



A Message from Carol O'Dell, President

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MEMBER INFO

Our Guild tries to send notes of encouragement or sympathy to our members who are ill, have had an accident or lost a loved one.

Because we are a large group, we need your help to do this. Please let **Kathy Beitzl** (kbeitzel@att.net) know of anyone who might need a card.
Thanks.



I am a list maker. You know that from the last newsletter. However, my list is usually an outline, a list of hopefuls that I am hoping to either complete or make during that particular year. How many of those projects end up on the following year's list? Most of them, actually. Why, because like many of us, some on the list get pushed aside for something more "urgent", either a gift for an event we didn't foresee, or, we saw a project at a quilt shop or online, and it won our hearts over. I think this happens to the best of us. Thank goodness for the "encouragement" of challenges that help us to get some of those off of our to do lists, and move them to the finished lists.

This year, I am trying to not be so swayed by the "pretties" and the "cute", and to stay on task. I have a couple of t-shirt quilts to make early this year. This involves doing something I've not done before, and I didn't think I ever would have. However, when a friend, a very good friend, or a loved one asks for something special, you work hard to make it happen.

What is a project you'd like to do but, for whatever reason, haven't yet jumped in? It might be applique, hand quilting, making a zipper pouch, a bag. The list is endless. Will this be your year to give that one new thing a try? If during show & tell, your project is something new for you, won't you please mention that to our group? It is such an encouragement to others to give something new a try.

Lastly, we are a little more than a year away from our next quilt show. Are you thinking about what quilts/projects you might make to display at the show. As referenced above, the Program committee is doing the UFO challenge to help us get projects finished. As we do that, we might have a new project that we'd like to enter as well. Together, we can keep in mind those items we need to finish in addition to new projects/quilts for the show.

I can't wait to see what everyone completes this year!

Happy New Year!

Carol O'Dell

Upcoming Events:

1/13	POP Board Meeting/Quilt Show Meeting	6pm/7:15pm
	Zion Church	
1/16	POP Guild Meeting	7pm
2/20	POP Guild Meeting, at church	7 pm
2/20 - 2/23	QuiltCon – Phoenix, AZ	
2/28	Newsletter articles are due to Jane Stevens for the	
	March/April newsletter	
3/3	POP Board Meeting/Quilt Show Meeting	6pm/7:15pm
	Zion Church	
3/20	POP Guild Meeting	7pm
4/4 - 4/5	Hands All Around Quilt Guild's Show *	
	Bloomington-Normal	
4/5 - 4/6	Salt Creek Quilt Guild's Quilt Show *	
	LaGrange, IL	
5/17 - 5/18	Northwest Suburban Quilt Guild's Quilt Show *	
	Judson University – Elgin	
7/25-7/27	Retreat at Carmelite Retreat Center, Darien, IL	

*Please check their websites for additional information.

Thank you:

A big thank you goes out to Anita Marsh, Camille Ellsworth, Donna Borowiec and Sandy Piatak for volunteering for the nominating committee. In a few short weeks, we will hear about those who've so graciously offered to fill the needed positions.

If you know of any other quilt shows, please be sure to let Carol O'Dell know so that the information can be mentioned at the guild meetings and reported in the newsletter.



Just a Reminder...

Don't forget to check out our website. Stephanie Ferrara has done a great job of loading pictures from our guild meetings onto the website, in addition to a wealth of information regarding our guild programs, workshops, Policies and Procedures, By-Laws and similar items of interest.

In Case You Couldn't Make It:

Please refer to the attached minutes from the November guild meeting for information for this issue.

Membership

The updated membership form is on the website.

Annual dues continue to be \$30.

Please make checks out to Pride of the Prairie Quilters

Forms can be found on the website and are available at the meeting

Checks and forms can also be mailed to:

Pride of the Prairie Quilters

Po Box 501

Plainfield, IL 60544

Upcoming meeting/program information

The January presentation is going to be via Zoom, and weather permitting, we will all meet at the church as usual and watch the presentation from there. However, if weather is bad, then members will be advised to stay home and watch on Zoom from the safety & comfort of their homes. Instructions for joining from home will be emailed ahead of time

January 16th 2025 Speaker Cathy Perlmutter will be speaking – Topic “Scrap Cities”.

February 20th 2025 Quilts of Valor. We will also be introducing a Block Lotto. More information coming

March 20th 2025 UFO Deadline. Remember, each finished item will get you a raffle ticket for prizes. If you are not sure what you committed to please contact Lynn Scheimann.

QUILT SHOW 2026

Mark your calendars! The Pride of the Prairie Quilt Show is set for March 14th and 15th of 2026.

2026 Quilt Show Raffle Baskets

Hello Quilters and Happy New Year! So we've just celebrated the holidays and we're into a new year. And you know what that means! The 2026 Quilt Show is right around the corner and will be here before we know it. The Raffle Basket Committee is hoping to put together some great raffle baskets for the show and we will need your help. We are asking for donations to fill up some fun and interesting baskets. To get started, we are hoping that all guild members will contribute at least one spool of thread and one fat quarter – new and certainly something you would use. But we are also asking for donations to fill up our baskets. We are looking for sewing/quilting/ embroidery and scrapbooking items. Maybe you have some new quilt items at home that you don't plan on using. Maybe you won a raffle basket yourself and received items you aren't using or have duplicates of. Those are just some of the great items we can use to fill up our raffle baskets. During the year, watch for those can't resist sales and/or use up your 50% (or more) off coupons. Feel free to donate any new and usable items or even put together a basket individually or with a group.

And raffle baskets do not have to contain only sewing/quilting items. We hope to also put together some specialty baskets. Just a few ideas we have for specialty baskets may include: embroidery, wools, batik, knitting/crocheting/needle work, scrapbooking, civil war/reproduction, holiday/seasons, gardening, patriotic, leisure/games, spa and relaxation, children, items men would like, sports, wine, etc.! Maybe you have a favorite store or restaurant that you visit often and they would be willing to offer (or you can purchase) a gift card. Or maybe you know of a great place to get a massage. Wouldn't it be great to get a gift card for a massage to relieve those achy shoulder muscles after a few busy days of quilting? If we receive enough items with a common theme, we will make a basket with those items. Starting at our next guild meeting, we will set out a large tupperware tub to collect any donations. During the spring/summer, we plan on starting to visit local quilt shops to ask for donations to fill up our 2026 quilt show baskets. We also plan on recognizing any donors at the basket table so let us know if you, your group or anyone donates a large or pricey item or even a completed basket. And we would certainly love any additional volunteers to help us out in the Raffle Basket Committee especially as we get closer to the big day. Find either of us at a meeting or feel free to call or text us. We would like to thank you all for your generosity and support!

The Raffle Basket Committee

Kathy MacKenzie and Jean Yates



Opportunity Quilt- Travel Schedule Jennifer got us started with some dates for our Opportunity Quilt. This is what we have so far:

1/30/25	Thimbles (9:45 am for 2 hours)
2/1/25	Roberts (10 to 2)
2/17/25	Joliet Quilters
2/22/25	Quilters Quest
2/25/25	Bernina of Naperville (11:00 to 2:00)
2/26/25	Bernina of Naperville (11:00 to 2:00)
3/3/25	Shipshewana (Kathy Mueller through 03/06)
3/22/25	Quilters Quest
4/3/25	Sinnissippi Quilters, Rockford (1:00 and 6:30)
4/7/25	WEGO Oswego
4/10/25	Kankakee quiltmakers Guild, Kankakee
5/8/25	Salt Creek Quilters Guild, Hinsdale
6/25/25	Faithful Circle, Downers Grove

Faithful Circle, Downers Grove Please check your schedules and sign up at the membership desk at a guild meeting. It's usually fun to go with someone. The meetings are fun to attend to meet people and listen to the speaker. Some of these events already have members participating.

I still have plenty of guilds and shops to contact. If you have any suggestions, please let me know. Maybe craft shows? Are you a member of another guild? Send me any contact information.

Susan Janasik
Sjanasik0926@gmail.com

Philanthropy

Happy new year to all! Wishing you health, happiness and more time to sew!!
Thank you, thank you, thank you for all the quilts that have been received for philanthropy!
We are still collecting small lap, patriotic quilts that we will donate to the Angels Grace Hospice in Bolingbrook. These quilts will be presented to veterans during a pinning ceremony. They ask that they be red, white, and blue and the size they need can range from **36 / 40"** by **50 / 60"**.
We prefer finished quilts – pieced, quilted, bound, and washed. We will add the labels that say *Made by Pride of Prairie Quilters, Plainfield, Illinois*.

The quilting does not need to be intricate – simple cross-hatching, wavy lines, straight lines, in the ditch, etc. is fine.

Thank you for your generosity!!

We continue to need your help as there are ongoing needs in our communities. Please consider using up leftover scraps to make a quilt. Our website offers several patterns to follow. There are many free patterns online, offered by various fabric companies such as Moda, Robert Kaufman, Dear Stella, Riley Blake. In addition, many shops have patterns for you to use such as Fat Quarter Shop, Sweet Daisy, Quilt Expressions, Cluck Cluck Sew, etc. So pour yourself a cup of tea or coffee and let a computer search help you discover your next creation.....to donate, of course!!

According to Care.com and other sources, typical quilt sizes are as follows;

Receiving blanket	18 x 18" to 36 x 36"
Crib / baby	30 x 40, 40 x 40, 40 x 50, 48 x 57
Lap	56 x 74, 60 x 70, 64 x 76
Wheelchair	33 x 40, 36 x 40, 40 x 40

Our current needs; batting, yardage for backings, domestic and longarm quilters

A special *"thank you"* goes to Ann Jordan, who has been longarm quilting so many of these quilts! If you are looking for a longarmer, Ann is highly recommended and what a great way to thank her for her service to our guild!

Peace by piece, Sandy and Jill



Newsletter Article Submissions:

Newsletter

Mar/April 2025
May/June 2025
July/August 2025

Article Due Date

February 28, 2025
April 28, 2025
June 29, 2025

Publication Date

March 10, 2025
May 10, 2025
July 10, 2025

November and December Birthdays

Jan 10	Anita Baranski
Jan 11	Vicky Pampe
Jan 15	Carole Naughton
Jan 19	Karen Shibley
Jan 23	Chris Schwarz
Jan 26	Judi Arand
Jan 27	Mary Kelly
Jan 31	Carol Gruchala
Feb 3	Cheryl Parker
Feb 13	Jennifer Henry
Feb 13	Mary Winegar
Feb 27	Stephanie Ferrara
Feb 28	Kathy MacKenzie



Monthly Guild Meeting Checklist

- **Name Tag** (you are eligible for a prize ONLY if you are wearing yours!)
- **Show and Tell Items**
- **Items for the Freebies Table**
(remember that this is not for junk but rather items or bagged scraps in good condition)
- **Your checkbook** in order to pay for your, Workshop fees and any traveling quilt tickets that might be attending our meeting



NEWSLETTER AD INFORMATION

The Guild newsletter is published six times per year in January, March, May, July, September and November. Articles should be sent to the editor, Jane Stevens at jmssampler@earthlink.net no later than the last day of the previous month.

Advertising rates are as follows:

Ad Size	Yearly (6 issues)	Single Issue
Business card	\$50	\$10
Quarter Page	\$60	\$15
Half Page	\$80	\$20
Full Page	\$160	\$40

Ads must be prepaid and received by the Editor before the 1st of the month to appear in the next newsletter.

2024-2025 Pride of the Prairie Officers

President – Carol O'Dell

Vice President – Kathy Beitzel

Secretary – Diane Swaney-Smith

Treasurer – Pat Herman

Contracts / Programs – Lynn Poulos, Melaine Hinds, Lynn Scheimann & Eileen Uchima

Publicity and Website – Stephanie Ferrara

Newsletter – Jane Stevens

Philanthropy – Sandy Piatek, Jill Stuck

Membership – Melanie Hinds, Anita Marsh, & Jane Stevens