

# Piecemakers share with others

By Sharon Corcoran

*The Goodland Star-News*  
Pieces, pieces everywhere, but instead of disorder, peace.

The Prairie Piecemakers turn pieces into quilts and have been sharing their pieces with others. The quilt guild was formed in 2003, said Cora House, who chairs the group, to carry on the every-other-year quilt show at the Flatlander Fall Festival when the Chamber of Commerce decided to drop it.

The guild has 18 members, she said, some of whom come from St. Francis to meetings the second Thursday each month. The women met in various places, including homes, she said, before making the Rock House, 326 E. Sixth, their regular meeting spot.

They make quilts for the first baby of the year in Goodland and in St. Francis; they've given quilts to children with serious illnesses; and they launched a project to provide quilts to children stranded on the roadside after an accident.

The guild met Thursday, Oct. 13, to give a dozen quilts to the Kansas Highway Patrol to carry in their cars to give to children and to enjoy "trunk shows" by Paula Rumsback of Oakley and Edith Schick of Densmore.

House said she was talking with Sgt. Kevin Winston of the patrol and mentioned that she thought it

must be scary for kids when they have to wait by the side of the road after a car accident.

"I thought it would help them to have something to hold onto," House said.

She said Winston agreed, telling her there are 11 patrol cars in the area that could carry the quilts. Trooper Joe Greene picked up the quilts for the patrol. He said he likes to use a kind approach in dealing with drivers and others in an accident.

"It's my goal to get everyone to say 'thank you' at the end of a traffic stop," Greene said.

The quilts were made in a variety of themes and colors, including one with cars and motorcycles on one side and a world atlas on the other, and one in pink has its own matching bag to carry it in. Greene said he thought they would be appreciated.

"It's one project I hope we never have to use," said Carol Tupper, quilt guild member, "but they'll be there if we need them."

When the troopers give out quilts, House said, they can let the guild know and the women will make more.

After presenting the quilts to Greene, the guild members and guests, over 25 people, sat back to enjoy the "trunk shows." Rumsback and Schick talked about when and how they got started quilting and showed examples of their work.



Cora House (above, left), chair of the Prairie Piecemakers Quilt Guild, held one end of a quilt from Paula Rumsback's "trunk show," while Rumsback, an Oakley quilter, showed how she arranged the

pieces on a quilt done with a circle wedge. Trooper Joe Greene (below) helped Carol Tupper fold a quilt that the Piecemakers donated for troopers to give to children who've been in wrecks.

Photos by Sharon Corcoran/The Goodland Star-News

# Quilters display special collections

By Sharon Corcoran

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Two Kansas women, sharing their quilting lives with the Prairie Piecemakers, pulled out the contents of their trunks, some made, some borrowed, some bought on the Internet.

Paula Rumsback of Oakley and Edith Schick of Densmore gave the trunk shows at the quilt guild's monthly meeting.

Rumsback said she started quilting 30 years ago but stopped for a while and then got back into it about five years ago. She told the group she had brought a little bit of everything, and then one by one brought out the goods to prove it.

Her quilts ranged from one made from Civil War reproduction prints to a "kaleidoscope" to a string spider web from 1930s reproduction fabrics to flannel sunflowers. She showed two Ricky Tims' quilts that looked as if the fabric had been woven in and out like a basket, and an Eleanor Burns "Quilt in a Day" with flying geese.

A guild member asked Rumsback how she chooses colors for a kaleidoscope quilt. They're all from

scraps, she answered. A member asked if she would help someone who doesn't have her color sense, and she said she does that a lot.

Several of Rumsback's quilts drew "oohs" and "aahs" from the audience, but the star of her show was a bright blue oval quilt that she is making for her daughter, using a circle wedge ruler to measure the blocks.

Someone in the audience asked if she would teach a class, and Rumsback said she would. She also does machine quilting for others, charging by the quilt, starting at \$50 and going up.

Schick said she lives "out in the sticks," so for something to do, she took quilting classes in 2000 and then started reading quilting magazines.

She showed "friendship quilts" that were about 14 inches square; small quilts she uses in the middle of her table; a quilt her mother embroidered squares for; quilts bought on eBay, including one with an embroidered history of a small town; and one of her own creations that she called a "learning piece."

"I learned not to do that again," she said.

Schick showed a quilt called

"Lady in the White House" that she made from a pattern she got at a garage sale. She finished the quilt the day President Bush was inaugurated, and she wanted to send a block for Laura Bush to sign, but she hasn't yet.

One of Schick's quilts had panels with black-and-white pictures depicting scenes with children hanging quilts on the clothesline on a farm, quilts on beds in homes and other pictures with quilts.

She said she bought the panels at a silent auction, and the woman who sold them said she bought them at a discount store and never used them. Schick said a friend told her when she saw the quilt that she was surprised at how Schick used them. The friend said she would have colored them in, Schick said.

Another of Schick's quilts had a picture of a boy with a fishing pole over his shoulder with a carrot hanging from it and a rabbit following him. There were fabric accents with carrots on them and squares with rabbit pictures. But the big hits of Schick's show were her tags on the backs of her quilts, made with a small pattern that matched the quilt.



# Conservation award nominations being taken

The Conservation Awards Program committee wants nominations for this year's conservation and windbreak awards, sponsored by the agricultural committee of the Kansas Bankers Association.

Last year, awards were made to Leonard and Mary Elliott for windbreaks and Steve and Colleen Duell Farms for soil conservation.

The idea is to stimulate interest in conservation of the agricultural resources, said Dana Belshe, Sunflower Extension District agriculture agent, by recognizing farmers and landowners who have made outstanding progress in soil and

water conservation.

Points to be considered in selecting soil conservation award winners include:

- Use of land according to its capabilities.
- Completeness of conservation plan.
- Balance of farm enterprise.
- Quality of conservation work completed and maintenance of practices.
- Special practices unique to the operation.

The windbreak award considers plantings which provide protection from winds for residential or other structures, livestock or fields. Windbreaks should be a minimum of 3 years old.

Points to be considered in selecting award winners include windbreak design, management, loca-

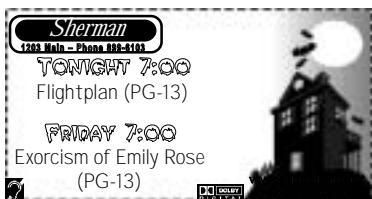
tion, density and length.

Nominations can be made by any person in the county. They should be sent to the Sunflower Extension District's Goodland office, 813

Broadway, Goodland, Kan. 67735, by next Tuesday. The awards will be presented at the Sherman County Soil Conservation District's annual meeting on February 13.

## corrections

The Goodland Star-News will correct any mistake or misunderstanding in a news story. Please call our office at (785) 899-2338 to report errors. We believe that news should be fair and factual. We want to keep an accurate record and appreciate you calling to our attention any failure to live up to this standard.



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student of the week

Name: Kali Rietcheck

Parents: David & Lori Rietcheck

Grade: 12

Age: 17

We've nominated this student because: Kali has a genuine interest in her schoolwork. She is very inquisitive and wants to learn all that she can. She is a joy to have in the classroom

Student Comment: I come to school not only to receive an education, but to see my friends and make lifelong memories.

Activities involved in at school: Student Council, Science Olympiad, GAA, AFS, FCS, Peer Counselor, Tennis, Wrestling Cheerleader, Track.

My choice of movies, books, and games: My favorite movies include 13 Going on 30 and Just like Heaven. I love to read books of all sorts and enjoy playing Scrabble and The Game of Life.

After I leave Goodland High School I intend to: Attend a private 4 year college and major in business. I hope to earn a MBA.

And 10 years from now, I think I'll be: Running a large company and have a family of my own.

Favorite Quote: To laugh often and love much...to know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived – this is success.

–Ralph Waldo Emerson

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