



Loose Threads News

Volume 26 Issue 4

December 2020

1st Wednesday Agenda

- 9:30 Doors open
10:00 Business Meeting

3rd Wednesday Agenda

- 9:30 Doors open
10:00 Holiday Favorites
Show and Tell

President's Message

Hope everyone had a good Thanksgiving but didn't expand their waistline by eating too much. Now on to the rest of the Holiday season. It will be different, for sure, but that just lets you be more creative. To steal a line from the Rolling Stones, "if you can't be with the one(s) you love, honey, love the one(s) you're with!" If you have the capabilities to video chat or zoom, that may be the best option. If the weather holds, you can do an outside gathering. And, there's always a drive-by holiday parade. Use your imagination, you'll have something to talk about when this is all over (and it will be). Stay safe, stay healthy and enjoy whatever version of the holidays that you decide to have.

Betty Ann

The Christmas/Holiday party has been postponed until July due to new Covid-19 guidelines and a lack of interest. BOM and 2020 Challenge projects will be held over until our 'Christmas in July' gathering.

We will have a regular business meeting on December 2nd and a program meeting on the 16th.



Minutes - November Meeting

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting started promptly at 10:00

OLD BUSINESS: If you paid for day camp and didn't receive your refund, see Betty Ann.

NEW BUSINESS: In memory of Barb Kuterbach, Eileen Frankil suggested to make a small quilt wall hanging, 12-20 inches in size, to decorate Manatawny Manor's walls. They should be mainly with a purple theme. Linda will send more info in the newsletter. Discussions on the upcoming Christmas party was had, with some suggestions of how it could be done safely.

COMMITTEES:

BASTING: Next basting meeting will be next year.

BOM: New pincushion was posted in the newsletter and website.

CHALLENGE: "Winter theme" and "Silk Purse, Sow's Ear" are the challenges and will be due at the brunch. If not able to come, you can send pictures of your challenge to Linda.

DAY CAMP: Maybe held in April or May, depending on when the Tea date is scheduled and restrictions at that time.

EVENING BEE: Betty Ann will contact Nancy Miller to see about starting up in Dec/ Jan2021. Information will be in the newsletter.

FIELD TRIP: Allentown Museum is having a quilt display.

HISTORIAN: Kathy Parker brought books made of our past teas and activities for the members to enjoy. If you have any pictures of Barb, could you send them to Cathy, so she can include them in upcoming books?

HOLIDAY BUNCH: Make, bring and wear holiday masks and party outfits and or silly hats. These will be judged. There will be 3 secret events planned. You will need to bring your own lunch/drink. There will be no gift and cookie exchange. Just BOM, challenge and Secret Pals will be revealed.

NEWSLETTER: If you have any tips and tricks that you would like to share, please send them to Linda.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Nominations are postponed until Dec business meeting.

PROGRAMS: For November, Betty Ann will have a presentation on feedbags and how they relate to quilting from the past.

SECRET PAL: Will start Jan 2021. Try and be creative about the gifts and think ahead to possibly send in mail. Forms are available and need to be in by Holiday Brunch to Margie Allen.

SERVICE PROJECT: A Thank you card was read by activities director at Shannondell.

TEA: Discussion was had about a "save the date note" to be sent out to invited guests. Also, the possibility of a change in the date and admission cost. Please email Laurie or Bernie with any thoughts and concerns.

WEBSITE: Up to date

Respectfully submitted by:

Silvia Homa – Secretary

**Kindness is like snow.
It beautifies everything it covers.**

Kahlil Gibran

Folded Fabric Ornament

Folded Fabric Ornament from Katroma's Tutorials

<https://katrinastutorials.blogspot.com/2009/09/fabric-ornament-number-one.html?m=1>

To make one of these ornaments you will need:

- contrasting Christmas fabrics
- a button or charm that will be sewn onto the middle
- thread/ribbon for hanging
- matching sewing thread
- your sewing machine and iron



1. From your Christmas fabric, cut two circles approximately 8 inches diameter. I used a small side plate for my template.
2. Sew the pieces together, right sides facing, leaving a small opening for turning.
3. Turn through, iron pieces and sew the opening closed.
4. Fold the circle in half, and sew together at the top.



5. Catch other two sides in the middle.
6. Thread needle through to the back and then back to the front to secure.



7. Turn over the four corners. You can press the corners down to make them sit better.
8. Sew a button or charm to the center and loop a hanging thread through one corner.

In Memory of Edy Martin



I met a small, energized bundle of quilt fun one Guild meeting day. Her name was Edith, "but I go by Edy!" Valentine. Nothing ever stopped her from doing what she set out to do. She joined our Guild and was a force to be reckoned with. Edy always had a smile for you, a pat on the arm, or a bit of advice to give. She shared herself with anyone who needed her. Edy was not a "Glass half full" type person, she told us all that the glass was refillable, and she would top us off for good measure.

Edy loved when her Secret Pal made her into an "Official Undercover Quilter". Her gifts came with an envelope and a message, if she chose to "accept the mission"! The whole Mission Impossible theme made the year quite fun for all of us, the only thing it lacked was a self-destruct tape!

Edy loved Fred, with all her heart, she lived the best and worst days beside him. In 2000, after she moved back to her mother's in Kansas, she changed her last name to Martin. Once her mom and Fred were in their "Better Place", she came back to PA in 2013. Right back into the Guild life, and living with Kathie Travis.

Dementia took Edy away from us, her family placed her in a care community so her last days would be easier. Edy passed away without us knowing, she had gone to be with her Fred. We had a slice of Heaven in her presence, someone who knew us and encouraged us to grow. She is missed deeply by those who knew her and knowing that God took back one of His angels, brings a smile to my face.

We all need to take up her outlook on life, remind everyone that the glass is refillable - and top it off if they need it.

Kiti Williams

All Secret Pal forms are due to Margie Allen by Wednesday, December 2nd. If you haven't already done so; please give them to me at the guild Business Meeting on Wednesday December 2nd or mail them to me ASAP in the envelope attached to the form.

This is one way we can spread a little happiness in 2021 !

Margie Allen

November Program – Feed Sacks

Feed Sacks, a short history

Around the turn of the 20th century, the late 1800's, early 1900's, many items started to come in some type of cotton bags. They were easier to handle than boxes, barrels and tins. Enterprising housewives soon found uses for these cotton bags, they used them for dishtowels, diapers, sheets and pillowcases, to name a few. Eventually, the bag manufacturers started printing the bags with various designs, these would come to be known as "feed sacks". Housewives started to turn the brightly colored material into dresses for their daughters and themselves, as well as, other household items such as curtains, aprons, dish towels, tablecloths and quilts. Today's quilters and collectors still appreciate the colors and designs of the feed sacks and some enjoy the hunt to find them at auctions and flea markets.

Betty Ann Dawson



Betty Ann



Items made from feed sacks

Community Service

Church Gift

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 meeting place. Please bring any donations to the church on our December 16th meeting.

The church can put the following items to good use:

Reams of copy paper - regular, and especially legal-size (for the folded church bulletins.)
 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



To All the Talented Guilders,
 Thank you so much for sharing your passion with our residents at Shannondell. The quilts will be distributed to our residents in the memory care units this holiday season. I was down there with them yesterday and saw one of the residents all cozy in her chair with a beautiful colorful quilt that was made by your group and gifted last year. Your donation is one that we look forward to having in our community. Thank you again and be safe and well.

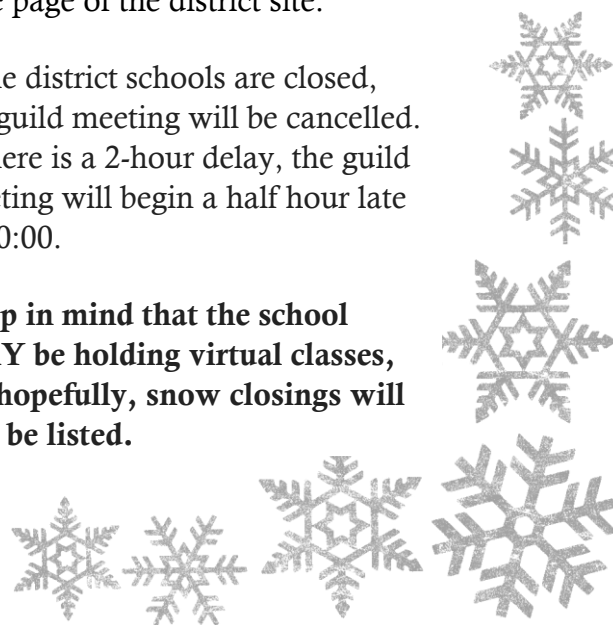
Molly
 Activities @ Shannondell

What if it snows?

Wondering if a guild meeting will be held if it's looking pretty white out there? In the event of winter storms, check the Springford school district website <http://www.spring-ford.net/>. An announcement will appear on the home page of the district site.

If the district schools are closed, the guild meeting will be cancelled. If there is a 2-hour delay, the guild meeting will begin a half hour late at 10:00.

Keep in mind that the school MAY be holding virtual classes, so, hopefully, snow closings will still be listed.



December Birthdays

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



Pandemic Ponderings

Joanne Cantwell

As we think of the many changes in our lives over the past 9 months, let's see how many quilters can identify with the following:

- Have you been the lucky recipient of a “virtual doctor’s visit”? That’s right, the doctor comes to you... on your Computer screen! And, sure enough, a few weeks later you will hear from them again... in the form of an invoice for their services! It really IS convenient – you don’t need to change clothes, go out on rainy days, search for a parking space, stand in line to check in, or mingle with others in a waiting room! Of course, there are occasion when it’s most difficult to convey a specific symptom virtually so actual office visits are not yet entirely a thing of the past!
- Did you ever realize how many types of thermometers there are? The old “shake-down” type that has been extinct for years but still resides in some medicine cabinets, the “magic wand” that signals a temp without merely touching the body, the wall-mounted device that you lean into and many, many more varieties that are all being introduced to us.
- Are you one of those individuals who has completely avoided grocery stores since March? Some are really enjoying sitting back with our keyboards, tapping our favorite grocer on line and putting in an order to be picked up at a later date. We select the date and time we want the order to be ready, then casually drive to a specific spot in the parking lot at the store, dial a number that is displayed in our parking space, wait about 5 minutes and the order comes rolling out to you, your door is opened and the friendly delivery person slides bag after bag into your car. When you provide your credit card number at the time of the order, there is no need to interact closely with any person whatsoever and parking lot pick-up has a mere \$2.95 fee for our store. There can be “bumps” in the system on occasion – like the red beets that I received instead of the radishes that were ordered or sweet potatoes the size of a small SUV! All and all, it’s a good system for some.
- How about “take-out” food? Of course, many of us have been ordering take-out on occasion for years, but some restaurants offer “bundled” dinners that serve 4-5. We tried that for our Easter Sunday dinner for two and received a bountiful dinner with enough food that lasted through Tuesday! That is enjoyable meal-planning!

Let’s hear some of your stories and tips as we patiently anticipate more weeks and months before our lives return to what we remember as “normal”.

Joanne Cantwell

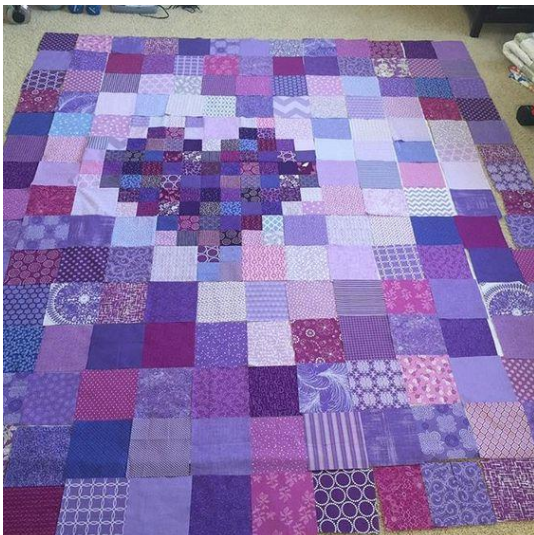
Mini Challenge



Here is a new 'Mini' Challenge for the members of Loose Threads. In remembrance of our long-term member Barb Kuterbach, please make a small wall hanging using Barb's favorite color – purple. Use whatever technique you'd like, such as pieced, applique, embellished or even painted; you decide. The only criteria is the predominant color should be purple. Keep the size small, from 12 to 20 inches on a side.

We hope to donate these quilts to Manatawny Manor, where Barb lived most recently, to use as colorful decorations for their hallways.

The quilts will be due March 3, 2021. We will do a virtual show via newsletter as well as a show and tell at the guild meeting so that everyone can be included.



December Program

To enhance this year's holiday spirit at the guild, we are asking members to participate in our December 16th program. Everyone has made quilted items for the December holiday celebrations, so we'd like you to bring one or two of your favorites to show off to your Loose Threads friends. Quilts, wall hangings, Christmas tree skirts, table runners, dolls, totes or handbags, whatever you'd like to show is welcome. Please share with us some background, when it was made and why it's special to you.



December Pincushion of the Month

Materials Needed:

- 1- 10" x 6" Fabric Piece for Exterior
- 1- 10" x 6" Piece Fusible Fleece
- 1- 5" x 6" Coordinating Fabric for Interior
- 2- 8" x 2" Fabric Pieces for Straps
- Poly fill/fiber stuffing
- Rice
- Rick Rack or Fun Trims



Iron exterior fabric to fusible fleece. Then fold in half, pin and sew 1/4" straight stitch down each side, back stitch. Trim off corners at folded end to reduce bulk.

Fold bottoms corners at the side seam flat and pin into place, with your ruler measure 2" mark with a pen, and sew the 2" box seam. I run my machine forward and back stitch a few times.

Snip the corners off. Turn the body inside out.

For the Straps. I use a double fold bias tape method. With your 2- 2" x 8" pieces fold long ways in half, iron, then fold the strip in half so the two folded edges meet. Iron into place. Then run a straight seam to close the edge in place, I add another seam to the opposite side as well.

Measuring 1" from each end side seam, position one end of the strap and pin into place. Repeat for the opposite side. Stitch into place.

Measure 1" from the top of the bag, fold down and pin into place. Now you can either run a straight stitch around the folded edge or add some fun trims, like rick rack. Do some touch up ironing at this time.

Time to stuff! I like to add a 1/2 cup of rice to the bottom to help weight the pincushion down. Add a nice hand full of poly fill. Taking the 5" x 6" fabric piece of fabric gently fold it down over the poly fill. Take your time and work with it to lay nice and flat.

Now with a hot glue gun run a small bead of glue around the top edge to hold fabric in place. Again, take your time as you do not want the glue to show. Add some more fun trims or flowers and you are finished.

[Boutique NutMeg Designs: Pretty Little Purse Pincushion Tutorial](#)

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



Some lovely holiday applique to inspire you!