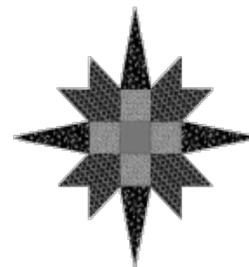


# PRAIRIE STAR PRESS



PRAIRIE STAR QUILTERS GUILD  
St. Charles, IL

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

VOLUME XXXIII, ISSUE NO. 5  
October 2012

## From the President

Well, by the time this newsletter is published and in your hands, the PSQG quilt show will be but a fond memory. But, since I'm writing this letter prior to the show due to those pesky publication deadlines, I can only imagine just how wonderful the show was. And I bet it was truly wonderful thanks to the efforts of the Quilt Show Chair, Lynn Murphy and Co-Chair, Jan Sharpless, the many, many committee members and all the guild members who gave of their time (and quilts) to make the Prairie Treasures Quilt Show a huge success. I can't wait for the November Guild meeting where we will get a chance to see all the winning quilts with the "Parade of Ribbons" and for us ALL to bask in the glory of a job well done.

Alas, I'm getting ahead of myself because after the quilt show, but before the November meeting, we are pleased to welcome to the October meeting award-winning quilter extraordinaire Barbara Lies. I can't wait to see her beautiful quilts and then join PSQG's very own Sue Pawlowski for her workshop that will leave you seeing spots (but in a good way) with her pattern "Polka Dot Wannabees!" and THEN you can start looking forward to the Quilt Show Wrap Up and Award Winning Quilt Show and Tell in November!

Thanks to the efforts of our great membership committee, the guild's membership is growing at each meeting and you can help us grow even more. Invite a friend to attend one of our meetings, introduce them to all the activities, workshops and more that we offer through the guild and then encourage them to become a part of the PSQG. Not only do we put on a great quilt show, but our

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speakers are fabulous and each month the workshops expand our abilities and techniques. Oh, and our membership is full of some of the most talented, caring and fun loving quilters anywhere. Who wouldn't want to be a part of that?

I know I'm a proud member of the PSQG and I hope you are too! See you at the October Guild meeting!

*Bonita Deering, President*

## **Upcoming Programs and workshops**

### **October: Barbara Lies presents "Diary of a Mad Quilter"**

Join us in October to hear "Diary of a Mad Quilter" presented by Barbara Lies. Barbara hails from "Mad Town" Madison Wisconsin and will bring some fabulous award winning quilts.

Our workshop in October will be taught by our own **Sue Pawlowski**. Join Sue as she teaches a fun quilt with easy foundations. Start with the table runner kit, and grow it into a larger quilt if you like!

The workshop will be held after the Tuesday meeting and the cost is \$35 (mail or give to Caron) and \$15 for the kit (payable to Sue). The kit will include most everything you need, except of course your machine and notions. More info on the website.

### **November: Quilt Show Review**

November's meetings will feature a quilt show recap, a chance for us to reflect on our successes! The "Scraps Committee" will offer a workshop – look for the article regarding how you can get in on the fun!

**December** is a month off, see you in January!!

## **January 2013: Stephanie Nordlin**

[Stephanie Nordlin](#) will join us from Poplar Grove IL. She is an art quilter and successful competitor and specializes in fabulous quilted garments. She promises a great trunk show and will talk about chronicling her travels in her quilted garments.

On Monday, January 28<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Stephanie will teach [Wearable Postcards](#). The workshop fee is \$55. Learn to take fond memories and mementos and turn them into art, either wearable or "hang-able." And Tuesday, January 29<sup>th</sup>, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. (after the morning meeting) we will learn a fun technique called [Slash 'n Switch](#) to make adorable and easy art quilts with a great fused binding! This workshop costs \$35. Click for your [Wearable Postcard Supply List](#) or your [Slash N Switch Supply List](#).

*Caron Carlson*

*Program VP*

*(630) 879-0000*

[bigtimequilter@yahoo.com](mailto:bigtimequilter@yahoo.com)



## **General notes about workshops**

The following notes apply to all workshops unless otherwise noted in the description.

- ❖ If the minimum number of PAID workshop participants is not reached 30 days prior to the workshop, the workshop may be cancelled.
- ❖ **Payment for workshops is due at sign-up.** Checks should be made payable to PSQG and can be handed in at the meeting.

- ❖ Cancellations for workshops (with full refunds) will be accepted up to 45 days before the workshop. After that, a refund will only be given if you find someone to take your spot in the workshop.
- ❖ Supply lists for each workshop will be posted on the Web site as soon as we receive them from the teacher. Web links for each teacher are also listed if the teachers have websites.
- ❖ For all-day workshops or Tuesday afternoon workshops, box lunches can be ordered in the morning for \$11.
- ❖ Unless otherwise noted, all lectures/trunk shows and workshops will be held at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 1145 North Fifth Avenue, St. Charles, IL 60174.

As you enter every guild meeting please check your name on the alphabetized sheets making one check for one meeting and two checks for two meetings attended in the same month. Guests are welcome for the usual fee of \$5 unless noted otherwise. It is very helpful to be a bit early if you are bringing a guest to a meeting to facilitate the sign-in process. If for any reason your name is not on the membership list please be prepared to pay a guest fee or join the membership.

*Barb Burdette*  
*Membership*

### Got scraps?

Want to know what to do with them? Want something to do on **black Friday** other than fighting crowds at your local Mall? If so, we have just the event for you!

Anyone who bought \$10 worth of scraps or yardage at the October 12-13 PSQG Quilt Show is invited to attend the FIRST EVER PSQG Scraps Gathering at the Batavia Public Library on Friday, November 23, 2012, from noon until 5:00 p.m.

And, what is this PSQG Scraps Gathering? This is a chance for you to learn how to sort, cut up, and organize your scraps so you'll have them all ready to use when you want to make a scrap quilt. We'll have ironing stations for you to use to press your scraps, handouts describing Bonnie Hunter's Scrap Users System (used with permission), displays of systems to use to store your scraps, and handouts with cutting instructions for Bonnie Hunter's May 2013 PSQG Workshops. All you'll need to do is bring your scraps, a cutting mat, your rotary cutter, plastic bags, and rulers. This gathering will be informal. You can come when you please and stay as long as you like, but you do need to sign up at the Quilt Show or by e-mailing Susan Strasser. So, plan to buy scraps at the quilt show then join us for a

### Looking Ahead ...

February	Rachael Wetzler
March	Amy Bradley
April	Business meeting
May (Banquet)	Bonnie Hunter

### Quilt Show Thanks!

Thank you all for your efforts to make the quilt show a success! We'll let you know next month how wonderful it was.

*Lynn Murphy*  
*Jan Sharpless*

*The Quilt Show Committee*

### Membership

We are embarking on yet another magnificent year of speakers and a multitude of options to become more knowledgeable in techniques—new and refreshed—plus renewing friendships with a fantastic quilt show thrown in!

## PSQG October 2012

chance to relax, cut, and organize with quilting friends.

Susan Strasser  
[strasser23@gmail.com](mailto:strasser23@gmail.com)  
630-443-6640



### From the Beekeeper

Our new Bee, the Scraps Bee, is a go with 15 members and will begin November 13<sup>th</sup> at Prairie Shop Quilts in Batavia. A second Bee, Scraps II, has five members on the list and we will continue taking names for this Bee and find a place and time to meet in the near future. The Bee Healthy Bee has been "asleep" for a while but I would like to get it started again this winter. Several Bees are open to new members so if you are interested, you can check with the list on our website, email or call me. The Service Bee is not attracting members but I will continue to keep a list going. I am still checking on a few more of the Bees to see if they are still meeting but most are still active.

Being a member of a Bee is a great way to meet new friends; exchange ideas, fabrics, or patterns; attend Quilt shows, Shop Hops, or retreats, so I hope everyone is a member of at least one Bee.

Let's Bee Friends and keep on quilting.

Ginny Wright  
[ginny.wright@comcast.net](mailto:ginny.wright@comcast.net)  
630-513-1418

### Newsletter Info

Do you have any quilt-related news to share with the guild?

Email me and I'll add it to the next newsletter (space permitting).

**Deadline for the next newsletter:  
November 8, 2012, 6:00 p.m.**

Becky Hall, Editor  
[beckyh@rchconsulting.com](mailto:beckyh@rchconsulting.com)

### Guild Member Birthdays in October



Chris Berry	October 22
Edna DeVore	October 8
Mary Ellen Hennebry	October 1
Sherrie Letzter	October 3
Nancy Lilly	October 23
Cindi Little	October 30
Nancy Merlak	October 10
Vi Nelson	October 28
Lisbeth Reuter	October 28
Georgia Rodney	October 28
Jody Schoneck	October 24
Jan Sharpless	October 25
Diane Swaney-Smith	October 11
Kathy Wall	October 27
Lois Wilhelm	October 31
Sandie Yeager	October 24

Submitted by Barb Stewart, Membership

## From the Education Table

No matter the type of machine- computerized or not, old or new, you won't get good results if you don't use the right type of sewing machine needle.

What type of needle should you use? That depends on 2 factors; the type of fabric and the type of thread you're using. There are 3 basic types of needles: ball point (used on knits), sharps (used on most woven fabrics), and rounded-sharp (often referred to as universal). Universal refers to having properties of both ball point and sharp so it supposedly can be used on both types of fabric but it isn't really specifically designed for either type of material.

Ball point needles are rounded so they don't break the threads of the fabric when they penetrate the material. This is important in knits and loosely woven fabrics where breaking a thread will result in a hole that gets larger with wear or stress.

When sewing on a tightly woven fabric, a sharp needle may cut a thread but due to the closely woven threads, it won't pull away making a hole. If ball point needle is used on tightly woven fabric it will push the thread through resulting in the fabric puckering.

There are many varieties of sharp needles with different thicknesses of shafts, depths of groove, size of the eye, and type of point. When we shop for needles we might have a particular size in mind. The size of the needle refers to the thickness of the shaft. These can range from 60/8 to 120/16. The first number is the diameter in the metric system and the 2<sup>nd</sup> number is an arbitrary U.S. number for the diameter. For both, the smaller the number, the thinner the shaft. Smaller numbers also indicate the eye of the needle is smaller and the groove in the shaft is narrower to accommodate a finer thread.

Needle size	Recommended thread size
70/10	60 weight & mono poly
80/12	50 weight
90/14	40 weight
100/16	30 weight and heavier

A denim needle has a very sharp point, a strong shaft, a deeper groove, and an elongated eye. The point is necessary for penetrating heavy fabric and the shaft must be strong to keep the needle from bending as it goes through the layers of fabric. The narrow elongated eye and the scarf (an indentation just above the eye of the needle) keep the thread in place for the hook to grab it in making a stitch. The deeper groove is to accommodate the heavier weight thread used.

A quilting needle has a more tapered point for going through multiple layers of fabric and across seams without damaging the fabric. The groove and scarf are narrower and the eye is smaller. A top stitching needle has a larger eye and deeper groove so it can use either a heavier thread or two threads at once. A metallic needle has an elongated Teflon eye and a larger groove to protect the fragile thread. Microtex needles like quilting needles have a narrow shaft and the point is sharper. Needles can also be Titanium or Teflon coated, or come with a gold eye. Many home sewing machines take a standard length of needle. Often that is a 15x1 and this is what you will find at most sewing supply centers. Check with your sewing machine manual to be sure especially if you're using an older machine.

Hand sewing needles come in even more varieties depending on their use. Quilting needles are shorter than the general use sharp needles and have a small rounded eye. Quilter's *between* needles are shorter and narrower than a quilting needle.

*Yvonne Richter*  
Education coordinator

## Member News

This is a new section dedicated to news from you, the members!

Have you shown your quilts somewhere else, and perhaps won a ribbon? Or the County Fair? Let us know! Are you having a "sewing room garage sale?" Let us know. Space permitting, your name could appear here!

## From outside the Guild

### Riverwalk Quilters Guild Small Quilt Auction

Their annual Small Quilt Auction features items made by guild members. This is just in time to stock up on gifts for the holidays! There are quilted table runners, wall hangings, purses, baby quilts and much more.

The public is welcome and there is no fee to attend the auction. Refreshments will be served and Opportunity Raffle Baskets will be available. All proceeds benefit educational programs for the guild and the community.

Date: Tuesday, October 16, 2012

Place: Grace Methodist Church Fellowship Hall  
300 E. Gartner Road, Naperville, Illinois  
(Lower level - enter from the west side of the building)

Time: Viewing of quilts opens at 6:30

Auction begins promptly at 7:00

Average selling price of quilts is between \$25 and \$100+.

Cash or personal checks are accepted for payments.

## 2012-2013 Board

### Executive Board

President	Bonita Deering
Program VP	Caron Carlson
Evening VP	Beth Hoffman
Daytime VP	Teresa Kasch
Secretary	Joyce Jaksa
Treasurer	Jan Sharpless

### Committee Chairpersons

\*indicates co-chairs

Membership	Barb Burdette* Barb Stewart* Elvira Illig *
Newsletter	Becky Hall
Education Coordinator	Yvonne Richter
Public Relations	Christine Buss
Nominations	Joyce Jaksa
Activities	Chris Schwarz* Diane Moore*
Bee Keeper	Ginny Wright
Library	Janet Miller
Community Projects	Nancy Aho* Joyce Keane*
Contracts 2013-2014	Sharron Evans
Contracts 2014-2015	Barb Vlack
Quilt Show Chair 2012	Lynn Murphy
Quilt Show Co-Chair	Jan Sharpless

\*co-chairs

## Calendar of Events

Check the body of the newsletter for more details. All events take place at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in St. Charles unless otherwise noted.

### October Meetings

Evening Guild: Mon. October 22, 7:00 p.m.

Morning Guild: Tues. Oct. 23, 9:30 a.m.

### November Meetings

Board Meeting: Tues. November 6, 7:00 p.m.

Evening Guild: Mon. Nov. 26, 7:00 p.m.

Morning Guild: Tues. Nov. 27, 9:30 a.m.

## ADVERTISING RATES

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

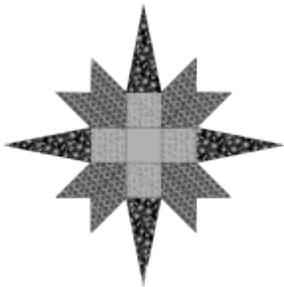
1/4 page \$20/issue

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.



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