

Loose Threads News

1st Wednesday Agenda

9:30 Doors open - refreshments and socializing

10:00 Business Meeting

3rd Wednesday Agenda

9:30 Doors open - refreshments and socializing

10:00 Program Meeting -
Sit & Craft/Sew Day

President's Message

Instead of focusing on the extreme cold temperatures and snow, I choose to look forward to the day of showing your LOVE. Valentine's Day is coming up and it's a perfect time to collect some fabrics and sew up a quilty project for a loved one. Another idea is to sew up a sports-themed project with the upcoming Superbowl in mind. Lastly, to beat the monotony of February, make some crafts to sell at the Craft Sale table for the Quilter's Tea fundraiser coming up in March. It would help the Guild, and you might make a little cash. What will you do with your precious time and energy this month?!? Remember, spring will come!

Diane Hess

Mark your calendar!

FIELD TRIP

Tuesday, February 25

**Stitch Central
Glenside, PA**

Meet in the Michael's parking lot at Providence Town Center in Collegeville at 9:30 a.m. and depart at 9:45 a.m. Lunch at Longhorn Steakhouse in Jenkintown.

February 19 Program Sit and Craft/Sew

The February program will be a sit and craft/sew day where you can devote some time into making your craft for the craft sale or get inspiration from others who are making theirs. The committee will also provide the supplies to make a few easy crafts that you can participate in.

If you have any ideas for crafts that you would like to share, bring them along to the program meeting.

Questions? Contact Silvia Homa 1

2025 Challenge: IT

Inspiration and Transformation

Open up your interpretation and creativity and let your inspiration transform your creation. Is there a particular piece of art you are inspired by? A flower? A landscape? What inspires you? A particular genre? A favorite book? An art piece? A style of painting? A person? Let that idea inspire you in your creation (quilt, soft sculpture, bag, runner, pillow, etc.) This is your inspiration and transformation. No size limitations. Let your imagination and inspiration take you away. By the November business meeting, please submit to the committee an approximate size of your piece (for determining display size requirements at the holiday party). At the reveal, please include a photo of your inspiration and a brief written description of what inspired you. Questions? Contact Susan Koederitz or Beth Hammond-Ritschard



CALLING ALL TEAPOTS!

Please help us decorate our tables for the Tea. Bring a teapot or two on Friday, March 21 and leave them in the dining room. The Set Up Committee will use them to help make our event look festive. Please remember to retrieve your teapots at the conclusion of the tea. Questions? Contact Pat Leiter

Christmas Greetings from Takako

Hi Everyone in the guild!

It has been more than a year since I left the states. The move was really hard one, but I am surviving and missing the guild and its members. I believe the guild is made up with the most talented people I ever know. I enjoyed everything about the guild. Best part is the people in the guild. I hope to be back in the guild one day. Until then, I wish you a good health and happy quilting!

Love, Takako

Email: pykymomo101@gmail.com



MYSTERY BOM

Get in on the fun! A new BOM kicked off in September and it's going to be a mystery! You will need:

2 yards background fabric &

- A layer cake or
- A fat quarter bundle or
- Scraps in a color scheme or
- Totally random scraps

Challenge yourself to use up some fabric that you already have!

Instructions will be passed out and explained at the business meeting each month. These instructions will also be posted on the LTQ website.

Questions? Contact Silvia Homa or Nancy Miller

UFO Challenge

If you have too many projects started but not finished, the UFO Challenge is an opportunity for you to rid yourself of the guilt and maybe win \$25.00!

Here is how it works:

Go to your sewing room and list all of your UFO's on the form available from Linda Glass.

Return the form so that they can be entered into the UFO Challenge book.

Now for the tough part, finish your project! Bring it to show and tell and receive a raffle ticket for a drawing that will take place each quarter. Finished projects are recorded in the Challenge book so you needn't worry about losing your ticket. The winning ticket holder will then receive \$25.00.

Please note- For our purposes, a UFO will be any project that is 6 months old or older.

Any questions, don't hesitate to ask Linda Glass.

Little Cocalico Field Trip - Wednesday, April 9

Judy McCourry has been in contact with Little Cocalico to arrange a trip to see how they print fabric. If you are interested in participating, please visit their website at www.littlecocalico.com to learn about the process. You can either choose one of their designs or create and download a design of your own. All fabric will be printed on Kona cotton. You can order as little as 1/4 yard. The program committee is also considering having LTQ fabric printed which will be available to everyone. You will need a coupon code in order to process your order...check with Judy McCourry before ordering.

TEA Basket Auction

We are in need of items for the Basket Raffle. At this time, we have only received one basket and a few other items. Please consider donating a basket or get together with a few members and fill a basket. Last year, there were 20 baskets at the raffle and it would be nice to have the same number. Over the next few days while you are stuck inside because of the cold, why not consider tidying up your sewing room? Do you have any scraps left after making your Bingo Cards? Throw them in a bag...we will add a scrap quilting book and a few other goodies and make it a basket. Consider that project that "I really wanted to make, but I changed my mind". Don't waste precious space for a project that you won't do—donate it and we will put it in a basket.

Some ideas from last year's raffle include: quilting books with fabrics, several pre-cut jelly rolls and layer cake fabrics, hexies, hand dyed fabric grab bag, doll kits, yarn and yarn kits, wools, knitting and crocheting, and much more. In addition to the aforementioned, there were baskets to fill the cold winter days with indulging treats of chocolates, coffee, and scented candles. Baskets with other seasonal themes would work too!

Please let me know if you have any questions.....thank you! Beth Hammond-Ritschard

Fat Quarter Basket

We will be collecting fat quarters for a basket for the Basket Raffle. Please consider donating two or more fat quarters. We would love to advertise it as a 100 Fat Quarter Basket. Drop off your donations with Susan Koederitz.



Bernette Sewing Machine Raffle

As part of our 2025 Tea, the Loose Threads Quilting Guild is pleased to announce a special treat. Through the generosity of Mr. Zimmerman, owner of Hinkletown Sewing and Machine Shop, we have a brand new **Bernette 77** to offer via raffle.

Take a chance to own this quality machine!

1 chance for \$5.00 or 3 chances for \$10.00

Some features include:

- 5" touchscreen
- Dual feed for fast, even fabric feed
- 500 stitches
- 17 buttonhole options
- 7 mm stitch width
- Free arm



Questions? Contact Chris Rivard

CRAFT SALE

Let's talk crafts!

At the Tea, guests like to browse our craft table(s) to see what they can buy that may be unique to them. You provide the craft items, and I will sell them at the guild table. If you have a craft that you would like to sell, see me and I will give you a form to fill out. You will need to list the item name, price, and number of units you have to sell. Please bring this form, along with your item(s), to set up on Friday. Crafts that you make do NOT have to be quilt related and you do NOT have to mass produce them. You can make more than one type of craft to sell. If you would like your items displayed in a certain way, bring your display item on Friday too. There will be a one time charge of \$5 per member to reserve a "spot" on the craft table. You will receive **100%** of the proceeds of the sale of your items. All money will be distributed at the next business meeting. If you would like to donate your proceeds to the guild, please note that on your form.

There are many many craft ideas out there that are easy to make. Check out Youtube, Pinterest, and/or any DIY videos for inspiration. There might be something that you enjoy making, but never thought about selling it before. Questions? Contact Silvia Homa

BOOK SALE

Start saving your books for the 2025 Tea Book Sale

- Any quilting books or magazines that are not older than 2015
- Any novels, paperbacks, or hardcovers —**NO** religious, political, craft, or cooking books

Please start your pile and keep it at home until the day of the Tea setup (Friday). There is not room to store books at the church.

Here are some helpful hints from Judy Snook:

I've been watching www.justgetitdonequilts.com/blog. Karen Brown, a Canadian, has been putting together this challenge for five years. During the first week, she talks about getting rid of items so you have more room in your sewing room. Day 4 talks about books. The first question to ask yourself is "how much space do I have for books?" That makes sense. Then the question is "does this book belong on my shelf?" Of course, some favorites go right back on your shelf. For the rest, you could think about how your tastes and style have changed. You are likely more skilled now and that might influence keeping a book or not. There are techniques you aren't interested in anymore. Or ones that spark an interest now. What do you like to do? Are you really going to use this or that book? Yes, then put it back on the shelf. If no, bring it to the Book Sale for our Tea. (But make sure the book came out since 2015.)

Questions? Please contact Clem Dupont, Judy Snook, or Linda Glass

TEA DOOR PRIZES

DOOR PRIZES are needed for the tea... Looking for donations that are quilting/ sewing related to be given to guests as door prizes. Donations should be unused and in original packaging. Some ideas are patterns, kits, pincushions, notions, or fabric precuts (jelly rolls or charms or layer cakes). The donations from vendors so far has been limited. Your support is greatly appreciated! Please give to Lori Memmen at the February meetings or contact her at 610.329.2474 for pickup prior to February 24.

JANUARY MEETING MINUTES

The monthly Business Meeting of the Loose Threads Quilt Guild was held at the United Church of Christ in Spring City, PA on January 8, 2025 and facilitated by President, Diane Hess. The meeting was called to order at 10:05.

The meeting began with Show and Tell. So many beautiful quilts.

Old Business: It was suggested that we review the snow policy for guild meetings. The policy is: if Spring-Ford School District is closed, we have no meeting. You can check by logging onto the school's website. The cancellation would be posted on the home page. Most schools now have virtual classes instead of being closed for snow days. If the school is going virtual instead of being closed, the meeting would be cancelled. A recommendation was made to have an email blast sent out the morning of our meeting to advise if we are meeting or cancelled. This would require everyone to check e-mail before leaving for the meeting.

New Business: None

Announcements: Diane Hess received a Christmas card from Takako Pike wishing the guild members a happy holiday season. Debby O'Keefe reported that all of the quilts that were donated to North Carolina were received and distributed. The recipients were very grateful for the beautiful donations. They are still in need of more quilts so Debby will be collecting more donations. Please bring them to the next guild meeting on January 15th. The guild will be paying for the shipping.

Basting Day: Next basting day is January 29th. Mary Larkin reported there are no quilts to be basted. If you have a quilt to be basted, please let Mary know. It was recommended that even though there are no quilts to baste, members can still come to just sit and sew and socialize with other members. It is also a good time for regular committees and Tea committees to get together to do some planning.

Block of the Month: Nancy Miller showed the blocks for January. There is one large 12-1/2" block and 1 small 6-1/2" block. Instructions were handed out to those in attendance that are participating. All blocks and patterns will be posted on the website each month in case you missed a meeting or instructions.

Challenge: Susan Koederitz and Beth Hammond-Ritschard introduced the new challenge for 2025. The subject is "IT." While most people think of IT as technology and electronics,

this IT stands for "Inspiration and Transformation." There is no size restriction or particular color scheme. It is all up to you to transform your inspiration into a quilt. More information will be sent out by the committee.

Day Camp: Barbara Sherman announced that Day Camp has been scheduled for April 29 and 30. As before, there is no charge.

Afternoon Bee: Afternoon Bee will be starting up on February 12th. Meet at the church from 3-5 pm to sit and sew or just chat with other members. Dinner is at Giovanni's in Royersford for those wishing to attend.

Field Trips: Judy McCourry announced that there will be a trip to Stitch Central in Glenside on January 21st. Lunch has not been determined at this time. We will meet at 9:30 at Michaels in the Providence Shopping Center in Collegeville and leave for Glenside at 9:45 at the latest. Please let Judy or Sue Umstead know if you have any questions.

The following is the schedule of field trips planned so far:

February 25th - Fabric Mart, Sinking Springs and In Stitches, Womelsdorf. Lunch to be determined.

March – no field trip

April 9th – Little Cocalico, Ephrata

May 16th – Penn Dry Goods Market and museum at Schwenkfelter Library & Heritage Center, Pennsburg.

Judy McCourry is still working on the field trip to Little Cocalico Fabric Printer for April 9th (website – www.littlecocalico.com). She has been corresponding with the president of the company regarding a tour of their factory and fabric printing process. At a previous meeting it was proposed to have them print the Loose Threads logo on fabric to possibly be used for a program or challenge project. This is still an ongoing discussion. Members are encouraged to visit their website for more information and to consider what you would like to have printed. For simplicity, we have chosen Kona cotton for all printing. Price is approximately \$11-12 per yard. You can order as little as a fat quarter or as much as you want. If you are interested in having them print something for you, please be sure to have your design ready by the beginning of March. You will need to place your order and pay online. Judy will be contacting them to see if they can provide us with a special order code so that they can print our orders the day of the tour.

(Continued on page 7)

(minutes, continued from page 6)

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS YOU WOULD LIKE HER TO ASK OF THE COMPANY PRESIDENT, PLEASE LET HER KNOW ASAP SO SHE CAN ASK ALL AT ONCE INSTEAD OF MAKING NUMEROUS INQUIRIES.

Holiday Brunch: Nothing

Hospitality: Good until June

Library: Chris Rivard mentioned that the library is more than just books and magazines. There are also quilting specialty rulers that can be loaned out.

Membership: Susan Koederitz stated that we have 45 active members and 19 associate members which leaves 5 open spots for new members.

Newsletter: Send any interesting articles, photos, etc. to Nancy Miller.

Programs: Silvia Homa reported that the next program will be quilting BINGO. She provided examples of "Bingo" cards you can make. Choose 2-1/2" squares of any red, yellow, blue, green and purple. Make rows of five of each color. You can use stripes, solids, dots, stars etc. The center block should be black (free space) You can make as many blocks as you like. The blocks can be finished or unfinished. You also need to bring some sort of marker such as buttons or M&Ms.

Secret Pal: Kathy Snyder reported that all letters have been mailed out.

Service or Charity Projects: Nothing to report

Sewing Room Sale: See Tea discussion

Speakers: Laurie Kelly will be setting up a Zoom call with committee members to discuss upcoming speakers.

Sunshine:

Tea: Chris Rivard asked that anyone that has a question about their committee assignment, please see her.

-Speaker - Diane Hess reported that the speaker, Gail Kessler, has backed out of speaking at our Tea. Barbara Garrett, a quilt historian, has agreed to speak about the History of Doll Quilts. We will send out revised letters to attendees to let them know of the change once we have a signed contract.

-Sewing Machine Raffle - There was a discussion regarding the raffle for the Bernette B77 sewing machine donated by Hinkletown. It retails for about \$1500 so we will be having

a special raffle just for the machine. It was decided to charge \$5 per chance with 3 chances for \$10. We will need someone to track the tickets and how the winner can claim the prize.

-Basket Raffle - Beth Hammond-Ritschard asked for donations of items to be included in raffle baskets. It does not have to be sewing related. Also, anyone, or a group, is welcome to donate a complete basket.

-Sewing Room Sale - Lil Evans noted that the fabric donations for the Sewing Room Sale will end at the Basting meeting on January 29th. Any fabric donations after January will be accepted after the Tea in March.

-Craft Sale - Anyone interested in selling their homemade crafts at the Craft Sale can give them to Silvia Homa. She will display and sell the items at the Tea. You will make a donation to the guild to have your items displayed. After the Tea, Silvia will tally up the amount owed for your items and provide you with that amount. If you are interested, please see Silvia to complete the necessary form.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer's report was provided.

Website: Up to date.

Other Items:

Raffle Winners: Linda Glass provided the basket of names for the UFO raffle for the first quarter of 2025. She said there are some entries that are several years old and asked if we wanted to start new with 2025. It was decided that she can discard the entries and start fresh with any new entries.

The UFO raffle was explained for new members. Linda has a form that you can use to list your UFO projects that you hope to complete. Once you have a completely finished quilt and present it at Show and Tell, you will receive a ticket for the quarterly drawing. The prize is a check for \$25. The winner of the UFO raffle was Jean Sullivan with an entry from 2022.

The Name Tag raffle – Unfortunately I did not catch the name of the winner.

With no other business to discuss, the meeting was concluded at 11:35.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sue Umstead
Secretary



Everyone enjoyed playing QUILTO at January's program meeting.



We basted two quilts on basting day!



SHOW AND TELL



Using the Tea block pattern from 2023, Lil Evans completed this beautiful red and white quilt to use up all of her red fabrics.

Lil also completed this Jinny Beyer kit from a few years back. Love the colors!





Nancy Miller has been busy finishing up a few UFOs. Starburst is a kit from Jacqueline de Jong. Stained Glass Skittles is the 2024 EPP hexie quilt along by Jemima's Creative Quilting, and Beach Star is from the 2023 Jemima's Creative Quilting quilt along. Can you believe she even put quilt labels on them? Wonders never cease...



Debby O'Keefe coordinated another collection of quilts to send to North Carolina.



UPCOMING EVENTS

February

AQS Quilt Week - February 19-22, 2025. Presented by AQS at the [Ocean Center](#), 101 North Atlantic Avenue, Daytona Beach, FL. For more info visit <https://www.quiltweek.com/>.

QuiltCon - February 20-23, 2025. Presented by The Modern Quilt Guild at the ?? in Phoenix, AZ. For more info visit <https://www.quiltcon.com/>.

Mid-Atlantic Quilt Festival - February 27 to March 2, 2025. Presented by Mancuso Show Management at the [Hampton Roads Convention Center](#), 1610 Coliseum Drive, Hampton, VA. For more info visit <https://www.quiltfest.com/upcoming-shows-and-events/mid-atlantic-quilt-festival/>.

March

AQS Quilt Week - March 12-15, 2025. Presented by AQS at the [Branson Convention Center](#), 200 S Sycamore Street, Branson, MO. For more info visit <https://www.quiltweek.com/>.

Lancaster Lebanon Quilt Show - March 26-29, 2025. At the [Lebanon Valley Exposition Center](#), 80 Rocherty Road, Lebanon, PA. The show features over 55+ vendors, 150+ quilts and 30+ classes. It also includes free admission, free parking and free lectures. For more info visit <https://www.aquiltersdestination.com/lancaster-pa>.

April

History Revisited Quilt Show and Sale – April 4-5, 2025. Presented by Homemaker’s Country Quilters at the [4H Center](#), 1015 Bridge Road, Collegeville, PA. For more info visit <https://homemakerscountryquilters.org/>.

AQS Quilt Week - April 23-26, 2025. Presented by AQS at the Schroeder Expo Center, 415 Park Street, Paducah, KY. For more info visit <https://www.quiltweek.com/>.

Quilt Expo 2025 - April 26-27, 2025. Presented by the Baltimore Heritage Quilters Guild at [Timonium Fairgrounds](#) - Home Arts Building, 2200 York Road, Lutherville-Timonium, MD. For more info visit <https://www.baltimorequilters.com/expo-2025/>.

May

Airing of the Quilts - May 3, 2025. In historic downtown Palmerton, PA and Palmerton High School. The event will include over 500 quilts displayed throughout historic downtown Palmerton; live entertainment and vendors in the park; a quilt show with artisans, crafters and vendors at the Palmerton High School gymnasium; free parking at the high school with shuttle bus to the venues, a scavenger hunt with prizes, and more. For more info visit <https://www.theairingofthequilts.com/>.

June

MidAppalachian Quilt (MAQ) Retreat - June 6-8, 2025. The Mid-Appalachian Quilters gather each summer for a three-day quilting seminar at Gettysburg College, 300 North Washington Street, Gettysburg, PA. We offer a variety of classes presented by some of the best teachers in the Mid-Atlantic area. For more info visit <http://maqonline.org/>.

Shop Hop

[Mystery Quilt Shop Hop](#) 3/1/2025 - 3/9/2025 Philly & northern suburbs



Hospitality

Feb 5	snack	Carly Moore
	snack	Sue Umstead
Feb 19	snack	Rosemary Geisler
	snack	Judy Snook

February Birthdays

- 1 Joanne Gardner
- 3 Pat Leiter
- 8 Eileen Frankil
- 15 Kathy Parker
- 20 Judy Magner
- 26 Debbie Haas

Loose Threads Quilt Guild

Meets at 9:30 a.m. on the
1st and 3rd Wednesday
of each month,
with a special basting meeting
on the 5th Wednesday at:

First United Church of Christ

145 Chestnut St.

Spring City, PA 19475

610-948-4516

Annual dues are \$20 per year
and guests are always welcome

Loose Threads News is a
monthly newsletter for the
members of

Loose Threads Quilt Guild

and is available on our website

www.theloosethreadsquilters.org