



### Executive Board 2023

**President**—Phyllis Schrag,  
phyllis\_schrag@mediacombb.net

**Vice-President**—Kathy Jones;  
kmjones@iastate.edu

**Secretary**—Shawna Saad,  
ssaad@iastate.edu

**Treasurer**—Kate Hardy,  
khardyquilt@gmail.com

## *Christine Hobbs relates Her Quilting Journey at March 23 AQG Meeting*



With bags of quilts packed and ready to travel, Christine Hobbs will share her quilting journey from her first quilt design to her most recent pattern release.

She is a graphic designer and pattern designer from Story City, Iowa. Growing up, her favorite book was “Childcraft Volume 9 - Make and Do”, so it should come as no surprise that her adult life is filled with making things. Throw in the fact that she literally grew up in a fabric store (it was the upper level of their

house) and it’s even less of a surprise that many of the things she makes revolve around fabric.

Christine’s quilting skills are self-taught; however, everything she knows about sewing can be credited to her mother who had the patience of a saint. It wasn’t until after college when she discovered her love for quilts. She’s bopped around quilting techniques and found a new love in foundation paper piecing. She’s a firm believer that if you haven’t given it a try, you definitely should!

Please join us for this meeting and invite a potential member as your guest.

The February meeting was cancelled due to icy road conditions.



**March snack providers will be:**

**Barb Holst  
Diane Rupp  
Shawna Saad  
Wanda White**

### Monthly Meetings

Held the 4th Thursday  
First United Methodist  
Church  
516 Kellogg  
Ames, Iowa  
(except Nov./Dec.)

**6:00 pm  
Social w/Snacks  
6:30pm  
Meeting**

Mask use at the discretion of attendees.

**Reminder:** Wear a name tag, check out the library, and bring something for Show & Tell.

### Committees 2023

#### Projects and Activities

**Sheila Arney  
Ramona Tapper**

#### Communications

**Kathy Jones**-Facebook  
**Sharon Boen**-Email Blasts  
**Pam Geringer**-Newsletter  
Coordinator  
**Steve Huffman**-Web  
Master, Sound

#### Hospitality

**Barb Holst**

#### Programs & Education

**Kathy Glatz  
Kathy Jones  
Gloria Sampson**

#### Membership

**Marge Fitzgerald  
Susan Fraser**

#### Small Groups

**Marge Fitzgerald**

### Newsletter Submissions

Due the 10th of each month;  
email to  
Phyllis Schrag,  
phyllis\_schrag@mediacombb.net.



Have an idea for an AQG Program?

Send it to:

**Kathy Glatz, kathyglatz1@gmail.com**

**Ames Quilt Guild  
Yearly Dues  
renewed in January  
\$40.**

**Dues are \$20 for those who  
join after July.**






# Giving

Sleep In Heavenly Peace
Orphan Blocks
Orphan Grain Train
Quilts of Valor

## Keep Cleaning Those Closets

When we look in our closets and purge the items we no longer want or need, consider those who do. Please bring unwanted **bedding, sheets, towels and men's clothing** to our guild meeting. A collection area will be identified inside the FUMC door. Then, the items will be donated to the Orphan Grain Train to be shipped to those in need, particularly refugees from Ukraine. The monthly meeting collections are:

March 23	Bedding, sheets, towels and men's clothing	
April 27	women's clothing	
May 25	children and teen clothing	

## We will continue to accept quilt block donations throughout 2023

For a number of great causes:

- ◆ 3.5" X 12" blocks: used to make quilts for Sleep in Heavenly Peace
- ◆ 10.5" blocks & orphan blocks for charity quilts. See orphan block quilts pictured below.
- ◆ 12.5" blocks for Quilts of Valor. No specific design, but patriotic fabric/colors would be best (though not necessarily just RWB).

Keep those blocks coming!



## Wanted

Two MORE AQG members to JOIN Susan Fraser as our nominating committee. The job is to seek interested and available members to run for President, Vice-president, Secretary, and Treasurer. That nominated slate will then be presented at the September 28, 2023 meeting. The actual election of officers will take place at the October 26, 2023 meeting where additional nominations can be brought forward.

## Quilting for Others (QFO)

**It's not a UFO it is a QFO!** Quilting for Others will be a community outreach goal of our Ames Quilt Guild this year. We are already gathering orphan blocks, 3 ½ x 12 ½ inch scraps rectangles, and 10 ½ inch squares from which to make quilts for those in need. To keep QFO manageable, the guild will provide opportunities for members to piece together tops from blocks provided, bind quilts already quilted, and tie or machine quilt the tops. Our goal is to make it easy for members to help without the burden falling on just one or two members. The items needing your assistance can be found at the Steve Huffman sound system table with a sign-up sheet as shown below. The Guild has budgeted for the batting, and we have donated backing fabric. If you choose, to participate, you will have opportunities to sign up at each guild meeting and take home one of the QFO projects. We continue to take requests from local organizations who need quilts. Right now, we are providing 60"x 80" quilts to Sleep in Heavenly Peace and the Orphan Grain Train.

Date Project Accepted	Name of AQG member	Project: Piece, Bind, Quilt	Date Completed	Comments:
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## Join us for a Tea Party!

Thursday, April 27, 2023

6:00-8:30 PM

At the Vintage Cooperative

(5900 Hyde Avenue, Ames, IA)



Our April Ames Quilt Guild meeting will be a special **Tea Party -- Guest Night** held at the Vintage Cooperative. It is open to Ames Quilt Guild members and their guests who have possible interest in joining the Guild.

5:30pm Come early for a **Tour of the Vintage Coop** (for those interested)

6:00pm **Social**

6:30-8:30pm **Tea Time**—beverages and treats

**“Hats Off to You”** Program by Phyllis Schrag. Phyllis is a writer, entertainer, humorist, guest speaker for the South Dakota Humanities Council, AND the current president of the Guild. Her talk will cover the history of women’s and men’s hats throughout the centuries, from renaissance days to modern times.

**Show-and-Tell**



### Join in the FUN!

- ◆ Wear your favorite hat and your name tag.
- ◆ Bring a friend (we have room for 76 people!)
- ◆ Plan to carpool, as parking is limited. (Cars will need to enter the parking lot on the NORTH side of the building, off W. 190<sup>th</sup> Street.)
- ◆ Volunteer to be a table hostess or make finger food treats!

Deadline to Sign Up: Friday, April 21<sup>st</sup> (or earlier if all tables are filled)

RSVP to attend and/or volunteer by texting **Barb Holst** at 515-291-6545 or emailing **Kathy Glatz** at [kathyglatz1@gmail.com](mailto:kathyglatz1@gmail.com). There will also be a sign-up sheet at the March AQG Meeting.

### AQG Member McGary in the News

AQG member, Alice McGary, was recently featured in the February 10, **Ames Tribune**. Her quilt, shown here, reflects her experiences when one derecho storm broke all the dishes in her outdoor kitchen. Her work is part of an art exhibition at Harvest Vineyard Church featuring the work of volunteers from Mustard Seed Community Farm. To see her quilt and the entire art show, go to the lobby of Harvest Vineyard church, 320 S. 17th St. The exhibit will be available through early April.

<https://www.amestrib.com/story/entertainment/arts/2023/02/10/mustard-seed-community-farm-harvest-vineyard-church-partner-for-ames-art-show-nest-in-branches/69884681007/>



**2023**  
**AQG Programs**

Jan. 26, 2023  
**Everything But Cotton**  
Julia McLeod  
(ZOOM Presentation)

Feb. 23, 2023  
**Triangles on a Roll**  
Mischelle Hardy, from  
Sew Be It Quilt Shop, Jewell  
(Will also be vending)

Mar. 23, 2023  
**My Story & Trunk Show**  
Christine Hobbs

Apr. 27, 2023  
**Hats Off to You**  
Phyllis Schrag  
Special Tea Party  
Guest Event

May 25, 2023  
**The International  
Honor Quilt -  
Women Remembering  
Women**  
Dana Jones  
(ZOOM Presentation)

June 22, 2023  
**T-Shirts and Bags**  
Sheila Arney and  
Ramona Tapper

July 27, 2023  
**Sew Great Tours -  
Quilt Tours**  
Nancy Thompson

Aug. 24, 2023  
**How Colors Affect You,  
What Science Reveals**  
Laura Anspach


Sept. 28, 2023  
**Paper Embroidery**  
Nadine Dobbe

Oct. 26, 2023  
**What is a Modern Quilt?  
The Myths and the Magic**  
Carole Lyles Shaw  
(ZOOM Presentation)

Dec. 7, 2023  
**Holiday Potluck & Fun**

**Ames Quilt Guild Member Spotlight**

**Susan Fraser**



Hi I am Susan Fraser. I should be a familiar face, as I am usually at the meetings. I have missed a few meetings due to cancer treatments but I'm doing well now. Thanks. I am a semi-retired math teacher. I taught at Central Junior High in Ames, United Community High School in Boone, Valley High School in West Des Moines, and DMACC in Ames, Boone, and Ankeny. I am currently teaching for DMACC at the Hunziker Center in Ames, and I am a math tutor in my spare time. I have two children, Nichol in Wisconsin and Tyler who lives in Texas. I have six grandchildren.

I grew up in Ames and I'm the middle sister of Sharon Boen and Sandy Popelka who are both members of the Ames Quilt Guild. Our mother sewed most of our clothes, but she never made quilts! Our grandmothers all sewed. Our Grandma Ripley was a seamstress and tailor and I remember when she made a suit for a businessman in Des Moines. I first quilted when I was about 9 or 10. Grandma Ripley would bring a quilt sandwich and a large frame to our house. She would set it up in the dining room and we would hand quilt on hot summer days when it was too hot to go out. Of course, there was no AC in the house, but it was a little cooler inside rather than out in the sunshine. If our stitches were too big, Grandma would pull them out and we would have to do them over again.

I don't think I quilted again until 1976. At Central Junior High, we had "interest classes" we taught outside of the regular curriculum. I offered a quilting class and about 10 students signed up, including Kelly Smay (Irwin now of the QC). During that class, I made my first quilt, which was for my baby due at the end of the school year. It was green gingham with a ruffled edge. I'm so glad the baby was a girl...we didn't know back then.

I worked part time at the Quilting Connection when I retired from teaching full time. One day Marge Fitzgerald and I decided it would be good to have a quilt guild in Ames. We invited people to join us at a meeting and that was the start of the Ames Quilt Guild. We thought we would have about a dozen people come to that first meeting but about 40 showed up!

Why do I quilt? I quilt for the challenge of the technique and the beauty of the finished quilt. I am not a great artist otherwise, so I figure this is my form of art. I especially enjoy trying a new technique or pattern with lots of geometry which taps into my math background. I like to try to figure out a better way to piece the quilt together and I love beautiful fabric.

I am pleased that most of my grandchildren enjoy sewing and appreciate my quilts and



*(Continued on page 5)*

## Treasurer's Report

February 2023  
 Balance Forward: \$4559.82  
 Income: \$80.00  
 Expenses: \$.841.51  
 Ending Balance: \$3797.31

(Continued from page 4)

knitting, etc. My first grandchild fell in love with my sewing machine when he was about a year and a half old. He would sit on my lap and watch the needle go up and down. His first attempt alone was when he tried to use a Sharpie in place of the stylus on my embroidery machine. I nearly had a heart attack when I saw my beautiful machine covered in black marker!!! As a teacher, I knew the smell of the cleaner the custodians used to clean words off lockers. It smelled a lot like hairspray! Luckily, hair-spray took off most of the marker. Whew! What I learned from that experience is that his writing on that machine was his way of saying, "Grandma, I love you and want to help." In 8th grade sewing class, he was the star pupil and helped all the others. He doesn't sew much anymore, but he is still a good helper. Next fall you will see him suited up in Cardinal and Gold on the sidelines as a Cyclone football player.



**March 18th Is  
 National Quilting  
 Day**

**Women's History  
 Month**

### Know of an Area Quilting Event?

Share in the AQG news-  
 letter by sending infor-  
 mation to Pam Geringer



### Coming

**April 2023**

### AQG Member Spotlight

**Alice McGary**

## New Members Invitation

If you are a new member of the Ames Quilt Guild, having joined in the last few months, please come at 6 pm to our March 23 meeting to meet with President Phyllis Schrag. We have a welcome gift for you and a bit more information. This is a great opportunity to ask questions, too. Please plan to attend this short get together before our meeting begins.

## Ames Quilt Guild Member Spotlight

### Charlotte Menzel

I am married to husband Jim Menzel. We have two married sons, one lives in Ames, and the other one lives in Seattle. We have no grandchildren.

I grew up in Waverly, Iowa, and came to Iowa State for college and stayed. I taught high school for several years, and then stayed home with the babies 'til they went to school; I then worked at Iowa State for 25 years. I grew up without television in a very crafty family, so I learned knitting, crocheting, embroidering, weaving, spinning, sewing and quilting.

The winter I was 10, I cross stitched a kit of pre-printed quilt blocks and sewed them together. My mom and aunts quilted it. That was the first of many quilts. I enjoy every step of the process.

I quilt for the creative pleasure of it. I've gifted many quilts over the years - wedding quilts, baby quilts, retirement quilts. And many of the rooms in my home have quilts in them - not just on the beds. I also make lots of charity quilts as another outlet for my creations. Over the years, I've done several hundred, mostly for Lutheran World Relief. I take pleasure in making something so useful and needed (and pretty) from scraps and donations and fabrics that some others consider garbage.. A quilting tip to share is perfect your quarter inch seam. Then everything will go together well. Also, *press, press, press.*



## TIP CORNER

### STAYSTITCH YOUR QUILT TOP FOR A HAPPY RESULT

Staystitch your quilt edge before machine quilting for a happy, flat result. Staystitching is a row of machine stitching done on a single layer of fabric just inside the seam line. Quilt-



ers take advantage of this technique because stay stitching stabilizes the seams along the outer edge of your quilt. What can happen is seams can start to break open as you're working with the quilt and pinning it and basting it and moving it around as you're quilting. Backstitching at every intersection along the outside edge can slow you down and cause extra thread built up. But by stay stitching the quilt top, you can secure all of those seams with one pass. Be sure to stay within that quarter-inch seam allowance so it will be covered up later with the binding. Any fabric, even knits, can benefit from staystitching.

### Current Events

#### QUILT AMANA 2023

April 14-16, 2023  
Price Creek Event Center  
4709 220th Trail, Amana, IA  
52203 Amana, IA  
Award Winning Quilts, Hundreds Of Quilts On Display  
<https://heritagedesignsquilts.com/quilt-amana/>

#### Virtual Insights: Intimate Stories Through Textiles

March 21, 2023  
American Folk Art Museum  
Virtual discussion of objects and their stories from the exhibit *What That Quilt Knows About Me*  
Free with registration.  
<https://folkartmuseum.org/programs/virtual-insights-intimate-stories-through-textiles-3-21/?ID=30713>

## SAVE THE DATE!

**What:** Ames Quilt Guild Retreat

**Where:** Mended Hearts Quilt Shop in Ellsworth Design Center

**When:** Friday, September 15, 2023; 9:00 am-8:00 pm and Saturday, September 16, 9:00 am-5:00 pm.

**Cost:** \$30.00 per day, per person. 3 meals extra.

**Why a retreat?** An opportunity for members to gather to sew, learn, share, relax, laugh and enjoy time together.

Maximum number of sewers will be 18 and first priority will be given to paid members. We may be able to include guests if there is room. Watch for more information!!!! [Contact Gloria Sampson 515.460.1143 with questions.](#)



### Donations Accepted

Someone recently asked if we can receive monetary donations to Ames Quilt Guild. The answer is yes! We gladly accept gifts of money. As we strive to increase our membership, which is the basis of all revenue and used mostly to secure programs, we welcome any and all cash donations. Receipts will be provided when requested. In other quilt guilds, small groups as well as individuals often choose to underwrite a specific month to honor a birthday or anniversary and/or a specific program.

### President's Corner

That bad weather last month put a crimp in my plans. At our February meeting, I wanted to hand out hot pink bookmarks to everyone. The bookmarks advertise our guild, the meeting dates, and topics. The AQG Executive committee met in January to brainstorm a list of ways to make our guild more visible. The bookmarks are one of the ways we determined would help get out the word. Bookmarks have been placed at every quilt shop in the area, libraries, and stores, where quilters go. You will receive yours and ones to give to quilting friends at the March meeting.

Plans are in the works for special guest events. One of those events will be our April meeting. That meeting will be held at the Vintage Coop, 5900 Hyde Avenue. It is a special "tea party" with all the trimmings. You won't want to miss this, so watch for details coming soon. You will want to invite potential AQG members as your guests to that event at which they will have an opportunity to join AQG.

The executive committee met on Saturday, February 25 at the Ames public Library. At that meeting several ideas were introduced including a special daytime fall event that will include a tour of ISU Apparel, Merchandising and Design Department and lunch at ISU tea room.

Also, a retreat is being planned for September 15 and 16 at Ellsworth's Mended Hearts retreat center; you will want to save the date and watch for more details.



## Ames Quilt Guild 2023 Budget

\$2500.00	2023 Programs	Betty Baker
150.00	Hospitality	Barb Holst
150.00	Publicity/Visibility	Exec
200.00	Charities (Materials only)	Exec
25.00	Membership	Marge Fitzgerald
825.00	Rent	Susan Fraser (11 months @ \$75.00)
20.00	Newsletter	Pam Geringer
25.00	End of year Holiday Event	Gloria Sampson
25.00	Projects and Activities	Sheila Arney/Ramona Tapper
<b>\$3920.00</b>	<b>Total</b>	

### From the Quilting Bookworm

The most common colors for two color quilts are red with white or blue with white. They tend to be dramatic assemblages of large, “straight line” blocks. The patterns in *Two-Color Quilts* by Nancy J. Martin fit this description. This does not mean that they are boring. There is a lot that can be done with squares, strips and triangles. From simple nine patches to elaborate feather stars, Ms. Martin has assembled a fine collection of traditional patterns, although, for some reason, many have been assigned untraditional names. The book also contains a short section on cutting and piecing. The patterns in this book are highly recommended, especially for the beginning quilter, perhaps someone who wants to make their first bed quilt, but not spend years on it. Also, anyone who has a fear of curves will be glad to know that there are none anywhere in this book! One note, the true beginner, after selecting one of these lovely patterns, will probably be better off looking elsewhere for a more detailed introduction to quilt construction mechanics. This book, like all those I review, is in the guild library.



Until next time- QB.

## Dues reminder!



How do we provide those terrific monthly programs at Ames Quilt Guild? Through your membership dues. As the program committee looks to 2024, they want to provide interesting and educational speakers, and that takes money. Your dues dollars are vital to the continuing success of AQG. Please come to the March meeting with a \$40 check or cash and pay that at the membership table. If you are unable to attend, send your check to treasurer, Kate Hardy, 519 Lynn Street, Ames, Iowa 50014. Thank you!