the BEACHPLUM SAMPLER

The Newsletter of the Beachplum Quilters of the Jersey Shore

Volume 40, Issue 4 • November 2026

President's Message

And just like that, the witches have clocked out and the turkeys are clocking in. And with it, the season of gratitude. Whether we celebrate Thanksgiving as a small intimate meal or a large family get together it is a time to pause and reflect on the blessings in our lives. Our time together to sew and share moments of friendship are an extension of that for which we can also be grateful.

November is also a kickoff to preparations for the December holidays. And, to that order, there's a lot going on at Beachplum! We just finished our last craft fair sponsored by the OC Historical Commission. Our booth was bursting at the seams with our member's handiwork. I was particularly grateful for so many of our stalwart member volunteers who showed up. Thanks for all who supported Sue P's fundraising efforts by making items and for participating! Along with many others, I picked up several stocking stuffer gifts that are sure to please.

For those of you who signed up, we will be making some cute decor at our November Make and Take meeting. The evening promises to be festive as we share some hand sewing time together with cookies and hot cocoa to inspire creativity. If you did not sign up, but plan to attend the November meeting, you can send me an e-mail with your choice of project. Pictures are in our October newsletter. If you attended the November Bee meeting you also had an opportunity to make some very cute ornaments as well.

Several of you have indicated you've been dreaming up your designs for the Beatles Challenge quilt. Of course, the secretive aspect of the challenge adds to the anticipation of the eventual unveiling at our spring luncheon. And, yes, we do have a Chair for the luncheon who will be announced at the meeting. Yay!!

Talking about another unveiling, Ann B. will be announcing a new six-month sew along at our November meeting. Our next quilt show will take place

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Meetings/Events Calendar 2026– 2027

All meetings/events at The Presbyterian Church of Toms River unless otherwise noted. Underlined denotes regular Guild Meeting.

09/13/26 – Island Beach State Park Beachplum Festival
09/18/26 – Pot Luck Dinner; Budget Review; Audit Report; 2025-2026 Block of the Month Showcase; Programs plans
10/10/26 – Holiday City Carefree Craft Fair
10/16/26 – Guest Speaker-Rachel Derstine, Fiber Artist presenting *Artful Couching*; Collection of Fall Placemats
10/17/26 – Saturday Workshop – Poppies Floral Applique with Couching, led by Rachel Derstine, 9am-3pm
11/01/26 – Ocean County Historical Society Craft Faire
11/20/26 – By-Laws Voting; Make & Take Projects Gingerbread Man Pillow or Reindeer Snow Globe Banner
12/18/26 – Pot Luck Dinner
01/15/27 – Left•Center•Right Game night and prizes!
02/19/27 – Spring Placemats collected; Cathy M. Trunk Show
02/20/27 – Pick a workshop: Chiara O., designing quilts using pre-cuts; Laurie S., machine applique; Sherre M., 2 hour demo on Stripology; Mary P., biscuit quilts OR open sew day.
03/19/27 – Regular Meeting; Sherre M. Trunk Show
03/20/27 – Barn Block Painting Party. *Location:* **Wish Upon a Jar,** 3128 Bridge Ave, Point Pleasant, NJ 08742.
04/16/27 – Regular meeting, Panel Palooza Showcase
04/27 – Event TBD.
05/21/27 – Guest Speaker: Sue Pelland-Fast and Fabulous Applique with Leaves Galore
05/22/27 - Saturday Workshop: Sue Pelland-Creating an Applique 'Baltimore Block' with Leaves Galore Ruler, 9am-3pm
06/18/27 – Pot Luck Dinner, Member Photo; Patriotic Placemats collected

(President's Message continued)

in April, 2028 and while that may sound a long way off, the event will be upon us before you know it. Now is a good time to begin thinking about the quilts you may want to show. Participating in this sew along will be one way you could display your creative talents as there will be a special exhibit for the sew along quilts. Having seen the pattern, I can only say it is right up my alley in terms of design and variety of techniques! I think many of you will find it an enjoyable project.

During this Thanksgiving season, I am grateful for our guild, our camaraderie and ability to connect with our community through our charity projects. With all of this food we will be feasting on I am especially grateful for elastic waistbands, lol!!! Many blessing to you and yours!

Best, Ivette

Minutes of the October 16, 2026 Meeting

The meeting was opened by President, Ivette Ramos at 6:30 PM.

I**NTRODUCTION AND WELCOME OF GUESTS AND NEW MEMBERS**: Guests: Chris M and Joy D.

New Members: Anna P. and Carol K.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS: Sue A., Jacky H., Susan K., Cathy M., Joan O'C., Rae R., and Donna S.

OLD BUSINESS:

September Minutes: With no corrections or addition, a motion to accept the September minutes was made by Donna D. and seconded by Dona S.

By-Laws: Ivette R. reported that a copy of the By-Laws was emailed to each member for review with a vote scheduled for the November meeting. Members were reminded that a copy of the old by-Laws can be found on the website for comparison. Clarification was sought by a member regarding Article III, Section I. Social Media. Specifically, questioning whether social media platforms should be identified and secure. Discussion ensued and it was noted that to encompass all current and future platforms that may be used, the phrase "known to be secure" - language felt to be comprehensive and non-limiting, would be included. Also, clarification was sought for Article IV, Membership, A. Specifically, questioning "special incentives for new members who join at the Quilt Show may receive a special incentive for joining". Discussion ensued and it was explained that their paid membership would include May & June – the two months remaining in the guild calendar year, as well as the following full year's membership.

Presbyterian Woman's Group Presentation: Dina N. reported that twenty-six women from the Presbyterian Church in Carlisle, Pennsylvania enjoyed Connie Safran's "Stories from the Scrapbag" at the Brick Branch of the Ocean County Library on October 3, 2026. Connie's authentic period quilts from her personal collection highlighted the historic and instructive aspects of quilting. In addition, guild members brought quilts for a Show and Tell. The morning was enthusiastically received. With gratitude the group made a donation of $250 to the guild.

Alternate Year Event Update: In a meeting, Chiara O. and Ivette R. explored options for an Alternate Year Event in April and decided upon a Luncheon to be held at a local venue. In lieu of a speaker, the work of Beachplum members would be the focus. Challenge quilts will be on display, and members will be encouraged to show their most consequential quilt. Possible dates are April 10, 17, 21 and May 1, 2027, and would be held in addition to an April meeting. A Luncheon Chairperson is needed and if interested, please contact either Chiara O. or Ivette R. for more details.

Global Connection Sampler Platter: The online quilting educational platform starts Sunday and sign-up sheets were available at the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Treasurer's Report: Erma H. was not present to deliver the Treasurer's Report.

Challenge Quilt: Dixie M. announced that the theme of the Beachplum 2026-2027 Challenge Quilt is inspired by the Beatles! A hand-out with specific information about the challenge was distributed. Deadline for submission will be either the April Meeting or at the Luncheon. The exact date to be confirmed.

(continued next page)

(Meeting Minutes continued)

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Fundraising: Sue P. thanked all who volunteered at the Holiday City Carefree Craft Show. Sue reported that proceeds for the day were $345. Volunteers are still needed for November 1st at the Ocean County Historical Society Craft and Vendor Show. Sign-up sheet was available.

Programs: Mary P. announced that a sign-up sheet is available for the free November Make and Take. Preassembled kits will be provided at the meeting, and members should bring basic hand-sewing supplies.

Bee News: Ann B. reported that the Bee will be making the two ornaments voted on at the last meeting. This is not a kit. The newsletter will list the supplies for this activity.

Placemats: Christine G. thanked all who donated placemats and reported that 89 placemats were collected for Meals on Wheels. Sherre McC., Marcia G., and Maria S. won the thank you gifts.

Hospitality: Kathleen P. announced that in the spirit of the holidays, hot chocolate and cookies would be available at the next meeting. Baked goods will be gratefully accepted.

PRESENTATION BY RACHEL DERSTINE: Mary P. introduced Rachel Derstine, guest speaker, who will be conducting a workshop on the artful couching technique, which has earned Rachel distinction for her inspiring art quilts.

SHOW AND TELL: Debbie P. organized the Show and Tell. Pictures of the quilts and their makers will be included in the newsletter and posted online.

DOOR PRIZES: Richard L. conducted the Door Prize raffle. Winners were Joan O'C., Rosemary B., and Sue A.

OCTOBER BLOCK OF THE MONTH: Regina L. announced that Maria S. and Barbara E. were winners of this month's blocks.

ADJOURNMENT: With no further business, Ivette R. adjourned the meeting.

PROGRAMS

November meeting Make-and-Take projects.



Your choice is a Reindeer Snow Globe Banner or Gingerbread Men Pillows. Both items are adorable! There are kits made up for the November meeting, you'll provide the hand sewing supplies, and of course, the hand sewing! If you didn't sign up for a kit to join in the festive fun there may be a few extras of each kit, but not many. You'll get everything you need to make either of these projects in the kit, including decorative threads. (The snow globe will require <u>your</u> backing material.) There will be some variations in the material colors supplied in each kit, but they all will be festive and coordinated. At the meeting you'll start with the hand sewing, and you'll have instructions for finishing with easy machine sewing at home. Hot Cocoa will be provided and if our bakers would like to bring holiday cookies, it would help to help add a festive atmosphere!





Who doesn't love FREE quilt Patterns???

Thank You to Regina L. for letting us know about a site with lots of free patterns! <**Fabshophop.com**>
It's a shop hop contest page, but if you scroll down to the bottom right side there is a section with lots of free patterns.

CHARITY QUILTS

- During September's meeting, 18 charity quilts were donated. Six were provided to Holisticare Hospice and 12 were provided to Ocean of Love.
- During October's meeting, 10 charity quilts were donated. I am holding on to these until I have a larger quantity, then I'll report out which organizations they were provided to.
- As an FYI (and possible charity quilt suggestion), I plan to provide charity quilts that are appropriate in size and pattern to a Veteran's group supported by the Elks.
- I'll be bringing back bags that quilts were given to me in and placing them under the table in the front of the room so they can be reclaimed.
- In response to the suggestion made at September's meeting, I spoke with the Toms River Chief of Police. He was very gracious and appreciative of the offer, but he declined. He told me the patrol cars are consistently "stocked" with blankets and stuffed animals.
- As always, if you have any suggestions for charity quilt recipients, please let me know.

Thanks, Deb F.

––– Charity Quilts Guidelines –––

If you have a completed quilt top and backing, the guild will provide batting and quilting to get the quilt done. Please ensure that ALL charity quilts donated have a sewn on "Beachplum Quilters of the Jersey Shore" label attached. When turning in your charity quilt, please pin your name and the name of the person who quilted it onto the quilt, for record keeping.

Contact Deb F. for labels.

Placemat Collection

89 placemats were collected at the October Meeting and will be donated to Meals-On-Wheels. This is an ongoing guild project and the next collection of Spring themed placemats will take place at the February meeting.





October Block of the Month

Our October 'Tilt-A-Whirl' blocks were plentiful, this picture was taken before all the blocks were turned in. Maria S. and Babara E. split the blocks so we'll get to see two twirling quilts!



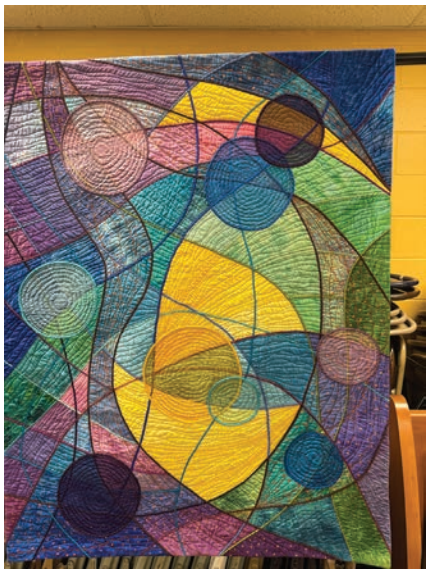
October Program & Workshop: Rachel Derstine - Raw edge appliqué and couching

Fiber Artist Rachel Derstine visited the guild on Friday and Saturday, October 16 & 17. A very full house saw her presentation Friday night and were treated to a visually dazzling display. On Saturday, everyone eagerly dove into her appliqué and couching lessons, using her Wild Poppies pattern. If fact, we were all so engrossed at the workshop, no one thought to take pictures! Included below are some shots from Friday Night and a display of Rachel's own quilts.

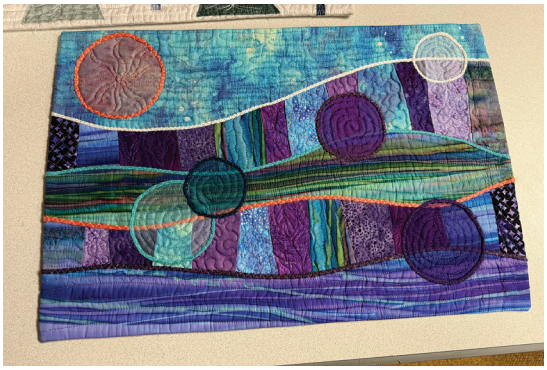






















OCTOBER
SHOW and TELL

Laurie S.

6 small wall hangings:

Halloween,
Painted Pumpkin-2014
Fall Fence-2013
Itch the Witch-2007
Black Birds-2016
Xmas Snowman













Richard L.

Orphan Blocks



Sophie K.

Snowmen Quilt



Show and Tell photos courtesy of Ann B. and Ivette R.

OCTOBER
SHOW and TELL

Sherre M.

2 "sweatshirt" jackets

Applecore Quilt



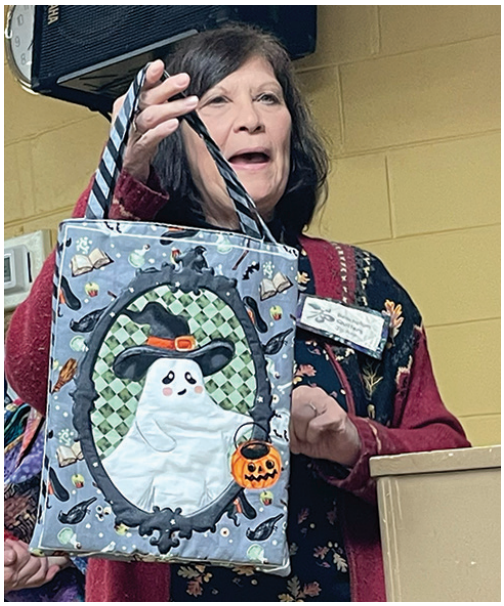






Jo Ann M.

Trick or Treat Bag





Dianne W.

Rescued

Lone star quilt



Cathie L.

Jelly Roll Rug



OCTOBER
SHOW and TELL

Pauli P.
Arboretum Wall Quilt



Dixie M.
BIG FOOT!



Liz H.
Fall Table Topper



Chiara O.
Storm at Sea Quilt



Marcia G.
Blue & White
Block of the Month



Kit D.
Star Quilt
& bed runner



OCTOBER
SHOW and TELL

Ann B.

2 Charity Quilts





Dona S.

Tall Ships wall hanging



Maritza C.

Quilt made from May Workshop instructions





BEE NEWS

Bee Meetings Calendar 2026 – 2027

All meetings at The Manasquan United Methodist Church,
first Friday of the month, September through June. Meetings start at 12 noon.

09/11/26* – Catch-up and Summer Show and tell

10/02/26 – TBD-Sweatshirt Jacket with Maria S. and Ann B.

11/06/26 – Holiday Ornament Workshop and Finishing Sweatshirt Jackets

12/04/26 – Cookie Exchange, Sit and Sew

01/08/27* – Sew Together Bag with Sherre M., Part 1

02/05/27 – Sew Together Bag with Sherre M., Part 2

03/05/27 – Project TBD

04/02/27 – Crazy Quilting with Paula P.

05/07/27 – Crazy Quilting with Paula P.

06/04/27 – Sit and Sew

* *Meeting date changed to second Friday of the month due to Holiday conflict.*

Everyone was getting into the holiday spirit at the November Bee meeting as we made hexie Snowman coasters or log cabin Santa ornaments. Many thanks to Jackie P. and Ann B. for leading us on our sewing journeys!
The December meeting will continue the holiday spirit as we have our cookie exchange and free sew--perhaps the time will be used to finish up those holiday gifts?





Above, log cabin Santa ornament and hexie Snowman coaster made at November meeting. Right, pattern and samples of Sew Together Bag, January/February project.

























Bee Meeting and Bee Show and Tell photos courtesy of Ann B., Ivette R., Donna D. & Laurie S.

NOVEMBER BEE MEETING SHOW and TELL

Sue P.

2 Table Runners

Sweatshirt Jacket









Barbara E.

Baby Quilt for new Great-Granddaughter



Sherre M.

Small Wall Hanging

Christmas Quilt





NOVEMBER BEE MEETING SHOW and TELL

Ann B.

Christmas Quilt
front and back







Regina L.

Quilt to be donated when finished (above)

2 Charity Quilts made from leftover fabric from other quilts



Jackie P.

Quilt for American Girl Doll





THE BEACHPLUM QUILTERS
OF THE JERSEY SHORE, INC.

P.O. Box 749, Island Heights, NJ 08732-0749

Meetings are held the 3rd Friday of each month
September through June
at the Presbyterian Church of Toms River,
1070 Hooper Avenue, Toms River, NJ 08753

DOORS OPEN AT 6 pm;
MEETING BEGINS AT 6:30 pm

E-mail: beachplumquiltmakers@gmail.com
www.beachplumquilters.org

Executive Board

President ..... Ivette Ramos
Vice President..... Chiara Oliver
Treasurer ..... Erma Hoover
Secretary ..... Maryann Franz

Our 2026-28 Committee Chairs

Audit Committee
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Marcia Guza
Dixie Moore
Regina Lindon
Maritza Cook
Charity Quilts
Deb Firestone
Door Prizes
Richard Levin
Fundraising
Sue Perkowski
Hospitality
Kathleen Peltier
Librarians
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Show & Tell
Debbie Perks
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Donna DeAngelis
2027 Event Chair
(vacant)
2028 Quilt Show Chair
Chiara Oliver

THE BEACHPLUM QUILTERS
OF THE JERSEY SHORE
BEE MEETINGS

Meetings are held the 1st Friday of each month
September through June

at the Manasquan United Methodist Church,
23 Church St, Manasquan, NJ 08736

MEETING from 12 noon-3:30pm

November Meeting Checklist

- Name tag and a welcome smile for guests
- Block of the Month • Show & Tell • Charity quilts
- Donations to The Hope Center: Feminine pads, tampons, toiletries, diapers, formula, baby food, soup, canned meats, canned vegetables, cooking oil, laundry detergent

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10% discount to BPQ guild members!
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Deadline for the next newsletter is
December 5, 2026
E-Mail your news in a document format, pdf
or email text to:
Donna D.: dondea916@gmail.com