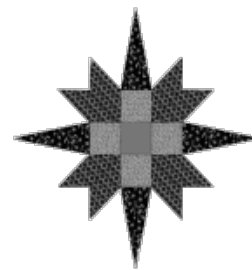


PRAIRIE STAR PRESS



PRAIRIE STAR QUILTERS GUILD
St. Charles, IL

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

VOLUME XXXIV, ISSUE NO. 7
January 2014

From the Evening VP

Happy New Year! I thought we'd had plenty of wintry weather in December, but January is already leaving it in the snow, so to speak. Not to mention the brutally bitter cold! I usually don't mind our winters too much, but this one has already worn thin on this raised-in-wool native Chicagoan and Yankee girl, and it's only early January! I think I'm only weather-rated down to 10 degrees above zero. Well, it's also prime quilting season, so whether you're pedaling to the metal on your machine, or snuggled under a quilt or wool project doing some hand stitching, we can take comfort in that.

As usual, the guild has upcoming activities to entice us out of our cocoons and charge up our creative juices. This month our guest speaker will be Jane Sassaman, an art quilter and fabric designer whose garden-influenced work and bright colors will be a welcome sight for our winter weary souls. Please note this is a last minute change as scheduled speaker Priscilla Kibbee is no longer able to come. The board also has a nice little gift for each member that you'll get at the January meeting.

In February, Sister Sew'n'Sew returns to lead us in "school house" where we'll have the opportunity to learn a few tips and tricks from our own guild members in a less formal setting.

In March, there's the annual guild winter retreat in addition to our regular monthly meetings and programs. Plus some of our local sister guilds' like Salt Creek and Pride of the Prairie are having their quilt shows, so grab a buddy or two, and check them out!

Stay warm and happy stitching!

Beth Hoffman
Evening VP

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Activities Corner

PSQG Winter Retreat (January 31-February 2, 2014)

Time is running out!!! The Winter Retreat will be held at the Carmelite Center in Darien, on Friday, January 31 through Sunday, February 2. Both single and double rooms are available. The cost for a single is \$225; doubles are \$175. This price includes five meals (dinner on Friday through breakfast on Sunday), unlimited sewing and lots of fun! Contact Susan Strasser (strasser@aps.anl.gov) or Mary Stewart (maryk_stewart@hotmail.com) by Monday, January 20th if you would like to attend!

Susan Strasser (strasser23@gmail.com),
Mary Stewart (maryk_stewart@hotmail.com)

Donations for Washington

The folks down in Washington, Illinois are still in need of help after the tornados that ravaged their town back in November. Your generosity was overwhelming the first time we made the call for donations and so we will be doing another round of collections. We have consulted with the ladies at the Peddlers Way Quilt Shop in Washington and they have asked for the following items for donations: quilts and monetary donations (cash, checks – made out to Peddlers Way Quilt Shop – or Walmart gift cards). They do **not** need: pillows, pillowcases or clothing. You can drop off your donations at Prairie Shop Quilts in Batavia thru January 31st. Thank you!

Bonita Deering, President

Community Projects

Members who contributed to our quilts for CASA children in November were Nancy Aho, Susan Carr, Merna Cunningham, Dixie Riley, Linda Stoyhoff, and Mary Weinschreider. CASA sent us a thank you letter for the 51 quilts that our community projects provided in December.

We were happy to receive a generous donation of material and three children's quilts from Kathi Dayon, owner of Quilt in Joy shop which recently closed. It's nice to have a good material supply to continue our projects!

Nancy Aho and Pat Noonan

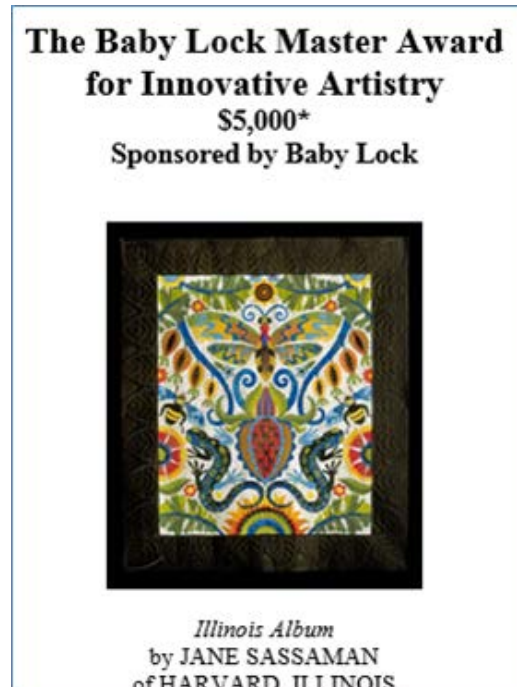
Upcoming Programs

The winds they are a changing and geographically speaking it's turned darned cold here! The changing winds also had me facing another problem.... I got word that Pricilla Kibbee could no longer present our program at this month's meeting. Yikes!



January: Jane Sassaman

Well if you got our e-mail blast you know I called in a good friend of mine – She's won at Houston several times, a national teacher and a fabric designer. Ms. Jane Sassaman saved the day!



Jane's latest achievement is the *Master Award for Innovative Artistry* at Houston this year! Congrats Jane and welcome to our guild. And we are fortunate to have her present two different programs:

Monday: Jane's Textile Treasure Garden

Jane will give us a glimpse into the inspiration of designing fabrics: dreaming, drawing and the process – all to create this colorful journey.

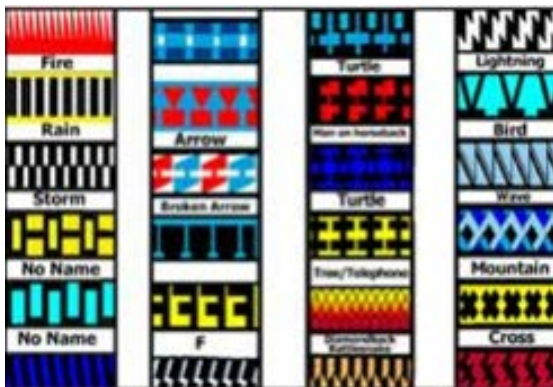
Tuesday: Quilting Against the Odds

A visual lecture and pep talk about accomplishing your quilt works despite family, life, space limitations, etc.

January Workshops

As to the classes originally scheduled with Pricilla, unfortunately we had to cancel the Monday class all due to lack of sign-ups. Refunds will be issued.

I, Sharron Evans, will be able to teach the Seminole Piecing class on Tuesday that was scheduled for Pricilla. Hey, you've actually been looking at my class samples from my past – we can still have great fun with this SUPER simple technique.



If you had signed up for the class, you should have already been contacted. If we haven't talked yet – please let us know if you still want to participate in the class or if you wish PSQG to issue you a class refund. Your call. But I hope you'll stay on. I guarantee you won't be

disappointed. AND – anyone who has not registered and still wants to join in on the fun – there are still some openings for this class. Just give me a call, shoot me an email or let me know at the guild meeting.



February: School House

We will be hosting our own Schoolhouse! And we need you! We know we have a lot of talent in this group. Please share your talents with your quilting buddies. Are you a "woolie" or a "hexie"? Please offer to teach the hand-work handicapped like me. How about hand or machine applique, making borders lay flat or binding? Do you do fabric surface design – you know who you are – and so do I.



How about sharing your fun techniques? Could you teach:

- Hand quilting
- Machine Quilting
- Baltimore Albums
- Photo Transfer
- Thread knowledge and tips
- Paper Piecing
- Embellishing
- Half Square Triangles
- English Paper Piecing

PSQG January 2014

- Color tips
- Kaleidoscopes
- Long-arm quilting tips
- Prairie Points
- Inking
- Thread Painting
- Stenciling
- Quilting designs
- Basting your quilt
- Quilt labeling
- Scraps, scraps and more scraps
- Sashiko

I'll be demonstrating Japanese Freelace and Trapunto by machine.

School will consist of three 15-minute classes/demo's. So my fellow professors, you need not plan anything elaborate.

Depending on the number of our volunteers you may be asked to demo once or twice – but not three times - thus giving you time to share in the student activities too.

So give me a call or email and let me know if you can help our gals graduate summa cum lauda.

*Sharron Evans
Program VP 2013-2014*



Membership

Happy 2014 and a WARM welcome from your Membership Chairs.

We are excited to announce that the PSQG Board has approved a design for new PSQG pins. At the January guild meetings we will begin distributing the pins to PSQG members. We (Joyce and Susan) will be sitting at a separate table just for the January chapter meetings. Please sign in as you always do, and then come back to see us and sign for your pin.

Pins will only be given directly to members in person at guild meetings. We will continue to bring pins to subsequent guild meetings for those members who are not able to attend either of the January meetings.

For those of you with an official PSQG name badge, these pins will fit very nicely in the hole provided. Or, you can use them on other name badges or wherever else you choose. We hope that you will wear your name badge and new pin to the guild meetings. We like to be able to recognize everyone by name.

Again we want to note that a name badge is to be worn by all members and if you need an official Guild name badge, please see us at the upcoming meeting.

Joyce Jaksa (jsjaksa@gmail.com) and Susan Cook (susanc153@gmail.com)



WELCOME TO PSQG!

Please welcome the following new member to our Guild:

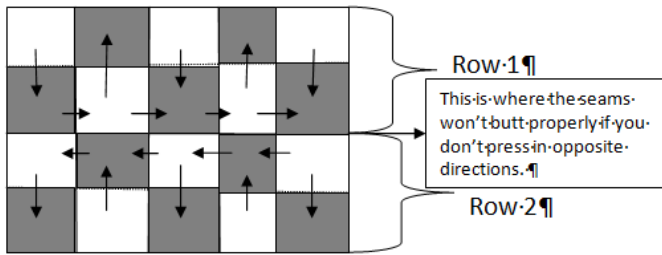
Judi Chase – A.M. Chapter

Education

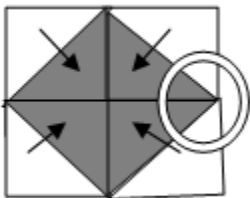
In sewing Jamestown Landing, it became obvious the old standard of "press toward the dark fabric" doesn't always work. Reading *Press for Success* by Myrna Giesbrecht provides much insight in how to develop a pressing plan to avoid the extra bulk created when seams don't butt but overlap instead.

In a 4 patch if the horizontal seams in row 1 & 2 are pressed toward the dark fabric, everything is fine. But what about the vertical seams when you join the sets? If all are pressed in the same direction when you join

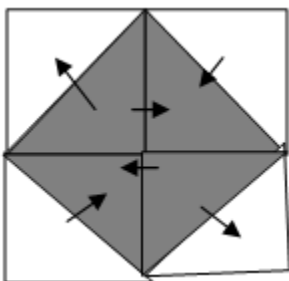
the rows, there are problems. Instead, you need to press the vertical seams in opposite directions. See diagram below.



What about when you are sewing half square triangles?



Pressing towards the darker fabric will create bulk at the circled area. So what should you do? Instead of pressing towards the darker fabric, if you press opposite half square triangles toward the light fabric, it will help alleviate the problem.



By developing a pressing plan before you assemble your blocks, you will be able to not only avoid bulky seams but save the time spent repressing seams.

Yvonne Richter
Education Committee

Newsletter Info

**Deadline for the next newsletter:
February 6, 2014, 6:00 p.m.**

Becky Hall, Editor
beckyh@rchconsulting.com

News from the Beehive



The hives have been on hiatus due to the holidays but I am sure they will begin buzzing again. With all the cold and snow we must be at our sewing machines creating something new!

Along with several area Quilt shops we have added a new possible meeting place offered by Joann stores. If there is a group who would like to meet or do a workshop, I can help you find a location. Our local quilt shops have been very generous in giving us a time and place to meet, great cutting stations, irons, etc. so we need to support them, too.

If there are any new members who wish to join a Bee please contact me. We have room in an Appliqué bee, the Hand quilting bee, and possibly others.

Happy quilting!

Ginny Wright, Beekeeper
630-513-1418 or 630-715-2266 (cell)
ginny.wright@comcast.net

HAPPY BIRTHDAY To—

- | | |
|----------------------|------------|
| Sue Hedke | February 1 |
| Sharon Bold | February 2 |
| Mary Conway | February 2 |
| Marcella Christensen | February 3 |
| Charlotte Drew | February 4 |
| Lauretta Schneider | February 4 |
| Judy Corfield | February 5 |
| Marilyn Keare | February 7 |

PSQG January 2014

Elaine Morgan	February 8
Charlene Cooper	February 11
Lynn Bach	February 12
Susan Cook	February 12
Mary Winegar	February 13
Betty Evans	February 14
Julie Grishman	February 14
Kathy Secor	February 16
Peggy Wolfe	February 16
Carol Allan	February 19
Gloria Friedrich	February 20
Linda Stoyhoff	February 20
Bonita Deering	February 22
Ruth Kay	February 22
Dorothea Cowser	February 23
JoAnn Weitzenfeld	February 23
Carolyn Kernan	February 25
Mary King	February 25
Pat Noonan	February 25
Bonnie Gillespie	February 26
Carol Wood	February 26
Margit Rippberger	February 27
Janice Lindenmeyer	February 28



2014 Quilt Show News

Happy New QUILT SHOW Year!! That's right: we will be holding our biennial Quilt Show this October 17-18. And we have a lot to accomplish before the show.

We have a committee meeting on **January 21, at 10:00am at Prairie Shop Quilts** and we will provide an update of all things Quilt Show related at the January Guild Meetings.

The **Quilt Show table** is always at the Guild Meetings. That's where you bring Scraps,

Books, Magazines, all **Boutique donations**, and finished tissue holders. Plus **Raffle Tickets** are sold there for our wonderful Raffle Quilt.

Raffle Basket donations are being accepted, and owners are still needed for some baskets. Teresa and Kathy will provide an update at the next Guild Meetings.

Don't forget to work on your **Challenge Quilt** over the cold months!! And on a couple of quilts to display or have judged at the show. Quilters LOVE terrible winter weather because we can stay warm and happy working on our projects.

Thank You for Your Support of our Quilt Show

Jan Sharpless, Chris Schwarz and Leslie Nyckel

From outside the Guild

Quilts of Valor

The Moving Vietnam Wall Laying of the Wreaths ceremony was in the afternoon of a cold, rainy November day. It was quite a solemn ceremony. There were Veterans from each branch of service laying wreaths at the Wall. We witnessed some intense emotions when the quilts were presented and wrapped around our Veterans. One of the recipients, Sgt. Pat (Vietnam) posted on Facebook:

"I had the unique pleasure of being wrapped in the warmth of a beautiful quilt as well as some beautiful women who put needle to cloth and heart and soul into the quilts. I was overwhelmed by the beautiful wrapping ceremony and wish to thank all of the ladies who work so diligently to make sure we combat vets feel loved, I know I certainly did yesterday."

Caron's comments: "Yesterday was a powerful day for me. And I have my good friend Rita Pennington to thank. I was honored to present 6 quilts to veterans at the moveable Vietnam Wall in Aurora, IL. I am guilty of treating

Veterans Day like another day off, or a day that a bill won't come in the mail. But from yesterday forward I will always remember the tears in their eyes when they received those quilts. Were they tears of gratitude for the quilts, or were the tears in remembrance of those who did not return, or maybe the job that wasn't there for them when they got back? Or maybe tears for the lost opportunities because we have not, in the past, given them enough recognition. I will never know, but I know those quilts did touch them...."

Sandy's comment: "I could not stop thinking about the ceremony and the faces of those who received quilts. Count me in!"

Susan's comment: "I was happy and honored to be a part of the presentation."

I think it will be awhile before Aurora ever forgets this Veterans Day; I know it will be forever in my memory. There is no time limit on how long the healing of these wars last. Our hope is that each quilt presented brings comfort, gratitude and a long waited, "Welcome Home."

Rita Pennington

Upcoming shows

A Patchwork of America

Presented by Salt Creek Quilt Guild/

March 1 & 2, 2014

10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Clarendon Hills Middle School
301 Chicago Ave. Clarendon Hills

<http://www.saltcreekqg.org/>

Dashes of Color Prairie Style

Presented by Pride of the Prairie Quilters

March 8 & 9, 2014

Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Sunday, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Richland Grade School
1919 Caton Farm Road
Crest Hill, IL 60403

Easy access from I-80, I-55, I-355 and Route 30.

Admission: \$6, Children under 12, Free

Over 300 quilts ~ Silent Auction ~ Vendors ~ Raffle Baskets

Demonstrations ~ Bake Sale ~ Strip Search ~ Used books & Magazines

Quilt appraisals by appointment.

For more information visit our website:

www.prideofprairie.org

Quilt Me a Garden

Hannibal Piecemakers Quilt Guild is having their 3rd biennial quilt show "Quilt me a Garden" on **Friday April 4**, 2014 from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. and **Saturday April 5**, 2014 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Admiral Coontz Recreation Center, 301 Warren Barrett Drive, Hannibal, MO.

Over 200 judged and non-judged quilts, Appraisals, Boutique, Vendors, Quiltmaker's Academy (free presentations), Trunk show, Door Prizes, Opportunity Quilts and Lunch.

For further information check out their website hannibalpiecemakers.weebly.com, or like hannibal piecemakers quilt guild on Facebook.

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.

January Meetings

Board Meeting: Tues. Jan. 7, 7:00 p.m.

Evening Guild: Mon. Jan. 27, 7:00 p.m.

Morning Guild: Tues. Jan. 28, 9:30 a.m.

February Meetings

Board Meeting: Tues. Feb. 4, 7:00 p.m.

Evening Guild: Mon. Feb. 24, 7:00 p.m.

Morning Guild: Tues. Feb. 25, 9:30 a.m.

ADVERTISING RATES

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

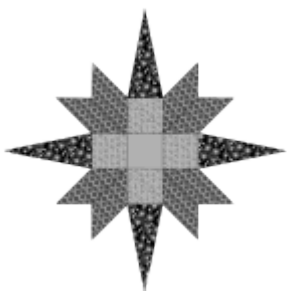
1/4 page \$20/issue

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.



Prairie Star Quilters Guild
P. O. Box 1460
St. Charles, IL 60174-1460

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Dated Material