



Loose Threads News

Volume 23 Issue 4

December 2017

1st Wednesday Agenda

9:30 Doors open

10:00

Holiday Brunch

Bring Challenge quilt with photo, gift exchange, Round Robin quilt top, holiday mug, 2 dozen cookies & Secret Pal gift...and your appetite!

2nd Wednesday Agenda

9:30 Doors open - refreshments & socializing

10:00 Business Meeting



President's Message

I hope everyone is looking forward to our December brunch event as much as I am. It's a busy event, but not quite so hectic as the annual Tea in March. The December brunch party brings us many fun surprises. We can look forward to the challenge quilt show, the secret pal reveal, fun gifts and favors, delicious food, more quilty surprises, and the pleasant company of kindred spirits. There is much to celebrate. Many thanks to the Brunch committee (and all the other committees involved) for planning and organizing us this day. And for anyone who is missing this year for any reason, we hope you'll be with us again soon.

Safe, healthy, happy holidays to all of us.

Eileen



One of the members of the UCC church where we meet experienced a fire in their home. Pictured here are the 6 colorful quilts generous and caring Loose Threads quilters gave to this family of six who have four children ranging in age from 5 to 16.

Minutes - November 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: Mary Larkin provided the raffle gift today and it was won by Betty Ann Dawson.

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 second BOM was introduced at the Nov Business Meeting. It is the Churn Dash and the instructions were available after the meeting. Please see Silvia Homa, Carolyn Thompson, or Kiti Williams with any questions.

Challenge: Photo Finish – due next month at the Holiday Brunch. Please place your completed Challenge Quilt in a bag and have the photograph included. Please do not have your name listed on the quilt.

Charity Projects: Thank you to everyone who contributed quilts for the family in the church who had the fire.

Day Camp: Nothing on this until Spring.

Evening Bee: Our Evening Bee will be on Wednesday, November 8, 2017 at 6:30.

Fabric Exchange: Batik color for December is RED, which means the predominant color should be red.

Field Trips: Nothing planned at this time.

Historian: Nothing at this time

Holiday Bruch: All Guild members are asked to bring in two dozen cookies. If you would like to participate in the gift exchange, bring in a gift (something sewing related) to exchange and be sure to enclose a card with it. A new twist on seating this year – you will find a special favor with your name marked on it at your seat and we are asking that you keep that as your seat and not move the placement. This is intentional and at the request of the Brunch Committee.

Hospitality: Sign-up is going around the room today and it is starting with January.

Library: Some new books have been added to the library! Eventually the titles of the books will go onto the website.

Membership: The Membership List is being passed around during the meeting to ensure that it is correct. Once it has been approved by the members it will be given one final update and sent out through e-mail. Thank you everyone for your patience on this administrative function. Lori Memmen has visited with the Guild beyond three meetings and has now joined our wait list for membership. Welcome Lori! No visitors today. We currently have 4 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 Cathy Nelson.

Newsletter: As always, we love the newsletter and if you wish to submit anything for the month make sure you have it to Linda Hamel by the 25th.

Nominating Committee: We had our voting this month for the Nominating Committee. The individuals selected for the Nominating Committee are Laurie Kelly and Pat Philion.

Programs: We will continue to work on the Crayon/ strip quilts in January 2018.

Quilt Inspiration

Still planning a few last minute quilts as gifts...check out this website:

<http://quiltinspiration.blogspot.com/p/free-pattern-archive.html>

As described in the heading of the Quilt Inspiration website, it has "inspiration, tools and techniques for beautiful quilts." There is a Free Pattern Archive that is arranged alphabetically by category i.e. Autumn Leaves quilts, Birdhouse quilts, Chicken quilts and on and on. Along the right hand side of the screen are an assortment of featured free projects available as a free download or you can print out the directions directly from the site.

December Birthdays

- 8 Toni Hughes
- 10 Linda Garthe
- 10 Carolyn Thompson
- 14 Jean Atwood
- 18 Lenore Clarke
- 20 Bernie Hughes
- 24 Mary Larkin
- 25 Judy Quintas-Gorman



Jean Atwood doesn't get to come to our guild meetings anymore, but some cheerful cards would certainly put a smile on her face for her Dec 14th birthday:

30 Old Schuylkill Road
#108
Pottstown, PA 19465

Community Service

The guild is having an optional collection of (mostly paper) products to gift to the church as a token of our appreciation for our wonderful pleasant meeting place. Please begin collecting the following types of items and bring to the church on our 2nd meeting in December, the 20th. If you will be missing December 20, you may bring items to an earlier meeting and give to Linda Hamel for safekeeping.

The following are items the church can put to good use:

Reams of copy paper - regular, and especially legal-size

Paper towels - bi-folded for the dispensers, or rolls

Toilet paper

Stamps

Envelopes - business size, letter size, and 9 x 12"

Scotch tape

Napkins

Paper plates

Trash bags - 44-45 gallon or 30 gallon
gift cards to Staples



A reminder that Jane Russell is still collecting socks for the folks in need on Lakota Reservation sponsored by Naphtali. Buy new socks for men, women or children in any size what so ever and bring to a December meeting.

Minutes - November Meeting, continued

Retreats: Nothing at this time.

Round Robin: Those involved with the Round Robin they are to be returned to their owner... can't wait to see the finished quilts!

Secret Pal: This year's (2017) secret pal ends at the Holiday Brunch. At each guild meeting, please be sure to take your package back if the recipient is not there.

Speakers: Kay Bachkai for November 2017.
Looking for a speaker – March 2018
Cynthia England for May 2018 (Tue/Wed).

Sunshine: Geri Dulis could use cards of encouragement in this difficult time since her daughter's death.

Tea:

- Invitations will go out for the Tea during Thanksgiving week.
- We are considering opening the doors earlier than in the past... so our guests have more time to shop.
- **Tea Discussion Speakers** must get their *Discussion Group Name* and a brief description of their topic to Judy by November 8, 2017.
- **Chinese Auction** (Pat Philion) will be putting together a *Holiday themed* gift basket filled with 100 fat quarters of holiday fabric – **not** just Christmas but any of the holidays throughout the year! We are asking everyone in the guild to provide two fat quarters of holiday themed fabric for the baskets (18" x 22"). The fabric should be new and unwashed.
- **Notion Basket:** Looking for donations of New notions for this basket i.e. new scissors, tape measures small ruler etc..
- **Other Baskets Ideas:** Doesn't have to be sewing related. Make the baskets appealing, possibly a wine basket, a manicure basket (pampering you), chocolate basket....things that the woman in you would want.

Website: Everything is up to date.

Treasurer's Report: Christine Fallon has the treasurer's report, if you have any questions please

Other Items:

- Upcoming Shows and Events: Downingtown Library is having a special Quilt show with small size quilts (16x20). You can donate a small quilt and possibly win a gift certificate if you get the most raffle tickets! See Debbie O'Keefe for details or questions.
- The LTQG Tea Block Quilt is complete and Quilt members may purchase raffle tickets until the December Luncheon. Tickets are \$2.00 a piece or 3 for \$5.00. See Betty Ann Dawson for tickets.
- Mary Larkin is missing her AccuQuilt GO flower die. She brought it in back in the summer during one of the charity sewing days. If you accidently picked it up and have it, please bring it in to the next meeting.

Show and Tell: As always, excellent!

Meeting adjourned at approximately 11:30, respectfully submitted by:

Stefanie Adrain – Secretary



Block of the Month December

December's BOM is **Birds in the Air**. It can be made in either the 9" size or as a 12" block. The 4 page instructions have been sent with the newsletter and will also be posted on our website. There is a tutorial on the following website to make this block.

<http://mamalovequilts.com/2013/01/tutorial-birds-in-air-quilt-block.html>



TIPS

If you are making a quilt for a baby girl, save the scraps and make a doll quilt too!

You can use your empty wooden thread spool collection to hold leftover bits of ribbon. They look adorable stored in a glass jar.

Embroidery floss plastic organizers can be used to organize your sewing machine feet. Simply label the top with content of each compartment.

Christine Fallon



Thank you so very much for the beautiful blankets. Our case managers are happy to receive the baby blankets, as these will be a joy to those who get them. We really appreciate the time, talent, thought and prayer which went into each item, as will the recipients!

On behalf of our staff here at Catholic Social Services, and especially on behalf of those who will be the beneficiaries of such kindness, thank you again.

Sincerely,
Sister Stier, Administrator
Catholic Social Services
53 East Johnson Highway
Norristown, PA

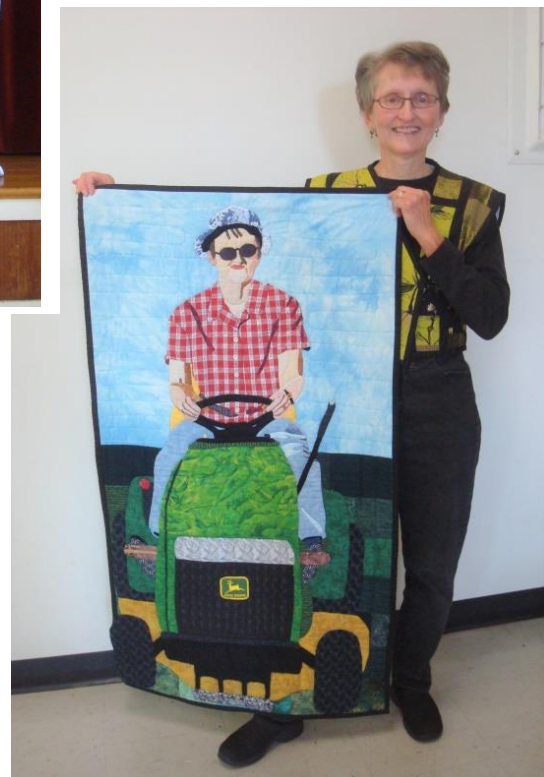
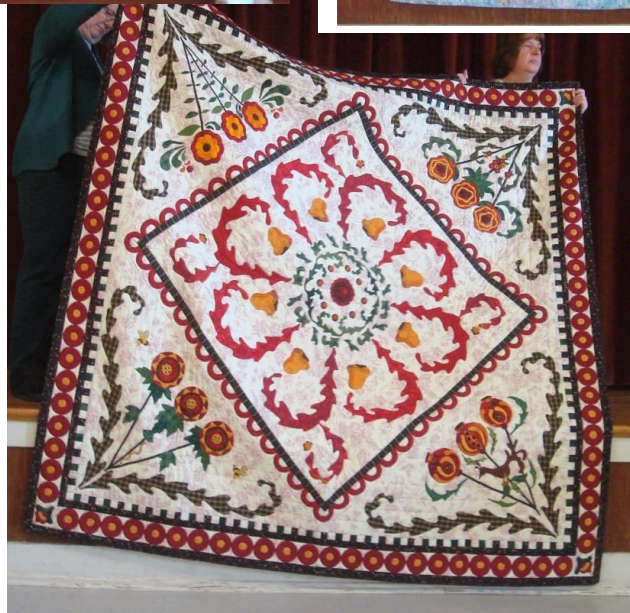
FABRIC EXCHANGE

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

Bring your squares to the Dec 20th meeting!

November Program

Kay Bachkai was our guest speaker at the November program meeting and she brought along a stack of beautiful quilts she's made along the way on her quilting journey, including her very first quilt. The quilts she showed represent a wide range of techniques and styles. She offered advice based on her quilting experience to try to stretch outside your comfort zone by participating in challenges, taking classes and learning new techniques. Finally Kay suggested a different way to view quilt shows. Linger in front of the quilts you like...and don't like, and try to determine the reasons for your response to a quilt.



Getting to Know You

Lil Evans

Lil Evans discovered quilting when her friend came for a visit in 1981 and brought her an “Amish Bride Quilt Book”; Lil paged through the book and was inspired... Starting with a cardboard template (no rotary cutter), Lil began a Lone Star quilt which she hand-quilted, finished in 1986, and then the pet rabbit ate it! Next she made a Flying Geese quilt for her son which he still has.

Lil was a “troubled middle child” and grew up in King of Prussia with two brothers. She attended Upper Merion High and eventually moved to the Collegeville area where she lives today. After high school, Lil developed her love of photography and stepped into her career as a photographer, working weddings, doing portraits and school photos for nearly 20 years. Married to her husband Dave for 37 years, they became known for their entertaining both at their home in Collegeville as well as being great hosts at their State College home when Penn State plays home football games. (Dave’s father was a former football player for the Nittany Lions.) Lil has had a busy few years of showers and weddings for their daughter and then their son and most recently started answering to the name “Lolly” for baby Grayson whom she watches a few days each week... (her husband is called “Pops”... Lolly and Pops)☺☺

By the year 2000, Lil had a good-sized collection of UFO’s, then in 2012 she and her friend Bonnie Strickland decided to explore a local quilt guild that they had heard about called “Loose Threads.” Lil jumped right in, hosted several “Needle Nights,” recently served as guild Vice President, co-planned our recent Day Camp and helped initiate the new look for our Sewing Room sale at the annual Tea. She also acquainted the guild with a favorite local lunch spot, the Main Street Cafe in Royersford, where they now have hung one of the Guild’s quilts of valor.



Lil and her husband are avid travelers and they continue to cross off countries they have visited: Central and South America, many European countries, the Galapagos, etc., (with Lil’s favorite spot being Paris)! Also among her favorite things to do are gardening, playing with flowers, cooking and making tuffets!

With her quilting, Lil still enjoys trying new techniques on her long-arm machine which she acquired in 2010. A very busy lady, she truly enjoys the fellowship with the many friends she has made within the Loose Threads guild.

Joanne Cantwell

Day Camp Recipe

Enjoy this lovely Panera Bread Autumn Squash soup with this copycat recipe provided by Lil Evans. (copykat.com)

1 butternut squash (~2-3 lbs.)
 2 Tbsp vegetable oil
 1 cup chopped white onion
 1 small can pumpkin (15 oz.)
 2 cups vegetable stock
 2 tsp curry powder
 ½ tsp cinnamon
 1 cup apple juice
 1 tbsp honey
 ½ cup heavy cream

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Peel and cut the squash into 1 inch cubes. Drizzle 1 tbsp oil over the squash and stir to coat it well. Bake for about 30 minutes or until squash is fork tender. Do not let squash brown.

In a large stock pot add 1tbsp oil and saute onions until they are translucent. Sprinkle a little salt over the onions as you saute them. By salting the onions you will pull moisture out of the onions and the onions cook more quickly.

When the onions are translucent add pumpkin, squash, vegetable stock, curry powder, cinnamon, apple juice and honey. Heat through. When soup is hot, use an immersion blender to make soup smooth. You can use blender if desired. Add cream to soup and stir in the cream.



Snack:

Snack:

Fruit/Veggies:

Cold Drink:

Comfort Quilt off to Texas



This quilt was chosen to go to Texas following the devastation of Hurricane Harvey. Pat Leiter's close friend in Orange, Texas lost everything in the August flooding. She's an elderly lady who enjoys spending time in her rocking chair. The quilt is sure to bring her much love and comfort. Pictured are service project committee members: Kathy Neiman, Nancy Kinyon-Samec, and Brenda Calhoun, along with Pat Leiter, life-long friend of the Texas recipient.

Hospitality

December 6

Holiday

Brunch!

December 20

Christine Fallon

Betty Ann Dawson

Marylou Boryta

Rosemary Geisler

Officers & Contacts

PRESIDENT

Eileen Frankil efrankil@comcast.net

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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



Our
November
Basting
Day