



A Message from Carol O'Dell, President

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This is a **BIG** year for our guild! This year, we are celebrating our 40th anniversary. The official celebration party will be in June, with games and who would have guessed, a 24" quilt challenge.

As I thought about what I was going to do, of course I perused the internet to see what "struck my fancy". After a while, I gave up and went to my magazines and books. There, I found what I was looking for. Many years ago, there was a woman who collected red and white quilts. She would gather them from wherever she found them. Flea markets, garage sales and the like. Often, they were used to wrap purchases, until such time came that someone would see the beauty and skill it took to put these quilts together. Over the years, she collected 651 quilts from 3 centuries. In fact, initially she didn't even know how many she had.

Her husband asked her what she wanted for her 80th birthday. Her reply was, "Something I've not seen before and something that would be a gift for New York City". So, for her birthday, her husband along with the American Folk Art Museum, Thinc Design and the Park Avenue Armory, her quilts were hung in the Park Avenue Armory for all to view and appreciate. No admission fees were charged. It was open to all. Admission records were set that week.

These 651 quilts were hung from the ceiling, 4 and 5 deep. They were placed in special viewing boxes and some were displayed on chairs in the middle of the exhibit. It was an incredible work of red and white quilts.

I cannot believe this occurred 13 years ago. If you ever have a chance to look through the book, "Red & White Quilts Infinite Variety" presented by the American Folk Art Museum, take the time to enjoy all that is contained within the pages. Why do I bring this up? Because we, too, are going to have our own little "red and white quilt show" at our June guild meeting.

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

Sandy Johnson
(sandyjohnson747@yahoo.com) know of anyone who might need a card.

Thanks.

Please don't miss the opportunity to participate in this very special time for our guild. I cannot wait to see what our members present at that meeting. It will be an incredible time!

Carol O'Dell

**Details excerpted from the book, "Red & White Quilts Infinite Variety

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Upcoming Events:

5/4	Quilters Dream Sale 7223 St. Route 71, Yorkville	9 am – 2 pm
5/4-5/5	Sinnissippi Quilters Quilt Show (Rockford area)	
6/8-6/10	Elkhart County Quilts & Fiber Expo (Indiana)	
8/21-8/24	AQS Quilt Show in Grand Rapids	
9/5-9/7	The Great Wisconsin Quilt Show – Madison	
9/21-9/22	Heritage Quilters Guild Show – Lockport, IL	
10/18-10/19	Prairie Star Quilt Guild Show – St. Charles, IL	
10/25-10/26	DeKalb County Quilt Guild Show- IL	
10/31-11/3	The International Quilt Show – Houston	
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



Are You Interested in Joining a Bee?

Quilting bees are a great time to build friendships, gain skills and share life. Each group determines their characteristics...are they an applique group, a handwork group or maybe simply gathering to work on individual projects?

At last month's guild meeting, we had a sign up for those interested in joining a bee. The signup sheets will again be available at our meeting in May. This time, though, one sheet will be for those interested in a daytime group, and another for those interested in an evening group. If you've already signed up, please re-sign to let us know which group you'd like to be a part of. These signup sheets will be at the membership table as one enters the door. Won't you consider being a part of one of these groups? If you have questions, please contact Carol O'Dell at codell0302@gmail.com.

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 27th.

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

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 2 women who've had an impact on the quilting world.

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!

I would like to say thank you to all the members of the Pride of the Prairie for the beautiful glass plate with our Guild's logo.

The plate is displayed in our dining room, where it reminds me daily of the wonderful people who make up this Guild.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Henry

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

May 16, 2024 Connie Martin Pre-Civil War Quilt Trunk Show and Presentation

June 20, 2024 40th (Ruby) Anniversary Red and White Party, Ruby Challenge

July 18, 2024 - UFO

August 15, 2024 First Quilt/Last Quilt,

August 17 ,2024 Workshop Eileen Uchima Mystery Tour Quilt finishing

September 19, 2024 Catherine Redford Language of Flowers



October 17, 2024 School House

November 21, 2024 Kelly Ashton 60 Degrees of Inspiration, Workshop 11/22/24

December 2024 No meeting

2024 will mark the 40th Anniversary of the Pride of the Prairie Quilt Guild!

We plan to Celebrate this milestone during the June 2024 Meeting.

Mark your calendars for the 40th Anniversary celebration of the Pride of the Prairie Quilt Guild during the June 20th meeting.

All members are encouraged to complete a Challenge Quilt for the festivities.

Challenge Quilt Requirements:

- **Must be Red and White only.**
- We will let you decide how much of each color.
- Any design.
- **Must be 24" x 24" square.** No bigger, no smaller
- **100% made and quilted by the guild member**

These quilts will be displayed at the 40th Anniversary celebration.

There will be cake!

Other activities are in the works as well.

We are also asking everyone to bring a Fat Quarter. Read below.

If your last name begins with the letters A-M bring in your ugliest or less appealing fat quarter.
If your last name begins with the letters N-Z bring in your prettiest or most appealing fat quarter.

If you have any questions please reach out to Lynn Poulos or Lynn Scheimann.

Quilt Show 2026

Mark your calendars! The Pride of the Prairie Quilt Show is set for March 14th and 15th of 2026. It may seem far, far away, but it really isn't. Time has a way of slipping by and before you know it...BAM! It's here!

The first Quilt Show meeting will be on Monday, June 3rd, 6:30 p.m. at Zion Lutheran Church.

There are many moving parts to a quilt show, and when they all work together, they make something beautiful that is enjoyed by many. These are the committees we still need volunteers for –

Co-Chair (2)	Quilt Flyer
Travel Quilt Team (2)	Challenge Quilt
Opportunity Tickets	Strip Search
Vendors	Silent Auction
Quilt Registration	Raffle Baskets (at least 2)
Quilt Layout	Exterior Signage
Equipment (Sandy Piatak would like someone to work with her)	

Don't do it alone. Grab a friend and do it together! We need this quilt show to keep the Guild going. THIS is how we get the money to have speakers, workshops, Sew-Ins, and to pay for our meetings at Zion.

I want to send out a BIG THANK YOU to all those who have already volunteered to help! Your help is sew appreciated!

Jennifer Henry
Jenhenry@aol.com
630-234-4218



It's not too late to join the **Magical Mystery Tour!** The first month, you learned what fabrics you would need and by now you should have received your first two clues for the mystery quilt-along. If you missed any of the handouts, feel free to email Eileen Uchima or to stop by the Mystery table at the next meeting. There will be extra copies of all of the previous handouts available in addition to Clue #3. All of the steps are simple (square-in-a-square, half-square triangles, etc.) and, in the end, be made into anything from a table runner up to a bed-sized quilt. We will have a sew-in in August to work on solving the mystery where you will receive your final clue and assemble the quilt top. It will be a day of sewing fun! Please join us!

Philanthropy

Thanks to all of you who have taken the time to make a quilt, wheelchair coverlets, pillowcases, etc. for those who have needs and to put a smile on their hearts!

We are gearing up for another season of giving. Our goal is to have 2 to 3 sew-ins for the calendar year on Saturdays at Zion Lutheran Church, exact dates to be announced.

We will provide kits w/patterns for your ease of sewing. In addition, you can locate the patterns on our website under the "Community Service" tab, then "Ideas & Resources" tab and use your own stash to make some quilts. Please use quality fabric as all these quilts need to be washed and labeled.

Again, thank for giving of your time for philanthropy and watch for updates regarding the sew dates.

Piecefully,
Sandy Piatak & Jill Stuck

Batting Requested:

If you are a longarm 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.

May and June Birthdays

5/17 Colleen Formanek
5/19 Lynn Bogue
6/2 Ann Jordan
6/3 Sandy Johnson
6/9 Lynn Scheiman
6/27 Delia Tokarz



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 – Sandy Johnson

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

