



Loose Threads News

Volume 23 Issue 2

November 2017

1st Wednesday Agenda

9:30 Doors open -
refreshments & socializing

10:00 Business Meeting
Show and Tell

3rd Wednesday Agenda

9:30 Doors open -
refreshments & socializing

10:00 Speaker
Kay Bachkai

5th Wednesday Agenda

9:30 Doors open -
refreshments & socializing

10:00 Basting



President's Message

Albert Schweitzer said: "At times our own light goes out and is rekindled by a spark from another person. Each of us has cause to think with deep gratitude of those who have lighted the flame within us."

I share this quote because it reminds me of our Loose Threads Quilting Guild. Each member is at a different point in the journey. Some of us seem naturally productive and creative. Some of us have periods of being overwhelmed by life. This can unfortunately strain not only our quilting activity, but also our spirits. Probably we all go through up and down phases like this.

Being together in this guild can have abundant benefits. You never know when you might give or receive a spark. Your share at show-and-tell, your committee task, your newsletter article, your program/project idea, your phone call, card, gift, or kind word might inspire someone else's creativity, motivation, and spirit.

As the colder weather and busy holidays approach, let's hope everyone can be as involved as possible with the group. Let us remember that our small actions can spark others . . . and also to be deeply grateful for the ones who have re-kindled our lights along the way.

Eileen



Last November a group of Loose Threads members made sure that veterans were honored with a quilt made from the red, white and blue 2015 Tea blocks designed by Kathie Travis. Given to Main Street Café in Royersford, one of our regular lunch spots, it was signed by all the veterans who stopped in on Veteran's Day 2016. It is now on permanent display in the café.

Minutes – October Meeting

Monthly Business Meeting was held at the United Church of Christ in Spring City, PA, facilitated by: Eileen Frankil. Meeting was called to order and began on time at 10:00 am.

Business Meeting Raffle: Gail Hammond provided the raffle gift today and won it too! There is a sign-up for donating prizes to the 2017-2018 raffle going around today.

Basting Committee: The 5th Wednesday of Nov (29th) will be the next basting meeting. Contact the basting committee to let them know if you have a quilt to baste.

Block of the Month: The first Block of the Month was introduced at the Sept Business Meeting and is the Shoofly pattern. It was easy to complete and will be part of a Quilt as You Go Block Party. Please see Silvia Homa, Carolyn Thompson, or Kiti Williams with any questions.

Challenge: “Photo Finish” – pay attention to the deadline, because it is quickly approaching.

Charity Projects: 13 Adult Quilts, 9 Children Quilts, 7 Walker Bags on hand.

Day Camp: Day Camp was a wonderful success! Special thanks to Lil Evans and Betty Ann Dawson for organizing everything and making sure that everyone was well fed! We have heard that they may be planning another Day Camp for the spring of 2018!

Evening Bee: Scheduled for Wednesday, Oct 11, 2017 at 6:30.

Fabric Exchange: New exchange will begin in November...Batiks!

Field Trips: Nothing planned at this time.

Holiday Bruch: Everything is moving along.

Hospitality: Sign-up is going around the room today.

Library: Marie Traxler reported that they are in the process of putting new books in the Library. For anyone who is new to the group our Library is open at each Business Meeting and is located at the back of the room on the rolling cart. There are some great books to select in our library. Check it out!

Membership: New Membership list will be mailed out in November. New members to the Guild are: Judy McCurry, Virginia Gates, and Judy Magner. No visitors today and we currently have two people on the wait-list to join the Guild.

Name Tags: Wear your NAME TAG and you can have your name entered into the raffle for a fat quarter of fabric. This month's winner is ticket holder 959172.

Newsletter: Thank you everyone, and specifically thank you Joanne Cantwell for the fantastic articles.

Nominating Committee: Next month, November, we will vote who we will place on the Nominating Committee. We need a total of three individuals including the Guild Vice President.

Programs: The program on October 18, 2017 will be a Strip Quilt that involves folks bringing in strips of fabric from your stash. See the October Newsletter for more details or talk with Debby O'Keefe.

Round Robin: Those involved with the Round Robin, this is the day to switch.

Secret Pal: This year (2017) end at the Holiday Brunch and please be sure to take your package.

Speakers: Kay Bachkai for November 2017. Cynthia England for May 2018 (Tue/Wed).

Sunshine: Judy Peters has a birthday and it would be great to send her some funny birthday/we miss you cards

Oct Minutes, cont.

Tea: Linda Hamel gave an overview of the Tea for the group at the meeting today. Our Tea takes place March 10th and lasts about four hours, consists of lunch, quilt show and speakers. Tea Committees have been assigned and are listed in the Oct Newsletter. The committees with a name underlined indicate the committee chair. The committees that should be underway at this point are the Tea Block Design, Tea Discussion Group Selection, Tea Invitation, (Invitation must go out by November 20, 2017) and the Tea Catering/Food Committee. Please see Linda Hamel with any questions or Diane Hess (co-chair).

Website: Everything is up to date.

Treasurer's Report: Christine Fallon has the treasures report, if you have any questions please see her.

Other Items:

- Downingtown Library is having a special Quilt show with small size quilts (16 x 20) to be raffled. They are looking for donations. You might win a gift certificate if your quilt gets the most raffle tickets! See Debbie O'Keefe for details or questions.

- WPA Patterns have been purchased and will be placed in the Library. A second set was also purchased to go in a raffle basket at the Tea along with 30's style fabric. We need some solid fabrics to go with the 30's fabric to make it complete. See Betty Ann Dawson with any questions.

- The LTQ Tea Block Quilt is complete and guild members may purchase raffle tickets until the December Luncheon. Tickets are \$2 each or 3 for \$5. See Betty Ann Dawson for tickets.

Show and Tell: As always, excellent! Meeting adjourned at approximately 11:30, respectfully submitted by:

Stefanie Adrain – Secretary

Crayon Quilt Project

The program in October went like clockwork. There were strip cutters, sorters, sewers, ironers and a square cutting team. A lot was accomplished but more needs to be completed!

The January program will be a continuation of the crayon quilt project.

Participants who took home strips to sew should check in with Debby O'Keefe so we can determine how much we've completed of each color and how much we still need to work on.

Those who did not contribute strips in October will need to bring in their strips in January so we will have enough for everyone to get their "crayons". There are 25 people participating – that means we'll need 200 crayons!

Debby O'Keefe

"Photo-Finish" Challenge

It's not too late! You still have time to grab a photo and put a quilt together. Take a chance - this challenge might be outside of your "quilting box" but you will probably surprise yourself when you see where your creative ideas lead you.

Don't forget to include your photo/picture with your quilt. Place both in a bag and drop it off on the stage at the Holiday Brunch. No names please! All will be revealed after the judging. Good Luck!

Questions?

Contact Pat Leiter or Nancy Miller

Block of the Month

Quilt As You Go Block Party

BOM for 2017 – 2018 will be a Three Part Learning Series

PART 1: Back to Basics

We want to address the need for some basic quilting techniques and block making for the new and experienced quilter. Getting back to basics is always refreshing.

The Committee will provide a simple 9 or 12 inch block to make for your sampler quilt – you get to decide what size you would like. This is a good way to use up those scraps you've been hoarding for a good cause!

PART 2: How am I gonna quilt this, you ask????

This is such a common question that we all have, and are timid with possible ideas of what to do, how to mark the design and what it will look like in the end. We will provide examples of how to quilt these blocks, what we used to mark them and any templates we used, when necessary. So every month, at the end of each business meeting, we'll all have a chance to show our quilted blocks and discuss the next month's block samples.

PART 3: Not another UFO!!

Each month you will layer your completed block with batting and backing and quilt that block. (Use the same backing throughout or make the back 'scrappy'. Everyone finds it easier to quilt on a piece no bigger than 12 inches!

We are not looking to add to your UFO pile. By learning the "quilt as you go" technique, we want to eliminate the possibility of that happening. We will coordinate with the program committee and offer a "quilt as you go" workshop on how to start combining your quilted blocks together. We are looking at dates in March, April or May for this workshop. This way you'll have a head start on making your quilt that will be envied by all at the 2018 holiday brunch.

Keep telling yourself...this will NOT be another UFO!

Any questions, please call Kiti Williams, Silvia Homa or Carolyn Thompson.

••• At the October business meeting printed instructions were given for the October block – The Shoofly quilt block in 9" or 12" size. Those instructions are included as a separate attachment with this November newsletter.

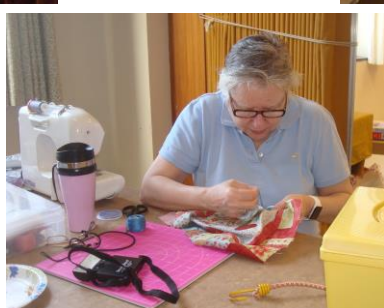
Quilter's Day Camp



Expertly organized by Lil, Betty Ann and Stephanie, everyone agreed our recent 'Day Camp' was a resounding success!



Numerous sewing projects (including all those tuffets!) were completed, delicious food was consumed and many laughs were enjoyed at our two day event that seems destined to become an annual gathering.



Upcoming Events

11th Annual Exhibition of Quilts – Nov 10-11, 2017. Presented by Lebanon Quilters Guild at the Lebanon Expo Center & Fairgrounds, 80 Rocherty Road, Lebanon, PA. Admission \$8
www.lebanonquiltersguild.com

Celebration of Quilts 2017 – Nov 10-11, 2017. Presented by Brownstone Quilters Guild at Northern Highlands Regional High School, 298 Hillside Ave, Allendale, NJ. Admission \$10
www.brownstonequilters.com

Annual Bazaar - Nov 3 – 4, 2017
 Presented by Brittany Pointe Estates Resident Assoc. at 1001 Valley Forge Road, Lansdale (near Allentown Rd)
 Fri: 9:00 - 4:00, Sat: 9:00 - 2:00

TIPS

When using a large cone of thread, a thread stand is invaluable. If you do not have a thread stand available, you can place your cone of thread in a tea cup instead.

Knitting needle point protectors are a great tool to use with your scissors when travelling. No more worrying about the sharp points!

Machine needles can be simply organized in weekly pill organizers.

Wonder Clips are a great tool to help when binding your quilt. An inexpensive substitute would be to use hair barrettes or office binder clips.

Christine Fallon

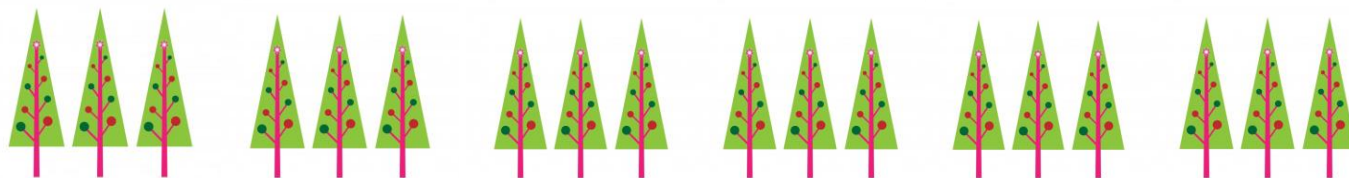
November Program



Area resident Kay Bachkai is an avid quilter who belongs to three local guilds – Homemakers, Boyertown and Variable Star. At our November 15th meeting Kay will tell us about her quilting experience with a talk entitled “*My Journey as a Quilter.*” We look forward to a truck show of her beautiful quilts.



Green Lightning by Kay Bachkai.
 Keystone Quilters Guild 2015 Show.
 Photo by Wayne Stratz.



YOU ARE INVITED

Loose Threads Holiday Brunch

Wednesday, December 6, 2017

10:00 A.M.

Gift Exchange – If you would like to participate, bring a quilt related gift valued at \$20, wrapped with your name written on a card inside.

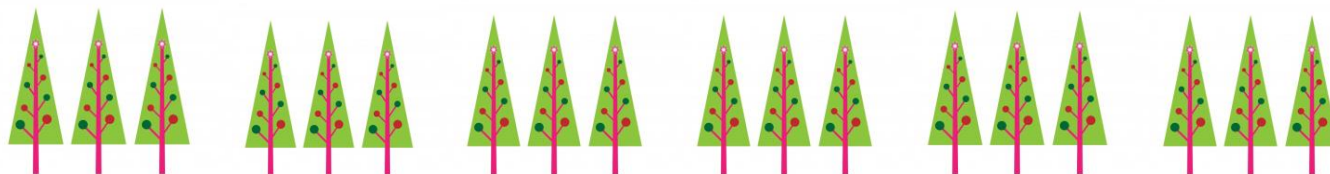
Bring your challenge quilt in a plain bag

Bring Round Robin quilt tops for display

Bring 2 dozen cookies

Bring your Holiday mug

Secret Pal revealed.





NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS



© wonderclipart.com

18 Jeanne Nalbandian

28 Bonnie Strickland

My heart is filled with thanks to all our wonderful members who have sent me sympathy cards for my mother's passing, words of encouragement for Ted's situation with hospice and birthday greetings. It is impossible to realize what a terrific group of women make up this club until you are on the receiving end of their generosity. Thanks to each and every one of you, I miss you all.

Judy Peters

The new Fabric Exchange has begun!

This year's response was so good that participants have been divided into 2 groups – A or B.

- **Group A** has 10 members and will turn their squares into Clem Dupont at each business meeting.
- **Group B** has 9 members and will turn their squares into Marylou Boryta.
- If either Clem or Marylou is NOT at a meeting, give your squares into Linda Glass

This month's **Batik** color is **GREEN**. Cut 6 ½" squares and place them in a zip lock bag marked with your group, A or B, and your name.

And remember... the fabric you choose for exchange should be a Batik and be predominantly the color featured for that month.

Hospitality

Nov 1

Kathy Parker

Silvia Homa

Winnie McCarrher

Linda Hamel

Snack**Snack****Fruit/Veg****Cold Drink**

Nov 15

Kathy Neiman

Mary Larkin

Marie Traxler

Geri Dilis

Snack**Snack****Fruit/Veg****Cold Drink**

Nov 29

Linda Garthe

Carolyn Thompson

Jane Russell

Snack**Snack****Fruit/Veg****Cold Drink**

Homespun Fabrics located in Hereford has been sold. The new shop, continuing to feature rug hooking, needle punch and hand dyed wool, is called The Bee & the Bear and the owner is Katie Krinet.

They are open Thurs – Sat from 10-4.

<https://www.thebeethebear.com/>

Getting to Know You

Judy McCourry

Judy McCourry is also a name we know from the past! As a close friend of Winnie McCarraher, whom she met in Jr. High, Winnie was a member of Loose Threads from its earliest beginning. When she returned to work full time (over 16 years at Aetna), she could no longer get to the daytime meetings. When she took early retirement, her friend Winnie (back in the area) convinced her to attend our Loose Threads meetings once more and she was happy to renew her membership when an opening was available mid-year.

Judy began to sew at age 8 or 9, taught by both her mom and her grandmother. She made lots of school clothes for herself and also enjoyed embroidery and cross stitch. In 1986 she started to quilt and most loved shopping for fabric, piecing quilts and taking field trips to find more fabric! Once each month, four of the original members of Loose Threads continue to get together for sewing and quilting fun.

One of her favorite quilting memories when her twin boys were growing up was when she was sewing on a quilt and left it on a table, along with scissors, while she made a bathroom stop. When she returned to her quilt, her boys' comments were "Look Mom, we're **kilting**." she found her 4-year old twins had "cut" holes in the quilt in process on which she had numerous appliques. Needless to say, Judy's quilt ended up being very heavily appliqued to cover up the "kilting." She also recalls the time she took one of our raffle quilts home to do some work on it and her Dalmatian got brown paint all over her and the raffle quilt!

When she's not sewing, Judy enjoys family events with her 2 children and 5 grandchildren. Most recently, she discovered an affinity for anything Disney after spending a wonderful, jam-packed vacation at Disney World with family



members. Over the years she had heard rave reviews of Disney properties but now that she has experienced it, she enthusiastically understands the "Magic" that emanates from here.

Judy's other past time is collecting elephants... although she has not yet made an elephant-themed quilt; she has 35-40 different pieces of elephant fabric in her stash awaiting the right moment to begin.

Judy is pleased to be back at Loose Threads once again and was thrilled to find it is a daytime guild which fits her schedule very well. Welcome back Judy!!!

Joanne Cantwell

Officers & Contacts

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Loose Threads Quilt Guild

Meets at 9:30 AM on the
1st & 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

