



## A Message from Kathy and Jen

### *Inside this Issue:*

|                              |     |
|------------------------------|-----|
| Events                       | 2   |
| In Case you couldn't make it | 2   |
| Membership                   | 3   |
| Upcoming Program Info        | 3-4 |
| Travel Information           | 4   |
| Quilt Show                   | 5-6 |
| Philanthropy                 | 7   |
| Birthday                     | 7   |
| Meeting Checklist            | 7   |
| Newsletter Info              | 8   |
| Board                        | 8   |

### 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 **Diane Swaney Smith** [msddsewnsew@aol.com](mailto:msddsewnsew@aol.com) know of anyone who might need a card. Thanks.



We are so excited to have the opportunity to keep this Guild alive. It may take us a few months to work out our co-presidency so please be patient with us as we work out the kinks.

March, in like a lion, out like a lamb, we hope. Spring is in the air (at least when this was written). Spring is my favorite time of year. All the colorless dreariness of winter fades away and is replaced by every color of the rainbow. Green trees and grass, yellow daffodils, purple crocuses color our world, just like all your beautiful quilts bring color to our lives. As warmer weather starts tugging us outdoors, remember to spend those rainy spring days sewing away to bring color to others.

Are you ready for "Quilting with the Stars"? We are. We can't wait to see all the beautiful quilts that you all have created over the past few years. There is a wonderful new category for first time entrants, encouraging those who are new to the guild or just have not ventured into the "Look at what I made" phase of quilting yet. We are thrilled to see that four members have taken the plunge and entered this category.

We need 'all hands-on deck' to make this a successful quilt show. With our membership numbers on the low side, it will take everyone's participation to pull this off. Please make sure you are signed up for at least 2-2 hour shifts. If you are hanging around the show, please check the sign-up sheets that will be in the office for any shifts that need to be covered.

Happy spring and happy quilting.

Kathy Beitzel and Jennifer Henry  
Co-presidents

## Upcoming Events...

- March 9                    Board Meeting 6:00 pm  
                              Quilt Show Meeting 7:00 pm  
                              Both at Zion Lutheran Church
- March 13                    Quilt Show Set-up  
March 14-15                Quilt Show  
March 19                    Guild Meeting at Zion Lutheran Church 7 pm  
                              Our speaker is Aimee Merritt, representing the  
                              Pregnancy Resource Center  
                              - **Please bring a donation of baby wipes and  
                              diapers, size 4, 5, or 6**
- April 24-25                Kalona Quilt Show and Sale  
                              <https://www.woodinwheel.com/>
- April 30-May 3            Fiber = Fabric Craft Festival  
                              <https://fiberfabriccraft.com>  
                              Roberts Sewing Center has a bus to this event  
                              on May 2<sup>nd</sup>
- July 23-25                The Quilter's Hall of Fame Celebration  
                              Featuring Judy Martin  
                              [www.quiltershalloffame.net](http://www.quiltershalloffame.net)
- September 10-12        The Great Wisconsin Quilt Show  
                              <https://quiltshow.com/planyourvisit/>

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

Please refer to the attached minutes from the January/February guild meetings for happenings at those meetings.



# Membership

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

## A Head's Up Regarding Membership Renewal:

**Our membership form has been updated and can be found on the guild's website.**

## PROGRAM AND WORKSHOPS

**March 19, 2026** - "Life in a Different Lane" Lecture by Aimee Merritt

Please join us as we welcome Aimee Merritt from the Joliet area Pregnancy Resource Center. Aimee will describe the work of the center, and we will present her with donations from our guild!

**Please bring a donation of baby wipes and diapers, size 4, 5 or 6, and your completed quilts**

**April 16, 2026** - Quilt Show Wrap-Up

Jennifer Henry will summarize the 2026 Quilt Show and we will have the drawing for our opportunity quilt.

**May 21, 2026** - "Back Talk" Lecture by Colleen Carlson - All about quilt backs!

**June 18, 2026** - "Trash Talk: Sustainability in Focus" Lecture by Maday Delgado

**June 20, 2026** – Workshop by Maday Delgado

**July 16, 2026** - "Beyond Basic Bindings" Lecture by Kathy Herbach

**August 20, 2026** - "Intro to Stripology Rulers" Lecture by Lynn Vock

**August 22, 2026** – Workshop by Lynn Vock

**September 17, 2026** - "Yellow Creek Quilt Designs Through the Years". Lecture and Trunk Show by Jill Shaulis

**October 15, 2026** - "Creative Backgrounds: Creating a Radiant Landscape Quilt". Lecture by Monique Kleinhans

October 17, 2026 – Workshop by Monique Kleinhans

November 19, 2026 - Holiday Party!!

December 2026 - No Meeting This Month

**Information about Programs and Workshops can be found on the [Pride of the Prairie website](#), under “Activities.” There is an area for Presentations and a separate area for Workshops.**

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### **Some Important Information For Those of You Coming From the North...**

Sharon Thomsen has brought the following to our attention:

“The DuPage Water Commission (DWC) is expanding its water infrastructure to provide Lake Michigan drinking water to the suburban communities of Montgomery, Oswego and Yorkville (WaterLink Communities)”. The “WaterLink” project is a partnership between DWC and the WaterLink Communities that includes the design and construction of a 30-mile-long water main extension beginning in Naperville and extending west to several connection points throughout the three WaterLink communities.

The first phase of construction is anticipated to begin in early December 2025 and will include full road closures along Book Road from just north of 75<sup>th</sup> Street, extending south to 103<sup>rd</sup> Street. This entire alignment will not be closed all at once, but rather one “section” at a time. During these closures crews will be making the connection into DWC’s existing infrastructure and installing a 54” water main beneath the roadway. The total construction duration along Book Road is anticipated to last into early 2027.

Please make note of this should it affect you and consider alternate routes or additional drive times once construction has begun.



## Quilt Show 2026

# QUILTING WITH THE STARS QUILT SHOW Pride of the Prairie Quilt Guild ----- March 14 –15, 2026

## FRIDAY NITE

### **We will begin Checking In quilts at 5 pm.**

**Enter through Door 4.** Each quilt needs its own pillowcase. Have a sleeve attached if required.

Go to the registration table (to your right when you enter in the food court area). You will receive an envelope with a list of your quilts with a name and number assigned to each one. In the envelope there are 2 number tags per quilt and safety pins.

Off to the side, attach the numbered tags to each quilt and pillowcase with the safety pins. (Based on the number assigned per the list). Each quilt/pillowcase will have a matching number. Put your quilts in the pillowcase with the label side up.

Return to the registration table where they will be checked in and handed off to a designated volunteer where they will be taken to the staging area.

The staging area is in the POP office. They will be sorted by category until they are ready for hanging in the main gym.

**No one is allowed in the main gym while the vendor is setting up the quilt racks.** Once the racks are up the designated volunteers will place the pillowcases in the designated spots. The empty pillowcases will be returned to the POP office and placed under the appropriate category.

Bring books, magazines, patterns, etc. Friday night and take them to the Magazine area down the hall.

**Once your quilts have been checked in, and you have dropped off your books and magazines, PLEASE stay and help wherever you might be needed.**

### **On Saturday and Sunday, park in the parking lot on the back side of the school.**

From Caton Farm Road, turn on Grandview Ave (south). Turn left on 1<sup>st</sup> street to the left – Root St. Turn left at the 1<sup>st</sup> street to the left – Crestwood Dr and it will take you to the parking lot by the baseball fields.

**The Volunteer schedule is in the POP office. Be sure to verify where and when you are working. Check if there are spots that need to be filled in.** You can leave your coat, etc. in the POP office. The White Gloves will also be available there.

**Wear your POP nametag!**

## **PICK UP QUILTS ON SUNDAY**

**Pick up will begin at 4:45 PM on Sunday. Only designated volunteers are allowed in the main gym as the quilts are being taken down and put in the pillowcases. No one else should be in the gym.**

Go to the checkout table (in the food court) and get a number card. When your number is called your quilts will be checked out per your list to make sure all the correct quilts are returned to you.

Take your quilts to your car and return to the school to help with further take down.

## **CASH BOX**

Each group handling money will have their own cash box with start up \$\$ in it. There is also a sheet listing the total \$\$ there. During the day, Kathy Mueller will be around to pick up \$\$ and she and someone from the booth will both count the \$\$ and indicate on the sheet how much was picked up. At the end of the day, Kathy Mueller and you will count the \$\$ and she will take the box. If you need extra cash, change during the day, Kathy Mueller's cell phone # is on the sheet and she will bring it to you. Sunday morning the box will be returned with the start up cash in it and pick up procedure will be the same as Saturday.

Cash or check only for: Admission, Strip Search, Books/Magazines, Raffle Baskets, purchase of Opportunity Quilt Tickets, Silent Auction. Those checks should be made out to "Pride of the Prairie Quilt Show". Include a phone number on the checks.

Kathy Mueller will provide Strip Search and Books/Magazines with a cash box Friday night for sales. Kathy Mueller will pick it up at the end of the evening.

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

**Please support the guild that is selling food in the concession area!**

**Admission table will have booklets and will provide directions to the various areas.**

**Opportunity quilt tickets available to sell along with membership forms at that table.**

**Take pictures of each area for the final reports.**

**A Big Thank You to Everyone for ALL Your Help!  
We could not do this without YOU!**



## Philanthropy

What is **philanthropy**? Greek playwright Aeschylus coined the term philanthropy in the 5<sup>th</sup> century BCE. It meant “love of humanity.” Today, philanthropy means generosity in all its forms and is often defined as giving gifts of “time, talent and treasure” to help make life better for other people. A special ‘thank you’ to our guild members for giving as such to make life better and happier for other people through the quilts we donate!! We may never know how receiving a quilt makes the recipient feel but you can be sure that their hearts are warmed and “what the world needs now, is love, sweet love.” Thank you!

The speaker for our March 19th meeting is Aimee Merritt, representing the Pregnancy Resource Center. She will inform us about their programs. **Please bring a donation of baby wipes and diapers, size 4, 5 or 6.** At last count we have 42 baby quilts to donate to her.

Our ongoing needs; yardage for backings and batting

We also have “kits” that are ready to be quilted & finished, that include the top, backing, batting and binding. These make great practice pieces for your quilting and/or ruler work.

### By the numbers

During the past 2 years, we have delivered 261 quilts, 60 pillowcases and 8 receiving blankets. During 2026 we will be donating 116 quilts and 15 pillowcases. (not including over 30 that need finishing as of this newsletter)

On a personal note, it has been my pleasure to work with Sandy on philanthropy. What a blessing it has been to explore creativity with so many of you and to feel the joy when we meet the recipients of your gifts. Going forward, I will offer my time & talents to Sandy & Anita as I know you will, as well.

Jill Stuck

Our guild deserves a round of applause!!

Piecefully, Sandy Piatak, Anita Marsh & Jill Stuck

## March and April Birthdays

|        |                   |
|--------|-------------------|
| Mar 2  | Carol O'Dell      |
| Mar 15 | Kathy Beitzel     |
| Mar 17 | Sally Pawlik      |
| Mar 18 | Majorie McNichols |
| Mar 21 | Glennis Orlovski  |
| Mar 26 | Elaine Solato     |
| Mar 29 | Teena Gilberto    |
| Mar 31 | Valli Schiller    |
| Apr 4  | Barb Snyder       |
| Apr 15 | Lisa Madej        |
| Apr 26 | Cathy Lucas       |
| Apr 28 | Camille Ellsworth |
| Apr 29 | Sharon Thomsen    |



## 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 Article Submissions:

### Newsletter

May/June 2026  
 July/Aug 2026  
 Sept/Oct 2026

### Article Due Date

April 28, 2026  
 June 28, 2026  
 Aug 28, 2026

### Publication Date

May 10, 2026  
 July 10, 2026  
 Sept. 10, 2026



## 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 28<sup>th</sup> 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

### **2026-2027 Pride of the Prairie Officers**

Co-President – Kathy Beitzel and Jennifer Henry

Vice President – Diane Swaney Smith

Secretary – Marjorie McNichols

Treasurer – Barb Snyder

Program Facilitators – Cathy Formanek & Vicky Pampe

Contracts Coordinators – Cheryl Parker & Chris Schwarz

Publicity/Social Media Chair – Ann Jordan

Newsletter Chair – Jane Stevens

Philanthropy Co-Chairs – Sandy Piatak & Anita Marsh

Membership Chair – Donna Borowiec