

# Prairie Star Press

PRAIRIE STAR QUILTERS GUILD  
St. Charles, IL

PSQG Website: <http://www.psqg.org>

VOLUME XXXV, ISSUE NO. 8  
February, 2015

## From our morning VP

Greetings, Fellow Quilters!

Have we all dug out of our snow shelters? That was a little adventure to break the monotony of short, dark, cloudy days. At least the sun has been shining since then. It's just the beginning of February, so buckle up, quilt warriors, and take advantage of the days we're inside. Remember all those UFOs we are all determined to "get to as soon as possible"? Well, this is it!

I sat at my little Featherweight making New York Beauty quilt blocks a la Karen K. Stone, used my big Bernina to finish a quilt featuring flying geese flying in a circle, and finally, a bed-size quilt using the design used by Nancy Mahoney in her 1/2 day work session on Tuesday in November.

I was so glad to be back in guild last week. That time in December and the beginning of January with no Prairie Star Guild meetings didn't seem so long at the time, but at the meeting, I realized how much I had missed the fellowship of my fellow guild members and the anticipation of all the events and activities coming up in 2015.

So, "welcome back" and let's have a great time together as we finish out the guild year 2014-2015!

Happy stitching!

*Gail Myers*  
*Morning VP*

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### Next newsletter deadline:

March 5, 2014, 6:00 p.m. Send info to [beckyh@rchconsulting.com](mailto:beckyh@rchconsulting.com).

## 2015-2016 nominations

On behalf of this year's Nomination Committee, I am pleased to submit the following slate of nominees for Prairie Star Quilters Guild's Executive Board, Board of Directors, and non-board positions for 2015-2016. Elections will be held at the Annual Business Meeting on April 27, 2015.

### Executive board nominations

President	Joyce Jaksa
Programs Vice President	Joanne Sattler
Evening Vice President	Susie Wing
Daytime Vice President	Gail Myers
Secretary	Diane Hubberts
Treasurer	Sue Balsiger

### Board nominations

Membership	Juanita Brook*
	Chris Berry*
	Teresa Kasch*
Newsletter	Alissa Kantola
Education	Edith Hubbard
Media Chair	Yvonne Richter
Bee Keeper	Dawn Schultz
Library	Liz Fitzgerald
Community Projects	Debbie Long*
	Kathy Secor*
Contracts 2015-2016	Cindy Krelle*
	Teresa Kasch*
Nominations	Susan Strasser
Quilt Show 2016 Co-Chairs	Chris Schwarz*
	Leslie Nyckel*

### Non-board positions

Historian	Erica Barrett
July Picnic	Diane Moore
Fall & Spring Retreats	Linda Salerno*
	Barbara Carlson*

## Community projects

Thanks go out to the Material Girls bee for making fidget quilt kits. Other members who completed projects or made kits this month for community projects were:

- ❖ Nancy Aho
- ❖ Susan Carr
- ❖ Marcie Christensen
- ❖ Merna Cunningham
- ❖ Cathy Halfpenny
- ❖ Gwyneth Johnsen
- ❖ Peggy Kotecki
- ❖ Elaine Morgan
- ❖ Sue Needham
- ❖ Leslie Nyckel
- ❖ Pat Noonan
- ❖ Laretta Schneider
- ❖ Mary Stewart
- ❖ Carol Wood

Community Projects helped keep our furry friends warm by donating 14 pet blankets to Comfort for Critters this month.

*Nancy Aho and Patricia Noonan*



## PGSG February 2015

May Banquet TBD

\*Indicates Co-Chairs

*Respectfully submitted,  
Ginny Wright, Chair, 2014-2015 Nominating Committee*

## Programs and workshops

### February 23 and 24: Mickey Depre

Mickey has been a popular teacher from Oak Lawn, Illinois, whose two latest books on pieced hexagons have highlighted wonderful secondary designs created from pieced hexagons. She co-authored a book, ***Ring Around the Hexies***, with Bonnie Hunter, with whom she shares a love of scraps and unusual designs. Mickey's lecture is ***Quilts: Young and Old, Timid and Bold***. She will be giving the same lecture at both chapter meetings. <http://www.mdquilts.com>

Sign-ups for Mickey Depre's workshops are still available. If you know of any non-members who would like to join in on the fun of Mickey's workshops, please invite them. The workshop fees for non-members are \$50 for Castle Wall and \$30 for Wheelie Hexie.

### Monday workshop: Castle wall

The kit includes the acrylic templates for a 9" block, a sheet of CJ Jenkins freezer paper, a spool of Aurifil thread, and a package of Richard Hemming needles. There is also a supply list of basic sewing supplies, including fabric, on the PSQG website.

Hand piecing is so relaxing and portable! It makes for a great pick-up project. In this workshop, use Mickey's acrylic templates to cut out patches for a 9" block and learn the tricks to hand piecing an intricate block that has numerous inset seams. The block offers a wonderful way to showcase fussy cutting of beautiful prints but it also looks fantastic with batiks or Civil War fabrics or even kiddie novelty prints. It would be great to see a lot of hand piecers sitting at our meetings working on their Castle Wall projects! Fair warning, though: hand piecing may be addicting!

## 2014-2015 at a glance

Month	Speaker
Feb.	Mickey Depre from Oak Lawn, IL <a href="http://www.mdquilts.com">www.mdquilts.com</a>
March	Sue Spargo from Uniontown, OH <a href="http://www.suespargo.com">www.suespargo.com</a>
April	In house demos after the Annual Meeting
May	Banquet speaker: Jan Krentz from San Diego, CA <a href="http://www.jankrentz.com">www.jankrentz.com</a>



### Castle wall workshop notes

<b>Date</b>	Monday, February 23 <sup>rd</sup> , 2015
<b>Hours:</b>	9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
<b>Cost:</b>	\$40 Members \$50 Non-members
<b>Additional fees:</b>	Kit fee \$25
<b>Supply list link:</b>	<a href="#">Supply list</a>
<b>Non-member registration opens</b>	Now open

**Tuesday Workshop: Pieced hexies – the wheelie**



Learn to piece your scraps into hexagons (aka “Hexies”) that have a secondary design when set together. This is an English Paper Piecing class, where fabric is basted over paper templates and then whip stitched together. Mickey will show how this process can be relaxing and productive as it teases you forward to try just one more! There is a supply list on the PSQG web site.

**March 23 and 24: Sue Spargo**

Sue is back by popular demand, especially by those who are really interested in her ethnic folk art created with wool applique, embroidery, beading, and other embellishments. You’ll be inspired by her colors and textural designs.

[www.suespargo.com](http://www.suespargo.com)

**Workshop: Altered texture: Bird on a branch**

We will host a two-day workshop with Sue on March 23 and 24 at Bethlehem Lutheran Church. Monday the workshop runs from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Tuesday the workshop runs from 12:30 p.m. (after the morning meeting) to 7:30 p.m., including a break for a pizza dinner (included in the price of the workshop). The workshop fee includes the pizza on Tuesday (but not lunch on Monday – box lunches can be ordered that day).

**This workshop is full, so registration is CLOSED.**

The picture at the right is the project *before embellishing*. Everyone should have a supply list --- either a hard copy picked up at the November meeting, an email attachment or from the PSQG website.

Kits are available now. If you have not already picked up your kit, be sure to do so at the February meetings or make arrangements with Barb Vlack for absentee pickup. Check for the kit should be made out to **PSQG** so we can give Sue Spargo one check for all the kits.

**Pieced hexies workshop notes**

<b>Date</b>	Tuesday, February 24 <sup>th</sup> , 2015
<b>Hours:</b>	1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
<b>Cost:</b>	\$25 Members \$30 Non-members
<b>Additional fees:</b>	The book <i>Pieced Hexies: A New Tradition in English Paper Piecing</i> , \$22
<b>Supply list link:</b>	<a href="#">Supply list</a>
<b>Non-member registration opens</b>	Now open



**Bird on a branch workshop notes**

<b>Dates:</b>	Monday and Tuesday, March 23 <sup>rd</sup> and 24 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Hours:</b>	9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday and 12:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday
<b>Cost:</b>	<b>SOLD OUT</b>
<b>Notes</b>	There is some advance sewing before the workshop. Be sure to pick up your kit.

**April 27: Annual business meeting**

Our annual meeting is the time for the Guild to elect new officers and approve the budget, among other important agenda items.

We will also have a Round Robin of demonstrations of some Quilt Making Tricks. A handful of PSQG members have volunteered to show you some tricks they've learned along the way. See how to use the Yoyo maker gadget by Clover, freezer paper foundation piecing, easy seaming for the ends of a binding, and more. If you have a trick to offer as a demo, please let me know at [barb@barbvlack.com](mailto:barb@barbvlack.com).

**May 18th Banquet: Jan Krentz**

Jan Krentz is a nationally recognized quilt instructor, author and designer. She is the winner of the coveted *Professional Quilter* magazine's 1998 Teacher of the Year award. Jan's motivating workshops are packed with practical tips, techniques and methods to insure success. She is the author of *Lone Star Quilts & Beyond*, *Hunter Star Quilts & Beyond*, *Diamond Quilts and Beyond*, *Quick Star Quilts & Beyond*, and *Quick Diamond Quilts*. Jan lives with her husband in Poway, California.

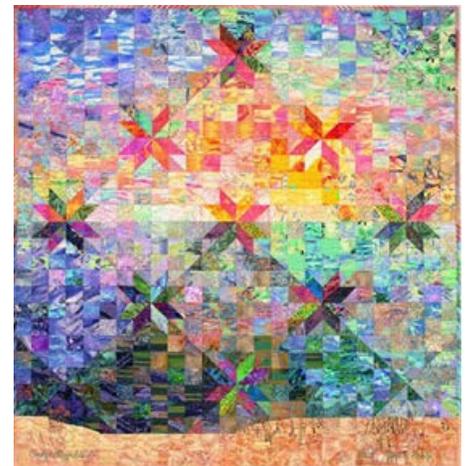
<http://www.jankrentz.com>

The banquet program will be her **Great Star Review!** which showcases a variety of star quilts from the traditional to the innovative art genre. It's an historic look at the traditional 8-point star designs, ranging from Lone Stars, Hunter Stars, and the new Diamond Quilts in a combination slide presentation with trunk show of beautiful quilts!

**Monday workshop: Color Wash Hunter's Star**

The design features squares and triangles, creating an overall impressionist shore scene. A subtle diagonal arrangement allows Hunter Star intersections to appear throughout the design. This design is a featured pattern in *Hunter Star Quilts and Beyond*, ©2003 by Jan Krentz and C&T Publishing. The quilt was created using QuiltSmart foundation products.

Using a product designed specifically for Jan's Hunter Star, learn the technique to compose a scene on a fusible foundation that will sew up into a 15" x 15" finished panel. The example shown is 4 times larger than the class project but is offered as an inspiration from a previous workshop taught by Jan. (*Note the structured placement of the stars among the colorwash squares.*)



**Color Wash Hunter's Star workshop notes**

<b>Date</b>	Monday, May 18 <sup>th</sup> , 2015
<b>Hours:</b>	9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
<b>Cost:</b>	\$55 Members \$65 Non-members
<b>Difficulty</b>	Intermediate (not your first quilt)
<b>Supply list link:</b>	Coming soon
<b>Non-member reg. opens</b>	TBD

## PGSG February 2015

Workshop focus: fabric selection and placement for the artistic design, construction technique, and quilting recommendations. The fusible foundation is provided with the class and instructions. Additional foundation may be purchased directly from Jan.

### Tuesday and Wednesday Workshop (2 days): Summer Salsa Lone Star

Jan's own Lone Star design, seen in bright, sizzling summer colors, is a real favorite. It includes options to personalize your quilt with a variety of designs. Some advanced preparation will be required to get the most from this class! See the same quilt in a different color family (*Double Cappuccino*) at:

<http://www.jankrentz.com/gallery.php>.

Your personal color choices will make each quilt unique. Finished quilt size: approximately 46" x 46".

*Barb Vlack, 2014-2015 Program VP*

### Weather cancellations

It's that time of year again, when we can face weather conditions that make attending our meetings dangerous. The Board has adopted a policy of cancelling meetings if the St. Charles public schools are closed for the day. We will also announce cancellations via email and through our Facebook page.

### From the library

Our guild Library has over 500 items for members to check out. Guild members are encouraged to take advantage of the library for inspiration, browsing patterns, learning techniques, and creating special projects of their own.

Since we are still close to the beginning of 2015 it seems a good time to revisit the policy for overdue, damaged, or lost books which was reviewed at the February Board meeting. Guild members are allowed two renewals of any items checked out. If books/DVDs are not returned after three months a \$3 overdue charge will be assessed per item. A replacement charge will be made for any items that are damaged or lost.

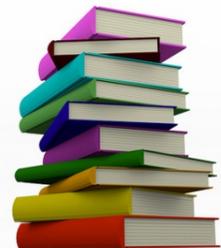
Please help the guild librarians by returning anything checked out in a timely manner. Offering members such great titles to choose from is a pleasure and a wonderful "perk" for the guild.

*Janet Miller, Liz Fitzgerald, Beth Reuter*



### Summer Salsa Lone Star workshop notes

<b>Dates:</b>	Tuesday and Wednesday, May 19 <sup>th</sup> and 20 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Hours:</b>	9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. each day
<b>Location</b>	TBD (not at the church)
<b>Cost:</b>	\$110 Members \$120 Non-members
<b>Difficulty</b>	Advanced beginner and above
<b>Supply list link:</b>	Coming soon
<b>Non-member reg. opens</b>	TBD



## Coming up at the education table

**February** will be thread catchers of all kinds and where to find free patterns for them on the internet.

In **March** we have something for all of you hexie fans: how to make hexies out of circles. If you like hexies but don't like to English Paper Piece this is for you: some simple folds and a few tacking stitches and you are done.

April will be our annual meeting so we will not have an Education Table. Barb Vlack is planning a School House for everyone to enjoy.

Happy Stitching!

Barb Stewart & Edith Hubbard  
Education Coordinators

## 2016 quilt show

It's not too early to start on those beautiful quilts for our next show! We have also started working on blocks for the raffle quilt which is inspired by a fabulous scrappy quilt made by Sherena Titus from triple four patch blocks swapped among members of the Rather Bees. Directions for the block are on the website under the 2016 Quilt Show tab then Show Quilt. We are asking for as many blocks as possible to be turned in by the February guild meetings. At that point we can assess what we have and see if we need more medium or dark value blocks. We also need over 500 dark value 3 1/2" squares for the border of the quilt, so please cut a few of those for us. Thanks for helping us get this party started!

We also still have openings on the Quilt Show Committee for helping with Quilt Display and to co-chair this show (becoming chair of the 2018 show). Think of all the fun you could have! Please contact us if you are interested.

*Chris Schwarz and Leslie Nyckel*



### **Prairie Patch Quilt Studio** *Professional Longarm Machine Quilting*

*Erica Barrett*  
*Prairiepatch.eb@gmail.com*  
*630-632-9185*  
*Wheaton, IL*

*Award winning quilting*  
*Quilting since 1985*  
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Tired of wrestling your quilt into your home sewing machine  
~or~ the length of time it takes to hand-quilt your quilt?  
Need a sense of accomplishment? Bring your pieced top to me  
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quilt is being quilted! Clear those UFO's out of your sewing  
space.

**So many quilts, so little time**

From table runners to King-size quilts, precision quilting is  
completed for you with care and prompt turnaround.

**Together, we will finish your quilt**

## Check your mailbox!

If you have any trouble with emails or receiving the newsletter announcement then contact our membership folks-Chris Berry, Juanita Brook and Teresa Kasch. These folks are the keepers of the master list from which the newsletters and email announcements are sent. They are happy to help you with any questions about the information we have on file for you as well as any changes to that information. Thanks!

*Caron Carlson*



## Challenge quilts wanted back!

Hi Ladies – I'm working with the Batavia Park District on the Batavia Quilt Show, and I told them how wonderful the Hometown Challenge Quilts you made for last year's Quilt Show were. Now they want to display them at the July show. So, I need your help in getting the quilts back together! We'd like to get as many challenge quilts as possible for the Batavia Quilt Show. Please contact me ASAP if you are willing to share! [info@prairieshopquilts.com](mailto:info@prairieshopquilts.com). Thanks!!!

*Bonita Deering*

## From outside the guild

### Winter Quilt Show

When: Saturday, February 21  
9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Where: Washington County Fair Park  
West Bend, WI

Featuring: Over 30 vendors  
Free stage lectures

Admission: \$5 Adults, 12 and under free

More info: <http://www.winterquiltshow.com>

### Quilt Talks: Sinnissippi Speakers program

Pam Buda is a national known quilter, designer and teacher and owns Heartspun Quilts. She is a traditional quilter using traditional blocks, fabrics, and colors constructed with today's modern piecing techniques.

## PGSG February 2015

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When: Thursday, March 5  
1:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Where: Bethesda Covenant Church  
2010 E. State St.  
Rockford, IL

More info: <http://www.sinnissippiquilters.org>

## Quilt Spectrum 2015

Presented by Hands All Around Quilt Guild of Central Illinois

When: Friday, March 27  
10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Saturday, March 28  
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

More info: <http://haaqq.tripod.com/quiltshow.htm>

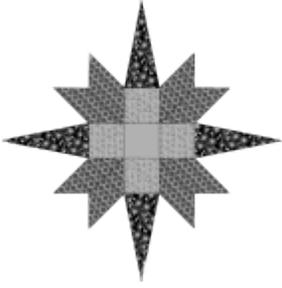
Where: Central Catholic High School  
1201 Airport Road  
Bloomington, IL

Admission: \$6 Adults, \$5 Seniors (60+), \$4 Children (4-12)

## Happy birthday to ...



Alice Bowdish	March 1
Joanne Bernhard	March 2
Liz FitzGerald	March 2
JoAnn VanDril	March 3
Marty Jacobsen	March 4
Carolyn Mack	March 6
Sandra Andrews	March 7
Carol Fisher	March 7
Laurel Kiburg	March 7
Amanda VanBoom	March 9
Lorraine Matuszak	March 14
Regina McNulty	March 15
Lyneta Grap Piela	March 15
Sue Balsiger	March 17
Sharon Gaffor	March 17
Judy Herman	March 17
Nancy Shiner	March 20
Linda Slusar	March 20
Becky Hall	March 21
Sue Needham	March 21
Linda Hart	March 24
Isabel Krystal	March 25
Leslie Nyckel	March 25
Michelle Jackson	March 28
Kathy Lupo	March 29
Debbie Wisowaty	March 31



**Prairie Star Quilters Guild**

**P. O. Box 1460**

**St. Charles, IL 60174-1460**

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## **ADVERTISING RATES**

1/8 page \$10/issue (business card size)

1/4 page \$20/issue

1/2 page \$40/issue

Above rates apply to a single issue. A purchase of the same-size ad for a year (11 issues) earns a 10% discount. Ads accepted only for quilting or quilt-related subjects and must be prepaid. Deadline for ads (getting copy or camera-ready artwork to the Editor) is the first of the month in which you wish the ad to appear. Call or email the Editor if you have any questions.

## **SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION**

**Prairie Star Press Subscription Only Rate:** Non-members of PSQG wishing a subscription to the **Prairie Star Press** may subscribe for \$15/year (11 issues). Make check payable to PSQG and send to PSQG, P.O. Box 1460, St. Charles, IL 60174-1460. PSQG trades complimentary issues of the **Prairie Star Press** with other guilds upon request.