

Prairie Star Press

Prairie Star Quilt Guild
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Changing times and help needed

As I write this article, I'm looking out at the 10-12 inches of snow accumulated on our deck. This is somewhat depressing, but we are in Illinois in the middle of winter. To be expected. As Valentine's Day approaches, I'm reminded of what is good about this life these days. I have a nice and warm house to live in – and that I do! (I hardly ever leave, due to Covid and the fact that I'm a high-risk person.) I am so thankful for my husband who takes such good care of me. He does the shopping, errands, cooking, and drives me to my doctor appointments (when I have them in person). And I can escape from this same everyday life in books, and get creative in my quilting. Thanks to modern technology like Zoom, I can still stay in touch with friends and relatives. AND the days are getting longer! Spring is coming. That's something to look forward to!

As we look forward to a new life (or our old life returning), we, as a Board, are trying to make plans for our guild. We've had to adapt to a new world with Covid, and that forced us to make many changes. And, amazingly, some really good things

came out of our Zoom world. Now we need to plan for how life will look in the post-Covid world. We've put together a survey for our members, and you'll be getting it via email after our next guild meetings. Please take a few minutes to respond to it and let us know what's important to you. Your feedback is critical in helping us form a "new" form of PSQG.

As of this writing, we still have openings on our Board that need to be filled. Check out Sandy's article. And the quilt show committee needs some critical positions filled. A quilt show judge coordinator is needed immediately to get a judge booked for our show. If that's not filled within a few weeks, we will NOT have a judged quilt portion at our next quilt show. That would be a shame. Please consider doing this together with a friend. We need you to step up and get involved to keep our guild a great one.

Be sure to check our website for information on our next two speakers. There are links to their sites. Remember our Education challenge last month? Follow a new quilter's blog? Here are a few options
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Upcoming Guild Meetings:

February 22, 2021 at 7 pm

February 23, 2021 at 9:30 am

March 22, 2021 at 7 pm

March 23, 2021 at 9:30 am

**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, March 4, 2021. Send info to Melanie Murphy at melaniemakeups@gmail.com.

Changing times..., continued

for you to start with. I personally am so thankful for the work our Programs/Contracts coordinator Janet Francis did this year. In spite of working full time (actually overtime in the medical field during our Covid disaster), she has found us new speakers/workshops each month. And dealt with the changing world of Zoom at the same time. (That position is still open, and

would be perfect for 2 or 3 people to work together on.)

One final reminder: Please do NOT record our speakers during our Zoom meetings. Speaker contracts state that we cannot record their speeches during our meetings. Thank you.

Ann Johnson
Morning VP

Activities

Another great Virtual Retreat happened in February. Eighteen of us spent the weekend sewing, laughing, getting to know other guild members, and sewing some more. Everyone likes to have this special time set aside for themselves.

If you would like to join in the fun, sign up on the [Guild website under Activities](#). The next retreat date is March 20/21. We meet up at 9am, 12, and 3:30pm. All times and days are optional. You can participate in both or just one day, all day or part of a day. Whatever fits

your schedule. At the retreats you will work on your own projects. I do, however, suggest that you try to add a small Community Service Project into your weekend plans. There are many quick things you can make. The Community Service group will happily make arrangements with you to pick up or meet you to collect the items you have made.

For questions regarding Community Service Projects, contact Sue Reiner. For questions regarding the Virtual Retreat, contact Barb Gillespie.

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." The July 2021 meeting is set for a special event to nominate a Veteran. Go to [QOVF.org](#), Nominations and Awards, and fill out the form. In the notes, put PSQG so Rita Pennington can gather the information for our Program. If you'd like to assist in making a QOV, please contact Rita Pennington.

Pet Beds are in need of a project leader. A list of shelters in need was sent out to guild members via email.

Sue Reiner currently has fabric available for beds available for pick up or she'll drop off.

"Marble mazes offer a wealth of benefits to students of all ages, from pre-k through high school. These include: calming when tearful, frustrated, angry or anxious, a hand-based fidget strategy that helps kids with optimal attentiveness during a teacher's instruction and for developing fine coordination to support handwriting skills." - Quote from a local teacher. The school system said that fleece marble mazes are in particular need now as special needs children cope with the current

Prairie Star Quilt Guild and Zoom

As we approach the end of our 2020-2021 Guild year and are considering how the current pandemic environment has impacted our communities, the PSQG Board would like input from you, our members. Your opinions are especially important as we plan for the Guild's future.

Watch for an email from the Guild which will include a survey about our use of Zoom. How do you see us using Zoom going forward?

The survey will be sent out after the next guild meeting (Feb 23). If you do not receive it in your inbox, check your spam folder. Please take the time to reply to this survey as it will greatly help the board plan the future use of Zoom.

The PSQG Board thanks you in advance for taking time to do this.



situation. Fidget quilts and NICU Isolette covers are always in need. We have kits available for all items or you can use your stash! Contact Linda Stoyntoff.

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 Jensen.

A Thank you from Mary at Shriners Hospital for our recent donation "Lovely, as always. Now that the cold air has really hit the area the children are very grateful for beautiful, warm blankets! Stay Well."

Community Service..., continued

Quilt kits, Quilts for Longarming and more are available for pickup or delivery to you. Contact Sandi Warzin.

Contact Community Projects via email at PSQGCommunityService@gmail.com or check the guild

directory for direct contact to each project leader.



I took a break over the holidays but, I plan to get back to my task of calling members of the guild with several goals in mind. First, I want to determine which bees are still active. Most seem to be holding off until it's once again safe to meet in person. Some have met in a socially distanced group. Some have started meeting by Zoom. Second, I am inquiring if each bee is interested in meeting by Zoom. If the answer is yes, then we usually have a short discussion about this form of meeting. Third, I'm making a list of the contact person for each bee.

Bee Keeper Buzz

I am still sorting through the information that I received from our previous beekeeper. So much has changed. Some of the previous contact people are no longer members of the guild. If you have a bee that is still active, please feel free to send your information to me or to the PSQG email. I am interested in knowing the name of your bee, what type of bee it is and who is the contact person.

The Dear Jane Bee has openings for new members. They follow the 1863 Jane Stickler quilt that is presented in the book "Dear Jane" by Brenda Papadakis. There are 225 patterns. For now, they are doing

their own thing, but they would like to start having a monthly challenge. Sewing a "Dear Jane" quilt is a good way to become proficient in accurate piecing and learning different appliqué methods. The contact person is Liz Fitzgerald.

The Swedish Bee still has openings for up to four new members of Scandinavian ancestry. They are meeting via Zoom. The contact person is Marcia Cameron.

-Beekeeper, Beth Koos



In person in 2022!

We are optimistic that we'll have an in-person show in 2022. 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.

We are still building our committee and there are a couple of areas where we need help right away. There are just a few positions left! Please ask if you would like more details about a position.

Judged quilts

We need someone to select the judge and then be the hostess/coordinator for the judge during the week of the quilt show. If we don't

Quilt Show News

have this position filled by the end of February 2021, we will not have a judged quilt category in the show. Co-chairs are welcome.

Opportunity (Raffle) Quilt

Keep those blocks coming in! We have received several already. You can find Aileen Vogel's address in the directory and we're working on arranging a time/date when you can drop them off. You can find all the details on the guild website [under quilt show & opportunity quilt](#).

Please finish your blocks by April 1 so the top can be assembled and quilted.

Other open positions:

- 3rd overall chairperson - OPEN
- Judging- OPEN

- Quilt Display (Hostess Houses)- OPEN
- Quilt Display (Layout Plan)- OPEN
- Quilt Display (Set-up & Take-down)- OPEN
- Raffle Baskets- OPEN
- Signage- OPEN
- Volunteers- OPEN

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 psqqquiltshow@gmail.com.

We really appreciate our volunteers; it takes a village!
-Melanie and Krista

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.

March 2021

[Krista Moser](#)

April 2021

Business Meeting

May 2021

Banquet -- details coming soon



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

FEBRUARY

EvaPaige Quilt Designs



Beth Helfter will join us in February.

She is the creator of the Accordion Sewn HSTs™ (Half Square

Triangles) method; a way to get way more bang for your scrappy buck when it comes to half square triangles!

Lecturing and teaching is still her very favorite part of this career and she can't wait to meet Prairie Star in February!

But really, why take the Hurdy Gurdy Workshop?

If you're going to learn a new technique, you might as well go straight to the source! Not only is she the inventor of the Accordion Sewn HSTs™ method, but Hurdy Gurdy is one of the first patterns she designed for her first book about the method. You can't get more original than that.

In this workshop you'll master the Accordion Sewn HSTs™ within the first 45 minutes—really, you WILL!—and move on to learn how they go beyond just a way to make HSTs more scrappy, but can be used to create ordered accordions that lay out blocks like butter. You'll never want to make HSTs any other way again!

Register for either workshop on [our website](#).

Lecture February 22, 2021: OOPAH!

Lecture February 23, 2021: Give it a scrap slap!

Intro to Accordion Sewn HSTs



February 23, 2021

1:00 pm – 4 pm

20 Students/Fee: \$25.00

Hurdy Gurdy Table Runner



February 27, 2021

10:00 am – 2:00 pm

20 Students/Fee: \$30.00

Purchase of her book is not required, but you will need the class handout for \$8.00. This can be later credited toward the purchase of the book if desired.

Online signup on [our website](#).

MARCH



Krista Moser is the creative force and inspiration behind [Krista Moser, The Quilted Life](#).

In her lecture, she will help us learn why “Diamonds are a Quilters Best Friend”.

Her workshop, Vintage Windmill 6, is **Saturday, March 27**. [Register here](#). The cost is \$30 and the supply list for the class will be emailed to you with your registration confirmation. Participation in the workshop requires the additional purchase of the Vintage Windmill pattern. There is a link to purchase the pattern when you register for the class.



New Board Nomination Time

Dear PSQG Members,

As we move into the next fiscal year June 2021 - May 2022, the Board must be finalized. The slate of officers will be posted at the March meetings with voting taking place in April. We have 3 positions still open: Treasurer, Nominations, and Activities. Please consider how you can join us on the board for this wonderful guild of ours.

PSQG has long been a premier Guild to belong to. Excellent programs, retreats, and a welcoming spirit are all attributes we appreciate. Because of this, we NEED YOU to participate and become part of the dynamic leadership team. Please review the job descriptions located on the PSQG.org website > About > Job descriptions. Next, contact the person currently in this role and

get a feel for the job. Let me know what you are interested in, or if you know of someone, either by email or a phone call.

The future of the Guild depends on participation from all of us on many levels.

Thank you,
Sandy Warzin



New Bee

Starting Up – Sew and Sew Along!

Nanci M. and Sue P. are starting a new bee via Zoom and are looking for quilters of all experience levels to join. At this time the bee will occur using Zoom, Wednesday or Thursday night from 7 to 9 pm. Once the bee participants are determined the group will decide the night of the week.

Please contact refer to your directory to contact Nanci or Sue. If you need their full names or info, please contact the board at psqgboard@gmail.com.

We are looking forward to hearing from you!
Nanci and Sue

Having ‘21 fun yet?

Are you following along with the challenge presented by the education table in January? The “21 fun” challenge? If you missed it, the video is on our website under [education](#) and a PDF copy of the list is there as well.

One of the items on the list is to follow a quilters blog. Someone new to you. Here are a few I found with a quick search, and maybe one of them is new to you.

These are all from [“The Top 100 quilting blogs, websites, and influencers of 2021”](#). Please visit that website to find links and more info.

[https://blog.missouriquiltco.com/
quiltingdaily.com](https://blog.missouriquiltco.com/quiltingdaily.com)

[https://www.diaryofaquilter.com/
quiltville.blogspot.com](https://www.diaryofaquilter.com/quiltville.blogspot.com)

buzzsprout.com/70645 (Leah Day)

crazymomquilts.blogspot.com

blog.patsloan.com

thequiltshow.com/daily-blog

suzyquilts.com

frommycarolinahome.com

quiltersreview.com

thecraftyquilter.com

March Birthdays

Liz FitzGerald 3/02
 Sandy Roos 3/03
 JoAnn VanDril..... 3/03
 Marty Jacobsen 3/04
 Eija Viitanen 3/06
 Sandra Andrews 3/07
 Carol Fisher 3/07
 Robin Elsen 3/09
 Regina McNulty 3/15
 Lyneta Grap Piela 3/15
 Deanne Simpson 3/16
 Sue Balsiger 3/17



Sharon Gaffor 3/17
 Judy Herman..... 3/17
 Priscilla Miller..... 3/20
 Becky Hall 3/21
 Sue Needham 3/21
 Debbie Coffey 3/23
 Christie Hardt 3/31



Get in line for show and tell! As you're making things and you want to share, please send

your pictures and a description to psqboard@gmail.com. We make a slide show to share at both meetings.

Feel free to share works in progress, completed projects, charity items, Holiday quilts, anything your heart desires.

If you participated in the most recent retreat, don't forget to send in pictures of what you worked on!

It's so inspiring to see what you're up to!

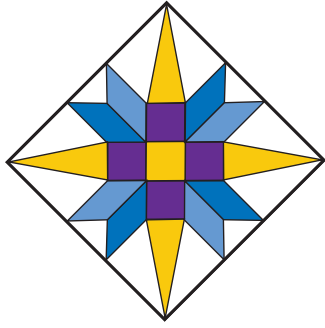
2020-2021 Board Members

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



February 2021 issue



Prairie Star Quilt Guild

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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

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