

Prairie Star Press

Prairie Star Quilt Guild
St. Charles, IL

Volume 45
PSQG website: psqg.org

Issue #2
August 2025

THOUGHTS FROM SUSAN

We have such a lovely group of new and former women on the Board, with many new ideas forming. We are currently discussing some changes to our usual meetings. We have not come to any conclusions, but I am glad to see that just because we have always done things a certain way we are still able to think about choosing something different. We'll keep you posted!

Speaking of change, I have often thought about trying a new area of quilting that looked amazing to me; but I wasn't sure where to begin. Most of you have heard of English Paper Piecing. I confused it with Foundation Paper Piecing for many years but have learned the difference as the years passed. I am now dipping a toe in and have started to peruse the many patterns and ideas that EPP embraces. It is more than just the Grandmother's Flower Garden, although I have always loved that pattern too. I think I may start adding hexagons with fussy cut

designs to handbags, jeans, and zipper cases. I love that these designs are made using hand stitching. Everything is very deliberate and thoughtful. I also love that I can use many small scrappy pieces that might not normally be appreciated.

Over the last few years, I have lost a number of close people from my life. Although I still had strong feelings about quilting, I did not find myself interested in stitching. I did not feel able to find the joy in sewing as I once did. For that matter, I was not able to find the joy in my life as before. It has taken some time as well as self guided targeted readings, therapy, increased exercise, meditation and other things to increase my mental well-being. I am finally getting back to my normal positive outlook. With that came the return of joy in a variety of activities, especially quilting.

I am not certain if I will get back to unfinished quilts that I have chosen not to complete over these last years. But I

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Upcoming Guild Meetings:

Mon 8/25/25, 2025 at 7 pm
Tues 8/26/25 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, Sept 4, 2025.
Send info to Diane Collins at
diane6304@me.com.

thoughts from susan (page 1 continued)

have been allowing myself to begin some new projects, and that feels great! English Paper Piecing is one of the areas that I have been enjoying. I also came across an amazing pieced pattern that was being done as a block of the month through various quilt shops. The designer hand stitches each seam of this quilt and I am here for it! Each piece is traced onto the wrong side of the fabric. Each two pieces are pinned and stitched from one point to the other. More pieces are added and the quilt top grows, slowly and methodically. This is how I learned to quilt many years ago. I used the cardboard from

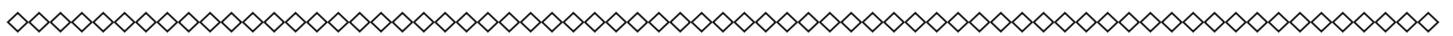
cereal boxes as my templates, tracing and cutting out each piece. I stitched an entire log cabin quilt as my second project and hand quilted the whole thing when I was done piecing the top. How else would it get done? At the time, I didn't realize anyone used a sewing machine to make a quilt. I had no idea what a rotary cutter was, never mind all of the rulers to go with it.

Thankfully, the quilting industry continues to change and although I am usually a few steps behind, I keep my eyes and ears alert for what is new and helpful in my own quilting world. Returning to how I first learned to make

a quilt has been one of the best ways to leave my sadness behind. Intentional, deliberate and slow have allowed me to dive deep into the project at hand, enjoying the feel and design of the fabrics. I look forward each day to my stitching time in the evening.

Are you enjoying any new changes in your daily life? Maybe you are trying something new as a quilter? There is so much to learn. I hope you will allow for some changes to happen in your world. I think it keeps our mind interested and engaged in life!

—Susan E., AM VP



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Explore the [tutorials](#) on our website to learn more about the guild's programs and meet the program leaders.

From our member Linda Styonoff: "Although, we encourage everyone to use reusable shopping bags, we have found a group that turns grocery bags into "plarn" and crochets plarn into sleeping mats for the homeless. For the August meeting ONLY, please bring your clean dry grocery bags to guild meeting. Only grocery/plastic store bags work, newspaper bags and other fruit/bread bags are not usable."

Join us for QOV sew-ins, held monthly on the first Tuesday at the Moose Lodge in St. Charles and the third Tuesday at the VFW in

Montgomery. For details, reach out to Rita P.

Fidget quilts and marble mazes are currently needed by several local care centers. Kits are available at meetings, or you can use your own supplies by following the guidelines and video tutorials found on the [PSQG Community Projects webpage](#).

NICU isolette blanket kits are also available. If you'd like one or have questions, please contact Linda S.

Residential Hospice in Lisle is requesting quilts and comforters for their patients. Please attach a note indicating whether the item has been washed (preferably with unscented detergent and no fabric softener). They also welcome fidget quilts and

marble mazes. Contact Sheila C. for more information.

The Quilts for Kids program has an abundance of kits ready to go! If you have finished quilts or donations, please contact Sandi W. —she can collect them at a meeting or arrange for pickup.

Port pillows are designed to attach beneath a crossbody seatbelt to cushion a patient's infusion port. These are donated to Phil's Friends, a local organization supporting those affected by cancer. Kits are available, or feel free to use your own fabric, stuffing, and hook & loop. Reach out to Pam S. or Ann G. for more details.

Got extra fabric scraps? Use them to fill a pet bed! Kits are available. While we're no

see announcements page 4

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

All programs subject to change. Additional details on our website.

August 2025

Maribeth Schmidt, a NCOJ guild judge, will present the same lecture at both meetings. No workshop

September 2025

Heidi Zielinski, will have 2 lectures and 1 workshop.



Maribeth Schmit “The Quilt Judge”

Ever wonder how quilts are judged in competitions? Want to know what takes a quilt out of ribbon contention? Learn about quilt judging standards and processes. Hear about the common mistakes quilters make and how to avoid them. Become a savvy exhibitor and increase your chances of success at any show!

Maribeth is an award-winning quilt maker, quilting teacher, author and NQA Certified and Master Quilt Judge.

Maribeth is well-qualified to evaluate any machine or hand wrought pieces as well as traditional and art quilts.

She actively judges quilt competitions across the country. Opportunities have taken her to: Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Iowa, Ohio, Florida, North Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Tennessee, Texas, North and South Carolina, Arkansas, Asia and Europe. Her art quilts have been exhibited in museums, national shows and fine art galleries.

Monday, August 25th, 2025

7:00 pm Meeting

&

Tuesday, August 26th, 2025

9:30 am Meeting



Three Layers of Design

Monday, September 22nd, 2025

7:00 pm Meeting

Fiber into Art by Heidi: My Art Quilting Journey

Tuesday, September 23rd, 2025

9:30 am Meeting

“Basically” Monochromatic Abstract Collage

Monday, September 22nd, 2025

10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Location : Congregational United Church of Christ

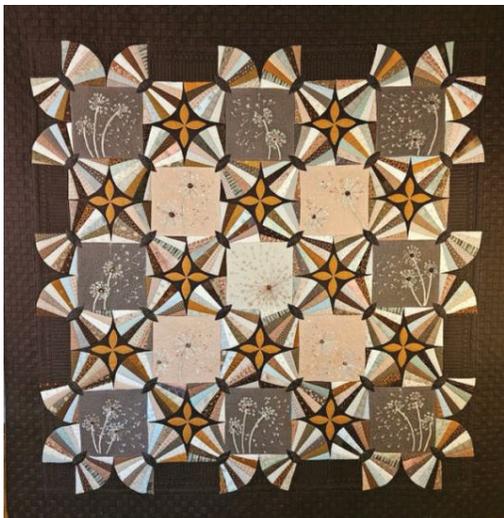
40W451 Fox Mill Blvd. St. Charles, IL

Members: \$75

Non-Members: \$80

Faithful Circle Quilters
Presents

QuiltScape 2025



September 20-21, 2025

Saturday 9-5

Sunday 10-4

**Jefferson Junior High School
7200 Janes Avenue, Woodridge, IL**

**Admission \$10.00 Children under 12 Free
Handicapped Accessible**

FEATURING

**Over 400 Quilts on Display
Opportunity Quilt Vendors Boutique
Trading Post Fabric Shop Raffle Baskets
Bed Turning Featured Quilter**

Located near I-355 and 75th in Woodridge, IL

Visit us at fcquilters.com

**For those that live farther away,
this show is worth the drive!**

**announcements (page 2
continued)**

longer collecting completed dog beds, you're welcome to donate them directly to a [local shelter or foster](#).

If you're unsure who to contact, simply use the Community Projects email form on the [PSQG website](#). Your inquiry will be directed to the appropriate project leader.

Thank you for all your efforts and continued support of our community and guild programs!

CALLING 2024 CHALLENGE PARTICIPANTS!

Please remember to bring your challenge quilts to guild in August, or if you are not able to attend, please contact me to make other arrangements.

Thank you, Christie Hardt
Dollyco36@gmail.com
779-212-2284 - text

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

- * Seeking volunteers to hold quilts at show n' tell. One person to unfold, two people to hold and third person to fold the quilt back up.
- * Also need a few people to volunteer to show new members around their first meeting.

HAMPTON INN RETREAT

When: October 30-
November 2, 2025

Where: Hampton Inn
& Suites,
Aurora, IL.

If you live locally, you can come over to the hotel each day at your leisure. If you are from farther out (or want a break from your house) call the hotel directly for reservations. Ask for the

Crafters Rate to get the best price on your room.

You can come for a single day or all the days or anything in between! It is a flat cost of \$60.

Register on the website [here](#).

After you register for the retreat, you will receive an email with the details for contacting the hotel.

What happens at
Quilt Retreat
Stays at Quilt Retreat

2026 QUILT SHOW

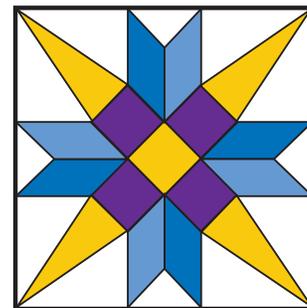
The 2026 Quilt Show will be October 16th & 17th, 2026. Thank you to those of you who have volunteered already!

The following are still in need of a leader. They would be great to take on as a group.

- Information Booth
- Quilt Set Up
- Publicity
- Signage

For further descriptions of the responsibilities click [here](#).

If you have any questions or would like to volunteer please email psqgquiltshow@gmail.com or contact Sue Ann Reiner.



2025-2026 BOARD MEMBERS

President: Cindy Krelle

Evening Vice President: Barb Tuman

Daytime Vice President: Susan Egner

Programs Vice President: Sheila Cisko

Secretary: Sue Omi

Treasurer: Lori McMahan

Membership: Aileen Vogel

Newsletter: Diane Collins

Education: Chris Schwarz

Activities: Nanci McAtee

Media: Christina Conway

Tech support: Christine "Tine" Wyllie

Bee Keeper: Beth Koos

Library: Liz Fitzgerald

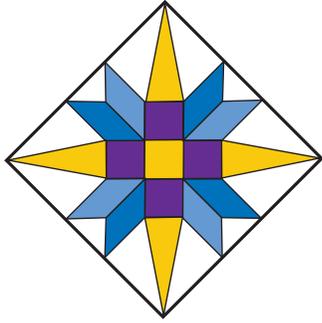
Community Projects: Chelsea St. Germain

Nominations: Melissa O'Brien

Contracts: Barb Gillespie

2026 Quilt Show: Sue Ann Reiner & Susan Crement

AUGUST 2025 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. Refer to our website for details.

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.