

Circle in the Square Quilters

November 2026

Volume 41, Issue 6

January 20, 2026 - Zoom meeting 6:30 pm



Hello, CSQ Quilters,

It is hard to believe that the holidays are just around the corner and that we are already looking forward to quilting projects in 2026. I don't know about you, but my stash of UFOs seems to grow and grow and grow. For that reason, we have booked Emma Jane Powell, of Dream It Quilt It to be our virtual speaker in January. Emma Jane a former public school ESL teacher. She has been quilting for three decades and shares her love of quilting by teaching quilt classes and techniques.

"Let's face our unfinished projects. This fun, self-deprecating and interactive lecture will jump start your drive to change the pending status of ongoing sewing projects. We will dive deep into why these projects are on the back burner, and learn how to proceed with quilts you may have lost enthusiasm for or would love to finally finish."

"You will be given action items to work towards managing your current WIP, and stop UFOs before they start. A bundle of downloadable PDF printables to accompany action items are included in the program. "



is

You know that feeling you get when you complete all your UFOs and your sewing room is perfectly tidy?

Me neither.

someecards
user card



I will send a link to a member survey at the beginning of December. Emma Jane will use the information you provide to tailor her presentation to our guild members' needs. So a little bit of homework in December or early January can simplify your life and clean out the WIPs and UFOs in your quilt studio!

Mark your calendars for our next meeting on Tuesday, January 20, 2026 at 6:30 pm. This will be a virtual meeting. The meeting link will be sent in January.

I wish you all a happy, healthy holiday season and time to quilt!

Peggy Harris

From the Prez

Wow. It has been an event filled Fall. Starting off with our modified bus trip to Hamilton, Winterset, Des Moines and Hannibal, we proved that quilters can be resourceful in many arenas – maintaining tire pressure, washing windshields on large vehicles, and packing lots of stuff into small spaces. I'm sure the 10 ladies who shared the experience will remember the weekend for a long time. (A few pics below)

The Quintessential Quilt show was another success for our guild. I'd like to thank the committees who helped put the show together. And then, so many of you volunteered your time and talents to prep quilts for hanging and to problem-solve on the day of the setup. What a great group we have. We couldn't have done it without all of you. And a special "Thank You" to carpenter Glen! I heard the take down went smoothly as well. Even though the show has been down for a week, I'm still getting positive comments from people who went to see it.

I've also heard positive reviews of the workshops held on October 25 and am sorry I was out of town for them.

So that makes 3 major events we pulled off in a 6-week time period. Bravo and time for a break. Have a Blessed and Peaceful holiday season. We'll meet again via Zoom in January. Watch for information on attending that meeting.

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
Lou Kaufman, Quilt Show
Nancy Kollmar & Lou Kaufman,
Website
Joyce Johnson, Raffle Quilt
Laura Falk, Newsletter
Nancy Kollmar, Historian

2026 Dates to Know

January 20 - Zoom meeting
March 17 - Guild meeting



A couple of quilt van trip pics: world's largest spool of thread in Hamilton, the Iowa State Fairgrounds and the intrepid group in Winterset.

Don't forget that your 2026 dues need to be paid in order to receive emails about guild activities and CSQ newsletters. Send your \$25.00 check to Membership Chair Rachel Shapiro. Checks should be made payable to Circle in the Square Quilt Guild.

Quilt Show Success

Special thanks to everyone for another great quilt show! We've got pictures below of all the award-winning quilts and our very special raffle quilt winner, plus we had two inspiring workshops & a talk from quilter Alice Ridge.

QUINTESSENTIAL
QUILT
2025



More thanks to all CSQ members who made ribbons for the show! We have become well-known in the quilting community for our beautiful awards which are pieces of art themselves.

Blue: Joyce Johnson, Marianne Whaley, Ruth Hanson; **Red:** Carolyn Stoll, Christine Enberg, Sally Koczan; **Yellow:** Marilyn Raphael, Sarah Carr-Jordan, Laura Falk; **Viewer's Choice:** Norma Silk, Joyce Johnson

"Gotcha" and "Many Moons" also TIED for the Viewer's Choice Award - congratulations!!



1st place Large Quilts - "Gotcha"
Suzanne Marshall



2nd place Large Quilts - "Many Moons"
Kathy Leahy



3rd place Large Quilts - "Urban Owl"
Peggy Harris



1st place Wall Quilts - "Lady Luck"
Naomi Noor



2nd place Wall Quilts - "Desert Sky"
Christine Berg



3rd place Wall Quilts - "My Small World"
Mary Carr



1st place Small Quilts
"Any Way You Slice It"
 Laura Falk



2nd place Small Quilts
"Koi Friends"
 Suzanne Marshall &
 Marilyn Raphael



3rd place Small Quilts
"Floral Frippery"
 Laura Falk

2025 Fundraising Quilt

We have a winner! And it's our very own Nancy Kollmar! President Lou Kaufman drew the winning ticket and sends her sincere congratulations to Nancy and wishes her many happy sleeps under this gorgeous quilt. Terry Friedman sold the most raffle tickets for our 2025 raffle quilt. Honorable mention goes to Joyce Johnson and Mary Carr who both also sold well over 100 tickets! We raised over \$2,500 for this quilt.

2029(!) Fundraising Quilt

Joyce Johnson has graciously spearheaded the efforts to create our 2027, 2025 and 2023 raffle quilts. We are looking for someone who will organize the efforts to create the 2029 raffle quilt. This chair person would offer multiple ideas to the CSQ Board, who will then narrow down to three options. Guild members will vote on their favorite option. The chair would then select fabric, create kits for the members, track completion, assemble the quilt and arrange to have it quilted and bound. Please reach out to Lou Kaufman, Peggy Harris or Joyce Johnson if you have any questions and are interested in this opportunity. Two people may share this position.



Operation Shower Update

Operation Shower held its local event, Bonjour Bebe, at Stifel Theater on Nov 10, 2025. Pictures show the French theme featuring all the gifts for the 30 honorees. Our quilts are folded to show our label and placed at the top of the white box which is the first gift. Marilyn Raphael made a custom French quilt featuring Eiffel Tower with channel quilting. Recipients were asked their favorite gift in a survey and the quilt was chosen by 16 people. Our generosity and creativity was highly praised.



Nametag Update

Starting in 2026, you must wear your homemade name tag in order to be eligible for a raffle attendance prize. We will no longer do an attendance prize for just showing up at a guild meeting. We have new members and wearing your name tag makes it easier to get to know other guild members. If you have not yet quilted a name tag, use your imagination and incorporate a circle in the square into your nametag!

Mystery Quilt

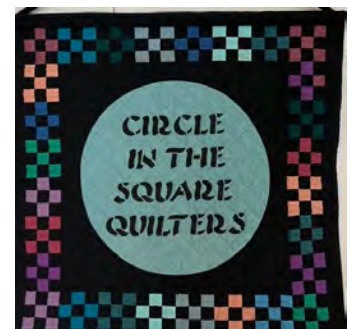
All Mystery Quilt clues have now been released, so get to work on finishing up and the big reveal! Remember: all members who bring a finished quilt to the March 2026 CSQ meeting on March 17 will be entered into a raffle for a special gift. I can't wait to see your interpretation of this quilt. - Joyce Johnson

Quilt Basting Service

The Monday Quilters offer 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

Our CSQ logo was designed by Janis Friedman and the CSQ Banner was Designed by Janis Friedman and Ruth Hansen, stenciling by Kay Moir and Quilted by Pat Owoc and Ruth Hanson, September 1997.



Photos

October Guild Meeting Show & Tell



Norma Silk - quilt portrait of Chuck Hoskin, principal chief of the Cherokee Nation



Jane Talley - Scrappy Rail Fence quilt



Jane Talley - Christmas table runner



Christine Pouyer - baby quilt



Carol Peck - Celtic Knot quilt



Marianne Whaley - bed quilt she repaired with advice from guild

November Piecing Group Meeting Show & Tell



Joyce Johnson - "traveling project" that she's donating to Quilts of Valor!



Gwen Clopton - Cleopatra's Fan quilt