

Circle in the Square Quilters

January 2024

Volume 40, Issue 1



January Meeting - Tuesday, January 16 via Zoom 6:30 p.m.

Quilts in Our Time – Stitching On Since 1976 - Presented by Lisa Erlandson.

A retrospective look at the history quilters have made in the last 45 years. Great strides have been made in tools, technology and the transmission of information but have quilts really changed?

Lisa Erlandson is a compulsive quilt collector whose habit has led to several quilt-related specialties. She is an AQS Certified Appraiser of Quilted Textiles, lecturer, quilt show judge, teacher and quilt historian. She also owns Le Retreat House in Gainesville, Texas. She learned to sew as a child but considered it punishment (and maybe it was). She re-discovered sewing in the mid 1980s as a drama teacher and made her first quilt in 1991. She is now a quilt maker and has quilts published in two books.



Ruby Challenge

CSQ will be celebrating its 40th Anniversary on May 21, 2024. In honor of this RUBY JUBILEE, we are announcing a challenge for our members. There will be two categories with a small prize awarded for each.

- 1) Charity Quilts for Operation Shower
- 2) Other quilted items including quilted clothing, bags, book covers, personal quilts not intended for donation, etc.

Members may submit a maximum of two items, one item for each category.

Rules: 1. The item must be complete for the May 2024 meeting.

2. The item must include some machine and/or hand quilting.

3. The item must allude to the number 40 **OR** the color RUBY in some manner.

Examples include 40 blocks, 40 flying geese, 40 of a patterned border, 40 different fabrics, 40 beads, RUBY red fabric, etc.

Challenge items will be viewed and voted on during the May 2024 meeting. If you have questions, please contact Kim Donermeyer at kimdonermeyer@hotmail.com.



From the Prez

Happy New Year to all our members. We are looking forward to a great year of quilting and sharing with one another. We have successfully weathered a very busy fall and can give ourselves a great big pat on the back for such a fantastic quilt show. I personally extend my thanks to Gwen Clopton for once again heading up all of the organizational affairs, to Nancy Kollmar for spearheading our largest-ever fundraising effort, and to all of the members who helped with putting up and taking down. I cannot imagine any visitor to the library leaving disappointed - it was a visually stunning show with such a fantastic variety of quilting techniques. The colors were captivating, and the skills..... oh my! It is an honor to be surrounded by so much talent. Thank you all, once again.

I hope that each of you has an opportunity to join one of our quilting challenges as we celebrate our 40th Anniversary year beginning in May. We have a Ruby Red Challenge ongoing right now (see information about this elsewhere in this newsletter), and there will be a mystery quilt challenge beginning in May. And you need to start thinking about quilts for our next Quintessential Quilt Show in 2025! So many quilts to make, and so little time.

Wishing you all a warm sewing space and time to enjoy it during these cold winter months.

Joyce

CSQ Council 2023-2025

Joyce Starr Johnson, President
Marilyn Raphael, Vice-President
Mary Carr, Treasurer
Rachel Shapiro, Secretary
Ruth Hanson, Membership

Lou Kaufman, Charity Quilts
Gwen Clopton, Website &
Quintessential Quilt Show
Joyce Johnson, Raffle Quilt
Laura Falk, Newsletter
Nancy Kollmar, Historian

For Your 2024 Calendar

March 19 - Peggy Harris - Tour of the Vatican Tapestry Restoration Lab - U. City Library
April 16 - Annual Fabric Swap - Mary Carr's home
May 21 - 40th Celebration/Ruby Challenge - U. City Library
July 16 - Operation Shower Sew-In - (Location TBD)
September 17 - Annual Potluck - U. City Library
October 15 - Nancy Dlugosz - Precision Piecing - U. City Library

Membership Dues Update After countless years with our membership dues staying the same at \$20, the council has decided to increase them to \$25 to help defray costs for speakers, etc. And don't forget many local quilt stores (Jackman's, for example) will give discounts to guild members - you just have to ask and show your card. Only about half of guild members have paid so far - please do so ASAP! You may mail your check to Ruth Hanson. Or use the QR code at right if you prefer to pay online. Membership cards will be distributed at the March meeting. Call Ruth at 314-285-2937 if you have any questions.



Member Notes

Many of you may remember long-time member Mary Allen - she's now moved into an assisted living facility. If you would like to send her a card, the address is:

Mary Myers Allen

Allegro

1055 Bellevue Ave. # 401

St. Louis MO 63117

We'd also like to note that CSQ has received \$265 to date in memorials to honor long-time member Janis Friedman, who died last September.

Quilt Basting Service

The Monday Quilters are now offering basting services for those who finish their quilts by hand or domestic machine. Prices range from \$25-\$35. If you are interested in this service, please contact one of the Monday Quilters (Nancy Kollmar, Ruth Hanson, Pat Owoc, Suzanne Skelley, Robin Osborn, Lou Kaufman, Joyce Johnson, Carol Peck, Betsy Sweeney, or Ramona Dunlap).

Quintessential Quilt Show Wrap-Up

We had 56 quilts in the Quilt exhibit this year.* There were so many...SO MANY comments on the beauty and artistry of these quilts. The quilts covered so much territory in the quilt landscape.

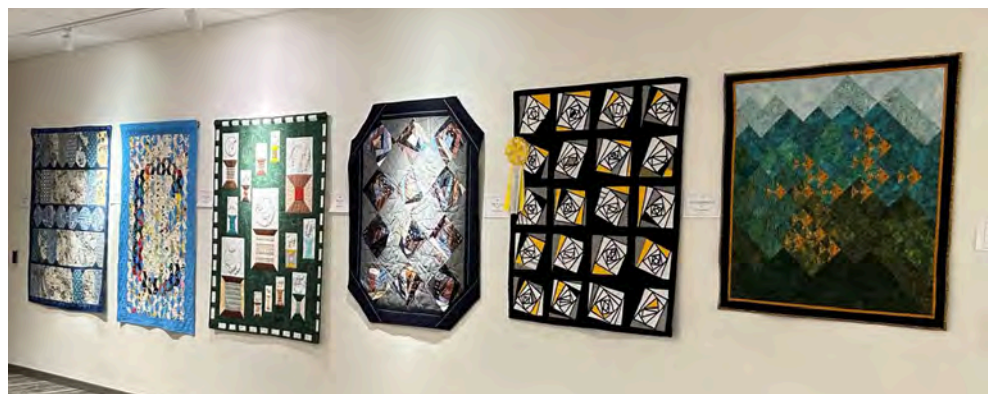
Quilts with historical significance – such as a quilt showing the message blocks used in the underground railroad and thoughts of hope for Ukraine. A double wedding ring quilt that was salvaged, taken apart, re-pieced, quilted, and now has a new life.

Memories of childhood and personal significance, such as baby quilts with bedtime prayers and dancing kittens; objects we remember when we were young; and the story of a pet duck. And fun, whimsical designs, such as Halloween fun and a man in armor taking a walk.

We had quilts that were inspired by our lives, such as the Chihuly glass at the botanical garden and a trip to Italy to see the making of parmesan cheese.

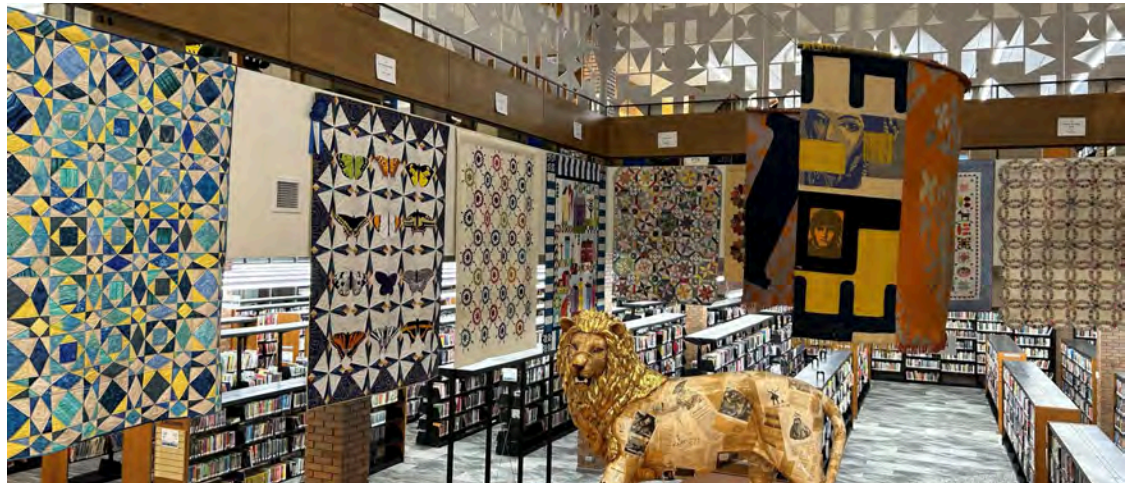
The quilts had an amazing variety of piecing techniques -- small snippets of fabric, exquisite applique and embroidery, hand-pieced, and hand-dyed.

Many thanks to you all. You made this show possible with making quilts, hanging quilts, hand quilting on Sundays, and treats. Congratulations on another fantastic quilt exhibit.



Let's do this again in 2025!

* We really had 57 quilts; however, Norma Silk won the First Daughter's Choice in the Cherokee National Holiday Quilt Show (Oklahoma) for her Window View quilt, and she gave the quilt to the First Daughter of the Cherokee Nation. Incredible!



Award Winners

Large Quilts

First Place - Sew Many Butterflies by Dolores Keaton

Second Place - Boho Heart by Norma Silk

Third Place - Let's Get Along by Suzanne Marshall

Wall Quilts

First Place - Owl See You on Halloween by Ruth Hanson

Second Place - The Story of San Lucio and Parmigiano Reggiano Cheese by Vivianne Mazzotta

Third Place - Paths We Take by Robin Osborne

Small Quilts

First Place - A Walk in the Woods by Laura Falk

Second Place- Mushroom People Going Home by Marianne Whaley

Third Place - Kapoho Gecko by Gwen Clopton

Viewer's Choice

African Dance by Shelbe Bollock

Raffle Quilt Wrap-Up

We sold over 2100 "Joyful Jane" raffle tickets, thanks to all the guild members that sold tickets and congratulations to Terry Friedman who was our top sales person. CSQ sold almost half of all the tickets, the rest were sold at other guild meetings and at the library.

Our beautiful Joyful Jane quilt was won by Gayle M, who purchased her winning ticket at the University City Library. She does not consider herself a quilter, but absolutely loves quilts and was thrilled beyond belief to have won this quilt. And what a great quilt it was! Nancy Kollmar arranged to have Hallye Bone appraise the quilt for insurance purposes (replacement value).

Kudos to all who contributed their sewing expertise and batik

scraps to make such a stunning quilt. We hope that Gayle enjoys this quilt for many, many years. We received a nice thank you note from Gayle:



Dear Circle in the Square,

During the holidays I am so grateful for all my blessings in 2023 - especially my "Dear Jane" quilt. I absolutely love it and will always treasure it. I now have an official family heirloom. I have purchased two books to learn more about our Dean Jane. Thank you for each artistic stitch.

Gratefully, the lucky winner,
Gayle

Collectively, we sold nearly 2500 fundraising tickets, the proceeds from which will fund our guild activities for the next two years! In addition to individual members who sold many, many tickets, The quilt traveled to a variety of locations, including Jackman's Fabrics, The Quilted Fox, Thimble and Thread Quilt Guild, Flower Valley Quilt Guild, Calico Needlers Quilt Guild, St. Louis Modern Quilt Guild, Quilts of Valor in the Loop, the Buder Library, and the August Branch of the St. Charles City-County Library. Our members volunteered to transport and set up the quilt at each of these locations to sell the tickets - such good and willing souls. We want to recognize Terry Friedman, who was our top ticket seller this year. She sold 140 tickets. Way to go, Terry! And the top 7 ticket sellers collectively sold over \$900!

Charity Quilts

We set a goal of 40 for baby quilts donated to Operation Shower in 2023. As of December 31, we donated 45! Thank you to all who have generously donated their time, talents and fabric for this project. And 2024's goal is 50! If anyone has generous sized pieces of batting they'd like to donate to help finish the baby quilts, please contact Lou Kaufmann at mlkaufmann@prodigy.net or bring them to a meeting. If they're big enough to use as is, that's great; otherwise, we can make "Frankenbatting" from them!

Operation Shower hosted one of their baby showers in St. Louis on November 2, co-hosted by the STL Blues wives club and Pepsi. Betsy Sweeney and Lou Kaufmann assisted with the setup on November 1 and at the shower. This was the 11th shower they had held since September 1 so these ladies have been busy. Each new mom or mom-to-be received a crib, a "travel system" (stroller/car seat combo), a diaper genie, bottles, matching PJ's for mom and baby, a gift bag from the Blues wives club, a big box of Quaker products from Pepsi and the "Shower in a Box" from Operation Shower that contains all sorts of baby products as well as a quilt from CSQ. Here are some photos from the shower.





CSQ Guild Meeting - October 17, 2023

- Welcome and Presentation
 - Joyce welcomed all and introduced our speakers from the St. Charles Library District, Leslie Caldwell-Blanchard and Olivia Schaefer-Blanton, who shared their efforts in celebrating the 200th anniversary of the State of Missouri through quilting.
- Quilt Show (Gwen)
 - Gwen announced the 2023 “Viewer’s Choice” winner (elected by the public), Shelbe Bollock’s “African Celebration”. Congratulations Shelbe!
 - Gwen will send out a request for volunteers to help take down the show.
 - Big thanks to Gwen who put together a fabulous show.
- Treasurer’s Report (Mary)
 - We have a solid bank balance. Raffle sales were excellent. The drawing is November 6th.
- Membership Report (Ruth)
 - We had several members pay today. It is time to renew membership. We currently have 43 members (3 new as of that night).
 - Door Prizes – Lou Kaufman won the beautiful tote made by Ruth and raffled off as a door prize. Two other prizes were won as well.
 - Next meeting will be a Zoom meeting in January. Watch parties are welcomed.
- Newsletter (Laura)
 - The deadline to submit items for the next newsletter is January 5, 2024. Contact Laura if you have content for the newsletter.
- Historian’s Report (Nancy)
 - If people were unable to attend the reception, Nancy’s speech will be posted on the website. She gave a history of the guild.
- Charity Quilts (Lou)
 - There will be a baby shower in St. Louis on November 1st or 2nd and we have contributed a quilt for every person who will be there! Our goal this year was 40 and we are at 38 now. Thank you to all who made donation baby quilts.
 - Reminder to pick up one of Nancy’s pet beds to fill and donate to a shelter.
- Fundraising Quilt
 - We have raised a lot so far and have had many participants in the 2024 quilt.
 - The 2024 quilt has been put together but has not yet been quilted. All fabrics are by Kaffe Fassett.
 - We have had minimal expenses thus far.
- Upcoming meetings

- January 16 – Our speaker will be Lisa Erlandson of LE Quilts, a nationally known quilter. She will give us a retrospective look at the history that quilters have made in the last 45 years. Great strides have been made in tools, technology, and the transmission of information. But have quilts really changed?
- March 19 – We will be back at the library with Peggy Harris. She will give us a tour of the Vatican Tapestry Restoration lab.
- April 16 – Fabric swap and Marry Carr’s house.
- May 21 – Reveal of our Ruby challenge quilts. Kim Donermeyer is heading up the effort. Three areas of the challenge: 1) Non-quilt (e.g., bag, jacket, etc.), 2) Baby quilt, 3) Include “40” of something or something “red”.
- Other Items
 - The round robin is now taking place. You can still join but must abide by the rules and let them know soon. The first due date is January.
 - Mystery Quilt – Peggy H. agreed to plan this for our 40-year celebration.

CSQ Council Meeting – 10/10/23 7:00 pm

Attendees: Joyce Starr Johnson, Lou Kaufmann, Ruth Hanson, Nancy Kollmar, Mary Carr, Rachel Shapiro

1. Welcome by Joyce
2. Treasurer’s Report (Mary)
 - Current balance healthy.
 - Square notification not going to Mary. Changeover has not happened yet. Will need to check with Gwen about changing it over to Mary.
3. Membership Report (Ruth)
 - Current membership numbers - 43
 - Emeritus membership consideration/eligibility/benefits – Faculty who have taught have received emeritus status. There are criteria. Is this something we want to consider? What would make them eligible? What benefits would they receive?
 - Proposal: Change bylaws to make this official. Eligibility – If someone was an active member for 20 years or more and due to disability or age can no longer attend, they may request Emeritus Status (or we can reach out to them).
 - The benefit would be receiving mailed copies of the newsletter. Joyce will look at the bylaws for procedural change.
 - Ruth needs new membership cards. Ruth will touch base with Gwen about computer help and the ability to edit membership cards.
4. Newsletter Report (Laura) -
5. Historian’s Report (Nancy) - Nancy sent Joyce the speech she gave and talked about sending it to members. Will put it on the web site and include a link in the newsletter.
6. Quilt Show Update (Gwen not present - tabled)
 - Fantastic once again!
 - Volunteers for take down on October 29.
 - At future meeting will discuss preparation for 2025 show - What can we do now to make life easier then?
7. Charity Quilts update (Lou)
 - Dropped off 7 quilts last week. Lindsay mentioned they are doing a baby shower November 2nd for 35. Would be great if we could provide a quilt for everyone. Lou has 8 to take over. Theoretically we have 11 more quilts. Lindsay has been holding all the quilts we had taken (she has 27). Lou will ask her process for distributing them. Lou will be added to a mailing list with information about the shower. Shower will be in conjunction with St. Louis Blues.
8. Fundraising Quilt update
 - 2023 Joyful Jane - We have done very well. Nancy will get the money to Mary.
 - 2025 quilt – It is finished and awaiting quilting.
9. Upcoming guild meetings (Marilyn)
 - October 17, 2023 meeting: Speakers will be Leslie Caldwell-Blanchard and Olivia Schaefer-Blanton, staff members in the St. Charles City-County Library District. They will discuss how the mission of the SCCCLD includes activities such as quilting and will share their joint efforts in celebrating the 200th anniversary of the State of Missouri through quilting.

- January 16, 2024: Lisa Erlandson LE Quilts; A retrospective look at the history that quilters have made in the last 45 years. Great strides have been made in tools, technology, and the transmission of information. But have quilts really changed?
- March 19, 2024: Peggy Harris; Tour of the Vatican Tapestry Restoration Lab
- April 16, 2024: Social Event - Annual Fabric Swap at Mary Carr's home
- May 21, 2024: Kim Donermeyer is heading up the Ruby Challenge; no speakers scheduled.
- July 16, 2024: Operation Shower Sew-In?
- September 17, 2024: Annual Potluck dinner
- October 15, 2024: Mary Dlugosz; Precision Piecing.

10. Other Items

- Peggy Harris volunteered to head up a mystery quilt challenge to end by May 2025 (the end of our Ruby Year).
- Four people are involved in the current Round Robin challenge ending in September 2024.

Adjournment 7:37 pm.

October Guild Meeting Show & Tell Photos



Marianne Whaley



Marianne Whaley



Marilyn Raphael



Lou Kaufman



Operation Shower Quilts



Operation Shower Quilts



Operation Shower Quilts



Dress by Ruth Hanson



Dolores Keaton

November Piecing Group Show & Tell Photos



English Paper Piecing work by Ruth Hanson



Pat Owoc using leftover blocks from Darlene Schoon

December Piecing Group Show & Tell Photos



Mary Carr



Pieced table runner by Laura Falk