PRAIRIE THREADS

NEWSLETTER OF PRAIRIE PIECEMAKERS November 2019

Welcome to New/Renewing Members:

Please add these members to your yearbook. For ease, just print, cut and paste in your book. We currently have 85 members with these new additions.

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INVITE A FRIEND AND FILL IN THIS SPOT. THERE IS ALWAYS ROOM FOR MORE.

Reminders and Opportunities:

* NEXT MEETING NOVEMBER 25TH. CHECK YOUR YEARBOOK PAGE 11. Bring Crazy Quilts to share.
* NO REGULAR MEETING IN DECEMBER. WE ARE GETTING TOGETHER FOR THE BROWN BAG EXCHANGE. EVEN IF YOU DIDN’T PARTICIPATE IN THE EXCHANGE, YOU CAN STILL COME AND EAT AND ENJOY THE FELLOWSHIP ON DECEMBER 9TH AT BIG RED. YEARBOOK PAGE 12.
* Prairie Piecemakers Bus Trip June 5 and 6th, 2020.   Sign up early to reserve your seat on the bus and save money. Registration forms in last news letter and available at Guild meetings. We will have lots of fun!
* Our 2020 quilt show Raffle Quilt will be on display in November. Your tickets will be ready to pick up at that meeting. Please bring your $20.00 to exchange for your book of only 10 tickets. Tickets make great Christmas, birthday, Mother’s Day, friendship gifts, etc.
* Attend the January retreat, “It’s a Wrap.” Chase away the Winter blues.

Get your retreat forms completed and turned in at the November meeting. Following the November meeting, registrations will be open to non-members.

* Mark your calendars for Saturday, February 01, 2020, for the Quilts of Valor Sew Day, Country Traditions.  More details later. Questions: Wanda Kruger

* QUILT TAXI

Hate to drive at night? Hate to get into a cold car? Worried about falling in the parking lot? Just want company? Health concerns? We can pick you up and deliver you to the front door for our guild meetings. If you need a ride to our guild meetings, or to the retreat give us a call. We have many “qualified” drivers. Well, maybe more willing than qualified. Call Sue Arp 402-660-5882, and arrangements will be made for a pickup. We have members coming from all directions, North, South, East and West. If you are a willing driver, let me know that also. We want everyone to have an opportunity to join in the meetings. There is a wheelchair available at the church, our trunks can haul walkers, etc. and the price is right. FREE.



**Prairie Piecemakers Quilt Guild Meeting October 28, 2019**

Peg Pennell presented her trunk show of artistic and fiber art quilts.

• The business meeting was brought to order at 8:00 by President Pam Schroeder • The Secretary and Treasure Reports were approved and seconded.

• Pam would like to encourage all members to use their yearbooks to the fullest extent.

• Julie Joyce was awarded a scholarship to the Nebraska State Quilt Guild Classes. She participated in two classes, Accordion Half Square Triangles and Fussy Cutting in which she brought her beautiful projects. Everyone is encouraged to apply for the scholarships. For more information contact Karen Ruwe or the Nebraska State Quilt Guild website.

• Karen Ruwe reported on the success of Threads Across Nebraska. Members of Prairie Piecemakers submitted their quilts to be displayed at the show.

• The trip to the International Quilt Museum in Lincoln was a lot of fun. They are still collecting pincushions to be sold in their gift shop.

• The upcoming months in Nebraska tend to be cold, icy and dark. If anyone would like a ride, for any reason, to the guild meeting please contact Sue Arp. Rides are available.

• Greeters, Hostesses and Door Prize contributors were all thanked and recognized.

• Jan Larsen reported on the fun work day prior to the guild meeting tonight. Christmas stockings and bowl koozies were made to be distributed to the Hope Center and Senior Center of Fremont.

• Plans are being made for a fun quilt retreat in January, “It’s a Wrap”. The pillow wraps were shown (or thrown around) as an example of a few of the patterns to be distributed. More will be unveiled at next month’s meeting.

• The Challenge fabric was distributed to all those who want to participate. Check your yearbook for more information,

• The Raffle Quilt will be presented at next month’s meeting. The raffle tickets will be available to pick up to start selling.

• The Bus trip is filling up. We look forward to more information as the year progresses.

• Meeting adjourned at 8:35

• Show and Tell was presented with a spotlight on the Grandmother’s Flower Garden pattern presented. Next month we will focus on the Crazy Quilt designs. All are encouraged to bring any Crazy Quilt, old or new. Submitted by Sue Steier, Secretary

**The Prairie Piecemakers Steering Committee Meeting November 4, 2019**

• Meeting was brought to order at 6:30 by President Pam Schroeder. There were 10 members present.

• The committee voted to send Fifty dollars to Leslie and Kevin Main for the use of the storage unit.

• A large amount of fabric was donated to our guild. It was decided to set the fabric out and ask for a good will donation to the guild to offset operating costs.

• Lisa Braasch would like to encourage everyone to refer to their yearbooks about when to bring door prizes.

• We had a great sew day making bowl koozies and stockings. A few more were needed.

• Plans and activities are still underway for the Bus Trip. A few changes are needed since the quilt shop in Council Bluffs is closing.

• The raffle quilt for the 2020 quilt show, “The Star-Studded Affair” will be revealed at the November Guild meeting. Tickets will be available for distribution to guild members. Also, business cards with information about the quilt show will be available for pick up.

• We already have three vendors signed up for the quilt show.

• Changes are being considered for the Silent Auction.

• A new speaker system was purchased by the guild in August. We are going to encourage the speakers and presenters to use the headphone. This seems to have a better quality of sound.

• A committee was formed to clarify the bylaws of “The Prairie Piecemakers”. A copy of the changes will be presented in the November newsletter for all guild members to review. Discussion and considerations will be open to all members at the November guild meeting. We will then proceed to send another copy in the December/January newsletter. All members will vote on the changes at the January meeting. Any questions or concerns should be directed to Sue Steier.

• Meeting was adjourned at 8:20 Submitted by Sue Steier, Secretary.

**Community Service Update-Jan Larsen**

Community Service Update

 The Workday at the Church on October 28th was a big success. Everyone enjoyed cutting, sewing and chatting. Over 50 Christmas stockings were made. Those socks were added to the 25 made by the Sew N Sews to make 75. Members brought card games and travel size items to stuff the stockings. Donations of $134 have been received to add sweet treats to the socks. They will be donated to Hope Center Youth the first week of December. Thank you again for all the donations of fabric, stocking stuffers and time.

 In addition to making the Christmas stockings, a project was started to make microwave soup bowl cozies for the Fremont Friendship Center. This will be our November Community Service project. About 30 cozies were started on the Workday. After checking with the center and the approval of the steering committee, we are making enough for Christmas dinner at the center. Each cozy will have a gift tag from Prairie Piecemakers.

 So, if you see any bargains on underwear, pajamas or socks for the 12-18-year olds at Jefferson House, bring them to our November meeting.

QUILT SHOW 2020 UPDATE

THAT’S NOT MY JOB

This is a story about four people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody, and Nobody. There was an important job to be done and Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it.

Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it. Somebody got angry about that because it was Everybody’s job. Everybody thought Anybody could do it, but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn’t do it.

It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done.

A special thank you to Everybody that has participated in the past Prairie Piecemakers’ quilt shows. Somebody has kept good records, especially the past treasurers, and the committees that generated income. Although the records were looked at individually, Nobody compared what historically was happening over time. Anybody could have done this, but Somebody just had to do research for the 2020 quilt show planning. The summary is not meant to lessen anything done in the past. It only gives us a clearer picture where we may need to focus our energy and talents in the future.

To summarize a few of my research findings:

* The Raffle Quilt has never reached the full potential income of $4,999. In 2018, the net proceeds from the quilt was $2,513.00, a new record. If we all work selling tickets, maybe we can reach the full potential in 2020.
* The Mini-Raffle has doubled the number of items donated, but the net income has remained almost the same. For instance, in 2004, there were 24 items with a profit of $600.00; and in 2018, there were 51 items with a profit of $649.00.
* The Silent Auction had 26 items in 2018. There were 42 bidders listed. Of those 42, only 15 were non-members. Many items only received one bid. The competition to bid has diminished over the years. It is difficult to sell quilting projects to quilters and difficult to get fair prices for quilting items from non-quilters. A sad but true dilemma.
* The 2018 Kitchen/Café profit was $500.00 higher than 2016. Changing to pies from donated desserts was a difficult decision for many. But, almost Everybody bought dessert at the 2018 show. If they didn’t eat it there, they took it home to enjoy. This change was a win for the Prairie Piecemakers quilt show.

In short, there will be more changes in 2020, not because what was done in the past wasn’t great, but because times have changed, and if our show doesn’t change, it could lose it’s luster. Nothing can stay the same, you either move forward or backwards. There is one thing for sure that will never need to change at our quilt show, the QUILTS. Everybody does amazing work; the quality of our quilts is tops.

So, Everybody, get busy. We hope to feature a row of “STAR” pattern quilts.

Quilt Moms: Vicki and Nicole Japp

Vendor and Advertising: Sue Williams

Kitchen and Red-Carpet Café: Teri Wolfe and Pam Schroeder

Fat Quarter Basket: Julie Joyce

Admissions: Lisa Braasch

Silent Auction Marilyn Bonow

Decorations: Everybody- information after the New Year

We are still contacting past chairmen. We hope to have a meeting of the minds with all the small group spokespersons to discuss some new ideas. If you have any questions, please ask. Stewing in your own juices, doesn’t help Anyone.

We are planning for a fantastic 2020 Quilt Show…” A Star-Studded Affair.” ***NOBODY*** has to be left out. ***ANYBODY*** CAN GET INVOLVED. If you want to be a ***SOMEBODY***, please talk to Sue Arp or Marilyn Freeman. We need ***EVERYBODY*** to make it a ***SUCCESS.***

Sue Arp

By-Law Update

On the following pages you will find the by-laws that have been reviewed and clarified. Scott, Kathy Murphy, and Sue Steier have spent many hours and a considerable amount of thought to complete this process. Please read them and review. There will be a short discussion at the November meeting. Any additional questions will be received by Sue Steier.

 **ARTICLE I**

 Name and Location

This non-profit organization shall be known as “The Prairie Piecemakers.”

 **ARTICLE II**

 Purpose

The purpose of the Prairie Piecemakers is to impart knowledge of the art and craftsmanship associated with quilting, patchwork, and needle crafts; to further interest in the performance of the arts, to display fine examples of quilts, patchwork, and needle crafts in appropriate public exhibitions from time to time; to educate, to learn, to preserve, and pass along what information exists about quilts, patchwork, and needle crafts of the past and present; exchange knowledge and information in these arts and to promote mutual friendship and recreation for the members.

 **ARTICLE III**

 Membership

1. Members shall be active in some phase of quilting and/or needle crafts and genuinely interested and active in the development of such arts and the preservation thereof.

2. Members must have paid the annual dues required.

3. All dues-paying members shall be eligible to vote on matters pertaining to policy and procedure of the organization.

4. Potential members may attend two meetings before dues are required.

5. There shall be no limit of number of members in the group.

6. The year shall run from May 1 to April 30th.

 **ARTICLE IV**

 Annual Dues

1. Dues shall be collected each year in March and are delinquent by May 1st. Upon delinquency, there will be an additional fee added to current dues as determined by the Steering Committee.

2. Members joining after the January 1 meeting will be asked to pay one-half the dues until the following March

3. Dues shall be collected to offset the operating expenses of the organization.

4. Dues shall not be refundable.

 **ARTICLE V**

 Meetings

1. Monthly meetings of the general membership shall be held the last Monday of each month, except for May, June July, and December unless otherwise advertised.

2. Steering committee will meet on a regular basis; time to be determined by the members of the committee.

 **ARTICLE VI**

 Elected Officers and Respective Duties

1. President shall:

A. Preside at all general meetings.

B. Call and reside at Steering Committee meetings as needed.

C. In the absence of the Treasurer, sign or endorse checks, draws, notes, etc.

2. Vice President shall:

A. Assist the President and shall exercise all functions of the President in his/her absence.

B. Shall plan programs of interest for presentation at the general meetings.

C. Perform all other incidental duties of the position as required.

3. Secretary shall:

A. Keep records of all Guild meetings, Steering committee meetings, and all special meetings.

B. Handle all correspondence.

C. Perform all other incidental duties of the position as required.

4. Treasurer shall:

A. Have charge of all funds of the organization, receive dues, deposit receipts, dispersed monies,

and shall enter all transactions in a ledger.

B. Make reports at the monthly meetings as to the status of the treasury, as required.

C. Maintain a list of all current members.

D. Perform all other incidental duties of the position as required.

5. Two Members at Large, with one being the outgoing President, shall:

A. Attend Steering Committee meetings

B. Assist officers in their duties

 **ARTICLE VII**

 Election and Terms of Office

1. The Nominating Committee shall consist of: The President and two members appointed by the Steering Committee.

2. A slate of officers presented by the Nominating Committee shall be voted upon at the April Guild meeting. The slate of officers should consist of; President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and two Members at Large with one being the outgoing President.

3. Officers shall assume their duties on May 1st.

4. The term of office shall be one year. Officers may serve no more than two consecutive terms for the same office.

5. In the event an officer cannot complete the full term of office, an appointment shall be made by the Steering Committee.

 **ARTICLE VIII**

 Committees

The organization shall have the following committees:

1. Steering Committee shall consist of elected officers, newsletter chairperson, yearbook chairperson, publicity and social media chairperson, membership chairperson, hostess chairperson, community

service chairperson, door prize chairperson, greeter chairperson, challenge chairperson, retreat

chairperson, and IQM representative.

2. Newsletter Chairperson shall be appointed by the Steering Committee. The newsletter shall be distributed as often as necessary. It shall feature updated information on the group and workshop activities as well as upcoming events.

3. Yearbook Chairperson shall be appointed by the Steering Committee. The yearbook shall be

distributed at the August Guild Meeting.

4. Publicity and Social Media Chairperson shall be appointed by the Steering Committee and perform such duties as deemed necessary by that committee.

5. Membership Chairperson shall be appointed by the Steering Committee. This person shall be

responsible for registering members and guests at each meeting and keeping an accurate list of active members.

6. Hostess Chairperson shall be appointed by the Steering Committee. This person shall be responsible for appointing hostesses for each guild meeting.

7. Door Prize Chairperson shall be appointed by the Steering Committee. This person shall be

responsible for collecting and distributing door prizes at the Guild Meetings.

8. Community Service Chairperson shall be appointed by the Steering Committee. This person shall be responsible for collecting and distributing donations collected for each meeting.

9. Greeter Chairperson shall be appointed by the Steering Committee. This person shall be responsible for appointing greeters for each meeting.

10. Challenge Chairperson shall be appointed by the Steering Committee. This person shall be

responsible for a yearly project challenge.

11. Retreat Chairperson shall be appointed by the Steering Committee. This person shall be responsible for planning a yearly retreat

 **ARTICLE IX**

 Procedure for By-Law Amendment

1. Amendments can be proposed by any member of The Prairie Piecemakers to the Steering Committee.

2. The proposed Amendment shall be presented at a regular monthly guild meeting for consideration and discussion.

3. All members shall be notified by the newsletter of proposed changes

4. Voting shall be at the next monthly guild meeting with passage based on a simple majority of those in attendance.

 **ARTICLE X**

 Financial Review

The financial records of the Prairie Piecemakers shall be reviewed by a three-member team appointed by the President after the general meeting in April. The elected Treasurer cannot be a part of this team.

 **ARTICLE XI**

 Rental and Loam Requests for Quilt Frames

1. Rental or loan request for The Prairie Piecemakers’ quilt frames by individuals or organizations will be discouraged.

2. Requests must be in writing and should be for a local, unique event. The request for use of the quilt frames, with the exception of the PVC pipe frames will be considered and left to the discretion of the Steering Committee.

3. We will honor the existing contract with Cottonwood Quilting Organization for the reciprocal use of the frames