

December 11, 2006

Meeting second Monday  
of each month at  
St. Thomas More  
Catholic Church  
2900 Kimball Ave  
Manhattan, Kansas

Social time at 8:30 a.m.;  
meeting begins at 9 a.m.

www.kpqg.com

KONZA PRAIRIE QUILTERS' GUILD NEWSLETTER  
EDITOR: JENNIE BURDEN

# Prairie Pointer

## December Meeting Brings Traditional Celebrations

**December 12** will be our usual Christmas activities, but no cookie exchange this year. We'll have regular and Christmas show and tell, potluck lunch and revealing of the Secret Sisters. Also, we will draw for the Opportunity Quilt, so remember to turn in your tickets.

**January 8:** We will be having a different kind of auction this year. . Heart to Heart will be an auction of related items to benefit the Quilts From the Heart

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Some of the 150 quilts that were donated to the Domestic Violence Center, along with 22 stuffed bears that Bonnie Olson made.

### Secret Sisters:

December is the month you reveal your identity to your secret sister.

Dues are due  
for 2007  
\$35



Cindy Ross' sampler quilt.

### December Refreshments

Please be sure to bring refreshments during your assigned month or trade with someone else who can.

- Ethel Houtz
- Katherine Hummels
- Bette Jennings
- Opal Kemnitz
- Pat King
- Ora Mae Kirkendall
- Jan Klink
- Dona Koster



Happy Birthday to Donna Dawson, Nancy Graves, Anne Emerson and Kay Ring.

## December Birthdays

Dorine Elsea	2
Donna Dawson	8
Kay Ring	10
Dee Gerardy	13
Carolyn Fellows	15
Jane Hebert	16
Nancy Graves	17
Nancy Roth	24
Anne Emerson	25
Marcella Bechard	30



### Member Profile

Ronna Robertson, who joined guild in 2002, has been our program chair for the past year. Ronna holds a BA in math from Iowa State and a MBA from KU. She has taught, worked and lived in Michigan, Iowa, Idaho and Lawrence before retiring to Manhattan. Don, her husband of 40 years, teaches microbiology at K-State.



Among Ronna's hobbies are lace making and weaving. She has taught classes for UFM, including how to make biscotti, scones and cream puffs. Ronna and Don (who goes by Robby) have two grown daughters in the KC area, and 2 grandchildren, Sam, 5 and Jana, 3.

Ronna's favorite program was Jane Buckley's strips and

*(Continued on page 3)*

## Patchwork Pieces

### Cindy's President's Block:

Using 1930s reproduction pastels (she likes butterflies), make a 10½" block (will finish to 10" in her quilt) for Cindy's President's Block Quilt. Remember to sign your name.

### Block exchange

Harriette Janke suggested the following fun idea. To participate, bring two identical 10½" blocks (signed) to the next meeting. You will take home someone else's block and embellish it any way you like. The "plain" and "fancy" blocks will be assembled into two quilts and we'll see how different they can be.

Directory Updates:

New email for Robbie Courts:  
[mrccourts@allegiance.tv](mailto:mrccourts@allegiance.tv)

**Every Thursday** from 11 am-3 pm a group meets at the Riley County Senior Center to sew, quilt and visit. Lunch is on your own. Contact: Susie (Weir, Wong or Sapp.)  
 Beginning in February, every Tuesday there will be a Quilts From the Heart at the Bernina Shoppe in Westloop.



Margie Young and Twila Hoffman show their brightly colored crib quilts.

### 2007 Quilt Show

Our **“Stars Over Konza Prairie” Quilt Show** will be April 20-21, 2007 at the First Presbyterian Church in Manhattan—put these dates on your calendar. This will be a great opportunity to promote quilting in the local area.

As part of the show, we would like to showcase the results of all of our workshops and classes (especially from the past 2 years). In order to do that, I would encourage all of you “starters” to finish your class projects within the next few months, so we can group the class results together and display all of your creativity showing the variety you can get from the same pattern or technique. We will be looking for a wide variety of volunteers to help pull this together over the next few months.

If you have a specific area of interest, please contact Robbie Courts so we can be sure to include you. We are also interested in having a display of “wearable” quilted items. If you have any type of mannequin or body form, or know where we could borrow some, please let Robbie know.

Robbie Courts, 85A Schofield Circle, Ft Riley, KS 66442, 785-784-8157, [mrcourts@charter.net](mailto:mrcourts@charter.net)



### On the Road

## **Quilt Shows & Events of Interest** 2007

Mar 1-Apr 1 Quilters Heaven in 2007 Quilt Show, Walnut Valley Quilt Guild, Winfield Middle School, 130 Biking Blvd, Winfield, KS. Contacts: 620-221-1520 or [his@skyerock.net](mailto:his@skyerock.net). Guild Website: [www.walnutvalleyquilters.com](http://www.walnutvalleyquilters.com).

Mar 10 National Quilting Day

April 20-21 KPQG Quilt Show, First Presbyterian Church, 801 Leavenworth, Manhattan.



Poppy wall hanging by Nayola Norris.

### **Member Profile—Ronna Robertson**

*(Continued from page 2)*

curves; her favorite part of quilting is embellishment. She isn't working on any quilt projects right now, because she's preparing to move into her new home – between Christmas and New Year's.

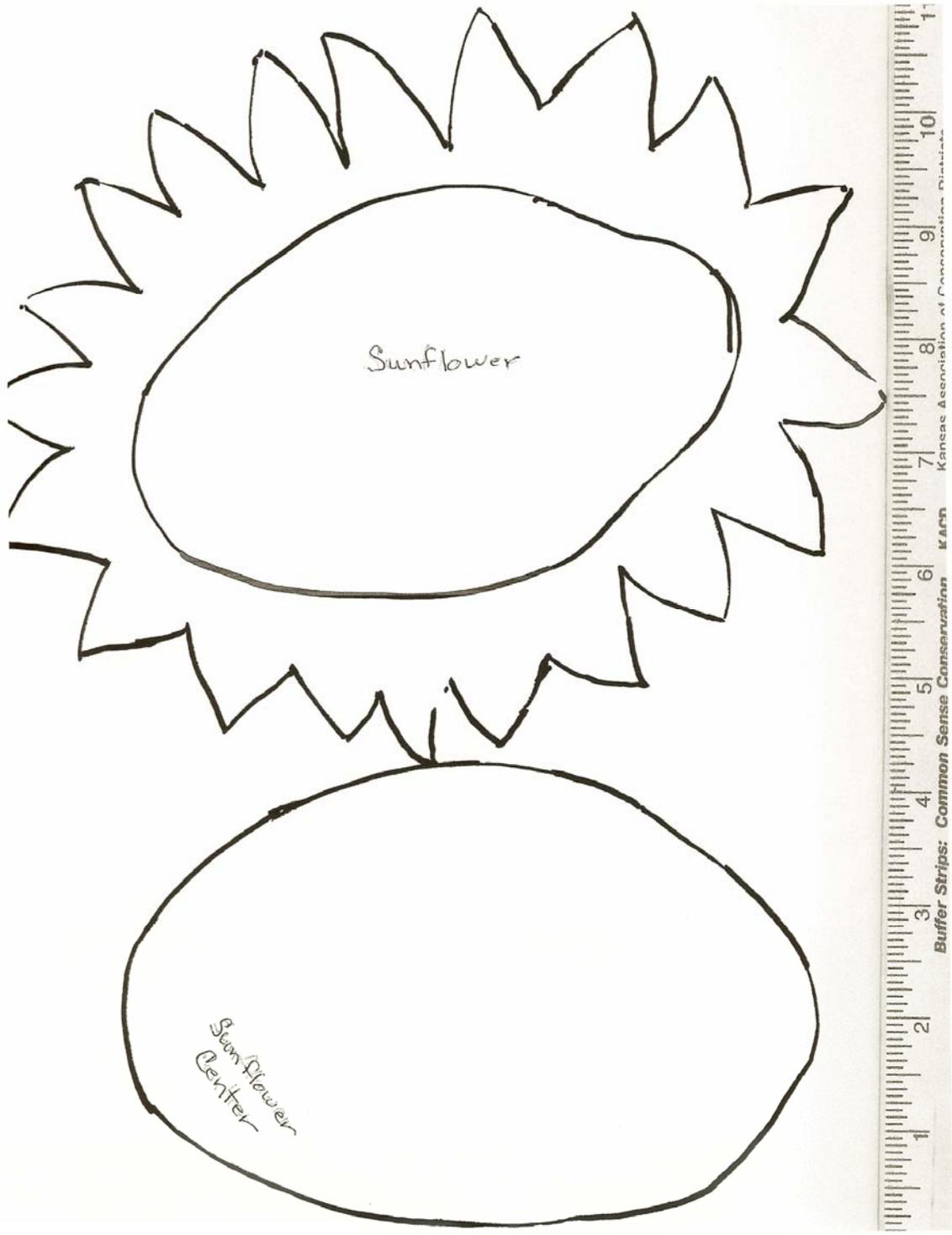
If Ronna looks smaller these days, that's because she's lost 33 pounds. Since finding out she was diabetic, she has strictly followed the dietary and exercise recommendations to avoid having to take medication to control her disease.

## January Block of the Month: Sunflower

Norma Butler will be supplying patterns for the 2007 Block of the Month. She has chosen Kansas Wildflowers as her theme. Each month she will supply a different pattern which can be appliquéd, fused, embroidered, painted ...

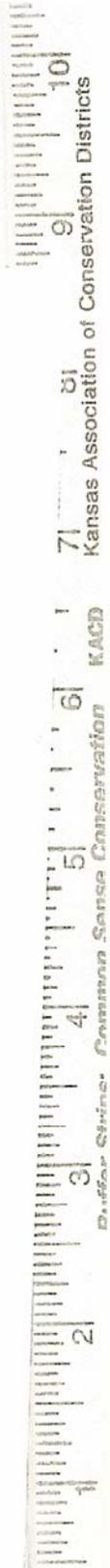
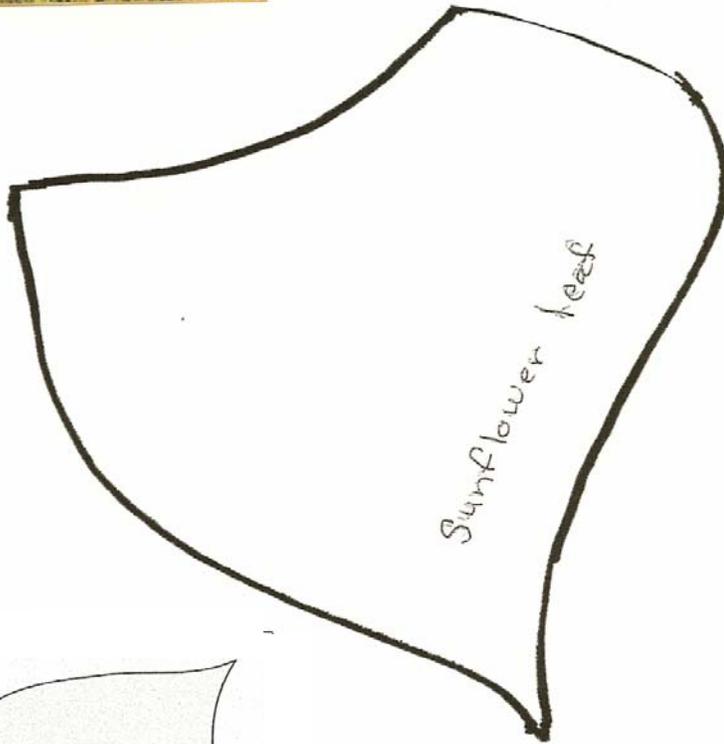
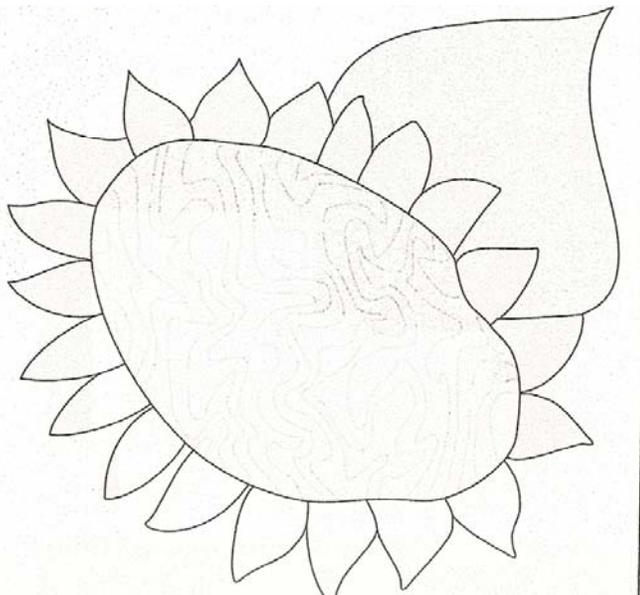
whatever your heart desires.

Size will also be up to your discretion. Norma is using 10½” squares (before finishing). The ruler along the side is to help you scale your pattern.



The Common Sunflower is the state flower of Kansas by an enactment of the 1903 Kansas Legislature. It is found in open areas, along road sides, and on dry prairies. The flowers and leaves follow the sun as it traverses the sky.

Almost all parts of the plant can be utilized in some way, seeds, shells, oil, yellow dyes, poultry feed, and the pithy stalk is used in making life preservers. The information courtesy of Mike Haddock at KSU, from his book Kansas Wildflowers and Grasses.



Duffey Stone - Common Sense Conservation KACD Kansas Association of Conservation Districts

## A Different Christmas poem

The embers glowed softly, and in their dim light,  
I gazed round the room and I cherished the sight.  
My wife was asleep, her head on my chest,  
My daughter beside me, angelic in rest.  
Outside the snow fell, a blanket of white,  
Transforming the yard to a winter delight.  
The sparkling lights in the tree, I believe,  
Completed the magic that  
was Christmas Eve.  
My eyelids were heavy, my  
breathing was deep,  
Secure and surrounded by  
love I would sleep.  
In perfect contentment, or  
so it would seem,  
So I slumbered; perhaps I  
started to dream.

The sound wasn't loud, and  
it wasn't too near,  
But I opened my eyes when  
it tickled my ear.  
Perhaps just a cough, I didn't  
quite know,  
Then the sure sound of foot-  
steps outside in the snow.  
My soul gave a tremble, I  
struggled to hear,  
And I crept to the door just to see who was near.  
Standing out in the cold and the dark of the night,  
A lone figure stood, his face weary and tight.

A soldier, I puzzled, some twenty years old,  
Perhaps a Marine, huddled here in the cold.  
Alone in the dark, he looked up and smiled,  
Standing watch over me, and my wife and my child.  
"What are you doing?" I asked without fear,  
"Come in this moment, it's freezing out here!  
Put down your pack, brush the snow from your  
sleeve,  
You should be at home on a cold Christmas Eve!"

For barely a moment I saw his eyes shift,  
Away from the cold and the snow blown in drifts..  
To the window that danced with a warm fire's light  
Then he sighed and he said "Its really all right.  
I'm out here by choice. I'm here every night."



"It's my duty to stand at the front of the line,  
That separates you from the darkest of times.  
No one had to ask or beg or implore me,  
I'm proud to stand here like my fathers before me.  
My Gramps died at Pearl on a day in December,"  
Then he sighed, "That's a Christmas Gram always remembers."

My dad stood his watch in the jungles of 'Nam,  
And now it is my turn and so, here I am.  
I've not seen my own son in more than a while,  
But my wife sends me pictures, he's sure got her smile.

Then he bent and he carefully pulled from his bag,  
The red, white, and blue... an American flag.  
"I can live through the cold and the being alone,  
Away from my family, my house and my home.  
I can stand at my post through the rain and the sleet,  
I can sleep in a foxhole with little to eat.  
I can carry the weight of killing another,  
Or lay down my life with my sister and brother..  
Who stand at the front against any and all,  
To ensure for all time that this flag will not fall."

"So go back inside," he said, "harbor no fright,  
Your family is waiting and I'll be all right."  
"But isn't there something I can do, at the least,  
Give you money," I asked, "or prepare you a feast?  
It seems all too little for all that you've done,

For being away from your wife and your son."  
Then his eye welled a tear that held no regret,  
"Just tell us you love us, and never forget.  
To fight for our rights back at home while we're gone,  
To stand your own watch, no matter how long.  
For when we come home, either standing or dead,  
To know you remember we fought and we bled  
Is payment enough, and with that we will trust,  
That we mattered to you as you mattered to us."

LCDR Jeff Giles, SC, USN Al Taqqadum, Iraq

(Bonnie Olson shared this poem by email)





Theresa Gunther made this lavender and green Lone Star quilt.



### Upcoming Programs

*(Continued from page 1)*

project. Each person or pairs of persons will take a basket or some other attractive container and put nice things in it to be auctioned off. No “junk” is to be used. Items such as fat quarters, notions, patterns, and other quilt related items will be placed in this basket and then auctioned.

Nancy suggests that members could put together items that possibly relate to each other - a book or pattern, a couple of fat quarters, notions, thread in a basket, sack, pot, or any container. We don't expect one of each member - several could go together. If we have 20 to 30 that will be great.

One member has a quilt that she doesn't want and that will be auctioned off by itself. Perhaps you have a kit for something you never made. You could place that, along with all the related notions needed to complete it, in a basket. But we don't want just stuff (junk) just piled in a box or sack. Next year can be the trash to treasure auction for cleaning out your sewing room.

### **International Quilt Block Exchange**

A quilt guild in Wales would like to do a quilt block exchange with KPQG. Each member that signs up would make a quilt block of your choice and bring it to the meeting in January. The blocks will be collected and mailed to the guild in Swansea, Wales, where they will be distributed to those members who have sent a block to KPQG.

When you get your block from Wales, you will finish it by making a wall hanging, pillow, bag, or quilt, take a picture of it (and you) and send the picture to your partner in Wales. You should receive a picture from them showing how they finished the block you made.

If you would like to participate in this exchange, please sign up at the November or December meeting. If you are unable to attend either meeting, but would like to participate, please email Susan Weaver at [sweaver@cyrn.net](mailto:sweaver@cyrn.net).



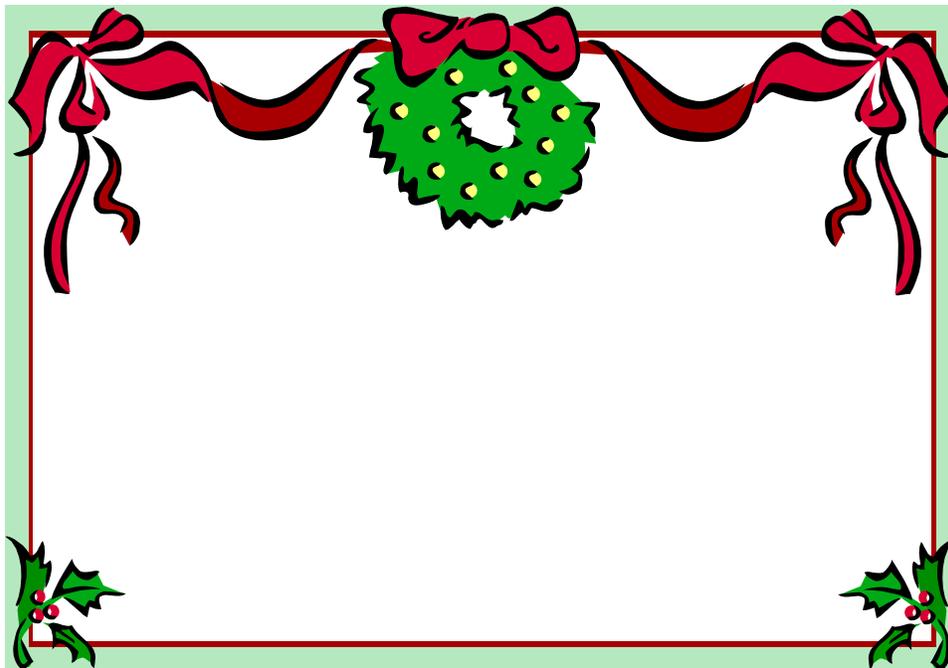
Baby quilt with a hunting and fishing theme, made by Lois Morrison.

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### Sunshine and Shadows

Susie Sapp would like to thank everyone who helped her at last month's meeting when she fell and fractured her shoulder. She is mending well and will be starting physical therapy soon.

Please send notices for Sunshine and Shadows to [jennieb53@cox.net](mailto:jennieb53@cox.net), call 539-1204, or submit in writing at guild meetings.

For sale: Oval frame on stand for lap quilting. Two hoops: one large & one 16". \$80. Harriette Janke, 539-0865.



### Carol H. Elmore

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The *Prairie Pointer* is the monthly newsletter of Konza Prairie Quilters' Guild. Membership is open to all those interested in quilts and quilting. Yearly dues are \$35 and include 12 Opportunity Tickets, admission to all meetings, monthly newsletter, access to library materials, block of the month patterns, and opportunity to participate in workshops, field trips and public events. Guests are welcome to attend twice before joining.