



NEWSLETTER ♦ MAY 2025

In this issue:

From Our Guild President	1
Birthdays	1
Fabric Sale July 17-18-19	1
Treats for May	1
May, June, July Meetings	2
Quilt of Valor	3
Quilt Retreat	3
2025 Raffle Quilt Update	3
Sew Bee April & May	3
The Night Before Christmas Quilt Show	4
Charity Quilt Project	4
2025 UFO Challenge & PRAISE	4
Do you have a Name Tag??	5
2025 Officers	5

May Birthdays

2 - Clara Bal
3 - Cindy McCormack
3 - Darlene Ryan
6 - Lana Stafford
7 - Maria Conrad
9 - Mary Shoudis
19 - Kathy Friant
19 - Rebecca Parini
21 - Gloria Hansen
27 - Patti Rosenbaum
27 - Cindy Stubler

Treats for the May Meeting!

Members who have a May birthday are invited to bring a treat for the May meeting – there are many of you, so don't feel like you have to go all-out!! Members should bring their own beverages. Tana will bring plates, plasticware, and napkins.

From Our Guild President:

Is anyone else as excited as I am that Spring is finally here? The longer days and warmer weather always get me out of my winter funk. All winter, I just want to come home from work, eat dinner, and then curl up on the couch. Zero motivation to work on any of my quilting projects.

But I'm rejoicing that Spring is here and doing its thing to get me going. In order to use our trailer for moving the fabric for the sale, we had to move a beautiful armoire that was my grandparents out of the trailer and into my living room. It's a great place for me to store quilting stuff! A shelf full of thread, big area for the few bolts of backgrounds I have, and plenty of room for sew much more!

What gets you ready to get busy on your quilt projects??

Nisse Hoge

FABRIC SALE July 17, 18, 19!

Holy Smokes ladies!! We've had an amazing response to our fabric sale preparations. We had a large group show up to move fabric. Everything was loaded into the trailer in 1 hour (teamwork!!) and it took about 30 minutes to unload at the climate-controlled storage in Morris. We have about 5 large totes remaining that need to be sized and tagged—over 140 bins have been taken to be measured and marked, and many have been finished and returned!

UPDATE ON DATES: Our sale is **July 17, 18, 19 (9am-4pm)** with **set up July 16** at the Channahon UMC. We need lots of help with setup and on the sale days. We have some sitdown jobs, as well as needing fabric cutters and people to help our customers. **We will have sign-up sheets at the May meeting and will share specifics then.** The committee is working hard to come up with the best plan to make this sale go very smoothly.

Help us spread the word by sharing the flyer (attached) on your social media or with friends, family, and other groups that you're in that might be interested. We will be sharing the flyer with other guilds, but go ahead and share them if you're a member elsewhere, just in case we don't get it to the correct person. Also, if you can think of places to put up the flyer, please let us know. (Quilt shops probably aren't going to want to help with publicity.)

If you don't want to measure alone, invite friends over to help. If you would like, we could meet at the storage location, set up a table, and work right there. For measuring, there are instructions and tags in the storage unit, so if you need those in addition to a container or two to measure, please be sure to request papers!

Lana Stafford & Nisse Hoge

Thurs. May 8 Meeting + June and July meetings

Theresa Benson (@theaiquilter)

<https://theaiquilter.com/>

Instagram @theaiquilter



Theresa Benson (@theaiquilter) is not just an award-winning quilter; she's a modern-day Renaissance woman. With a degree in Electrical Engineering and a deep understanding of artificial intelligence, Theresa has a knack for making the complex seem simple and the traditional seem revolutionary.

Imagine a world where quilting isn't just a craft but a canvas for cutting-edge innovation. That's where Theresa thrives. Her workshops are a fusion of art and technology, where quilters of all levels discover that color theory and AI can go hand in hand. Whether she's unraveling the mysteries of tech for the quilting community or sharing her passion for fabrics and patterns, Theresa's enthusiasm is infectious.

Join her vibrant community on Instagram, YouTube, and Facebook, and see how she's transforming the quilting world one stitch at a time. Where tradition meets innovation, Theresa ensures every quilter becomes an artist in the digital age.

Program updates for our June thread-painting workshop:

I hope everyone is excited to try out some thread painting during our June workshop on **Saturday, June 14th** with Judy Bender!! **Remember our June meeting will be Friday, June 13th!** It will be a great skill to enhance wall hangings and table runners.

Cost for the workshop will be based on the number of participants. The cost should be about \$35, but, if we can get more than 20, the cost will go down a bit. A sign up sheet was at the March and April meetings and will be at May as well. We will explore lunch delivery options or you can feel free to bring your own lunch!

Update about machine feet from Judy Bender: "I like the open toe foot for free motion straight stitch and the variable zigzag foot for the zigzag free motion quilting technique. You can use either one, but some machines force you to use a specific foot for free motion quilting under the machine settings. I will be demonstrating both. They have different

purposes and the results are different, so I just tell people to use what they are comfortable with to start. If they can bring their machine accessories and manual, we can troubleshoot just about anything. ... My presentation on Friday will cover this so everyone can attend prepared at the workshop."

Thanks,
Heather

+ July: Summer Picnic

Sign up will be available at the next 2 months meetings; summer fun will be the theme. As always, you'll need to provide your own beverage.

See Tana Sheets for the signup or more information.

Quilts of Valor 2025

Quilts of Valor Ceremony will be held on Sunday, Aug. 10th at 2pm in the Saratoga School Cafetorium. We have backing fabric available in 2 colors for donation quilts. There are about 5 yards available of Navy and 8 yards of Oatmeal. Please let me know if you need any and I'll bring it to the next meeting.

The sign-up sheet will be available at our monthly meetings along with quilt labels.

Ken Buck, Grundy County Veterans Commission Superintendent, is working to compile a list of veterans for the donation quilts. We will share those names as soon as names become available.

Important QOV Dates:

6/12: Deadline to advise Clara that you volunteer to make a donation quilt. Invitations and Recipient Forms will be available to guild members.

7/10: Deadline to sign up to make a quilt for a specific recipient. Clara to share recipient information for donation quilts. Completed Recipient Forms are due to Clara. A rough number head count for attendance due to Clara.

8/07: Meeting is held 1 week earlier than our regular meetings. QOV Show & Tell at our monthly meeting (please have your quilts completed by this date). Pictures of completed quilts due to Clara for presentation.

8/10: Quilts of Valor Ceremony at Saratoga Cafetorium @ 2pm.

If you are planning to make a donation quilt, please try to attend the ceremony at Saratoga School. If you are unable to attend, please have someone stand in for you.

Currently we have people signed up to make 39 quilts; of that, **21 of these quilts will be for donation!** I can't thank you enough for your generosity!!!

A list of all who have signed up is attached. Please review it and advise if there are any corrections or changes to be made.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Clara @ 815-351-1464 or crazyleg3@comcast.net.

Thanks! *Clara*

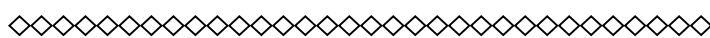
Guild Quilt Retreat

Aug. 14-17

Pilgrim Park, Princeton

We can't wait for retreat in August! It's a great way to relax and enjoy quilting with all our sewing friends. All meals are provided by the camp and we stay in hotel-style rooms. Please have registration and deposit turned in by the May meeting. There is a possibility that space may still be available after May but not guaranteed.

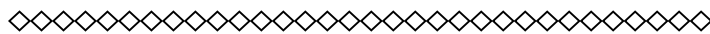
Nisse Hoge & Kathy Hoge



Wesley Center Sew Bee

Tuesdays April 29, May 27, June 24
9am to 3pm

If you have questions, please reach out to Jane via email at jane3530@aol.com. \$5 donation per person. Thanks, Jane!



2025 Raffle Quilt Update

If you don't have your raffle ticket envelope yet, please reach out to me and we can meet up or I will see you at the May meeting.

The next step in making this a successful raffle is to sell tickets: the ones you have and also to other guilds! If you are able to help with the quilt's travel itinerary, please let me know. I will work on a calendar of guild meetings that we can visit.

The drawing will be at the 2025 Christmas Party, so we have 7 months to sell tickets. Please bring ticket money and ticket stubs to future meetings.

I will also work on getting a picture of the quilt posted on our Facebook page that can be shared.

Kathy Hoge

The Night Before Christmas 2026 Quilt Show

Santa's Gift Shop. This area is where guild members, or their family members, will have an opportunity to sell their creations. If you make items to sell, please consider putting some in the gift shop. The show will not charge anything for the space. Instead, we will require a 20% fee on your sales. You keep 80%. The items do not have to be "quilt" related, but anything quilted would be much appreciated. Sewn items, woodworking, crochet, etc. Items must be new, unused. If you would like to take advantage of this opportunity, let Heather Meyer know. Heather is the chairperson for Santa's Gift Shop.

Jane Carhart and Linda Charley



2025 Charity Project

So far, I have 63 finished quilts at my house! I know a lot of people said they had quilts they were planning to donate, so please remember to bring them to the May meeting. I think, with those, we're in good shape! I have 5 big boxes all packed up and a stack of 10 more quilts waiting for my next big Amazon order so I can repurpose another box. Final collection for Veterans Home charity quilts will be at the MAY meeting. (We want you to have time to finish your Quilts of Valor quilts, so May is the charity quilt deadline.)

PLEASE let me know ASAP if you still need someone to longarm your donation quilt so we can plan accordingly to get them done for May. I have had several people volunteer their time (me included). I also have a roll of batting that was donated to the guild, so there will be no cost there either.

In addition, I had someone ask if I would still be willing to deliver quilts to the CAC, so if you still feel like you want to make quilts for them, I'll continue to collect them and deliver them when we have a pile. Any questions, let me know!

Michelle mimigog@gmail.com

UFO Challenge

If you want to participate in the UFO Challenge but haven't turned in a sheet, check the FB files for the forms. I can also email them to you or bring a printed sheet to the May meeting if you ask me to do so! Hope this is motivating you to finish those UFOs!

I have lists from 18 members:

Kate Shafer	Kathy Hoge
Peg Ebert	Michelle Gogliotti
Nisse Hoge	Linda Augsburg
Jane Carhart	Kati Vertrees
Holly Howard	Patti Rosenbaum
Clara Bal	Penny Johnson
Mary Shoudis	Cindy Siebold
Tana Sheets	Diane Flynn
Melanie Simington	Ann Register

PUBLIC PRAISE TIME!

I was notified of 8 finishes since our last newsletter, which brings us to a total of 23 finishes so far!! With 137 UFOs on the list, that's almost 17% completed!

Finishes to celebrate:

Linda Augsburg: Pink & Green Baby Quilt

Michelle Gogliotti: Double Struck Stars

Peg Ebert: Plaid Quilt

Nisse Hoge: Antonia Tiger Elizabeth Hartman

Holly Howard: Blue Spinning Blocks

Clara Bal: Lady Bug Veranda & Eagle Panel

Mary Shoudis: Go My Way Brights

WOOHOOOOOOOOO!!!!!!

You're all doing great!!

thanks,
Linda Augsburg

Do you have a Pieces from the Heart Name Tag?

Attached to the newsletter is the PDF of the foundation paper piecing for your guild nametag.

I also have light pink printed copies of this available at each meeting.

Here's the text on the back:

Because our guild is named "Pieces from the Heart", our founders decided that we should have a pieced heart name tag. We ask that you follow these simple instructions and adhere to only a few rules. The background should be a cream solid or cream-on-cream or other light fabric that will allow your name to be clearly visible. The heart should be made from three fabrics that blend together well. Your name tag can be embellished in any way you would like, but should remain fairly simple. Your name should go above the heart and should be in readable (simple) block lettering. Use the pattern provided so that our name tags can be consistent.

Starting with the background, cut two squares the size of the pattern and one same-size batting square.

Then using the other block pattern (A, B, C), cut out each piece adding ¼" around each. Sew A to B; then sew C to AB.

Cut out and appliqué the heart to the name tag, following the appliqué method of your choice: machine applique, freezer-paper applique, and fusible applique (fuse before cutting).

Appliqué can be done through all the layers if desired but you may want to do the name only on the top layer.

With all the layers in place and all lettering completed, binding can now be added. You can hand-stitch a safety pin to the back to make it easy to wear.

Wear your name tag to each meeting so that we can all get to know each other.

Thanks,

Kate Shafer

2025 Pieces from the Heart Quilt Guild Officers

President – Nisse Hoge

Vice President –
Michelle Gogliotti

Secretary – Cindy McCormack

Treasurer – Penny Johnson

Membership – Kate Shafer

Hospitality – Tana Sheets

Webmaster – Lana Stafford

Newsletter – Linda Augsburg

Special Projects – Linda Augsburg

2025 Program Facilitator –
Heather Meyer

2026 Program Contracts –
Heather Meyer &
Michelle Gogliotti

2025 Raffle Quilt – Kathy Hoge
2026 Raffle Quilt – Linda Charley

2026 Quilt Show –
Jane Carhart & Linda Charley

Retreat Coordinators –
Nisse Hoge & Kathy Hoge

Quilts of Valor Chairperson –
Clara Bal