Gems Meeting
May 6, 2026
Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm

Welcomed guests and new member Sadie Fiedler.

Program:
Lise Mundweiller introduced the speaker, Linda Halpin, who spoke and showed quilts featuring many unusual border treatments.

Announcements:
Thank you letter received from Center for Prevention of Abuse. Read to membership

Raffle tickets from Decatur Quilt Guild available at the table in back.

Old Business:
Bus Trip to great Wisconsin Quilt Show in Madison will be on September 11, 2026. Discussed cost of $65 dollars per person. If guild desires, Board has authorized a subsidy to this cost for members, yet to be determined. If bus does not fill, we will invite the two Bloomington Guilds to join us at the $65 per person cost. We hope to purchase show tickets in bulk prior to the bus trip. Continuing to work on details.

New Business

Nominations for Gem of the Year are due by June 15th. Submit nominations in writing to Sue Wozniak by email. Announcement at the July meeting.

Auction 2027. Discusses membership's desire to hold the auction. Members by show of hand seemed interested and several people raised their hand indicating they would help with the auction. Date and final decision to be determined at a later date by the Board.

Raffle Quilt 2026, Arctic Star, was unveiled to widespread applause. Thank you to Sue Tolly for piecing this gorgeous quilt, Sheri Zalar for spectacular quilting, and Janet Shanks for binding.

Committee Reports

St. Jude Quilts: Karen Goloff thanked those who brought in quilts. June 27, a workshop will be held at Wheels of Time Museum from 9 am to 5 pm.

50/50: Plant was won by Chris Gottman. Lu Ann Whrel won the cash.

Healing Hands: New blocks to support our red, white and blue theme will be added to the website. Please help us by making some blocks.

Programs: still openings for the Mexican Cross workshop tomorrow.

Center for Prevention of Abuse, Donna Leber stated they are looking for some lap/wheelchair quilts 36 x 45 and twin quilts 65 x 80.

Quilts of Valor: Quilts can be dropped off to Karen Rush in the back, due to Kelly's absence. There will be a QOV workshop May 23 at the Wheels of Time Museum.

NICU/PICU Quilts: Thanks for tonight's donations. July 25 workshop at Wheels of Time Museum.

Workshops: June workshop quilt was shown. July will be the barn quilt workshop. Sign UP in the back.

Quilt Show: Joyce and Amy made the following announcements:

Entry Categories: We are eliminating the Child's Category. Those quilts should be entered in the size category where they fit. A new Panel category will be added. Wall hangings should not be entered in home dec but in the size category where they fit. If a size changes after you have entered your quilt, notify the registrar, as this affects layout and must be accommodated prior to set up.

Ribbons. Two ribbons will be awarded only in the duet categories.

Publicity has been initiated. Increased signage around the Quilt Show is planned.

Vendors: We have filled the slots and there is a waiting list.

Volunteer Sign Up will begin in June.

Quilt registration will be from June 15th to July 15th.

Show and Tell: members showed some awesome work, including the bags made at the April workshop.