



## 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 Mueller**

(scpbklane@aol.com)

know of anyone who might need a card.

Thanks.



As I write this, I am reflecting on the wonderful 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary party hosted for our guild by the Programs and Contract committee. Thank you Lynn S., Melanie H., Eileen U. and Lynn P., for a great night of games, stunning quilts, visiting and delicious cupcakes. (The quilts were an exceptional treat, both visually and by virtue of the number of quilts completed. They were amazing!!!)

Between the business meeting and the party, Kathy Mueller gave us the history of the guild: who, where and how it started, past milestones, an illustrious list of presenters and previous guild presidents. Some firsts to note: our first participation in the Louis Joliet Mall Quilt Show, participation in the Festival of Trees, our first "mini quilt show", our first guild retreat, our Saturday Sews, our freebie table, and on a sad note, our first (and hopefully only) pandemic.

As a guild, we have weathered a few things. For example, there would be a need for a change of location, both for our guild and our quilt shows. We have survived COVID.

I am excited about the mystery quilt-along that Eileen Uchima is spearheading for us, the speakers and the workshops. I know the contracts and programs committee is working hard to be able to host some interesting programs in the months and year ahead. We're looking into having a guild retreat in the future and will have some philanthropy sew days coming up.

I would like to say, as a group, we are pretty resilient. Yes, since COVID, our numbers are down a bit, however, we have new friends who've joined our ranks, and I feel the tide turning.

A BIG THANK YOU to:

1. The board.
2. The quilt show board/committee volunteers.
3. Those who help set up and take down.
4. Those who bring in pieced quilt tops and completed quilts for philanthropy.
5. Those who help make new members and guests feel welcome.
6. You, for sharing your talents and for stepping up to help make the guild a better place.

Carol O'Dell

## **Upcoming Events:**

Now: Online sign-ups for Houston Quilt Show classes (dates below)

**7/8**            **6pm – POP Board Meeting**  
                  **7pm ish – Quilt Show Meeting**

**7/18**            **Pride of the Prairie Guild Meeting**

7/31            Sign-up for QuiltCon classes begin (dates below)

8/21-8/24    AQS Quilt Show in Grand Rapids, MI

9/5-9/7        The Great Wisconsin Quilt Show – Madison

9/21-9/22    Heritage Quilters Guild – Lockport, IL

10/18-10/19 Prairie Star Quilt Guild – St. Charles, IL

10/25-10/26 DeKalb County Quilt Guild - IL

10/31-11/3    The International Quilt Show – Houston, TX

2/20/2025-2/23/2025    QuiltCon – Phoenix, AZ  
                                  Online entry for quilts: 9/1/2024-10/31/2024

## **Needed: Your Eyes and Ears!**

If you know of any quilt shows, quilt shop sales and company challenges and deadlines, would you please let me know so that this information can be put into our newsletter? I'd like to publish a current list of events such as these in our newsletter. These will also be mentioned at our guild meetings. We quilters are a strong community, and I would like to make it easier for us to support those who have items of interest. Also, wouldn't it be fun to see more of us entering our quilts into future challenges and bigger quilt shows?

Carol O'Dell

## ***A Quick Note:***

Until we have a new vice president in place, please contact Kathy Mueller if you know of anyone needing a get well card, sympathy card, etc. She has graciously offered to manage this responsibility until we fill the V.P. position.



## ***Something to Ponder: Did You Know?***

Quilting improves your memory

Touching fabric calms you down

Sewing boosts your mood

Being creative increases your focus

Quilting could actually make you happy

## ***In Case You Couldn't Make It:***

This will be a new feature of our newsletter – summarizing what has occurred at our previous 2 guild meetings.

### **May:**

- We had signup sheets for 2 new bees if interested; one in the evening, and one during the day.
- Sandy Johnson, who is our Vice President, has been in the hospital. A get well card was made available for members to sign.
- Taste of Zion – Zion Lutheran Church will be hosting an event inviting people in the area to come and see what is happening at the church. We've been invited to host a table, providing neighbors and Zion members information about our guild.
- Members Vicky Pampe and Sandy Fuehrmeyer won gift certificates to local quilt shops for wearing their nametags.
- Carol O'Dell has started asking two questions from the newsletter. For the quickest, correct response, a gift was given to each.

### **Committee Reports:**

Philanthropy: Sandy Piatak and Jill Stuck – hosted a philanthropy day making kits from the fabric in the closet. Nearly 50 kits made. About a dozen members participated.

Quilt Show: Jen Henry – first quilt show planning meeting will be June 3 at 6:30 pm.

Programs and Contracts: Lynn Scheimann reminded us about 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration next month. Don't forget your red/white challenge quilt and FQ. Future speakers/programs/workshops were mentioned. Please see our website for more information.

Mystery Quilt-Along: Eileen Uchima distributed Clue #3.

Program Speaker: Connie Martin, Pre-Civil War Trunk Show and Presentation

## June:

Our Vice President, Sandy Johnson, has resigned. We need a new VP and will have this on the July agenda.

- Newsletter deadline: June 28. If you haven't received the newsletter by the Monday before guild, please let Jane Stevens or Carol O'Dell know, because once again, gifts will be given for correct answers to questions from the newsletter.
- Reminded about Taste of Zion coming up August 24<sup>th</sup>, from 3-7 pm. See explanation in the May highlights.

### Committee Reports:

Philanthropy: Sandy Piatak & Jill Stuck – 21 quilts delivered to Camp Hope through Edwards Hospital. Very grateful for those donations.

Programs & Contracts: Lynn Scheimann explained that the July program will be a UFO (unfinished project) Challenge. Bring your unfinished project(s) to our guild meeting. The committee will take pictures of your projects. If you bring it back finished in March, 2025, you will get a raffle ticket. One ticket per UFO and then these projects/quilts can be entered into the 2026 quilt show. IF YOU CANNOT ATTEND THE JULY MEETING, SEND LYNN SCHEIMANN A PICTURE OF EACH UNFINISHED PROJECT **PRIOR** TO THE JULY GUILD MEETING to have it entered into the challenge.

The committee members reviewed upcoming programs and workshops. Please see our website or contact committee members for further information.

Mystery Quilt Along: Eileen Uchima handed out Clue #4. There will be a finishing workshop in August for \$25.

Kathy Mueller reviewed our guild's history over the past 40 years, listing many interesting highlights.

We had red velvet cupcakes and bottled water for refreshments and then started the...

### PARTY!

We saw the lovely 21 red/white quilts made by members, played games and finished with the Ugly/Pretty Fat Quarter Game. Kathy MacKenzie won the "ugly" FQ and Chris Schwarz won the "pretty" FQ.

It was a fun night.

Hope to see you at the July guild meeting.



## ***Did You Know??***

The **2022 Quilters' Survey from Premier Needles Arts** (presented in 2023) show:

- In the United States and Canada 85 million creatives account for \$35 billion in sales.
- The quilting industry anticipates approaching \$5 billion by 2026-2027, indicating stable and solid growth.
- The average quilter started her first quilt in her 50s when there was time, space and income to quilt.
- The average quilter is still driven by women in their 60s.
- There are an estimated 30 million active sewists (a slight decrease from the peak of the pandemic).
- Digital learning is in high demand through both YouTube and other digital media.
- Quilters utilize social media daily for connecting but still prefer being in-person.

## **The Quilters Hall of Fame – Marion, Indiana**

We've received a postcard from The Quilters Hall of Fame showcasing some of their events for the 2024. Two of the four events highlight speakers we've had here at our guild meetings in the past.

The first is Bonnie Hunter, "Got Scraps? The Creative and Visionary Journey of Bonnie Hunter". Her story will be presented from May 7th – July 27<sup>th</sup>.

The second is Katie Pasquini Masopust. Her quilts will be displayed between July 30<sup>th</sup> and October 5<sup>th</sup>.

If you find yourself on a road trip passing by, or possibly this might be your destination, have a wonderful time seeing the works of these 4 women who've had an impact on the quilting world.

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## **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

July 18, 2024 – UFO **SEE BELOW**

Here are updates as to the other programs coming up.



August 15, 2024 Please bring your 1<sup>st</sup> quilt and the Last one you made. We want to hear about them and what you have learned through the years. Please share any tips and tricks with the rest of us.

August 17<sup>th</sup>, Saturday, is our workshop with Eileen Uchima – she will be revealing the Mystery Tour Quilt you have been working on.

September 19<sup>th</sup> 2024 Catherine Redford, will be sharing Language of Flowers

October 17<sup>th</sup> 2024 School House. Very excited....

November 21, 2024 Kelly Ashton 60 Degrees of Inspiration, Workshop on Friday the 22<sup>nd</sup>. Choose from 2 patterns. Tumbling Block or Inner City – pictures at sign up table. Sign up soon!!

December 2024 No meeting  
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**July's meeting -**



## **Un Finished Objects – July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024.**

July's meeting is going to be *Out Of This World!* The summer is one of vacations and looking up at the stars and wondering who is out there... Ever wonder if Aliens also quilt?? Do they have half square triangles? Do they use rotary cutters? Do their seams line up? Oh, the questions just keep coming!!

Let us get back on track... Our July meeting is going to be full of fun and the beginning of a UFO Challenge. We want you to bring 1,2, or as many as you would like of Un Finished Objects or projects. We will be taking your name and the project(s) you brought. We would also like you to say a couple of sentences about the UFO. Then at the March 2025 meeting you will bring back your project(s) finished, completely. We will have a drawing at the meeting for those who bring their finished projects.

We also have a fun activity that has no name.... That is all we are saying.

We look forward to seeing each of you. Also, remember to sign up and bring your money for the August Mystery Tour Quilt workshop. And for the November workshop...

Thank you,  
Programs Committee

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## QUILT SHOW 2026

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

The 2026 Quilt Show still needs volunteers for the committees listed below. Grab a friend (or friends) & volunteer! Call Jennifer Henry at 630-234-4218.

TRAVEL COORDINATORS – Coordinate the schedule for the Opportunity Quilt to travel to various quilt guilds, quilt shops & other locations or special events. Obtain volunteers to take the quilt to these locations, & to make sure that those volunteers have sufficient tickets & cash to take with them.

VENDORS – Solicit a variety of vendors to vend at the quilt show. Map out where the vendors' booths will be located, how many tables & chairs are needed, & will they need access to electricity. You need to be at the school for set up & take down, & need to ensure that someone will be available during the quilt show, should the vendors have any needs.

SILENT AUCTION – Solicit guild members to create & donate quilt related items that would have a minimum bidding value, set up the items for the daily auctions with their bidding sheets. Announce the winners in late afternoon on Saturday & Sunday. Make plans for the highest bidders to pay for & pick up their items. NOTE – Anita Marsh has already volunteered for this committee, but she will need a cohort. Someone to help collect donations & able to hang items on the wall for display.

RAFFLE BASKETS – Solicit guild members, quilt bees & shops for donated items to fill the baskets. Get a committee to help with basket themes, creating the baskets & wrapping them. Set up baskets at the quilt show with numbers, description of basket items, & buckets for attendees to drop their tickets in. Contact the winners to pick up their baskets near the end of the show or make plans for them to pick up their baskets, at your convenience, at alternate locations. NOTE – There were 52 raffle baskets at our quilt show in 2023. We are NOT expecting that many baskets for this quilt show.

STRIP SEARCH -Solicit guild members for donations of good quality fabric, either already cut in 2 ½ in. strips or yardage. Cut the fabric into 2 ½ in. strips, sort by color or theme, & bag them. Set up the bags of strips on tables at the quilt show. NOTE – For the 2023 Quilt Show, we had a “Strip Cutting Party” at the church. It made quick work of cutting strips.

INTERIOR SIGNAGE – Work with the quilt show committee members on what signs will be required at the show. May require a few people to help with hanging the signs & then with take down. NOTE – We still have the signs from our quilt show in 2023, so we may need only a few new ones.







As far as the Magical Mystery Quilt:

We're well underway to "solving" the Magical Mystery! Only a couple more clues remain. Here are the answers to a couple of questions that I have heard:

Q: I never started the mystery, but I'm interested! Is it too late to join in?

A: It's never too late! Stop by the table at the next meeting to pick up what you have missed or email Eileen Uchima (info in directory) and I will send it to you when I'm back from vacation!

Q: I got really behind and I won't have everything done by the August workshop. Should I just give up?

A: Never give up! Come to the workshop with what you have done and everything for what you still need to do. That way you can work on it there and get the final clues. It will be a fun day of socializing and sewing, so you don't want to miss out!

Q: Help, I've spent all of my money looking for a rumored lost Beatles song! What should I do?

A: Just let it be.

## Philanthropy

Heartfelt thanks for all the quilts that have been received for philanthropy!

*"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed people can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."* Margaret Meade

We had the privilege of delivering 21 kids quilts to Edward Hospital in June. The coordinators for Camp Hope were thrilled and shared that even on the hottest days of camp, the kids would wrap themselves in the quilt they chose – like a big, loving hug!

In the coming weeks, we will be delivering quilts to the Joliet Pregnancy Resource Center and wheelchair quilts to nursing homes.

We have an immediate need, however, for patriotic quilts to be donated to the Angels Grace Hospice. 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.

*"No one can whistle a symphony. It takes an orchestra to play it."* Halford E. Luccock

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...or simply let your creative juices flow!

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 (a flannel backing offers warmth and prevents it from slipping off their lap)

Finally, we have a few members who are longarm quilting some of the tops but we could really use more help with this, as the pile of tops is growing. Our goal is for the quilts to be donated, used, and loved!

*"Happiness is a perfume you cannot pour on others without getting a few drops on yourself."*  
Ralph Waldo Emerson

Piecefully, Sandy and Jill



### Batting Requested:

If you are a longarmer and have a particular type of batting that you use, would you consider donating those scraps to our Philanthropy committee? That would reduce the amount of batting we need to purchase. However, we **need to know what kind of batting it is** as we want to make sure we are putting together like pieces. However, we would like the pieces to be a bit bigger: at least 12" wide by 24"-30" long. Please do not donate smaller pieces.

If you have batting you'd be willing to donate, please let Sandy Piatak know and have it clearly labeled with what kind it is.

## July and August Birthdays

7/1 Jill Stuck  
7/4 Judy Raclawski  
7/11 Jean Black  
7/20 Lolly Adolfson  
8/10 Jean Yates  
8/22 Jan Mueller



## 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](mailto: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 – OPEN

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