

EVENTS AND DEADLINES - SAQA FLORIDA REGION

TRIO exhibit at Lighthouse ArtCenter, Tequesta, FL

Opening reception Thurs, April 23 Exhibits through August 1

Next SAQA-FL regional meeting via ZOOM

Sunday, April 12 at 2pm

In-Person Workshop

Wednesday, April 22 9am - 4pm with Lisa Thorpe

2026 Florida Retreat

Friday - Sunday June 12, 13,14

Coming
Events
at a glance

Welcome New Members

Sheila Duncan	8	duncansheila30@gmail.com	West Palm Beach	FL	33417
Vonda Sexton	4	Kvsexton@hotmail.com	Oviedo	FL	32765
Melissa Tuck	3N	snomelting@gmail.com	The Villages	FL	32162

Great News!
Way to Go!

Congratulations to **Anne Jones**, whose work *One Fish Two Fish* has been purchased by a patron from the regional exhibit, *TRIO*, while the works were exhibiting at the Ormond Memorial Museum of Art.





Simply Sumptuous Frieda Anderson



DEPARTURE ©
Valerie Goodwin



Frieda Anderson and **Valerie Goodwin** are pleased to announce each of them has had work accepted into 2026 AQE – Art Quilt Elements in Wayne, Pennsylvania.

Congratulations to **Beth Frisbie Wallace** and **Karol Kusmaul** for having their quilts featured in the Member Gallery “Puppy Love” in the current *SAQA Journal*.

Regina Dunn is happy to announce two articles in the Spring edition of *ArtQuilting Studio*. One of them is about her *Goddess* series and one is about 3D Hearts.



The artists of **Dirty Dozen Fiber Artists** are pleased to announce a display of nearly 30 art quilts by 10 artists in the Cocoa Beach Public Library, 550 N. Brevard Ave, Cocoa FL, from

April 1 through the end of May, 2026. Many of the quilts are in response to art challenges shared by the members of Dirty Dozen.



Nina Nicolosi
When the Bough Breaks



Becky Stack
Squares in the Garden



Dij Pacarro
Playground Memories

Three of the Dirty Dozen (Anne Kobus, Ellen Lindner, Bridget Balthrop Morton) will present a talk at the library on the Art & Craft of Quilts in Florida on Friday, April 3 at 3:00 pm. All are welcome!



Following the premiere exhibition of **TRIO** at the Ormond Memorial Museum of Art, TRIO next opens at Lighthouse Art-Center in Tequesta. They are doing a great job promoting and planning for our exhibit.

I hope that lots of SAQA members and friends will be able to attend the **opening APRIL 23** and will spread the word about our exhibit.

--Bobbi Baugh, Exhibition Chair, Florida Region

You are invited to the
OPENING RECEPTION
for
TRIO
at
LIGHTHOUSE ARTCENTER
GALLERY & SCHOOL OF ART
Tequesta, Florida
Thursday, April 23
5 - 7pm
EXHIBIT RUNS APRIL 23 - AUGUST 1, 2026



TRIO IS AN EXHIBIT OF ART QUILTS BY SAQA-MEMBER ARTISTS FROM 3 STATES: FL-GA-SC



IMPROMPTU JAZZ TRIO BY MAXINE HESS WOODSTOCK, GA



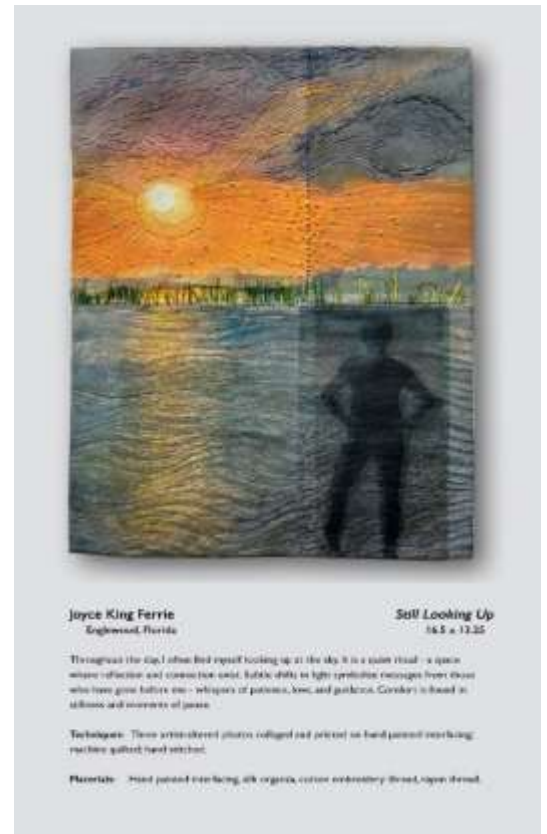
IT WAS GRAND! IT WAS GREAT!

Thanks to all who attended the 2026 Virtual Art Meet & Greet. It was great!

We learned a lot about the jurying process, plus useful techniques, and helpful apps. We got to know one another with breakout sessions and door prize questions. We viewed beautiful quilts in the Showcase exhibit and Show and Tell.

It was all fabulous! Please join us for the next event.

In the meantime, view the [“Inspired by Quilting Arts”](#) showcase quilts. This one is *Still Looking Up* by Joyce King Ferrie, and shows how the showcase artwork looks on their page on <https://www.gallerytextileartsaqaf1.com/>



NEWS... from OUR FLA REGION REPS

from Ellen Simon and Angie Knowles

Florida Regional Meeting

The next regional meeting will be on **Sunday, April 12 at 2 pm, via Zoom**. We will have a special program featuring Candice Phelan and her new edge finishing technique. Candice says this process is great for art quilts that are thicker due to layered fabrics and/or added embellishments like yarns, etc. It doesn't require turning a lot of bulk at the edges and works well with odd-shaped tops. It is surprisingly quick and can be continued to the edge of the quilt.

As always, send your show & tell to Angie no later than Saturday April 11.

Thoughts from Angie . . .

As I reflect on our recent Virtual Art Meet & Greet, I wanted to take a moment to recognize the incredible team that made it all come together so smoothly.

This event truly was a team effort, and it showed in every detail. Our team leader, Ellen Lindner, kept us organized and on track from start to finish, making sure all the moving pieces came together and nothing was overlooked.

Doris Hulse and Ellen Simon took charge of the Virtual Member Showcase, bringing together a beautiful collection of work inspired by our theme, Inspired by Quilting Arts.

Christina Flores took charge of preparing the materials for our jurying exercise, making sure everything was ready and that presenters had what they needed to tie into the overall theme.

Sue Redhead and Dariel Diestelkamp handled the door prizes, gathering a wonderful variety of items and keeping everything running smoothly as winners were selected throughout the event.

And I was responsible for the tech end of things.

It was such a pleasure to work alongside this group. Everyone brought their strengths, supported one another, and helped create an experience that felt both organized and welcoming.

Moments like this remind us how much can be accomplished when a team comes together with a shared purpose and a spirit of collaboration.

ANNOUNCING: DETAILS OF OUR UPCOMING JUNE RETREAT!

---from Ellen Simon

I know it has been a long wait to hear what we have planned for the Florida retreat June 12 - 14. Our original plans to gather at the Carlisle Hotel in Sarasota's Mennonite/Amish neighborhood had to be dropped because the hotel could not offer us any rooms. In fact, within a five mile radius of the retreat site, there were no hotel rooms available. Turns out our chosen weekend is also the weekend for the National Youth Rowing Championships at Benderson Park. So would we have to cancel the entire event? I hated to do that since this was to be my last event as co-rep.

Then the light bulb went off - a dear friend of mine (in Texas) is a part owner of a Hampton Inn in Venice, a lovely community south of Sarasota. Even though they don't have a formal meeting room, they are making a space for us in the "library" right off the lobby. The hotel lobby and all the rooms are newly renovated and quite lovely. The staff will do everything in their power to make this a wonderful weekend for us.

So please join us for creativity, connection and community. The Textile Connections Venice retreat will be a three-day opportunity to share techniques, exchange knowledge and recharge your artistic spirit. This intimate gathering (max 18 members) will include member demos, lunches and afternoon cookie breaks. Scenic downtown Venice, a mile from our host hotel, has a walkable main street chock full of fine restaurants, boutiques and upscale souvenir shops set in lush landscaping and colorful flower arrangements.

RETREAT

Start time 12 pm Friday June 12

End time 5 pm Sunday June 14

Cost: \$125 includes three lunches, beverages, cookies

Hotel rooms: \$153 special rate for Fri and Sat nights, standard Queen or King. This rate is good through May 15.

To book, email either Tiffany.smiley@hilton.com Or Kenneth.McNamara@hilton.com

To register for the retreat go to SAQA.com/store

News from our Pods

Pod 2 *from Christina Flores*

In January we worked on an exercise of composition. We took torn magazine pages and glued to plain white paper. We then cut the pages in triangles and combined all the pieces to create a single piece of art. We discussed the compositions negative and positive space, lines and color. It was a good art exercise.



In March we worked on Sashiko and Slow stitching. We enjoyed the morning and stitching our fabric to make a triangle pouch.



Show N Tell

(Right) Pastel works by Becky Stack



(Far right) Wet felted pieces by Becky Stack





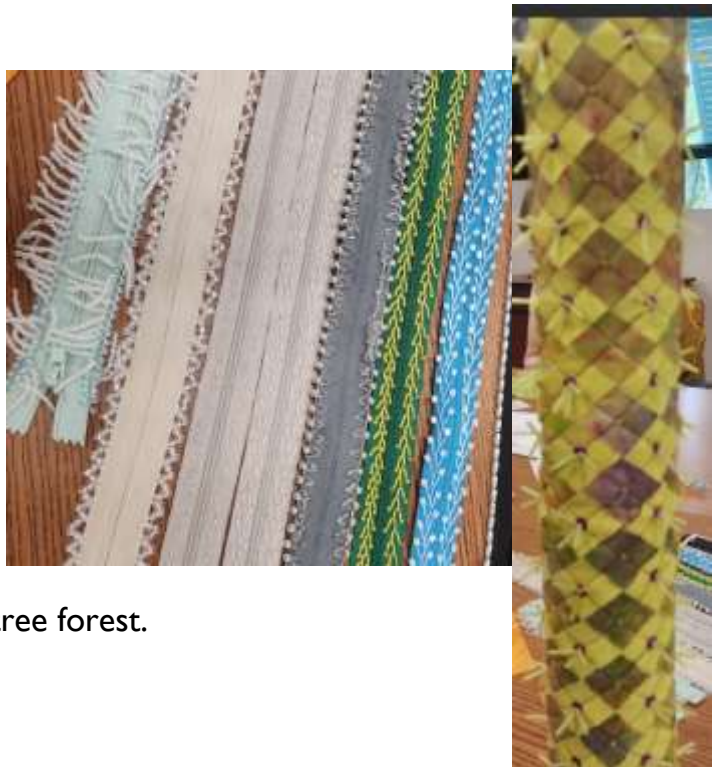
Christina Flores-
Enamel and fused glass jewelry



Emma Fleischer – Journal Cover and shoe-themed quilt



Jan Lipsky Collaged Owl Lindsay Webster Screen Printed Butterflies; Virgin Mother and Bottlecaps



Robbin Neff - *Joy in the Morning*;
embroidered zippers; key lime tree trunk for her tree forest.

Pod 3C *from Kate Bird*

Pod 3C met March 17. They welcomed new member Linda Margolias, a member of the church, who joined the meeting.

Kate Bird - quilt top with woven colored strips of fabric (I didn't take a photo at the meeting, so included a photo in my studio)

Discussion

We discussed the March SAQA state regional meeting: Virtual Art Meet & Greet break outs- juried works for passages and pathways - do the works meet the criteria and together do they represent the idea of the show.

News: An Marshall - Transformation through Art - new group for arts of a size - including Hollis Chatelaine. Related to Jane Dunnewold's archetypes work, with a spiritual element.

Foss shape - for making vessels, it's like an interfacing that shrinks and firms up when heat is applied. Steam it around a form to create a shape. Used by Betty Busby in her classes.

SAQA-Florida is considering moving the June regional meeting to Venice

Virtual Art Meet & Greet break outs- juried works for passages and pathways - do the works meet the criteria and together do they represent the idea of the show

Upcoming

Living in Color - Tampa Bay Surface Design Guild, work due next month

Sewing Expo this weekend - Kathy's quilt will be there

Jacksonville quilt show in September

Activity Led by Kathy, we used water-based markers to create marks on patterned fabric and then applied an alcohol mixture to get the colors to run together

Show and Tell

Mary Ann Braithwaite - wet felting sunset on a lake, uses wool felt for batting for small quilts. Added wool felt on the back for stability - helped with needle felting. Will include a pocket with the photo of the work that is the inspiration.

Sue Gillen - small abstract quilt from limited set of scraps she brought down, and a figurative narrative piece with applique

Stephanie Maurer - small quilt done with satin stitch

Pauline Salzman - wearing a gorgeous quilted jacket with lace applique



Pod 3N Show of Hands Quilters *from Karol Kusmaul*

Attending the March 10 meeting were: Dariel, Kay, Diane, Gail, Doris, and Sue. We also enjoyed a short Face Time call with member Christie, who lives in Qatar and shared her recent experiences. Sorry Christie, for waking you!

We discussed the *Transformation* theme for the Sewing Expo 2027. These quilts will be due in September 2026. Diane shared her plans and some of the images she will be using.

New Business: Next Wed., Mar. 18, Karol will take our *Life and Times* exhibit to Lakeland to set it up at the Sewing Expo 2026. The Expo will be open Mar. 19 – 21.

Suzanne Evenson will be moving to the Baltimore area soon to be closer to her family. She has a Bernina QE B770 machine with extra feet that she would like to sell before leaving. Please contact her if interested in purchasing it. sevenson2@gmail.com Suzanne also plans to downsize her collection of art books and fabrics. She will let us know when she is ready for visitors to come and help her with this. We have missed having Suzanne attend our meetings, and we are sympathetic to her wish to relocate near family.

Big SAQA Business: The annual (virtual) conference will happen April 23 – 25 and will feature fiber artists from Japan, Korea and Taiwan. Even if you cannot attend during these dates, the videos will be available to attendees for three months afterward. This is an excellent opportunity to meet and learn from talented artists worldwide.

Several of our members contributed to the Spotlight Auction program. These quiltlets are only 6 by 8” and don’t take a lot of time. You can also support SAQA by making a Benefit Auction quilt. These are 12” square. Each of these can be made any time of year and saved until called for.

Regional Business: The *TRIO* exhibition has now travelled from Ormond Beach to Tequesta. Several other venues are planned both in Florida and Georgia, and possibly South Carolina. The Florida Exhibition Committee is working on a theme for the next regional exhibition, which will be only Florida members. The theme will be announced soon.

Thanks to Kat for contributing several DVDs of *Quilting Arts*. We each took a few and will enjoy and bring to the next meeting to trade.

One Blood Update: Doris returned our Artist Choice quilts today. The current exhibit is Geometric themed quilts. Kay has a friend who regularly donates blood there and she has enjoyed our various displays. Doris mentioned that the stepstool she and Kris have used has mysteriously disappeared. We pitched in some money for new one.

The next theme will be *Organic*, and these quilts will be collected at our April meeting.

Show and Share: Several members showed current work and experiments.



(Left) work by Diane

(Above) work by Gail

(Right) work by Dariel





(Left and Above) work by Karol

(Above) work by Kay

Activity: Dariel showed us some sampler embroidery and bead stitching.

Next meeting: Diane's home on Tuesday April 14 with Dariel taking notes.

Pod 3 Sarasota *from Ellen Simon*

Pod 3 Sarasota met on Wednesday March 11.

Present: Jill, Peg, Ellen, Marcia, Maggie, Roberta, Lisa, Linda, Cheri, Jann, Leslie, Deb and guest Lore.

Our application for Art Ovation Hotel has been accepted for a gallery showing May - November, 2027. We spent considerable time discussing, debating, dissecting and disagreeing on a theme. We will think it over some more and try again next month.

We now have 16 members who have signed up to participate in the exhibit.

Ellen will come up with a list of items for the potluck with Lisa Thorpe and coordinate with Lynn, our hostess.

There were two show and tells: Cheri showed three art quilts that used various techniques with paint paste. Lisa showed cards and a small, framed art piece.

Our next meeting is Wednesday April 8 at 11 am. at Art Ovation Hotel in downtown Sarasota.

Pod 5 *from Anne Jones*

Numerous Pod 5 and Pod 8 members attended our meeting on March 8.

Kudos: Ellen Lindner and Gabriela DiTota are in Raleigh, NC for the opening of their joint exhibit.

Seaside Piecemakers Quilt Show—Anne Kobus, 1st in Machine Applique and Art Quilts, Honorable Mention in Art Quilts; Deanne Hansen, 2nd and HM in Machine Applique; Jill Brown, 3rd in Special Techniques; Mary Nell Maule, HM in Special Techniques; Joan Engel, 3rd in Art Quilts.

KC shared from the book, Portraits from Life by John Howard Sanden. KC is an artist and explained “wet on wet” oil painting which involves adding paint with no blending. It reminds her of quilting and Kestrel uses a similar technique of adding layers of fabric to create depth.

Virginia Walton presented a program about printing and transferring images to fabric. She showed her quilt, Heros, which utilizes the techniques. She has experimented with three different techniques: inkjet image transfer, freezer paper image transfers, and chiffon image transfer. She provided handouts and led us through a hand-on demonstration.

Our next meeting will be a pool party/potluck at Anne Jones’ house on May 9. Details to follow.



(Above, L to R) *Amish Man and Chicken* KC Grapes,
Colors of My Life Jill Brown; *Eleanor, Daddy and Me* Down by the Sea Linda Geiger



(Above, L to R) Dowel Tote bag by Perlie,
Orbiting Joy by Perlie, with Thermofax printing,
jumper and vest by Mary Nell Maule

(Right)
Woven Spring Flower by Jill Brown

(Far Right)
TRUTH
by DiDi Concepcion



Pod 7 from Cindy Ambler

Pod 7 did not meet in March. We will switch to all Zoom meetings for the foreseeable future

Staying Connected



Angie Knowles
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How to send news for the next newsletter issue:

Send to Bobbi Baugh, Editor
NewsSaqFla@gmail.com

Ellen Simon
Co-Rep Florida Region
cqmaker1950@gmail.com