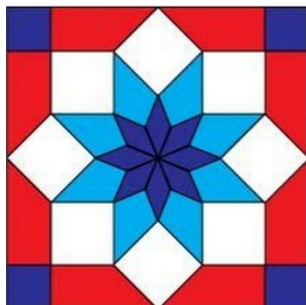




Starlight Express

Starlight Quilters Guild

On the web at <https://starlightquilters.com>

On Facebook at www.facebook.com/StarlightQuiltersGuild/

July 20, 2026

Starlight Quilt Guild Officers and Committees

President: Donna Holloway

Heartland Quilt Network Rep: Mary Honas

KCRQF Representative: Tara Culley

Vice President: Janette Sheldon

Guild Meetings Operations Manager: Alison Erickson

Guild Meetings Volunteers: Ann Doherty, Jan Ketchum, Shirley Lewis

Program Committee: Mary Lou Guy

Past President: Amy Ubben

Quilting Activities Manager: Barbara McMahon

Accuquilt: Cheryl Tomson

Community Service: Pam Lanza

Guild Challenge: Karen Edwards & Shirley Lewis

Project Linus: Mary Honas & Kate McCabe

Retreats: Donna Holloway

Workshops: Tammy Smith

Treasurer: Barb Dietz

Membership: Diane Phillips

Monthly Raffle: Janette Sheldon, Donna Holloway, Amy Ubben

Quilt Show: Janette Sheldon, Kim Cawthon, Alison Erickson

Raffle/Opportunity Quilt:

Secretary: Michele Fix
(starlightquilters@gmail.com)

Newsletter: Suzanne Andrews
(starlightnewsletter@gmail.com)

Photographer/Graphic Design: Laura Bogue

Website Manager: Janice McKee



From the President

The Mathematical Mind of the Quilter: Solving Puzzles One Block at a Time

We often view quilting as an artistic hobby or a comforting escape. But look closer at any quilter and you will see a masterclass in advanced problem-solving. Quilting is more than a craft; it is

a gateway to sharpening your mind for complex, multi-dimensional challenges. Every quilt is an exercise in structural engineering. We cut flat yardage into geometric fragments and reconstruct them into massive visual systems. When planning a layout, your brain calculates complex spatial relationships. You must predict things like how rotating a single triangle changes the entire secondary pattern. This continuous exercise in spatial reasoning trains the brain to visualize how small variables interact within a large system.

In addition, establishing the right sequence determines success. Press seams the wrong way, and your intersections bulk. Sew borders without measuring the top, center and bottom and your quilt top ripples. Every project demands a strict, logical order of operations. Quilters must constantly manage dependencies: If I press this row to the left, how does it impact the alignment three steps from now? This forward-thinking logic builds mental muscles that help us organize chaos in our daily lives.

Perhaps the greatest intellectual gift of quilting is how it reframes failure. Everyone keeps a seam ripper close by—not as a symbol of defeat, but as a tool for iteration. When a point gets cut off, the project isn't ruined. We unpick the stitches, find where the alignment drifted, and try again. This strips away the anxiety of making mistakes, proving that errors are simply data points on the path to a solution.

In a fast-paced world that demands instant results, quilting forces us to slow down and sit with a problem. We must respect our materials, understand our constraints, and adapt our techniques. The next time you sit down in your sewing area, reframe the experience. You aren't just making a quilt top. You are entering a laboratory filled with opportunities. With every block you square up and every corner you match, you are sharpening your mind to untangle the complex knots of everyday life.

~Donna Holloway
SQG President
July 2026



STARLIGHT QUILTERS GUILD
Treasurer's Report
June 2026

	Beginning Checkbook Balance	\$ 12,986.89	
	CD's at Capitol Federal	17,415.07	
	Petty Cash	60.00	
Cash Balance			30,461.96
Income			
	Membership Dues	280.00	
	Bucket Babes	135.00	
	Workshop fee	150.00	
	Retreat	1,470.00	
	Total Income		2,035.00
Expenses			
	Meeting Facility Rental	232.50	
	Program	400.00	
	Storage Expense	130.00	
	Misc expense - checks	33.20	
	PayPal Fees	27.64	
	Total Expenses		823.34
	Ending Checkbook Balance	14,198.55	
	CD's at Capitol Federal	17,415.07	
	Petty Cash	60.00	
Cash Balance			\$ 31,673.62
	Submitted by Barbara Dietz, Treasurer		

July Fat Quarters

Fat quarters for July are Fall. I love the colors of fall brown, gold, green, that red the leaves turn. Let your stash lead you to the cooler weather of fall. Do you know what theme you will choose when you are the winner?

~Jan Ketchum

July Program – Alice Ridge Quilts

Kawandi, Siddi, & Kantha Stitching



Alice Ridge is a quilter, instructor and speaker who travels the world seeking new experiences and techniques. These include Japanese Sashiko and Boro, Korean Pojagi and Seeksilnubi, Central American Molas, English Paper Piecing, Celtic Knotwork, Hawaiian Needle turn Applique, and African Kawandi and Kantha stitching.

She has a trunk show that will give us a look at Kawandi, Siddi, and Kantha stitching styles and techniques, similar yet different!!!

*~Mary Lou Guy
Programs*

Community Service News

Our Community Service Projects are BAGS of fun! We have Directional Bag kits that are simple to make and will be distributed to un-homed people with self-care items inside. And we are still offering kits for Walker bags for adults and Children's Activity bags for children in the ER. Kits and printed instructions will be available at meetings and directions are also on our website.

I am out for the next few meetings so another member will be helping to put the bag kits out and collect them after the meeting. Thank you!



Guild Challenge Reminder

I hope lots of you are building your Animal House. Reminder rules.... any size, at least one animal and one house on the front, okay to use fabric with animals and houses printed on it, must be made this year, due at October meeting, exercise your design muscles, have fun!

~Karen Edwards and Shirley Lewis



Project Linus

Thank you to all the quilters who donated Linus quilts in June.

Marsha Reeves – 1

Opal Yarnell – 4

Kathy Keehn – 1

Suzie Steele – 2

Melissa Cowan – 2

Total of TEN for June, and a total for the year of **119**.

Be sure to check out our table at the July meeting to see what supplies we have to offer.

See you all at the meeting.

*~Kate & Mary
Project Linus*

Fall Retreat Reminder

The **Starlight Quilters Annual Fall Retreat** will be **Friday-Sunday: November 6-8, 2026**.

This year we will be going to a more tranquil location and retreating at the Hollis Renewal Center. <https://holliscenter.org/> The Lodge will accommodate up to 38 day retreaters and has a large deck, access to many trails and is in an overall serene setting. We will also have access to the cottage next door that has a very large living room/lounge area if you need a break from sewing and the weather isn't cooperating.

Day retreat price will be \$75 and includes your workspace and 4 meals (dinner Friday, lunch and dinner on Saturday, and lunch on Sunday). The workspace will be available starting from 10AM Friday until 4PM Sunday – you can stay as late or arrive as early as you'd like throughout the weekend.

Hoping you can enjoy us for a weekend of sewing, inspiration and of course, a great time of socializing with your fellow guild members!

Retreat Registration link: <https://forms.gle/1rBYLPXZJop6ZVW67>

More details are on the Guild Website, or contact Donna if you have any questions!

*~Donna Holloway
Retreats*

August Workshop: Ahead of the Curve - Improvising a Round with Diane Harris

Diane Harris is a scrap quilt specialist. After 11 years as an editor for Quiltmaker magazine, she formed Stash Bandit to help quilters bust through their stash and make quilts that are both unique and beautiful. Learn more at stashbandit.net and on Instagram @stashbanditquilts.

Class Description:

You've tried making curves. You've tried making curves with rulers. And neither one gave you much satisfaction. So how about trying improv?

Diane Harris describes her upcoming workshop like this:

"I'm excited for this new class because improvisational curves are fun and easy! I'll teach you how to cut and sew the curves while paying attention to value and scale in your fabrics so that your results are smashing. We'll cover lots of ideas for adding machine quilting details and hand stitched embellishments, and I'll show you how to finish it off with a facing instead of a binding."

Workshop Details:

Date: Wednesday, August 26, 2026

Time: 9am-4pm

Location: Merriam Community Center,
Campbell Room



Cost: \$55 – members

\$75 – non-members

Max Students: 20

*~Tammy Smith
Workshops*

Accuquilt News

Thanks to the donation from a couple of new members, our library of Accuquilt dies has grown. We always welcome such donations, so more options are available for all to use. The new dies include applique of sea creatures, cupcake, funky flowers, orange peel, and 4" letters of BABY. New basic shapes include a parallelogram, a 4 ¾" square to use on point for square in a square blocks, half square triangles to finish at 3" and 4", and quarter square triangles to finish at 3 ½", 4", and 4 ½". Think of all the blocks you can design using these and the dies we already had! As always, contact me to check out the Accuquilt cutter or dies and remember that the Accuquilt is available at every guild sew day.

*~Cheryl Tomson
Accuquilt Manager*



MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Starlight currently has 88 members. We had 60 members and 1 visitor at our June meeting.

Please welcome new member: Kristine Mitchell

*~Diane Phillips
Membership*

July Birthdays

Diane Phillips	7/01
Janice McKee	7/17
Ann Doherty	7/20
Mary Honas	7/20
Dana Switzer	7/22
Barbara Dietz	7/26



FREE

- FREE Big Board. Sets on top of a standard ironing board and measures 22" x 58". Has a stain resistant cover attached to the board.
- Contact Barb Dietz at bjdietz@swbell.net or by phone (check the directory)

A man and a quilt will both keep you warm at night, but a quilt never says anything stupid.



Kansas City - Overland Park, KS

Overland Park Convention Center
August 6, 7 & 8, 2026

Exhibit Hall Hours:

Thurs. & Fri. 10am - 5:30pm

Sat. 10am - 5pm

Quilt Show



TWILIGHT STITCHERS QUILT GUILD



"Silver Celebration"

25th Annual Quilt Show

Friday
September 11
 9 AM - 5 PM

Saturday
September 12
 9 AM - 3 PM

**2026
OPPORTUNITY QUILT**

"Blueberry Fields"

Pieced and quilted by Becky Collis. Measures 82" X 82".

Purchase tickets.

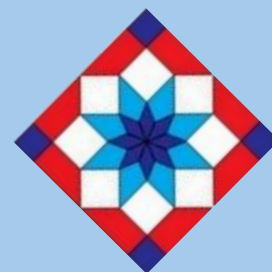
WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/
TWILIGHTSTITCHERS

\$5 ADMISSION

AGES 12 & UNDER - FREE

**FIRST UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**

301 SW WOODS CHAPEL RD.
BLUE SPRINGS, MO 64015



Mark Your Calendars:

July 28 – SQG Guild Meeting

Merriam Community Center
 6:30pm

July 29 – Workshop

Kawandi & Kantha Workshop
 9:00am – 4:00pm
 Merriam Community Center

August 6-8

Original Sewing & Quilt Expo
 Overland Park Convention Center

August 6 – Open Sew

6:00pm – 8:00pm
 Olathe Library, Indian Creek

August 26 – SQG Meeting

Merriam Community Center
 Diane Harris of Stash Bandit Quilts

August 27 – Workshop

Merriam Community Center
 Improv Circles with
 Diane Harris

Advertisements

City's Edge Quilt Shop has classes and more!
Amy Senatore, Owner www.citysedgestudio.com
616 W. Main Street, Warsaw, MO 65355
Mon-Fri 10a – 5p and Sat 9a – 3p

Custom Machine Embroidery – quilt labels, towels, gifts, T-shirts, logos, banners, and so much more. Fast turnaround time on orders.
Phone **Judy Brennan**, 913-788-0582

C & S Creations – Custom wood working projects. Let us help you with your sewing /hobby room needs. Custom workstations, Featherweight cabinets, ruler holders, scissor racks. **Cheryl & Scott Diebold**,
Phone 913-677-0838

Machine Quilting – Edge-to-Edge
Computerized longarm machine quilting by **Elizabeth Brown**. Phone 913-626-7135
Website www.Duelingthread.com

Rosecliff Quilts – Provide quilting services which include longarm edge-to-edge quilting for unfinished quilt tops, baby quilts, t-shirt memory quilts and embroidery patches.
Phone: **Stephanie Rector**, 816-560-9863
Email: rosecliffquilts@gmail.com

Donna's Singer Service – Does your Featherweight need a good clean and oil? Is it not sewing like it should? I can clean and service your Featherweight including Singer models 15,99, 221, 222, and 301. Reasonable fees & timely service.
Donna di Natale, phone 913-451-0283

Machine Quilting –Machine quilting, all styles of quilting from simple hand-guided designs to custom creations. Guild members, I will piece your backing at no extra charge!
Peggy Skaith 913-341-0525

Keehn 2 Quilt – **Kathy and Erin** provide high quality finishes for every project - custom hand guided and *Prostitcher* edge to edge precision offered. Contact us today to finish your quilt masterpiece!
913-940-9849 www.keehn2quilt.com keehn2quilt@gmail.com