



Loose Threads News

Volume 23 Issue 6

March 2018

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 Tea Discussion Topic

Sewing Tips

Christine Fallon and

Judy Snook



President's Message

There are many good things about the month of March. Spring is coming. The weather is (usually) tending warmer. Daylight is getting longer. And best of all . . . the Loose Threads Tea happens on March 10th! Special thanks to those who organize the multifaceted parts of our Tea. But every one of us plays a role in making this event successful and fun. Stay informed by checking reminders in the newsletter, emails, and announcements. We all get busy, so make yourself a to-do list. Ask for help if you need it. Offer your help if you can.

March also includes most of the 40 days of Lent. I've been abstaining from Social Media in an effort to free up more time in my day. Because I've been making a special effort to sew every day, I was able to get my "Tea Blocks" done early for a change.

Eileen

Lancaster Quilt Show

Loose Threads had to cancel the 47-passenger bus transportation to the AQS quilt show in downtown Lancaster. Clem Dupont has checked into hiring a smaller bus to the show on Friday, March 23, 2018. King's Limousine Service has a 21-passenger bus available at a cost of \$37.50 per person. This price does not include show admission. There will be only one pick-up spot (a second stop increases the price dramatically). The bus will pick us up in Phoenixville at the Kmart Shopping Mall at Routes 113 & 23 at 8:00 am and will leave the show between 3:30 and 4:00 pm.

If you are interested email or call Clem Dupont. Seats will be filled on a first come, first served basis. Payment should be made to Christine Fallon (checks made out to Loose Threads) no later than the March 7th meeting. Christine will also be purchasing the \$10 entry tickets at a discount. Sign up with her if you would like one.

Online Shopping

Margie Allen purchased some felted wool from an online vendor and she is singing their praises. The wool was beautiful to look at and lovely to touch, the turnaround time was only 2 days and they sent her a free pattern to boot! Here is some info from their website <http://www.woollylady.com/>.

WoolyLady is an independent, artisan wool dye studio located in the north woods of Wisconsin, specializing in contemporary, hand dyed, felted wool fabric for wool appliqué, rug hooking, and garment making. We have something for every creative person who loves to work with beautiful wool fabric. We strive to produce hand dyed wool, patterns, and kits with an emphasis on color and style—an extension of our own unique fiber art.



WoolyLady's hand dyed wool fabric is of the highest quality, 100% wool, milled in the United States. It is dyed one yard at a time and available in 64 colors plus Bleached White and Solid Black. Our unique dyeing process results in complex, saturated, mottled colors. Our wool is felted in this process so it is ready for your appliqué or hooking project.

Tea Quilt Show

One of the main attractions of the Quilter's Tea is our member quilt show. Here are this year's show rules and reminders:

- All sizes and shapes of quilts are welcome as long as they have never been shown at the Tea before.
- We're anxious to see your personal quilts but don't forget about those 'Guild Projects.' Some of this year's projects were the Row by Row exchange, Gyleen Fitzgerald's *Going in Circles* workshop, the Crayon quilts and, of course, our *Photo Finish* Challenge (along with the inspirational photos).
- Each quilt must have a paper label (described below) attached with safety pins.
- The quilts must be delivered, first thing, to the 2nd floor Church Sanctuary on set-up day, Friday morning March 9th. **NO QUILTS WILL BE ACCEPTED ON SATURDAY!**
- Queen-size quilts must have a hanging sleeve on the back. If you don't want to sew it, then pin it on with safety pins.
- The quilts will be numbered so the Tea guests can vote for Viewer's Choice.
- **DO NOT TAKE DOWN YOUR OWN QUILT** when the show is over. The committee will do the dismantling so there aren't any accidents.

Specifications for typing and printing the quilt label:

Information to include:

Quilt name, Sewn by, Quilted By, Pattern Name, Pattern Designer, Technique (Pieced, appliqued, hand or machine quilted, etc.) and the story behind your quilt.

Typeface: **Arial Black** (or something similar)

Typesize: 18 Pt, all capital letters for Quilt Name
14 Pt for everything else
Center everything

Label size: 5" x 6" Pin with safety pins on the **front**, in the middle of the **RIGHT** side of the quilt.

If you don't have a computer or printer, give Linda Hamel your write-up and she will type and print it for you.

March Program



One of the most popular discussion groups at this year's Tea is the Sewing Tips class. As described in the summary from our Tea invitation:

Sewing Tips to Make Your Quilting Life Easier – Are you looking to save money on some sewing notions? Would you like some suggestions on items to pack for a sewing day/retreat? Is your craft room disorganized? Come share your tips and hear ours.

Our March 14th program meeting will be led by Christine Fallon and Judy Snook who will be flooding us with all their sewing tips and all the ones they've learned from Tea participants.

In addition, Diane Hess will show us how to use facings as an alternative to binding. This was originally going to be part of the binding program for February.

Welcome Back

A warm **Welcome Back** to Barbara Kuterbach. Barbara joined Loose Threads in 1995. She moved with her son's family to Juneau, Alaska in 2005, but continued as part of the guild by maintaining associate membership. She would always stop by to guild meetings when visiting family in PA. Barbara has returned to our area permanently and is eager to renew old friendships. She's already become a regular of the 'lunch bunch'!



Barb's Farewell Signature Quilt presented to her at the Holiday Brunch, December 2004.

Getting to know you

Kiti Williams

After repeated attempts, Kiti agreed to sit down for a quick chat. Born in the Pittsburg area, Kiti learned to keep her hands busy at a very early age. At 5 years old, her grandmother taught her to crochet, at 6 she was using a needle and thread (to keep her away from Gram's Singer sewing machine); and at 8, knitting needles became her friends! She also claims that she had the best-dressed Barbie dolls in the area! She mastered a Barbie wedding dress, outfits for "Ken" and many carefully assembled items all with 1/4" seams. She started quilting also at age 7, using templates, a thick black pen and the fabrics she found around the house ranging from pillowcases to shiny polyester, adding huge fluffy batting, then tying them.

After graduation from high school near Pittsburg, Kiti joined the U.S. Air Force and was assigned to Lowry Air Force Base in Colorado and then at another base in Texas where she was trained for supply. She became a good friend of David, whom she married in 1982 (now married 35 years). In 1991 she was stationed in Korea at SuWon for one year, then came back to a more permanent position in Texas at Lackland AFB while David was serving at Kelly AFB also in Texas. In the Air Force Kiti, at times, felt out of step with her colleagues since she didn't represent the standard military attitude, however she very much enjoyed serving our country and believes in giving back. In 1987, both out of the Air Force, they eventually moved to Conshohocken, then on to Pottstown where they live today. Kiti and David are the parents of two daughters, Callista and Leona and have 4 grandchildren: Samantha, Olivia, Aaron and Michael.

Kiti has enjoyed several jobs in the area, especially being a quality inspector, folder, and sleeve setter for the former knitting mill in Spring City, then working as a knitting instructor for Michaels. She now has a long-arm quilt business called "Outside the Quilt" and enjoys "playing" with quilts, customizing the quilting for her customers.



Kiti is also "owned" by seven parrots and worked with two parrot rescue groups until the Bailey Foundation closed. She now works with "Jojo the Gray Parrot," another rescue organization that rehabs all types of parrots. Since she has had parrots since age 12, she has a very good understanding of the parrot world and has now been rescuing parrots for 15 years. It takes her 45 minutes each morning to tend to the parrots and her 7 cats.

In the '90's, her friend Barbara Gutchen invited her to attend a Loose Threads Guild meeting and she has been a member since 1998. Kiti has served as guild Vice President, Tea Chair, and on numerous committees. In addition to quilting, she enjoys most anything involving fiber arts. Some of the many items that she creates are the interesting and sturdy tote bags that she knits from regular plastic bags. She also enjoys weaving on her two looms and she tats (almost a lost art today). She finds handwork, hand piecing and applique most relaxing. She also has time for church work and is a chaplain for the Pottstown Cluster of Religious groups.

Joanne Cantwell

Why Do Quilts Cost So Much?

Do your friends ask you to make them quilts? Do they, or you, really have any idea how much it costs? Doug Sobel, a longarm quilter and photographer, has come up with an idea of how much it actually costs to make a Queen Size Quilt using 2018 fabric prices, skilled labor wages, and longarm quilting costs. What do you think? Is it accurate?

Why Do Quilts Cost So Much?

Cost for materials, construction, & finishing for
90" x 100" Queen Size Quilt

Materials for Queen Size Quilt

Fabric for the top:

15 Yds @ \$12.95 = \$194.25

8 ½ Yds backing @ \$12.95 = \$110.08

¾ Yds for Binding @ 12.95 = \$9.71

2 ¾ Yds Batting @ 12.95 = \$35.61

Pattern @ \$10.00

TOTAL cost of Materials = \$359.65 (not including sales tax or markup.

Markup is customary in any other business!)

Construction

Labor based on \$25.00 an hour (We are NOT Minimum wage, unskilled workers, but skilled Artisans with years of experience and large investments in equipment and training)

Making a Top

(Includes shopping for fabric, prepping fabric, cutting fabric, sewing blocks, sewing blocks together adding sashing and borders)

40 hours @ \$25.00 = \$1,000.00

(What would you expect to get paid working at a skilled job per 40 hour work week?)

Finishing

Long Arm quilting (All over Edge to Edge)

9,000 Sq inches @ .02 = \$180.00

Trimming Quilt @ \$15.00

Making Binding ½ hr @ \$25.00/hr = \$12.50

Sewing binding on and hand stitching the back

380 linear inches @ .30 = \$114.00

Total Finishing cost = \$321.50

TOTAL COST OF QUILT = \$1,681.15

Note: A larger quilt or more intricate pattern or Custom Long Arm Quilting will increase cost

February Minutes

In February there was snowy weather and Springfield schools were the only district in the area that did not cancel classes. So even though our meeting was not officially cancelled, many members were unable to attend. Both the President and Vice-President were absent so our former President, Betty Ann Dawson, led a brief meeting. Call to order at 10:05am

Business Meeting Raffle: None held

Day Camp: A paper was circulated for sign-ups for Day Camp, to be held April 10/11, 2018. The paper will be circulated at the next meeting also. Campers are reminded that the \$20 fee is to be paid at sign up or soon afterward.

Evening Bee: A reminder that the Evening Bee will take place on Wed, Feb 14, 2018. Everyone in attendance was reminded that items for the Sewing Room Sale would be accepted for the last time on that night.

Field Trips: The bus trip to the Lancaster Quilt Show has been cancelled. Clem Dupont has offered to find out the cost for taking a smaller vehicle. She will report back at the next meeting.

Newsletter: Articles keep coming in and the editor-in-chief says that it is in good shape.

Row by Row Exchange: Winnie McCarraher explained the rules to this year's participants and passed out their boxes.

Speakers: May 15 workshop, May 16 lecture by Cynthia England

- Sept 18 workshop, Sept 19 lecture by Candace Hasson.

- Oct 16 workshop, Oct 17 lecture by Nancy Bills. Selection of workshop topics and lecture information will follow.

Sunshine: Plans for Jean Atwood's Memorial Service are still being made. We did find out that it would be in April or May at Faith Baptist Church in Phoenixville. We will let you know what is happening as we get more information.

Tea: A sign-up for Tea supplies was circulated

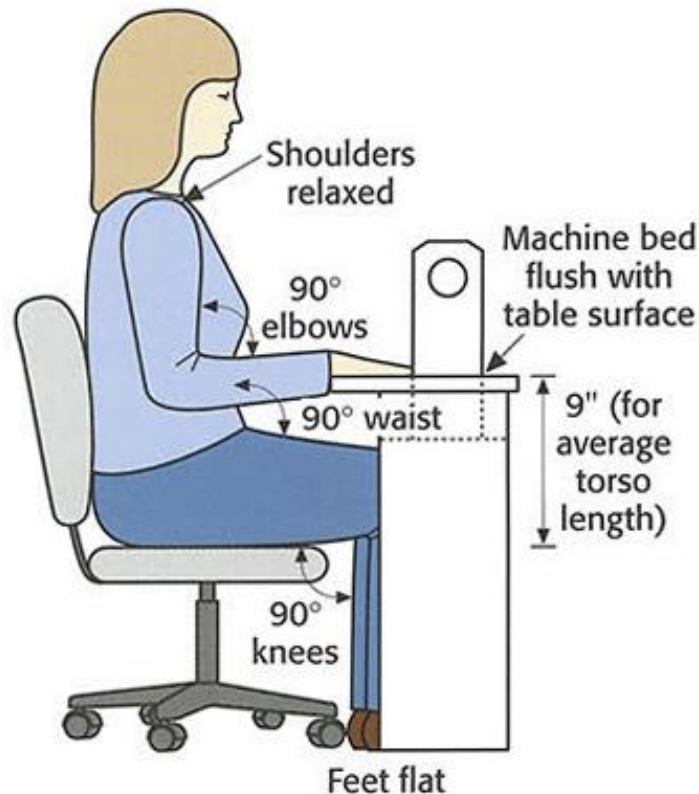
- A volunteer(s) is needed to pick-up and return the quilt racks to Lenore Clarke's home.
- There are currently 109 guests registered for the Tea. The discussion group class size and room assignments were announced. Class leaders should inform Linda Hamel what they will need in their rooms.

Show and Tell: No one had anything to show.

Meeting was adjourned and we went to lunch.

Submitted by:

Betty Ann Dawson – Acting Secretary



Ergonomics of machine sewing

Upcoming Events

Preview PA Relief Sale - March 1-3, 2018 Free preview of the (more than 100) quilts and a quilters attic and gift sale. Thurs & Fri 9-8, Sat 9-3. At the MCC EC Material Resources Center, 517 Trout Run Rd, Ephrata PA. Call for info 717-733-2847

Quilts Around the Bay Shop Hop – March 2 – 11, 2018 Nine shops around the Chesapeake Bay and coastal areas.

Cabin Branch and Stonehouse Quilters Annual Quilt Show - March 10-11, 2018. Presented by the Cabin Branch and Stonehouse Quilters at the Prince William County Fairgrounds, 10624 Dumfries Road, Manassas, Virginia. www.cabinbranchquilters.org/quilt-show/.

Art Quilt Elements 2018 - March 18-April 28, 2018. At the Wayne Art Center, 413 Maplewood Ave, Wayne, PA. www.artquildelements.org/.

AQS Quilt Week - March 21-24, 2018. Presented by AQS at the Marriott at the Lancaster County Convention Center, Lancaster, PA. www.aqsshows.com.

2018 Pennsylvania Relief Sale – April 6-7, 2018 All sale day proceeds benefit the worldwide relief efforts of Mennonite Central Committee which include aid to the victims of poverty and other manmade and natural disasters. At the Farm Show Complex, Harrisburg, PA. www.pareliefsale.org

March Birthdays

- 4 Susan Glaser
- 9 Gayle Hammond
- 16 Kiti Williams
- 19 Jo Quaglia
- 25 Marie Traxler
- 25 Judy McCourry
- 26 Betsy Miller



Fabric Exchange

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

- **Group A** give your squares to Clem Dupont.
- **Group B** give your squares to Linda Glass while Marylou Boryta is away

Penn Oaks Guild

Upcoming speakers at the Penn Oaks Quilters for Spring 2018 meetings. Meetings are the 2nd Monday at Frazer Mennonite Church, 57 Maple Linden Lane in Frazier. There is a guest fee.

- **March 12: Rose Morgan**, a member of the Calico Cutters Quilt Guild, will be sharing her Creative Journey in the World of Quilting and her wonderful quilts.
- **April 9: Gail Kessler**, of Lady Fingers Quilt Shop, Oley, PA. She is an author, fabric designer and instructor. Her topic is "From Concept to Cloth."
- **May 14: Sarah Bond**, a Philadelphia area quilter and teacher. Sarah's family history ... the quilts and quilters in her family before the Civil War up to the Civil Rights era. She will share some of their quilts as well as some of her own.
- **June 11: Joyce Hughes** will speak of her quilting journey and thread painting.

Service Project



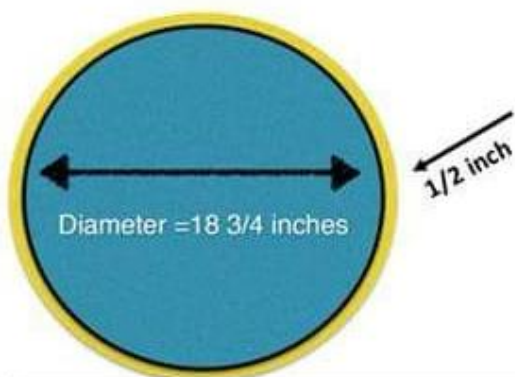
Surgical hats for patients in the Pediatric Surgical Center!

These should be made from cotton fabric that is pre-washed. In addition, as much as possible, the finished product should be free from household smells. This is because of the sensitivity to smells that some pediatric patients experience.

Fabric patterns that are most popular include: Frozen, Disney, football, baseball, hockey, puppies, kitties, horses, Ninja Turtles, super heroes, Sofia the First, Thomas the Tank Engine, airplanes, and My Little Pony. If you have any questions, please call the surgical child life specialist at 273-1936.

Any questions,
contact

Lenore Clarke



To create the hat, cut one circle.

Use elastic around the edges to create a bouffant hat.

Diameter-18 3/4 inches

Elastic-18 1/2 inches long and
1/4 inch in width

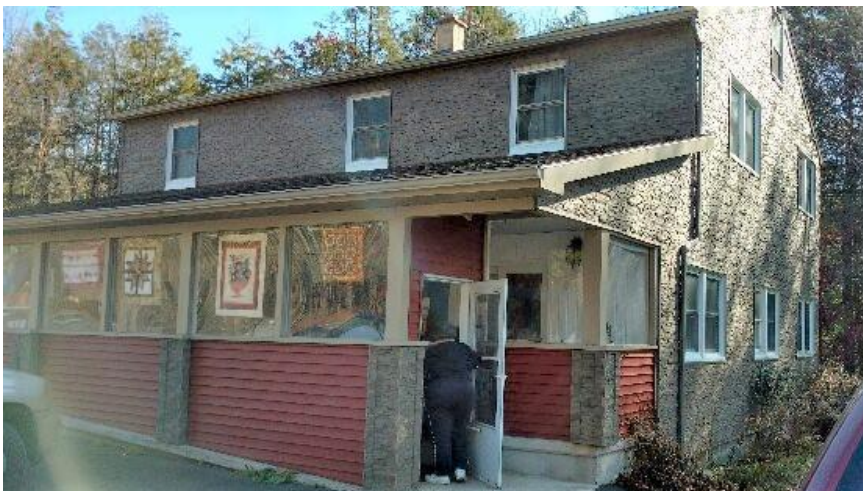
Hem-1/2 inch around



Quilt Shop Review

Located along Route 118, in Sweet Valley, is a modest two-story building with an enclosed front porch. Don't let it fool you. As you enter the doorway and walk up the ramp, you are greeted with the sight of many finished quilts and numerous craft projects all available for sale. Making your way into the main part of the building, you will be delighted to see a plethora of fabric. The shop carries Andover, Robert Kauffman, Henry Glass, Quilting Treasures, Wilmington, Island Batiks, In the Beginning, Riley Blake Designs (RBD), Moda and Studio Fabrics and those are just the ones that were seen and noted. There may be more! The shop, also, carries numerous patterns and kits. The staff is friendly and very helpful, ready to cut any fabric and answer any questions. Needless to say, money was spent. And, of note, the owner, Jill, has donated to our Quilter's Tea on a regular basis. It was nice to be able to patronize her shop and to thank her for her support.

Betty Ann Dawson



118 Fabrics & More

Jill Shaw, Owner/Quilter
1205 State Route 118
Sweet Valley, PA

Open Wednesday to Saturday 10-4,
Sunday 12-5

507-477-3166

Email- jill@118fabrics.com
www.118Fabrics.com

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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

Hospitality

March 7

Snack: Virginia Gates
Snack: Pat Phillion
Fruit/Veggies: Donna Matthais
Cold Drink: Diane Hess

March 21

Betty Ann Dawson
Pat Leiter
Judy McCoury
Christine Fallon

