



# Cottonwood Quilters of Nebraska The Cottonwood Courier

Volume 46, Number 9  
May 2026

Appreciation  
of the Art of  
Quilting, Its  
History,  
Makers and  
Fellowship.

## Welcome to May!

Spring is here, and we're excited for our annual salad & dessert potluck dinner and the opportunity to honor our volunteers who go above and beyond to keep our guild strong. I also look forward to seeing the different "block of the month" and "challenge" quilt entries. Viewer's choice deems the winners! Be sure to come early to cast your vote!

It's hard to believe this is the final newsletter of the year. I have truly enjoyed serving as Chairperson. Thank you to everyone who helped throughout the year as we worked together and learned from one another. Our mix of backgrounds, skills, and experiences has fostered an open, creative environment.

This year, I also tried a few new ideas at our meetings, and I hope you enjoyed them:

- I brought back the use of a power point at every meeting. I hope you liked seeing event highlights, volunteer recognition, birthday wishes, and highlights from the prior months Show & Tell. By adding an agenda, it helped us stay organized and on track.
- I opened meetings with some light activities to engage the group in a little fun (or at least that was my attempt). We started by playing "Would you Rather..." and "Never have I ever..." to learn more about each other. A special thank-you to Janelle Reed—she was the *only one* who participated in "Thread Talk" by bringing spools of thread and sharing how they represent her quilting journey. Quilt block "Wheel of Fortune" added a competitive spirit to the meetings.
- I began an initiative to reach out to our visitors and new members with a personal note, welcoming them to our guild and describing the benefits of guild membership. The growth and sustainability of our guild relies upon a friendly first impression and a welcoming environment. We all play a role in this endeavor.

As we look ahead, let's stay open to fresh ideas. Trying new things helps us meet members' changing interests, strengthen participation, and support continued growth. Let's keep the spark alive!

Warm regards,  
Terry Micheels,  
Chairperson

Remember to turn  
off or silence your  
cell phones before  
the meeting starts!

## May Greeters

Linda Hooker  
Deb Kubik

## May Holders and Folders

Marti Neely  
Linda Plack  
Joani Schelm  
Tania Uram  
Sharlene West

## May Welcome Committee

Marilyn Seidel  
Kay Sieck

## Birthdays

### MAY

1 April Blugas  
2 Susie Bonder  
2 Deb Kubik  
4 Betty Cook  
6 Beth Meier  
8 Nancy Haack  
8 Bonnie Mayer  
9 Sandra Kovanda  
14 Hazel Stahl  
16 Judy Hess  
21 Tania Uram  
22 Samala Brown  
22 Toni Iwasaki  
22 Frances Williamson  
23 Jeannie Staub  
24 Barb Maag  
25 Mary Ann Morris  
29 Ruth Jaynes  
29 Peggy Oliva  
29 Mary Welsh

### JUNE

4 Mary Barnett Ramirez  
6 Paulette Cramer  
7 Teresa Lippincott  
9 Sheri Shannon  
11 Diane Bessette  
12 Gaylene Brennan  
15 Linda Boston  
15 Susan Jacobs  
16 Carol Coniglio  
17 Francie Conrad  
17 Vicki Hoskovec  
20 Eileen Siefert  
25 Michaela Brandt  
26 Nancy Lanning  
29 Kelly Billington  
29 Kathy Smith

### JULY

8 Terry Harouff  
12 Marguerite Hansen  
14 Karen Fitzgibbons  
18 Becky Jensen  
20 Bonnie Bednar  
20 Deb Fogleman  
23 Karen Bennett  
23 Kate Sullivan  
24 Mary Leddy  
25 Brenda Tooker  
26 Amy Kragnes  
26 Kathleen Carpender  
27 Jackie Farley



For our final meeting of 2025/2026 guild year, we will have a **potluck salad supper**.

We're asking everyone to bring something to share:

- Last names starting A-M ~ Bring a dessert
- Last names starting N-Z ~ Bring a salad or veggie
- Everyone bring your own preferred drink ~ Water will be provided

Please see Gaylene Brennan or Terry Micheels for questions

**MAY 18<sup>TH</sup> COMBINED MEETING  
SALAD SUPPER**

## COTTONWOOD QUILT GUILD GENERAL MEETING

April 20, 2026

Terry Micheels, 25-26 chairperson, welcomed Cottonwood Guild members to the April meeting.

Gaylene Brennan introduced our speaker, Carolyn McCormick of CM Designs. Carolyn is the inventor of the Add-A Quarter ruler. Carolyn presented the program "The Women that Have influenced Quilting". Carolyn went through women in history that quilted along with her own beautiful quilts. Members showed blocks that were created at the workshop "Yellowstone Trail".

Terry introduced and welcomed new members and guests.

### Announcements:

Signup sheets are being circulated for holders and folders for next year.

Terry recognized the committee members who organized a fantastic bus trip "Dakota Dash". Eight shops were visited in two days. A great time was had by all!

May 18<sup>th</sup> meeting will be a combined meeting held in the evening. We will have a salad – dessert luncheon like last year. Terry thanked Gaylene for organizing. Going by first letter of your last name:

A-M bring a dessert

N-Z bring a salad

Voting for challenges will also take place during the meeting.

Nominations for awards must be to Terry by midnight April 21<sup>st</sup>.

Still need volunteers to lead the groups for Quilts & Covers and Studio Tour.

### Business meeting:

Minutes from the March meeting was approved.

Financial report was approved.

It was voted on by members for the Slate of Candidates for next year:

Chairperson – Nancy McReynolds

Chairperson – elect – Gaylene Brennan

Secretary – Jill Straight (2<sup>nd</sup> year of 2-year term)

Treasurer – Kitty Bailey

Program Chair – Susie Bonder

Candidates were approved by majority vote.

### Committee reports

Marty Neeley – Opportunity Quilts. Two quilts were shown to purchase raffle tickets at the May meeting. A limited number of tickets will be available. First ticket drawn will get choice of quilt.

Vaylene Roberts – Quilts and Covers – A sew day will be held on April 25<sup>th</sup> at St John's Lutheran Church in Bennington, 9 am to 5 pm. Please bring dish to share for potluck lunch.

Cathy Pasko – NICU quilts – quilt kits are available to take home. Cathy also reported next retreat will be July 16-19.

Barb Trochim, "This is How I Roll" challenge quilts were turned in tonight. Contact Barb if you would like to turn into her. Viewer's choice voting at May meeting.

Janelle Reed- Block of the Month quilts were turned in. Contact Janelle if you have one to turn in. Viewer's choice voting at May meeting. Janelle also reported on the 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party celebration. Seeking a 12 ½ inch block design used for Logo.

Bring block to August meeting and a viewer's choice voting will be held.

Susan Polling – Quilt Show – A date and venue has been set. The show will be held at The Covenant Presbyterian Church at 150<sup>th</sup> and Blondo on October 21-23, 2027.

Volunteers are still needed to organize the Mini Raffle and Quilt Mom.

Show and Tell

Fat Quarter drawings. Next month will be patriotic

Door prizes

Respectfully submitted,  
Jill Straight, Secretary



**April Meeting**

**Attendees:**

Night: 77 members

Day: 59 members

| Cottonwood Quilt Guild               |                                   |                                                  |                      |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Financial Report                     |                                   |                                                  |                      |
| Beginning Checkbook Balance 4/1/2026 |                                   |                                                  | \$ 20,510.43         |
| <b>Income</b>                        |                                   |                                                  |                      |
|                                      | Deposit                           | Membership Income                                | \$ 122.50            |
|                                      | Deposit                           | Bus Trip Fees                                    | \$ 4,635.00          |
|                                      | Deposit                           | Interest Income                                  | \$ 17.40             |
| <b>Total Income</b>                  |                                   |                                                  | <b>\$ 4,774.90</b>   |
| <b>Expenses</b>                      |                                   |                                                  |                      |
| 4103                                 | Susan Seidel                      | April Newsletter Printing                        | \$ (59.07)           |
| 4104                                 | VOID                              |                                                  | \$ -                 |
| 4105                                 | Janelle Reed                      | Block of the Month - Prize Money                 | \$ (135.00)          |
| 4106                                 | Barbara Trochim                   | Challenge Quilt - Prize Money                    | \$ (15.00)           |
| 4107                                 | Janelle Reed                      | April Speaker - Lunch                            | \$ (15.16)           |
| 4108                                 | Carolyn McCormick                 | April Speaker - Lecture, Workshop, Travel        | \$ (1,950.54)        |
| 4109                                 | Milt's Mini Storage               | Storage Unit Rental, May-October 2026            | \$ (629.80)          |
| 4110                                 | JoAnn Leners                      | Quilts & Covers - 2 Rolls Batting                | \$ (280.00)          |
| 4111                                 | Susan Jacobs                      | Bus Trip Refund - Hotel                          | \$ (145.00)          |
| 4112                                 | Nancy Deicke                      | Bus Trip Refund - Hotel                          | \$ (145.00)          |
| 4113                                 | The Relevant Center               | Rental - March & April Meetings                  | \$ (1,200.00)        |
| NSF                                  | Returned Check                    | Bus Trip Payment                                 | \$ (225.00)          |
| Trsfr                                | Credit Card - Casey's             | Bus Trip - Pizza Lunch                           | \$ (124.37)          |
| Trsfr                                | Credit Card - Holiday Inn Express | Bus Trip - Hotel                                 | \$ (3,181.42)        |
| Trsfr                                | Credit Card - Holiday Inn Express | April Speaker - Hotel                            | \$ (300.60)          |
| 4114                                 | Cynthia McCall                    | Bus Trip-Box Lunches, Water, Give Aways          | \$ (685.62)          |
| 4115                                 | Mary Hamilton                     | Bus Trip-Donut Holes, Handouts                   | \$ (99.24)           |
| 4116                                 | Kim O'Grady                       | Bus Trip-Expenses to research hotel, shops, etc. | \$ (225.00)          |
| 4117                                 | Mary Hamilton                     | Bus Driver Tip & Dinner                          | \$ (209.49)          |
| <b>Total Expenses</b>                |                                   |                                                  | <b>\$ (9,625.31)</b> |
| Ending Checkbook Balance 4/30/2026   |                                   |                                                  | <b>\$ 15,660.02</b>  |

## IT'S RENEWAL TIME

With the arrival of spring, the guild is winding down its year and that means renewal time is once again upon us. We will continue taking renewals at the May meeting. (Remember only the evening meeting.)

Please bring your completed renewal form from off our website or out of your online newsletter, fill it out ahead of time and have your **CHECK** ready. **NO CASH, PLEASE** as this complicates the bookkeeping. Your advance prep work will help move the line forward more quickly and allow everyone to get on to the fun and fellowship of the actual meeting.

**Please note that checks will not be cashed until July!**

REMEMBER, if you don't pay your dues by the May meeting, you will be charged a \$5.00 late fee and run the risk of not having your name in the membership book that comes out in the fall. It is also MUCH easier at the August meeting if all you have to do is check in and pick up your Yearbook.

Also remember that we have a Junior membership level for kids from 10-18. They must, however, be accompanied to meetings with a sponsor that is a current member, and they are not eligible to attend workshops.

See you in May and thanks for your cooperation and support.

# 2026-27 PROGRAMS & WORKSHOPS

(For Workshop sign-ups, please use the form in the online newsletter)

**Sign-up now!**

## AUGUST 17, 2026

**Speaker** Amy Bradley w/Amy Bradley Designs [www.amybradleydesigns.com](http://www.amybradleydesigns.com)

**Lecture** "TBD"

**Workshop** "Applique" – Participants may choose any of Amy's patterns. We are anticipating this to be a very popular workshop; therefore, we are tentatively offering this workshop twice. If the Monday, August 17 class 'sells out', then a second workshop will be offered on Tuesday, August 18.

## SEPTEMBER 21 & 22, 2026

**Speaker** To Be Announced

**Lecture** "Quilts, Quilts, and More Quilts!"

**Workshop** "Jelly Roll Rug" w/Marguerite Hansen

Learn the tips and tricks of this fun jelly roll rug in our class. Marguerite will walk you through all the steps first by making a coaster and then you will have the confidence to tackle your own rug in colors to match your decor. She'll also show you how to adjust the size for trivets and placemats as well.

## OCTOBER 19 & 20, 2026

**Speaker** Karen Hill

**Lecture** "Miniatures Just for Fun"

Karen has always been attracted to little versions of big things which define miniature quilts. While they are difficult to cuddle under, they are fun to make and easy to display. This lecture discusses the criteria and techniques for creating miniatures just for fun and her 'Trunk Show' will provide the inspiration.

**Workshop** "Miniature"

Learn techniques that help to create miniature quilts. A miniature quilt will be started in class.

## NOVEMBER 16 & 17, 2026

**Speaker** Cindy Erickson, Quilt Judge

**Lecture** "From Seam to Supreme – How Quilts Win Hearts (and Ribbons)"

**Workshop** "Snow Crystal" with Carol Coniglio

In this class you'll learn to use Studio 180 Design's Star 60 Tool to create this beautiful project. With Carol as your instructor, you will learn the tips and tricks of this ruler to create a wall hanging, table topper or tree skirt. Three different sizes are available (32", 46", 60"). Carol is a certified Studio 180 Design Certified Instructor. Be sure to follow her on Facebook – Just One More Seam.

## JANUARY 18, 2027 (Zoom)

**Speaker** Phyllis Cullen w/Phyllis Cullen Art Studio [www.phylliscullenartstudio.com](http://www.phylliscullenartstudio.com)

**Lecture** "It's All About the Face"

This all about portrait quilting. As the authors of the book by the same name Phyllis will guide you through numerous examples and style of quilted portraits, of people and animals. She will include lessons on the various aspects of creating these pieces, including posing, choosing photos, creating patterns, values, choosing fabrics, and how to quilt faces. You'll receive lots of information and hopefully inspiration to get out and "make a face!"

**Workshop** none



## FEBRUARY 15 & 16, 2027

**Speaker** Chris Hoffman w/Acme Fabric & Quilt Company, [www.acmefabric.com](http://www.acmefabric.com)

**Lecture** "To Market ... to Market"

Chris has turned a beloved hobby into a brick-and-mortar shop in Blair, Nebraska. Her shop is full of vibrant fabrics, sewing notions, and quilting supplies to meet the creative needs of our community! Chris will be sharing how the quilt markets inspire her merchandise purchases that tempt us all.

**Workshop** "Sashiko Stitching 101" w/ Susie Bonder

Learn how to do Sashiko with this beginner-friendly class with Susie. You'll learn basic stitches, patterns and tips to start this Japanese hand sewing technique.



## MARCH 15 & 16, 2027

**Speaker** Cottonwood Members

**Lecture** "Speed Dating"

This is an opportunity to connect with several speakers to learn new quilting techniques.

**Workshop** "Bodobo Bags" w/Brooke Erickson

Join Brooke as you make not one, not two, but all three sizes of these adorable fully-lined nesting bags with no exposed seams.



## APRIL 19 & 20, 2027

**Speaker** David and Teresa Duwe, with Yeswedequilts [Yeswedequilts.com](http://Yeswedequilts.com)

**Lecture** "What's Old is New Again"

Join David and Teresa as they share a collection of over 40 quilts recreated and reborn using newer techniques, many with old linens.

**Workshop** "Antique Hanky Quilts"

What do you do with all your old linens? Make a small fat quarter quilt.



## MAY 17, 2027 – Year End Wrap-Up Meeting

## Save The Date!

### 2027 Cottonwood Quilt Show

### Flights of Fancy

October 21-23, 2027

We still need two more Committee Heads:

**Quilt Mom(s)** – This person (or persons) takes our quilt show Raffle Quilt to different locations and events to show our quilt and sell raffle tickets. Grab a friend and have fun!

**Mini-Raffle & Silent Auction** – This person will help collect the donations, then organize them for the show. We have one person, but this committee needs more than one. Someone needs to have space to store the donations. Grab a couple friends for this one!

Contact Susan Poling, 402-215-1138, with any questions and to volunteer.

## Quilts & Covers

Quilts and Covers (Q&C) provides a valuable service to our community. After many years of service, the current Q&C chairpersons are stepping down from their role. The Steering Committee is considering options to reorganize the committee into manageable, smaller roles. We are seeking chair(s) to lead a small group of individuals with responsibility to manage donations, complete quilts/kits, coordinate sew days and oversee quilt distribution. The Q&C chair(s) will have hands-on support to reorganize the committee's responsibilities. Please contact Nancy McReynolds for more information.

## COTTONWOOD QUILTERS 50TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

### March 2030

Cottonwood Quilters Guild will be 50 years old in March of 2030! That seems like a long way off, but we have some ideas for getting all members involved in the celebration and one in particular will take some prep time. If you would like to participate in the planning or have ideas to share, please contact Janelle Reed at [janlsews@gmail.com](mailto:janlsews@gmail.com) or 402-639-4764. We will meet before the August meeting to coordinate the Block Contest Voting.

**Please participate in the Block Logo Contest!** We want to have a lot of blocks to choose from at the August meeting! The contest block must be 12". For planned projects using the chosen block, we will be enlarging it to 18 or 24", so it's ok if you use little pieces. You may make any traditional or open-source pattern tree block. If you want to frame your tree in your favorite star, square-in-square or churn block, for example, that is ok, too. You can design your own tree if you like, maybe using your favorite go-to block! Don't worry, you don't have to provide instructions for making it. Join in the fun!!

### BLOCK LOGO CONTEST

The 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday Committee is looking for a Block design to use as a logo for the celebration. It will be used for merchandise to commemorate the occasion and also for planned and to-be-determined group projects to include all members in the celebration.

#### Birthday Block Contest Rules are:

- Sewer-Friendly! We will encourage all members to participate in projects using this block.
- It may be an Original Design or a Traditional or Open Resourced Block or a variation of such.
- It must contain a tree – any kind of tree.
- Any technique may be used – pieced, paper-pieced, applique (hand-, fused-, or machine-) or a combination of techniques.
- Make a 12" block (12 ½" unfinished) predominantly green(s) and gold(s).
- Bring your block to the August 2026 combined meeting. We will display all blocks and hold a Viewers' Choice election to select The Birthday Block.
- All blocks will be returned to the makers.

Have fun and be a part of the Celebration!

## 2025/2026 Quilt Challenge *This Is How I Roll!*

### AND

### "Starstruck" Block of the Month

#### VOTE ON BLOCK OF THE MONTH AND CHALLENGE QUILTS AT THE MAY MEETING!

Thank you to everyone who turned in their Challenge and BOM quilts at the April meetings!

We will be displaying them at the May meeting for Viewers' Choice Voting and awarding prizes!

Everybody be sure to vote! There are amazing entries!

**Remember to take your quilt home with you after the meeting.**

Thank you to all who participated this year!

Barb Trochim & Janelle Reed

### Summer Retreat

Join us for the Summer Guild Retreat. We will be at Carol Joy Holing from July 16-19. You will have four days to sew to your heart's delight. So, come join us for all or part of the time.

Questions: call Christine Hess-Baker 402-306-6928 or email: [scgibaker@cox.net](mailto:scgibaker@cox.net). The registration form can be found in the online newsletter.

### Door Prizes

Thank you to all the members who have donated items for the door prizes. Your generosity is greatly appreciated! Thank you! Thank you!

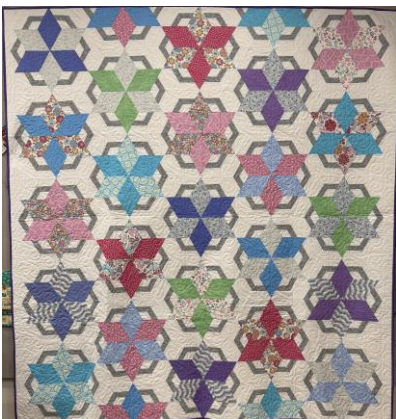
Nancy McReynolds & Lora Swett

## Quilts and Covers Opportunity Quilt Raffle

**Attention Members!** During the May meeting we will be selling tickets for the opportunity to win 1 of 2 beautiful quilts. Both quilts were made and donated by members. (See photos below) There will be only 150 tickets available, at a cost of \$5.00 each. Owner of the first ticket drawn gets to pick which quilt they win, the next winner gets the other quilt. **The tickets will sell fast, so have your money ready to go and get your tickets before they are gone!**

The money raised from this project will be used to support the expenses of the Quilts and Covers committee. We will begin selling tickets when the doors open for the meeting at 5:30 pm.

Marti Neely



"Windmills"  
Made by Nancy  
McReynolds



Made by the  
Cover Girls  
small group



## Seeking Volunteers for 2026-27

As your Chair-Elect, I have been communicating with guild members to recruit volunteers for available positions in the upcoming year. Our guild depends on our volunteers to deliver successful programs, creative classes, and engaging activities. Volunteering offers benefits, such as developing new skills, connecting with others, and building new relationships. Without individuals who volunteer their time and effort, we would not be able to provide the many opportunities for our members.

**The following positions are currently available for the 2026-27 guild year:**

- **Quilts & Covers Chairpersons** (or Committee or Small Group!)
  - See Page 4 for more information
- **Studio Tour**

For all inquiries, please contact Nancy McReynolds, Chair-Elect.

### **STILL HAVE BILLS?**

Please turn in **ALL** expenses to our Treasurer Sue, for this last year by **May 18<sup>th</sup>**! Thank you.

## Monthly Volunteer Opportunities

We will continue with sign-ups for 2026-27 Greeters, Holders and Folders, and the Welcome Committee.

- **Greeters** meet people at the doors to welcome everyone to the meetings.
- **Holders and Folders** hold the quilts for the speakers and during Show and Tell. They also help deliver prizes for Fat Quarters and Door Prizes.
- **The Welcome Committee** meets brand new members of the guild at the Sign In table and takes them around to all the tables to explain what everything is about and to answer their questions.

**Look for the sign-up sheets and please sign up now!**

### **Shelter Donations**

**No items** in May.

Deb Kubik & Sandy Kovanda

## Quilts for the NICU

### All quilts donated to Methodist Women's Hospital

Methodist Women's Hospital now has 63 beds in the NICU. Because of YOU, each baby staying in the NICU for a length of time will receive a quilt - **to date over 1,100 quilts have been donated.**

Want to be a part of this group project ... pick up a kit at the next guild meeting. You can also use your own fabric, if you'd like. We love completed quilts, but if you do not quilt, a completed top is very much appreciated. If you are new to long arming, here is a great way to practice your skills. We are always in need of volunteers: sewing tops, long arming, and binding finished quilts.

Specifications: Approximately 36 X 44, bright child-friendly fabrics (cotton or flannel – NO minke) with a coordinating backing. KITS should include: 3- 1 yard fabric pieces, backing, binding, and batting. **If you do not quilt your tops, please return batting and binding so the top can be completed.**

Finished quilts (or tops) can be turned in at a guild meeting or to any of us listed below

**Ideas for NICU quilts** - patterns (and free patterns) can be found on our web page under "Guild Activities – NICU Quilt Project". Just remember, quilts need to be approximately 36x44, so some adjustments need to be made.

#### **NICU FABRIC NEEDED**

For us to make up more kits, we are in need of child-friendly fabric. If you should be cleaning your studio and come across this type of fabric or larger amounts (we can use for backings), please drop off at the NICU table...

Thank you for all you do!

Carol Coniglio  
Deb Kubik

Jackie Heyne  
Cathy Pasko

## Volunteers Needed

Thank you to all who have volunteered to fill elected and committee job positions next year. We have more positions to fill so please consider stepping up and volunteering! Please reach out to Nancy McReynolds with questions or to volunteer!

### **STILL HAVE BILLS?**

Please turn in **ALL** expenses to our Treasurer Sue, for this last year by May 18<sup>th</sup>! Thank you.

## Steering Committee Transition Meeting

Terry and Nancy are working on a date and time and will let us know when it is scheduled.

### Quilt Businesses

Be sure and check the membership form if you are a Long-Arm Quilter or a Teacher for Hire as we like to indicate those in our yearbook. If you forgot, please let Carol Coniglio know.

## 2026-27 Yearbook Deadline for Committee Chairpersons

*Please send Lori Douglas your updates for the Annual Yearbook by Friday, May 29<sup>th</sup>. Your updates will be compiled & sent to the steering committee as a Yearbook Draft in June.*

*The overall goal is for us to have our Yearbook to the print shop by middle of July.*

*Helpful hint, if you are unsure what to write for the next yearbook, please reference the current yearbook!*

Thanks,  
Yearbook Editor  
Lori Douglas  
402-639-9227  
[quilterette@gmail.com](mailto:quilterette@gmail.com)



## August 2026 Cottonwood Newsletter Deadline

All August Newsletter articles are due to Susan Seidel ([SusieQKU@gmail.com](mailto:SusieQKU@gmail.com)) by **Friday, July 17<sup>th</sup>!** When you send items to Lori for the Yearbook, just copy me!

Thanks! Susan



## The Dakota Dash Bus Trip

April 17-18, 2026

Tired and Inspired! The race is over and we are all winners! That's how I summarize our 2026 Cottonwood Bus Trip.

Thirty-nine dashers left Omaha early on Friday April 17<sup>th</sup> with visions of fabric shops in their heads and shopping bags ready to be filled! After a fun game of Playing Card bingo, we were greeted at Sew Storm in Alcester with coffee and donuts and a 25 % discount. Following a short drive to Canton, we arrived at My Timeless Day for shopping, including the antique store next door and a great pizza lunch with Sue Mehal's tasty and cute butterfly sugar cookies!

After lunch we traveled to Always Your Design in Dell Rapids. Not only did they have tons of fabric, but they also had a loft area with gifts and housewares and of course more fabric. Several shoppers hopped across the street to a great little coffee and ice cream shop. A perfect mid-afternoon and post shopping pick-me-up to go along with the Mini-charm squares we were given by the shop.

Our next stop was at The Falls in Sioux Falls. What a brave and good-natured group of travelers as we walked through the cool and windy weather for a group photo! Several in our group said the water level was down so the falls were not as impressive as they can be. I'd suggest a return when the water level is higher, the sun is out, and it is warmer and less windy!

Following check-in at the Holiday Inn, we set off for dinner at Cracker Barrel and of course a little more shopping. Wanting to get some steps in after a day on the bus, a few hearty souls walked to dinner and some over to the Empire Mall before we all connected at Jacqueline Joyce! (Good we brought layers and winter coats!)

Jacqueline Joyce was a delightful and amazing experience. We each received a goody bag, a 20% discount, a drawing for fat quarters and some tasty treats! AND a trunk show by Terri VandenBosch with her beautiful quilt based on letters written by her parents-in-law during WW II. (Terri spoke at our guild last August.) BJ, the owner of JJ, and her staff were so gracious and offered such great customer service. They stayed late to make up more kits for Terri's quilt and had them ready to pick up that same evening.

Saturday morning we were greeted with temperatures in the 20's and a little less wind, but at least the sun was shining! Our first stop was at the bright and open Dutch Rose who offered a discount on kits. Then we were off to Quilters Headquarters. They were gracious about allowing Hy-Vee to deliver our lunches there as our bus driver, Captain Van, left his suitcase at the Holiday Inn and we were without our wheels for a while!

After lunch on the bus and another game of card bingo, we arrived at Heart and Hand in Sioux City. I've named it the fat quarter capital of the world! The shop is not far from Omaha, has TONS of FQ's and a nice coffee shop across the street. We left the shop with a treat bag as well. And the next time I'm close, I WILL stop at the Palmer Candy Company in Sioux City—We all need a little chocolate when we are working on a project!

Our final stop was in Wakefield, NE at The Quilt Shop and yes were STILL shopping! What a great shop to stay open late for us! One employee even crawled up a ladder to get the last Harley Davidson panel in the shop! We headed for Omaha with a treat bag with a panel, chocolate, and a 20% off coupon.

What a fun two days, making new friends and being able to experience all those shops and see all those fabrics and quilts. I was blessed to have great committee members who were dedicated to making the trip memorable and fun! Thank you and kudos to Connie Cramer, Carol Coniglio, Cynde McCall, Jeane Harbert, Kim O'Grady, and Sue Mehal. It has been a pleasure working with you!

Mary Hamilton

# Thank you!

A big Thank You to Mary and her team for a wonderful bus trip! See the Cottonwood website for all the fun photos!



## Fat Quarter Exchange

### May: Patriotic Colors

#### Helpful Guidelines/Reminders:

- \*A fat quarter is 18" by 20-22" in size. NO ¼ YARD CUTS PLEASE! Please check your fabric to make sure it's a true fat quarter.
- \*PLEASE Fabric must be good quality 100% cotton.
- \*Please bring current fabrics that are new or unused.
- \*Fabric color/print must comply with the theme for the month. To be determined by the people in charge
- \*Limit of 5 FQs per month (but you can only win one bundle per meeting)

#### Evening:

Connie Cramer 402-558-2886 (H) 402-871-9660 (C)  
Bonnie Balkovec 402-334-9419 (H) 402-960-3008 (C)

#### Morning:

Nene McManus 402-657-0455 (H)

## Small Groups

Make your quilting experience more fulfilling by joining a small group. Contact Kay Sieck by phone 402-677-2099 or email [ksieckcottonwood@yahoo.com](mailto:ksieckcottonwood@yahoo.com).

## Sunshine and Shadows

Sunshine and Shadows acknowledges a significant day, time or event, celebration, or condolences at time of need, by way of a card. A virtual hug by snail mail could brighten someone's day, if even for a moment. We would certainly like that everyone in the guild is included and knows that we care. Call or text me @ 402-516-2570 with the name, address, and event plus any pertinent information including members or former members that have passed away so we can inform our membership.

Thank you, Pat Sears ([paqrattpat@yahoo.com](mailto:paqrattpat@yahoo.com))

### **STILL HAVE BILLS?**

Please turn in ALL expenses to our Treasurer Sue, for this last year by May 20<sup>th</sup>! Thank you.



Sign up to be a monthly Greeter, Holder & Folder or the Welcoming Committee at the May meeting! If you can't attend that meeting, please reach out to Nancy McReynolds and let her know where you would like to volunteer!



## Membership

Please let Carol Coniglio know if you have paid the additional for a mailing but still have not received your newsletter. Other address changes or Newsletter mailing problems? Also contact Carol Coniglio.

| New Members   |        |                       |         |       |            |              |                         |         |       |
|---------------|--------|-----------------------|---------|-------|------------|--------------|-------------------------|---------|-------|
| Last          | First  | Address               | City    | State | Zip        | Phone        | Email                   | B-Month | B-Day |
| Fisher        | Toni   | 1065 N 24 Ave         | Blair   | NE    | 68008-1161 | 314-221-0966 | tofish_1@yahoo.com      | 1       | 25    |
| Email Changes |        |                       |         |       |            |              |                         |         |       |
| Last          | First  | Address               | City    | State | Zip        | Phone        | Email                   | B-Month | B-Day |
| Meyer         | Sharon | 7004 Harvest Hills Dr | LaVista | NE    | 68128-3137 | 402-707-2144 | turnermeyer77@gmail.com | 2       | 11    |

Cottonwood Quilters  
P.O. Box 27  
Elkhorn, NE 68022



Our next meeting is Monday, May 18th, at the **RELEVANT CENTER, 21220 Elkhorn Drive** (Remember no Daytime Meeting) See times listed below.

[www.cottonwoodquilters.org](http://www.cottonwoodquilters.org)

## Calendar of Events

|            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Now        | International Quilt Study Center (IQSC)<br>1523 N. 33rd Street, Lincoln, NE<br><a href="http://quiltstudy.org/">http://quiltstudy.org/</a>                                                                         |
| May 18     | Cottonwood Quilt Guild General Meeting<br>In-Person Meeting/Potluck Salad Supper<br>Relevant Center, 21220 Elkhorn Drive<br>Doors Open – 5:30 p.m.<br>Dinner/Meeting – 6:00 p.m.<br>(Remember: No Daytime Meeting) |
| May 29     | Cottonwood Yearbook Deadline<br>See page 7                                                                                                                                                                         |
| TBD        | Cottonwood Quilt Guild Steering Committee<br>Transitional Meeting<br>Location TBD<br>Time TBD                                                                                                                      |
| June 4-6   | Omaha Quilt Guild Quilt Show<br>Scott Conference Center, 6450 Pine Street                                                                                                                                          |
| July 16-19 | Sewcial Butterflies Retreat<br>See page 5                                                                                                                                                                          |
| July 17    | Cottonwood August Newsletter Deadline<br>Contact Susan Seidel                                                                                                                                                      |
| July 18    | Wolfe Country Quilt Show<br>At the home of Teri & Doug Wolfe<br>1709 County Road 21, Bennington, NE 68007<br>9:00 am to 3:00 pm                                                                                    |
| August 17  | Cottonwood Quilt Guild General Meeting<br>In-Person Meeting<br>Relevant Center<br>Doors Open – 6:30 p.m.<br>Meeting – 7:00 p.m.<br>(Remember: No Daytime Meeting)                                                  |

### Don't forget to bring:

Nametag

### Fat Quarters

Gift Fat Quarters for Marti and Janelle

### Membership Form & \$35 Check

Workshop Form & \$\$

### \$5 bills for Opportunity Quilts

Quilts & Covers

### NICU Quilts

NO Shelter Donations

### Mug WITH LID (BYO Drink)

Show-n-Tell

### Expense Form(s) for Sue

Salad or Dessert (see page 1)

A new member and an appetite!

If you arrive 30 or more minutes before the meeting, please stay in the lobby until the Check-in team is set up and ready for you!

### Reminders

**Want a beverage??** You need to bring it in your own mug with a lid.

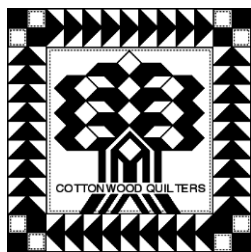
### Do we know who you are??

Wear a nametag so you can have a door prize ticket, or you will have to pay \$.25 for a paper one.

**Remember** to turn off or silence your cell phones before the meeting starts!

## Coordinator Job Descriptions

Please work up a job description for your current position to hand off to your replacement for next year and give to Terry Micheels or Nancy McReynolds by the May Meeting.



# Cottonwood Quilt Guild

## Membership Form

Bring this completed form and check to a meeting or mail to:

Cottonwood Quilters  
PO Box 27  
Elkhorn, NE 68022

**PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY:**

Please check all that apply:    New Address ( )    New Phone Number ( )    New E-mail ( )    Corrected Birthday ( )

Name (print) \_\_\_\_\_

Address (print) \_\_\_\_\_

City (print) \_\_\_\_\_ State (print) \_\_\_\_\_ Zip+4 (print) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (print) \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_

Email address (print) \_\_\_\_\_

| Description                                                                | Amount  | Sub-total |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|-----------|
| <b>Annual Dues</b> (May-May)<br>Renewal during April & May meetings        | \$35    |           |
| <b>Junior Annual Dues</b> (May-May)<br>Renewal during April & May meetings | \$10    |           |
| <b>Late Renewing Member Fee</b><br>Renewal after May meeting               | \$5     |           |
| <b>February-May Dues</b><br>Half year membership                           | \$17.50 |           |
| Mailed Newsletter                                                          | \$25    |           |
| <b>Your Total:</b>                                                         |         |           |

**PLEASE PAY  
BY CHECK!  
MAKE CHECKS  
PAYABLE TO  
"COTTONWOOD  
QUILTERS".**

Would you like more information on joining a small group? \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like more information on becoming more involved on a committee in the guild? \_\_\_\_\_

Please check here if you want to be identified in the Yearbook as a:

Long-Arm Quilter for Hire ( )

Hand Quilter for Hire ( )

Teacher for Hire: ( )

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### For Guild Use Only:

New Member \_\_\_\_\_ Renewing Member \_\_\_\_\_ Late Member \_\_\_\_\_ Half Year Member \_\_\_\_\_

Date Paid \_\_\_\_\_ Check# \_\_\_\_\_

Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Taken by: \_\_\_\_\_

**COTTONWOOD QUILT GUILD**  
**August 2026 – April 2027**  
**Workshop Registration Form**

**WORKSHOP INFORMATION:**

- You may register for one or more workshops.
- Workshop fees must be paid at the time of registration to reserve your spot.
- Costs:

Member - \$50      Non-member - \$65

Please bring your registration form with payment to a Cottonwood meeting or mail to:  
 Gaylene Brennan, 13545 North 74<sup>th</sup> Street, Omaha, NE 68122

**PARTICIPANT INFORMATION:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

If this is a cell number, may we text you?    ☐ Yes    ☐ No

**MEMBER INFORMATION:**

Cottonwood Member    ☐ Yes    ☐ No

**WORKSHOPS**

| Sign Me Up!              | Date                                                                                        | Workshop                                              | Instructor          |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Aug 17, 2026<br><b>OR</b><br><input type="checkbox"/> Aug 18, 2026 | Machine Applique<br>Choose from any of Amy's Patterns | Amy Bradley         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Sept 21, 2026                                                                               | Jelly Roll Rug                                        | Marguerite Hansen   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Oct 19, 2026                                                                                | Miniature Quilt                                       | Karen Hill          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Nov 16, 2026                                                                                | Snow Crystal – Table Topper                           | Carol Coniglio      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Feb 15, 2027                                                                                | Sashiko                                               | Susie Bonder        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Mar 15, 2027                                                                                | Bodobo Bags                                           | Brooke Erickson     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Apr 19, 2027                                                                                | Antique Hanky Quilt                                   | David & Teresa Duwe |

# of Workshops \_\_\_\_\_ x \$50 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to "Cottonwood Quilt Guild". (Checks will be cashed in Jul/Aug 2026.)

**OFFICE USE ONLY**

Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Initials: \_\_\_\_\_

**Cottonwood Quilt Guild**  
**Summer Retreat**  
**July 16- July 19, 2026**  
**Deadline June 30, 2026**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency  
Contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

**Rates**

| Thursday         | Friday           | Saturday         | Total |
|------------------|------------------|------------------|-------|
| Single: \$156__  | Single: \$181__  | Single: \$181__  |       |
| Double: \$126__  | Double: \$145__  | Double: \$145__  |       |
| Triple: \$118__  | Triple: \$131__  | Triple: \$131__  |       |
| Day Only: \$50__ | Day Only: \$50__ | Day Only: \$50__ |       |
| Total:           | Total:           | Total:           |       |

**Non-Members:** Please add \$35 to Total cost. You will be automatically added to the Cottonwood Quilt Guild for the upcoming year. Welcome!

If you don't have the same number of people in your room from day to day your rate will vary for each night.

**Make check payable to Cottonwood Quilt Guild: Check Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Due: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Dietary needs:**

If you have a medically necessary need for a special diet please contact Dana at CJH to discuss your specific needs. 1-888-656-6254 or [DJAHN@NLOM.ORG](mailto:DJAHN@NLOM.ORG)

**Daytime Only:** Contact Christine Hess-Baker 402 306-6928 or [scgjbaker@cox.net](mailto:scgjbaker@cox.net)

There is a limited number of day only spots available

**Registrations:** Total cost is due with registration form. Mail to Christine Hess-Baker 17711 Jones Street Omaha, NE 68118

**Questions:** Contact Christine Hess-Baker 402 306-6928 or [scgjbaker@cox.net](mailto:scgjbaker@cox.net)