



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

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.

Everything But Cotton—Julia McLeod

International Award-winning Quilt Maker Is AQG January Speaker

Ames Quilt Guild is hosting Julia McLeod at the January 26 meeting. Our speaker will not be here in person, but comes to us via ZOOM™. According to the contract stipulations agreed upon, this meeting is not one members can enjoy from the comfort of their homes. Rather, the ZOOM™ program can only be viewed at First United Methodist Church.

Julia McLeod is an international award-winning quilt maker living and working in Northern California, just east of San Francisco. She was born and raised in England, and worked as a textile designer in the woolen and worsted mills of Yorkshire and Scotland before taking a job with a luxury tailoring company on London's Savile Row. A design position at a menswear company in New York City brought her to the US, and she has been here ever since. McLeod discovered quilt making on travels through the small Amish towns of Pennsylvania. Some of the first quilts she made were for her young children.

Since 2016, McLeod has specialized in making silk quilts, sourcing her fabrics from neckties, clothing and furnishing fabrics. She has a passion for reusing and recycling, which leads her to rescue vintage blocks and textiles. These reclaimed fabrics become the starting point for her quilt designs.

McLeod was featured on *theQuiltShow.com*'s episode #2902, and is on the teaching faculty of Mancuso Show Management's *Quilt Fest* and *Quilt Festival Houston*. She blogs regularly on a collaborative sewing blog, *See How We Sew*.

Her quilt "Viva la Vida" showed in art galleries and museums around the US, and "Dreaming of Margilan" was featured in issue 152 of *Quiltmania*™ magazine. McCleod is an active member of San Francisco Quilters Guild and East Bay Heritage Quilters.

Her topic will be "**Everything but the Cotton**" in which she will explore the world of quilts that were made with what she calls "Not Cottons". She will explain how quilters who don't have access to a stash of quilter's cotton, have an alternative to which they can turn. This one-hour lecture, trunk show and Q & A session shows quilts – antique and modern – made of wool, silk, polyester and more. The trunk show of her own work shows what you can create with neckties, saris, kimonos and other unusual, "not cotton's" textiles.

Please note: There is a change in our usual practice. For this meeting, the speaker will be first at 6:30 pm, followed by a short business meeting, committee reports, and "show and tell".



to

Everyone

who provided
such delicious food for
our Holiday Celebration
meal in December.



**January snack
providers will be**

Betty Baker
Fay Carmichael
Jane Montgomery

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 some-
thing for Show & Tell.

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

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

Holiday Memories

The end-of-year potluck offered an evening of good food and fellowship.

Name Tags



A special thank-you to Betty Baker for making beautiful name tags for all of the members of the guild. Betty also brought a tree decorated with hand crocheted ornaments as a centerpiece for the buffet table.

Gifts

The voluntary gift exchange brought joy to all who participated. The many handmade treasures given as gifts showed the talent, skill and giving spirit of our members.



Show & Tell



Members took part in show-and-tell of their quilts as well as stockings created for the Any Hero Christmas Stocking Project sponsored by Operation Care Package.

Thank you.



Games

The night included several fun games and winners received a lovely ornament. All organized by Betty Baker and Gloria Sampson.





Giving






Sleep In Heavenly Peace

Orphan Blocks

Orphan Grain Train

Thinking Ahead to Cleaning Closets

After the holidays is often a time when we look in our cupboards or closets and purge the items we no longer want or need. With that in mind, please bring those unwanted items to our guild meetings. Someone will greet you at the FUMC door and load your items into a car for ease in transport. Then, the items will be donated to the Orphan Grain Train to be shipped to those in need. The monthly meeting collections are:

January 26	kitchen items, plastic bowls, plates, glasses, cookware, bakeware, towels, scrubbers, (no glass or electrical)	
February 23	bedding, sheets, towels	
March 23	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 pics below)
- ◆ Orphan Grain Train – in 2023 we will be collecting specific items that are needed by refugees from Ukraine. Each month will be a different item. Please consider donating if you are able.

Look at these 2 quilts made from your 10 ½ inch blocks! Thank you. These quilts were delivered to Sleep in Heavenly Peace on December 9.



Dues Due!

at the January meeting.
Please bring your **\$40.00** dues payment, **cash** or make check to
Ames Quilt Guild
or mail your check to
Kate Hardy, 519 Lynn Street Ames, IA 50014.
Deadline January 26, 2023.

Beware of Post-Holiday Vitamin Deficiency

After the Holidays, quilters can find themselves low in Vitamin "M". Here is one solution.



**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

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
Carolyn Mabee**



I was born and raised in Gowrie, Iowa. My father was a farmer and a carpenter. My mother was a Home Economics and English teacher. I married my high school sweetheart, and we were married 52 years before he passed away. I have four children, three grandchildren and three great grandchildren. Life is good!

I have done many different occupations over the years. We owned and operated a bowling alley, a machine tool business, and I owned and operated an upholstery business. I finished my careers by working in the Iowa State University Financial Aid Office for 26 years and have been retired for 12 years.

When getting ready to retire, I decided I needed more hobbies, so I took adult education classes in quilting, crocheting, and stained glass. I no longer do stained glass, and due to macular degeneration, I am able to do a limited amount of quilting and crocheting; but I haven't quit. My first project was a wall hanging, and I still use it. I love making projects for special occasions and giving quilts as gifts. I also enjoy making fidget quilts and group projects.

Quilting with my granddaughter gives me the most joy. I quilt because I love to see the finished product and to see people enjoying my work. Remember, a quilt does not have to be perfect for someone to love it! So, enjoy what you do, don't make it work.

President's Corner

January is for Giving

Recently, I had a conversation with Gretchen Hartwig of Orphan Grain Train located in Clemons, Iowa. She said that the latest need is for gently used kitchen items. Because of all the devastation in Ukraine and elsewhere, displaced persons are attempting to start over, and they have NOTHING with which to do that. So, as you put things away from your holiday meals, work in the kitchen, and find you have two of something, please bring it to the January 26 Ames Quilt Guild meeting. What is needed? Anything and everything that is not glass and not electrical such as dishes, measuring utensils, spatulas, silverware, towels, hot pads and anything else you would use or need in the kitchen. Thank you in advance for your generosity. December was the last month for scrappy block donors to win a \$10.00 Hy-Vee gift card. However, please continue to bring your 3 ½ x 12 ½ scrappy blocks. Thank you!



Treasurer's Report

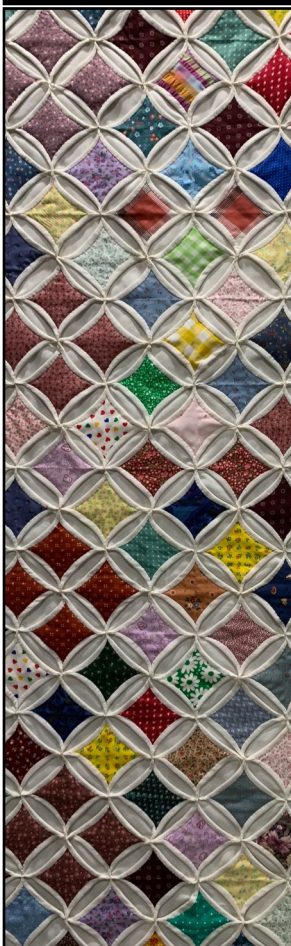
December 10, 2022

Balance Forward:
\$3295.85

Income: \$820.00

Expenses: \$16.03

Ending Balance:
\$4079.82



Ames Quilt Guild Member Spotlight

Ina Pour-Ei

Hi. My name is Ina and, I'm a (mostly) self-taught needle woman. Along the way, I've had a lot of adventures. Thought you'd like to read about a few of them.

I really wanted to learn to sew. My maternal grandmother, who knew absolutely nothing about sewing, remembered that her best friend, Esther, had been an outstanding seamstress. Unfortunately, Esther now had Parkinson's. No problem. My grandmother and I would do the work and Esther would provide the brains. However, when it came time to cut out the fabric, we turned out to be so incompetent that Esther took over the shears. My 7-year-old self loved my new, 100% hand-sewn-by-me dress. After all, Esther's jagged cuts were on the inside and didn't show.



When my parents and I first flew half way around the world to visit my father's family, my traditional grandmother was horrified that a that a "big girl of 9" did not know how to stitch. She handed me a small stamped cross stitch cloth, floss, and a needle. It was the first of many happy summer afternoons; me stitching on my starter piece, my cousins embroidering linens for their hope chests. Then came the big gift. It was a full-sized table topper with one corner worked to show me where to place the colors. But, arrogant little me didn't like the colors. So, I replaced the perfectly good yellow and grass green with harvest gold and avocado green. Can you say "Ugly"?

A few months later, I was ready to design. I carefully transferred my (highly derivative) flower pattern to two pillowcases using typing carbon paper from my mother's desk drawer. So-o-o, no one had ever told me about dressmakers' carbon.

My freshman year in college, I decided to start collecting fabric for a scrap quilt. Any fabric would do. Nasty, green polyester satin. I took it. Cotton fabric with a looser weave than burlap. Fine. Four years later, I stitched the (approximately) 1.5 by 2.5 blocks together into long strips. Then I began joining the long strips together. Hey, if one block was a little wider than its facing block (Remember "approximately"?), I just pleated it until they were the same size. By the way, cheap, polyester satin ravel like crazy.

This first "quilt" turned out to be a large sack, pieced fabric on one side and flannel-backed satin on the other. No batting. No quilting. No tying. But warm.

A few years later, I machine-quilted my first whole cloth quilt while living in an apartment that was being remodeled. Note, there is no such thing as sweeping up ALL the sawdust.

More recently, when my son's cat peed on his T shirt quilt, DS bundled it into a leaf bag, for three months! It took a full gallon of Urine Off (2 week-long soaks, laid out on

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Coming

**February
2023**

**AQG
Member
Spotlights**

**Sarah Nusser
Liz Wilt-Cable**

TIP CORNER

Repurpose Gift Bags

Keep a gift bag on a hook near your pressing station and at your sewing area. Then, as you pick those pesky threads from your blocks, you can easily toss them in the bag and out of your way.



Current Events

The Iowa Quilt Museum

68 E. Court Avenue,
Winterset, IA 50273
515.462.5988
iowaquiltmuseum.org

Exhibit: **These ARE Your Grandmother's Quilts**

December 20, 2022 –
March 12, 2023

Grandmother's quilts are a lifetime of hugs wrapped in thread and fabric. Help us celebrate Grandmothers during our Winter exhibit. We asked for submissions of quilts made by Iowa Grandmothers and you didn't disappoint. This exhibit will showcase a range of 30 or more quilts and tell the stories of the Grandmothers in our lives.

(Continued from page 5)

the garage floor, sandwiched between two sheets of plastic drop cloth), followed by three washes (6 Color Catchers per wash), but that quilt top is as good as new. Yay, me!



And so, the needlework adventures continue. I wonder what will be next.

Ok, here's the capsule biography. Three grown offspring, one husband, one evil cat. I enjoy quilting, garment sewing, tating, embroidering, knitting, crocheting and textile conservation, as well as reading, traveling and going to the theater. I've lived in 3 countries and 10 U.S. states. I used to be a serious dancer and have worked as a librarian (Parks Library), biomedical researcher, and biology instructor (DMACC). I also volunteer with kids.

And that's all (probably way too much) folks!

Wanted

Two or three AQG members to form a nominating committee. Their job would be 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 floor nominations will be accepted. Contact Phyllis Schrag if you'd like to serve.

From the Quilting Bookworm

So, you just ripped out a seam for the 3rd time, your best scissors have gone AWOL, and that irritating rotary cutter has hit one pin too many. What should you do? It is time to take a break and read a good quilting mystery. There are many quilting mystery series out there. One of them, available in our guild library, is the Southern Quilting Mystery series by Elizabeth Craig. In the first book, *Quilt or Innocence*, Beatrice, a retired big city art curator, has just moved to very small town. Even though she can barely sew on a button, Beatrice is dragged to a meeting of the Village Quit Guild, Dappled Hills' most important social group. Soon Beatrice is very busy, getting to know her new neighbors, learning to quilt and investigating the death of a very unpleasant guild member. With the help of Meadow, her former flower child neighbor, and two dogs (Meadow's enormous Boris and her own small corgi, Noo-noo), Beatrice solves the murder and all the good guys live happily after. Looking for a relaxing read where everyone is friendly, seams are always a perfect ¼ inch and even novices can applique beautifully, check out *Quilt or Innocence*.



Until next time-QB.

Ames Quilt Guild
Meeting Minutes
December 1, 2022

1. Welcome

- a. Meeting called to order at 6:00 PM by President Phyllis Schrag

2. Announcements

- a. Just a quick reminder that we will continue to accept quilt block donations throughout 2023 for a number of great causes.
 - i. 3.5" X 12" blocks: used to make quilts for Sleep in Heavenly Peace
 - ii. 10.5" blocks: used for orphan blocks
 - iii. Orphan Grain Train – in 2023 we will be collecting specific items that are needed by refugees from Ukraine. Each month will be a different item. In January we will be collecting plastic kitchen items (dishes, utensils, etc.). Please consider donating if you are able.

3. Old Business

- a. The October 2022 minutes were approved with no changes.
- b. Treasurer's Report
 - i. Provided in the newsletter.

4. New Business

- a. No new business.

5. Committee Reports

- a. **Activities/Projects** (Sheila Arney, Ramona Tapper) – no report out
- b. **Hospitality** (Barb Holst) – no report out
- c. **Membership** (Marge Fitzgerald, Susan Fraser)
 - i. 1 guest and no new members. There were 36 total attendees.
- d. **Communication** (Kathy Glatz (newsletter), Steve Huffman (website), Kathy Jones (Facebook)) – no report out
- e. **Programs** (Betty Baker) – no report out
- f. **Small Groups** (Marge Fitzgerald) – no report out
- g. **Sound Support** (Steve Huffman) – no report out

6. Program

- a. The end-of-year potluck was had. After enjoying good food and fellowship, members took part in show-and-tell of stockings for donation to servicemembers as well as many quilts. The night concluded with several fun games. A special thank-you to Betty Baker for making beautiful name tags for all of the members of the guild and for Betty Baker and Gloria Sampson who provided the fun games.

See You Next Year!