



A LITTLE ABOUT US

History: On January 1, 1984, a small group of women interested in quilting met for the first time to organize a quilt group. Jackie Robinson, formerly of our area, was instrumental in organizing the group and provided her shop, "In Stitches", was our first meeting place and our name was "Crazy Quilters". We met once a month and dues were \$1 per meeting. The membership continued to grow and in April 1984 the group met at the Germania Savings and Loan. In January 1986, by-laws were drafted and adopted, officers elected and annual dues set at \$15 per year. On April 5, 1986, the "Crazy Quilters" had their first quilt show and a month later the group's name was changed to Bits 'n' Pieces Quilt Guild. Subsequent moves brought the group to its present location at the Salem Methodist Church of Ballwin. Meetings are held monthly on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m., except for December.

Purpose: The purpose of the Guild is to preserve the heritage of quilting, which includes the lively interaction and generous sharing so typical of those who share a love of this art. The Guild provides a forum to showcase the ideas, talents and workmanship of its members. It also provides the opportunity to hear lectures by well-known quilters as well as the opportunity to participate in workshops often given by its own talented guild members.

Monthly Programs: Each month our guild holds a general business meeting and a program. Our programs include national speakers, guild members sharing their expertise, a fun program that includes dinner and many others. The programs are used as an opportunity to continue the teaching process and pass on the love of quilting.

Small Groups: We have several small groups who meet in members' homes at various times throughout the month. These groups give an opportunity for members to become better acquainted with others and to learn and share their quilting ideas.

Community Service: As an on-going commitment to giving to our community, our guild provides quilts for St. Louis Children's Hospital through a program called "Cover Our Kids.". The quilts are given to children of all ages that are diagnosed with cancer. As a guild, we generally donate over 100 quilts per year to this program.

Quilt Show: Bi-annually we hold a quilt show, and many of those quilts are made by our members. The two-day show is generally held in mid-March. The show's main purpose is to perpetuate quilting as an art form in our community.

About our Members: The guild is composed of quilters of various levels of expertise, united by a common bond, the love of quilting. Our skill levels range from beginner to professional quilters. One of the best things about our guild is that we have a tremendously active group of people who are generous in sharing they knowledge and expertise. The experienced quilters are eager teachers who generously help all levels of quilters. And we are a friendly and fun loving guild.

Membership: Membership is \$20 annually; visitors are welcome at all of our programs for a minimal \$2 fee.

Newsletter: Our members receive our monthly "Fan Mail" newsletter.