

# Prairie Star Press

Prairie Star Quilt Guild  
St. Charles, IL

Volume XLV  
PSQG website: [psqg.org](http://psqg.org)

Issue #2  
August 2023

## FALL ALREADY?

How is it possible that I am seeing back to school ads and fall colors in the stores? Didn't summer just begin? I watch my gardens grow in beauty and bounty, just ready to harvest and enjoy, and feel this should go on for much longer. Time moves so quickly. As we still have another month of "summer" I'd like to mention some guild things.

The July evening meeting was so much fun. I would like to thank Chris Schwarz, Barb Tuman and Lori McMahon for a great job planning and executing our Show n' Tell for the evening. Fun games, yummy treats, nice prizes, and, of course, the gorgeous show n' tell. The Make-it, Take-it was a success so those projects should be showing up soon. Thank you to Sue Ann Reiner!

We have a member who is putting on a garage sale, of sorts. It's called

a "tag sale" and will be held at the Kane County Extension Center on September 30. Approximately 10 tables will be rented out to those of you trying to sell your stash/quilty items. Check out the introductory article on page 3.

The October retreat at the Hampton Inn in North Aurora has openings! This is a great opportunity to sew with fellow quilters and be close enough to home to come and go if you have other commitments. You can stay there overnight or go home each evening and sleep in your own bed.

Also, Yvonne is looking for quilt show committee heads. Please call her! By the way....our opportunity quilt is spectacular!

Happy sewing,  
Cindy

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## Upcoming Guild Meetings:

**August 28, 2023 at 7 pm**

**August 29, 2023 at 9:30 am**

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**September 25, 2023 at 7 pm**

**September 26, 2023 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, September 7, 2023.  
Send info to Melanie Murphy at  
[melaniemakeup@gmail.com](mailto:melaniemakeup@gmail.com).



## COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Thank you so much for all you do for our Community! Make sure to check out tutorials on the website.

Rita P. – Please let Rita know if you can contribute appropriate backing fabric for QoV.

Quilts of Valor is sewing! First Tuesdays we're at the Moose Lodge in St Charles starting at 9am. Third Tuesdays we're at the VFW, Montgomery on River St starting at 9am. Help us recognize those who served our country by piecing 58" x 68" quilt tops, doing longarming or finishing up the binding! Requirements can be found on Quilt of Valor's website at Qovf.org.

NICU Isolette Covers & Fidget Quilts are always in need! Kits are available or you check out the website for videos and size requirements. Thank you to all who've submitted your finished projects. Contact Linda S.

Thank you to all the amazing supporters of our Quilts for Kids Program. Let us know if you need projects to work on or need a pickup/drop off of completed quilts. Kits will be available at the August meeting. The program needs sport fabric from any team, 7 1/2" size fabric or larger. Backing and batting contributions are always welcomed. Contact Sandi W.

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.

Got scraps to make a pet bed? We are not collecting, but we have fabric available to sew your own case or, if you ask Sue Ann R., she will be happy to sew a case up for you to pick up or she'll drop it off for you. We are not collecting dog beds. Please drop off your completed dog beds at

a shelter or foster near you.

Port pillows – Thanks to all who made 54 port pillows from its introduction at the June meeting to drop off at the July meetings. They are so colorful!

Port pillows provide relief to chemotherapy patients. They are attached to the underside of a cross-body seatbelt and positioned over the patient's infusion port. Port pillows will be given to Phil's Friends, a local organization that supports those affected by cancer. Kits are available, although you can also use fabric, batting/stuffing and hook and loop from your own stash. Contact Sandy A.

Want to help but not sure who to contact? You can email Community Projects via email right on the PSQG website! Your message will be forwarded to the appropriate project leader.



Hello quilters!

Our fall retreat is coming up in early October.

We have decided to extend the deadline as **we need four more attendees** to meet the minimum cost. Encourage your quilting friends to join us!!

## UPCOMING RETREATS

Details: Thurs 10/5 9am to Sun 10/8 5pm. Hampton Inn & Suites, 2423 Bushwood Drive, Aurora, IL.

The cost is only \$75 for the entire 4 days!! Cost includes a 6' table in the conference room, and all the soda, coffee, and tea you can drink.

You have the option to come over to the hotel each day, or stay over (call the hotel directly at 630-907-2600 and request "The Crafter's Rate"). Either way, you are free to come and go over the 4 days.

All funds paid are non-refundable. You could find a retreator to replace you and settle up with each other.

Hope to see you there!

Thanks,  
Nanci McAtee  
Your PSQG Activities chair

The Virtual Zoom Retreats continue on the 4th weekend of every month, Saturday and Sunday.

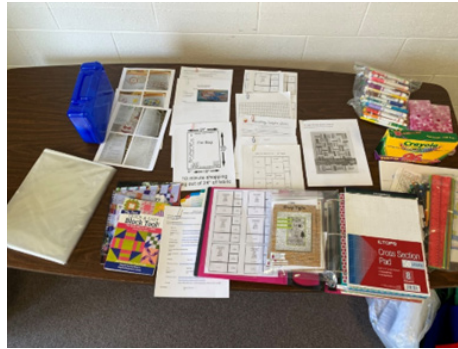
The next chat is August 26 & 27. [Email activities to sign up](#) and receive your zoom invitation. Come join in on the fun!

# DESIGN IT-MAKE IT-GIVE IT UPDATE!

Thank you so much to all who organized, attended and helped make the July 25th event a great success!



Everyone enjoyed selecting fabrics – there was a LOT to choose from – and designing quilts or other items for the guild’s community service projects or quilt show boutique.



If you couldn’t make it to this event, but would like to participate in the future, when should we schedule the next event? Do you have ideas for projects for individuals or ones that can be worked on in groups? Contact [CommunityProjects@psqg.org](mailto:CommunityProjects@psqg.org) with your suggestions.



## QUILT SHOW 2024



Everyone was thrilled when the 2022 quilt show brought in so much money to be used for our programs but it won’t happen again without YOU.

We currently need chairs or co-

chairs for the Boutique, Scraps, Vendors, Books/magazines, and Opportunity Quilt ticket sales. Those are our immediate needs. Down the line there are other positions that we need chairs for as well.

The guild is looking at getting a larger storage unit so Scraps, Books/magazines, & Quilty things won’t

need to be stored in someone’s home.

Please consider getting together with your friends and co-chairing these committees.

- The 2024 quilt show team  
Liz Fitzgerald, Diana Sharp,  
Yvonne Richter  
[PSQGboard@gmail.com](mailto:PSQGboard@gmail.com)

## TAG SALE IN SEPTEMBER

Hi All,

Some of you may know that I have been interested in having a guild sale of member’s items. Members have expressed interest in this idea for a few years and I think this is the right time to give it a try. We are a year away from our own guild show, so this seems like the moment to get people to start cleaning out their sewing rooms. They can give selling their own items a try in September. And maybe what doesn’t sell could be collected by the show committees for next year as a kickoff for donations, if the seller agrees.

I have secured **Saturday, September 30 at the Illinois Extension Center on Randall Road** for this event. We will have the whole day for arranging, set-up, sale and clean-up. I imagine the sale hours to be from 10 am to 2 pm. The cost of renting the building is \$100. I suggest that we aim for 10 sellers that will each pay \$10 to cover the cost. That price may change as we add more sellers or do not have enough.

Once the sale is announced, I will take the first 10 people who pay the \$10. After that, we will have a waiting list. I haven’t been out to this

location in a number of years, so I am not certain of the best number of tables and sellers to have. The woman I spoke to, Carrie, thought no more than 12 would be right. After I return from Connecticut I will visit and see how it looks. Those of you who are part of the MakeItTakeIt event might let me know if you have a suggestion for how many tables of sellers would be comfortable.

I am open to suggestions and volunteers who might like to help me facilitate this event for our guild!

Susan Egner

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

All programs subject to change.  
More info on our website.

### August 2023

Janis Gorski

### September 2023

M.J. Kinman

### October 2023

Jane A. Sassaman

### November 2023

Canceled due to health concerns



We are still looking for a contracts/  
programs chairperson! We will not  
have future speakers if someone  
does not step up.

## OUR WEB STORE IS OPEN



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

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

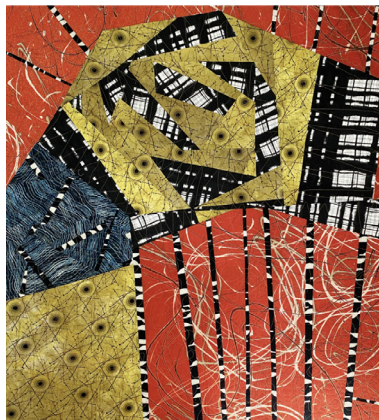
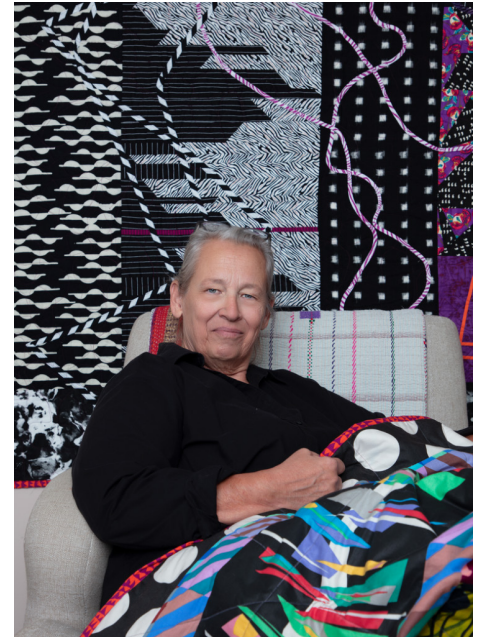
# August



## JANIS GORSKI OF BESPOKED QUILTS: A QUILT SHOW ABOUT MENTAL HEALTH

This lecture will be presented in  
person at both August meetings.

Janis has been an original  
design quilter for over fifteen years.  
Inspired by personal events, social  
issues and geography, she looks  
for the oddities of everyday life.  
Her color and design aesthetic are  
intuitive and subconsciously driven.  
One of a kind quilting allows her the  
freedom to communicate in her own  
special language. She is passionate  
about textiles and color and creating  
something novel.



# September

MJ Kinman's passion is creating quilts inspired by beautiful gems. The key is freezer paper and MJ is delighted to share her technique with students.

MJ's work has been exhibited at the National Quilt Museum, the International Quilt Museum, the New England Quilt Museum, Quilt Festival (Houston, TX), Quilt Week (Paducah, KY), and Festival of Quilts (Birmingham, UK). Her work is included in collections as varied as Maker's Mark Distillery, the National Quilt Museum (Paducah, KY) and the International Quilt Museum (Lincoln, NE), plus many private collections around the United States.

MJ's popular Birthstone Series patterns feature traditional birthstone gems, and her Diamond Divas Series offer large, artistic quilts easily customizable by makers. Her first book, Gemstone Quilts, was released by C&T Publishing in 2020.

MJ will present two different lectures for us:

**Monday, September 25th;  
Gems & Joy Lecture/Trunk  
Show**

**Tuesday, September 26th;  
National Treasures Trunk  
Show**

## M.J. KINMAN Bite Sized Gem Workshop!

Monday, September 25th, 2023  
9am – 4pm  
Members: \$65

Remaining available  
seats will open to the  
public on 8/15/2023.

University of Illinois  
Extension Office  
535 S. Randall Road  
St. Charles, IL 60174



# HELP NEEDED: 2024 QUILT SHOW CHAIRS AND OTHER RESPONSIBILITIES

The Quilt show provides the quilt guild with the funding to do the many programs and community service projects that we have all grown to love. We are thankful for those who have already volunteered to help, but we need YOUR help to have a successful show. Please consider volunteering for one of the positions below.

For more information or to volunteer contact Liz Fitzgerald, Yvonne Richter, or Diana Sharp.

## Books/Magazines/Patterns

Collect and sort donations from members for about 12 months before the show. Regularly ask for and accept donations at quilt guild meetings. Transport materials, set up and oversee (with volunteers) sales area at the show. Appropriately dispose of unsold items at end of show.

## Boutique

Collect, sort, and price donations from members for about 12 months before the show. Regularly ask for and accept donations at quilt guild meetings. Transport materials, set up and oversee (with volunteers) sales area at the show. Return unsold items at end of show.

## Opportunity Quilt – Ticket Sales and Display

Arrange for quilt to be shown at various venues at which to sell tickets to “win” the quilt (quilt guilds, shop hops, bees, etc.). Manage volunteers to take quilt to venues and sell tickets and hand out bookmarks for quilt show admission discount. Print materials for tickets and bookmarks. At the quilt show, provide ballots, draw winning ticket, and arrange delivery of quilt to winner following identification.

## Scraps

Collect, sort, and organize quilting fabric from guild members. Hold work days, as needed, for organizing and marking fabric. Manage pre-sales (if any) at guild meetings. Plan Scraps venue display area and gather needed display items. Transport materials, set up and oversee (with volunteers) sales area at the show. Appropriately dispose of unsold materials at end of show.



## CONTRACTS/PROGRAMS CHAIR REMAINS OPEN

As you can see on the calendar, we do not have speakers lined up for 2024. The Contracts/Programs Board position remains open.

The position is broken down into smaller chunks, so the time commitment is lessened. It’s a perfect opportunity for a Bee or another group of quilters to come together and help us continue to provide the guild with wonderful speakers.

In this age of everything available at our fingertips, it is easy to find a quilter you admire, investigate their lecture offerings and fees, and reach out to ask if their calendar is open for one of our available dates.

Can you find a quilter you would like to meet? A quilter or sewist you have always wanted to learn more about?

If just a few members would each pick one month to cover, we could fill the calendar in no time. In return, you would get to talk with and host someone whom you might not meet under other circumstances.

Contact the board if you can help. Just a one-month commitment with one speaker would help immensely. Thanks!



Late would be responsible for booking Speakers/Workshops for the July, August, September, October & November starting no later than January and be completed by the April business meeting. They would then be the point of contact for the guests they booked, make sure the guests are taken care of during their visit and be the hostess for the workshops.

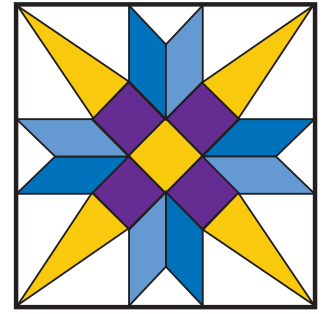
Early would be responsible for booking Speakers/Workshops for the January, February, March, May & June starting no later than July and be completed by the September meeting. They would then be the point of contact for the guests they booked, make sure the guests are taken care of during their visit and be the hostess for the workshops.



*Gladiolus*  
**AUGUST  
 BIRTH FLOWER**  
 Strength  
 Generosity  
 Integrity



*Aster*  
**SEPTEMBER  
 BIRTH FLOWER**  
 Wisdom  
 Faith  
 Valour



**2023-2024**

**BOARD MEMBERS**

*These board members start their term in July.*

- President: Cindy Krelle
- Evening VP: Barb Tuman
- Daytime VP: Susan Egner
- Programs VP: OPEN POSITION
- Secretary: Ruthann Heidgerken
- Treasurer: Lori McMahan
- Membership: Aileen Vogel
- Newsletter: Melanie Murphy
- Education: Chris Schwarz  
 & Foxy Beez bee
- Activities: Nanci McAtee
- Media Chair: Chris Macenski
- Bee Keeper: Beth Koos
- Library: Liz Fitzgerald
- Community Projects:  
 Sheila Cisko
- Contracts 2023- 2024:  
 Open position
- Nominations: Sandy Andrews

2024 Quilt Show Chairs\*:  
 Liz Fitzgerald, Yvonne Richter,  
 and Diana Sharp.

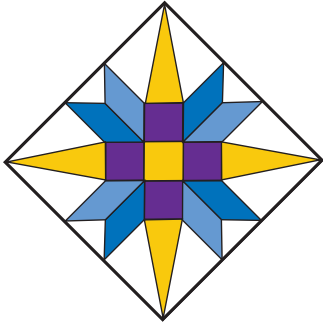
\*Quilt show is not an elected board position, but listed here for convenience.

*Happy Birthday to all our members who have their special day in August and September. Due to privacy concerns, I will no longer list the names here.*

**Ellen Stevenson Obituary**

It is with deep sorrow that we announce the death of Ellen Stevenson of Warrenville, Illinois, who passed away on July 27, 2023. Condolences were sent to the family on behalf of the guild.

# AUGUST 2023 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.