

Circle in the Square Quilters

March 2026

Volume 42, Issue 1



March 17, 2026 - FABRIC SWAP & MYSTERY QUILT REVEAL!! 6:30 pm

Where: The swap will again be held at Mary Carr's home, 333 Doulton Place, Town and Country, MO 63141 (Enter on Ladue Road) Please only park on Mary's side of the street or in her driveway.

What: Bring those WWIT (What Was I Thinking) fabrics, fabrics that you no longer love, patterns that you know you will never use, quilt books that caught your eye one day but they are now just collecting dust in your quilt room, notions, threads, specialty rulers that seemed really cool but you never used and anything else quilt related that you no longer love.

This year, we will accept UFOs as well. The speaker at our January meeting gave us some tips to help us let go of UFO projects. You can clear out some of these works in progress and make more room in your studio to buy more fabric! If you are donating a UFO, include the pattern, any completed and partially finished blocks and the rest of the fabric that goes with that project. Put a note with your name and cell phone number on it so that if the person who takes that UFO has any questions, they can call you. Place everything in a large clear plastic bag so that members can see what they are getting. Extra large Ziploc bags are great. If you don't have Ziploc bags, please put some tape over the opening of the plastic bag so that nothing gets lost.

Food: Please bring a snack to share. ***Nothing with peanuts or nuts, please!***

Large donations: If you have a small amount of things for the swap, bring them on the 17th. If you have more than three large pillowcases full of items, please contact Mary Carr to make arrangements to drop these off in advance.

Show & Tell: We will do show and tell after the swap, so bring those gorgeous quilts! Bring a finished mystery quilt to the March meeting to be entered into a raffle for a special gift.

The Fabric Swap is on St. Patrick's Day, so wear your green or the leprechauns may pinch you. Don't forget to wear your quilted nametag to swap!



From the Prez

I realized today that it was still light out and it was nearly 6:00 p.m. Spring must be near. That is inspiring for me.

Emma Jane Powell inspired me to complete one of my 3 (admitted) UFO's since her pep talk in January. It just needs a label to call it "finished". And I pulled out the oldest of the 3 – started about 25 years ago – and realized that I had made a major mistake on it, which is probably why it got shoved in the closet. But I'm committed to making it right.

I also found inspiration in this article from All People Quilt showcasing favorite reader quilting tips. It's a little lengthy but the ones I found most interesting are towards the end, so – keep reading. I'll know you've read them if I see you out and about wearing a swatch necklace!

https://www.allpeoplequilt.com/our-favorite-reader-tips-8768585?hid=c563ad608e0ec685a46abae998f824e945e483e6&did=21864993-20260210&utm_campaign=weekly-quilting_newsletter&utm_source=apq&utm_medium=email&utm_content=021026&utm_lctg=c563ad608e0ec685a46abae998f824e945e483e6&lr_input=abdb0cbddc0972528dee3a4a09631506e71db79a64d7f800df1b5ae2439cad0c

The CSQ Board is discussing some opportunities for social gatherings this year on non-program meeting months so stay tuned.

See you at the Fabric Swap....

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

March 17 - Fabric Swap
July 14 - Guild Meeting
Sept. 15 - Guild Meeting
Oct. 23 - Guild Meeting
Oct. 24 - Workshop

UPCOMING EVENTS

- The Ozark Piecemakers Quilt Show will be held in Springfield, MO June 11-13. For details, visit ozarkpiecemakers.com
- Quilt! Knit! Stitch! April 10 - 12 in St. Louis at America's Center. For details, visit quilts.com
- St. Louis Modern Quilt Guild 2026 show is March 14 & 15 at Queeny Park in Ballwin.

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.

October Lecture & Workshop

In October, we will again have a Friday evening quilt guild meeting and a Saturday all day workshop. On Friday, October 23, 2026, Laura Strickland, of Orange Blossom Quilts, will talk about creative uses of quilt panels.

Have you ever bought a panel you loved but then became stumped with how to incorporate it into a quilt? This lecture with accompanying class will address just that issue. The lecture will give you concrete concepts on designing around a panel. The class is a hands-on pattern development and execution to complete a quilt top using a panel and your own creative genius.

Several longarm quilters have indicated that most people just add a border or two to a panel and that's it. There is nothing creative or unique about that design. Yes, that's quick and easy to do, but it is also boring to sew a few borders. This lecture and workshop provide you with an opportunity to stir up your creative juices to come up with unique designs to show how talented you really are!

You do not need to register for the workshop to attend the lecture. The lecture will give you the basics. The Saturday workshop helps you make a plan and execute it.

The lecture will be Friday, October 23, 2026 at 6:30 pm at the Auditorium in the University City Library. The lecture will be free for CSQ members.

The workshop will be Saturday, October 24, 2026, from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm at the Trinity Presbyterian Church, 6800 Washington Ave, University City. Workshop fee is \$55. There is a \$5 Early Bird Discount if you register by the May 19, 2026 guild meeting. You may complete the attached registration form and bring the form and your check to the March 17 Fabric Swap, the May 19 guild meeting or mail them to Peggy Harris. Payment must be received by May 19 to receive the \$5 discount. REGISTRATION FORM BELOW!!

2027 Fundraising Quilt

How did Joyce Starr Johnson, Mary Carr, Lou Kaufmann and Peggy Harris spend January?? Arranging and assembling blocks for the 2027 raffle quilt, of course!



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 continues to be our selected charity for the donation of baby quilts. Since January, fifteen quilts have been generously created and donated to this local charity, who provide baby showers for expectant military families. Any size or design is welcome. I am happy to provide labels for the quilts and can deliver them to the Operation Shower office here in University City. Call or text me. -Betsy Sweeney

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!

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

Per CSQ President, Marilyn Ulrich, to the American Quilters Society, May 31, 1991. "We were excited that a local, large Savings and Loan company asked us to curate a quilt show at their beautiful, award winning facility. We put together what everyone said was a wonderful show -antique quilts, new quilts, new ideas in quilts, etc. It was to hang from the middle of November 1990 through January 4, 1991. To remind you - the "great savings and loan disaster" took place. On December 14, I received an urgent message at my work place to come and get the quilts. We had three hours to take the show down because the facility was going into "government receivership" at 3 pm that afternoon and the possibility was very real the government would "own" everything at the facility. Scary!!! It would take years to get the quilts back from the government. Of course, we got the quilts out on time. I'm not sure what we learned - we thought the exposure was really great in a facility that size but government receivership - who would have thought!!!!"

In April and May of that year, 9 members of CSQ were in a partnership with Saint Louis Public Clark school to teach the history and techniques of quilting, emphasizing skills in social studies, math, history and art.

CSQ members were able to order 17 quilting books from AM Quilters Society in Paducah, KY totaling close to \$370 and postage was only \$10. Now days that would only cover less than half of those books and shipping would be outrageous.

In September 1990, CSQ was again invited by the Clayton Parks and Recreation Department to demonstrate quilting at the Hanley House for their Annual Hanley House Fall celebration.

Photos

February Piecing Group Meeting Show & Tell



Kim Donermeyer - Ladybug baby quilt



Gwen Clopton - table runner



Ruth Hanson - Crossbody bag



Carol Peck



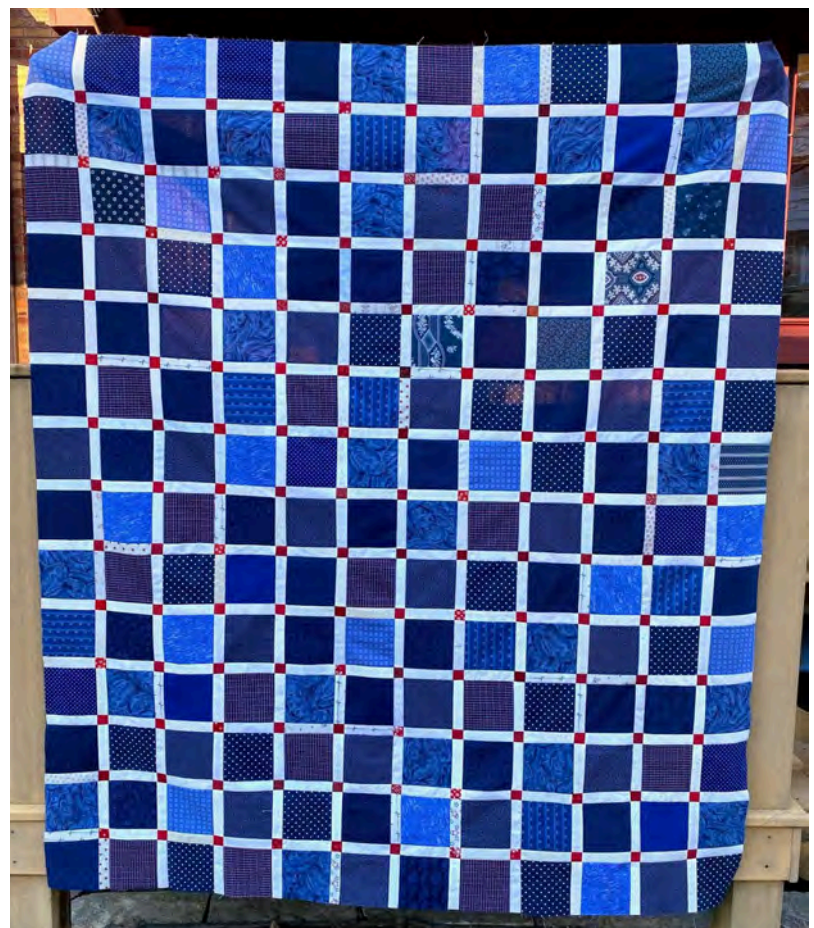
Laura Falk - Christmas tree skirt & very old UFO finally finished!

January Guild Meeting Show & Tell

Because this was over Zoom, I asked members just to send photos of what they had shown on screen.



Peggy Harris - Strip quilt



Laura Falk - Pieced top for Quilts of Valor



Laura Falk - 3 baby quilts for Operation Shower

Laura Strickland, Orange Blossom Quilts
Saturday, October 24, 2026 9:30 am to 3:30 pm
Trinity Presbyterian Church,
6800 Washington Ave, University City

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Email address _____

Cell phone _____

Workshop Fee \$55

Early Bird Discount by May 19 \$ 5

Checks should be made payable to Circle in the Square Quilt Guild.

Bring this form and your check to the March 17 or May 19 CSQ guild meetings. Or mail them to Peggy Harris (address in your CSQ directory)