



The News-Patch

May 2024

Our Mission Statement:

**To promote
the fellowship
and art of quilting**

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Happy May,

I look forward to seeing you all later this month for the salad supper. Remember we will be meeting on a Wednesday. Please bring a dish to share. Doors open at 6:00pm, we eat starting at 6:30.

Elections will also be held during the May meeting. Thank you to those of you who stepped up to serve. We are still looking for another volunteer (or two). Including someone with a little bit of tech savvy to put together and send out this newsletter. You don't have to write content, just nag the rest of us to get our pieces done 😊 Reach out if you have questions, I have served in many of the board positions. 815-751-0502

We will do show and tell, and Rob will do a brief demo for the next skill builder installment. This month includes paper piecing. I offered to do a paper piecing workshop during the June Sewing Saturday (6/8). I am not an expert but happy to help anyone who wants to learn. It is fun and a very precise technique.

Next week I give final exams and as much as I love teaching and my students, I'm ready for a break. I have a lot planned this summer but hope to get some more quilting DONE.

Happy mother's day, graduation, and any other special occasions you have in the next couple of weeks.

Kyra

MAY PROGRAM

May Salad Supper will be held on a special night – Wednesday May 22nd!

Doors open at 6 and the feasting begins at 6:30. Please bring a dish to share, as well as a drink and table service for yourself.

We will also have time for Show and Tell and for Rob to present the next installment of his skill builder challenge

A friendly reminder...

Baby quilts made for the Rockford NICU Center should be 47" x 54"

WAYS & MEANS, RAFFLE QUILT AND PUBLICITY

Ways and Means, Raffle Quilt, and Publicity for Harvest of Quilts 2024

Please remember that every time you either talk about our quilt show, handout a bookmark, put up a poster, or sell a raffle ticket you are assisting with the publicity for our quilt show happening October 25th and 26th. The word-of-mouth publicity is a GREAT help towards having more attendees.

The bookmarks are in a box on the admissions table during our monthly meetings. Please take as many as you need (more can always be printed), especially if you are going to go to quilt shops (many will place in shop for their customers) or workshops or even other guilds and hand them out. Whomever uses the bookmark receives \$1 off admission into our quilt show.

We've taken the raffle quilt to Riverwalk Quilters Guild in Naperville and The Faithful Circle Quilters Guild in Downers Grove. The amount collected was \$156, very much worth the trip.

We are scheduled to take the quilt to Sinnissippi Quilt Guild in Rockford on June 6th. Jean Bradford (our Director at Large) has volunteered to go with me. Sinnissippi has two meetings on the first Thursday so we will be staying all afternoon into the evening.

After that, the next scheduled guild is County Crossroads in Forreston, IL (near Freeport) on Monday July 15th. They will be having an "Ice Cream Social." Then is Prairie Star Guild in St. Charles on both Monday evening August 26th and Tuesday morning August 27th. As of now, we

do not have any volunteers to go to these guilds. We show the raffle quilt and sell tickets at these guilds. If you are interested in assisting, please contact me as soon as possible.

About the raffle quilt named “Twinkling Stars”, it is 84” X 84” and there is a photo on our website at <https://dcqg.org/quilt-show-2024.html>. On that page there is a link to the poster that can be printed and handed out. I will bring the quilt to the salad supper guild meeting this month. The quilt is comprised of LOTS (I have not counted) of 4” squares that are machine embroidered. Shirley Cronin (a DCQG member) completed the embroidery work on all the squares but did not get the quilt assembled before her passing. Rob Stoll was given a bag containing the squares and asked to complete the quilt. During this process, Rob learned that the design is from Hoopsisters (<https://www.hoopsisters.com/>). While consulting Hoopsisters, Rob assembled the quilt and quilted it (NOT an easy task—thank you Rob). The quilting is quite simple because of all the machine embroidery work within each square. The colors in the quilt are gorgeous. The quilt is very heavy due to all the thread. It will make a GREAT quilt for someone!!!

Kathi Davis
Ways and Means VP
Harvest of Quilts Publicity Chair
kad0522@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP

Our new membership year begins on June 1, 2024. So, I am fairly confident in announcing that our official membership for 2023-24 is 56 members strong! Please print and bring the attached membership form with you to the May salad supper. I will have some forms available as well for those who need them.

We still have room for more at the retreat on June 27-30, 2024, if you are available. It is a great time to hang out and make progress on your projects.

If you have any questions, please feel free to phone, text or email me.

Sew Many Blessings!
Kim
kimcolness@comcast.net
815-757-8115

HARVEST OF QUILTS – October 25-26, 2024

Our quilt show committee will be meeting later this month to “iron out” some details regarding the quilt show. Do you have some suggestions, questions or concerns? Please share with Chris or Peg so one of them can incorporate that into the planning meeting. We’ll have bundles of information to pass along during June’s general meeting. Keep working on your Skill Builder and other quilting projects!

Peg Simonds

pjsimonds@gmail.com

Chris Wells

cwells3@aol.com

If you have any baskets or new patterns, fabric charm squares, jelly rolls or fat quarter bundles you are looking to re-home, I would love to incorporate them into our raffle baskets!

HARVEST OF QUILTS - RAFFLE BASKETS

I will not be at the May meeting but will be happy to get your donations at the June meeting!
We are looking at making 15 baskets for the quilt show.

Thanks
Dorothy

HARVEST OF QUILTS – NICU QUILTS

Our Goal is to create 50 NICU Quilts by guild's salad supper 2025. During the Quilt Show weekend, we will have a Demonstration room prepped for anyone to come in and participate in this project. The demonstration will be Quilt-as-you-go (QAYG) methods to show the ease of simple and fast sewing tasks. There will be opportunities for participants to prepare the initial 'sandwich' with a back and batting. Another station will have kits prepared with coordinating precut fabric strips. We will then have 2-4 stations for straight sewing of the attachment of strips to the batting in the QAYG technique. Another 2 stations will demonstrate two binding methods. These will include strip binding and fold over binding. And finally there will be a display station for the finished quilts.

Each finished NICU quilt will be approximately 47x54 inches. This size allows for the bassinet to be covered and creates a cozy space for baby. It also allows parents to easily find their little one if bassinets move around in the NICU. The quilt will go home with the family. We will include our DCQG label on each quilt. The tops will include multiple color fabrics in horizontal, vertical, or diagonal strips. As donations come in, we will get together to prep our materials before the show. Watch for working dates in the upcoming newsletters and on Facebook.

In order to reach our goal of 50 quilts, we are requesting donations of fabric, batting and notions. Below is a list of the items we are seeking to achieve our goal.

- Cotton or Flannel fabric (these can be large pieces or scraps. Minimum width 1 1/2 inches. We need this fabric for backs and tops. Each quilt takes approximately 3 yards of fabric)
- Cotton batting (long scraps from former projects are acceptable)
- Thread and bobbins
- Leftover binding strips
- Sewing machines to share
- Volunteers to help prep before the show
- Volunteers to sew in the demo room during the show

If you have any questions, please contact Madaline Carpenter, Linda Parker, or Moria Titus.

MEMORIES...AND A VOLUNTEER REQUEST

If my math is correct, the DeKalb County Quilters Guild was founded in 1979. In addition to teaching English and raising three children, my mom, Kathy Wells, was a guild member for many of those years. If you were lucky enough to see Mom's trunk show at the June 2022 meeting, you got to hear her beautifully written speech detailing how she came to love quilting and got to see many of her treasured quilts.

I was introduced to quilting by Mom and made my first quilt at 7 when my sister was born. As a teenager, I was lucky enough to participate in guild events with my mom. I remember workshops on Cathedral Window and Batik Dying, as well as bus trips to Shishewana. It was a lot of fun, but I was never a member. Until 2018.

That year, the guild was looking for someone to take over the newsletter. Mom was a fantastic writer! I told her she'd be perfect in that role, and said I'd join the guild and help out as needed. Mom wrote many newsletter pieces over the years, but as it turns out the bulk of the job is just waiting for board members to email you their contributions so you can format it into a document to share with everyone. That's where I came in. Mom wrote, I formatted. We've done this for six years now. This month, for the first time, I do it alone.

As many of you know, Mom began dialysis in October, fighting hard, and ending that fight on April 15th. When Mom retired from teaching in 2011, she dove back into quilting. She was amazingly productive, and we have a treasure trove of completed projects from which to remember her. She loved Jenny Doan and was often starting this week's free tutorial because she couldn't resist a new pattern, so we have plenty of unfinished projects to complete too. Up to the very end, Mom told us how happy she was knowing we wouldn't get rid of her incomplete projects or fabric stash...that we would love



them and use them! And that we will! Even her Granddaughter Gemma is eager to make something for our upcoming quilt show.

Since the COVID lockdowns, when I moved in with Mom, she was my constant companion and best friend, as many of you can attest to. The only good thing that came of COVID...more time with Mom. I miss her dearly.

Having held this position with Mom for 6 years, I am ready to pass it on to someone else. If you have access to MS Word or Google Docs, and you can step up, please let the board know. I'd be happy to work with the new editor to show you how easy it is...just a couple of hours a month between the Zoom board meeting and the newsletter build. Or you could revamp it and make it your own! Please thoughtfully consider this position, that generally is a 2 year post. I would love to pass it on to a new editor.

Thank you,
Chris Wells

GUILD INFO

Mailing Address: DCQG
P.O. Box 385
Sycamore IL 60178

Email Address: info@dcqg.org

New Meeting Location: Federated Church
612 W. State St.
Sycamore IL 60178

Meeting Info:

- Meetings are held the 4th Thursday of the month, January through October, with an annual Christmas Party in December.
- Doors open at 6:00pm for gathering to meet and greet, with the meeting beginning at 6:45pm with show and tell.

