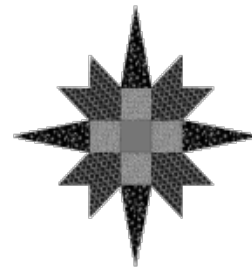


# PRAIRIE STAR PRESS



PRAIRIE STAR QUILTERS GUILD  
St. Charles, IL

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

VOLUME XXXV, ISSUE NO. 4  
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## From Guild President

Where has the summer gone???? It seems like just yesterday when I was shopping for a new bar-b-que grill. After enjoying many burgers on that grill I will be sad to put it into storage, **but**. . my favorite season will be here soon ... **fall**. Fall is such a beautiful time of the year and the colors are so breathtaking. And, this Fall we have the Prairie Treasurers Quilt Show to look forward to.

I know you are anxious to get the latest news about the Show, so here's Jan...

*Joyce Jaksa, President*

## From the Quilt Show Chair

I'm writing this month's article as I enjoy the last days of summer over the Labor Day weekend. By the time you read this, we will be well into September and the official start of fall will be right around the corner.... And only one more month until our quilt show!

Part of my family's Labor Day celebration tradition is to attend the local county fair near our lake cottage in Wisconsin. And my four favorite things to do at the fair are to visit the Antiques Exhibition, the 4-H exhibits, the Home Arts Hall, and the goats. Well, the goats don't have much to do with our guild and the quilt show, but they are so cute and playful, and love attention – I had to give them a mention.

But the Antiques, 4-H and Home Arts are where I go to view the quilts. It is so much fun to see what the residents of Walworth County are currently quilting, and there are so many beauties displayed in the Home Arts Hall. And it is just as much fun to see what the young 4-H members are doing in quilting and sewing. It's great to  
(cont'd)

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### Next newsletter deadline:

October 9, 2014, 6:00 p.m. Send info to [beckyh@rchconsulting.com](mailto:beckyh@rchconsulting.com).

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know that the many traditions of quilting are being taught to and enjoyed by the next generation. And they put so much imagination and creativity into their quilting and sewing! Finally, the old quilts of Walworth County make an appearance in the Antiques exhibit. These quilts never cease to amaze and delight me. Plus, I get to enjoy all these quilt displays with so many other women, men and children who are viewing and asking questions. What could be more fun?

Well, I can answer that question: **our quilt show!** I so enjoy seeing all the quilts made by our members, from the truly expertly made quilts to ones made with love by beginners. And the variety of items in our Boutique never ceases to amaze me. I can't decide if it's a blessing or a curse to have been able to see all the Boutique items over the past several months.... I guess if anyone needs the show chair at the beginning of the show, come to the Boutique to find me!! Plus it's always a great surprise to open up my scrap bags when I get home. I always find wonderful pieces of fabric that ignite my imagination. Save your money for purchases from our many vendors – we have a terrific selection this year! Plus the raffle quilt, the raffle baskets, and the Quilter's Café.

So make sure you invite your friends and family, sell those final quilt raffle tickets, finish your Challenge Quilt and show quilts, plan to have a fun time with your friends at our show, and we will **see you at the DuPage County Fairgrounds on October 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>!!**

Finally, I would like to express my gratitude and appreciation to all the wonderful members who have been Committee Chairs and those who have helped us get ready for the show. It is so true that many hands make light work, and it is certainly a lot of fun to be involved and meet other members. Each one has made my job easier and certainly enjoyable :). So thank you very much to the Quilt Show crew!

*Jan Sharpless, Quilt Show Chair*

## Fidget Quilts

Several guild members were interested in making the "Fidget Quilts" that a member shared at Show and Tell. These small quilts are designed to give the nervous hands of Alzheimer's or dementia patients something to engage with. There is an article in the June/July *Quilter's Newsletter* with information and samples.

## 2014-2015 at a glance

Month	Speaker
Sept.	Sue Garman from Houston, TX <a href="http://www.comequilt.com">www.comequilt.com</a>
October	post show
Nov.	Gail Stepanek from New Lenox, IL
January	Lynn Schmitt from Wheaton, IL <a href="http://www.adifferentboxofcrayons.com">www.adifferentboxofcrayons.com</a>
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>



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These small (20 to 24 inches) quilts need to be washable with non-slippery backs. (Fleece and flannel are good backings.) The idea is to make them more tactile than pretty with different textured squares (minkee, satin, flannel, corduroy, etc.) in addition to cotton, and with small items secured on the quilt. Examples are lace, ribbon, velcro, an empty thread spool, a pocket with secured toy, or pompoms.

If guild members wish to make these as a community project we can donate them to area dementia units. For more information, go to the Fidget Quilt Project website at [rowetogether.com](http://rowetogether.com).

*Nancy Aho and Pat Noonan, Community Projects*

## October 17-18 PSQG Quilt Show!! at the DuPage Fairgrounds

We are almost there! Next month is our biennial quilt show, and we are right on track to be ready to open the doors at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, October 17<sup>th</sup>.

Thanks to everyone who donated lovely boutique items at the August Guild Meeting!

The Raffle Baskets are looking terrific- I've already upped my "budget" for raffle tickets.

We will have a great selection of books, patterns and recent magazines for you to choose from!

### This is Your "To Do" List!!!

1. **Get your challenge quilts finished and turn them in at the September Guild meetings!!**
2. **Check your local quilt shops** to be sure they have enough **bookmarks** and let Jan, Chris or Leslie know if more are needed.
3. **Let your local residences for seniors know** about our show.
4. We will be emailing a short announcement of the quilt show to all members in late September. **Please send the announcement to friends, family, acquaintances**, and encourage them to visit our show.
5. **September Guild meetings are the last chance** for donating scraps, books, magazines and boutique items.
6. **Sell raffle quilt tickets!**
7. And last but not least, **watch for news on labeling your quilts and turning them in at the hostess homes.**

## Community Projects

Thank you to the following members for donating quilts and pet pads in August:

- ❖ Nancy Aho
- ❖ Erica Barrett
- ❖ Barb Bullock
- ❖ Susan Carr
- ❖ Marcie Christensen
- ❖ Merna Cunningham
- ❖ Laurel Kiburg
- ❖ Lois Larson
- ❖ Pat Noonan
- ❖ Dixie Riley
- ❖ Dawn Schultz
- ❖ Kathy Steere

Thanks also to Nancy Gambrel for cutting more quilt kits.

## Happy Birthday to ...



Mary Ellen Hennebry	Oct. 1
Sherrie Letzter	Oct. 3
Edna DeVore	Oct. 8
Nancy Merlak	Oct. 10
Diane Swaney-Smith	Oct. 11
Chris Berry	Oct. 22
Wendy Kalisz	Oct. 23
Nancy Lilly	Oct. 23
Jody Schoneck	Oct. 24
Jan Sharpless	Oct. 25
Kathy Wall	Oct. 27
Debbie Berry	Oct. 28
Vi Nelson	Oct. 28
Beth Reuter	Oct. 28
Georgia Rodney	Oct. 28
Cindi Little	Oct. 30
Bonnie Holtz	Oct. 31
Lois Wilhelm	Oct. 31

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Finally, if you've read our article this far, here is one more piece of news: my cousin is a new quilter, having started just about a year ago. She has heard me talk about our show for many years and has seen pictures I've taken of the show, the quilts, the vendors, and the venue. So she has decided to fly out to Illinois just to attend our show!! So now we can say our show draws a national attendance ;)).

See you at the September Guild Meetings!!

*Jan Sharpless, Chris Schwarz and Leslie Nyckel*

## Programs and Workshops

### EXTRA! EXTRA! NEWS FLASH FROM THE INTERNATIONAL QUILT FESTIVAL IN HOUSTON!!

The list of finalists in the quilt competition at the International Quilt Festival in October in Houston has been released and **TWO** of our speakers this fall are on that list!! These finalists have won a ribbon for their entries and probably prize money as well. What we won't know until the Awards Ceremony at the show is who the big cash prize winners are. **Sue Garman** and **Gail Stepanek** are both **winners in their categories** and are in the running for special prizes. Congratulations to them both!

#### September 22 and 23: Susan Garman

Susan Garman will be joining us to lecture about *Creativity and the Design Process*. This popular award-winning quilter has been designing and making quilts for over 40 years. You may have seen her on *The Quilt Show*; she has designed some of their Block of the Month quilts. She loves traditional and whimsical quilts. Her designs include beautiful appliqué and intricate piecing. Check out the gallery on her website: [www.comequilt.com](http://www.comequilt.com). In this one-hour lecture, Sue shares a retrospective view of how her quilt designs have developed across time. With photos, stories, and quilts, she will inspire, educate, and humor you. Along the way, you'll learn a lot about how you can incorporate some of her experiences and knowledge into your own quilt making. You will go home ready to dive into your sewing area with fresh new ideas and energy!

#### Monday workshop: Rose Fans

**REGISTRATION IS CLOSED. CLASS IS FULL! THANK YOU.**

In this workshop, Sue will talk about needle-turn techniques, including off-unit appliqué, reverse appliqué, stems, perfect

**Note the September dates!** The fourth Monday is early this month, our meetings are the **22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>**!

#### Rose Fans workshop notes

<b>Date</b>	Monday, Sept. 22 <sup>nd</sup>
<b>Hours:</b>	9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
<b>Cost:</b>	<b>Full</b>
<b>Additional fees:</b>	\$5 materials fee
<b>Supply list link:</b>	<a href="#">supply list</a>

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circles, and marking. This 15-inch block (finished size) can be used in a Baltimore album quilt, a Bed of Roses quilt, it can be set on point and used as the center of a medallion quilt, or four of them together would make a wonderful four-block quilt with a secondary pattern. Skill level: knowledge of appliqué is required, though you don't have to be an "expert." Materials fee of \$5 includes pattern and one set of freezer paper overlays.

### **Tuesday workshop: Papercut Fancy** **JUST A FEW SPACES LEFT!**

In this workshop, learn basic appliqué skills using a traditional papercut design block. All aspects of appliqué will be covered. The papercut block can be used in a pillow or a center medallion, a 4-block quilt, or a larger quilt with more papercut blocks in it. No supply fee is required. Skill level: basic knowledge of appliqué is required.



**Note:** only one of the four blocks above will be started in class.

### **October 27 and 28: PSQG 2014 Quilt Show Review**

Celebrate the success of our quilt show by viewing the winners and sharing stories.

### **November 24 and 25: Gail Stepanek**

**Note: There are no workshops in November.**

Gail Stepanek is from New Lenox, IL. She is an outstanding designer and award-winning quilter. She and her quilting partner, Jan Hutchins, have won Best Long Arm Quilting at AQS shows (just recently in 2014!) and have had a quilt on the cover of *Quilter's Newsletter* and another in the center of another issue. Gail claims she's not only a cover girl but a centerfold! Do a Google search to find a variety of YouTube interviews and pictures of Gail's work. She is a winner at the 2014 International Quilt Festival in Houston.

### **Papercut Fancy** **workshop notes**

<b>Date</b>	Tuesday, Sept. 23 <sup>rd</sup>
<b>Hours:</b>	12:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
<b>Cost:</b>	\$20 Members \$35 Non-members
<b>Additional fees:</b>	None
<b>Supply list link:</b>	<a href="#">supply list</a>
<b>Non-member registration opens</b>	August



*Gail is on the right. She is pictured here with Jan Hutchins, the quilter who quilted some of Gail's award-winning quilts!*



**December reminder: no meeting in December.**

## January 26 and 27: Lynn Schmitt

Lynn comes from a background of interior designing and now designs quilts and runs her company, A Different Box of Crayons. She lives in Wheaton. She is a frequent contributor to *American Patchwork and Quilting: Quilts and More*. Her website is [www.adifferentboxofcrayons.com](http://www.adifferentboxofcrayons.com) Lynn will be speaking about the creative process in making colorful quilts with mixed media that offer a variety of fabric textures. You'll be inspired by the wonderful ideas she has to offer in her talk and trunk show.

### Monday workshop: Cathedral Doves An Italian Adventure in Color and Texture

**Note:** This workshop involves both hand and machine work. More details to follow.

Lynn has designed for PSQG a one-block project that can be expanded to be a pillow, wall hanging, or quilt.

There will be some advance sewing before the workshop to piece the half-square triangles. Your choice of colors will be determined by the kit that you purchase.

Kits will include silk, wool, and upholstery fabrics to create the mixed media effects.

One of the medallions shown in the example on this page will be used in the workshop to highlight a block.

Keep an eye on the PSQG website for more details as they become available. There has been a delay in getting all the information because Lynn is preparing this project for a quilting retreat in Italy. She is offering us an exclusive pattern for the workshop, and is gathering appropriate fabrics for the kits.

Registration for the workshop will be available at the September, October, and November meetings.

*Barb Vlack, 2014-2015 Program VP*

## Coming up at the Education Table

Barb and I (Edith) want to let you know what we plan for the Education Table for the next few months.

In **September** Ginny Wright will give us information for the sleeves for our quilts for the Quilt Show.

**October** will be our Quilt Show Review.

In **November** there will be a pattern for a heart shaped needle keep just in time to make for Holiday gifts for your stitching friends.



### Cathedral Doves workshop notes

<b>Date</b>	Monday, January 26 <sup>th</sup> , 2015
<b>Hours:</b>	9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
<b>Cost:</b>	\$30 Members \$35 Non-members
<b>Additional fees:</b>	Kit fee estimated at \$30
<b>Supply list link:</b>	(coming soon)
<b>Non-member registration opens</b>	December
<b>Notes</b>	There will be some advance sewing of half-square triangles.

Happy **January** and starting a new year. Get ready for retreat at the Siena Retreat Center in Racine, Wisconsin and make a portable design wall. We will have directions for a design wall you can make in any size with easy-to-get materials.

Happy Stitching!

*Edith Hubbard & Barb Stewart  
Education Coordinators*

## Show and Tell Etiquette

Show 'n' tell is a highlight at our chapter meetings. For new as well as not-so-new members, I'd like to provide a few gentle reminders to keep things running smoothly and allow for the best possible experience for all.

- ❖ **Do** tell us your name first. Even if you are famous. We have new folks, guests, and sometimes members cross-over from the "other" chapter, and some of us are just plain forgetful.
- ❖ **Do** speak into the microphone unless you have a call-the-hogs voice that carries so well that the folks in back or with hearing aids can hear you.
- ❖ **Do** limit yourself to three (3) items per meeting. Come back up next month so you can introduce yourself again and show us something else wonderful.
- ❖ **Do** focus on showing off your finished, or nearly so, quilts or items, unless there's a special tell involved.
- ❖ Projects-in-progress (a.k.a. PIPs) from the current speaker's workshops earlier that day or preceding day are welcome and encouraged, regardless of incomplete status. If you finished the project in the day's workshop, OK, you can bring that to the evening meeting, too, although there might be some razzing for being an over-achiever!

*Beth Hoffman, Evening VP*

## Member News

Guild member Jody Schoneck won three blue ribbons and one for Best of Show Quilting at the DuPage County Fair. The Best of Show Quilting is a special award given by a business similar to the exhibitor; this year it was Linda Brodine, another Guild member, who writes children's books about quilts and quilters.



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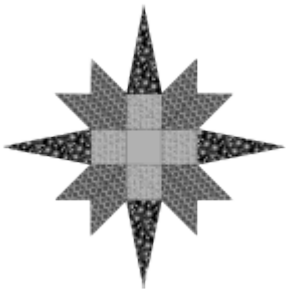
1/2 page \$40/issue

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.

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