

# Prairie Star Press

Prairie Star Quilt Guild  
St. Charles, IL

Volume XLI  
PSQG website: <http://www.psqg.org>

Issue #5 & 6  
November/December 2019

## Happyhallowthanksmas!!

It's officially that time of year when the holidays are upon us. With three holidays coming back to back from October 31st through December 25th, life is sure to be a bit hectic. Have you started your Christmas shopping yet? I've officially started shopping with some gifts for my grandkids. Are you working on sewing projects as gifts for Christmas? Don't let the holidays overwhelm you. Take it one day at a time and try to find the joy during this holiday season that is all about you, and not just about doing for others. Take a time out from your stitching and enjoy reading a book, soaking in a hot bath or getting in a workout that is sure to make you feel invigorated! Recharge those batteries a little to give yourself energy to complete those hectic holiday shopping tasks and sewing projects that you plan to give as gifts.

There are many positive things happening in our guild coming down the road. Planning is in full swing for our 2020 Quilt Show and these ladies are working hard to bring you our best show ever! Debbie Long, Mary Stewart and I have been busy little elves in the workshop making quilt kits for our

Ronald McDonald House Charity project. We will have plenty of kits to hand out at the November meeting for those of you who would like to make baby quilts to benefit critically ill children. We have many juvenile print panels donated by The Fabric Candy Shoppe of New York along with beautiful coordinating fabrics to be quilted and bound as well. Soon we will have other quilt kits available for those who would like to do pieced work. It's the perfect time of year for our "snowbird" friends to pick up several quilt kits to work on over the winter and bring them back in the Spring. We will also accept pillowcases for Ronald McDonald House (please do not use glitter fabrics for pillowcases!) We are still looking for sizable pieces of cotton batting to support this project. We have tons of fabric available. **What we really need is batting.** Most of our quilts will be 45" x 60" or smaller. We can fuse batting together if you have some good size leftover pieces. If you have batting you would like to donate, drop it off at the Community Projects table at our guild meeting.

We will have lots of information to share at our annual business meeting in April. Your board is hard

*continued on page 2...*

## In this issue:

Happyhallowthanksmas!! .....	1
Community Service .....	2
Our web store.....	2
Thank You to the Guild .....	2
Committee needed .....	2
2020 Quilt Show Update .....	3
Programs.....	4-5
A personal story! .....	5
Competitive Quilters.....	6
December/January Birthdays ....	7
2019-2020 Board Members.....	7

## Upcoming Guild Meetings:

**November 25, 2019 at 7 pm**  
**November 26, 2019 at 9:30 am**  
**January 27, 2020 at 7 pm**  
**January 28, 2020 at 9:30 am**

*All meetings at Congregational United Church of Christ unless otherwise noted.*

*Congregational United Church of Christ  
40W451 Fox Mill Blvd., St. Charles, IL*

## Next Newsletter Deadline:

Thursday, January 9, 2020.  
Send info to Melanie Murphy at  
[mgmwriter@gmail.com](mailto:mgmwriter@gmail.com).

## Happyhallowthanksmas continued from page 1

at work making plans to make our guild better than ever in the future! Stay tuned for more details.

Our November Workshop is sure to please, as Edith Hubbard presents a fascinating presentation on "Shopping Home Depot for All Your Quilting Needs". On Monday November 25th we will also be featuring a Sew In where you can work on those pesky Christmas projects that we stress to get finished! Bring your favorite **Holiday Quilt** to share for "Show and Tell" (please

try to limit it to one quilt to show the group) and bring a snack to share with a few friends. We look forward to seeing you!

Our regular November meetings will still take place as usual, on Monday evening and Tuesday morning. Don't forget there will be no meeting in the month of December. Wishing you all a very safe and blessed Holiday Season!

- Sandi White  
Evening Vice President

## A Special Thank You to the Guild

This is a thank you note received to Prairie Star Quilt Guild:

**"Thank you so very much for your kind donations. The fidget blankets will be used with patients in need of stimulation. We service over 5 counties, so please know that your donation has the ability to reach many communities. Your talents and time are deeply appreciated."**

Sincerely,

**Karen Judith Smith,  
Volunteer Manager, Vitas"**

---

## Community Service

**Dog Beds:** Please bring your completed dog beds to the next meeting. Look for a car/van parked under the canopy and place your beds there. If you don't see a vehicle, then bring them inside and stack them by the freebie table in the open closet. If you need more cases or information, stop by the Community Service Table.

**Ronald McDonald quilts:** We need batting, 100% cotton, approximately 45 x 60 crib size. If you can donate batting, please drop it off at the community service table.

**Plastic Bags:** Please hold off on the plastic bags until January, unless they're made into a skein. Thank you for your donations!!

**Quilts of Valor:** Recently I have been asked a couple times, just what it is all about. In short, it's a National Foundation making and awarding thank you quilts to our

veterans for their service. This year Land of Lincoln Quilts of Valor, our local group, from end of October to Veterans Day, have awarded over 100 quilts at various venues! Thanks to many of our members for their support. Check us out on our Facebook page: Illinois Quilts of Valor.

**Hospice Memory Bears:**

Are you interested in creating Memory Bears for families of hospice patients? Memory Bears are stuffed animals created

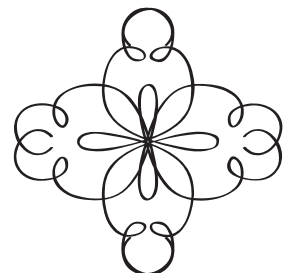


with clothing provided by the loved one's family after their passing. Those interested in creating these family treasures may contact Nancy Krasinski for more information.

---

## Contracts/ Programs needs a committee

Our contracts manager, Janet Francis, would like to form a committee of helpers for the June 2020-May 2021 season. In particular, workshop organizers during the day to check that setup is done and then check-in attendees as they arrive. Would you be able to sign up to help one month? Contact Janet at [francis.j@sbcglobal.net](mailto:francis.j@sbcglobal.net).



---

## Our web store

[psqgstore.logofactoryusa.com](http://psqgstore.logofactoryusa.com)



# 2020 Quilt Show Update

Planning is proceeding on schedule. We have a meeting coming up on November 13 from 6-8pm at the Panera in Downtown Batavia. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Start sewing your challenge quilts, display quilts and judged quilts. We will strictly adhere to the deadlines for these items, so be ready to meet them, please. Soon we will have all the forms on the website.

## PSQG Youth Challenge

We are planning a new category for the 2020 quilt show, a Youth Block Challenge. Volunteers are needed to help with the many aspects of accomplishing this. We need to decide the following: determine age groups, size of block, composition and/or color, how much help from adults, registration, sponsor's fee, awards or not, tallying votes, hanging of challenge blocks, manning booth during show and anything else you can suggest.

If you're interested or have suggestions, please contact Barbara Carlson: [rncmst6@gmail.com](mailto:rncmst6@gmail.com).

## Challenge Quilts

Barb Vlack has announced the red & white challenge for the show. Sign up in person at a meeting for \$5 cash. The rules are available on our website ([psqg.org/red-and-white-competition-rules/](http://psqg.org/red-and-white-competition-rules/)).

## Opportunity Quilt

The quilt is traveling and ticket sales are underway. We ask that each member **purchase \$20 in tickets**. You can use those for yourself for more chances to win, or you can sell them to relatives or friends. As you see family during the holidays, you could sell them tickets by making a list of names and info. At the next

guild meeting, you could then actually buy the tickets and fill in their information.

## Quilty Resale

We are collecting at the meetings; please look for an open car trunk.

- Books, copyright 2000 to present.
- Magazines from 2015-2020 (five years old).
- Patterns of any age are welcome, but please be mindful of copyright laws and don't include a photocopy you got from a friend.
- Other quilty items in good condition. Puzzles, rulers, longarm pantographs, embroidery files, etc.

## Scraps

As a result of your generous donations of good-quality fabric, we have a serious head-start on getting scraps ready to sell at our quilt show next year. In fact, we have so much ready (think 800 folded fat quarters, for example) that we want you to have first choice at this good stuff. Soooo, we'll have a table at the Guild Sew-in on Monday, November 25 and at both Guild meetings with a selection of fat quarters (50 cents apiece), scrap bags (\$1 apiece), and yardage (\$2/yard). In addition, we're trying something new! We'll have a large tub of fabric pieces that you can buy individually, at 25 cents per piece. Once you've taken advantage of this opportunity and cleared us out, we'll restock for the quilt show!

For now, let's hold off on fabric donations until January. Thank you!

## Quilt Show Boutique

Our Boutique will be successful if you share some of your creative talents. We know you are out there

creating as we've seen some lovely items at Show-And-Tell that would be perfect for the boutique. Please bring your items to the Quilt Boutique Table at the guild meeting. We'd love to see all the wonderful things you are doing. Small items, like hot pads, oven mitts, ornaments, and mug rugs, all sell well. Maybe you have some leftover fabric from your fall and Christmas projects this year that would be perfect for a boutique item?

## Door Gifts

Collection is going great thanks to all of you very generous sewists. We will announce when we have reached our limit.

**One important note** -- as you're making the hand warmers, please use cotton thread. We've recently learned polyester can be a hazard in the microwave.

## Raffle Baskets

Please keep perusing your sewing room for new or like-new items for the raffle baskets.

We need selvages. Selvages need to have 1" of fabric in addition to the selvage, and they need to be 18" or longer. Please **DO NOT** remove selvages from fabric you intend to donate for the quilt show fabric scrap sales.

We are trying to accumulate enough basket items for a beginner long-arm quilter. So keep that in mind as you search.

Thank you for all the great contributions.

Ruthann Heidgerken, Raffle Baskets Coordinator

Gather those items you don't read any more, the scraps that you can't look at any more, and start sewing or finishing those wonderful quilts!

## Programs

November 2019  
In House Event

December 2019  
Happy Holidays!

January 27/28, 2020  
TBA

February 24/25, 2020  
Laurie Simpson  
[www.minickandsimpson.blogspot.com](http://www.minickandsimpson.blogspot.com)

March 23/24, 2020  
Anna Maria Horner  
[www.annamariahorner.com](http://www.annamariahorner.com)

April 27, 2020  
Annual Business Meeting

May 18, 2020  
Melinda Bula  
[www.melindabula.com](http://www.melindabula.com)



Enter our lottery-style drawing to win a class credit! \$1 per ticket, limit 1 entry per person and you must be a guild member in good standing. The drawing will occur at the morning meetings. The winner will be notified by phone.

The winner will receive a credit to use towards one class of their choice. Supplies are not included. The credit is up to a \$50 value (unused portion not refundable) and must be used by the end of the guild year.

Stop by the lottery table and try your luck!



## Edith Hubbard & A Sew-in

Join us for a fun look at finding quilting supplies in an unexpected place, "Shopping Home Depot for All Your Quilting Needs" by Edith Hubbard.

**Additionally, all members are asked to bring their favorite Christmas quilts to inspire us with a holiday-themed show and tell.**

Our Monday workshop will be an Open Sew with prizes and giveaways from local merchants – bring your supplies and works in progress for a good old fashioned sew-in!



This quilt is called "Sew Merry" from The Quilt Company.

<https://www.quiltsngifts.net>



This quilt is the Holly Jolly Christmas Kit from Missouri Star.

<https://www.missouriqltco.com/>

# JANUARY

## January is for beginners

The start of a new year is a great time to learn something new. Or just learn something you didn't know before. So, for January we will have a kind of in-house event.

Our guild is so wonderfully diverse in skill levels! For our program in January, we will have a Schoolhouse for Beginning Quilters. There will be stations around the room where you can stop and learn a technique or tip. More details will be coming shortly.

Our lecture for both meetings will be about organizing your stash.



## Why you should label your quilts: A personal story!

In 2013, I created a baby quilt for my great-grandson, Xavier Brennan, and sent it to him in Fort Collins, Colorado. Fast forward to November 6, 2019. That morning I received a text from my longarm quilter who found the following message posted on her Facebook page:

"I know this is a long shot, but I found a quilt that was quilted in 2013 by Bonita Deering from Prairie Shop Quilts. Susan and Herbert Strasser made the quilt for their great-grandson who lives in Fort Collins, CO - or at least did when he was born. I assume they still live here since that is where I found the

quilt. Do any of these names ring a bell? I'm sure the family would love to have the quilt back and I'm doing everything I can to find them. Thanks."

Bonita Deering, my quilter, reached out to me, and I immediately emailed Katie Brennan, Xavier's mother, to ask if she was missing a quilt. She responded immediately with this message:

"Yes, yes, yes that is Xavier's quilt you made for him...Oh my gosh, I can't believe somehow you got informed about this. We had taken it to the park with us and I realized yesterday that it wasn't in the back of

my van. I was going to go out looking for it today. What a blessing!! Please give your friend my contact info so I can swing by and get that beautiful, precious quilt back. Thank you so much Susan for emailing me about this!! I've been worried sick about this."

Bottom line: Thanks to a label and a very thoughtful fellow quilter, Xavier's quilt was back home very shortly after it was lost!

Quilters really do have a wide-spread caring community, don't we!

- Susan Strasser

# Quilts for Sale

Eloise Coulombe is selling these two quilts from her mother's estate. Please contact Eloise at 630-464-4735 if you're interested.

A: 8'x6' cathedral windows pattern hand-stitched quilt with matching Standard bed pillow cover and a matching smaller toss pillow. All in excellent condition. Asking \$600.00.

(Made by my Mom and my Aunt in 1965.)

B: 8'x6' hexagon pattern hand-stitched quilts. Both in excellent condition. Asking \$200.00 each. (Made by a neighbor in 1985.)



Whipper Snapper Designs

All Rights Reserved

Whipper Snapper Designs



Whipper Snapper Designs



A



B



**MELANIE MAKEUPS**

••• Quilting, Quilt Labels, Handbags •••

---

melaniemakeups.com

.....

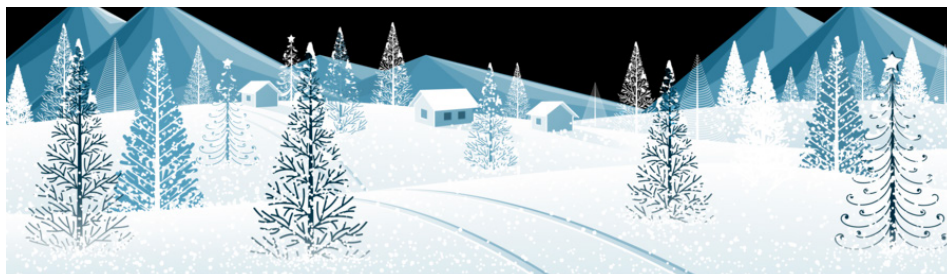
melaniemakeups@gmail.com

## Competitive Quilters

Do you enter quilts in national quilt shows? Perhaps you longarm for someone and their quilt was accepted? We would like to know about it! Please send the details, including a picture, to Melanie Murphy at [mgmwriter@gmail.com](mailto:mgmwriter@gmail.com).

We will have a future issue of the newsletter with the details! Who doesn't love a show and tell issue?

Also, please share your upcoming entries when the new season starts.





## December Birthdays

Carole Bates.....	12/5
Beverley Rose Enright.....	12/5
Susan Egner.....	12/6
Rita Pennington.....	12/6
Sue Wauer .....	12/7
Merna Cunningham.....	12/8
Susan Llorens.....	12/8
Diane Sanfillippo .....	12/8
Kate Bernhard.....	12/13
Maureen Cooper .....	12/13
Ella Mae Goshen .....	12/13
Sherry Wilson.....	12/13
Alissa Kantola .....	12/14
Judy Spellman .....	12/15
Britta Cuming .....	12/17
Helena Ann DeMoss.....	12/18
Sandy Henke .....	12/18
Maureen Quinn.....	12/18
Linda LoBianco .....	12/19
Diana Sharp .....	12/19
Debi Winchester.....	12/19
Carol Matlock.....	12/20
Linda Brodine.....	12/21
Sheri Noyola .....	12/21
Dawn Schultz .....	12/22
Beth Hoffman .....	12/23
Christa Chocker.....	12/26
Nancy Mueller .....	12/27
Judy Scheppach.....	12/28
Nanette Farina.....	12/29
Nancy Cleckner.....	12/30
Ann Stoa.....	12/30
Mary Jane Cross.....	12/31

## 2019-2020 Board Members

**President:** Yvonne Richter  
**Evening Vice President:** Sandra White  
**Daytime Vice President:** Ann Johnson  
**Secretary:** Susan Strasser  
**Treasurer:** Alyssa Payleitner  
**Programs Vice President:** Teresa Kasch & Chris Berry\*  
**Membership:** Lynne Curran  
**Newsletter:** Melanie Murphy  
**Education:** Cindy Krelle & Beth Hoffman\*  
**Media Chair:** Chris Macenski  
**Bee Keeper:** Beth Rueter  
**Library:** Liz Fitzgerald  
**Community Projects:** Rita Pennington  
**Contracts 2020- 2021:** Janet Francis  
**Nominations:** Chris Schwarz  
**2020 Quilt Show Co-Chairs:** Krista Katzen & Melanie Murphy\*  
**Activities:** Barb Gillespie

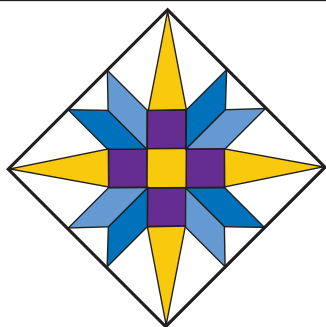
\* indicates co-chair

## January Birthdays

Jane Phillips.....	1/1	Jo Fritter .....	1/19
Jean Maffiola .....	1/2	Melanie Mazurski .....	1/19
Debbie Konopka .....	1/4	Marcia Cameron .....	1/20
Pat Lipscomb.....	1/4	Chris Schwarz .....	1/23
Loretta Stenger .....	1/4	Angelika Brinkmann-Busi .....	1/24
Barbara Lies.....	1/7	Diane Evinger.....	1/24
Mindy Bosso .....	1/8	Joyce Jensen .....	1/24
Tracy Husch-Lissak .....	1/8	Marion Schindwein.....	1/24
Irene M. Jones .....	1/8	Lianne Halling .....	1/26
Denise Luper .....	1/9	Nancy Gambrel .....	1/27
Nancy Pauli.....	1/9	Carol Johnson .....	1/28
Diane Martin .....	1/10	Peggy Kotecki .....	1/28
Joy Abts .....	1/11	Anne Murray.....	1/29
Karen Schroyer.....	1/12	Jill Seaworth .....	1/29
Judi Werkema .....	1/12	Barbara Stewart .....	1/29
Shawn Greenough .....	1/13	Mary Hudspeath.....	1/30
Leslie DeBaun .....	1/14	Leanne Hurley.....	1/31
Lori Smalarz .....	1/17	Bonnie Prokop .....	1/31



## November/December 2019 issue



**Prairie Star Quilt Guild**

**P. O. Box 1460**

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

FIRST CLASS MAIL

**Dated Material**

### 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 (10 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 (10 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.