

GUILD MEETING PROGRAM: MAY 27, 2025

Suzanne Galli Koenen **Sustainable Art**



Suzanne has a BFA in Studio Art from Maryville University with an emphasis on Painting and Printmaking. She has worked and lived her whole life with her art and has a working art studio and gallery in her home. She teaches classes and workshops.

Suzanne says, "It's all about the process. It's a need to focus and follow through until completion. I seek the time to discover my true potential, to repurpose, to recycle. I am a very creative person, but now I am also sustainable. I am a painter of color harmony."

Each project flows into another. Bits of fabric pieces that others discard become color tools until there is nothing left. There is no limit to where these take her. It is a lifetime of sustainable art. She works with components: an add on process that is very improvisational. She draws her inspiration from life's memories.

She photographs many simple everyday objects that often have emotional ties. The photographs of finished pieces become fabric elements for future creations. She works in series. The "manikin" is a symbol of herself and her soul as she progresses through life, not inhibited by her physical being.

The scraps and strips of fibers are embraced into rugs and fabric bowls. The left over bits of scraps are then placed into glass jars of eye candy to be scattered and stitched making surface designs. Suzanne's paintings become the sources that are printed on fabric and stitched. She works on multiple pieces at a time. Sustainable. A circle with no limits.

Please checkout Suzanne Galli Koenen's contact information: suzanne.galli.koenen@gmail.com, 314-799-5009, sgkart.com.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Patti Moreland, President

One second I was thinking; What a great Bits n Pieces Guild Members we have.

There are so many things happening in our guild; so many ways to get involved; so many ways to communicate! It can be overwhelming... especially if you are a new member.

Here's a list of things you should become familiar with if you aren't already.

Our Website - www.bitsnpiecesguild.com A great source of information! Here you can find out about the Guild, Upcoming Meetings, Mini Groups, Newsletters, Guild Activities and more. Our Private "Members Only" Page is password protected. This is where we have a roster with all of our members names and numbers. (If you need the password ask any board member or at the Membership table)

Our Facebook Page - Bits n Pieces Quilt Guild

Our Monthly Newsletter - published on our Website about a week before each monthly meeting. It's a great place to find out what's happening, including upcoming presenters !

Our Guild Distribution List - bitsnpiecesguild@groups.io Did you know that you can send GUILD RELATED messages to the entire guild with one simple e-mail? Every message is reviewed prior to being sent to insure that it is guild related.

We have so much to offer each other. If you are new or if you have been in the guild for 20+ years, I hope you always find our Guild a kind and welcoming space to share ideas and inspire each other.

Happy Quilting! Happy May!

Patti Moreland
President

VALERIE MAULE SECRETARY BIO

I have lived in West St. Louis County for 30 years with my husband and three children, aged 23, 21 and 16.

I teach business and marketing courses at St. Louis Community College and Maryville University.

I began quilting in Summer 2024 after taking an Intro to Quilting class and immediately fell in love with the artistic element of the quilts. So far, I have finished approximately 8 quilts, leaving me with a lot to learn.

I look forward to learning more and meeting new people who share my same passion for quilting.

I am happy to be a part of the organization.

MEMBERSHIP

**Karen Grogan mgrogan11@att.net
Beth Roehm bethroehm57@gmail.com**

Welcome to all new members! Since January we have had 32 new members join the guild.

We are having a Welcome Happy Hour for **NEW** members on May 21st. If you joined in 2025 as a new member you should have received an email about this. Please RSVP Karen Grogan soon. If you are a new 2025 member and did not receive this email please let Karen know.

Look on our website for the updated membership list with all renewing and new members listed. Hope to see you all at the meetings....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

April 22, 2025

Valerie Maule, Secretary

President Patti Moreland called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. *There were approx. 120 people in attendance.*

PRESENTER

Mac Barnes, a junior at Washington University, studying computer science and textile art presented his quilts. He discussed how he uses emotions and storytelling of quilt work to tell stories that aren't being heard. He also discussed his use of digital technology to help him create the quilts. He presented until 7:50 and then answered questions from the audience until approx. 8:10 p.m.

MINUTES APPROVAL

Naomi Noor made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 2025 Guild Meeting. Di Egberts seconded the motion. The guild approved the minutes from the March meeting.

VOLUNTEERS

The following people have volunteered to be the coordinators of the annual Christmas party: Diane King, Fran Swaney, and Sharon Domyan

There is still a need for a Raffle Quilt Coordinator for the 2027 Fanfare of Quilts

WORKSHOPS *(Candy Grisham)*

Danielle from Warm n Cozy will be hosting a Stripology Ruler workshop June 25. There are still a few slots open.

WATERMELON SOCIAL *(Christine Ortbal)*

A "Watermelon Social" will take place on July 22.

The theme of the social is a summer picnic with games and prizes. Very fun time. More details to come.

The Watermelon Social committee is working with Diane Price to raise funds to buy batting needed for charity quilts.

HONOR FLIGHT QUILTS *(Judy Humphrey)*

Read a heartwarming thank you note from a recipient of one of the Honor Quilts.

SEW DAY *(Sue Meyer)*

"Sew Day" on May 5 from 9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

A bag will be given to all attendees with strips of material to sew. All skill levels are welcome. Don't forget to bring all your sewing supplies. The finished quilts will be donated to charity.

RETREATS *(Teresa Basler)*

The May retreat is full.

The June 20-23 retreat still has a few openings. All skill levels are welcome. The location is in Staunton, Illinois at "Itching to be Stitching".

UFO PARTICIPATION DRAWING *(Jane Dapkus & Rita Nyhoff)* Amy Kerkemeyer was the winner

QUILT CONTEST

Reminder- the theme of the contest is *black, white and one color*. The quilts are due at the November meeting. Members will vote and prizes will be awarded.

Marsha Bray - 3 members were the recipient of a raffle drawing.

MEMBERSHIP *(Karen Grogan and Beth Roehm)*

32 new members since January 2025.

There will be a happy hour for new members – look for details in upcoming emails. Reminder to all new members to wear the cloth heart given at the time of membership so others can recognize them as new members.

ATTENDANCE PRIZES

120 people in attendance.

SHOW AND TELL

Started at 9:00 p.m.

MOTION

Jane Dodge – made a motion to add Mac Barnes, the presenter, as an honorary member of the Bits n Pieces Quilt Guild. Di Egberts seconded the motion. The guild voted to add Mac Barnes as an honorary member

The meeting ended at 9:10 p.m.

Sunshine Shadow

Jean Weber, Coordinator

jeanwbr@yahoo.com

314-495-9887

Laura Oloteo, one of our new guild members won **First place in The Grace Company's Spring Fling**. Laura's quilt, **First Winter Snowfall**, capturing her grandson's first snowfall, was entered in the Sweet Beginnings Category.

This show is held in Utah. Laura has been quilting about 3 years. Congratulations Laura!!! Your quilt is beautiful and amazing !

If you want to watch a short You Tube Video about her quilt, here is the link



https://youtube.com/clip/Ugkxbr5cC_7F_H38o4iTwN6Z_zQIMZ8Su91h?si=80zSbkryeITSTIST

Mary Jo Volz, one of our guild members, was hospitalized for about a week several weeks ago. She is home now and happy to be there.

Mary Jo has Parkinsons and requires a lot of assistance. Terri Tinker, Mary Jo's sister, would like to organize a meal train for Mary Jo and her husband. If you would like to help with meals please contact Terri. It would be very much appreciated.

Mobile- 314-578-3863

e-mail ctinker123@gmail.com

SUMMER. . . A TIME OF FOOD, FUN, FRIENDS, AND THE SALAD SUPPER . . .

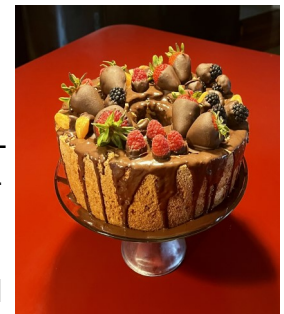
Christine Orbals says, "I have been asked to **"Chair" the July Salad Supper** this summer

which we are calling a Watermelon Social, complete with watermelon, games, opportunities to meet new members and make new friendships!" Although I am the Chair it is indeed a group effort by all the members of the Quilt with heART facet of Bits.



With that in mind our Watermelon Social will include a Dessert Raffle with many donated delicious desserts that will be offered in a raffle.

The proceeds will be donated to COK, Scraps, and Honor Flight supporting our charity mission. At the May Bits meeting you will hear more about the Watermelon Social and we will have a place at the table offering a "taste" of the Dessert raffle. We will have a cake to be raffled and won the night of the May meeting!



So dig those quarters and crumpled up dollars out of your change jar (we all have them!) and bring them and batting to the Watermelon Social in July, we look forward to you helping support one of our own mini groups.



During the May and June meetings you will hear so much more about this special event and you can enter the special Dessert raffle for \$1 a ticket!

2025 GUILD RETREATS

Teresa Basler
tbasler@swbell.net

Reasons to attend a Retreat:

- ♥ focus on a project(s) with no distractions?
- ♥ meet friendly guild members.
- ♥ all skill levels welcome.
- ♥ great way to learn something new or share experience.
- ♥ get-a-way weekend
- ♥ finish up UFO's.

We still have openings for the **May & June** retreats at Itchin To Be Stitchin, (short drive-just an hour away from St. Louis) Address: 18130 Ranken Rd., Staunton, IL 62088 PHONE: 618-635-2429

Friday, May 2- Sunday, May 5, 2025

Retreat – One room available. Could be used as a single or share a room.

OR

Friday, June 20-Monday, June 23,

2025 – One or two rooms available.

Could be used as a single or share a room.

For three nights:

Sharing a room with a friend(s), \$65.00 per night; per person TOTAL \$195 for 3 nights - **Deposit \$97.50**

Private room, \$130.00 per night/TOTAL \$390 for 3 nights - **Deposit \$195.00**

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

Teresa Basler - Guild Retreat Coordinator (314) 550-2496

UFO Challenge

Rita Nyhoff ranyhoff@att.net
Jane Dapkus dapkusje@gmail.com

Tools to help organize and track your UFOs . . .

Moda has this great project tracker sheet that you can print out <https://my.modafabrics.com/webfiles/MBS-project-tracker.pdf>

Or

track with the My Quilts app <https://myquilts.app/>

Keep up the good work with those UFOs. We want to see them at Show and Tell!

Any questions, ask the UFO sisters,
Rita Nyhoff or Jane Dapkus

RAFFLE QUILT WINNER

The 2025 Fanfare of Quilts Raffle Quilt Winner was Jill Buske. The Ticket was sold by Gay Stewart.



COVER OUR KIDS and MORE

Diana Priess, Coordinator
dianajpriess@aol.com

Now I'm going to repeat this exactly...

***"Tell her I really really really like it.
A lot. Ok?"***

This was the message I received from a grateful Grandson who had just received one of our COK quilts and his Grandmother, who is raising her Grandson and his two siblings.

It reminded me of all the "Thank You's" we have received along our journey with Cover Our Kids, and reassured me once again that we are touching many lives!!

Recently, I received a call from Angels' Arms. She said they would be so thrilled to receive our quilts for their foster children. She went on to describe how the children so love their quilts, cuddling with them, cherishing them, holding them and carrying them around the house. She painted such a heart-felt picture of these children without a permanent home, who are reminded daily that someone cares and has not forgotten them.

And then I received this email from Mercy Children's hospital, "Please tell your group that our kids have really loved receiving the quilts." And with it was a picture of one of their patients, cuddling with one of our quilts. It warms our hearts to see that we are all indeed "Paying it Forward"!

And I'll share just one more, from Evelyn's House: "Thank you so much for thinking of us! Your quilts have already been in use, bringing joy to our patients, families, and staff. Phenomenal craftsmanship of each quilt! We would happily accept anything you are willing to donate to Evelyn's House!"

In April, we donated 27 quilts to Angels' Arms, and 30 to Ronald McDonald House. That's 57 Beautiful Quilts You created with Love and Care!! It Does take a Village!!

Thank You So Much!!!!

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.



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/>

Texture Botanica Workshop May 12 and May 13



Art Bits is offering the **Texture Botanica workshop on May 12 and May 13** at Jackman's in Creve Coeur taught by Jane Baumstark and Rene Zar. The theme is creating leaves, branches, veins, stems and ground cover as textile art with mixed media and stitching techniques. 4 spots available as of May 1.

This two-day workshop is taught in two parts. Day 1 is all about the messy stuff: painting and adding color to fabrics, papers, fibers and uncommon materials. We continue on Day 2 with the painted fabrics and surfaces: we will wrap, weave, fold, distress, stitch, layer and emboss them using using to mediums, wax, heat, starch, inks and adhesives.

Dates: Monday, May 12 and Tuesday, May 13

Time: 10 am - 2 pm plus 1-hour bonus sessions on each day from 2:30 - 3:30 pm for those who wish to stay.

Fee: \$55 for entire workshop

Fee includes use of paints, mediums, glues, gel plate, etc. and many fabrics, papers and materials.

Contact Jane Baumstark: jane_ungerbaumstark@me.com or text 314.704.1501 to register.

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 for signups or at meetings.

Two spots left as of 4-25-25



June 25th, 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

Erin Grogan will have a 2 hour workshop on **Big Stitch Quilting**. Something many have wanted to learn and what a great opportunity to see ideas, threads and a demo.

Coming in 2026

Laura Heine certified instructor workshop – March 2026