



# Around the Quilt Patch

Pieces & Patches Quilt Guild

Vol 43 Issue 4

Jackson, Michigan

November 2023

## From the President

Can you believe its fall already?? Time is going by so fast. Fall is my favorite time of year. I love everything about fall except for the short days.



As I was sitting here trying to think about what to write, I decided to look back through some of our older newsletters for inspiration and saw an article Karen Prater wrote titled "Friendliest Quilt Guild". In this article, Karen wrote about how board members had received some comments about the lack of friendliness at our Guild meetings and was asking for ideas or suggestions on how we can do a better job of making all our members feel welcome and appreciated. That article was in the November 2021 newsletter – two years ago. I think the Guild has changed a lot in two years and we've made lots of progress in this area. Quite a few of our new members have commented on how friendly we are.

Participating in smaller group activities is an excellent way to develop friendships, learn new things and improve skills. The Vintage Sewing Machine Group meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of every month (you don't have to have a vintage machine to attend). Open Sew is on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of every month. There are other group activities we are planning. We are planning on doing Bonnie Hunter's Quiltville Mystery quilt along this fall. There is a separate article about it in this newsletter. I have heard about some interest in starting groups for those interested in English Paper Piecing and Electric Quilter and I think the Miniatures and More group might have an open house coming up. So, if you are interested in something, I'm sure there are others that are interested too. Start a group! All of these activities do not cost anything to participate and

are excellent ways to develop friendships and enhance your skills. Please let me know if you have suggestions for other activities.

So, in closing, Karen – I think we are making progress to being known as "The Friendliest Quilt Guild in Michigan"!

One last thought for everyone to think about - to have a friend, you must first be a friend.  
Happy quilting!!

Rita Parsons,  
President



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**Guild Meetings are normally the last Monday of the month and are held at:**

**Ella Sharp Museum  
3225 Fourth Street, Jackson MI**

**Demonstrations** begin at 6:15 pm  
**Meetings** begin at 7:00 pm



Coming  
events

### November 27, 2023

**Guild Meeting:** "Do It for The Process"  
**Workshop: Saturday, Dec. 2** "Tiny Piecing"  
 Lynn Harris (See Page 7 & 8)  
**Demo:** Fabric Weaving by Dawn Fowler

### December 2023

**NO MEETING**  
 Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

### January 29, 2024

**Zoom Guild Meeting:** "Time with Jenny Doan"  
 with THE Jenny Doan from MSQC

### February 26, 2024

**Zoom Guild Meeting:** "Quilting Confidence" with  
 Kathy Colwell (See Page 8)



## IN & AROUND THE MITTEN

### Holly Hop Shop Hop Nov 1 - 4, 2023

**Includes eight quilt shops**

<https://allevents.in/kalamazoo/holly-hop-shop-hop/200025506020726>

### Original Sewing & Quilt Expo – Novi, MI November 9-11, 2023

Suburban Collection Showplace  
<https://www.sewingexpo.com/Events/Novi,MI.aspx>

### November 14-19, 2023

#### Quilt N Go Retreat

Farmstead Inn, Shipshewana, IN  
<https://shipshewanaquiltretreat.com/>

### Northeast Michigan Arts Council- Annual Quilt Show January 27-28, 2024

Northeast Arts Center Auditorium  
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<http://nemiac.org/quilters-corner.html>



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- [PiecesandPatchesQuiltGuild.org](http://PiecesandPatchesQuiltGuild.org) (website)
- [Facebook.com/Pieces and Patches Quilt Guild Jackson Michigan](https://Facebook.com/PiecesandPatchesQuiltGuildJacksonMichigan)
- [piecesandpatchesquiltguild@gmail.com](mailto:piecesandpatchesquiltguild@gmail.com)



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## Meet the Board 2023-24

### **Karen Beers**, Treasurer

Having been Treasurer of the Guild for the past two years, I have learned a lot about how the Guild runs. Being on the Board not only utilizes my business skills but also feeds my desire to sewcialize with friends and fellow quilters, getting to know the many people who work together for the Guild. My quilting and sewing continues to be a growing habit/pastime. I like trying new patterns, tools, and techniques for piecing and quilting. I also have a thing for flannel and often make receiving blankets, burp cloths and rag quilts for family and friends.



### **Lu Ann Hammond**, Recording Secretary

I joined the Guild in March 2015, because my neighbor and her 2 daughters quilted, and they were in the Guild. I had never made a quilt prior to joining the Guild.



By going to Retreats, Workshops, Open Sew days, and the Vintage sew group I have made new friends, and I have gotten to know my friends even better.

I became a Board member when one of the Board members asked me if I was interested in position of Community Outreach Director, which I did for a few years. When the Recording Secretary position suddenly became available, I thought that I would give it a try, because I was a secretary when I worked, and the position needed to be filled. It took me a while to “get it”, but I’m doing fine now.

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I sew on my mom's 1949 Featherweight, the same one that I learned to sew on back in the 60s. Back then I made most of my own clothes.

My favorite quilt tip is to never give up. Always finish what you have started, even if it turned out differently than expected.

**Valerie Howard, Vice President**



Hello ladies! I am Valarie Howard, and I'm from a little town called Dansville. It is right here in Michigan and not far from Jackson. Don't blink however or you will miss it.

I have been married for 27 years to my husband John and have 2 children. Garrett (24) and Tiffany (27) is married with 3 little girls; Adalynn (5) Charlotte (4) and Evadeen (3). They are the lights of our lives and bring us so much love and laughter.

I was a stay-at-home mom for about 15 years and then returned to work in the school system as a teacher

assistant in both kindergarten and special education. I left the school system in 2019 when my hubby got diagnosed with appendix cancer, so now I'm a stay-at-home quilter. Best job I've had! Lol

I started quilting back in 2015ish when my sister-in-law and current BFF (if she acts up, I'll have to start taking applications) got me interested. It was all downhill from there. I run a small business Sew Many Memories, where I make memory bears and memory quilts, among other various items.

I Thank God for all things in my life! I have been blessed with so much in life and am thankful to be a part of this great group! I'm excited to be the VP this next year and hope to put more names and faces together. I love socializing and creating, come join me sometime at Sew Camp, and get to know me and others. You won't regret it!! You will most likely get to try some of my cooking too! 😊

Keep sewing,  
Valerie

**Continued on Page 5**

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**Continued from Page 4**

**Kathy Miller,**  
Membership



I have been a crafter my whole life. My mom taught me how to knit when I was about 8 years old and I took sewing classes in high school. Over the years I have enjoyed knitting, crocheting, cross stitch, and sewing clothes for my children and my granddaughter's American Girl doll. I even made the flower girl's dress for my daughter's wedding and embroidered that dress to match my daughter's dress. Crafting has been a way for me to relax and ease away the stress of life

Since I retired about ten years ago and had more time, I decided to attempt quilting. About four years ago my friend, Lin Fisher suggested that I join the quilt Guild. Since I was still quite new to the area, I decided it would be a great place to meet people with similar interests.

I enjoy making quilts for myself, my grandchildren and family. I am looking forward to trying new techniques and new ways to work with material.

I thought becoming the Membership Chairman would give me a better opportunity to get to know the members on a different level. I am looking forward to serving in this capacity to aid the Guild in continuing their excellent job of reaching out to the members and giving us more information to expand our passion.

**Renee Nelson,** Director at Large



My quilting journey began in the 90s when I signed up for a beginner quilt class in an adult education program at a local high school. I was living in New Jersey at that time. I have continued sewing and quilting off and on through the years. I enjoy the hobbies of sewing and quilting and want to increase my time and skills doing both.

I was thrilled when Lin Fisher and Kathy Miller invited me to a Guild meeting in 2021 and I immediately joined. Since joining I have participated in several workshops, volunteered at the quilt show to track, collect and print the Quilt Labels, and was elected to the Board as Director at Large.

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As Director at Large, I will be continuing Dawn Fowler's idea of putting out a suggestion box at every Guild meeting. I will also circulate at the Guild meetings to meet and talk with members to get their ideas, collect their questions, and listen to any concerns about the Guild.

Going forward I look forward to getting to know more members of the Guild, spending more time sewing and quilting, and learning more quilting techniques and tips.

**Angelia (Angie) Townsend,**  
Programs Chair



Hi Quiltie friends! (The name my husband has given my quilt Guild!) Lol!

Being asked to tell you about myself feels rather difficult. So, I'm going to sum myself up in 3 words: Faith, Family and Fun!

Faith is my Love for my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! Who I have been a follower of since a young girl.

Family is my husband of almost 38 years and our 2 grown children, Ashley and Jacob. Jacob and his wife Kelsey gave us our first grandchild Mason who is 8 and attends Stockbridge schools. Ashley who gave us Alaina 7 and Anderson who is almost 5 attending Dansville schools. Everyone lives within 7 miles of us (Nene and Paw) and to say the three of them keep us busy would be an understatement.

Fun is the hobby of antique tractor pulling and quilting! I have always been a crafty person for as long as I can remember. Whether it be crochet, needlepoint, hand embroidery, cross stitch, painting, garment making or any other similar craft I have always liked to keep my hands busy! Quilting actually started when we were getting our first Great niece about 19 years ago. I was bitten by the quilting bug, Hard!

In 2015 I decided I wanted to learn more skills in quilting and hopefully meet some new people so I



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e-mail: [lcllc100@gmail.com](mailto:lcllc100@gmail.com)



Find us on Facebook

Continued on Page 7

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visited Pieces and Patches with my neighbor and long-time member Jane Wilkin.

I decided to join that night! Being in a group of people that all had the same interest and varying degrees of skills was exciting! I knew I had found a place where I could learn and become a better Quilter.

I decided to get on the PPQG board, after I retired from bus driving. I want the Guild to continue to be a warm and welcoming community where everyone that visits will want to join us.

One of my favorite tools is a chopstick! I use them for all kinds of things. And, of course Jack the Ripper. I Love my handmade turned wood one I bought at a craft show. Oh! And a ¼ inch guide foot!

My quilting tip would be; don't be afraid to step out of your comfort zone! Until you are taught something, you don't know how to do it and until you meet someone, you might miss out on a new friend!

Keep stitching on my Quilties! ☐

## Upcoming Programs

Hello my Quiltie Friends!

The programs committee have been hard at work lining up a wonderful selection of presenters for the 2023-2024 PPQG year! A very special Thank You to our past Programs Chair, Rita Parsons for doing a magnificent job!

November meeting will be Lynn Harris who lives in Chelsea, Michigan where she creates art, raises chickens, and grows vegetables. Both of Lynn's parents grew up on farms and, like the little red hen in the children's story, she was taught to do things from scratch and to never let anything go to waste. Her thrifty upbringing led her to her current style of working with scraps and the desire to use "every last piece." Her quilts have been juried into international shows and gallery exhibits and her work is in private collections around the world. She is the author of "Every Last Piece" and has also been published in numerous books and magazines.

Continued on Page 8



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May Your Bobbin Always Be Full

**Continued from Page 7**

Lynn will be doing a trunk show of her beautiful quilts and she will have some of her books for sale. Lynn will be offering a workshop on Saturday, December 2, 2023 where she will be teaching about "**Tiny piecing**". We will learn tips and tricks that make working small easier. With Lynn's tips for working small you will be able to add a bit of tiny sparkle to your own quilt designs or make your own completely from tiny blocks. Make sure to sign up soon, as we want to fill this class to make sure we don't have to cancel.



December we will not be having a meeting so we can enjoy time with family and friends! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

January meeting will be a Zoom meeting! The presenter that night will be Jenny Doan from Missouri Star Quilt Company! Many of you are familiar with Jenny's wonderful You Tube videos. Jenny and her family have helped to promote the art of quilt making. The Meeting will be "**Time with Jenny Doan**", get your questions ready so Jenny can answer them! It is an honor to have Jenny talk to our Guild. A Zoom meeting allows us to get presenters that would be difficult, if not impossible, to have speak to us.



February meeting will also be a Zoom meeting as the weather in Michigan is so unpredictable. We will have Kathy Colwell from Spencerville, Ontario speaking to us about "**Quilting Confidence**" Are you



avoiding quilting those beautiful tops you have lovingly created out of fear you will ruin them? Kathy will tell some of her quilting journey while discussing the advantages of a variety of approaches to quilting.

March meeting will be "**Your Favorite Gadgets**" everyone please bring your favorite gadget/quilting tool to Guild and share why it's your favorite and how you use it to help with your quilting.

As you can see, we have some wonderful things planned for the beginning of the upcoming year! Plan to join us whether in person or Zoom or you will be missing a great opportunity to learn something new!

Angie Townsend  
Programs Chair



## Take Me Table

I just want to thank everyone who has brought items for the Take Me Table. It has been working out pretty well. A few items have been left after the meeting, and I have brought them back the next month. One month, one gal took everything that was left on the table! I have some items for the November meeting, that were brought in October by a member who didn't realize we weren't having it that month. So again, thank you for making it work this time. With no Guild meeting in December, and the January and February meetings being held via Zoom, I'm sure the March 2024 table will be quite full!

Lu Ann Hammond

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## RETREAT, RETREAT, RETREAT!

2024 RETREAT will be held at Creative Passions in Chesaning, MI from May 3-5<sup>th</sup>. I have included a few pictures below, and if you would like more information about the center, their website is <https://www.creativepassionsllc.com>.

I handed out packets for the Retreat sign up at our September Guild meeting. However, I know how crazy the meeting was. There was so much excitement and buzz in the air that I'm sure some of you missed me. If you are interested in joining us and would like a packet, or some information emailed, please send me a quick email.

[Valarie72.vh@gmail.com](mailto:Valarie72.vh@gmail.com)

I will have more packets to hand out at our October meeting. A \$50 deposit will hold your place, however there are only 24 spots available.

Sew on Ladies,  
Valarie Howard ☐



## The 2024 PPQG Quilt Challenge

Our April 2024 challenge is based on your initials (Not your name). You will be designing a quilt incorporating your initials in the design.

There are three design categories:

1. Quilt design, decorative stitch, or embellishment
2. Technique or block name
3. Color or fabric motif

Use one initial for each category. Be creative!

Here are examples:

Barbara Ellen Noble

B could be a butterfly (embellishment)

E could be ecru (color)

N could be a nine patch (block name)

Angelia Marrie Townsend

A could be an animal print (fabric motif)

M could be meandering (quilt design)

T could be Tall Ships (block name)

If you need help thinking of ideas, Quilters Cache has an alphabetical list of block names, and [colorize.com](http://colorize.com) and Wikipedia both have alphabetized lists of color names.

Quilts can be anything from miniature to lap-size. Cost to participate is the \$5.00 entry fee. Enter as many times as you wish. The Top five entries will receive cash prizes. Start working on those ideas!

Barb Noble and Angie Townsend ☐



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## Sewing Day Camp

Welcome to our new sewing day! My goal for this new sewing event is to welcome more members to come sew with us.

Our next Sewing Day Camp will be November 17 & 18, 2023 at:

Waterloo Township Hall  
 9773 Mt. Hope Rd  
 Munith, Mi 49285  
 (517) 596-8200 hall #  
 10:30 to 8:30pm

Please join us for some sewing fun!

The cost for the Sewing Day is \$40 for members, and \$45 for non-members. If you can only make a single day the cost is \$25. Please make checks payable to the PPQG. Cash and checks may be taken by myself (Valarie Howard) at the October meeting, or you may send it to the Guild's PO Box. Please make sure you fill out the attendance form.

Lunch and Dinner will be provided, and water to drink. If you would like something else you are welcome to bring your own drinks and or food. The cost will still be the same amount if you choose to bring your own food.

This is a Non-Refundable event and there will NOT be overnight accommodations. The building will be locked at night.

Pieces and Patches Quilt Guild  
 PO Box 6294  
 Attention: Valarie Howard  
 Jackson, Mi 49204

Sew excited to see everyone! ❤️  
 Val Howard, Vice President ☐



In case you missed it, this picture was from the September Sewing Day Camp and was captioned "There really are Quilt Police, and they visited Sewing Day Camp!"

## Quiltville Winter Mystery Quilt

**H**ave you ever heard of Bonnie K. Hunter? Bonnie is passionate about quilting, focusing mainly on scrap quilts with the simple feeling of “making do”. She retired from the quilt teaching and lecture circuit in 2020 after the opening of her dream come true - Quiltville Inn, a big old 1884 Victorian house turned retreat center in Southwestern Virginia. For more information, please check out Bonnie’s website [www.quiltville.com](http://www.quiltville.com)

Every year Bonnie does a Quiltville Winter Mystery quilt which begins with the introductory post on her blog being released on Halloween. The introduction includes colors, yardage requirements, special tools needed if any, along with background information.

The mystery starts in earnest on Black Friday, the day after Thanksgiving with a “clue” being released on Bonnie’s blog. Who wants to shop on Black Friday when you can quilt?? Mysteries usually run around 7 or 8 weeks with each new “clue” being released on Bonnie’s blog on subsequent Fridays.

Would you like to be part of this mystery quilt and have some fun?? If so, mark your calendars with the following Fridays: November 24, December 1, December 22 and December 29. The Toy House Community Room has been reserved from 10 am to 4 pm on these Fridays for us to work on our Quiltville Winter Mystery Quilt!! Below is a picture of the quilt that was done last year. It was called the Chilhowie.

Rita Parsons, President



## Did You Know?

**T**he Guild’s website at [piecesandpatchesquiltguild.org](http://piecesandpatchesquiltguild.org) is being upgraded, updated and refreshed. It is a work in progress but we encourage you to take a look at what has been done so far.



- Current newsletter and previous issues
- Latest information about upcoming programs and workshops
- Retreats information and schedule
- Current membership list
- Governing documents including by-laws, policies and job descriptions
- Executive Board Minutes
- Guild meeting minutes
- Photo gallery
- Quilt Show News
- Community Resources

Remember the Members Only page requires a password which changes annually and is listed on the back of your current Guild membership card.

As we continue the updating of the website, we would appreciate your feedback. Please use the website Contact Us form to let us know what you like, what you don’t like and what you would like to see added to the website.

Thank you,  
The Guild Future Advisory Committee



## Show and Tell Charms

**H**ave you never brought a project to a guild meeting for Show and Tell?

Well, we are starting something new this year to try to get more Guild members to participate! Each time you do show and tell you will receive a small safety pin. We suggest just pinning your safety pin to your name tag. After you collect five safety pins you can trade those five safety pins in for a charm to attach to your name tag!

Now by looking at a Guild members name tags we will see who has the most charms. Guild members Love to see your projects! Plan to bring something for Show and Tell to the next meeting to start getting your safety pins to trade in for charms!

If you have difficulty getting on the stage because of the steps, we will bring the microphone to you so you can tell us about your project. Let's have fun with this and see who can collect the most charms on their name tag!

Angie Townsend, Programs Chair ☐



## Demos

**D**o you attend our Guild Demo's? Why not? Do you know everything there is to know about quilting? I know I don't know everything! I Love to learn new things that I can use to help me with my quilting.

Demos are each month before the Guild meeting begins @ 6:15 and 6:30. Our very own Guild members share their tips and tricks so we can improve and grow on our quilting journey! Plan to arrive a bit early so you can attend the Demos. You never know what you might learn!

November has Dawn Fowler teaching us about **Fabric Weaving**

December no meeting **Merry Christmas and Happy New year!**

January is a Zoom meeting **No Demo**

February is also a Zoom meeting **No Demo**

March has Gail Maybee teaching us about **Double Color Binding**

Plan to arrive a bit early so you can attend the Demos. You never know what you might learn!

Angie Townsend, Demos ☐



## CALENDAR REMINDERS



**December – NO MEETING** – Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

**January 29, 2024** – Zoom Meeting “Time with Jenny Doan”

**February 26, 2024** – Zoom Meeting “Quilting Confidence” with Kathy Colwell

**Pieces & Patches  
Quilt Guild of Jackson  
P.O. Box 6294  
Jackson, MI 49204**

Editor: Anna Pedrotte  
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Membership: Kathy Miller  
Electronic Dist.: Dawn Fowler

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