

Welcome to the Central Iowa Quilt Sew-Ciety Guild!

We hope that this information helps you become acquainted with our guild and activities.

- We currently have 60 members
- The guild meets monthly on the first Tuesday of each month at Trinity Lutheran Church in Marshalltown
- Social time begins at 5:30
- The business meeting/program starts promptly at 6:00

Do members have to know how to quilt?

Our Guild members have every level of experience, from brand new beginning quilters to folks who have been quilting many years. Some actually have finished projects! Annual dues are \$25.00.

Guild Board for 2016-17

President	Roseanne Anderson
Vice-President	Gloria DeBower
Treasurer	Leslie Renaud
Secretary	Mary Jane Hazelwood
Hospitality	Dorothy Sleege
Hospitality at Large	Amy Drummer
Program Chair	Julie McNair
Program at Large	Deb Kerr
Quilts of Valor Coordinator	Marvis Drew
Past President	Linda Cooper
Retreats and Trips	Sue Smith

What happens at a monthly meeting?

Social time and refreshments start at 5:30. Members gather to chat and enjoy snacks. We ask that members volunteer to bring snacks and beverages, and signup sheets will be circulated at meetings.

The meeting itself begins at 6:00 PM and includes:

- Guild business
- A presentation by a member or invited guest/teacher
- Show and tell (members are always invited to bring projects to show.)

The order of this may be flexible, depending on our presenters' preferences and the amount of information that needs to be shared. Some presenters may bring items for sale.

What is a "sew in"?

These are held at the Marshalltown Library on a Saturday from 9:00 am until 4:45 pm, once a month. They are scheduled ahead, but we are not always able to meet on the same Saturday of the month. Usually this is a time to work on your own project. Bring your project(s), machine and equipment, and sew among friends. This can be a great time to ask questions or work with a new friend to learn new skills. Very informal, and also voluntary. Sometimes small groups may meet for part of this time, and some sew in days may be used to work on Community Service projects. No Fee.

Retreats

The CIQSC plans two retreats each year, generally one in the spring and one in the fall/winter. These are times to pack up your machine, some projects, and your pajamas for two or three days and nights of sewing among other guild members. Locations vary, but have included the Nest at Hen & Chicks in Conrad, Pilgrim Heights, and the Christian Conference near Newton. The amount of time you spend at a retreat can be flexible if you don't want to or can't stay overnight. There may be planned activities, demonstrations or games; there is always food; the main objective is time away just for quilting! There are costs for lodging and food, and these vary, depending on location and services.

Trip(s)

Once a year (traditionally) our guild, in conjunction with Iowa Valley Continuing Education, arranges a day trip to several quilt shops in Iowa. This is in June, at the same time as the All Iowa Shop Hop. Members register with IVCCE and pay a fee. We bring our lunches and travel to several shops. The coordinator generally plans for us to have a restaurant meal together in the evening before we head home with our stashes. There is a registration fee and members pay for the evening meal themselves. The amount of money you spend beyond that is up to you — lots of temptation, though! Other group trips may be planned to other events.

What are “Small Groups?”

These are groups of members who focus on a particular technique. Meetings are held once a month, at a member's home or at the Library. Some are teaching/learning based, some are just groups of quilters with a common interest. Coordinators try to find times that work for most folks who are interested. There may be both a day and evening group. Groups may take the summer months off, and begin again in the fall. Here are the current small groups:

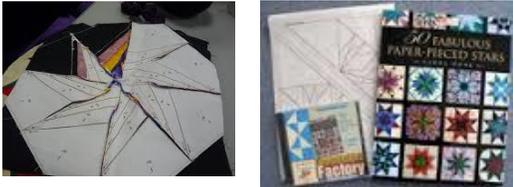
Applique – usually hand applique, and either using wool, cotton or a combination of both fabrics



Machine Quilting using your domestic sewing machine

Machine Embroidery

Foundation Paper Piecing – (not to be confused with English Paper Piecing which is stitched by hand)



Classes

The Guild may offer or co-sponsor classes. Teachers may be Guild members, area shop owners, authors, or appraisers (this isn't an all-inclusive list!) Classes are not regularly scheduled, but you will receive information and details beforehand. Supplies are usually needed and fees are determined specifically for each class.

Website/Email/Member Lists

The Guild has a website. Effort is made to keep information current and accurate. Emails about specific events may be timelier, and are the primary means of communication for Guild news and notices. The Guild does not have a Facebook page or group at this time. Board members maintain a current list of members' names and contact information.

Community Service Projects

Quilts of Valor is the main community service project for CIQS. The guild currently provides two presentations for local veterans each year. Being located in Marshalltown, we are fortunate to have so many veterans residing at the Iowa Veterans Home where we are currently co-hosting an event each spring. Co-hosting the IVH event has led to banding together with individuals, quilting guilds, auxiliaries and other groups from all over Iowa. Finished QOV are sent to us and presented to residents, as there are over 400 veterans needing these fine quilts.

We host a second event with and at the Marshalltown Mall in the fall for local veterans. CIQS provides over 40 quilts for both these events. Our guild has a membership with the National Quilts of Valor foundation so those wishing to give donations to purchase fabrics for these quilts can use the tax exempt nonprofit 501(c) 3 status. A Quilt of Valor is made to the specifications and guidelines recommended by the QOV foundation.

CIQS provides fabrics and kits for members to stitch with Love, Prayers and Healing thoughts. Members work individually and in groups. Our longarm quilters provide the finishing quilting stitches. Each quilt is then hand bound and labeled. Even though more than one quilt may have been started with the same pattern, each has been individually made for each veteran, with no two exactly alike. Veterans get tears when receiving their own personalized quilt with comments such as "This is the nicest thing anyone has ever done for me," "This is my brass band," "My quilt goes everywhere with me." Some are displayed on a wall and some are shown off with pride. Many are used for daily for comfort. Quilts of Valor provide warmth, love and gratitude. They merely say "Thank You for your Service, Sacrifice and Valor."

The foundation was started from a dream of a Blue Star mom, Catherine Roberts, whose son was serving in Iraq. In 2003 QOV became a national grassroots community linking quilters with veterans.

Over 138,800 QOV have been awarded. (7/2016) The average cost for materials of each quilt is \$250. QOV volunteers have spent over \$35,000,000 boosting the fabric industry. This does not count the endless supply of thread, notions, patterns, sewing machines and postage. If you have a desire to help with this project, I would love to have you join our QOV team!

CIQS-QOV chairperson: Marvis Drew 641-474- 2373 email: marvisd@heartofiowa.net



QOV September 2015



QOV Veterans' Home, April, 2016

Community Service: Weighted Blankets

Children who have autism or autistic-like characteristics process sensory input in very different ways. Weighted blankets calm them and help both the child and parents get much needed sleep. Periodically our guild helps sew these blankets, usually during a Saturday sew in. They are specifically constructed to appropriate weights for different age/size children. Donations of fabric, time and money are appreciated but strictly voluntary.

Quilt Show

In association with Marshalltown Mall, our guild holds a quilt show in the fall, overlapping both the Quilts of Valor presentation and Marshalltown's Oktoberfest celebration. Members' finished quilts are displayed at the Mall and in some store fronts. Members' help is needed for hanging quilts, placing displays, and assisting with the Quilts of Valor presentation activities. This is a good way for the community to see our finished quilts. The show isn't judged, but a viewers' choice award is given. Quilts may be displayed for a week or longer. No fee to enter.