



Cottonwood Quilters of Nebraska

The Cottonwood Courier

Volume 45, Number 8

April 2025

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

I hope all of you are staying warm and working on your quilting projects as we wait for "real" spring to actually arrive. I've been busy cutting fabric for kits that have been living at my house for several years so that they will actually be finished in 2025. I've also decided that some of my purchases will be donated to Bonnie Balkovec and Francie Conrad to use in the Silent Auction/Mini-Raffle at the Quilt Show this fall.

We have had to cancel our April workshop because our speaker had surgery and is unable to make the drive to Omaha. Vicki Hoskovec is busy working to find a replacement. I'm sure we will all enjoy our speaker and learn a few new things.

I was amazed at the number of quilts our last speaker had to show us and how productive she is each year. I'm thrilled if I have one quilt top finished in three months.

We will not be having a morning meeting in May and are making plans for our May Salad Super at our meeting. Gaylene Brennan is organizing everything, so get your salad and dessert recipes out and choose something to share. See Page 5 for your food assignment.

May is also the meeting we honor members for their service to the guild, an award is given for Member of the Year, and we also recognize a member for Lifetime Achievement. Please be thinking of someone to nominate for one of these awards and send me information about them by May 1. Many of our members have received the Lifetime Achievement Award and continue to serve the guild each year. (See Page 11 of the online newsletter.)

We will be introducing and electing the new guild officers at the April meeting. Please be thinking about how you will be able to help them next year.

Your Chairperson,
Carol McCann

April In-Person Program

Lynn Doyle
Bloomin' Minds

*** Please note that since we have a speaker, there will be a \$10.00 charge for any non-member guests ***

April Greeters

Monday Evening
Deb Herink
Deb Kubik

Tuesday Morning

Lyn Briley
Mary Hamilton
Kathy Lienemann

April Holders and Folders

Monday Evening
Gaylene Brennan
Francie Conrad
Susan Marino
Terry Micheels
Mary Welsh
Volunteer?

Tuesday Morning

Nancy McReynolds
Cheri Vossberg
Volunteer?
Volunteer?
Volunteer?
Volunteer?

April Welcome Committee

Monday Evening
Kathy Browning
Lori Carr

Tuesday Morning

Brenda Tooker
Volunteer?

Birthdays

April

1 Sandy Albers
4 Jackee Brock
5 Susi Perry
5 Alma Santos
8 Susan Marino
9 Patti Gatewood
9 Rhonda Hildebrand
10 Diane Bengtson
10 Marilyn Fitch
12 Mary Wheeler
14 Deb Neumann
16 Pat Sears
16 Susan Snyder
20 Claudia Beach
25 Peggy Fischman
25 Nancy Deicke
26 Chris Claassen
26 Darla Majewski
27 Misty Wilson
30 Susan Poling

May

1 April Bluvus
2 Susie Bonder
2 Cindy Campbell
2 Deb Kubik
4 Betty Cook
5 Susan Snow
6 Beth Meier
7 Nancy Janousek
8 Nancy Haack
8 Bonnie Mayer
8 Jan McKamy
9 Sandra Kovanda
13 Mary Dunkle
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
30 Mary Middleton



Shelter Donations

None this month.
Deb Kubik & Sandy
Kovanda



Cottonwood Cookbooks

There will be Cottonwood Cookbooks again for sale this month for \$5 each. Look for them at a table in the church lobby. There are not many left, so get yours now!

COTTONWOOD QUILT GUILD GENERAL MEETING March 17, 2025

Chair Carol McCann called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

Minutes of the February 17 meeting and the Treasurer's Report were approved as printed in the March newsletter.

Show and Tell - A few members shared recent finishes and an adorable teddy bear.

Program - Vicki introduced our speaker, Diane Gubbels from Coleridge, NE. Diane shared an amazing trunk show, Stories of Inspiration. The stories behind each of the quilts were truly from her heart, full of meaningful memories. For special quilts she has gifted, she makes a duplicate quilt to use in her presentation.

Nominating Committee - Terry Micheels, the incoming Chairperson for 2025-26, announced the nominating committee's slate for the 2025-26 guild year officers.

Chair Elect - position still open

Secretary - Jill Straight

Program Chair - Gaylene Brennan has planned 2025-26 and part of 2026-27.

She needs a partner to help fill out 2026-27.

Treasurer - Sue Mehal will be finishing year 2 of her term.

Voting will be held at the April meeting.

Dues - Terry shared that the Steering Committee has raised dues to \$35 for the 2025-26 year. It has been 10 years since dues were raised and the funds are needed to maintain the excellent level of guild offerings. The cost for a mailed newsletter will now be \$25. Bus Trips and Retreats will be offered to non-members if space permits and they pay dues to become a member.

Workshops will be available to non-members if space permits at \$15 above the member cost.

Quilt Show 2025 - Six months to go until the show - Quarter Turn Dash. Marti has vintage blocks available as a start on a project for the Silent Auction/Mini Raffle if needed. Quilts and other items for the Silent Auction and Mini Raffle will be collected in April through September. Bookmarks advertising the Show and listing 2025-26 Programs and Workshops are now available. Entry forms will be available in April and are due at the August meeting. Quilt turn in will be in September. There are 18 vendors and there will be exhibitor demos each day.

Block of the Month - The final block instructions were sent out in early March. Entries are to be turned in at the April meeting for display and voting at the May meeting. Items need not be quilted and bound. A quilt top is acceptable.

Challenge Quilt - Entries are to be turned in at the April meeting for display and voting at the May meeting. Items must be completely finished.

NICU - The Louisville quilt shop donated all their kids fabric when they closed. Kits are available. Multiple members brought in multiple quilts - Kim brought in 28.

Quilts and Covers - More than 70 quilts have been donated to various charities since our November meeting. Kits and quilts needing binding are available. Contact Becky if you would like to join a work night at her home.

Membership - 1 new member tonight.

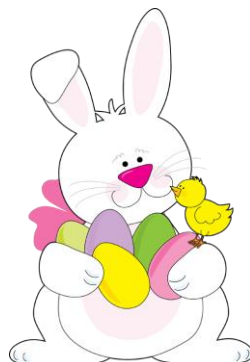
Programs and Workshops - Gaylene listed the 2025-26 scheduled speakers. They are listed on bookmarks now available and will be in the April newsletter and sign-ups for workshops will be open.

Fat Quarters - Polka Dot fabrics were shared. April will be Batiks.

Door Prizes - Wonderful items!

The meeting was adjourned at 8:56 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Patti Wright, Secretary



Cottonwood Quilt Guild Financial Report			
Beginning Checkbook Balance 3/1/2025			\$ 17,386.88
Income			
	Deposit	Cookbook Sales	\$ 30.00
	Deposit	Challenge Quilt	\$ 5.00
	Deposit	Interest Income - March	\$ 16.41
Total Income			\$ 51.41
Expenses			
4034	Susan Seidel	March Newsletter Printing	\$ (61.57)
		March Lecture & Travel,	
4035	Diane Gubbels	Lodging Expenses	\$ (1,517.87)
4036	Barbara Trochim	Quilt Challenge Fee for Prizes	\$ (5.00)
4037	Janelle Reed	BOM Prize	\$ (5.00)
4023	Vaylene Roberts	Check Voided	\$ 170.00
		Quilts & Covers Batting check	
4038	Vaylene Roberts	reissued	\$ (170.00)
Total Expenses			\$ (1,589.44)
Ending Checkbook Balance 3/31/2025			\$ 15,848.85

IT'S RENEWAL TIME

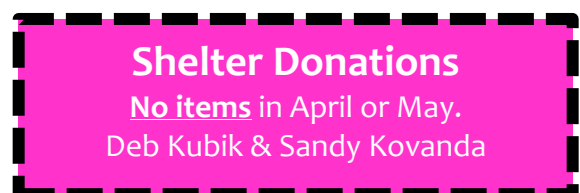
With the arrival of spring, the guild is winding down its year and that means renewal time is once again upon us. We will be taking renewals at the April and May meetings.

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.

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 April and May and thanks for your cooperation and support.



2025-26 PROGRAMS & WORKSHOPS SNEAK PEEK

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

AUGUST 18, 2025

Speaker Terri VandenBosch w/ Lizard Creek Quilting, www.lizardcreekquilting.com

Lecture "Just Make Stuff"

Terri's presentation is filled with creative inspiration, amusing quilting antidotes, and armloads of quilts from her very first to what she is currently working on.

Workshop "Tangled Twigs" – paper piece



SEPTEMBER 15 & 16, 2025

Speaker Coleen Merte w/ Northwater Quilts, www.northwaterquilts.com

Lecture "My Journey Into Pattern Design"

This lecture with trunk show promises to provide inspiration and enthusiasm for all types of quilters. Not to mention lots of laughter.

Workshop "Walking Foot Quilting"

You will love all the different designs you can easily create just with your walking foot. This class will give you confidence and inspiration to further create your own designs. Leave class with a library of quilt sandwiches for you to refer back to anytime.

OCTOBER 20 & 21, 2025

Speaker Denise Stahl, The Curious Kansas Quilter, www.thecuriouskansasquilter.blogspot.com

Lecture "Hi, I'm Denise and I'm a BOM Addict."

It seems so easy when it's just one block!

Workshop "Convergence" (a Ricky Tims' pattern)

Four coordinating FQ, cutting, sewing, cutting again, sewing again. It's MAGIC!



NOVEMBER 17 & 18, 2025

Speaker LuAnn Franzluebbbers

Lecture Crazy Quilt Lover!

LuAnn is passionate about quilting and is going to take us on her journey of how she became a Crazy Quilt Lover! From learning to sew, to learning to quilt, to teaching classes, to a longarm business. LuAnn is so very thankful for this wonderful hobby and hopes to motivate and encourage others by sharing her crazy love of quilting.

Workshop "Posh Sunflower" – Mini Quick Curve Ruler



JANUARY 15, 2026 (Zoom)

Speaker Joanne Kerton w/ Canuck Quilter www.CanuckQuilterDesigns.com

Lecture "Make It Your Own"

How do you take a pattern and create a quilt that is uniquely yours? Using her own quilt designs, we will explore how different choices alter the look and feel of a quilt. Backgrounds, borders, bindings and backs are often considered secondary to the block designs, but they have a significant impact on the finished quilt. Joanne will share tips on fabric selection as well as ways to tweak a pattern and even mix and match elements from different patterns. Let's learn to look at those patterns with new eyes!

FEBRUARY 16 & 17, 2026

Speaker Scott Flanagan w/ 4th & Main Designs, www.4thandmaindesigns.com

Lecture "What's New with 4th & Main"

Scott started 4th and Main Designs in 2011. Since then his patterns have been frequently found in Quilters World, Quiltmaker, McCall's Quilting, and Fons & Porter magazines. Come here what's new with 4th & Main!

Workshop "Linked Together"

Scott has two strong quilting philosophies: (1) A quilt is only hard if you have been told it is hard beforehand and (2) you learn some of the best lessons from the mistakes made along the quilting Journey. With those two thoughts Scott strives to write patterns that no matter how hard they look a confident beginner with sewing experience could handle.



MARCH 16 & 17, 2026

Speaker Karen Medcalf-Paquette w/ Nebraska Quilt Company, www.nebraskaquiltcompany.com
Lecture "Karen's Quilting Journey"
Workshop None

APRIL 20 & 21, 2026

Speaker Carolyn McCormick, www.CMDesignsOnline.com
Lecture "The Women That Have Influenced Quilting"

Carolyn will share about ladies like Marie Webster, Carrie Hall and Rose Kretsinger and many more. Learn how they have impacted the quilters of today. Carolyn will also show her quilts that are using some of their designs.

Workshop TBD

MAY 18, 2026 – Year End Wrap-Up Meeting

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 892 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, to any one of us listed below, or at Celtic Quilter (5080 S. 108th Street).

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



Summer Retreat

I hope you can join us this summer at the Sewcial Butterflies Retreat. You can escape the heat and humidity, quilt with friends, enjoy good food, good times and hopefully finish up a UFO or two.

Mark your calendars for July 31st - August 3rd. The retreat will once again be held at Carol Joy Holling's Swanson Center. Betty has some fun ideas for the retreat, and she is looking forward to sharing them with you. The registration form will be available in the April and May online newsletters. You may also pick one up at the meetings held during these months. **The DEADLINE to sign up is JUNE 15th!** Betty will be off in the wilderness backpacking after this date, so make sure to get your registration form in before or by this date.

** Also, Betty unfortunately has to step down as retreat coordinator and is asking for a volunteer to take over the position. She has all of the necessary information organized and ready to go for the 2026 retreats.



Cottonwood Nominating Committee



The Nominating Committee is pleased to announce members who have agreed to serve Cottonwood as officers for the 2025-26 year:

Chairperson - Terry Micheels (1-year term)
Chairperson-Elect - Nancy McReynolds (1-year term)
Treasurer - Sue Mehal (finishing a 2-year term)
Secretary - Jill Straight (starting a 2-year term)
Program Chair 2025-26 & 2026-27 - Gaylene Brennan
(finishing a 2-year term and adding another year for 2026-27)

Nancy McReynolds has agreed to continue to be the Daytime Coordinator next year too.

Terry Micheels – Chairperson (1-year term)

Quilting has always been more than just a hobby; it's a way to connect and create. Historically, women gathered to work on quilts together, supporting each other, sharing ideas, and building relationships. For many of us, quilting is not just a pastime; it's a way of life, a means of expressing ourselves through beautiful creations and connecting with others.

My quilt journey began around 1989 when I enrolled in a beginner quilt class at the Log Cabin Quilt Shop in Omaha. Instantly, I fell in love with quilting. I started creating traditional quilts and was pleased to learn the names and meanings of each block. Initially, I hand quilted all my quilts but quickly realized that to make all the quilts I envisioned, I needed to change my approach. Over the years, my quilting interests have evolved to more modern quilts, and it's astonishing to think that I've been a quilt maker for about 35 years.

In 2017, I joined the Cottonwood Quilters and soon after became part of a small group within the guild. This small circle rapidly turned into my closest friends. I felt an immediate sense of connection, friendship, and community—I had found my sisterhood! Among these women, I discovered a place where I truly belonged. Quilt guilds and communities have this wonderful ability to forge lifelong bonds and relationships.

My active involvement in the guild has included numerous volunteer roles, allowing me to meet new people and collaborate with many of the guild's leaders while contributing to its sustainability. I started as Door Prize Co-Coordinator for three years and later co-chaired the 2023 Cottonwood Quilt Show, a role that enabled me to work closely with various guild members. The most rewarding aspect of volunteering has been becoming part of a team that provides essential and meaningful services to the guild.

Next year, I will serve as the Cottonwood Guild Chair for 2025-26. I'm excited about this opportunity to connect with each member and partner with you to advance our shared goals. Additionally, I aim to explore how the guild has enriched your lives and to understand what you have gained as a member of the Cottonwood guild.

Nancy McReynolds – Chairperson Elect (1-year term rolling into Chairperson position the following year) & **Daytime Coordinator** (not elected position)

I was born in Nebraska and lived in Wyoming and Missouri until 2005 when we were transferred from St. Louis to Omaha. I have worked in many settings from hospitals, craft stores, a mobile computer lab to elementary schools. My husband and I have a daughter and son here in Omaha and a son, daughter-in-law and a granddaughter in central New York.

I inherited quilt blocks my mother had started before she passed away and I thought I could finish it quite easily because I had sewn clothing for myself and my children. This project is still in the box on the shelf as I learned that quilting is not the same as sewing a dress or a set of curtains. My neighbor suggested I join the Cottonwood Quilt Guild and the members were so kind and talented. Now quilting is a major part of my life.

M. Sue Mehal – Treasurer (finishing a 2-year term)

I am an accountant by training but have enjoyed various creative activities. I believe it gives balance to my left-brain life! My grandmother taught me to knit and crochet, which I still enjoy. She also bought me my first sewing machine after I learned to sew during Home Economics in high school. While on vacation to the Amish area in Ohio, I fell in love with quilts. When we returned, I signed up for a class at the Log Cabin where I made my first quilt. Being a young mother, there was not much time for sewing other than children's costumes, though I squeezed in a few projects. Years later, when I accepted a finance position at Creighton University and learned they had a small quilting group, I knew it was the place for me. I learned so much from that small group. One of the members belonged to Cottonwood and I came to a few meetings. At workshops, I met more people and was invited to join a small group. It has made all the difference in my skills and friendships. I wouldn't trade it!

Being retired, I have finally finished some of those quilts that I started so many years ago. But there are many more on my list which keeps growing! I am continually inspired by our speakers, members and beautiful fabric. I also enjoy hiking, biking, genealogy, reading and traveling which cut into my quilting time!

May Meeting - Salad Supper

For our final meeting of the 2024/2025 guild year on May 19th, we will have a potluck salad supper. We're asking everyone to bring something to share (see below).

- 1) Last names starting A-M – bring a salad or veggie.
- 2) Last names starting N-Z – bring a dessert.
- 3) Everyone to bring your own drink (water will be provided).

Any questions, please see Carol McCann or Gaylene Brennan.



Jill Straight – Secretary (starting a 2-year term)

I grew up on a farm in Iowa and moved to Gretna about 8 years ago. My grandma taught me to sew at a young age and helped me with my 4-H sewing projects. I made my first quilt about 45 years ago and with Grandma's help tied the quilt with yarn. Even though the quilt had 5/8" seam allowances and points cut off, I enjoyed using it as a bedspread for several years. Quilting and sewing took a back seat while raising my three sons. I now have eight grandchildren but find time to quilt every day. A day is not complete without spending time at my sewing machine or longarm. I enjoy sewing with friends, gifting baby quilts and going to quilt retreats. I am retired after working 34 years with USDA. I am also involved with church activities and am a member of the Omaha Modern Quilt Guild. I look forward to serving you as your Secretary.

Gaylene Brennan – Program Chairperson 2025-26 (finishing a 2-year term & additional year for 2026-27)

I'm a Nebraska girl. I grew up in Grand Island and moved to Omaha with a job transfer several years ago. My grandmother, an amazing grandma/seamstress/quilter/gardener (I don't think there was anything that she couldn't do.), taught me to sew when I was in junior high – mostly garments and I really enjoyed those sewing lessons and the time spent with grandma. I didn't start quilting though until several years later. I began taking classes from various quilt shops, enjoyed learning different techniques and especially enjoyed getting to know other quilters. During one class, I met some women who invited me to join a quilt guild – said it was the best group of women anywhere – and they were right! I've been a member of Cottonwood since 2013.

***Voting will occur on the above slate of
officers at the April Monday Night
Meeting on 4/21/25 only.***

Merchandise Polling Results March Meeting Summary

Exciting news! The informal merchandise polling results from our March meetings are in, and we have the top five product options chosen by our guild members:

- Timeless V-Neck T-Shirt
- Stylish ¼ Zip Pullover
- Classic Denim Shirt
- Cozy Hoodie Sweatshirt
- Handy Canvas Project Bag

Get ready to explore these fabulous options! Product samples will be on display at our April and May meetings, so you can see and feel the quality for yourself. Keep an eye out for ordering information, which will be available in the next few weeks.

A big thank you to Susie Bonder, Bonnie Balkovec, and Carol Coniglio for their invaluable assistance with this project. For any questions or further information, please reach out to Terry Micheels.

Seeking Volunteers for 2025-26

Our guild thrives on the dedication and passion of our volunteers. They are the heartbeat of our successful programs, creative classes, and engaging activities. This upcoming year, we have four positions that need your support. You have the unique opportunity to partner with a friend and co-coordinate a committee, making your volunteer experience both meaningful and fun. Without your active participation, we risk losing the cherished benefits that our guild brings to our members. I invite you to consider stepping up for one of the following roles:

- Quilt Show Chair for 2027 (We need one more enthusiastic volunteer)
- Retreat Coordinator
- Studio Tour 2026

Your involvement makes a significant difference. Please reach out to Terry Micheels for any questions or to express your interest.

Monthly Volunteer Opportunities

At the April meetings, we will begin sign-ups for 2025-26 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!

Fat Quarters

April: Batiks

We will be collecting fat quarters and will distribute them to the prize winners based on the number of fat quarters received.

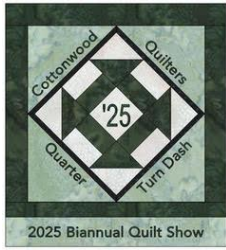
Helpful Guidelines/Reminders: See the Yearbook

Evening:

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

Morning:

Mary Leddy 402-493-9299 (H)
Nene McManus 402-657-0455 (H)



QUARTER TURN DASH QUILT SHOW

October 2-4, 2025

6 MONTHS TO THE QUILT SHOW

It won't be long before the **Quarter Turn Dash Quilt Show, OCTOBER 2-4, 2025, at Water's Edge Church, 19600 Harrison Street** is here. Inside this [online](#) newsletter are the Quilt Entry forms for the show. They are also available on the website. Please read them carefully and fill them out accurately as possible. This information is valuable in how and where your quilt is displayed in the show and which category it is judged in. All entries are due to be returned in August, with your quilts delivered in September for verification. You now have 6 months to get all of your quilts finished. Plenty of time to wrap up what you have started and to start something new. Janelle and I are very excited to see all the entries.

Our Vendor and Awards Chair, Deb Kubik has sent contracts out to the vendors. We will share the list on our website once it is finalized. An exciting addition is the Demonstration Stage which will give our vendors an opportunity to share products, techniques or tips and tricks of the trade. A schedule for these will be posted in the fall.

Check out the attached information on the Challenge Quilt for the Show, the 15" Mini Quilt Project and the call for donations for the Silent Auction and Mini Raffle.

Don't forget to purchase your raffle tickets for the Opportunity Quilt, an original, one of a kind designed and made by Cottonwood members. The more you buy the more chances you have to win, not only the quilt, but one of the additional prizes we have for our members. The member that purchases the most tickets (remember you can sell these to your friends and family) will win an Oliso Mini Iron with case and a bottle of Best Press – valued at \$125+. Everyone that purchases 10 tickets or more gets a chance in a drawing to win a free Quilt Workshop at Cottonwood. That is a chance for every 10 tickets purchased... Buy 20 tickets, you get 2 chances. Workshops are a \$50 value. Every ticket purchased supports bringing great programs to our monthly meetings.

We look forward to everyone contributing to the show by entering their quilts, purchasing their envelopes of raffle tickets, donating items to the silent auction or mini raffle and/or attending the show with friends and family. With everyone's support we will have a very successful event.

Marti Neely and Janelle Reed

Quilt Show Chairpersons

2025 Quilt Show Raffle Quilt

LADIES, COME ON!!!! We have had **ONLY 78 members** pick up their raffle tickets - that's out of **230** members! This is unbelievable - it's April. If you want this guild to succeed, it depends on the participation of our members. Raffle quilt being part of the quilt show is what supports our speakers, classes and trunk shows.

We ask that each member purchase 5 tickets. If you purchase 10, your name will go in a drawing. The member with the most purchased tickets will win an Oliso iron and carry case.

Please come and get your tickets.

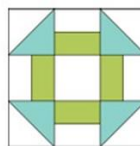
Cathy Pasko



QUARTER TURN DASH CHALLENGE

This year, the rules are as follows:

1. A Churn Dash Block must be visible (in some form) on the front of the quilt.
2. 2 of the following 3 blocks must also be used on the front of the quilt – Half Square Triangle, Flying Geese or Railroad Tracks.
3. Any color or combination of color may be used – no color restrictions.
4. The size of the quilt: - Perimeter to be no less than 80", no more than 100".
5. The quilt must be an original design by the maker/member.
6. The maker/member must completely construct the quilt.
7. The quilt must be composed of 3 layers, pieced fabric front, batting and backing.
8. The quilt must be quilted, not tied.
9. The quilt must be either bound or faced.
10. The quilt must lay flat, 3 dimensional items are not acceptable.
11. A ribbon will be awarded to the winner of the challenge.



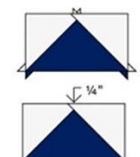
Churn Dash Block



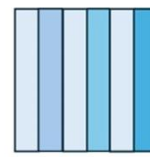
Half Square Triangle



How to determine quilt size:
 $25 + 25 + 20 + 20 = 90"$ Perimeter



Flying Geese



Rail Fence block
Shown with 6 Rails



The 15 x 15 Mini Quilt Project

Not sure what to donate to the Silent Auction or don't want to part with anything?

Don't have much time to make something new but want to contribute?

We are also asking for small quilts, 15"x15", that could be a wall hanging, a door quilt or even a table topper.

These will be for sale at the show so anyone can buy and own a quilt, even if it is a little one.

Does it have to be exactly a 15" Square?

We guarantee the Ruler Fairy will be too busy verifying quilt entries and not available to check dimensions for this project. 15" works well for turning a 10-12" block into a small quilt. 14 ¾", 14 ½", 15 ¼" and so on makes a nice mini quilt too.

This is a great size for little Holiday theme quilts. Think Halloween, Christmas, Patriotic themes.

Question? Contact Marti or Janelle.

martineelyapld@gmail.com janlsews@gmail.com



Silent Auction, Mini Raffle, and 15" mini quilts

By now, I am sure you all have a box of items to donate to the silent auction and mini raffle. We will start collecting all of your wonderful donations at the April meetings and continue through the September meetings. Besides, rulers, tools, fat quarters, jelly rolls, kits, etc., we are in need of donations of completed projects like bags, pillows, table runners, zippered pouches, etc., and especially quilts of any size, the quilts that were sold at the last Quilt Show were our biggest fundraiser. And of course, bring your 15" mini quilts. So, gather up all of your donations and bring them to the one of the meetings starting in April. Thank you for all your donations!

Bonnie Balkovec 402-960-3008

Francie Conrad 402-708-7029

2024/2025 Quilt Challenge Trips and Travels!



Now is the time to put those finishing touches on your challenge quilt!!

JUST REMEMBER...YOUR QUILT NEEDS TO BE TURNED IN AT THE APRIL MEETING!! Viewer's Choice will be held at the May meeting and monetary prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners will be awarded!

As a final reminder, here are the guidelines: **NEW guidelines for this year's challenge....**

THERE ARE NO RESTRICTIONS IN TYPE OF QUILT, GARMENT, ACCESSORY!!!

1. You can submit the following:
 - **Traditional or art quilt...** pieced, appliqued, embroidered, mixed or painted on fabric, or use a panel.
 - **Garment**
 - **Bag, tote, travel accessory, etc.**
2. **Three (3) embellishments must be included...one being a button.**
3. Quilt must be completely finished. Quilted (not tied), bound and labeled.
4. Completed items will be turned in at the April 2025 meeting for viewers' choice judging at our May 2025 meeting.
5. Prizes will be given for the top 3 viewers' choice picks.
6. Cost is \$5.00 to enter so prizes can be purchased.

If you have questions, stop by the Challenge table at meetings or contact your Challenge Coordinator.

Barbara Trochim – bunkieb48@gmail.com

Block of the Month 2024-25 "CHURNED"

The final instructions for the Churned Block of the Month were sent out to participants in March. Your completed top (or finished quilt if you have gotten that far) is due at the April meeting. I will be at both meetings to collect them and will display them at the May meeting for viewers' choice voting and prize awarding. If you cannot be at the April meeting but want to turn in your BOM project, contact Janelle Reed by email or text.

Remember, you can do any layout you want with your blocks - 6", 12", or a combination, as long as you include at least one of each of the 6 monthly patterns. I'm looking forward to seeing your creativity and hope you had some fun making additional blocks using the churn dash.

Quilts and Covers

Quilts and Covers will be having a workday April 26th at St. John's Lutheran Church in Bennington, 322 N. Molly St. Bennington, NE at 8 am. We will have several kits of a few different patterns that go together pretty quickly. That will be our main focus, however, we will also have fabric that needs to be cut for kits.

Becky will make sloppy joes and Vaylene will bring plates, cutlery, etc. Please let Vaylene know if you can make it and what you plan to bring. Vaylene's number is 910-574-2554 and her email is valentynsi@gmail.com

Quilts and Covers continues to also have a monthly very small group. The purpose of this group is strictly to cut fabric and put together kits. If you would like to join us, we will meet at Becky Jensen's house ([3330 County Road 39, Fort Calhoun, NE 68023](#)) at 5:00 PM on the Tuesday of the week following the meeting (Dates listed below). We will eat supper there and Becky will kick us out by 9 PM.

April 29, 2025

May 27, 2025 (Subject to change)

We can only accommodate 8 people total. If you would like to join us, please let Vaylene (910-574-2554) know. Please bring a cutting mat, ruler(s), and a rotary cutter at the very least. If you would like to bring something to go with supper, let Vaylene know so we can coordinate what is being cooked.

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.

Sunshine and Shadows

Sadly Carol Ann Struve, a member of Cottonwood, has passed away. Please click on this link for a biography: [Carol Ann Struve - Heafey Hoffmann Dworak Cutler](#)

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.

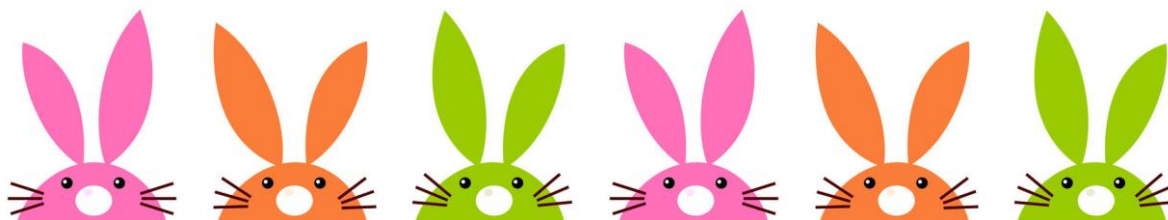
Call or text me @ 402-516-2570 with the name, address, and event plus any pertinent information including members or former members that have passed away so we can inform our membership.

Thank you, Pat Sears (paqrattat@yahoo.com)

Quilts of Valor

QUILTERS' GARAGE SALE! All things "quilty" will be on sale June 13th and 14th, 9-4. Location to be announced in May newsletter. All proceeds to benefit Quilts of Valor Omaha. If you have items you would like to donate, please text Pat Sears-402-516-2570. Sorry, no books, magazines, or scraps. All precuts in packs or bundles okay. Thanks in advance, we appreciate you.

Quilts of Valor Omaha is asking Cottonwood Quilt Guild members to make and donate blocks. The block is the **Floating Churn Dash** block. We will collect blocks at meetings from now through the May meeting. Please make the blocks in red, white, and blue 100% cotton fabrics, and in your choice of combination of those colors. The block should measure 12-1/2" unfinished. Since this is a group project, accuracy is so appreciated--thanks in advance because you all know how much easier it is to work with blocks that are all the same size!! Please see the pattern included here in the [online](#) newsletter for instructions. Thanks in advance for your time, talent, and materials to help us with this project!



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
Hooker	Linda	16815 Chandlet St.	Omaha	NE	68136	402-968-1098	llkhook@live.com	8	1

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



Our next meeting is Monday, April 21st
at 7:00 p.m. and Tuesday, April 22nd at
10:00 a.m. at the **RELEVANT
CENTER, 21220 Elkhorn Drive**
www.cottonwoodquilters.org

Calendar of Events

Now	International Quilt Study Center (IQSC) 1523 N. 33rd Street, Lincoln, NE http://quiltstudy.org/
April 21	Cottonwood Quilt Guild General Meeting In-Person Meeting Relevant Center, 21220 Elkhorn Drive Doors Open – 6:00 p.m. Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
April 22	Daytime Meeting In-Person Meeting Relevant Center, 21220 Elkhorn Drive Doors Open – 9:00 a.m. Meeting – 10 a.m.
April 26	Quilts & Covers Workday St. John's Lutheran Church, Bennington See Page 9
April 28	Cottonwood Quilt Guild Steering Committee Meeting ZOOM Meeting 6:30 p.m.
May 19	Cottonwood Quilt Guild General Meeting In-Person Meeting/Potluck Salad Supper Relevant Center, 21220 Elkhorn Drive Doors Open – 6:30 p.m. Meeting – 7:00 p.m. (Remember: No Daytime Meeting)

Don't forget to bring:

Nametag

Fat Quarters

**Membership Form &
Check**

Member of the Year
Nomination

Raffle Quilt \$\$

Cookbook - \$5

Mug WITH LID (BYO Drink)

2025-26 Workshop \$\$ &
Form

NO Shelter Donations

Quilts and Covers

NICU Quilts

Show-n-Tell

A prospective member!

*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 Carol McCann or Terry Micheels
by the May Meeting.



Member of the Year

Each year, with the help of our members, we try to recognize those members that have gone the extra mile to make Cottonwood Quilt Guild a special organization. There are many members who work very hard to make this group what it is. We would like your nomination for someone you feel has worked exceptionally hard to help our guild. Every active member is eligible, except the 5 elected officers.

The following are the typical categories, though not all categories have to be awarded. It depends on your nominations. An award committee will be established to decide on the winners.

Lifetime Achievement -- a member who has been active in the guild for at least five to seven years and who has been active in committees, on the board etc. to assist in making Cottonwood the great guild it is.

Yearly Service -- a member who has gone above and beyond in the current guild year.

Outstanding Achievement -- a member who has gone above and beyond and accomplished something out of the ordinary.

If you know someone who fits any of the above descriptions, please take time to fill out the form at right, put it in an envelope and mail to Carol McCann or bring to the April meetings. The deadline for the nominations is May 1st.

See the Yearbook or the website for previous years' award winners.

2025 Member of the Year Nomination Form

I nominate: _____ for:

Lifetime Achievement _____

Yearly Service _____

Outstanding Achievement _____

Outline her contributions: _____

Explain why you felt she should receive this honor:

Your name (optional): _____





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
Annual Dues (May-May) Renewal during April & May meetings	\$35	
Junior Annual Dues (May-May) Renewal during April & May meetings	\$10	
Late Renewing Member Fee Renewal after May meeting	\$5	
February-May Dues Half year membership	\$17.50	
Mailed Newsletter	\$25	
Your Total:		

**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: ()

For Guild Use Only:

New Member _____ Renewing Member _____ Late Member _____ Half Year Member _____

Date Paid _____ Check# _____

Amount \$ _____ Taken by: _____

COTTONWOOD QUILT GUILD
August 2025 – April 2026
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 74th 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
☐	Aug 18, 2025	"Tangled Twigs" (<i>paper piece</i>)	Terri VandenBosch
☐	Sept 15, 2025	Walking Foot Quilting	Coleen Merte
☐	Oct 20, 2025	Convergence (<i>Ricky Tims' pattern</i>)	Denise Stahl
☐	Nov 17, 2025	Posh Sunflower (<i>mini quick curve ruler</i>)	LuAnn Franzluebbers
☐	Feb 16, 2026	Linked Together	Scott Flanagan
☐	Apr 20, 2026	TBD (<i>paper piece</i>)	Carolyn McCormick

of Workshops _____ x \$50 = \$ _____

Make checks payable to "Cottonwood Quilt Guild". (Checks will be cashed in Jul/Aug 2025.)

OFFICE USE ONLY

Check # _____ Amount: \$ _____

Date: _____ Time: _____

Initials: _____



COTTONWOOD QUILT GUILD

Sewcial Butterflies Retreat

July 31 – August 3, 2025

DEADLINE June 15th, 2025



Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT

Name: _____

Cell: _____ Phone: _____

RATES

Thursday - # In Room	
☐ 1 - \$153	
☐ 2 - \$123	
☐ 3 - \$116	
Thursday Total	\$

Friday - # In Room	
☐ 1 - \$178	
☐ 2 - \$142	
☐ 3 - \$129	
Friday Total	\$

Saturday - # In Room	
☐ 1 - \$178	
☐ 2 - \$142	
☐ 3 - \$129	
Saturday Total	\$

NON-MEMBERS – Please add \$35 to the total cost. You will be automatically enrolled as a member in the Cottonwood Quilt Guild for the upcoming year. Welcome! 🙌

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

Make check payable to **COTTONWOOD QUILT GUILD**.

Check # _____ Amount Due \$ _____

ROOMMATES

☐ Check here if you need roommates.

Not always able to accommodate. Will call you to discuss.

1. Me 😊 _____ 3. _____

2. _____ 4. _____

Please state if you have any special needs or medical conditions:

DIETARY NEEDS

If you have a medically necessitated need for a special diet, please contact Dana at CJH and discuss your specific needs. 1-888-656-6254 or DJAHN@NLOM.ORG.

DAYTIME ONLY – Contact Betty Cook 402-660-5665 listed below or email RAZBERRYHL@AOL.COM for specifics. A limited number of spots are available at \$50 per day, includes snack room, breakfast, lunch and dinner.

REGISTRATIONS – Your total cost is due with your registration. Mail to Betty Cook, 18358 Highway 370, Omaha, NE 68136-2009. Questions? Contact Betty Cook at 402-660-5665 or RAZBERRYHL@AOL.COM.

COTTONWOOD QUILT SHOW OCTOBER 2-4, 2025 - QUILT ENTRY FORM

MEMBER NAME: _____
EMAIL: _____ PHONE: _____
QUILT NAME: _____ YEAR FINISHED: _____
CONSTRUCTED BY: _____ QUILTED BY: _____ (PAID ___Y/N)
DESIGN SOURCE: _____ (pattern/class/book/original)

QUILT SIZE: HANGING WIDTH _____" X LENGTH _____"

TO BE JUDGED: YES _____ NO _____

CATEGORY FOR JUDGED QUILTS: See Definitions

- ___ 1 WALL QUILT (SMALL) – up to 36"
- ___ 2 WALL QUILT (LARGE) – over 36"
- ___ 3 BED QUILT (SMALL) – up to 72" wide
- ___ 4 BED QUILT (LARGE) – over 72" wide
- ___ 5 LAP OR THROW QUILT
- ___ 6 BABY OR CHILD QUILT
- ___ 7 PAPER PIECED QUILT – any size
- ___ 8 ENGLISH PAPER PIECING
- ___ 9 HAND APPLIQUE QUILT – any size
- ___ 10 MACHINE APPLIQUE QUILT – any size
- ___ 11 ORIGINAL QUILT DESIGN – not an art quilt
- ___ 12 MODERN QUILT – any size
- ___ 13 MIXED MEDIA/FIBER ART QUILT – Original design
- ___ 14 MINIATURE (Scaled version of a large quilt, 24x24" max)
- ___ 15 GROUP QUILT (2 or more persons not including quilter)
- ___ 16 SCRAP QUILT – Pieced or applique, minimum 50 fabrics
- ___ 17 PANEL OR T-SHIRT QUILT
- ___ 18 OTHER – Table quilts, tree skirts, garments, bags
- ___ 19 YOUTH – Made by a child under 17, NOT JUDGED

JUDGED OR NOT JUDGED, Is this quilt a:

- ___ Guild BOM Year _____
- ___ Guild Challenge Year _____
- ___ Guild Workshop Project
- ___ SHOW CHALLENGE 2025

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

(Check all that apply)

- ___ Longarm Edge to Edge Design
- ___ Longarm Custom Quilted
- ___ Domestic Machine Quilted
- ___ Hand Quilted (entirely by hand)
- ___ Embroidery (hand or machine)
- ___ Holiday Theme
- ___ First Show Entry (ever)
- ___ I am interested in selling this quilt
(details about the process will
be provided when finalized)

DESCRIPTION (60 WORD LIMIT) _____

****Absolutely no entries will be accepted after August 20. Quilt turn-in September 19-20.**

Mail entry to: Janelle Reed, 19509 Audrey St, Gretna NE 68028 or janlsews@gmail.com

OR turn in at Guild meeting.

Entrant must be a paid member of Cottonwood Guild by 8/18/25. All entries must be clean, smoke & odor free, constructed of fabric and batting, and be quilted. A maximum of 3 items may be entered, (the show challenge quilt is exempt from the total), with a maximum of 2 of the 3 may be judged. **2 hours of volunteer time will be required for each entry.** Quilts must have been finished within the past 3 years (2023-25). No special hanging or handling will be allowed. Entries may be moved to different categories at discretion of judge and show committee. One quilt per entry form. Entering a quilt in the show serves as permission to use photographic images of the quilt in promotion of the guild and its activities.

Questions please contact Janelle Reed (402-639-4764) or Marti Neely (402-630-0050)

DISCLAIMER: In consideration of the right to participate, entrants release and discharge Cottonwood Quilters Guild and all its members from all responsibility for any damage or loss that may be suffered by their property. Please list any spots, cuts, marks or damaged areas on your item: _____

SIGNED: _____ (ENTRANT)

QUILT CATEGORY DEFINITIONS – COTTONWOOD QUILT SHOW – QUARTER TURN DASH 2025

1-WALL QUILT (SMALL) – A quilt made to be displayed on a wall or door, any style or technique, up to 36” wide.

2-WALL QUILT (LARGE) – A quilt made to be displayed on a wall, any style or technique, over 36” wide.

3-BED QUILT (SMALL) – A quilt made to display on a bed, up to 72” wide. Any style or technique.

4-BED QUILT (LARGE) – A quilt made to display on a bed, over 72” wide. Any style or technique.

5-LAP OR THROW QUILT – A quilt made to use on a chair or couch. Any style or technique. Generally smaller than a bed quilt.

6-BABY OR CHILD QUILT – A quilt made for a baby or child, generally crib sized or smaller, with a childish theme. Any style or technique.

7-PAPER PIECED QUILT – A quilt made by stitching fabric to a paper foundation. The paper is removed before quilting. The judge evaluates the technical skills of the maker, i.e. points, curves, corners.

8-ENGLISH PAPER PIECING – A traditionally hand sewn piecing method. The paper templates are removed before quilting. Quilt may be any size.

9-HAND APPLIQUE QUILT – A quilt of any size with primary focus on applique done by hand.

10-MACHINE APPLIQUE QUILT – A quilt of any size with primary focus on applique done by machine with any technique.

***Not all quilts with applique must be entered in an applique category. It's your choice for Judge's focus.**

11-ORIGINAL QUILT DESIGN – A quilt of any size not made from a pattern produced by another person or company. Designing may be done on a computer or paper by the maker. Adjustments to a pattern or copying another quilt without a pattern do not qualify as original design, but blocks or components are not required to be unique (an original arrangement of traditional blocks qualifies). May be traditional or modern, pieced or appliqued. Not an art quilt.

12-MODERN QUILT – A quilt of any size, primarily functional and inspired by modern design. Identifying characteristics include but are not limited to: use of bold colors and prints, high contrast and graphic areas of solid colors, improvisational piecing, minimalism, expansive negative space, and alternate grid of work. Modern Traditionalism or the updating of classic quilt designs is often seen in modern quilting.

13-MIXED MEDIA/FIBER ART QUILT – A quilt composed of a combination of materials including fabric created using paints, inks, pencils, stamps, photos, etc. Original work not made from a pattern. Must be composed of front, batting, and back, and be quilted. No special hanging requirements, please.

14-MINIATURE – A quilt no more than 24” on a side that is a small-scale version of a full-sized quilt. Fabric, block size, batting, and binding appropriately scaled. May be hand or machine quilted.

15-GROUP QUILT – A quilt of any size made by 2 or more people not counting the quilter. Block exchange, round robin, or assembled by one person from blocks made by multiple people.

16-SCRAP QUILT – A quilt, pieced or appliqued, containing a minimum of 50 unique fabrics. May be any size or technique.

We will not pull quilts from other categories to be judged as scrap quilts.

17-PANEL OR T-SHIRT QUILT – A quilt containing a panel or pieces of t-shirts with additional blocks or borders.

18-OTHER – Table toppers, placemats, tree skirts, garments, or bags. Must be composed of front, batting, and back, and be quilted.

19-YOUTH – A quilt of any size or style that is constructed by someone 16 years old or younger working with or under the supervision of a current member of the Cottonwood Quilt Guild at the time of completing the entry. This is a participation category to encourage an interest in quilting and is not judged. All entrants will receive recognition for their entry.

Floating Churn Dash

12 ½-inch (12.5") unfinished Floating Churn Dash fabric needs:

★ Background:

(5) 4 ½" X 4 ½" squares

(4) 4 ½" X 2 ½" rectangles

★ Color – blue or red:

(4) 4" x 4" squares

(4) 4 ½" X 2 ½" rectangles

1. On the 4" squares, draw a diagonal line from opposite corners.
2. Draw a 2nd line ½" from the first one.

3. Place the 4" color square on the 4 ½" background square as shown in *Figure 1*.

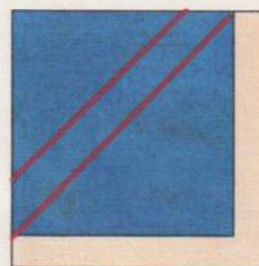


Figure 1

4. Sew on both of the drawn lines.
5. Cut between the sewn lines and you will have two ½ square triangle units.
Return the smaller ½ square unit back with your finished churn dash block; we have plans for these.
6. Press the larger triangle unit toward the color fabric. See *Figure 2*

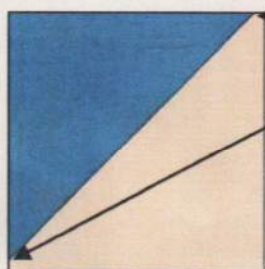
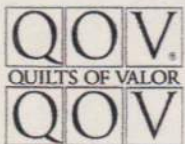


Figure 2

There should be ½" of background showing here



Block Drive

7. Sew background and color $2\frac{1}{2}" \times 4\frac{1}{2}"$ strips together. Press toward color fabric. *See Figure 3*

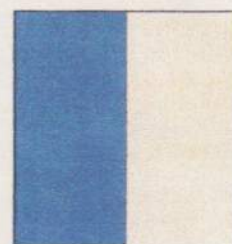


Figure 3

8. Layout units as shown in *Figure 4* and sew together in rows. Press units toward 2 patch.
9. Sew rows together. Press rows away from center row. Block should be $12\frac{1}{2}"$ square unfinished.

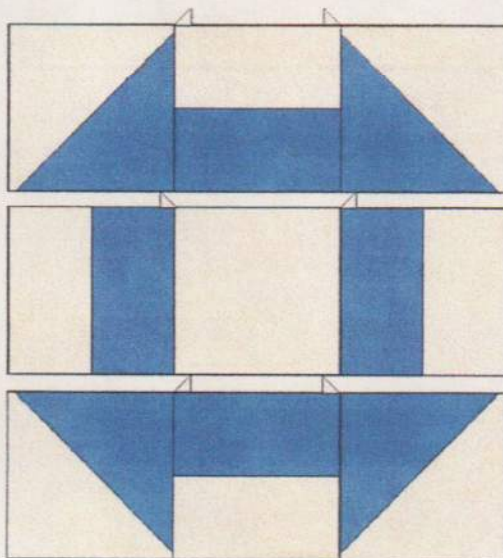


Figure 4

THANK YOU!