

# Prairie Star Press

Prairie Star Quilt Guild  
St. Charles, IL

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

Issue #8  
March 2023

## SEASONAL CHANGES

This cover article is often about time. The time of year that it currently is or the season that is just passing. This one is no different. Winter is almost over and, as a guild, we are looking forward to gathering in person at the church. It has been a long few months since we were last together in November. We have been asking, begging, imploring you all, the membership, to volunteer for a Board position. The Board wants you to know that we appreciate your attention to our plight. We know it is no fun to come to a meeting and be asked over and over for volunteers. And yet, this is where we find ourselves. We have filled in the President, Secretary, PM VP, Treasurer, Nominations and Community Service positions because five women have graciously stepped forward to accept them. I am so thankful to them and all of the people who volunteer in any way, big or small. The monumental Quilt Show, cutting fabric, holding quilts at a meeting, and more.

It still remains that we are in need of people for Activities, Programs 23-24, Contracts/Programs 24-26, and Social Media. Our guild is about 275 members strong right now. We would like to be able to offer all of

the aspects of our guild that we enjoy and for which we are known.

We are set to have an election in April. Our slate for the ballot is not yet filled. If a position remains empty, we can not count on the fact that another member will fill it. When you are seated at the meeting, look to your left. Is that person the one you expect to step up? How about to your right? Meanwhile, realize that others are looking at you to do the job. Please consider giving it a try. You don't have to know all about how to do the job before you take it on. There are many here who have come before that are able to lead and guide you.

The Social Media position is a small slice of what our Chris M has been taking care of on her own. You would update our Facebook and Instagram accounts with quilt related topics. I imagine this is as often as you would like. Best of all, Chris will teach you how to do this and you will expand your skills!

One of our members is thinking outside of the box and has suggested breaking down the Contracts position so that you are really contracting for a portion of one year. What does it mean "to contract"? Contacting potential speakers to ask

*continued on page 2...*

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## Upcoming Guild Meetings:

**March 27, 2023 at 7 pm**

**March 28, 2023 at 9:30 am**

**April 24, 2023 at 7 pm**

**NO MORNING MEETING**

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, April 6, 2023.

Send info to Melanie Murphy at [melaniemakeup@gmail.com](mailto:melaniemakeup@gmail.com).

*continued from page 1...*

if their calendar is open for the time you want, sending them a contract, and booking them for the intended month.

Let's say you contract July through November. Then you will be the point of contact for these speakers as they come in to speak. Opposite you is another person who would contract speakers for the other months, January through June (no April - business meeting) and be the point of contact person for them

when they arrive. This will make the Programs position a much easier task. Would this make the position more appealing to you?

Just because we have done a task in a certain way in the past does not mean we can't change it to make it more doable now. By the way, did you know that Quilt speakers for hire can be found on the internet? A search will provide many choices. If you have the Programs position, you can decide who you have been

wanting to hear. Or maybe which skill you have been wanting to learn. Our Board is open to discussion and new ideas to help the guild continue to grow. We'd love your input to shape the future of this group that gives us so much pleasure.

We will see you soon, in person. I am hopeful to see where the PSQG will go from here. The future is in each of our hands whether we are helping or stitching!

- Susan Egner

## COMMUNITY PROJECTS

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

At the March meeting we will be collecting strips (see details on the next page) and basic sewing supplies for Cleta's Stay and Sew. Every strip or item you donate will equal a chance to win at our GIANT UFO GIVEAWAY at the April business Meeting.

What are we accepting as a trade for a ticket?

- 2 1/2" strips, as outlined on the next page
- Measuring tapes
- Tracing wheels
- Seam rippers
- Marking pencils

- Tailors chalk
- Scissors & snips

Bring your items to the Community Projects table at the March meeting. Assistance for the collection on Monday evening (March) is needed.

In July we are planning a Quilts of Valor presentation. It's never too early to start thinking of a veteran or two and starting on their quilts. Requirements can be found on Quilt of Valor's website at [QOVF.org](http://QOVF.org).

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.



A sampling of the items in the UFO giveaway

## RETREAT CHOICES

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

Come for one day, both days, or even a few hours. Admission is free and you don't have to pack up your machine, projects, or supplies! You can also get a little peek at what other sewers rooms look like, and we can relate if it's a mess!

The next chat is March 25 & 26. [Email activities to sign up](#) and

receive your zoom invitation. Come join in on the fun!

Alternatively, choose to attend one of our in-person retreats. Sign up for August (Primitive Gathering) or October (Hampton in Aurora); see all the details and the sign-up sheets on [our website](#).

Update on The Gathering Retreat - Laurie at The Gathering stated they are filling up and our guild has a good turnout. If you have

not yet sent your registration you need to do it soon. The Gathering will release the rooms we are holding on APRIL 15th. In addition, balance is due directly to The Gathering, 30 days prior to the retreat.

Update on Hampton Retreat in October - We have received deposits and some full payments for this retreat in October. This is a great local retreat venue! Please register soon to hold your spot.

## What is Cleta's Stay and Sew?

Cleta is a woman in Rockford who is giving a free space to sew as well as free sewing classes for those who want to learn.

Sue Ann has made several deliveries of items our community

projects groups can't use, and she has much, much more to deliver.

While those deliveries and fabric are appreciated, the greatest need are the most basic sewing items.

That is why we're collecting extra sewing tools, such as measuring

tapes, tracing wheels, seam rippers, marking pencils, tailors chalk, scissors, snips, etc. Bring to the Community Projects table at the March meeting.

Here is [a video](#) and a [great article about Cleta](#) and her shop.

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## UFO GIVEAWAY AT MARCH MEETINGS

This Spring, we will have a UFO raffle to help clean out our closet and your fabric stash!

### UFO Raffle

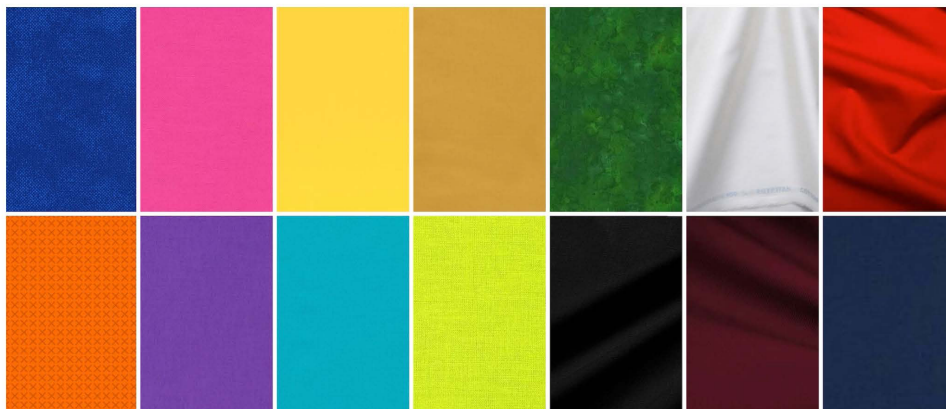
- **Fun Fact #1:** The UFO closet is overflowing with beautiful unfinished projects. We would love for these UFOs to find a new home with a quilter who will bring each project to completion.
- **Fun Fact #2:** Community Projects quilts are frequently made with pre-cut fabrics. Most donated fabric comes in yardage and volunteer quilters spend time cutting strips.
- **Fun Fact #3:** Most quilters have extra fabric, pretty as it was on the day of purchase, but maybe no longer needed or suits our taste.

### What do these facts have in common?

At first glance, not much. But, our Spring UFO Raffle will allow our members to declutter their stash, contribute to the Community Project Quilts, assist in the fabric cutting process and get a chance to win!

### Here's how it works!

Bring strips measuring 2 ½" by WOF to the March meeting. Each strip equals a raffle ticket. The number of tickets will be recorded with your name and you'll pick up your tickets at the April meeting. Strips should be quilting cotton solids, tonals, small non-floral prints and batiks in the colorways below:



At the April 2023 meeting you'll pick up your earned raffle tickets at the Community Projects Table. Head over to the UFO Raffle Tables and see all the goodies available to win. Put ½ of the ticket in the entry bucket for the items you'd like to try to win. Retain the other ½ of the ticket. We'll use the numbers as identifiers. No need to write your name! At the end of the business meeting the winning tickets will be drawn and announced.

This is an opportunity to contribute to our Community Projects, put your unused fabric to good use and possibly win. There is no money involved. Just a fun and easy chance to participate!



## MAY BANQUET

Our annual banquet is May 22nd at St. Andrew's Golf Course in West Chicago. Dinner will be served promptly at 6pm and there will be a cash bar.

For those who haven't attended a banquet before, this is a social event with a keynote speaker, and it's a great opportunity to meet other quilters and make new friends, or reconnect with friends you haven't seen in awhile. Typically we have tables seating 8, and groups can sign up to sit together. We encourage you to sign up as a single and let us choose your table for you, much like our Zoom breakout rooms. Meeting new quilting friends can be fun, and you know with this group we all have one topic of conversation to break the ice with -- quilting!

In the next week or so you will be able to sign up and pay on the PSQG website. There will also be an opportunity to sign up in person at the April meeting.

We are waiting on confirmation on the entrees, but we have requested the following:

- Garlic Pesto Gnocchi with vegetables (vegetarian) - \$41.00
- Champagne Chicken - \$41.00
- Grilled Bone-in Pork Loin with maple bourbon glaze - \$43.00

The entrees also include Minestrone soup, St. Andrews garden salad, roasted red potatoes, steamed vegetable medley, chocolate cake, water, tea, and coffee.

We will have someone at the March and April meetings to collect banquet and retreat registrations.

## BEEKEEPER BUZZ



The Prairie Star Fiber Artist Bee has formulated their mission statement: "We

are artists working in fiber who create art beyond the traditional quilt. We exchange ideas, methods, and techniques to challenge and support each other. We strive to transform fabric/fiber into art that inspires and touches anyone who views it. We welcome members of all levels and any stage in their creative endeavors." The group welcomes fiber artists who work in a variety of mediums such as fabric, embroidery, weaving, knitting, crochet, beading, and paper. The Prairie Star Fiber Art Bee has 4 members and they are open to 6 new members.

## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME

It's time to think about membership renewal. For those who are new to the guild, our guild fiscal year begins June 1st and ends May 31st. Membership renewal is still \$35.

You may renew online very soon. You can also renew in person at the April or May meetings.

If you are not going to attend either of the meetings in April or May, please consider updating your information and paying your dues online when renewal opens.



## EGG CARTONS

Yvonne collects egg cartons at the meetings, which she passes on to local chicken owners.

**THERE WILL BE NO EGG CARTON PICK-UP AT THE MARCH MEETINGS.**

You may drop them off at her home, or wait until the April meeting.



# BALLOT SEASON

At the April meetings, we hold our elections. Typically, we just vote on and formally elect the new slate of board members for the coming fiscal year. Our by-laws require we announce the new slate at least 30 days before the election. You will find the slate on page 7.

When we have a proposed change to the by-laws, that must also be announced 30 days prior to the election, and voted on by the general membership.

We have a proposal on the table to change the contracts/programs position to a 1 year commitment instead of a 2 year commitment. We also have an info graphic to better explain how we envision this position performing going forward.

## Current by-laws

President, **Contracts/Program Vice-President** and Treasurer shall serve two-year terms and shall not be elected to a third consecutive term. All remaining elected Board members shall serve one year terms.

The **Contracts Chair** shall be elected to a two-year term. The first year shall be served as Contracts Chair and the second year as Programs Vice-President.

The **Programs Vice-President** has completed a year as Contracts Chair and shall have the primary responsibility for producing the monthly meeting programs and workshops, when offered.

## Proposed by-laws

By-Law change proposal: Change Contract/Program Vice-President to a one year term.

President, **(Contracts/Program Vice-President)** and Treasurer shall serve two-year terms and shall not be elected to a third consecutive term. All remaining elected Board members shall serve one year terms.

The Contracts Chair shall be elected to a **(two-year) change to (one-year)** term. The first year shall be served as Contracts Chair and the second year as Programs Vice-President.

The Programs Vice-President has completed **(a year) change to (6 months)** as Contracts Chair and shall have the primary responsibility for producing the monthly meeting programs and workshops, when offered.

When we discussed this as a board, the general feelings was breaking the position down into smaller chunks would allow more members to be involved. It would also be less of a time commitment, and allow for extended collaboration and teamwork between those involved.

Here is an info graphic explaining how the position would be implemented and where it would overlap.

## Programs on a 12 month cycle vs a 2 year cycle.



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.

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

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

**March 2023**

[Lori Dickman](#)

**May 2023**

[Nina Clotfelter](#)



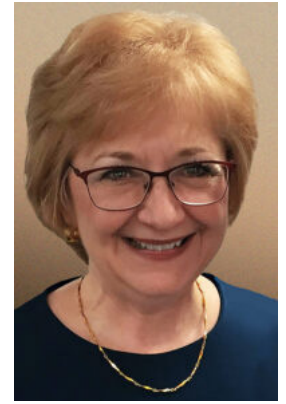
Be our new contracts/programs chairperson and choose our upcoming speakers! Great job to do with a friend or two.

## 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](https://psqgstore.logofactoryusa.com)



## LORI DICKMAN

Playing with fabric and color has been Lori's passion for over 50 years. And teaching others to join in on this sewer's/quilter's love affair is near and dear to her heart! The art of "Making" has been a wonderful journey for her!

Lori is an educator, an author, and a pattern designer with numerous books and patterns available on her website. Her very popular "Speedy Solutions" books offer step-by-step techniques and patterns to turn your scrap stash into fantastic quilts!

Lori's desire is to inspire others to learn to love the art of quilt-making! Join in on the passion and fun of creating!

Lori will present two in-person lectures and one workshop: Speedy Solutions to Cut & Organize your Scrap Stash on Monday night. My Favorite 3Ds: Dresdens, Diamonds and Drunken Path on Tuesday morning.

We are asking for volunteers to hold quilts; please see Lori or Sue Ann at the meetings to help.

You can read more about Lori and sign up for her workshop on our website: <https://psqg.org/lori-dickman/>

## Sunny Dresdens

Wednesday, March 29, 2023

10 am – 5 pm

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

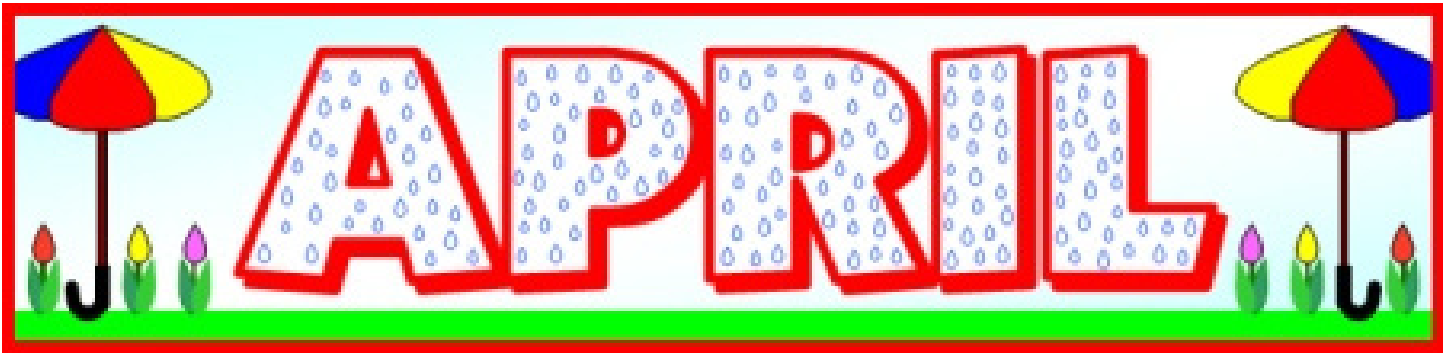
Members \$45

Non-members \$50

Templates \$11 – Required  
Available for purchase at  
the start of the workshop.

In this workshop the student will piece 4 different shaped Dresden blocks! This 37" x 37" quilt goes together so quickly it will amaze the student! The 6" blocks feature machine applique.

The student will have fun choosing fabrics that follow a theme or their favorite color! How fun to make this quilt with a Christmas theme, or for a little girl's room, or maybe use your favorite 30's fabrics, or use up some of your scraps! There are endless possibilities!



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 2023. There are several open positions. If you are interested, please contact any member of the board. We especially need contracts and programs filled if we want to have speakers and workshops going forward.

Some social time and fun is planned. No refreshments will be served, but you are welcome to bring your own drink (with a cover, please). We will have show and tell; please keep the limit of 2 items per person, and we ask you to keep your presentation short and sweet.

Inside, there will be a couple of tables for check-in and membership renewal, the UFO raffle, and receipt of finished community projects. The library will be there for returns only, and community projects is also just for returns.

## **Slate of 2023-2024 board positions**

President: Cindy Krelle

Secretary: Ruthann Heidgerken

Treasurer: Lori McMahon

AM VP: Susan Egner

PM VP: Barb Tuman

Programs 23/24 VP: OPEN

Contracts/Programs 24-26: OPEN

Activities: OPEN

BeeKeeper: Beth Koos

Community Projects: Sheila Cisko

Education: Chris Schwarz

Library: Liz Fitzgerald

Membership: Aileen Vogel

Media: Chris Macenski

Social Media: OPEN

Newsletter: Melanie Murphy

Nominations: Sandy Andrews

# MARCH VISITING GUILD IS NSQG

As Winter turns into Spring, when the flowers are blooming in all their glory we invite you to join us for The Art of Hope Quilt Show!

Come and see all the amazing Quilts on display or purchase one to take home from our Miniature Quilt Sale.



Shop our Vendors, take a chance, and win our Opportunity Quilt “Life is Beautiful” or our American Girl® Doll “Hope”, complete with wardrobe and accessories.

Come see the incredible “Faces of Hope” Guild Challenge, enter to win one of our notorious Raffle Baskets full of amazing products AND don’t forget about our Door Prizes, the not-to-be-missed Fabric Scrap and Used Book Sale!

When: Saturday May 20th and  
Sunday May 21st, 2023

Where: Lindner Fitness Center on the grounds of Judson University, Elgin, Illinois.  
The address of Judson University is  
1151 N State St, Elgin, Illinois 60123

Show Hours: Saturday May 20th – 9am to 6pm,  
Sunday May 21st – 10am to 5pm

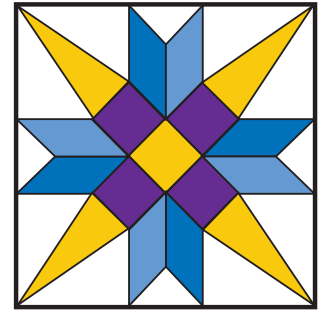
Entry Fee: \$8 per person, children 12 and under are free accompanied by an adult.







*Narcissus*  
**MARCH  
 BIRTH FLOWER**  
 Rebirth  
 Faithfulness  
 Prosperity

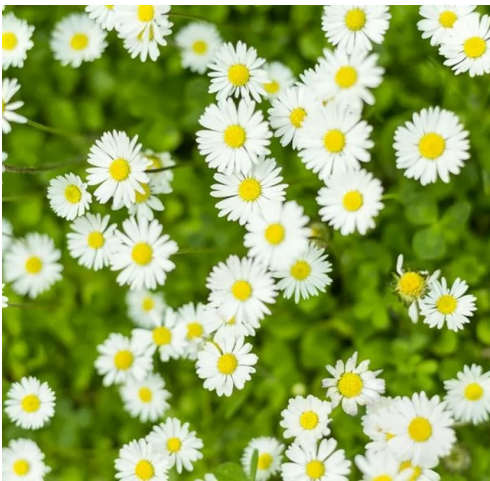


**2022-2023**

**BOARD MEMBERS**

*These board members start their term in July.*

- President: Barb Gillespie
- Evening VP: Sandi White
- Daytime VP: Susan Egner
- Programs VP: Open position
- Secretary: Yvonne Richter
- Treasurer: Diane Hubberts
- Membership: Aileen Vogel
- Newsletter: Melanie Murphy
- Education: Chris Schwarz  
 & Foxy Bees beez
- Activities: Sue Plaster
- Media Chair: Chris Macenski
- Bee Keeper: Beth Koos
- Library: Liz Fitzgerald
- Community Projects:  
 Sue Ann Reiner
- Contracts 2022- 2023:  
 Open position
- Nominations: Open position
- 2024 Quilt Show Chairs\*:  
 Liz Fitzgerald, Yvonne Richter,  
 and Diana Sharp.

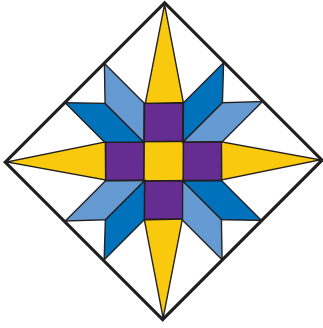


*Daisy*  
**APRIL  
 BIRTH FLOWER**  
 Purity  
 Innocence  
 Loyal love

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



## MARCH 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.