

Loose Threads News

Volume 20 Issue 11 August 2015

1st Wednesday Agenda

9:30 Doors open - refreshments & socializing

10:00 Business Meeting

Time to Renew your Membership! Don't forget to bring Susan Glaser your completed membership form and \$20 check.

3rd Wednesday Agenda

9:30 Doors open - refreshments & socializing

10:00 **Missouri Star Quilt Co** Bernie Hughes & Clem Dupont



President's Message

Since this is my last "message from the president" I feel like I should offer some words of wisdom. Use sunscreen, eat your vegetables, be nice to someone who needs a friend. And make a quilt.

Yes, that's what brought you here in the first place, and since we're not getting any younger, start today. Your eyes are never going to be better, your joints will not get more flexible, and your fabric stash will fade if you don't use it. So make a quilt. Don't let your heritage be a stash of unused fabric instead of a pile of quilts. Make the time and commit to it. You'll be glad you did.

On another note, I would like to thank my board members, Judy Peters, Jo and Betty Ann for their commitment to their jobs and support for me throughout the year. I couldn't have picked three more dedicated members who helped to keep me focused and make the job easier. THANKS.

Debby

Dig through your stash and find one or more UFOs to participate in a UFO Swap and Finish for our September program.

To join in the fun just bring one or more block sets, partially finished quilt, or other UFO that you no longer want. We will display the UFOs on a table and each UFO will earn you one number ticket to choose someone else's donation. Then it's yours to complete in any way that inspires you and is yours to keep when it's finished. There's no deadline but we hope to see lots of these projects at show-n-tell throughout the year. Come prepared and join the fun on September 16th!

Guild Committees

Our new officers have poured over the committee sign-up sheets we filled out in June and assembled a great list of hard workers to take care of each and every responsibility necessary to run a successful (and fun!) guild. If you don't see your name or have any questions, contact Betty Ann Dawson for information.

<u>**Basting:**</u> Kiti Williams, Linda Glass, Judy Quintas-Gorman

<u>Block of the Month:</u> Wendy Cole, Linda Garthe

Business Meeting Raffle: Carolyn Ferrandino 2106 Challenge: Eileen Frankil, Carolyn Thompson

Evening Bee: Nancy Miller, Lil Evans **Fabric Exchange:** Jo Quaglia, Carol Cossa,

Millie Skean

<u>Field Trips:</u> Cathy Nelson, Betty Ann Dawson, Takako Pike

Historian:?

<u>Holiday Brunch:</u> Donna Mathias, Pat Philion, Clem Dupont, Geri Dulis, Marie Traxler, Melinda Novatnak, Carolyn Thompson, Susan Glaser

<u>Hospitality:</u> Gayle Hammond, Geri Dulis, Sue Kehl

Librarians: Jane Russell, Bernie Hughes

<u>Newsletter:</u> Linda Hamel, Linda Glass, Joanne Cantwell

Nominating: Susan Glaser, Carolyn Thompson **Programs:** Debbie O'Keefe, Judy Snook, Silvia Homa

Retreats: Lenore Clarke

Round Robin: Clem Dupont

Secret Pal: Margie Allen, Betsy Miller Service Projects: Stephanie Adrian, Judy Peters, Jean Sullivan, Kathie Neiman, Bonnie Strickland

Speakers: Laurie Kelly, Rosemary Geisler

Sunshine: Judy Shafer

Tea: Toni Hughes - Chair, Co-Chairs – Pat Leiter,

Kiti Williams

Website: Lenore Clarke

Tea Committees 2016

This year's Tea chair, Toni Hughes, likewise, made Tea assignments based on the Tea sign-up sheets, trying hard to accommodate everyone's choices and talents. Looks like a line up sure to guarantee another successful fundraiser. If you have any questions contact Toni.

Bathroom Monitor: Carol Cossa

<u>Book Sale:</u> Jo Quaglia, Cathy Nelson, Takako Pike, Kathie Travis

<u>Coffee Setup/Cleanup:</u> Bernie Hughes, Carolyn Thompson

Craft Sale: Margie Allen, Barb Painter

<u>Dining Room Setup/Cleanup:</u> Judy Shafer, Susan Glaser, Millie Skean, Takako Pike, Gayle Hammond, Geri Dulis, Kiti Williams

<u>Discussion Groups:</u> Judy Snook, Carolyn Thompson, Rosemary Geisler, Kathie Neiman, Eileen Frankil

Door Prizes: Linda Glass, Lil Evans

Emcee: Susan Glaser

Greeters: Carol Cossa, Linda Glass, Carolyn

Ferrandino, Jean Sullivan

<u>Hostess:</u> Marylou Boryta, Lenore Clarke, Judy Snook, Melinda Novatnak, Donna Mathias, Marie Traxler, Stephanie Adrian, Takako Pike, Judy Peters, Cathy Nelson, Linda Glass, Carolyn Ferrandino, Debby

O'Keefe, Carol Cossa, Jane Russell

<u>Invitations:</u> Linda Hamel, Stephanie Adrian <u>Kitchen Food Prep:</u> Linda Garthe, Betty Ann Dawson,

Bonnie Strickland, Gayle Hammond, Bonnie

Swartzentruber

Kitchen Cleanup: Sally Ater, Lenore Clarke, Gayle

Hammond, Sue Kehl, Betsy Miller

Mailing & Email Table: Kathie Neima

Mailing & Email Table: Kathie Neiman

Parking Shuttle: Laurie Kelly

Quilt Show: Rosemaey Geisler, Wendy Cole, Pat Leiter, Linda Hamel, Carolyn Ferrandino, Marylou Boryta

Registration Table: Laurie Kelly, Joanne Cantwell **Sewing Room Sale:** Debbie O'Keefe, Judy Peters, Melinda Novatnak

<u>Take-a-chance Auction:</u> Pat Philion, Marie Traxler, Donna Mathias

Tea Block Design: Clem Dupont, Lil Evans

<u>Tea Block Collection/Distribution:</u> Cathy Nelson,

Kathie Travis

<u>Tea Folders:</u> Joanne Cantwell, Carol Cossa Viewer's Choice Ribbons: Laurie Kelly

August Program

One of the discussion groups that filled up very quickly at this year's Tea was the Missouri Star Quilt Company. Have you used any of the patterns, tutorials or suggestions from either the magazine or website of this company? Clem Dupont and Bernie Hughes have been inspired by both! They will share with us some of their favorite discoveries from this popular online quilting destination.

Quilt Shop Review



If you're headed out to central PA, and you are anywhere near Mifflinburg, you have to stop by **Verna's Fabrics**. Located on 1430 Red Bank Road just a few miles from the center of town, Verna's Fabrics is a Mennonite owned shop that is chock full of fabrics and bargains. We happened to hit a sale that featured 50 cents off the yardage cost of any fabric on the bolt. Most of the fabrics were priced at only \$7.50 a yard so that put an even wider smile on our faces. The shelves are mostly arranged by color, with separate groupings of solids, batiks and such. They also had a large selection of wide backs (106" wide) at \$15.98 per yard. The lighting within the store isn't the best and all transactions are all cash or personal check, but the pluses far outweigh the negatives at this great country shop. They are open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9 until 9; on Wednesday and Saturday from 9 until 5.

Upcoming Events

AQS Quilt Week - Jul 29-Aug 1, 2015 at The Oncenter, Syracuse, NY www.quiltweek.com/location/syrac use/

Kaleidoscope of Colors - Aug 7-9, 2015 – Presented by Four County Quilters Guild at Eventplex, 797 East Patrick St., Frederick, MD www.fourcountyquilters.com

Calico Cutters Quilt Guild -

August 12, 2015 -- Teresa Fusco will be presenting a trunk show entitled "There is a Season." Check her website at

www.teresaquiltstudio.com, Goshen Fire Company, 1320 Park Avenue, West Chester, PA 19380



Minutes – July Meeting

Debby O'Keefe called the meeting to order at 10:05 A.M.

<u>Treasurer's Report:</u> Expenses were for the DAR tickets and 1 refund. Credits were for the business raffle and field trips.

New Business: .

- Tea Committee assignments were distributed at the meeting. If you have questions/concerns or would like to sign up contact Toni Hughes mrthughes@msn.com.
- Guild Committee assignments were also distributed. These assignments start in September so please meet with the current assignee so handoffs will go smoothly. If you have questions/concerns or would like to sign up contact Betty Ann Dawson wildberryfarm@dejazzd.com or Susan Glaser sewglaser@verizon.net.
- Remember to get your membership forms and dues in to Susan Glaser.
- The Christ's will be giving a talk on "Cheddar Quilts" at the Hershey Quilt Show.

Basting: Next basting will be July 29th. For scheduling, contact Takako Pike at catseyequiltstudio@dplus.net or Jean Nalbandian at nalbandian19@yerizon.net.

There are two quilts scheduled to be basted and we can also tie-off charity quilts or sew walker bags, etc. There is always something to do.

Speakers/Programs:

Reminder: There is a \$5 fee for Associate Members attending <u>lectures</u> by outside speakers. Please pay Judy Peters the day the program is held. <u>Workshop</u> fees for Assoc & guests are variable and depend on the guild's cost for each speaker. Confirm what your costs will be when you sign up with Laurie Kelly.

• Please remember to turn cell phones OFF during the Guest Speakers program.

- August 19th will be a presentation by Clem Dupont and Bernie Hughes on the Missouri Star Quilting Company. This was a Tea discussion group.
- October 21 Kelly Meanix will do a lecture in the morning and a workshop on piecing trees in the afternoon.
- November 18 Lonni Rossi lecture. Afternoon Workshop is TBD.
- For 2016: We are also looking into Gyleen Fitzgerald, Anita Grossman Solomon, and some others.

<u>Fabric Exchange</u>: Please try to keep up to date. Plan ahead if you are going away on vacation. July and August are due.

<u>Challenge</u>: This year's challenge quilts focus is flowers. You can use flowered fabric or your detail can be flowers. Contact Linda Hamel, dhamel1283@aol.com, for details. Quilt is to be no larger than 40 inches per side (160 inches overall).

Hospitality: The list is full through November.

<u>Retreats</u>: Please contact Carolyn Thompson, <u>cthompso99@dejazzd.com</u> or Lenore Clarke, <u>LenoreClarke@gmail.com</u> and check the Newsletter for details.

• October 13th – 16th – Blue Lake. NOTE: an additional hotel tax fee will be added onto the bill.

Field Trips: Fall Field trips planned are:

- September Quilt Show in Schuylkill Haven, PA
- October Quilt Shops in Intercourse, PA
- November James Michener Museum (Kaffe Fassett Exhibit) and stop at Byers Carolers Factory & Shop
- Dates are TBD

Contact Betty Ann Dawson, wildberryfarm@dejazzd.com or Cathy Nelson, gardener1207@aol.com.

July Minutes, cont

<u>Library</u>: Several new books were received and will be available next month to sign out. Ricky Tim's CDs are available for sign out and will be played during the Charity Sew Day in July.

Secret Pal: Donna Matthias is in charge of the 2015 Secret Pal, john937@verizon.net. The theme is patriotism. A \$10 cap on the each month's gift is suggested. August 26th is Women's Equality Day celebrating the 19th Amendment which gave us (women!) the right to vote.

<u>Block of the Month</u>: July's colors are red, white and blue. Sylvia Homa showed us the beautiful star block. Directions are in the July Newsletter.

Round Robin: Contact Clem Dupont, Cpdupont@verizon.net, for more information about this activity. The Round Robin quilts were displayed to show us the progress that has been made. We have an amazing group of women who do amazing and beautiful things.

Membership: If you are switching membership category please let Betty Ann know so the membership list can be updated. There are several people on our waiting list to join as regular members.

Business Meeting Raffle: The Business Meeting Raffle was won by Carole Cossa.

<u>Charity Projects:</u> The charity quilts from the Charity Sew Day in July will be due for delivery to Manatawny Manor in September.

A large quilt that was given to the church was donated by Donna, the church Secretary, to a needy family. Another large quilt was given to Donna to keep until needed.

The meeting was adjourned by Debby O'Keefe at 11:00 AM.

Jo Quaglia - Secretary

Fabric Exchange 2015-2016

A signup sheet will be available at the business meetings in August and September.

Exchange Specifics:

one rectangle measuring 3 ½" x 6 ½" per person in group

2 or 3 groups of 8 to 10 people ¹/₄ yard of fabric – 10 pieces (5 pair) 3 ¹/₂" x 6 ¹/₂" rectangles

THEME: Varied

September – (black & white)

October – (first frost – any color frosted fabrics)

November – (leaf prints, pine cones, pine needles)

December - Christmas (green/red or holiday prints), Hanukkah (blue/silver or holiday prints)

January –animal prints, paw prints, animals

February – Mardi Gras (purple, green, gold)

March – goodbye winter! Snow - white on white **April** – rain, umbrellas, clouds, galoshes

May – flowers

June - summer fun prints - beach, flip flops, picnics

July – nautical prints

August – road trip, camping, vacation

September starts the 2015 - 2016 fabric exchange. Please bring your 3 ½" x 6 ½" rectangles in a plastic sandwich bag with your name on the bag. You will need to cut 5 pair (10) rectangles (FINAL AMOUNTS will be determined by the total number of people in the group. HOPE to finalize by the end of September).

If you have any questions, call Jo Quaglia (610-326-1186) joann1455@verizon.net, Carole Cossa (610-385-4968) cacossa@ptd.net or Millie Skean (610-323-8785).

And, Just Remember Have Fun!

Getting to Know You

Bernie Hughes

Back in 1994, Bernie Hughes happened upon a Super Bowl Sale at that familiar quilt shop, *Tudor Rose*, where she met Debby O'Keefe who invited her to attend the annual Loose Threads Tea. New to the area, Bernie attended the Tea and it didn't take long before she joined our guild. Now, 21 years later, she has quite a track record, serving as Tea Chair and as co-chair several times; she has led discussion groups at teas and meetings and served in a number of other roles such as historian, field trip coordinator, librarian and more.

Bernie began life in Fort Wayne, Indiana but the family moved to Connecticut when she was in second grade. She attended the University of Connecticut and Western New England College, working toward a degree in Pharmacy, then changing to Math and Science. During high school and college, she worked in pharmacies, but as her growing family of four children got a bit older, she started working in bookstores, first at The Mustard Seed and currently at Barnes and Noble.

As a young child, her maternal grandmother taught her to make doll clothes. She also watched both of her grandmothers piece quilts. Her mother also kept busy sewing clothing and curtains, (but no quilts). When Bernie was in Girl Scouts at age 9, she became acquainted with various embroidery stitches and learned to love all kinds of embroidery and smocking. Eventually she was taught to quilt by JoAnne Parisi while pregnant with her first child. JoAnne has been a speaker at our guild and Bernie still keeps in touch with her when they both attend the Lancaster Show.



Bernie has been married to Rich for 35 years and they have one granddaughter and 5 grand pups!! Besides quilting, she is a voracious reader and has been known to devour 5-6 books in a week! She loves to sing and play the piano and also facilitates a weekly woman's bible study which she finds instructive and enjoyable.

Bernie very much appreciates this amazing group of Loose Threads women who are each very talented and yet willing to share their knowledge with anyone who asks. She finds it a pleasure to be a member of a group of such caring and giving women.

Joanne Cantwell

Show n' Tell





Associate member Sandy Michalec, now living in Olympia, WA, proudly displays her recently completed UFO. Made entirely of Christmas fabrics, it's intended as a Christmas gift for her son's family. It was started on a Lancaster County guild retreat with Melanie Norman in 2002. (Refer Jan 2015 newsletter) There's not only the huge satisfaction of finally finishing such a long term UFO, but as a bonus, Sandy won a gift certificate to her local quilt shop in the *Complete Your UFO* contest!

At the July meeting some members showed off their completed Mug Rugs, the project taught by Silvia Homa as our June program. Stephanie Adrian and Marie Traxler each finished their little 'rugs', while Jane Russell's new addiction is now approaching double numbers!



It's no longer spring, but here were tulips were blooming at July's Show n' Tell! Marylou Boryta, Clem Dupont and Melinda Novatnak displayed their beautiful completed quilts and Sandy Michalec sent a photo of her nearly finished tulip project. Sandy saw the Terry Kramzar workshop previewed in our newsletter and purchased a kit while she was visiting PA this spring.

Astrology of the Quilt Guild

Excerpts from A Gathering of Quilters by Luana Rubin, McCall's Quilting Magazine



July 23rd to August 24th

Creative Leo loves being on stage and will be drawn to the performance opportunities in a guild. You are the one who will show off your latest whimsical quilt, model a flashy piece of wearable art, or tell a quilty joke that makes everyone groan and roll their eyes with glee. As head of a committee or even guild president, you would give the most entertaining presentations, feeling at ease with a microphone in front of the crowd. You love to show off your latest creations to a group of quilters, and they love to see your work too!



- 7 Jane Russell
- 13 Stephanie Adrian
- 14 Geri Dulis
- 24 Kathy Neiman
- 25 Pat Philion
- 26 Lovye Oesterlin
- 30 Linda Wright

The color for August's flower fabric exchange is Aqua or Teal

Advice from a Quilt:

Keep your friends in stitches

It's okay to be a little scrappy

Find common threads

Know when to cut corners

Make lasting memories

Block out time for family

Cherish tradition



Hospitality

<u>Aug 5</u> <u>Aug 19</u>

Snack: Pat Leiter LilEvans

Snack: Eileen Frankil Takako Pike

Fruit/Veg Betty Ann Dawson Sally Ater

Cold Drink: Rosemary Geisler Pat Philion

Jim Thorpe Road Trip

On Wednesday, June 24, 2015 about 14 of us carpooled up to Jim Thorpe, PA for a delightful field trip on a beautiful day. Many thanks to Betty Ann for being our flag lady and keeping our day organized.

After parking the cars at the little train station **in** Jim Thorpe we all walked over to the Asa Packer Mansion for a guided tour of this historic landmark. Our adventure included a VERY long set of outdoor stairs to climb to get up to the mansion site. Did anyone count? There had to be at least 100 stairs! Fortunately there were numerous rocking chairs on the porch for resting and enjoying the mountain view.

Asa Packer was known for his industrial, railroading, philanthropic, and political activities in the 19th century. His mansion (built in 1860) is not a restoration; it exists essentially as the Packers lived in it from 1861 to 1912. The tour was extremely interesting. Our 20 year-old guide (Alex) was a delight as he included much fascinating history as he explained all the beautiful treasures. He did his best to keep our tour on track, as we had many questions as we progressed through the home. Unfortunately no photos were allowed inside the mansion, and it seemed impossible to absorb it all on one tour. This would be a good place to visit more than once.

Our group enjoyed seeing such things as original





furniture, beautiful stained glass windows, and the giant orchestrion (music player) which Alex demonstrated in operation for us! Numerous crystal chandeliers were equipped with both gas and electric bulbs. The one in the fancy parlor was copied for the 1939 movie 'Gone with the Wind.' Interesting wall coverings throughout, unique types of wood in each room, indoor bathrooms, the kitchen, and early type of 'air conditioning' were all fascinating to see. Of particular interest was all the real gold installed throughout the house to celebrate the golden (50th) wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Packer. Fine wood carvings throughout the house included 1,500 small rosette motifs, each a bit different. Much inspiration for quilt designs here.

Following our tour we descended all those stairs again and strolled a short distance to town for lunch. Tony Stella's Encore restaurant provided an elegant atmosphere, good service, and delicious food. Good choice!

Our next mission was to visit a local fabric shop. The Quilted Crow in Lehighton PA was a convenient stop on our way back to the turnpike. Staff was very friendly, and many purchases were made. All Loose Threads shoppers received a specially prepared gift bag.

Eileen Frankil

Retreat Possibility

As next year's Retreat coordinator, I would like to make you aware of an interesting different retreat opportunity. The dates are May 6-11, 2016, in Mackinac Island, Michigan at the Grand Hotel. It is the annual NeedleArt Seminar.

Mackinac (MACK-in-awe) became one of the nation's favored summer resort destinations during the Victorian era. Vacationers arrived in large lake excursion boats from Buffalo, Cleveland, Chicago and Detroit seeking the cooler weather on Mackinac Island. They danced to Strauss' waltzes, listened to Sousa's stirring marches, dined on whitefish and strolled along the broad decks. To accommodate overnight guests, boat and railroad companies financed the building of Grand Hotel.

One of the most noticeable differences on Mackinac Island (which is accessible only by boat and plane) is the absence of automobiles. Visitors and residents travel by foot, bicycle or horsedrawn carriage. There are only 600 year-round residents. And during the summer, there are more than 500 horses. To learn more about Mackinac Island or the Grand Hotel, please visit www.MackinacIsland.org and www.grandhotel.com.

There will be 5 nationally known teachers at the NeedleArt seminar:

Bill Kerr- Modern Quilts

http://www.modernquiltstudio.com,

Sue Spargo http://www.suespargo.com,

Mary Elizabeth Kinch

http://www.maryelizabethkinch.com/

Michelle Meuller

http://www.wildharerugstudio.com/

Bonnie Hunter http://www.quiltville.com/



I have included the information below from the 2015 NeedleArt Seminar brochure for examples of prices of classes and accommodations. Prices may be slightly different for 2016.

Classes: ½ day class \$40, full day \$75. Package Price Includes: Accommodations in one of our 386 individually decorated guest rooms, full breakfast, Grand Luncheon Buffet, and five course dinner daily; Friday & Saturday night evening cocktail receptions, Friday & Saturday night lectures by instructors, special discount on ferry boat tickets. There is no tipping within Grand Hotel. Package Price: One night - \$329.00* per room Two nights - \$609.00* per room Three nights - \$739.00* per room Four nights - \$855.00* per room Five nights - \$965.00* per room. All rates subject to 6% tax, 2% Mackinac Island assessment. One time \$8 per person baggage handling charge.

Out of town guild members, consider joining us. Spouses are welcome to come.

The 2016 brochure will be available October 1st, with registration starting January 4th. Check it out.

Lenore Clarke

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

Block of the Month

I'm going to describe this month's block for the newsletter since the pieces are too big for letter sized paper. I will make copies and have them available at the guild meeting.

Dog days of August and even the dog can't find enough shade! So grab your fabrics and make a slice of watermelon, juicy and full of seeds for that seed-spitting contest with your cousins. Maybe enjoy a real piece after you've finished the block.

You will need 12 1/2" square of background fabric, 6" of mid to dark green for the outer rind, 5" of icy green for the inner rind and 9 1/2" of (maybe) hot pink or watermelon colored for the flesh. How fun to use a dotted fabric or one with actual seeds. This will be a multi-pieced Drunkard's Path. Great opportunity for embelishments.

Kathie Travis