

# Circle in the Square Quilters

July 2025

Volume 41, Issue 4



## July 15 Meeting - CSQ Charity Quilt Sew-In

**As early as 4:00 pm!**

Trinity Presbyterian Church - 6800 Washington Ave., 63130

Let's come together for fun and a good cause next week!

Kits have been prepared for finishing baby quilts to benefit Operation Shower. Most contain a finished top, batting, backing, and binding fabric. Basting, machine quilting, and binding the quilts will be our task! It's an opportunity to learn and practice with no pressure and lots of guidance.

There are also kits for those willing to piece the top, with batting and backing fabric included. Irons and ironing boards will be available, as well as a cutting mat for cutting binding.

Bring your sewing machine to do machine quilting or to piece. Also neutral thread. Bring a rotary cutter if you want to make bindings for those quilting the tops. Or just come to assist and learn! Bring a snack /dinner to sustain you! Drinks provided!

If you'd like to learn more about Operation Shower, here's their website: <https://operationshower.org/>



## September 14 Meeting - 1:00 pm - University City Library

This will be a fun one! We're having a Sunday afternoon tea, and jointly meeting with the Piecing Group. Our tea last year was delightful and a wonderful time to be social with old and new friends. And if you've never seen the Piecing Group, you can check them out as well! It will be upstairs in the auditorium. See you there!

## October 24 Meeting - 6:30 pm - University City Library

Come hear Alice Ridge's talk on *Raiding the Kitchen*! It should be a great time learning how to take common items from your kitchen and use them in your quilting! She'll also be doing two workshops on Saturday - registration information at the end of the newsletter.

## From the Prez

"Sewing is creative, fulfilling, and sometimes a little frustrating. We all aim for those picture-perfect seams, but as one wise grandma once said: "Can you see it from a galloping horse at 30 feet?" In other words... relax! Imperfections are just part of the handmade charm. The real joy is the camaraderie."

This quote is from a recent newsletter from the American Sewing Guild. I'd like to emphasize the last sentence – The real joy is the camaraderie.

At our July meeting, we will see that camaraderie in action at our third annual Service Project Sew-In. Betsy Sweeney has assembled a bunch of baby quilt projects for us that are in various stages of construction. Since some of them are ready to be machine quilted, we will have a corner of the room where tips and tricks will be shared on machine quilting for those who are nervous about trying it or looking for new ideas.

This meeting is proving to be one of our more popular events. And I hope to see many of you there.

We had a great "delayed" meeting in June and the turnout was also amazing. There are lots of things going on in our guild and I urge you to participate in as many as you are able.

Lou

## CSQ Council 2025-2027

**Lou Kaufmann**, President  
**Peggy Harris**, Vice-President  
**Marilyn Raphael**, Treasurer  
**Jessica & Sally Koczan**,  
Secretary  
**Rachel Shapiro**, Membership

**Betsy Sweeney**, Service Project  
**Gwen Clopton**, Website &  
Quintessential Quilt Show  
**Joyce Johnson**, Raffle Quilt  
**Laura Falk**, Newsletter  
**Nancy Kollmar**, Historian

### 2025 Dates to Know

July 15 Meeting - Operation  
Shower Sew In

September 14 - CSQ Tea

Oct Meeting - Alice Ridge



### Quilt Guidelines

1. Entry forms are due Monday, September 8, 2025.
2. The number of entries is limited to three quilts made by a member of Circle in the Square Quilters. For the 2025 exhibit, submissions from those not a member of the guild will not be accepted.
3. For 2025, the three categories are:
  - **Large Quilts** - Width 60" to 90"; Length 50" to 100" Any quilt wider than 90", such as king-size quilts, cannot be accepted due to the limited space in the library.
  - **Wall Quilts** - Width 30" to 60"; Length 30" or more.
  - **Small Quilts** - Width less than 30"; Length less than 30".

4. Quilts may be appliquéd, hand or machine pieced, and hand or machine quilted. Crazy quilts and whole cloth quilts are acceptable.
5. Quilts must not have been exhibited in the greater St. Louis metropolitan area since October 31, 2023 or in a previous Quintessential Quilt show for Circle in the Square Quilters.
6. Large and wall quilts must have a 4" sleeve securely attached to the top of the back for hanging. Small quilts must have a sleeve or other method for hanging. **Quilts without a hanging sleeve will not be accepted.**  
[Need help making a hanging sleeve? View the tutorial on this page.](#)
7. A label must be attached to the quilt **back** and must include the entrant's name, the quilt name, the year completed, and accurate dimensions.
8. The hanging location of the quilts will be at the discretion of the Quilt Show working group.

## Mystery Quilt

It is Mystery Quilt time again. Beginning in May and continuing for six months, members will receive clues via email for a mystery quilt. All members who complete their quilt and wish to donate to Operation Shower will be entered in a special gift raffle at our March 2026 meeting.

The first month's instructions were distributed at the May/June meeting and will also be available at the meeting on July 15. The 2nd set of instructions will be distributed via email during July, and subsequent clues hopefully on the first of each month thereafter. However, if you want to get caught up, here is some information to get started on Month 1:

Purchase fabrics and supplies. The colors listed below are for illustrative purposes only and create a gender neutral, primary colored quilt; you should select the colors and fabrics that inspire you. Consider pinning a small piece of each of your fabrics to the margin of this page to help keep them straight!

- Background fabric (white): 1.75 yards
- High contrast #1 (red): 1.5 yards
- High contrast #2 (orange): 0.5 yard
- High contrast #3 (green) and binding: 1 yard
- High contrast #4 (yellow): 1/4 yard (fat quarter friendly; I suggest this fabric should be your "loudest" fabric)
- Batting (at least 60"x60")
- Backing (at least 62"x62")
- Good quality thread for piecing and quilting because life is too short to deal with cheap thread.
- Nine gallon-sized zipper-style plastic bags to keep your 9 sets of blocks separate and labeled, or some other organizational system that you prefer.
- Plenty of wine, coffee, or beverage of choice

Prepare fabrics: prewash and dry if you normally do this. Caution: high contrast fabrics often bleed in the wash, so pre-washing may save headaches if you plan to regularly launder or donate this quilt. Straighten and press fabrics if skewed or wrinkled.

The rest of Month One directions will be emailed to all members, and the printed pattern pieces will be available to members at the May (and subsequent) guild meetings. Contact [joyce.starr.johnson@gmail.com](mailto:joyce.starr.johnson@gmail.com) or 636-288-3681 if you have any questions.

## 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 Kaufmann, Joyce Johnson, Carol Peck, Betsy Sweeney or Ramona Dunlap).

## CSQ History

CSQ does not have some of the old original history, so this month is from my memories.

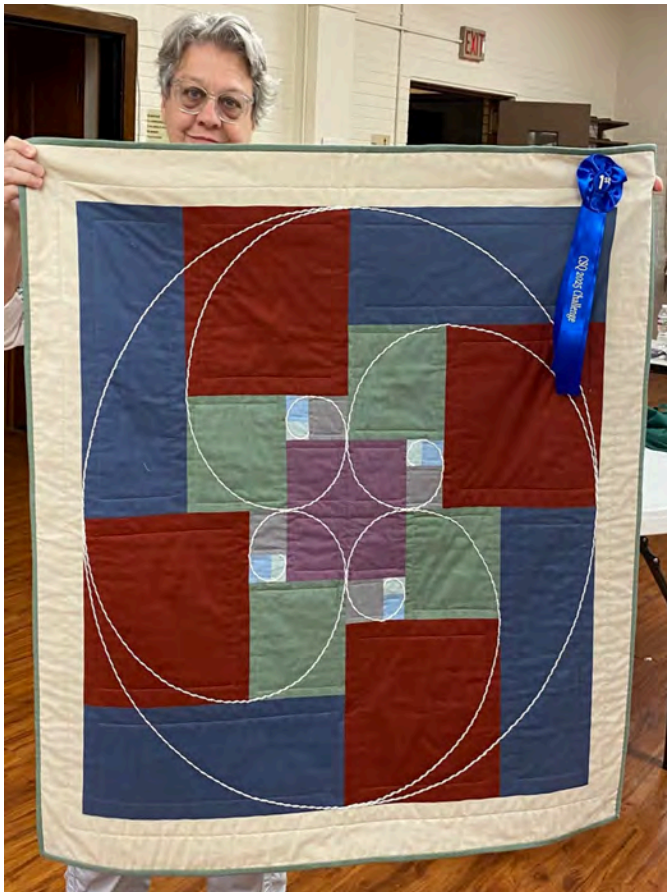
Sometime during the 1980s we had Jean Wells of Sisters, Oregon, here for a lecture and workshops. Jean is known for initiating the "Sisters Outdoor Quilt Show" aka airing of the quilts. This year is their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the show. She is also the first quilter I knew that made fabric with crumb scraps, to which Jean embellished her items with buttons and lace.

She gave some of us these adorable heart shaped pincushions, which I cherished and used to death. However, the fabric was wearing out and I was afraid it wouldn't last, plus I'm in a "getting rid of things mode." I loved the feel of the heart, so I decided to cut it open to see what she used as the filler. Low and behold, it was filled with coffee grounds. I have made many pincushions over the years and have filled them with coffee grounds. Now I realize, she probably told us what was inside, and I have neglected to give Jean Wells credit for my filler.

To continue my story, I dumped the coffee grounds, so I could recycle the fabric into the pet bags. Can you believe I found 27 needles mixed in with the grounds. Eureka! My heart is cut up and in a dog bed, but here is a photo of Ann Pannuto's heart pincushion made by Jean Wells.



## CSQ Circle in the Square Challenge Photos



**1st Place Personal - Louise Vanlandingham**



**2nd Place Personal - Vivienne Mazzotta**

**Saturday, October 25, 2025**

**UCity Library Auditorium**

**Morning Workshop 9:30 am to 12:30 pm**

**Alice Ridge will teach Celtic Knotwork:** An Adventure with the Artistry and Elegance of the Celtic Knots. We will look at the traditional knots, from simple to mind-blowingly complex! We will peruse the elaborate (and sometimes weird) illustrations from the Book of Kells. Using Bias Tape, Embroidery and Felt made of a Bamboo/Rayon blend, we will make a unique and relaxing project. Many different designs are available to choose from! You may choose from 18 different designs. Required kit fee is included in your registration. Hand stitching, but she will also teach machine stitching.

Link to designs: <https://aliceridgequilts.com/product-category/celtic-knotwork/>

**Afternoon Workshop 1 pm to 4 pm**

**Alice Ridge will teach Mock Molas:** A Traditional Art

Modified and Made in Felt. Have you looked at the beautiful Molas from Panama and gone green with envy? I have! I love the look of Traditional Molas, with all the layers of colored fabrics and fancy stitches! I thought that I would make one myself, but then *really* turned green when I realized how much detail work and teeny tiny stitches were involved! So, I created this class to modify the Traditional Mola by using Felt to make a project that keeps the style and colors of the original, but is so much easier and faster! Alice has a wide range of designs. Required kit fee is included in your registration. Link to designs: <https://aliceridgequilts.com/product-category/mock-molas/>

Registration form on next page. . . .

## Circle in the Square Quilt Guild Registration Form

for Alice Ridge Workshops - Saturday, October 25, 2025

Please fill out the form to register for the workshops. You have the option to attend one or both workshops. Select the workshops you wish to attend and proceed with payment. Supply lists will be emailed in September. There are *TWO* workshops, each has a \$30 required kit fee and the workshop fee of \$20, for a total of \$50. The guild is subsidizing the rest of the cost of the workshop as well as the teacher's travel expenses. Please circle which workshop you are registering for.

Celtic Knot Workshop 9:30 am to 12:30 pm, University City Library Auditorium

Workshop fee (\$20) and required kit (\$30)  
\$50

Mock Molas Workshop 1 pm to 4 pm, University City Library Auditorium

Workshop fee (\$20) and required kit (\$30) \$50

CSQ members receive \$5 discount for each workshop until July 31, 2025.

Total due \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Pay by check, payable to Circle in the Square Quilt Guild

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

For further information or where to mail your registration form, please email Peggy Harris, VP Programs at [STLCSQ@gmail.com](mailto:STLCSQ@gmail.com)