

SPECIAL EDITION III - COVID-19 AND US



Well, sorta. Although Bits 'n' Pieces still can't meet at Salem Methodist because of Covid restrictions, that hasn't stopped many of us from tweeting, phoning, visiting, zooming and meeting with our Bits guildies and friends. AND many of our guildies have been hard at work planning and executing our "Never Happened 2020 Fanfare of Quilts Show" Quilt Raffle, Charity Raffle, and A-Team's Butterfly Quilt Exhibit.

Sew grab your favorite beverage, sit in your favorite chair, and get ready to enjoy "seeing" ALL of what we've been up to.



CHARITY RAFFLE

To benefit Fisher House

Sunday, October 4
9 am - 3 pm

Vlasis Park, 300 Park Dr., Ballwin MO, Pavillion #1

Masks and Social Distancing Required

Mark your calendars for one of the best
Charity Raffle in West County!

Over 150 baskets and many awesome handmade items.

***A TICKET A TASKET
WHAT'S IN THE BASKET?***



Come buy raffle tickets and see
ALL the goodies these baskets hold!

Fabric ♥ Patterns ♥ Rulers ♥ Quilt Books
Quilt kits ♥ Fun Stuff

***HANDMADE ITEMS MANY AND MORE
BEAUTIES ALL THEY NUMBER GALORE!***

Throw quilts ♥ Wall hangings ♥ Table Runners
Toppers ♥ Large area rug with buttons theme

ONE DAY ONLY

This is one charity raffle you won't want to miss.
Hope to see you there!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Bits N Pieces Membership,

Definition of Virtual: Being on or simulated on a computer or computer network; occurring primarily on line. Almost a particular thing or quality.

What a year it has been and it's not over yet. When we were originally put on lock down we thought it would be four weeks. Then four weeks became 8 weeks. Then 8 weeks became 3 months. And here we are 6 months later with no end in sight. The board and committee chairs met via Zoom in May and decided that we would cancel meetings through the summer and rev back up in September. Little did we know that the COVID situation would be no better in September. We met again last week and decided that it's time to move forward with virtual events. The program committee is going to see what speakers we can get to present programs via Zoom. Look for announcements in the near future.

I have been working with two lawyers with VLAA (Volunteer Lawyers and Accountants for the Arts). We are working to become an official non-profit organization with 501c3 tax exempt status. The non-profit incorporation has been filed with the state of Missouri and should be completed soon. Once that is done then we will apply for a 501c3 status as there are many advantages with being an official non-profit.

Currently Salem Methodist Church is not allowing any meetings in their facilities. There is no way a group our size could meet in that space and follow all the social distancing rules. They will keep me posted about when we can meet.

We are in immediate need of a nominating committee to find new officers for the 2021-23 term. This is not a long term commitment and can be done from the comfort of your home via a phone. My two-year term as president as well as Sandy's term as treasurer end in December of this year. Please consider volunteering to be on the nominating committee. Or if you are interested in being an officer, let me know. And because of Covid-19, the election will be held on-line in November.

Ninety percent of the work in the guild is done by 15% of the people, so if you are interested in helping in any capacity let me know. We need you!

The board and committee chairs met in September and decided to bring the guild some virtual events. Look for more details in the upcoming newsletter. But if anyone has any ideas on activities that the guild can have safely and remotely, please let me know.

I have seen so many people doing good things this year. I have seen people going out of their way to help others. I have seen how creative and resourceful people can be when faced with challenges.

"So often in life, things that you regard as an impediment turn out to be great, good fortune." - Ruth Bader Ginsberg

Stay healthy, find what brings you joy and quilt on.

Jean Goldsberry
President

WE'RE HIRING . . .

OPEN POSITIONS:

President and Treasurer

The two-year term is over at the end of this year for Jean Goldsberry, our President, and Sandy Rekowski, our Treasurer.

According to the guild's by-laws: "No elected Officer is eligible to continue in the same office for more than two consecutive years". If you are interested in being president or treasurer or want more information on what the job entails please contact Jean Goldsberry.

Although these are unusual times, the Guild still needs a nominating committee to prepare the slate of officers. So if you are interested in being on the nominating committee please contact Jean Goldsberry. Once the committee has the respective nominees, the slate of officers will then be presented to the members in an on-line format in October and voted for in November.

QUALIFICATIONS:

You are fairly, almost, or very confident you can fulfill the duties of President or Treasurer (see below). AND you love the art of quilting and enjoy being with members of the guild, special guest speakers, and just about everybody. AND you enjoy working with members, vendors, and friends of the guild on the "Greatest Quilt Show on the Planet...the Bits Fanfare of Quilts.

Duties of the President

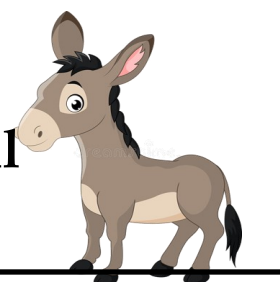
- Presides at all general meetings and Executive Board Meetings.
- Serves as ex-officio member of all committees except the Nominating Committee.
- Signs checks in the absence of the Treasurer.
- Calls additional meetings as necessary.
- Creates any temporary committees: budget, by-law review, nominating, etc.

Duties of the Treasurer

- The Treasurer shall keep an account of all money received, pay all bills, and maintain a bank account.
- The Treasurer shall issue checks within the approved budget. Bills for amounts not budgeted and/or over the budgeted amount must have the approval of the Executive Board.



The Missouri Bicentennial Challenge



Missouri is looking to 2021 as its Bicentennial; Missouri became the 24th State of the United States in 1821. Since pioneer days, and the times when Missouri was the frontier and St. Louis was the starting point for numerous expeditions West, quilts have been an important aspect of our culture and traditions.

Missouri has its own Bicentennial Quilt which contains one block submitted by each of its 114 counties and one block from independent St. Louis. There were hundreds of blocks submitted and the blocks that were selected for the Quilt, were determined by a committee of judges from Missouri Star Quilt Company, The State Historical Society, and the Missouri State Quilter's Guild. The Missouri Bicentennial Quilt is pictured here and can also be seen here: <https://missouri2021.org/portfolio/missouri-bicentennial-quilt/>



Missouri Bicentennial Quilt

Additionally, the Missouri Bicentennial Quilt is beginning a tour around Missouri this month and there will be a schedule posted at the above website. Also I'll try to keep you advised via our website or our group.io board when this Quilt may be in the greater St. Louis vicinity for our viewing pleasure.

This year's Guild Challenge has been challenging while following the CDC's guidelines of self-isolation, mask wearing, and social distancing. But as we continue to move forward, I'd like to report our participation, our preparation for the competition, AND our gathering of appropriate prizes.

Our Guild got the inspiration for the Guild Challenge from the Missouri State Bicentennial Quilt, as quilting is such a part of our State's Gateway to the West history. Sew, the Bits 'n' Pieces Quilt Guild is having its own Missouri Bicentennial Quilt Challenge. A number of you have already responded that you have made a quilt and will participate in this Challenge. Awesome! Please be advised that if you have not started a quilt, you have not missed out! Our President, Jean Goldsberry, has decided that the Guild Challenge deadline will now be some time in the first part of 2021, which seems oddly appropriate to the Bicentennial year.



Sew...1) if you have completed your Missouri Bicentennial Challenge quilt; 2) or are planning to complete one for the challenge; or 3) how much you have left to do...please send a quick email to Kay Strebeck at: kstrebeck236@gmail.com. Also, please see the Missouri Bicentennial Challenge Rules in previous editions of the newsletter as well as posted on the Bits 'n' Pieces website.

Barring the unlikely receipt of a COVID-19 vaccination and any schedule changes to our 2021 regular meetings, I will be requesting **photographs** of your quilts and will see that they are posted on-line for voting. Prizes will be mailed or delivered when the voting is completed.

Much appreciated! I sure do miss seeing you all at our meetings.

Happy quilting! Stay safe!

- Kathleen Strebeck

Raffle Quilt Winners' Circle



**The Prize Quilt:
The Rose of Sharon Quilt**

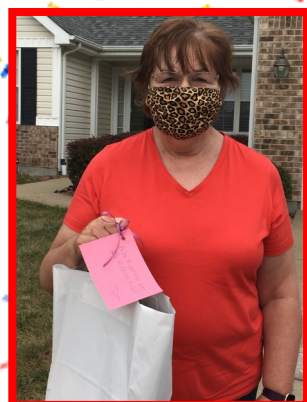
On September 22, the Raffle Quilt drawing was held during a Zoom meeting.

Cheryl Cobert was the lucky winner of the quilt. She is a former member of our guild and bought her ticket at one of our selling events at either Jackman's or The Quilted Fox. She was thrilled to win it.

The winning ticket was sold by Rita Nyhoff, who worked several of these events.

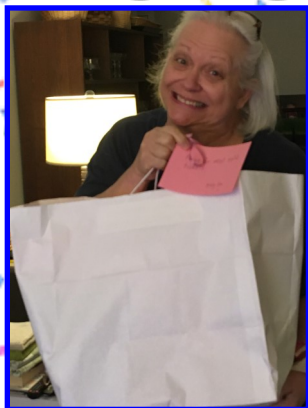


Cheryl Cobert



Rita Nyhoff

Ticket Sales Winners



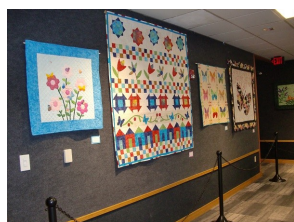
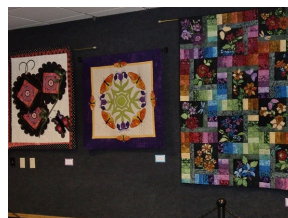
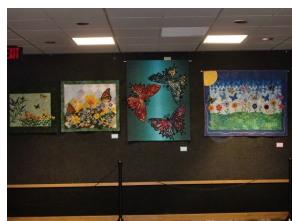
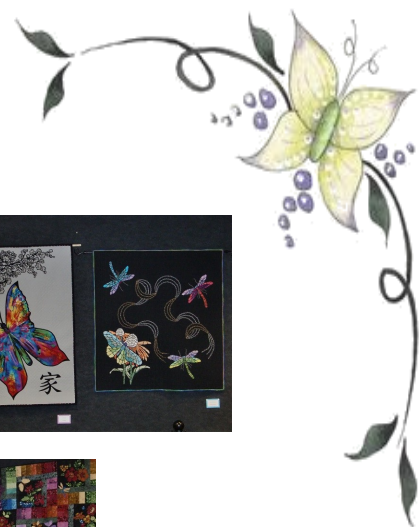
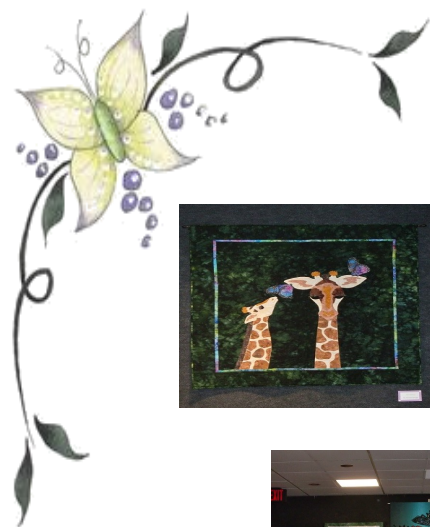
Mary Lou Knox
Most tickets at 198



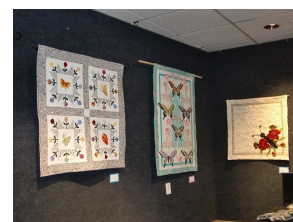
Phyllis Bednarek
2nd Most tickets at 168



Megan Buttery
Final Quarterly Ticket Sales



THE BUTTERFLY PROJECT



After our group visited the Butterfly House, we were so impressed with the beauty and variety of butterflies there that we decided to use our creative talents and sewing skills to as our group challenge. We proudly present our Butterfly Project display of quilts.

Each quilt has at least one appliqued butterfly. Notice the variety of designs, fabrics, colors, embellishments and quilting displayed here.

We hope you enjoy our butterfly quilt display.

Individual quilts are pictured on the next page.





Gail Tredoux



Peggy Anderson



Kay Merz



Judy Vogt



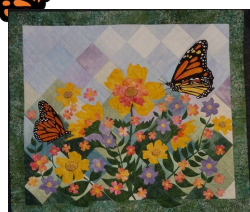
Terry Rhodes



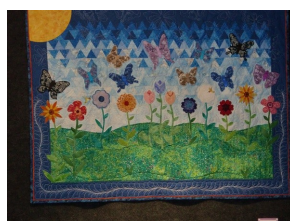
Debra Kramer



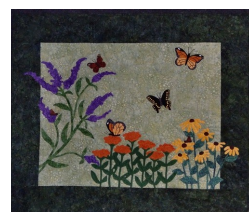
Suzanne Mulanney



Sue Potter



Denise Sorise



Judie Benedum



Judy Hoffman



Phyllis Bednarek



Ginny Rainey



Francine Boilat



Patti Moreland




Greetings from the Vice President Team

We have some exciting news...Bits 'n' Pieces is ready to leap into the 21st century! The program committee has discovered that there are a lot of national sometimes international speakers/teachers that are now able to present anywhere in the world using the Internet. AND WE are able to engage some of them to present at Bits 'n' Pieces starting in January 2021.

The platform we are thinking about is **Zoom**. So, in order to ensure that we get the best out of the upcoming programs (and to ensure we know what we are doing) we are going to have the October 27 and November 17 guild meetings via **Zoom**. And we hope you will be keen to join us.

Things to know about Zoom

- 
1. It is very simple to use
 2. Training will be available for everyone
 3. There is no need to download the app, and no fees attached

We will be available to assist starting 1/2 hour (6:30 pm) before the meeting's start time at 7 pm. We promise to give you lots of help!

The meetings will follow the usual format. The meeting program for the October 27 meeting will be: "**YOU!**" All committees and mini groups new and old, who have been meeting or communicating during the pandemic will have a few minutes to tell us what you have been doing and if you are accepting new members.

The November meeting will be one week earlier than usual because of Thanksgiving and will meet on November 17 at 7 pm. The meeting program will be presented by Candy Grisham, the "Dresden Plate Reimagined" book fame and will talk about her story in Quilting. More information to come. At this meeting we will elect the new president and treasurer.

- Gail MacCartney and Gail Tredoux



MEMBERSHIP



Mary Lou Knox, Peggy Anderson




There are currently 176 members on our Bits 'n' Pieces Quilt Guild roster.

If you want to win a membership attendance prize at the meeting, you must wear your name tag. We have stick-on name tags at the membership table or you can order an engraved badge. Engraved badges are \$10 and can be ordered in magnetic or pin backed styles. An order form is available at the membership table or please contact Peggy Anderson at pjanderson@charter.net. Remember magnetic badges should not be worn with a pacemaker!

Guests are always welcome at the meeting for \$2.00 (\$6.00 when there is a national speaker). Encourage your friends to join!

We will begin taking membership registration forms and the registration fee for the 2021 calendar year on December 1st.

The website roster for the Guild will be updated as soon as my computer has been "healed". Thank you for your patience!!!!



SUNSHINE & SHADOW

Although some of these announcements may have been in previous 2020 newsletters, since it seems like forever since we lost "normal" in our daily lives, we want to mention them again.

Here are the Sunshine and Shadow contributions that I have received beginning March through September. If I have unintentionally forgotten anyone, please contact me at Lkampwaugh@charter.net or 314 941-3195.

Bonnie Brown, a long time member of our Guild as well as one of the founders of Charity Sharity passed away in July.

Carolyn Pike, a longtime member of our Guild as well as a Guild President passed away in September.

Cindy Holten lost her dear brother-in-law in March.

Darlene Sforza's Hank passed away in early April.

Ginger Carter, longtime member of our Guild and Wendy Richard's mom, passed away in June.

Irene Anderson's son, Kevin, 25 years of age, passed away February 14th.

Linda Waugh's brother, Dick, suddenly died in late August

Marsha Bray's dear mom passed away in late August.

Rita Nyhoff's brother-in-law died in late April.

Sandy Rekowski had ankle surgery and is doing very well.

Suzanne Mullaney's husband, Joe, died in late July.

Zeynep Austill's father, from Turkey, passed away in late June.

A-Team's "Butterfly Quilt Display was exhibited at the Butterfly House in Faust Park September 9 to the end of September. Way to go, A-Team!

Peggy Anderson's "Love Entwined" quilt was featured in the West NewsMagazine. Her quilt was also accepted at the AQS show in Paducah. Congratulations, Peggy!

Thanks to all of you who have supported these guild members and their families with your prayers, many cards, and emails. Let's continue to keep one another in prayer during these difficult times.

- Linda Waugh

A BIG "THANK YOU!"

THANKS to everyone who donated to and worked the Charity Raffle!

Remember to bring your small labels with name and contact number for sticking to the back of your purchased tickets.

Hope to see you all there!

- Margie Whitehead

PAPER PIECING MINI GROUP

We have been meeting on zoom since early on, March or so. We started with the book, "50 Fabulous Paper Pieced Stars" by Carol Doak. Some are still working on those. Others have gone on to make whatever strikes their fancy.

Once everyone was comfortable with paper piecing the group evolved into just a sewing and socializing group. We talked today about everyone making something paper pieced to put in the next quilt show.

So, if you weren't there today, this is your warning: We meet weekly on Monday morning and/or Tuesday afternoon.

- Linda Keeler

THE NEVER HAPPENED 2020 FANFARE OF QUILTS SHOW WRAP UP

We are still wrapping up some details from the Quilt Show that Never Happened! Thank you to Priscilla Kosednar for your work on making sure that our raffle quilt was awarded to a winner! We so wanted to do it in person but the world is not working in that direction right now. However, Priscilla has done an excellent job keeping track of the tickets and making sure they and the quilt were kept safe until the new owner could take possession!

I also want to thank Margie Whitehead for pursuing a way to make the Charity Raffle happen. Again, we were hopeful that we could do it in person but that isn't in the cards this year so she has found a fun, exciting and socially distanced way for us to make it happen. I think Sunday, October 4th will be a wonderful day and a chance for us to see some friends again. Hope to see you there Sunday afternoon. Wishing everyone a chance to win. And, thank you ahead of time for supporting such a great cause – Fisher House!

Lastly, I wanted to let you know that we are working hard on figuring out a date for the next Quilt Show. Currently, the dates are set as March 17 – 19, 2023. YES! It is 2023! The update that Queeny was planning to make in 2021 has been delayed to 2022 so we will probably not have the venue in 2022. I went ahead and booked 2023 so we would be on the calendar! We will pray that there is not another pandemic or other world emergency!

Again, thank you to everyone who participated, big or small in the quilt show! Keep your ideas fresh and I'll be talking to you soon about volunteering for the next show!

If you have any questions, shoot me an email at ddgibby64@yahoo.com

DARLA GIBSON

Quilt Show Chairperson

ZOOMING FUN SEW DAYS

It has been awhile since we all gathered but I thought I would send out a reminder that the Fun Sew Days continue. Generally, it is the first Saturday of each month and runs from about 9:30 a.m. until about 2:30p.m. (give or take). Pre-Covid, we were meeting at the West County Fire & EMS station. Since that facility is no longer taking groups, we are having ZOOM FUN SEW DAYS. This is simply logging into Zoom from the invite that is sent to you. No hauling of a sewing machine, cutting, iron, ironing board, etc.

You DO NOT have to have the Zoom app to join the meeting. Participants will be sent a Zoom invite with a link and a password. Simply click on the link and enter the password to join the meeting.

This is an opportunity to sew with friends, ask questions, get help, and just enjoy the company of other quilters.

You do not have to stay for the whole session, but may come and go as you need to.

The next Zoom Fun Sew Day is scheduled for Saturday, October 3rd.

The zoom meeting is limited to 12 members so that we can easily converse with each other. Because the attendance is limited, please let me know as soon as possible if you wish to attend as we often have a waiting list.

Again, please respond only to me - do not respond to the group. I hope you choose to come!

Chris Williams

cwill@earthlink.net

RETREATS FOR MEMBERS AT TODDHALL IN COLUMBIA, IL

Are you longing for a getaway with quilting buddies? A rhetorical question if ever I heard one!

Unfortunately, for 2020, we are just going to have to wait and see if the guild can sponsor our standard fare of retreats in: January, June, August, and October.

But when the guild is meeting in person, retreats can resume. In the meantime, Toddhall is open and has lots of availability. It is very easy to gather a small group of friends and book yourselves a quilting getaway. Many other conference properties are also booking groups. Something to consider.

January and June: Susan Calzone -
sesnowzone@charter.net

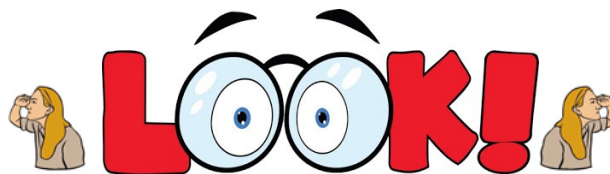
August: Laurie Schrader -
laurieaschrader@gmail.com

We were unable to hold our fall retreat this year, but plans are underway for next fall. The dates will be **August 13, 14, 15, 2021**. Consider coming for a fun weekend. We always have room for more! Contact Laurie Schrader if you have questions 314/750-3360.

October: Sue Meyer -
suziequilt@hotmail.com

Retreat announcements will be broadcast via our group email service.

Detailed information can be found on our website under [Guild Activities](#).



Be on the lookout for upcoming events and changes to the guild's schedule on the guild's website.

-Marsha Bray

COVER OUR KIDS

A great BIG thank you and congrats to everyone who has been sewing and/or quilting like crazy. We've been told COK has "kept me sane" and "what else is there to do?" There have been more than 11 drop-offs or pick-ups since April, which means over 160 quilts have been delivered to Epworth, Foster & Adoptive Care Coalition; Circle of Concern; Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital; Children's Hospital; and a small donation to Rainbows for Kids with Cancer. Your love for kids and generosity is amazing.

Tamra and I will be at the Basket Raffle gathering on Sunday, Oct. 4. We will have COK quilt kits that need your help. Among the items will be 13 kits from 2019 that need to be quilted of which 2 tops need to be domestic machine quilted; 7 kits from 2020 need to be quilted; 13 tops need to be sewn together—3 from 2018; 5 from 2019; 1 from 2020; and 4 from ????

If you have any COK tops or quilts that are completed or you just want them to go away, please bring them to us. We'll figure it out. We have been going through all the lists and there are some that are accounted for. So look through your UFO's and see if they're COK's and not your UFO's.

Please feel free to contact:
Tamra at 636-386-5336 or tjhelps837@att.net
Gay Stewart at 314-278-6343 diane.stewart14@att.net.

One of us will pick up your finished or unfinished quilts and/or kits, or you can deliver them to our homes, or we'll meet you at a mutually agreed upon location with all safety precautions taken.

Thank you sooo much to your dedication to COK. You are keeping Tamra and me very busy. Hopefully we be able to get into the church and get some new kits made.

THE UFO PROGRAM IN FULL SWING

Your UFO program has been in full swing this year despite our not being able to meet in person. This is my first year with the program and we have tried some new ideas and kept some older ones.

We accepted lists that were handed in at meetings either on our form or your own typed/handwritten list. We also accepted e-mailed lists as well as phoned in ones. I have had the pleasure of seeing so many completed projects with smiling faces holding them. I feel sad that I'm the only one this year that was able to see most of them. Hopefully, the rest of you will be able to see them once our regular meetings resume and we again have show and tell! They are truly beautiful.

We had two participation drawings this year – just for giving me a list of unfinished projects. Winners of the March drawing were: Candy Grisham, Sherry Mueller and Nancy Stratte. Winners of the September drawing were: Barbara Wietecter and Adele Niblack. Congratulations ladies! The prize for each of them was a Güttermann 7 spool Sew-all Thread in neutral colors.

We had cash awards in July for projects completed between January and June. Those winners were: Lisa Marsden, Cindy Pfotenhauer, Susan Calzone, Ivy Osborn and Nancy Stratte. A total of \$210 was shared amongst these talented ladies!

There will be more cash awards this January for progress between July and December. Keep working ladies, money is up for grabs!! When your project is completed, just e-mail a photo with you and your project. I also need to know how big it is and who/how it was quilted.

Here's hoping you have a healthy, productive, happy Autumn. It's definitely my favorite time of the year!

- Sarah Weibel



FINALLY...STARS

I have always wanted to make a star quilt for myself and during Covid-19, I finally had the time.

I've also been trying a few new things and got hooked on hexies! Hope to have something completed with them this fall.



-Laurie Schrader

LOTSA ZOOMING WITH QUILTY FRIENDS

1. **Beginner's Luck** – This minigroup continues to meet via Zoom on the **1st Tuesday afternoon each month**. We are now focusing on small skills to add interest to our quilts. In July we had a session learning about scallops and curved borders. August was a prairie points primer – regular and continuous. Members were tasked with making an item (table runner/wall hanging) 16" or larger using prairie points. It was fun to see what each member created. In September members were asked to make a sample and log of the decorative stitches on their sewing machines. A fun and simple task. In October we will be learning about making a border of squares on point.

2. **Fun Sew Days** also continue with Zoom. These are held the **first Saturday of each month** and are open to all guild members and the hours are generally **from 9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.** However, to avoid confusion, we do try to limit the group to about 12 people. Just think – sewing with friends and no need to haul a machine, sewing supplies, ruler, iron or project! Some people just do hand work during the session also. The next dates are **November 7, 2020 and December 5, 2020 and January 2nd**. I will send out reminders each month, but please contact Chris Williams (cwwill@earthlink.net) if you are interested in joining in the fun or have questions.

3. **Bits Members Afternoon Zoom** – This group **meets every 2 weeks on THURSDAY AFTERNOON from 1:00 – 3:00**. The group chose to have a Sew Day during their Zoom meetings. There are currently 12 members, but not everyone comes to each gathering so I think we could have more people in the group. The next meetings are scheduled for **October 8, October 22, November 5, November 19, December 3 and December 17. No Zoom on December 31**. Meeting dates for 2021 to be determined. If you are interested or have questions, contact Chris Williams (cwwill@earthlink.net)

4. **Bits Members Evening Zoom** – This group **meets every 3 weeks on THURSDAY EVENING from 7:00 – 9:00**. The group chose to have just a social meeting with time to chat, share projects, ask questions and just catch up on news of the Guild and each other. The next meetings are scheduled for **October 22, November 12 and December 3. No Zoom on December 24th**. Meeting dates for 2021 to be determined. There is room for several more members in this Zoom group so if you are interested or have questions, contact Chris Williams (cwwill@earthlink.net)

