



Pride of the Prairie Quilters

Volume 26 Issue 5

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2009

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Sandy Piatak

It is hard to believe that summer is coming to an end. Children are going back to school, stores are already displaying holiday items on their shelves and we have a plethora of quilt shows to attend. Hopefully, many of you will have the opportunity to attend the Madison, Wisconsin show where our raffle quilt will be displayed for all to see. Attending any of these shows will inspire us to get back to our sewing machines and create that special quilt to be entered into our quilt show in March 2010.

Speaking of the quilt show, don't forget to sell your raffle tickets as this is a good money maker for our guild. This is one of the few requirements as a guild member that we ask you to do. We will reap the rewards by having nationally known speakers throughout the coming year.

When I first joined the guild everyone was talking about the up and coming quilt show. This would be the first time that I would be displaying my quilts in a show, boy I found this to be rather intimidating since I knew what fabulous workmanship was being produced by the guild. I debated as to what quilts to enter into the show, the decision made and guess what – the guild wanted me to name my quilts, I thought they can't be serious since I was pleased to have quilts that were completed. It was just exhilarating to be done and move on to the next project. Naming my quilts was definitely a challenge for my thought process. It is amazing how we can stress ourselves over the little things. Today, I still have difficulty putting names to quilts since some names are unsuitable for print but alas at least I have put a dent into my stash and best of all completed another U.F.O. (unfinished opportunity).

Speaking of which, those U.F.O.'s. that you are displaying at Show-n-Tell are just wonderful. We will be having the best quilt show ever! Keep those U.F.O.'s coming.

The best thing about a guild is that we have all levels of experience from beginning to advanced, which is just like our audience.

What a celebration we had for our 25th anniversary. The anniversary committee has given us a "25th Anniversary Quilt Challenge" especially using "25" as the measurement. The quilt cannot be any more than 25 inches in diameter and needs to have 25 of something on it, (i.e. squares, flying geese, etc.). How much fun can we have with this idea and don't forget about the using the silver fabric. This committee did a fabulous job so please remember to thank them personally.

A special thank you goes to Julie Karlak who takes care of our guild website. She keeps it current and up-to-date. Thank goodness Julie has volunteered to do this task because I would have no idea of where to begin.

Our philanthropy just keeps on giving. The pillowcases, baby quilts, and receiving blankets are definitely done with love. So again, thank you to each and everyone who has donated their time and talents. Remember, "Volunteerism is the price we pay for our space on earth."

Piecefully yours,
Sandy



QUILT RETREATS

Fall Retreat – October 2-4, 2009

Just a reminder that our guild's fall retreat will be held at the Racine Dominican Retreat Center on October 2-4. It is about 1.5 hrs drive from our area, just over the border in Racine, Wisconsin. There are several quilt shops to visit along the way. The sewing room overlooks Lake Michigan with big windows and excellent lighting. Cost includes three days of sewing, two nights and meals. Option 1: \$151 (6 meals) or Option 2: \$143 (5 meals).

Check-in is Friday at 1:00pm
Check-out on Sunday by 3:00pm.

If you are interested, please sign-up at the next guild meeting or call me as we still have a few openings.

Julie Karlak

HOSPITALITY NEWS

*By Marcia Gray, Darlene Ryan,
Jackie D'Arcy and Cindy Obman*

Thanks to all who have donated treats at our meetings. If you haven't brought a treat in awhile, please share a treat for the next guild meeting.

**Cash For Clunkers!!!
IF MY BODY WERE A CAR...**

If my body were a car, this is the time I would be thinking about trading it in for a newer model. I've got bumps and dents and scratches in my finish, and my paint job is getting a little dull. But that's not the worst of it. My headlights are out of focus, and it's especially hard to see things up close.

My traction is not as graceful as it once was. I slip and slide and skid and bump into things even in the best of weather.

My whitewalls are stained with varicose veins.
It takes me hours to reach my maximum speed.
My fuel rate burns inefficiently.

But here's the worst of it --



Almost every time I sneeze, cough or laugh, either my radiator leaks or my exhaust backfires.

CASH FOR CLUNKERS.....I QUALIFY!



BIRTHDAYS

OCTOBER

Linda Graunke	Oct 3
Betsy Wycislak	Oct 5
Sharon Butvilas	Oct 7
Joy Kastan	Oct 7
Sylvia Khanifar	Oct 14
Deborah Babarskas	Oct 15
Diane Rodenbostel	Oct 19
Patricia Jackson	Oct 25
Denise Clayton	Oct 29
Ila Migut	Oct 29
Tara Lynn Darr	Oct 31
Eileen Diercks	Oct 31

NOVEMBER

Chris Sass	Nov 2
Terri DeLano	Nov 5
Maria McPhail	Nov 9
Jackie Lowy	Nov 12
Kathy Mueller	Nov 16
Nancy Rowley	Nov 16
Bonnie Moss	Nov 19
Cindy Monroe	Nov 21
Sandy Piatak	Nov 30

2009-2010 BOARD MEMBERS

President	Sandy Piatak
Vice-President	Bonnie Orzech
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	Jackie D'Arcy
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	Christine Williams
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	Linda Graunke

2009 Advertising Rates

<u>Ad Size</u>	<u>Year (6 issues)</u>	<u>Single Issue</u>
Business Card:	\$50	\$10
Quarter Page	\$60	\$15
Half Page	\$80	\$20
Full Page	\$160	\$40

Ads must be prepaid and received by Editor before 25th of the month to appear in next newsletter issue.

Our general membership meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 7:00pm at Peace Lutheran Church, 415 W. Main St (near Rt 59 / IL 126) in Plainfield, IL. Guests are always welcome to attend any program for a nominal guest fee. We have a short business meeting followed by our program or guest speaker. Visit our website at www.prideofprairie.org

**Mailing Address:
Pride of the Prairie Quilters
P. O. Box 501
Plainfield, IL 60544**

2009 PROGRAMS & WORKSHOPS
By Ute Murrin, Susan Lark and Jo Sheppard

Upcoming Workshops: Priority registration is now open exclusively to Pride of the Prairie Quilters members for the following workshops. For more information, please contact Ute Murrin or Susan Lark. You may register for any workshop at our regular guild meetings. Payment is required at the time of registration. Non-members please add \$10 to the workshop fee.

Workshops are held from 9:30am - 4:00pm at Roberts Sewing Center in Crest Hill unless noted to the contrary in the Program details below.

September 17th - Lecture: Finding and Unleashing the Creativity Within You by Debbie Caffrey. A practical approach to Becoming a Confident Quilter - Taking the mystery out of great quilts. Dream, visualize, recognize elements, organize your thoughts and apply techniques to make your quilts.

September 19th - Workshop: Power Cutting, Too with Debbie McCaffrey. Workshop Fee: \$45. Power cutting is a fast and efficient collection of cutting techniques that allows quilters to choose the one that is best for the task at hand. Working with scraps, strips, and charm squares requires different techniques than working with yardage of a few fabrics. Choose to make any of the projects in either power cutting book, or choose another pattern from a book, pattern, or magazine. Using what you will learn in the process exercises, you may choose to cut and piece the quilt differently than the written instructions.

October 15th - Make N' Take: Holiday Cards & Ornaments (free lesson, workshop and materials for guild members) - during our regular guild meeting. Learn how to make your own holiday cards and ornaments. The guild will provide the materials needed, all you need to bring is a rotary cutter, ruler, scissors and cutting mat. No sewing machine is needed. **Please make sure you sign up so we can have enough kits ready.**

November 19th - Lecture: It's in the Details by Ann Fahl
A presentation about thread and free-motion embroidery plus Ann's beautiful quilts.

Sat., Nov. 21, 2009 - Workshop: Fun with Free-Motion Embroidery with Ann Fahl Workshop Fee: \$50. An introductory course appropriate for any quilter wanting to explore machine sewing with the feed dogs down. Explore free-motion embroidery techniques and the use of decorative thread, experiment with the techniques on scraps as well as make a small sampler.

December 10th - Lecture: Baltimore Album Style Quilt (Wickersham Memorial Quilt) by Jo Sheppard. She will display her reproduction of the "Wickersham Quilt," a memorial quilt for John Wickersham made circa 1847. Her quilt was based on a pattern by Patsy Harrants and reproduced in a brighter color way and in modern fabrics while honoring the past. This quilt took Jo about 4 ½ yrs to complete.



2010 PROGRAMS & WORKSHOPS
By Becky Carpenter and Christine Williams

The following programs have been planned for the first four months of 2010. Plan to join us on the third Thursday evening each month for some great speakers, lectures and trunk shows.

January 21st - Char Hopeman, designer and quilter from Wheaton, IL, will present a trunk show. Char will share her story along with many traditional quilts.

February 18th - Sue Harmon, certified quilted textile appraiser through the American Quilter's Society since 1997, will present her lecture entitled "Do You Know Your ABCs? - Appraise Before Catastrophe." Learn the value of a written appraisal and get some tips on preparing your quilt for the upcoming quilt show. You will have an opportunity that night to sign up to have Sue appraise your quilts at our March quilt show.

March 18th - Kathleen Tracy, author of *American Doll Quilts*, *Prairie Children and Their Quilts*, and her latest book, *Remembering Adelia*, will present a lecture entitled "A Little History of Quilting". She will show us the little quilts she has created while sharing quilt history.

April 15th - Quilt Show Celebration Report

Due to our upcoming quilt show in March 2010, we have not planned any workshops for the first four months of the year.



LIBRARY NEWS

By Kathy McCluskey and Becky Brillon

There are many overdue books that must be returned to the guild's library. Please don't forget that fines for overdue books are \$.50 a month and accumulative. If you have a book on your bookcase at home with a neon yellow or green dot on the spine, you may very well owe some money to the library.

Please look around your house and car and return the books so other guild members can have the privilege of checking the books out. Happy Reading!

Becky & Kathy in the Library

Late Fees on DVD's are:

One month late \$1

Two months late \$2

Three months late \$3

Fees are accumulative!

(\$1 + \$2 + \$3, etc.)

UPCOMING LOCAL QUILT SHOWS:

Sept. 10-12, 2009 - Madison, WI

"Quilt Expo" Exhibition Hall at the Alliant Energy Center. For more information visit website: <http://wiquiltexpo.com/>. Our guild's 2010 Raffle Quilt will be displayed during the Quilt Expo.

Sept. 18-19, 2009 - Hoffman Estates, IL

30th Anniversary Quilt Show "Quilted Pearls" Northwest Suburban Quilters Guild is presenting their bi-annual show at Prairie Stone Sports & Wellness Center, 5050 Sedge Dr., Hoffman Estates, IL 60192. This show will feature 300+ quilts, wall hangings, challenge entries, apparel, 20+ vendors and much more. Enter one of our raffles: - An American Girl (TM) Doll with her own custom wardrobe and furniture, handcrafted by our members - A stunning 84" X 84" quilt made from hand-dyed Cherrywood and batik fabrics, expertly constructed and quilted by our members - a real heirloom piece! For more information, see our website: www.nsqg.net

Sept. 19-20, 2009 - Woodridge, IL

"Patches through Time" Celebrating 35 years in a Faithful Circle at Jefferson Jr. HS, 7200 Janes Ave, Woodridge. Adm. \$6. For more information, visit website: <http://www.fcquilters.com/>

Sept. 25 - 26, 2009 - Grayslake, IL

"Quilts for the Village XI" sponsored by Village Quilters of Lake Bluff/Lake held at the Lake County Fairgrounds near Peterson at Midlothian Road. Est 200+ quilts, silent auction, raffle quilt and merchant demos. Adm \$7. For more details, email: info@villagequilters.org

Sept. 26 - 27, 2009 - Crystal Lake, IL

Sponsors: McHenry County Guild at McHenry County College. Adm \$5. For more information, email: firstm83@yahoo.com.

Oct 3-4, 2009 - Crown Point, IN

"Indiana Rose XII Quilt Show" sponsored by Heritage Quilters of Crown Point to be held at Timothy Ball School, 720 W. Summit St, Crown Point, IN. Adm \$5 with 250 quilts, merchant mall, raffle quilt, boutique, silent t auction, door prizes. For more information, email: heritagequilters@yahoo.com

Oct. 10-11, 2009 - Racine, WI

"2009 Lighthouse Legacies: Nature and Design" sponsored by Lighthouse Quilters Guild Inc. held at 7345 Washington Ave., Racine, WI. Over 200 quilts, exhibits, boutique, vendors, demo and concession. Adm \$5 For more information, email: nonfiction43@hotmail.com.

Website resource for quilt guilds and shows:
http://quiltguilds.com/add_your_show.htm

PHILANTHROPY NEWS/2009 PROJECTS

By Sandy Ringel and Julie Guise

Pillowcases - We received a very nice thank you from Sue Abraham, the local coordinator for ConKerr Cancer thanking POP for the 140 pillowcases we have donated so far. Keep them coming! Everyone goes to good use.

In a newsletter that I received, the following information has been extracted and provided to our guild members. Apparently, they wash and repackage all the pillowcases. We have not sent any flannel pillow or fleece pillowcases, but I here is information from their newsletter just in case you were thinking about it!

Reminders:

***Please no flannel or polar fleece pillowcases.** They are extremely hard to package and store. Also, they are not advised for children experiencing hair loss.

***Please avoid fabrics with words such as "survivor, angel, get well or medical themes."** The hospitals appreciate the pillowcases that are cheerful and ask that no get well messages be sent.

***Please no one gallon Ziplock bags for packaging.** ConKerr Cancer requires all donations to be made in one quart Ziplock bags. We are happy to package any pillowcases donated if you do not have one quart bags.

***Note to Smokers:** No offense but the hospitals have requested that all packaged pillowcases come from a **smoke-free environment**. We will gladly take your donations and wash and package for you.

Seasonal Deadlines:

Seasonal pillowcases are welcome but need to be received in time to get them laundered, pressed, packaged and delivered to the hospitals so that the children can enjoy them during the holiday season. Please be aware of the following deadline dates:

(continued next page)

QUILT SHOW 2010 NEWS - Continued

25th Anniversary Quilt Challenge - Rules

1. Quilt must be smaller than 25" x 25".
2. Challenge fabric must be used on the quilt top in some way.
3. Quilt must contain 25 of something (example: 25 fabrics, 25 flying geese, 25 blocks, etc.).
4. Quilt must have a label explaining the use of fabric and the 25 items.
5. Quilts will be displayed at the 2010 Quilt Show and will be voted on by the public.

All items are due on Fri, March 12, 2010 and should be given to Susan Deegan or Kim Nimtz.

WANTED: Your Used Quilting Books and Magazines for the 2010 Quilt Show

Do you have quilting magazines and books sitting around that you no longer need? I have a solution for them. At next year's quilt show, I will be managing a table selling used quilting magazines and books. Other guilds have successfully done this and since every item is donated we will make 100% profit! I have already received donations and continue collecting at guild/show meetings or call me to make other arrangements. Don't worry if a page is torn out or you have hand written notes on them; we are selling them as used. Just think that magazine or book you have been trying to locate for years might be waiting for you! PLEASE NO PATTERNS just quilting magazines and books. Contact: Jennifer Beatty

QUILTING "ROVING REPORTERS"

"The Distance Quilters Will Go" A Montana Journey by Sharon Butvilas

For sometime the Wild West was calling me to see the annual "Quilts on the Lawn" quilt show in Bozeman so I jumped on an airplane (isn't progress great, no covered wagon) and ventured off to see the quilt show and shops along the dusty back roads of Montana.

Straight off the plane in Billings, I stopped to visit the National Historic 1903 Moss Mansion filled with the original family's furnishings and history. This house was designed by NY architect who also designed the Waldorf Astoria and Plaza hotels in NYC. One of the children lived in the home until her death at age 88. I could have stayed for hours, but again the westward howling began (those darn wolves) and off to my quilt shop adventures.

My first merchant was the **Back Door Quilt Shoppe in Billings**. Fabric selection was good, but I soon realized how spoiled we are in the Chicago area. Here I met four ladies from southeastern part of MN who have been driving out each year for the quilt show; one of them was a quilt show owner in MN. We exchanged names and stories.

We met up again at **Fiberworks**, a top ten shop featured in the Quilt Sampler a few years ago. Wow, what unusual and contemporary fabrics by owner Laura Heine, a fabric and pattern designer and international quilter. The shop is over 6,100 sq.ft. with fabulous displays and a very large selection of western fabrics, but I walked out without buying a thing. I was later questioned by the MN quilt shop owner why.

Customer service ranks high on my list and the owner nor her staff spoke to any one and it was an effort for one of the MN ladies to get a pattern she asked about three times.....no thanks...more shops to see, but a great store nonetheless. Later heard same from other shop owners.

Next morning headed towards Bozeman along the Interstate (my dusty trail) before visiting **Little Timber Quilts in Big Timber**. A small shop in a 1890 dry goods store established in 2001 by 26 year old Lily Kinross-Wright. The town is literally only 3 blocks long, and I wondered how they could survive in this remote area. Not only was the staff and owner very friendly but a local resident buying modern fabrics for her granddaughter's new quilt stopped to chat with this Chicago quilter. Found out later, this shop fills the needs of many quilters in surrounding towns in the middle of the vast open landscape of ranches and farms.

Short drive later arrived at **Back Porch Quilts in Livingston**, the gateway exit to Yellowstone Park with campers and boaters galore getting gas and supplies. Cute small shop set in a long strip mall that looks like an old mining town for an old western movie. The owner was very friendly. Not big on displays but still nice fabrics, yarns and needlework supplies, which come in handy while sitting by the campfire!

Finally arriving in Bozeman, home to Montana State University, which reminded me of downtown Naperville filled with shops, restaurants, college students and a few ponytailed professors. About three miles into the country is **Quilting in the Country** owned by Jane Quinn, who started and ran the quilt shows displaying quilts on barns and wood fences. Surrounded by fantastic flower gardens, this shop is run from two bunkhouses on a 130 yr old homestead filled with cotton fabrics and wools, with a few dozen sheep in the field who were sheared the next day during a demo for quilters in the country. Struck up a conversation and exchanged phone numbers with a Belvidere, IL quilter and her friend who lives in Bozeman.

Met Margo Krueger, quilt historian and owner of **Reproduction Fabrics** at the lectures. I was able to see several 1860-1920 MT quilts from the Museum of the Rockies Art Collection and listened to details about the quilts' history and construction. This was a rare moment for almost 50 people who attended. Later visited Margo's parking lot sale of reproduction fabrics from the 1790's. Also visited **The Silver Thimble** shop to thank owner Libby Stanhope who was my pen pal helping me plan my trip via email v Pony Express. Hurrah!

With only a few hours left and before my 90 min. drive back to Billings, I was invited by two sisters from Park City, MT and Santa Barbara, CA to join them for a Japanese lunch. Also met couple from British Columbia; I guess I'm not the only one traveling far for this local quilt show. Later I was determined to get thru the street festival crowd to visit **Main Street Quilting** in downtown Bozeman. Oh my gosh, a small shop in an old storefront but HUGE on selection, style and displays. If I had only known to stop here first, I would have done some real financial damage. I may still order the quilt kit in the window display from owner, Lisa Carter, who couldn't be nicer with a great eye for retailing. She wanted to be sure I was having a great time at their quilt show. Although Billings is the largest city in MT, Bozeman was the place to conclude my wild west quilt journey.

Power Cutting, Too

Supply List

Power cutting is a fast and efficient approach to rotary cutting. Power cutting is a collection of cutting techniques that allows quilters to choose the one that is best for the task at hand. For instance, making a few large half-square triangle units for a quilt should employ a different approach than making many small units. Working with scraps, strips, and charm squares requires different techniques than working with yardage of a few fabrics. I want you to bring fabrics to use for exercises to learn the various methods of power cutting.

This is a process class, not a project class. For the process, bring fabrics you do not mind using for exercises. These pieces may or may not become part of a future quilt. Don't plan to use anything that is really special. See below for more details.

Please bring all of the following to class with you:

- **Books, *Power Cutting* and *Power Cutting, Too* – optional** – You will be provided enough handouts to keep you busy during class.
- **Sewing machine & neutral colored thread**
- **Rotary cutter, a mat that is at least 18" x 24", and the following rulers: a large square (12" - 15") and/or a long ruler (6" x 24", 8½" x 24", or similar size), an Omnigrid 96L (optional), an Omnigrid 98L (optional), and all of the small squares you have.**
- **Pencil or pen**
- **Fabric** For best results, prewash and press all fabrics.

Bring scraps, charm squares, fat quarters, and short yardage pieces. You will need some of the larger pieces, so be sure to include at least a few fat quarters. Select a variety of values, visual textures, and colors. Choose anything that you don't mind using up for the learning process samples. In total, have about a yard of fabric to play with. Obviously, you will not use it all, but it shouldn't take too much space, and I can't imagine any of you not having that much fabric lying around!

Questions?

Debbie Caffrey

Phone: 505-992-1414 / Fax: 505-992-8013

email: debbiesquilt@aol.com

Sharon Butvilas
 611 Oxford Court
 Oswego, IL 60543

Pride of the Prairie Quilters

SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2009

FIRST CLASS MAIL



Natures Gift
 for Bonfires!



Is that pumpkin pie
 I smell in the oven?

CALENDAR OF EVENTS	
<p>Thurs., Sept. 17, 2009 Lecture “Finding and Unleashing the Creativity Within You” by Debbie Caffrey</p> <p>Sat, Sept. 19, 2009 Workshop “ Power Cutting, Too”</p>	<p>Thurs., Oct. 8, 2009 at 7:00pm</p> <p>2010 Quilt Show All Committees Meeting held at Prairie Stitches Quilt Shoppe Classroom 72 Main Street, Oswego, IL</p>
<p>Mon., Sept. 21, 2009 Deadline Halloween Pillowcases for ConKerr Cancer donations.</p> <p>You can turn in your donations at our Sept. 17th guild meeting, which gives us time to get the pillowcases to the shop before their deadline.</p>	<p>Thurs., Oct. 15, 2009</p> <p>Make N' Take: Holiday Cards & Ornaments A free lesson/workshop to learn how to make your own holiday cards and ornaments. The guild will provide materials needed for guild members. See program details for other supplies you should bring and sign ups required for kit preparations.</p>
<p>Fall Retreat October 2-4, 2009</p> <p>Racine Dominican Retreat Center in Racine, WI See newsletter for more information and sign up requirements.</p>	<p>Guild newsletter is published every two months (Jan-Feb, Mar-Apr, May-June, Jul-Aug, Sept-Oct, and Nov-Dec). To submit articles for inclusion, email or mail articles to the Newsletter Editor by the 25th of the month preceding newsletter issue dates noted above (more details inside newsletter).</p>