

ZOOMING ALONG...JULY 27, 2021

PATCHWORK TO ARTWORK—JOURNEY OF AN ALASKAN QUILT MAKER Presented by Maria Shell



My artwork is firmly grounded in the craft of quilt making. It has taken me many years to acquire the cutting, piecing, and quilting skills I now use daily. Vintage and contemporary commercial solid and print cotton fabrics, as well as hand dyed cotton fabrics I have created are the materials I use in my work. These textiles are cut primarily without rulers and stitched into a two-dimensional surface. Once I create this pieced canvas, I spend hours on my long arm quilting machine stitching the top to cotton or wool batting and a fabric backing. The final step is to bind or face each individual piece.

Limiting the structure of my work to a grid has allowed me to more fully explore my love of color. How to make color vibrate on the wall? That is the question for me. Most often the answer lies in proportion of line and shape in relation to color. Color is dynamic, fickle, explosive, solemn, mysterious, and beautiful. All colors possess these characteristics, and it is my daily work to explore how color is capable of being all these things for the viewer. It is with real joy that I try and try again to evoke deep emotion in the viewer through the use of color. This work is visceral. I do not know intellectually beforehand what is going to happen when I put a sliver of chartreuse next to a bubble gum pink, but I am always willing to take the leap, to stitch until I find out.

Quilt Artist Maria Shell will share her work from her first stitches to her most recent pieces along with some fun stories about trying to quilt while raising three boys in the wild lands of Alaska. Maria's work is grounded in the tradition of American patchwork while also connecting to both the modern and art quilt moments. It is a journey filled with laughter, dark Alaskan nights, and lots of stitching.

Bits will have Maria for a workshop: [Improv Triangles – Perfectly Pointless](#), on October 6 & 20. See the website for information & registration.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
Phyllis Bednarek, President

Dear Bits n Pieces Friends,

Our speaker this month, Annie Scheumbauer, is an excellent artist using many mediums for her wall hangings and quilts. I particularly enjoyed her use of plant & flower images.

As quilters we often are asked whether our quilting is an art or a craft? I know I'm reluctant to call myself an artist but after thinking about it, I think all quilting is definitely an art.

A "craft" as defined by the dictionary is described as "an art, trade or occupation requiring special skill, especially manual skill". It definitely requires special skills to be a quilter. Quilters have to be able to accurately measure & sew. Quilting is also done with our hands guiding a machine. In this way, it is also a manual skill.

The dictionary defines "art" as "the quality, production, expression or realm, according to aesthetic principles, of what is beautiful, appealing, or of more than ordinary significance". Quilts are absolutely of "more than ordinary significance" and they are appealing to many people from diverse backgrounds and occupations. Quilts are aesthetic.

In quilting we follow aesthetic principles by the way we choose fabrics & shapes and the way we position those fabrics & shapes. We don't follow a formula, it is an art to choose what to use.

So I conclude from this, that we are neither crafter nor artist. We are both. We are quilters. We craft quilts which are artistic and the process of making them feeds our souls.

Craft or art, either way quilts make us sew happy!

Artistically Yours,
Phyllis Bednarek
President

ZOOM-MEETING MINUTES

JUNE 22, 2021

Nancy Hopkins, Secretary

Phyllis Bednarek called the meeting to order at 7pm.

Gail Tredoux introduced the evening program "A Trunk Show of My Fiberwork" by Annie Scheumbauer.

After the program, a motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of May 25, 2021. Motion passed unanimously.

President Bednarek made the following announcements:

- All newsletter submissions are due by June 25, 2021 at 5pm.
- The Guild has 170 members with two new members.
- Registrations for the Maria Shell workshop are still available.
- Salad Supper is scheduled August 24 at Paul Schroeder Park 6-8pm.
- Committee chairs are asked to review pages on the website and update if needed.
- June 30, 2021 is the deadline for UFOs. There will be a drawing in September and final cash prizes in January, 2022.
- Phyllis Nelson is stepping down as leader of The Company.

Chris Williams has scheduled an in-person Fun Sew Day for 8/7/2021. Chris announced she will be resigning as coordinator of the in-person Fun Sew Days, but will continue to coordinate zoom events.

Gail MacCartney presented Show and Tell.

Meeting adjourned at 8:33pm.

Respectfully Submitted
Nancy Hopkins, Secretary

MEMBERSHIP

Mary Lou Knox
mknnox911@charter.net
and Peggy Anderson
pjanderson56@charter.net
Coordinators

It is hard to believe that the 2021 Bits and Pieces Quilt Guild year is half over!!! We currently have 170 members registered!!!!

The guild has many interesting programs planned for this year!!!! Registration is always open, so please urge your friends and fellow quilters to register. New registrations will be continually added to the communications roster as they are received.

The registration form can be found on the "Members Only" section of the website. COMPLETE the form, INCLUDE a check made out to "Bits 'n' Pieces Quilt Guild" and MAIL to: Mary Lou Knox, 1465 Autumn Leaf Drive, Twin Oaks, MO, 63021. Everyone must renew their membership for the 2021 year.

When we again have meetings in person and if you want to win a membership attendance prize, you must wear your name tag. We have stick-on name tags available 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 for badges is available at the membership table or please contact: Peggy Anderson at: pjanderson56@charter.net. Remember that magnetic badges should not be worn with a pacemaker.

If you DO NOT wish to receive a membership card, please email Peggy Anderson at: pjanderson56@charter.net.

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR GREAT GUILD!!!!!!

Quiltingly Yours,
Mary Lou Knox
mknnox911@charter.net



Linda Waugh, Coordinator
Lkampwaugh@charter.net
314-941-3195 or 314-909-8559

Edie Cornell-Smith's older brother had a heart attack and is in intensive care. She is very close to him and requests our prayers for him.

Carol Lovelace sends her greetings to our guild. She had moved last July to a home having fewer steps and this was a good thing, since she had a knee problem and on top of that, developed a wonky gait to protect her painful knee and this led to spinal problems. Thankfully, she had knee replacement surgery June 9th. Carol is currently receiving physical therapy and is making progress as she wants her knee to get stronger so she can get back to sewing and maneuvering herself around her new home without any spinal pain or problems. Let's keep Carol in our prayers that she heals and recovers successfully.

Suzanne Mullaney's, husband Joe, passed away last year after battling cancer. Visitation and a memorial Mass have been set for Thursday, June 29th from 6-7 pm. The services will take place at Little Flower Catholic Church in Richmond Heights and coincide with his death anniversary. Suzanne is very grateful to our guild for the thoughts and prayers and many cards she has received. Suzanne also continues to need our prayers and cards of support as she is struggling with some physical issues herself at this time.

Phyllis Nelson's mother passed away in her sleep June 22. She just celebrated her 100th birthday with her children and extended family in Florida where she has been living. Phyllis shared that her parents were generous and wonderful parents to her and her two brothers, Charles who lives in Colorado Springs and Ronald who lives in Michigan. Her parents, Irene and Charles Mason Palmer, were married for 70 years. She also said that SHE taught her mom to sew after her sewing lessons at Girl Scouts. Phyllis has happy memories to recall these days. Let's shower her with cards and emails.

Debbie Miles continues to be at The Quarters in Des Peres as far as I know. Her son AJ said that she had a 2.5 week stay (from mid to late May) in the hospital for nausea which was resolved and then she returned to The Quarters. She is welcoming visitors and her room is #2105. If you decide to visit, please email AJ at keyari17@sbcglobal.net before you go. Debbie is very grateful to our members for the many cards and emails that she has received these many months of recuperation. However, let's keep up our prayers for Debbie that she continues to get better and keeps a positive spirit. I know she would enjoy receiving cards and emails from us so let's keep that support going as well. We've all needed healing and spiritual support in our lives at one time or another, So let's keep Debbie in our thoughts and on our mailing list.

Each of these members are going through difficult times and are relying on our support. Let's be there for each of them.

Thank you,
Linda Waugh

FANFARE OF QUILTS 2023

MARCH 18-19 2023

QUILT SHOW 2023 UPDATES

QUILT SHOW 2023 CHAIR

Darla Gibson

A Look Back to Past Guild Challenges

I am continuing my series of Quilt Show facts and information that goes into the planning and organizing of the Fanfare of Quilts Show.

Over the years, our guild has had some very creative challenges that show up in the quilt show as a group of quilts hanging together. As I perused the quilt show books, I found a few (not all) that I thought would be fun to recall together!

“Red” – which I believe was to use a red fabric, a circle and inspired by the St. Louis Cardinals – anyone want to guess who was in charge that year? (Hint: Nancy Peters)

“Water Water Everywhere” Coordinated by Carol Lovelace and Cindy Holten

“Whisper” done by using the Telephone Game as its inspiration

“What Ticks My Fancy” – the 2011 guild challenge

“Grey Hair Gone Wild” – using black and white and one accent fabric and your own inspiration

These are just a few (please don't be offended if I didn't list your favorite! Tell me about it and I'll include it in a future newsletter!) – I hope we'll be able to do another challenge for the 2023 show – it's always fun to see the creativity of the guild members!

- Darla Gibson

THE SPOOL GUESS CONTEST

As you may recall, we are on the lookout for empty thread spools to be part of our next show!



Judy Humphrey is collecting the spools and her master craftsman is making a container to place them in. We will have this set up at the 2023 Quilt Show as a “Guess the Number Spool Challenge” (Well that's the name I've given it, Judy may decide on something more creative!).

There will be a prize for the winner. The prize is TBD. Judy is collecting but the collection location is TBD – we are hoping to be in person again yet this year but time will tell! Maybe at the Salad Supper? More to come!



I'm sure there will be questions and we will try to answer them. Feel free to reach out to Judy or me. This is new so we haven't worked out all the rules yet, but we will get there!

- Darla Gibson



Maria Shell Workshop & Program

Program: July 27
Workshop: October 6 & 20

Maria is a world-renowned teacher who will come to us virtually from Alaska. In her program, **Patchwork to Artwork**, she will share her work from her first stitches to her most recent pieces along with some fun stories about trying to quilt while raising three boys in the wild lands of Alaska. Maria's work is grounded in the tradition of American patchwork while also connecting to both the modern and art quilt moments. It is journey filled with laughter, dark Alaskan nights, and lots of stitching.

Three Points: A Triangle Workshop is split into two – three-hour sessions to give us time to sew and play. She describes the triangle as an elegant shape that can be used to create dynamic quilts. This workshop covers all manner of triangles and way to improvisation-ally cut and piece them into patchwork art.



<https://mariashell.com/>

Cost for the workshop is: \$80. Deadline for sign ups will be September 22nd. Do not wait.

Send your check to Candy Grisham, 3 Woodbine Ct. Washington, MO 63090
Please make checks out to Bits n Pieces QG

HONOR FLIGHT

Judy Humphrey, Coordinator

The Greater St Louis Honor Flight (GSTLHF) officers are in contact with Washington DC about opening up the Memorials--possibly in August.

The GSTLHF is in the planning stages for flights in August, October, and November. They are planning on taking 60 veterans on each trip. This is a huge undertaking. They have done a flight like this before, so they can do it again.

I normally give quilts in the cooler months. October and November would mean 120 quilts. I have on hand 77 quilts. That would mean we would need 43 quilts by October.

I have 54 kits ready to be made into a quilt. If interested in a kit, please let me know. Do you possibly have a finished quilt but not turned in? Or a kit available? Or fabric to make a quilt?

I can meet in Town to deliver or pick up.
Contact: Judy Humphrey 314-650-0663

***** SIZE GUIDELINE *****

Size: 36 X 36
A little smaller, a little larger okay.
Patriotic fabric.

SALAD SUPPER/PICNIC
August 24, 2021 - 6 pm to 8 pm
Paul Schroeder Park - Pavillion 2
Manchester, MO
Megan Buttery, Coordinator



This year, we will hold our “traditional” Salad Supper with a few “covid-related” changes.

Covid Change: Our Salad Supper will be held outside in the beautiful Manchester Paul Schroeder Park, under Pavilion 2.

What to Bring

Members with last name starting with A thru M bring a Salad

Members with last name N thru Z bring a dessert.

Covid change: You have a choice of bringing food just for you or to share and bring your own drink.

Games and Prizes

If you want to play a game, bring 3 fat quarters – any kind.

There will be attendance prizes!!

Please follow the CDC guidelines for what is best for you. Masking and social distancing is different if you are vaccinated or unvaccinated.

If you plan on attending, please RSVP whether you will bring food for yourself or to share. RSVP or questions to:

Megan Buttery (muttery8119@sbcglobal.net),
Debbie Reynolds (d.a.reynolds@sbcglobal.net) or Mary Ann Barr (mabarr221@yahoo.com)

UFO'S

Sarah Weible, Coordinator
s.weible@gmail.com
314.313.3360

UFO cash prize winners will be notified sometime after the June 30th deadline with the rest of the guild being notified at our July meeting and in our next newsletter.

I am still taking new UFO forms and will be happy to update your existing forms with as yet uncompleted projects. There will be a participation drawing in September from all forms submitted by that time. If you turned in a form anytime during this year, it will be included - you do not have to resubmit until 2021.



There is still plenty of time to stitch and send photos of your beautiful quilts, table runners, wall hangings, etc., when they are finished along with the name of the project, size, and who/how it was quilted after June 30 as well. We will be awarding more prizes in January!

- Sarah Weible



QUILTERS' CONCERNS

Judy Vogt,
Professional Long Arm Quilter

Don't baste or pin layers together when giving to long arm quilter, each layer goes on quilt frame separately.

If top is directional but not obvious, please place safety pin or mark in some way so quilter knows which direction to place quilt top.

Thank you,
Judy Vogt

ZOOM AND LIVE MINI EVENTS

Chris Williams, Coordinator

cwill@earthlink.net

***** FUN SEW DAYS – CHANGES! *****

Fun Sew Days are continuing – BOTH LIVE AND ZOOM!

Chris Williams is stepping down as the coordinator for the LIVE Fun Sew Days. The great news is that Mary Lou Knox has volunteered to assume that position.

For those of you who prefer the ZOOM Fun Sew Day, I will be coordinator for the ZOOM Fun Sew Days in the odd months: July, September, November, January, March, May.

We do have a ZOOM Fun Sew Day scheduled for Saturday, July 3 from 9:30 – 3:30. Chris is sending out the Zoom reminder and invite before that event. If you have not signed up for the ZOOM event and would like to attend, contact Chris at cwill@earthlink.net.

As noted above, we are going to have BOTH Live and Zoom Fun Sew Days – alternating months. Even months (August, October, December, January, March and May) will be LIVE EVENTS at the Fire station. Contact Mary Lou Knox at mknox911@charter.net. Deadline for signups is July 24th.

Hope to see you all – anywhere!

Chris & Mary Lou

Schedule of Zoomed Meetings

Fun Sew Days also continue with Zoom.

Chris Williams is continuing as the coordinator of ZOOM Fun Sew Days which will be held on the 1st Saturday of odd numbered months: July 3, September 4, November 6, January 1, at 9:30 a.m. 3:00 p.m. These are open to all guild members. 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.

Contact Chris Williams (cwill@earthlink.net) if you are interested in joining in the fun or have questions. See the Bits website for more information.

Bits Members Afternoon Zoom – Chris Williams will continue to host these events - Dates are 7/1, 7/8, 7/22, 8/5, 8/19. 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. This group is open to everyone, but you must sign up to receive a Zoom invite. If you are interested in joining this group or have questions, contact Chris Williams (cwill@earthlink.net)

Bits Members Evening Zoom – Chris Williams will continue to host these Zoom gatherings the first and third **WEDNESDAY EVENING** from 7:00-9:00, on 7/7, 7/21, 8/4, 8/18. It's a time to chat, share projects, ask questions and just catch up on news of the Guild and each other. If you are interested or have questions, contact Chris Williams (cwill@earthlink.net)

CHALLENGES

Kay Strebeck, Coordinator

Challenges:
Have you lost your Creative Mojo?

I don't know about the rest of my Bits N Pieces colleagues, but, during COVID my creative juices have been in a drought. I did a little research, and this impairment in creativity is not unusual during times of stress and anxiety such as we have been through with experiencing the trauma of a pandemic. Some people find themselves more creative, innovative and productive when stressed; while others of us have experience a creative block that defies understanding. I'm certain that 'in-person' meetings and sharing our projects and our love of quilting again in an up close and personal way will inspire me to get back to my sewing machine and become my normal creative self again...I hope so anyway.

The Guild announced the Missouri Bi-Centennial Challenge in February of 2020 when none of us had even heard of COVID-19 or had an inkling of how it might change our world. The rules for this Challenge is on the Bits N Pieces website (bitsnpiecesguild.com).



Later in 2020, our President, Jean Goldsberry, announced an informal Challenge called the COVID Challenge. The rules are simply to create a 12"x12" quilt that expresses your thoughts, feelings, or ideas regarding COVID -19 and the pandemic.



At the Salad Supper, both the COVID Challenge and the Missouri Bi-Centennial Challenge will be viewed, judged, and prizes awarded.



The good news is that there are still 2 months for you to get out of that COVID funk and create a quilt to compete in either Challenge. See you in August! Happy stitching!

CLEAN UP TIME

As “our” little world starts to open up, the Bits Guild has changes to schedules and coordinators to announce. With your help we have a Website that needs to be “cleaned up”. Events and meetings to be Zoom’d AND finally some events to actually be “Roomed” for in-person, face-to-face venues!!

WEBSITE CLEAN UP



Megan and Marsha, Bits website editors, would like to hear from mini group coordinators about what their groups are doing or not doing.

Also would all committee chairs review the pages on the website

that apply to their area and send us any updates. Megan and Marsha would like to have the website as up to date as possible.



mbuttery8119@sbcglobal.net
marshasbray@gmail.com

STEPPING DOWN



Phyllis Nelson has stepped down from the chair position for The Company group. She has planned a lunch for the group to meet at Paul Schroeder park on Thursday, July 15th at Noon.

Chris Williams is stepping down as the coordinator for the LIVE Fun Sew Days. The great news is that Mary Lou Knox has volunteered to assume that position.

RETREATS FOR MEMBERS AT TODDHALL AT COLUMBIA, IL

For basic information regarding our guilds retreats check the website under *Guild Activities*.

For information on a specific retreat or to sign-up contact the noted coordinator.

July 8- July 11, Th-Sun, **full, sign-ups closed** - Susan Calzone - sesnowzone@charter.net

August 13-15, Fri-Sun, Laurie Schrader - laurieaschrader@gmail.com

September 27-30, Mon-Th, Sue Meyer - suziequilt@hotmail.com

For your convenience, the Zoom Tips and Tricks pages will be published in each newsletter until we physically meet again.

THE TECH COMMITTEE CORNER

**Gail McCartney, Megan BATTERY, Patti Moreland, Rita Nyhoff,
Candy Grisham, Linda Keeler, Marsha Bray & Phyllis Bednarek,
Chris Williams**

We have done so well with our online meetings averaging 100 members both times. Some helpful hints from the tech committee to make your viewing experience the best:

- Please **name** yourself and try to get **your video** up so we can see you. If you do not know how we will help.
- Please make sure your **mute** is on during the programs

The **interactive calendar** is on the website. Patti Moreland did a fantastic presentation about using the calendar. The calendar is on the Members only page. It is for all Bits related activities. It is also useful to see if another group is already using the Zoom account.

Bits now has a **Zoom account** for meetings and small groups. If you want to use the Bits Zoom account for a small group activity contact Patti Moreland or Rita Nyhoff to verify the calendar and get passwords. You should get a **zoom invitation** a week before the meeting and the day of the meeting. If you do not contact one of us.

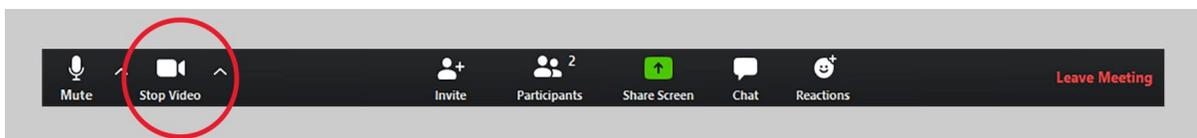
We are doing **show and tell** via Zoom as well. You can send in your high-quality photos of projects you have completed. Watch for a link the week or so before the meeting.

See you next month,
Tech Committee

ZOOM TIPS/TRICKS

We know not everyone is a Zoom expert, so we thought we'd share some things we've learned to make your time using Zoom a little easier for our time together.

At the bottom of your Zoom window, you'll see something that looks similar to the black bar below (though it may not be *exactly* the same.) Depending on your device this may be in a different place.



Audio - Click on the icon to mute or unmute yourself. Click on the arrow to fine tune and test your audio choices. We ask that you keep your audio on mute while we're in the full group meeting, unless asked otherwise.

Video - We love to see your faces! Click on the icon circled in red to show or not show your video. Click on the arrow to see more video options. It's our preference for you to have the video on, although ultimately, it's your choice! When/if in breakout groups, please do turn your video on so your fellow participants can see you.

Participants - Click on the icon to open the Participants window, which includes a list of who else is taking part in the meeting. You can also change your display name here, by clicking on 'More' next to your own name. You can also click on ... in upper right of your screen to rename yourself.

Reactions - At times, we may ask you to raise your hand, which is found when you click on Reactions. You can also clap for your fellow participants or give them a thumbs up! You're always welcome to send your questions, comments, and enthusiasms there as well!

A couple of other tips:

- You can change your view! In the upper right of the main Zoom Screen, you'll see a couple of different icons that change depending on whether the speaker is sharing. We encourage trying out a couple of different options to find what view works best for you.
- Speaker view or gallery view. When a speaker is presenting they will show up as the only one on screen.
- Something we learned the hard way: Zoom likes a restart. The program works best on a laptop or desktop computer, and it benefits from a daily restart of your computer.
- Mute yourself when not speaking. Join the meeting in a quiet space.
- For a quick unmute, hold the space bar down on a PC
- Depending on where you are viewing you may need to swipe or arrow left to see everyone.

Thanks,
Candy, Gail, Gail, Marsha & Darla