

Prairie Star Press

Prairie Star Quilt Guild
St. Charles, IL

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The Guild in the time of Covid

“May you live in interesting times”. Many of us have heard that statement believed to come from a Chinese curse or proverb . This past year—actually 13 months—certainly has been an interesting time. From complete lock down to vaccinations and things beginning to open up more, the world has changed. Many things will never go back to the way they were before. We have all been stressed—some by lack of socialization, others by being ill themselves, and still others by losing friends or family to Covid. This pandemic has been compared to the Spanish Influenza crisis of 1918-1920, where the estimate of deaths is 50 million. So far, the estimate of deaths due to Covid stands around 132 million, but in many countries the numbers are still going up.

Many businesses and activities have been shut down and may never re-open or resume. I’m very proud of our Guild for finding ways to continue to move forward. Through the use of technology, we have been able to have meetings, workshops, and retreats. The shut down hasn’t

stopped us from making quilts for Quilts of Valor, CASA, and Ronald McDonald house or making marble mazes for those who need them. In addition, we’ve made thousands of masks for hospital workers and first responders. Throughout everything, we have continued to foster our mission of providing Education, Fellowship, Inspiration, and Service to our community.

There will be changes as we move forward—that is inevitable. The survey results show many of you have adapted to the changes we have had to make. Some never want to hear the word ZOOM again. Personally, I like being able to hear the speaker without the chatter of others in the background. No, you don’t get to see the quilts up close and personal, but how many of our 350 members volunteer to hold up the quilts and walk them around the room?

Will Zoom meetings, workshops, and retreats continue? Definitely YES for the time being. The Church is willing for us to continue meeting there in person but ONLY when Illinois gets to level 5. Not only do we

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Upcoming Guild Meetings:

April 26, 2021 at 7 pm

NIGHT MEETING ONLY

May 24, 2021 at 6:30 pm

BANQUET AND SPEAKER

**ALL MEETINGS VIRTUAL
UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

All meetings via Zoom to keep everyone safe and healthy. Email psqgboard@gmail.com with questions.

Next Newsletter Deadline: Thursday, May 6, 2021. Send info to Melanie Murphy at melaniemakeups@gmail.com.

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have to take that into consideration, but speakers are not traveling. We don't know what things will look like once the restrictions are lifted. Speakers may decide they like staying

at home and continuing with remote lectures and workshops. The survey results show mixed feelings about continuing our current use of Zoom, video education lessons, and show and tell.

Please bear with us as we move forward and stay positive as we are doing the best we can. And thank you all for your support and continuing to do what quilters do—create quilts for those we love!

-Yvonne R., President



Beekeeper Buzz

So much has changed since I became beekeeper last Summer. If you have information about your bee that I should make note of, please contact me.

The recent survey results are very interesting. There is quite a lot of interest in starting several specialty bees. I am willing to help anyone who is interested in forming a new

bee. Please contact me at the [PSQG Board email](#).

We have two new members who are interested in starting a general bee in or near Downers Grove. They hope to have 7-10 members, but are ready to start meeting as soon as they have at least 3-4 members. Due to work schedules, the meetings will be in the evening during the week or daytime on a weekend. The contact person is Nanci McAtee.

The 2nd Tuesday General Bee will start meeting via Zoom on Tuesday March 9th.

Fabricators General Bee has been meeting in person, rotating member homes. Everyone brings their own handwork. They meet on the 3rd Thursday afternoon each month. There are 6 current members with openings for 2 new members. The contact person is Ruth Marsh.

— Beekeeper, Beth Koos

Quilt Show 2022 News

Baby News!

The Katzen family is overjoyed to announce the arrival of healthy baby girl Genevieve Joy on April 5, 2021. Congratulations to big sister, Mom, and Dad!!

Opportunity (Raffle) Quilt

You all did an awesome job of making blocks, as quilters are known to do. We received about 112 blocks, the top is done and measures about 81" square. Pictures are coming soon! Perhaps you can get a sneak peak at the business meeting!

In person in 2022!

We remain optimistic that we'll have an in-person show in 2022, but we all know we can pivot if necessary.

The show dates are October 14 & 15, 2022 at the DuPage county fairgrounds. During this planning year we will continue to meet virtually until it's safe to meet in person.

The kick-off meeting is scheduled for April 14 at 7pm via Zoom. Please email Melanie if you need an invitation.

There are just a few positions left! Help us get these filled ASAP so we can have an awesome "come-back" show!

Open positions:

- Quilt Display (Hostess Houses)
- Quilt Display (Set-up/Take-down)
- Raffle Baskets
- Signage
- Opportunity quilt ticket sales

Please let us know of any corrections to this list and if you would like to know more about a position. You can reach us at our personal emails, found in the directory, or at psqgquiltshow@gmail.com.

We really appreciate our volunteers; it takes a village!
-Melanie, Krista & Mary



Opp quilt color scheme

Community Service Programs

Thank you so much for all you do for our Community!

A Quilt of Valor® (QOV) says unequivocally, “Thank you for your service and sacrifice in serving our nation.” Deadline to be included in the July 2021 guild meeting presentation is April 30th. Also, Quilts of Valor Sew Days are back; for more details contact Rita P.

NICU Isolette covers, Marble Mazes & Fidget Quilts are needed each month. Kits available! Contact Linda S.

Finished 3' x 6' mats for the homeless are still being collected! If

you don't crochet, how about doing some recycling and making balls of Plarn for those who do? Contact Joyce J.

Shriners Hospital has asked for donations of smaller gender neutral quilts - between 36" - 48" wide x 48" long. Quilt kits, quilts for Longarming and more are available for pickup or delivery to you. Contact Sandi W.

[Contact Community Projects](#) via email right on the PSQG website! Your message will be forwarded to the appropriate project leader.



May Banquet

Monday May 24, 2021
6:30-8:30pm Via Zoom

Social Hour: 6:30 – 7:30 pm

Speaker Melinda Bula:
7:30-8:30 pm

Fee: No fee optional donation of \$10 for the Northern Illinois Food Bank

Due to Covid protocols the May Banquet will be via zoom. That does not mean we cannot still gather socially and enjoy each other's company. We have some

fun interactive activities and prizes planned.

Melinda Bula will be giving her lecture at 7:30, which will be spectacular! Her work is beautiful. I am sure you will want to sign up for her Sunflower workshop, scheduled for Saturday June 5.

There is no need to register for the Banquet as all members will be getting a link to join in the fun. However, if you wish to donate to the food bank, you can do that on the website.

Retreats

Due to Covid protocols we still cannot have in-person retreats.

There is an in-person retreat scheduled for the end of October, if we are able to gather in small groups. Information for that will be posted when the time gets closer.

In the meantime, we are offering Virtual Retreats to be held the 4th weekend of the month. If you have

not attended one, give it a try! Lots of conversation, help and fun is had by all. We start at 9am Saturday and Sunday with several meetup times throughout the day. Come and go as you please, attend one day or both.

During the retreat, some of us have taken a break to go for a walk, to go shopping, or to attend to company that arrived. That is part of

the beauty of virtual retreats!

[Register on the website](#) to receive the log-in information.

Upcoming dates to consider:

April 24/25
May 22/23
June 26/27
July 24/25
August 28/29

Upcoming Programs

At this time, all speakers and classes will be virtual in some way. Our list of speakers is subject to change at short notice. I'm listing just a few months here as things change rapidly.

April 2021

Business Meeting

May 2021

Melinda Bula

melindabula.com

June 2021

Mel Beach

melbeachquilts.com



Our web store is open

Place your order and select pick-up instead of shipping. Susan Egner will pick up your order and contact you to make arrangements for delivery. We also have the white travel mugs available. Contact Susan if you'd like one.

psqgstore.logofactoryusa.com



April is our business meeting, and during that meeting we will vote in/confirm our new board members who will start their term in June 2021. This year we have some new faces and others who are changing to a new position. You will notice we still have positions open. There is still time to fill them!

FYI - Programs VP would finalize the contracts for the speakers during the rest of 2021 into early 2022. Contracts would line up our speakers for June 2022 through June 2023. Nominations would help fill the slate of board members we would vote on in April of 2022. Our fiscal year starts in June each year.

2021-2022 Proposed Board Members

President	Barb Gillespie
Evening Vice President	Sandra White
Daytime Vice President	Ann Johnson
Secretary	Susan Strasser
Treasurer	Dixie Riley
Programs Vice President.....	OPEN
Membership	Barbara Carlson
Newsletter	Melanie Murphy
Education	Foxy Bees bee - Chris Schwarz
Media Chair	Chris Macenski
Bee Keeper.....	Beth Koos
Library	Liz FitzGerald
Community Projects	Sue Ann Reiner
Contracts 2022- 2023.....	OPEN
Nominations.....	OPEN
2022 Quilt Show Co-Chairs	Krista Katzen*, Melanie Murphy*, Mary Clemens*
Activities	Sue Plaster

* Indicates co-chair





Melinda Bula



Melinda Bula lives in Bakersfield, California and has been sewing since she was a young girl. Melinda has been in love with fabric all

of her life and knew when she was 16 years old that she was going to be an artist, which became her major in college.

Melinda and her family moved to the Sacramento area in 1996, where she became involved in quilting and wearable arts, which has always been her first love. Her sense of color and design has won her numerous awards for both quilts and wearable arts. Her wearable arts are dynamic and modern and she loves to experiment

with new techniques.

Her Fabulous Fusible Flowers quilts are unique. With the wonderful look of a painting, she uses fabric and thread to create beautifully artistic quilts.

Melinda has had the honor of exhibiting her quilts in some amazing venues like the Shelburne Museum in Vermont, Quilt Expo en Beaujolais in France, International Patchwork Festival in Sitges, Spain and at the Texas Quilt Museum. She has taught in fabulous places like Ireland and Australia.

Melinda will speak to us about her quilting life at our annual banquet. She will also hold a workshop entitled "Sunflower" in June.

Pictured below is "Monterey" by Melinda Bula



Sunflower Workshop

Saturday June 5

via Zoom

10a-4p

Registration coming soon on the PSQG website.

The supply list is on Melinda's website:

melindabula.com/sunflower-supply-list



Survey Results

These are the results from our online survey regarding how we should continue as a guild after statewide Covid restrictions are lifted.

Overview

I. Once we resume in-person meetings both morning and evening, should we consider keeping Zoom meetings all year?

Y 61.44% N 38.56%

Ia. If so, would you like times set up for Library and Community Service pick-up and drop off?

Y 70.59% N 29.4%

2. Would you prefer a Zoom meeting during the winter months of November, January, February and March?

Question was asked twice and percentages reflect answers.

AM Y 41.59% / 50.84%
N 11.06% / 11.21%

PM Y 40.27%
N 7.08% / 7.76%

*5. Would you like to continue the pre-recorded Educational segment once we are able to meet in-person?

Y 73.86% N 26.14%

5a. If you would like to continue pre-taped Education, would you like that shown at the meeting or something you can view later?

Y 57.36% N 42.64%

6. Do you like pre-taped Show' n Tell?

Y 60.39% N 39.61%

6a. If yes, should we continue this format once we are able to meet in-person?

Y 85% N 40%

7. Should we keep workshops virtual?

Y 63.24% N 36.76%

8. Would you like to continue having Zoom Retreats once we are able to meet in-person?

Y 57.79% N 48.03%

8a. Which days do you prefer w-s 69.23% weekends 30.77%

9. Would you be interested in casual Sit-n-Chat meetups with others in the guild at times other than guild meetings?

Y 56.62% N 43.38%



9a. If yes to Sit-n-Chat, do you prefer:

Day 57.94%
Evening 23.36%
Weekend 18.69%

10. Would you be open to having social meetings without speakers?

Y 61.81% N 39.19%

11. Would you prefer these social events to be held during the day evening or weekend?

Day 55.85%
Evening 25.53%
Weekend 18.62%

12 How likely are you to recommend our guild to others?

Absolutely 68.79%
Yes 26.75%
Maybe 4.46%

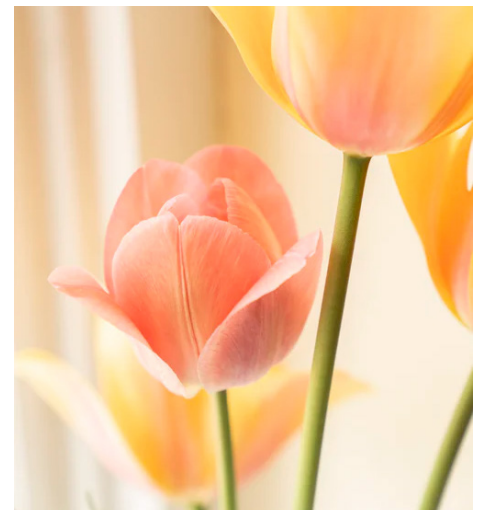
*Questions 3 & 4 were essay-style, so no percentage results are available. We will share those results at the meeting.

Membership Renewal Time

It is time to renew your membership! For those who are new to the guild, our guild year begins June 1st and ends May 31st. Membership renewal is \$35.

Please [renew your membership online](#), and pay online as well. Follow the link or there is a button on the website, lower right corner.

All members must renew by May 31 in order to stay current.



May Birthdays

Melinda VanDril-Beer 5/01
 Nanci McAfee..... 5/01
 Rita Gilbert 5/02
 Edith Gourd (Trudgeon) 5/03
 Connie Gaston 5/10
 Debbie Long 5/10
 Lynn Fick 5/11
 Judy Gould 5/11
 Loraine Miranda 5/11
 Kim Sceggel 5/11
 Cathy Lorenz 5/12
 Cynthia Green 5/13
 Catherine Urnezis 5/13
 Sr. Trish Villarreal 5/15



Barbara Gillespie 5/16
 Mary Kline 5/16
 Chris Dostal..... 5/19
 Laura Hays 5/21
 Barbara Burdette..... 5/22
 Krista Katzen 5/22
 Sharon Smith 5/26
 Susan Wing..... 5/27
 Bobbie Corpolongo 5/27
 Dorothy Andrews 5/30



We have made it even easier to submit your pictures for show & tell.

You can now use [this form](#) on our website to easily send us your pictures. Please be sure to read the whole form and mark the appropriate choices. Fill in a few bubbles, type a couple of statements, click submit and you're all set!

We love to be inspired by what you do!

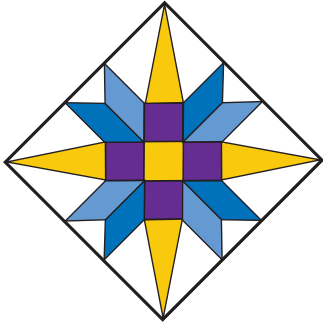
2020-2021 Board Members

President: Yvonne Richter
 Evening Vice President: Sandra White
 Daytime Vice President: Ann Johnson
 Programs Vice President: Janet Francis
 Secretary: Susan Strasser
 Treasurer: Alyssa Payleitner
 Membership: Lynne Curran
 Newsletter: Melanie Murphy
 Education: Foxy Bees bee - Chris Schwarz
 Activities: Barb Gillespie

Media Chair: Chris Macenski
 Bee Keeper: Beth Koos (AM)
 & Alyssa Payleitner (PM)
 Library: Liz Fitzgerald
 Community Projects: Sue Ann Reiner
 Contracts 2021- 2022: Janet Francis
 Nominations: Sandy Warzin
 2022 Quilt Show Co-Chairs: Krista Katzen &
 Melanie Murphy



April 2021 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.