you'd like to help keep our group fueled and hydrated, please reach out to jmoccio@optimum.net to sign up.

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