Gems of the PRAIRIE QUILTERS

NOVEMBER 2026

HTTPS://GEMSOFTHEPRAIRIE.COM/

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Will be included in the December Newsletter

President's Message

Sue Wozniak

November is the month of Thanksgiving. Thanks and Giving. The Gems of the Prairie Quilters are definitely giving back to the community. So many quilts and pillowcases have been made this past year and donated to our various charitable endeavors. Our November program will highlight each of the organizations who are recipients of our time and talent.

We frequently receive donation of fabric from families of quilters who have passed away or who are downsizing. We are grateful for those donations so that we can stretch our dollars even further and make even more quilts. We are often overwhelmed with the generosity of our donors. We have also received cash donations to help support our Quilts of Valor quilt making.

Finally, as my year as President of the Gems is winding down, I can't help but be thankful for each and every member, who have so generously given their time to our various project. I want to especially thank the Executive Board for the many hours spent on behalf of furthering the Guild's Mission. Our Committee chairs, both for the Guild and the Quilt Show , deserve a huge thank you. As the saying goes, "many hands make light work" and you have been then with your talented hands all year.

I am so proud of the Gems of the Prairie Quilters and all that we stand for in the Peoria Area. We have been blessed by so many, which has helped us grow and thrive.

Happy Thanksgiving to you and your families.

One Lucky Ticket, One Beautiful Quilt

QUILT RAFFLE TICKETS

DONNA PHILLIPS DPHIL430@AOL.COM 309-453-2440
SANDY FANDEL SANFAN50@GMAIL.COM 309-657-0751

Just one month until the winning ticket is drawn for this year's quilt, "Arctic Star" constructed by member Sue Tolly, quilted by Sheri Zalar, and bound by Janet Shanks. Measuring approximately 68" by 68" it is a foundation paper pieced pattern by Quiltworx. During the month of November our raffle quilt will be displayed at The Quilt Corner, 2037 S. Main, Morton.
We will have the raffle ticket table at the November meeting so now is the time to turn in your remaining tickets and any unsold tickets.

Members who had not picked up their raffle tickets should have received them in the mail by now. If you cannot make it to the November meeting please send money & ticket stubs to the Gems of the Prairie Quilters, P.O. Box 9543, Peoria, IL 61612-9543.

All tickets must be turned in prior to the start of the Gems Christmas Party on December 2nd. We will be accepting tickets only from 5:30-6:00 p.m. that evening. The **more tickets you buy, the better chance you have of winning**! Thank you and good luck!!

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT!

Proposed Bylaws Changes
Gems of the Prairie Quilters
October, 2026

Article XIII
Section II. General Responsibility
B. **Change semi-annual to annual Committee Chair Meeting.**

Section III. Committees
G Quilt Show.
Eliminate the list of Quilt Show Committees. (Rationale: these change periodically and do not need to be listed in the Bylaws)

J. Change Block Lotto to Healing Hands

Article IX. Disolution
Change St. Jude Midwest Affiliate to OSF Childrens of Illinois Cancer and Blood Disorders Clinic.

Join in the “Sew-ciety” fun November 6th & 7th

Program

LuAnn Armstrong armstrong1530@gmail.com 309-690-8853
Lise Mundwiller, Pooh6673@aol.com 309-657-2489

Members, our November meeting is all about our "giving" to the community and interacting with those organizations that we make wonderful quilts and items for. We are having representatives from those organizations at our meeting to share how our items have helped or improved the lives of those recipients.
Please remember to sign up for the Christmas party also at the meeting!

A November to Remember

Caroline Zimbrick iceblossom@comcast.net 309- 416-4264

Friday Nov 6, starting a tad earlier this year if you can be there
9:00 AM through Saturday Nov 7, out of the church by 3:00 PM
Price: $20 and Potluck Participation

November to Remember Update
We are pretty much full, but do have a couple of slots still open.

Doors will be open at 9:00 this year, but we ill have no breakfast or lunch plans for that day. Come on down when you can, and there will be the Potluck Dinner around 6:00.

Equipment/Store

Georgia Schmidt 309 453 6630
Shawna Knapp. 309 361 0350

The Sewing Machines farewell tour dates for 2026.

November 6 & 7 - November to Remember

The ladies do not want to miss these last 2 performances of 2026.Text or call to make your reservation.

50/50 COMMITTEE

Karen Rush, Betty Meyers,
Linda Sprouse

Congratulations to our winners at the October meeting.

Cookie winners were Kelly Harvery, Linda Spriouse and Kelly Poulos.

The winner of the money was Joyce Blank.

Don’t Miss a Stitch

FACEBOOK – Members Only

Pam Knollenberg, psknollenberg@gmail.com 309-360-6243

If you are not yet a Member on our Members Only Facebook, please search: Gems of the Prairie Quilters Members Only … and ask to Join. I am an Admin, and will approve your request.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS/Future Programs and Special Events

Kelly Harvey kellyharvey@hotmail.com, 309-453-2022
LuAnn Armstrong armstrong1530@gmail.com 309-690-8853
Lise Mundwiller, Pooh6673@aol.com 309-657-2489

December 2: Christmas Dinner 6:00, St Paul’s Church

January 6, 2027 – Robin Long – Virtual ZOOM - Modern Mariner’s Compass – Strip Pieced!” Robin will give a detailed overview of the modern technique and projects using Robin Ruth Design’s system of rulers, books, and patterns for strip pieced mariner’s compass blocks and variations. Robin will share how she is bringing the mariner’s compass block into the 21st century with her modern technique and projects for how you can create your own modern mariner’s compass project. See lots of quilts and get inspired to give this new method a try! www.robinruthdesign.com

February 3, 2027 – Virtual ZOOM - Kellie Kaczmarek, Silly Moon Quilting– Quilting with Rulers – It’s Not Scary. An introduction to the world of quilting rulers. This lecture will guide us into mastering the art of the ruler. We’ll kick things off with the essentials needed to jump in, celebrate why ruler works is totally awesome, and highlight what to look for in the perfect rulers. Silly Moon offers unique quilting rulers for both domestic and longarm machines.

Stitches that Reach out

The Center for Prevention of Abuse & Little Gems

Karen Goloff kgoloff@yahoo.com
Donna Leber donnaleber3@gmail.com 309-692-0228

Once again you outdid yourselves in October with donations for the Center for Abuse. Thank you so much. Your efforts are very much appreciated. I made 200 pillowcase kits this year. I have 52 left. WOW. I expected to have way more than that left. I plan to bring them all to the November meeting just in case anyone wants to take a few extra for over the winter months when we do not meet in person. Take all you think you can use. Also I am still planning for that green scrappy twin quilt. If you have a 2 1/2 inch strip of green (any shade - light or dark) you would be willing to donate or even 1 piece of green 2 1/2 inch by 9 1/2 inch to donate, I would gladly accept it. Thank you for your help.

NICU

Pam Knollenberg, psknollenberg@gmail.com 309-360-6243
Sandy French, **szwergelfrench@gmail.com**

2026 Goal: 350 (stretch goal: 400)
 # Quilts donated: 235 (24 from Peoria Notre Dame students)
 # Quilts ready to be donated: 8 (41 Christmas quilts)
2025 TOTAL Quilts donated to OSF/NICU: 354
NICU Quilt Sizes: 36x36 and 40x40.

PICU (Pediatric ICU)

2026 Goal: 100
 # Quilts donated: 55
 # Quilts ready to be donated: 15
PICU Quilt Sizes: 50x50

OMG !! You blew us away with your donated quilts at the October guild meeting. 47 quilts were donated – with most of those being NICU. I think this might have been one of our biggest months for donations of quilts.Thank you so much! Also, thank you to everyone who was able to attend the Wheels of Time workshop on Oct 24.

November meeting, I am looking forward to our NICU (Amanda and possibly Eric) and PICU (Laura) spokespersons – talking about their areas and how they use the quilts you make and donate.

MEMBERSHIP

Noemi Bowers noemibo@aol.com 915-241-7011

Please review your information on the membership roster, which can be found in the members-only section of our website. If you notice any discrepancies, please let me know. Gems membership is $20.00 as of July 1st. You can join/renew in person, via PayPal on the Gems website https://gemsoftheprairie.com or send a check to Gems of the Prairie Quilters, PO Box 9543 Peoria, IL 61612-9543. If you have any questions or need to update your information, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Treasurer's Report

		September 30, 2026				
	Balance 8/31/2026	Income	Interest	Expenses	Transfers	Balance 9/30/2026
Checking	15,057.87	317.50		(4,156.58)		11,218.79
Savings	12,064.13		0.36			12,064.49
PayPal	-					-
Subtotal	27,122.00	317.50	0.36	(4,156.58)	-	23,283.28
CD Matures 9/13/202	20,485.95					20,485.95
CD Mature 10/26	15,897.40					15,897.40
Total	63,505.35	317.50	0.36	(4,156.58)	-	59,666.63

Gems of the Prairie Membership: 20____

___ **Yes or** ___ **No**: I approve of Gems using pictures of my quilting projects for publicity purposes.

___ **Yes or** ___ **No** : I have internet access to receive the Gems newsletter.

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_____New Member **DATE _____**

_____Renewing Member **DATE _____**

_____Change of Information **DATE _____**

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Name _____

Address _____

City, State & Zip Code _____

_____

Home Phone _____

Cell Phone _____

Email Address _____

Birthday (MM/DD) _____

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Membership $30 **January – December** **Student ½ Price _____**

Cash _____ **Check _____** **PayPal _____**

July-December $20

Cash _____ **Check _____** **PayPal _____**

Quilt Show_____

Gems of the Prairie Quilters
PO Box 9543
Peoria, IL 61612-9543