

## GUILD MEETING PROGRAM: APRIL 22, 2025



**Mac Barnes** is currently a junior computer science student at Washington university in St. Louis with a Second Major in Studio Art as part of the Beyond Boundaries interdisciplinary studies program.

Outside of the classroom, mac works on his work as a quilt artist having shown in over 7 states in local and national venues like the QuiltCon, the North Carolina Contemporary Art Museum as well as international publications like SAQA Journal and Patchwork Professional. His work uses the comforts and memories we have around quilts to tell often difficult or complex stories of the human experience including his own as a queer artist through digitally interactive quilts made of recycled materials.

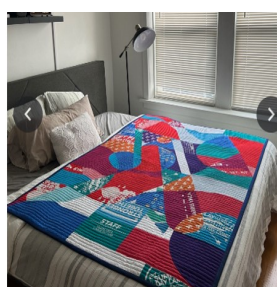
Mac has taught multiple courses and lectures both virtually and in person

such as the virtual event Quilt 2024, KC Maker Studio in Kansas City, MO, the St. Louis Modern Quilt Guild, and others. Most recently, he was a guest lecturer at the International Quilt Museum in Lincoln Nebraska.

### **Stories Through Scrap: Mac Barnes's Journey into Interactive Quilt Works Using Recycled Materials**

From traditional blocks and historical handwork to AI and super computers, Mac has explored multiple ways in which to engage communities in dialogue using quilts made from recycled textiles. This talk explores the quilt methods, materials, processes, and stories he has encountered in his quilt making journey over the last 10 years.

**Mac Barnes**  
[www.macbarnes.art](http://www.macbarnes.art)  
 IG: macbarnes.art  
[macbarnes.art@gmail.com](mailto:macbarnes.art@gmail.com)



### **YMCA T-Shirt Quilt**

Using YMCA T-Shirts, a Geometric composition was created with a hidden "Y" logo in the middle section. The final quilt size was 52" x 75" and was quilted using [City Sewing Room's walk-in long arm program](#)

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

**Patti Moreland, President**

One second I was thinking; What a great March meeting! What a wonderful Quilt Show wrap-up ! What an energetic and talented guild! The next second I felt a sense of panic; What next? Three deep calming breaths later I see an amazing year ahead!

There are so many wonderful things going on in our guild! Debbie has some great programs scheduled for the rest of the year. Candy has three more workshops planned for us. Diana, Sue and Judy have fun sew days scheduled for our charity and Honor Flight quilts. Harriett has set us up for a fun challenge. Our Mini-groups have exploded. And we have a Salad Supper and a Christmas Party in the works.

I can't believe how many new Members we have! Welcome! Every single one of you is an important part of our guild. Existing Members, please remember to wear your name tag and to introduce yourself to someone you haven't talked to before.

At our April meeting you won't want to miss the talented young quilter and lecturer, Mac Barnes, our Free Table, our Committee Tables and Show n Tell!

Happy Spring!

Patti Moreland  
President – Bits n Pieces Quilt Guild

## **MEMBERSHIP**

**Karen Grogan [mgrogan11@att.net](mailto:mgrogan11@att.net)  
Beth Roehm [bethroehm57@gmail.com](mailto:bethroehm57@gmail.com)**

Welcome to all new members! This year has brought us 30 new members and 15 of those joined at the Fanfare of Quilts! As of this writing we have 240 total members in our guild.

Since there are so many new members we encourage EVERYONE to wear their name tags, All of you "old" members, if you see one of our new members with their cloth heart name tag please introduce yourselves! Also, make sure you stop by the Membership Table for an attendance prize ticket. A new membership list will be on our website with all renewing and new members listed.

Guests are always welcome! Guest fee is \$2 unless we have a national speaker and then the fee is \$5.

Thanks,  
Karen Grogan and Beth Roehm

## **GUILD MEETING MINUTES**

**March 25, 2025**

**Darlene Kopta, Secretary**

The meeting was opened by President, Patti Moreland. Patti expressed appreciation to Darla Gibson for her leadership and the success of our Fanfare of Quilts - quilt show March 15-16, 2025. The various gifts were donations from the vendors.

Darla expressed her appreciation to each member of the committees with a personal thank you note and a fabric cupcake.

### **Quilt Show highlights:**

- 1,943 attendees over the two days
  - Profit: unofficial \$7,000 (still a few details/expenses to finalize)
  - 33 vendors
  - Charity Raffle \$3,225 to St. Louis Crisis Nursery
  - Raffle Quilt \$9,403; total tickets sold 12,330
  - 15 new members signed up at the quilt show
- The next Fanfare of Quilts show will be March 13-14, 2027

To wrap up the quilt show recap, there was a parade of winning quilts from the show. They were all beautiful and stunning.

After a short break and cupcakes, Patti Moreland led the meeting with the business section of the meeting.

- Last month's minutes were approved and seconded.
- Our current secretary, Darlene Kopta is moving to Texas. If you're interested in the **Secretary position**, contact Patti Moreland.

**-Christmas Party volunteer.** We need a volunteer(s) to plan our December Christmas party.

-Seeking a **Raffle Quilt Chair Person** for 2027.

-Debbie Reynolds reviewed the **April Presenter: Mac Barnes-Artist & Storyteller.**

**-Workshops.** Candy Grisham reviewed the upcoming workshops.

April 10 – Mini-Rings to be held at the Daniel Boone Library

June 25 – Master your Stripology Ruler presentation and trunk show by Warm 'n Cozy

September 24 – Mini Mirrored Diamonds

October 29 – Big Stitch Quilting

Sign up at any meeting or contact Candy or Karen Grogan.

**-Cover our Kids** – May Day – Play Day. May 5, 2025 - 9:30-2:30 at Salem Methodist.

**-Newsletter submissions** should be turned in to Cindy Holten one week after the meeting. Cindy will distribute the newsletter one week prior to the next meeting.

-UFO sisters announced a participation winner.

- Membership Update: 144 members at tonight's meeting.
- Marsha Bray announced 3 winners.

*Refer to each specific Committee or Activity section within the newsletter for more specific information.*

Meeting closed. Next meeting is April 22, 2025 at 7:00pm.

Respectfully, Teresa Basler  
(in Darlene's absence)

## **NEW SECRETARY OFFICER**

Due to a move, Darlene Kopta, our Secretary, will be unable to fulfill her term.

However, our search for a new secretary was swift and I am pleased to announce that Valerie Maule has accepted the Bits 'n' Pieces Officer Position of Secretary for the remainder of the Secretary's Term of Office which ends in December 2025.

Thank you Valerie Maule.

Pat Moreland  
President

## 2025 GUILD RETREATS

Teresa Basler  
[tbasler@swbell.net](mailto:tbasler@swbell.net)

Do you need to concentrate on sewing with no distractions? Sign Up for a retreat. Retreats are fun and are for all level quilters. It's also a way for new members to get to know members within the guild.

We still have room for the June 23, 2025 retreat at:

Itchin To Be Stitchin – Staunton, IL (short drive-just an hour away from St. Louis)  
18130 Ranken Rd., Staunton, IL 62088

[itchntobestitchn@hotmail.com](mailto:itchntobestitchn@hotmail.com)

Friday, June 20-Monday, June 23, 2025 –  
PLENTY OF SPACE for double/triple and private rooms.

For three nights:

Sharing a room with a friend, \$65.00 per night; per person/TOTAL \$195 - Deposit \$97.50

Private room, \$130.00 per night/TOTAL \$390 - Deposit \$195.00

Deposits are due ASAP. If we don't fill the space immediately, Itchin To Be Stitchin will offer our "open" space to others.

*Itchin To Be Stitchin has become very popular and reservations needs to be made almost a year in advance.*

Secure your spot NOW by contacting Itchin To Be Stitchin TODAY and put down your deposit. Their phone number is: 618-635-2429 .

Other retreats will be scheduled throughout the year at Todd Hall in Columbia, IL.

Let me know of other retreat centers you would like to visit.

Watch for updates with new retreat information.

*Teresa Basler - Guild Retreat Coordinator*



**Jean Weber, Coordinator**  
[jeanwbr@yahoo.com](mailto:jeanwbr@yahoo.com)  
314-495-9887

**Wendy Richards'** husband, Olliver (Ollie) passed away unexpectedly on March 15th.

His obituary can be found at <https://www.schrader.com/obituary/oliver-richards-iii>

A memorial gathering was held at Schrader Funeral Home and Crematory on March 22nd.

Please keep Wendy and her family in your thoughts at this difficult time.

Wendy would appreciate your expressions of sympathy.

Her address is  
19 Leaside Court  
Manchester, MO 63011  
Her e-mail address is [whoob@aol.com](mailto:whoob@aol.com)



## **COVER OUR KIDS and MORE**

**Diana Priess, Coordinator**

**dianajpreiss@aol.com**

### **159 Quilts!!**

We are definitely "Springing Forward" already in 2025! As of March 31, 2025, we have already donated 159(!) Quilts so far this year through Cover Our Kids!! This is Tremendous!! Just think of All the Kiddos, Teens, and More in Need whose hearts have been touched and whose day and night has been a bit brighter because of Each of You!!!! Thank You So Much!! This represents 159 who we have reached so far in 2025!!!

### **Batting and Backing!**

And Thank You for continued Batting and Backing donations that so generously continue to come in! We especially have been in need of New 80/20 Batting, from Crib size to Queen size. And we have even received Entire Rolls donated to Cover Our Kids!!! This is Amazing! We are So Grateful, as every bit of this will go toward making more beautiful quilts for so many in need!

### **Labels**

If you have extra Labels at home, please bring them to our next Monthly Bits Guild Meeting. We want to make our supply last as long as possible, so if you can help us out, that would be great! We also have a bin of labels each month if you need one or more.

### **Kits to Quilt**

We have 32 Kits ready for Quilting! If you are a quilter, please stop by at our April Meeting and pick up one or more. There is no time limit or deadline for completion. We just So Appreciate Your Talent and Service in getting these in the hands of so many Kiddos in Need!

### **April Monthly Bits Guild Meeting**

To Thank You for All your generous donations in 2024 and so far in 2025, please stop by and visit us at our meeting! We will have Fat Quarter Bundles for All who have contributed Batting and minimum 3 yard Backing Fabrics for COK!! Thank You All!!!!

### **SAVE THE DATE: MAY 5!!! Cover Our Kids Sew Fun Day!!**

"May Day - Fun Day! - Baggie Blocks Galore!!"  
This is a day to craft Baggie Blocks into Beautiful Quilts! Come hear Sue Meyer as she navigates us through making bundles and oodles of Baggie Blocks that we can create on Design Walls for Quilts for Cover Our Kids!!

### **Bring:**

Sewing Machine and Sewing Supplies  
Rotary Cutter and Small Cutting Mat  
Extension Cord  
Lunch, or plan to order out

### **Details:**

Salem at Ballwin United Methodist Church  
9:30 - 2:30

### **Games and Prizes Too!!**

**Thank You So Much for Your Dedication to provide for So Many in Need!!**

## Bits n Pieces Quilt Guild 2025 Challenge

Harriett Zipfel - 2r2tnoe@gmail.com

This year the theme is black and white and red all over! Well, not exactly. This year your challenge is to select black and white fabrics and pair them with a fabric the color of your choice.

### Guidelines:

- ♥The fabrics can be solids or prints.
- ♥You chose the color of fabric you want to pair with black and white.
- ♥The quilt dimensions can range from 3" to 18". No quilt should be greater than 18" on a side.
- ♥Quilts should measure in increments of 3". so 3", 6", 9", 12", and 18" are acceptable dimensions.
- ♥Quilts must consist of three layers. Three dimensional quilts will be accepted.
- ♥Quilts that do not meet these guidelines will not be eligible for vote or awards. (But we can display and admire your work anyway!)

### Due Date:

The **November 2025** Guild meeting.

### Awards:

The membership at the November 2025 meeting will vote for first, second and third place quilts. Prizes will be awarded to the people who made the top three quilts.



## UFO Challenge

Rita Nyhoff and Jane Dapkus

Now's the time to join the fun! Get your lists in to Rita Nyhoff or Jane Dapkus (The UFO Sisters) by the April meeting. You can download the form from our webpage [link to 2025 form] and email it to either of us or bring to the next meeting; or it's okay to email a list to either of us (contact info on Members Only webpage).

Why join the Challenge? **The first perk** is a real sense of accomplishment! **"Finished is Better Than Perfect!"** **The second perk** is seeing your finished work also encourages other members to get to work on their own UFOs, and **the third perk** is the awards that can be earned!

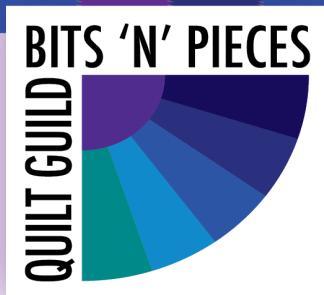
See our webpage for more information  
<https://bitsnpiecesguild.com/special-events-2/ufo-competition/>

When you've completed the project, bring it to a meeting for Show-and-Tell and stop by the UFO Challenge table to report the details (length, width, date started, and how and by whom quilted).

We look forward to seeing your fabulous creations! Get your list in now, before you forget! And we'll see you at the April meeting!

Maybe you'll be able to show us a completed project!

Rita and Jane  
The UFO Sisters



# FANFARE OF QUILTS

March 15-16, 2025

WE DID IT AGAIN!!

Our fabulous Quilt Show was  
another total success!

So, without further ado,  
Bits 'n' Pieces Quilt Guild

Presents

The Best of Shows!





# **Darla Gibson** **Quilt Show Chair**

**I** am so pleased with the outcome of Fanfare of Quilts 2025. I want to again thank everyone that has worked over the past year on my committee. Meeting monthly is a big commitment and I appreciate the time you dedicated to making the show an awesome event! I also want to thank those that volunteered for the 290 positions during the show, those that included a quilt in the show and those that just attended and enjoyed the awesome event.

All of you helped to make the show successful in some way and you all deserve to be recognized. I know many of you were not able to attend the March meeting to go through the recap. I sent out my slide deck to the guild and hope you had an opportunity to review that. If you have any questions do not hesitate to reach out to me.

I am excited for the challenge of making Fanfare of Quilts 2027 another awesome event. I plan to take a bit of a break before I dig into all of that but I'll be around! Have an awesome Spring and Summer and make sure to keep working on those quilts! We will need them in 2027!

Darla Gibson  
Chair, Fanfare of Quilts 2025

# Congratulations to our Ribbon Winners!

Ribbon	Quilter	Quilt #
Best Art Quilt	Cindy Bell	1035
Best Appliqué Hand	Roxann Jasper	711
Best Appliqué Machine	Mary Lou Melkowski	708
Best Bed Quilt	Mary Ann Stark	114
Best Traditional Pieced	Barbara Alsup	119
Best Traditional Pieced	Valerie Steele	120
Best Small Wall Hanging	Amy Kerkemeyer	816
Best Large Wall Hanging	Roxann Jasper	711
Best Juvenile	Margaret Gaal	1423
Best Holiday	Susan Calzone	1327
Best Home Item	Judy Humphrey	1412
Best Group Quilt	Christine Williams	903
Best Hand Quilting	Barb Tucker	105
Best Long Arm Quilted - Handguided	Theresa Mahaffey	1206
Best Long Arm Quilted - Computerized	Judy Vogt	219
Best Domestic Quilting	Barbara Alsup	119
Judge's Choice	Ann Donze	109
Judge's Choice	Mary Ann Stark	114
Lorrie Oltman Award	Julie Harris	1044
Viewer's Choice 1	Mary Lou Melkowski	708
Viewer's Choice 2	Julie Harris	111
Viewer's Choice 3 (Tie)	Eleonora Layne-Hocking	302
Viewer's Choice 3 (Tie)	Deborah Ernst	707







**Cindy Bell - Neville**  
**"Lizzy's Jumping Jacks"**  
 Best Art Quilt



**Roxann Jasper**  
**"Beyond the Blue"**  
 Best Applique Hand & Best Wall Hanging



**Mary Lou Melkowski**  
**"Baltimore Spring"**  
 Best Applique Machine & Viewer's Choice First Place



**Mary Ann Stark**  
**"The Gift of Color"**  
 Best Bed Quilt & Judge's Choice





**Barbara Alsup**

**"Quilt Name"**

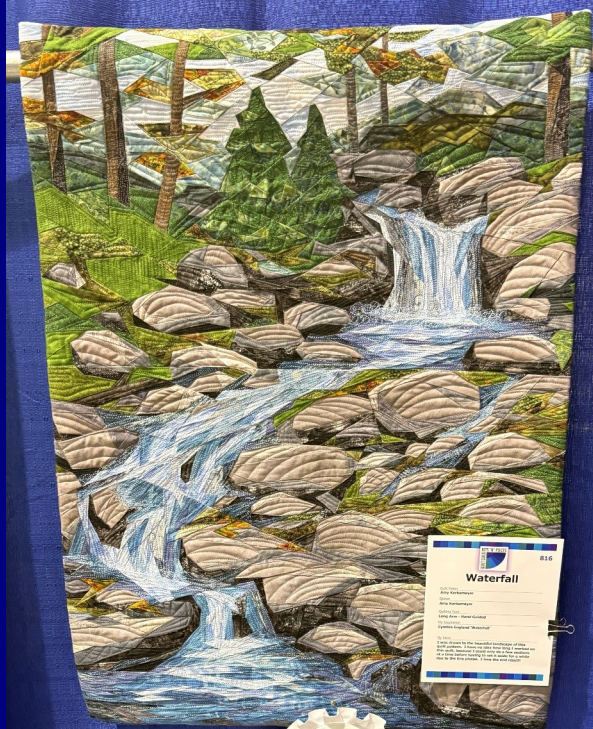
Best Traditional Pieced & Best Domestic Quilting



**Valerie Steele**

**"Inside Out"**

Best Traditional Pieced



**Amy Kerkemeyer**

**"Waterfall"**

Best Small Wall Hanging



**Margaret Gaal**

**"Birds Together"**

Best Juvenile





**Susan Calzone**  
**"The Quilted Witch"**  
 Best Holiday



**Judy Humphrey**  
**"Japanese Rice Bag"**  
 Best Home Item



**Chris Williams**  
**"Found Treasure"**  
 Best Group Quilt



**Barb Tucker**  
**"Remembering Maui"**  
 Best Hand Quilting





**Theresa Mahaffey**  
**"Orion Shattered"**  
 Best Long Arm Quilted - Hand Guided



**Judy Vogt**  
**"Contemporary Bear"**  
 Best Long Arm Quilted - Computerized



**Ann Donze**  
**"Pick a Pedal"**  
 Judge's Choice



**Julie Harris**  
**"The Elusive Kaffe-Fish"**  
 Lorrie Oltman Award





**Julie Harris**  
**"Tropical Explosion"**  
 Viewer's Choice Second Place



**Eleonora Layne-Hocking**  
**"On the Farm"**  
 Viewer's Choice Third Place



**Deborah Ernst**  
**"Wintry Mix"**  
 Viewer's Choice Third Place

Praise for a wonderful show. Much applause for all the hard work Darla and company did. - Mary Ann Stark

It was amazing!!! So organized and efficient quilt return.  
 GREAT JOB. - Kathy Wharton

What an amazing experience this was! I was working at set up and got there 30 minutes early and most of the quilts were already hung up so I spent time searching for a group of 2 that needed help and finally found one but I think I might have been more useful if I had a specific place to report to and could have gone straight there and then started working. I could have come earlier to help set up. - Diane Powell


*This was a fabulous show and I enjoyed every bit of it. - Dot Branson*

Thank you all so much for your work. We were set up by noon which is a new record!!! - Candy Grisham



## FANFARE OF QUILTS - March 15-16, 2025

If interested in purchasing one of these attractive and commemorative aprons from our 2025 Fanfare of Quilt show, click on the link provided below.



Dark Grey

Khaki

### Canvas Apron

\$25.00

color

1

SKU: Apr/Bit Category: [Apron](#)

Description

Additional information

### Description

One Size  
100% Cotton  
Choose Color

To order, click on this link:

<https://bitsnpiecesguild.com/product/canvas-apron/>

## **Bit n Pieces 2025 Workshops** **By Candyce Grisham**

Many opportunities for everyone this year with four different workshops scheduled.  
Contact Candy Grisham at [candyce54@mail.com](mailto:candyce54@mail.com) for signups or at meetings.



### **April 10, 2025**      **Workshop Full – Wait list only**

**Norma Stark: Mini Rings a Sew Kind of Wonderful mini ruler workshop** \$50

This will be at Daniel Boone Library, Meeting Room 2, 300 Clarkson Rd, Ellisville, MO 63011 33 x 44" In addition, she is speaking and doing a different workshop with Hearts n Hands in O'Fallon, IL that week and we are welcome to sign up (after members) and come to the program.



### **June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025, Master your Stripology Ruler** \$20 Salem Methodist 9:30-4:00

**Danielle from Warm n Cozy (Columbia, IL)** is doing a full day workshop "Master Your Stripology Ruler." This workshop will take you beyond just cutting strips, squares, and rectangles with your Stripology rulers! Learn to utilize the ruler for 1/4" and 1/8" inch increment cutting, squaring up blocks, cutting 45 degree and 60-degree angles making basic quilt elements such as a Half-square Triangles and Flying Geese, and more!



### **September 24, 2025, 9:30- 4:00** Salem Methodist Church

**Pattern & foundation kit fee \$22, Workshop \$25 Total: \$47**

**Leila Gardunia** will be doing a full day workshop **Mini Mirrored Diamonds** teaching beautiful foundation piecing with one of her patterns. Pattern required.

Improve your foundation paper piecing skills and play with color and layout options while making the Mini Mirrored Diamonds quilt. The quilt is made with four different foundation paper-pieced half-rectangle triangles in three sizes. Students will receive instruction on foundation paper piecing and will be able to arrange their blocks to make many modern secondary designs.



### **October 29, 2025**

**Erin Grogan**

**Big Stitch Quilting**

This will have a 2 hour workshop. Big Stitch Quilting is something many have wanted to learn and what a great opportunity to see ideas, threads and a demo.