



Loose Threads News

Volume 21 Issue 4

December 2015

1st Wednesday Agenda

Holiday Brunch

Bring Challenge quilt, gift exchange, holiday mug, dozen cookies & Secret Pal gift

2nd Wednesday Agenda

9:30 Doors open - refreshments & socializing

10:00 Business Meeting

3rd Wednesday Agenda

NO Basting Meeting



President's Message

Here we are in the midst of the "Holiday Madness" and there is so much to do! Shopping, wrapping, cleaning, baking, decorating and sewing are all high on our endless lists. In our rush to get everything done, we shouldn't forget to take a few hours now and then to enjoy the season.

By now, all of this year's challenge projects should be finished and ready to be hung at our Christmas Brunch. So let the Brunch be the first of many breaks that you take during the holidays to have some fun and to enjoy the company surrounding you.

From my house to yours, best wishes for Hanukkah, Christmas Kwanzaa, Boxing Day and may the New Year bring you health, happiness and prosperity!

Happy Holidays!

Betty Ann



Our November speaker, Lonni Rossi, entranced Loose Threads members with her spectacular quilts and gorgeous fabrics. Plans are underway for a road trip to her studio in Ardmore on the evening of Dec 18th.

Minutes - November Meeting

Betty Ann Dawson called the meeting to order at 10:05 A.M.

Items of Note:

- Toni Hughes father passed away Oct 31st
- Judy Peter's daughter has passed away after a fight with liver cancer.
- Mainline Quilters want to rent our quilt racks. Since there is no one designated by the contract to deliver/pick up the racks, Betty Ann Dawson will do this. The income from 3 rentals of the racks has paid for their cost.
- Kiti Williams said that basting needles have been ordered.
- Invitations to the Tea will go out Thanksgiving week. Since this is the 25th Tea, it was suggested we include questions about how many Teas they have attended and if they have any special memories to share.
- There will be another Guild display at the Henrietta Hankin Library from May 22-June 11, 2016. Are there any suggestions for a theme for the display? Possibly flowers?

Retreat: The Blue Lake retreat will be Oct 11-14, 2016. We are in talks with Camp Innabah in Pughtown for a retreat to be scheduled the first weekend in March. The fee would be \$150. Lenore Clarke gave a reminder about the Mackinaw Island trip in May.

Business Meeting Raffle: Carolyn Ferrandino asked members to let her know if they are unable to bring the gift when it is their turn. Notify her, Cathy Nelson or Jo Quaglia.

Block of the Month: Linda Garthe showed the completed house block with log cabin blocks and flag block

Challenge: Linda Hamel is looking forward to seeing all the flowers challenges at the brunch. Reminder- Maximum size is 160" total around the edges.

Charity Projects: 103 mug rugs for veterans were completed and will be delivered to the Main Street Café in Royersford, the UCC church and Parkhouse nursing home. Members were asked to make wheel chair bags if they have time.

Fabric Exchange: For Dec the fabric should be Christmas, Hanukah or any holiday fabric.

Field Trip: Wednesday, Dec 9th is the trip to the Michener Museum in Doylestown with a stop at Byers Carolers Factory and lunch. Total cost will be about \$20, not including lunch. Members will carpool and departure will be at 9:00 A.M. The next filed trip will be to the Lancaster Quit Show in March.

Holiday Brunch: Invitations were in the newsletter. Members should bring one dozen cookies for the brunch.

Newsletter: Linda Hamel is interested in receiving reviews of quilt shops, photos of member's sewing rooms or anything you would like to share with the other members.

Programs: Judy Snook reminded us that the next bingo squares are red, then green. Bring 10-12 2 ½" squares of each color.

Round Robin: This is on hold until January. Anyone who would like to participate or with any ideas please contact Clem Dupont.

Secret Pal: A gift should be given at each business meeting. If you are going away, notify Margie Allen so arrangements can be made for the gift to get to your pal. The cost limit for the gifts is \$10. Secret pals will be revealed at the Holiday Brunch.

Speaker: Finish the tree designs from Kelly Meanix's workshop and bring to show-n-tell in January

December Road Trip

Plan to join us on December 9th for our next road trip to Doylestown to visit the Michener Museum for the exhibit of *Blanket Statements: New Quilts by Kaffe Fassett and Historical Quilts from the Collection of the Quilt Museum and Gallery in York, UK*. The cost will be \$20 which includes museum admission and the docent fee. There will be a stop for lunch (at your own expense) and at the Byers Collection factory. We will be carpooling so plan to meet at the Church at 9am, form car pools and we will return to Church parking lot by 5pm.

MINI Classes

RULERS NEEDED!!

Don't forget to bring in your "unknown" rulers. Starting in January the MINI Class, that meets after our business meetings, will try and demo your ruler for everyone. Please bring any instructions or other information that you have about the ruler. Make sure that the ruler is labeled, so we can be sure and return it to its owner.

Thanks,
Susan, Silvia and Marylou

Margie Allen discovered this great website for fabric, not in Brooklyn, NY but actually in Brooklyn, Iowa! Margie's comment, "Wow...beautiful fabric and at such a great prices." Check it out.

<http://brooklynfabric.com/>

Dear Ladies of the Loose
Threads Quilt Guild,



Thank you so much for the beautiful flower arrangement. I also want to thank everyone for the cards and words of encouragement. My dad meant so much to me, it has been a very difficult time and I was so touched by every card I received. I am proud to be a part of a group of women who are so caring, kind and supportive.

Love,
Toni Hughes

YOU ARE INVITED

Loose Threads Holiday Brunch

Wednesday, December 2, 2015

10:00 A.M.

A luncheon menu will be served

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

Bring your challenge quilt to display in a plain bag

Bring your Holiday mug

Bring one dozen cookies to share

Secret Pal revealed

Recipe

Wild Mushroom Soup

1 ounce dried wild mushrooms, such as morels, ceps or porcini
6 cups chicken broth
2 T. butter
2 onions, coarsely chopped
2 garlic cloves, chopped
2 pounds button mushrooms, trimmed and sliced
½ tsp dried thyme
¼ tsp ground nutmeg
2-3 T flour
½ cup Madeira or dry sherry
½ cup crème fraîche or sour cream
Salt and freshly ground black pepper
Snipped fresh chives, to garnish

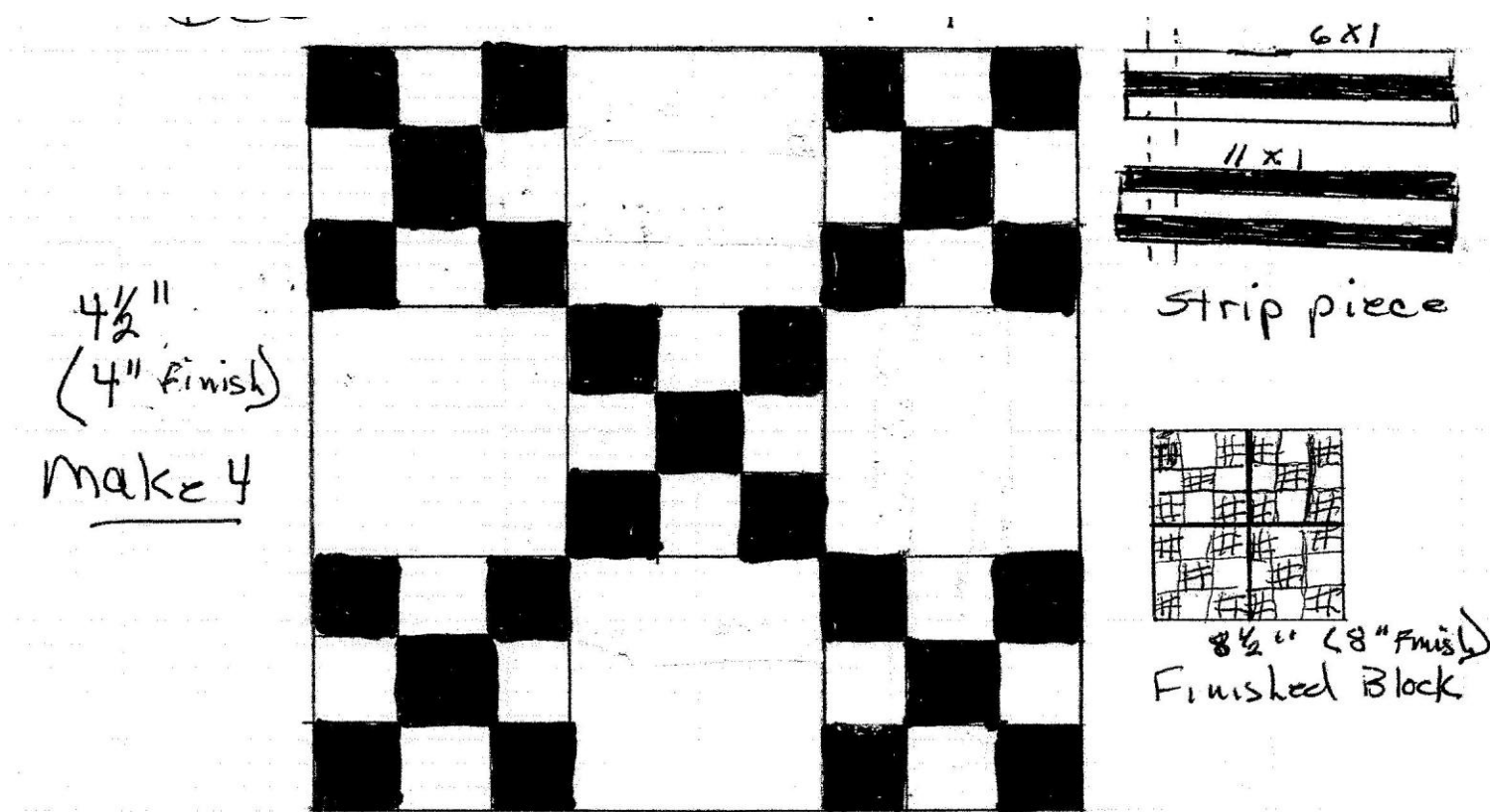


1. Put the dried mushrooms in a strainer and rinse well under cold running water, shaking to remove as much sand as possible. Place them in a saucepan with 1 cup of broth and bring to a boil over medium-high heat. Remove the pan from the heat and set aside for 30-40 minutes to soak.
2. Meanwhile, in a large heavy saucepan or flameproof casserole, melt the butter over medium-high heat. Add the onions and cook for 5-7 minutes until they are well softened and just golden.
3. Stir in the garlic and fresh mushrooms and cook for 4-5 minutes until they begin to soften, then add the salt and pepper, thyme and nutmeg and sprinkle over the flour. Cook for 3-5 minutes, stirring frequently, until blended.
4. Add the Madeira or sherry, the remaining chicken broth, the dried mushrooms and their soaking liquid and cook, covered, over medium heat for 30-40 minutes until the mushrooms are very tender.
5. Puree the soup in batches in a blender or food processor. Strain it back into the saucepan, pressing firmly to force the puree through the sieve. Stir in the crème fraîche or sour cream and sprinkle with the snipped chives just before serving.

Serves 6-8

December BOM

Block 4



For each 4 1/2" block you will need one main color (MC) and one contrasting color (CC)

From MC: 4 - 1 7/8" squares
1 - 11" x scant 1" strip
2 - 6" x scant 1" strip

From CC: 2 - 11" x scant 1" strip
1 - 6" x scant 1" strip
(Scant 1" means halfway between 7/8" and 1", or 15/16")

1. Strip piece longer pieces together as shown
2. Strip piece shorter pieces together as shown
3. Cut strips into scant 1" pieces
4. Sew pieces together into '9-patch' block and trim to 1 7/8"
5. Sew '9-patch' blocks and solid squares together as shown and trim to 4 1/2"
6. Sew 4 1/2" blocks together to make 1 large block. Trim finished block to 8 1/2"

Accurate cutting and sewing is very important for this block!



Raffle Quilt

Jo Quaglia has donated a beautiful quilt top to the guild and Takako Pike did a lovely job quilting it. This will be used as a raffle quilt with the proceeds going to the American Porphyria Foundation. The chances are \$2 for one or three for \$5. The raffle will take place at the Tea on March 12, 2016.

Porphyria is a group of 7 genetic blood disorders where blood is correctly manufactured by the body only 50% of the time. All of the porphyrias change the blood chemistry of the patient making all typical medications potentially deadly to the sufferer.

They are only now discovering how to diagnosis and treat these disorders which are life changing and life threatening. Most people have never heard of porphyria, including many doctors, so few donate funds to this non-profit organization dedicated to educating medical professionals and performing research.

These disorders have been a bane to humanity for centuries. The vampire myth was actually based on one type of porphyria that causes the person's skin to bubble when exposed to UV light.

Recent Porphyria News (Wed, Nov 18, 2015): The American Porphyria Foundation just announced that they and their FDA Committee will be leading a FULL SPEED AHEAD charge to gain FDA accelerated approval of Afamelanotide/SCENESSE, the new treatment for erythropoietic protoporphyria (EPP), a rare disease which causes absolute intolerance of patients' skin to light. NOTE: EPP is only one of the seven types but this is a start. This treatment is currently available in Europe.

American Porphyria Foundation
4900 Woodway Dr. Ste 780
Houston, TX 77024
www.porphyrifoundation.com

Minutes – Nov Meeting, continued

Sunshine: A card was sent to Edy Martin after her cataract surgery. Unfortunately, she will need additional surgery on her shoulder and knees.

Membership: Susan Glaser will send out the new membership list. When an update is needed, the entire corrected list will be sent to members.

Treasurer: Marylou Boryta gave an account of the Guild's expenses and income.

Other items:

- A quilt top was donated to the guild and will be used as raffle quilt at the Tea. Volunteers are needed to bind the quilt.
- Members are reminded to bring 2 fat quarters for the LTQ auction at the Tea
- December meeting will be as follows - Holiday Brunch on Dec 2nd, business meeting on Dec 16th and NO basting meeting will be held on Dec 30th.
- Show and Tell was interesting, especially Stephanie Adrian's story of the 'underwear' tablecloth! Members put a lot of work into their projects and the results are impressive.
- The business meeting raffle was won by Pat Philion.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15.

Sally Ater - Secretary



Getting to Know You

Susan Glaser

Have you noticed a bit of a Southern accent popping up occasionally at Loose Threads Guild meetings? Well, it's legitimate since our new Vice President, Susan Glaser, was born in Raleigh, NC and spent 50% of her childhood on the family farm near Hartesville, SC.

Susan sewed her first dress while in the 5th grade. She enjoyed reading patterns and though her mother sewed well, she was not well versed in teaching. As the youngest grandchild on both sides, Susan spent lots of time with her grandmothers who were quite patient while teaching her to quilt. She started by sewing squares together, hand sewing and hand quilting with a flannel backing. She recalls more blood in her quilt than stitches!

Susan met her husband, Allan, when she was 14 years old. She had her first child while Allan was in the Service and her second son while they were in college. After college at the University of South Carolina in Columbia, SC, she began teaching calculus and honors math in high school. She then taught mathematics at the college level for several years. They moved North in 1985 which was their 13th move and 9th house. Susan earned an Executive MBA at Wharton, then another MBA at Villanova. She joined GE in Valley Forge as an engineer and later became Engineering Manager for Special Programs with Lockheed Martin. When she turned 55, she had had enough of the travel and long hours so she decided to retire early and have some fun with her life.

Hearing about Loose Threads from her friends at the Valley Forge Quilt Guild, Susan joined our guild ten years ago. Before her role as VP, she served as Tea Chair twice, was Treasurer, designed our Block-of-the-Month projects and ran our Fabric Exchange.

In addition to quilting (and working on her long-arm) Susan enjoys knitting, hiking, and spending time with her three grandsons and one



granddaughter. Would you believe that Susan used to race cars on an oval dirt track and, at a time when most guys resented women having such abilities, she could tear down a transmission faster than most of the guys she knew? One more interesting fact from that Southern high school, her teacher taught them to make "Moonshine" in Chemistry class.... She and some friends made "shine" and tomato wine. After drinking both, she decided to be a t-totaler.

Susan enjoys Loose Threads as it is a guild where members can get together for fellowship and care about one another. She feels that everyone should feel welcome and have a right to their own opinion, but also recognize that there may be more than one opinion within the group.

Joanne Cantwell

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 meetings anymore, but it would be so kind to remember her birthday on the 14th:
30 Old Schuylkill Road
#108
Pottstown, PA 19465

Don't forget to give Judy Snook your 10-12 2 1/2" squares for Bingo. The design choices are batik, polka dot, floral, geometric, hearts, holiday, leafy, metallic, a novelty fabric, paisley, plaid, solid color, stars, stripes, or a 30s print. This month's color is **GREEN**.

The fabric exchange theme for December is Christmas (**green/red** or holiday prints), or Hanukkah (**blue/silver** or holiday prints)

Bring **12** rectangles measuring 3 1/2" x 6 1/2" and place in a ziplock bag with your name on it.

Community Service

Veterans Day is an official United States federal holiday that is observed annually on November 11, honoring people who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces. The Main Street Café in Royersford is just one of many businesses which go out of their way to honor veterans on this special day. Every vet who comes into the café on the 11th gets a 'mug rug' to take home. Lil Evans heard about their efforts and thought that guild members might like to get involved. Our members heard the call and Lil received over 100 mug rugs! Since the response was so overwhelming, UCC in Spring City will join in the distribution the mug rugs to area vets.



Hospitality

December 3

Snack:

Holiday

Snack:

Brunch!

Fruit/Veggies:

Cold Drink:

December 16

Kathy Neiman

Bernie Hughes

Pat Leiter

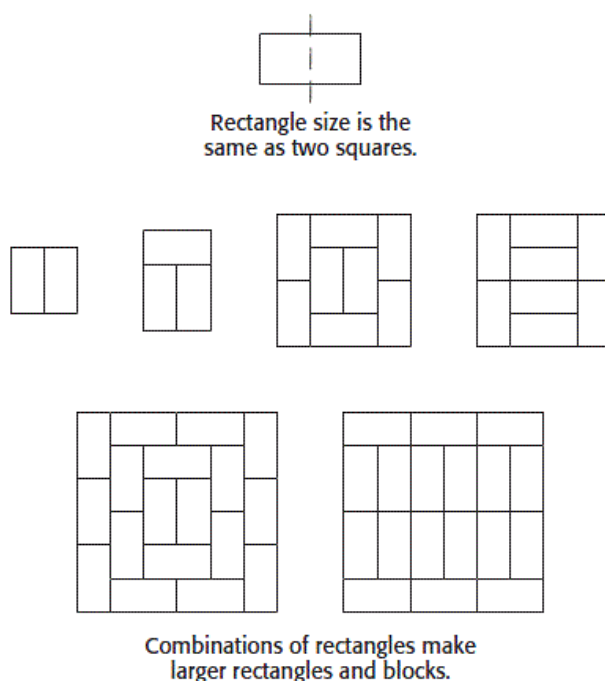
Silvia Homa

Rectangle Quilts

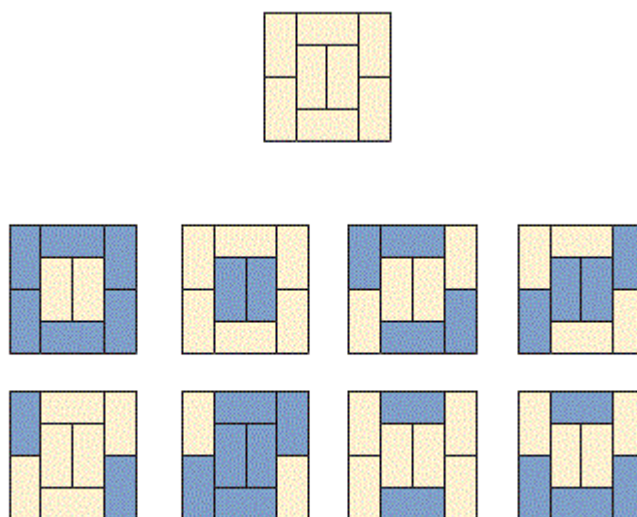
Been wondering what to do with the 3 ½" x 6 ½" rectangles we are collecting through this year's fabric exchange? Came across this web site which may be helpful:

<http://blog.shopmartingale.com/quilting-sewing/give-me-quilts-with-squares-and-rectangles/>

How to Make Stunning Quilts with Rectangles (and nothing *but* rectangles)



The combinations of rectangles come to life when some rectangles are dark and others light. There are many possibilities for making block designs by varying the placement of darks and lights within each block



Rearranging dark and light rectangles yields different designs.

Officers & Contacts

PRESIDENT

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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

