



# Loose Threads News

Volume 20 Issue 5

February 2015

## 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday Agenda

9:30 Doors open -  
refreshments & socializing

10:00 Business Meeting  
Show and Tell

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday Agenda

9:30 Doors open -  
refreshments & socializing

10:00 Tea Planning  
& Chores

## President's Message

Let it snow, let it snow..."

As I write we are several inches into a snow event, meaning enough to be prepared with batteries, flashlights, water, basic groceries, and emergency chocolate. If you're like me there's any number of sewing projects that I could start, finish or complete a step in-between without having to make a trip to the fabric store for supplies.

This is the perfect time to also sort through fabric, books, and sewing notions to donate to the Tea so I hope you'll look for some things to donate as well. Remember to measure and label any fabric larger than a fat quarter, and gather any smaller scraps to donate to the color bags we're putting together for the sewing room sale, and bring these to the next meeting. Every bit you donate adds to the profits at the Tea and affords us great speakers like the ones everyone enjoyed this past year. Plus, you can think of it as the first step toward spring cleaning!

Stay warm,

*Debby*

**February 4-8, 2015**

### **Art Show 2015 at the Malvern Retreat House**

315 S. Warren Avenue

Wednesday to Saturday, 10 am to 7 pm, Sunday, 10 am to 4 pm

Complimentary Wine Reception to meet the artists Feb. 6, 5-8

pm

- Special Feature of 2015: "Fiber Art" featuring 15 fiber artists (including Terry Kramzar)
- Enjoy the showcase and sale of 100+ juried artists' fine art pieces.
- Various media include painting, sculpture, photography, jewelry, fiber art (new!) glasswork, and ceramics.

All Proceeds benefit Malvern Retreat House.



Congratulations to two of our members who have won prizes at this year's Peddlers Village Quilt Competition. Joanne Gardner won Honorable Mention in the Traditional category. Marie Traxler took awards in two categories – Third place in the Traditional category and Honorable Mention in the Pot Luck category.

## Tea Information

**REMINDER!!!!** We are collecting \$5 from everyone for food at the Tea. Money may be given to Toni Hughes at any meeting. Also, if any member is not able to attend the tea, she is still responsible for getting the required small muffins or cookies to a member who can bring them on the day of the tea.



- **Tea Block:**

Please make a block using revised instructions (available on the web site) by Friday, March 20<sup>th</sup>. Blocks may be given to Judy Quintas-Gorman.

- **Quilt Show:**

Put the finishing touches on your quilting projects so they will be ready for display at the Tea. We hope that all our members will have something to show at our annual show.

**Check the list below carefully to see what you can do to help each of the Committees:**

- **Book Sale:**

**WANTED:** BOOKS and MAGAZINES in good condition with no torn covers  
 ANYTHING CRAFT i.e. QUILTING, BEADING, KNITTING, CROCHETING,  
 CHILDREN'S BOOKS  
 COOKBOOKS  
 NOVELS

**NOT WANTED:** BOOKS and MAGAZINES of the following categories  
 TIME, Newsweek, National Geographic, Gardening, Cooking, Self Help, Religious (these can be donated to the Mennonite Re-Uzit Shops)

Any questions please contact Jo Quaglia at 610-326-1186 or [joann1455@verizon.net](mailto:joann1455@verizon.net)

- **Sewing Room Sale:**

The committee for the sewing room sale for the Tea will start collecting fabric. Please measure and label any fabric that is a half yard or larger. Also if you have scraps, strips, or patches that you can donate just fill a grocery bag. These scraps will then be sorted into color bags to be weighed and priced.

- **Loose Threads Auction:**

Do you have a quilt, UFO or sewing item that really is just too nice for the sewing room sale? Perhaps it might work for the Loose Threads Auction! Talk to members of this committee (Pat Philion, Marie Traxler, Donna Matthias, Jill Cardamone) to see if your donation would help their efforts.

- **Craft Sale:**

Here is an opportunity to sell your handicrafts. Items are sold on consignment with the guild retaining 10%. Contact committee members (Margie Allen, Barb Painter, Takako Pike) for the inventory/price sheet required for all sale items.

## Net Notes

"...Dedicated Quilters don't regard quilting as an optional hobby, but as part of their lives. They, like quilters throughout history, quilt during good times and bad. Their quilting is both a means of expressing themselves creatively, and also of expressing what is going on in their lives and how they are dealing with it."

That quote is from the Quilting in America 2014 Survey. There are 16 million active quilters in America driving a 3.7 billion dollar industry. Wow, they are talking about us and the statistics are fascinating.

Even the dedicated are occasionally too busy to get to their multiple sewing machines however. So, prioritize chores, visit the web site and enjoy the day anyhow.

### Quilting in America 2014 Survey found at International Quilt Association

<http://www.quilts.com/>

Linda Glass

## Quilt Show Bus Trip

Loose Threads Quilters will be offering bus transportation to the AQS quilt show to be held at the Marriott Hotel at the Lancaster County Convention Center in downtown Lancaster. The date is Wednesday, March 11, 2015 and the cost is \$38 which includes show admission and the bus driver gratuity. Sign up by giving a check for the total cost to Betty Ann Dawson. Feel free to ask family and friends! Check with Betty Ann if you want to purchase just entry tickets.

## Astronomical Challenge

While I was exploring Linda Glass's recommended website, I clicked on a link to some star blocks displayed at the recent Houston quilt show. After a bit of investigating I discovered a rather fascinating story about a fellow quilter.

International Space Station Expedition 37 Flight Engineer Karen Nyberg of NASA is a lifelong lover of sewing. As if being a mechanical engineer and astronaut isn't significant enough, the avid quilter brought sewing supplies, including fabric, scissors, thread and five needles, along on her mission, in order to create a quilt block while in space. While on board the ISS from May to November 2013 Karen was able to complete a star-themed quilt block during her limited free time.

Continued on page 4



First quilt block made in space by astronaut Karen Nyberg!

This feat was not without its challenges. Addressing the difficulty of quilting in weightlessness in a video released NASA, Karen said, "Now that I've tried my hand sewing in space, I can say one thing with certainty: It's tricky."

At the close of the video, she invited fellow crafters to join her in stitching together a global community space quilt. To help celebrate both her mission and her passion for the quilting arts, Karen hoped that quilters would make 9 ½ inch, signed star blocks and send them to the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the International Quilt Festival which was held in Houston this past fall of 2014. The response was truly overwhelming...over 2,200 star blocks were displayed as part of a special exhibit by NASA's Johnson Space Center.

Check out this very interesting video of Karen's efforts to make a quilt block in space.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N0c1CijmH7o>



Astronaut Karen Nyberg poses with her and others' star-themed blocks at the International Quilt Festival in Houston, Oct. 30, 2014.



Seen floating on the Cupola of the Earth-orbiting International Space Station, this quilt block, paying tribute to the state of Texas or the Lone Star state, was fashioned from T-shirts onboard the orbital outpost by Expedition 37 Flight Engineer Karen Nyberg. Some rights reserved by NASA: 2Explore

# Minutes – January Meeting

Debby O'Keefe called the meeting to order at 10:06 A.M.

**Treasurer's Report:** No report.

**New Business:**

- Planning for the Tea will take place during the second meeting in February.
- Mary Lou received very few responses to the Raffle Quilt interest. The responses she did get were negative, mostly having to do with the selling of tickets. The survey in 2013 indicated most would not want to do a large quilt and that this would not be brought up again until the Fall of 2015. So think about it. Would you be interested in smaller quilts??? Donating the Challenge Quilts, etc???
- Linda Hamel is looking for articles for the Newsletter. [dhamel1283@aol.com](mailto:dhamel1283@aol.com)

**Basting:** If you have quilts that need basting please contact Takako Pike, [catseyequiltstudio@dplus.net](mailto:catseyequiltstudio@dplus.net), or Jean Nalbandian, [nalbandian19@verizon.net](mailto:nalbandian19@verizon.net) to schedule for the meeting on April 29, 2015.

**Speakers/Programs:**

**Reminder: There is a \$5 fee for Associate Members attending lectures by outside speakers. Please pay Debby O'Keefe or Judy Peters the day the program is held. Workshop 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.
- Second meeting in January will be a Sit and Sew.
- March will be a lecture by Lisa Calle.
- April will be a workshop with Terry Krazmar – Tulips.

**Block of the Month:** No report.

**Fabric Exchange:** Lil will be on vacation this month. In her absence, Linda Garthe will be picking up the January and February squares.

**Challenge:** This year's challenge quilts focus is flowers. You can use flowered fabric or your pattern detail can be flowers. Contact Linda Hamel, [dhamel1283@aol.com](mailto:dhamel1283@aol.com), for details.

**Hospitality:** Nothing new.

**Retreats:** Please contact Carolyn Thompson, [cthomps099@dejazzd.com](mailto:cthomps099@dejazzd.com) or Lenore Clarke, [LenoreClarke@gmail.com](mailto:LenoreClarke@gmail.com) and check the Newsletter for details.

- February 10<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> at the home of Lenore Clarke.
- May 11<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> – Cocalico Inn in Denver, PA
- October 13<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> – Blue Lake in Denver PA

**Field Trips:** Several Field Trips are being planned. Signup sheets were sent around during the meeting. If you are interested, contact Betty Ann Dawson, [wildberryfarm@dejazzd.com](mailto:wildberryfarm@dejazzd.com).

- March 11<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> Lancaster Quilt Show – need to choose date. Cost is \$38.
- Penn Dry Goods Market, Schwenksville, May 15<sup>th</sup> or 16<sup>th</sup> – needlework, quilts, antiques, etc.
- End of June – Jim Thorpe – Asa Packer Mansion, lunch, The Quilted Crow Quilt Shop

**Library:** Several new books from Mary Kovel are now available. For details and availability contact Mary Lou Boryta, [mboryta2@verizon.net](mailto:mboryta2@verizon.net).

**Secret Pal:** Donna Matthias is in charge of the 2015 Secret Pal, [john937@verizon.net](mailto:john937@verizon.net). The theme is patriotism. A \$10 cap on the each month's gift is suggested.

## January Minutes, continued

**Round Robin:** There are 3 different “Round Robin” projects. Two use a linear (horizontal strip) quilt format and will be used, as need arises for a guild member who could use the comfort of a quilt made by the guild. The third is a true Round Robin which is done with a medallion center surrounded by consecutive borders (you furnish the center square area, provide the fabric to be used and decide on the 'rules' for your individual quilt). When completed, this piece will belong to each participant. Contact Debby O'Keefe, [dokeefe19@hotmail.com](mailto:dokeefe19@hotmail.com), or Clem Dupont, [Cpdupont@verizon.net](mailto:Cpdupont@verizon.net), for more information about these activities.

- The medallion center square round robin will start next month. This is a true commitment. If you are participating, bring in your center square to the first meeting in February. If you cannot make a solid commitment to bring in your completed border by the following month you will be out.

**Tea:** Tea dates are as follows: March 21 with a snow date of March 28.

- The speaker will be Sue Reno from Lancaster who will speak on Art Quilts.
- Revised Tea Block instructions were sent out via email.
- Carolyn Thompson – need to charge members more for food this year.
- Laurie Kelly – registration - 129 signed up and 7 slots open. Missouri Star and Crazy Quilts discussion groups are filled.
- Book Sale – Jo Quaglia – we can start bringing in our books and magazines at the first March meeting. They are to be placed in marked bags and boxes to the Maple Room. Please mark them with LTQG Book Sale and your name. Further details will be in the Newsletter.
- Craft Sale – Margie Allen – items are to be less than \$15. Bring in the day before the Tea.

- Sewing Room Sale – Debby O'Keefe – sort scraps to be bagged according to color and sold by weight.
- Chinese Auction now LTQ Auction – Pat Pillion – sewing and craft items
- Quilt Show – Rosemary Geisler - will be getting help from a civic group this year

**Business Meeting Raffle:** The Business Meeting Raffle was won by Clem DuPont.

**Charity Projects:** No report.

The meeting was adjourned by Debby O'Keefe at 11:35 AM.

*Jo Quaglia* - Secretary

## Board Decisions

The board met to clarify the issue of paying the non-refundable deposits for retreats, bus trips, or other occasions. It was decided that the guild would not assume this responsibility from now on and risk losing said deposit. Any planned event which requires a non-refundable deposit will be the responsibility of those involved.

Also, the board is making the following suggestion, which will be voted on by the membership at the next meeting. Since we have begun to ask members to contribute \$5 each toward food for the Tea (rather than each be responsible for making the food), it was suggested that we raise the membership fee by \$5 to include this expense. That would relieve the Tea chairperson of having to collect the money as an additional responsibility.

## Upcoming Events

**Undercover Quilters: Something Wonderful** - Saturday, February 21, 9:30-2:30 at St. Matthews Evangelical Lutheran Church in Springfield, PA. A day-long series of mini-workshops, exhibits and a speaker. Admission is \$50 which includes box lunch.  
<http://www.undercoverquilters.com/something-wonderful.html>

**Mid-Atlantic Quilt Festival XXVI** – February 26 - March 1, 2015 Presented by Mancuso Show Management at the Hampton Roads Convention Center, 1610 Coliseum Drive, Hampton, Virginia. For more info visit: [www.quiltfest.com](http://www.quiltfest.com)

**The Quilt Fest of New Jersey X** - March 5-8, 2015 Presented by Mancuso Show Management at the Garden State Exhibit Center, 50 Atrium Drive, Somerset, NJ. For more info visit: [www.quiltfest.com](http://www.quiltfest.com)

**AQS Quilt Week** - March 11-14, 2015. Presented by AQS at the Marriott at the Lancaster County Convention Center. For more info visit: [www.aqsshows.com](http://www.aqsshows.com).

## February Birthdays



- 1 Joanne Gardner
- 3 Pat Leiter
- 8 Eileen Frankil
- 9 Edy Martin

## Astrology of the Quilt Guild

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

### Aquarius Jan 21<sup>st</sup> to Feb 19<sup>th</sup>

Aquarius, you would do well to find a guild that is big on spontaneity, and short on rules. A group with tight structure makes you wiggle in your seat, but a circle of creative minds that come together to brainstorm is just perfect for you! Find a group that will enjoy and appreciate your eccentric point of view – and if you can't find this group, then start your own group of inventive artistic quilters with a sense of adventure and playfulness. You need a safe place to share your wild innovations and to nurture others who are exploring their own unconventional fiber experiences.

## Hospitality

### February 4

- Snack:** Betty Ann Dawson
- Snack:** Marie Traxler
- Fruit/Veggies:** Melinda Novatnak
- Cold Drink:** Geri Dulis

### February 18

- Carolyn Thompson
- Clem Dupont
- Gayle Hammond
- Judy Shafer



# Loose Threads Round Robin for 2015

**Reminder:** If you signed up for the Round Robin organized by Clem Dupont...the holiday rush is over, the New Year is here and it's now time to begin! Here's what you need to do in the next week: Complete and square up (!) your medallion center. There are going to be a number of concentric borders added around the starting medallion so make sure it is correct to begin with. Gather up all the coordinating fabrics that you would like participants to use and write a short note of your 'rules' and preferences for your project. Put everything in a secure bag or plastic box and bring it to the February guild meeting. All the participants will get together after the meeting and decide on the time frame for the exchanges. Haven't signed up, but all this sounds like a whole lot of fun, then contact Clem and join in!

## Round Robin Information taken from the Quilters Club of America website:

**Brief Definition of Round Robin:** It's a quilt that is made by a group of quilters. To start everyone makes a center block, then it's given to the next quilter for the 1st border. After the border is completed it's given to the next quilter for a 2nd border and so on. After the 4th border the center/quilt is sent back to you, the original owner.

### Guidelines:

- **COMMITMENT:** when you sign up you are committed to meeting the deadlines and finishing the project. The whole group is depending on you
- Work on another quilter's project as you want her to work on yours.
- Measure, measure, measure! Make sure your measurements are accurate, cut straight and use 1/4 inch seams. Make sure your addition and finished project is square!
- Always follow the requests of the owner of the center block. Remember, this is their quilt, not yours.
- Do not change previous work! Pretty clear.
- If you are having difficulty deciding what to do: leave the center on the wall for a few days and let it "talk to you." If this doesn't work, ask for help!
- **RELAX and HAVE FUN!** (Yes, it is possible, even with rules and guidelines).

The FLOWER fabric exchange for February is **red /roses**.



## SAVE THE DATES FOR FUTURE 2015 RETREATS:

- **Lenore Clarke's Home** in Chester Springs: February 10-13 (Tues- Fri) Can't stay over? Then come as a day-tripper!
- **Cocalico Quilter's Inn:** May 11-14 (Mon-Thurs) \$50/night, \$150 cleaning fee (divided).
- **Blue Lake:** Oct 13-16 (Tues-Fri) \$40/night, \$100 cleaning fee (divided)

Any Questions: Contact Carolyn Thompson or Lenore Clarke



## February's Block of the Month

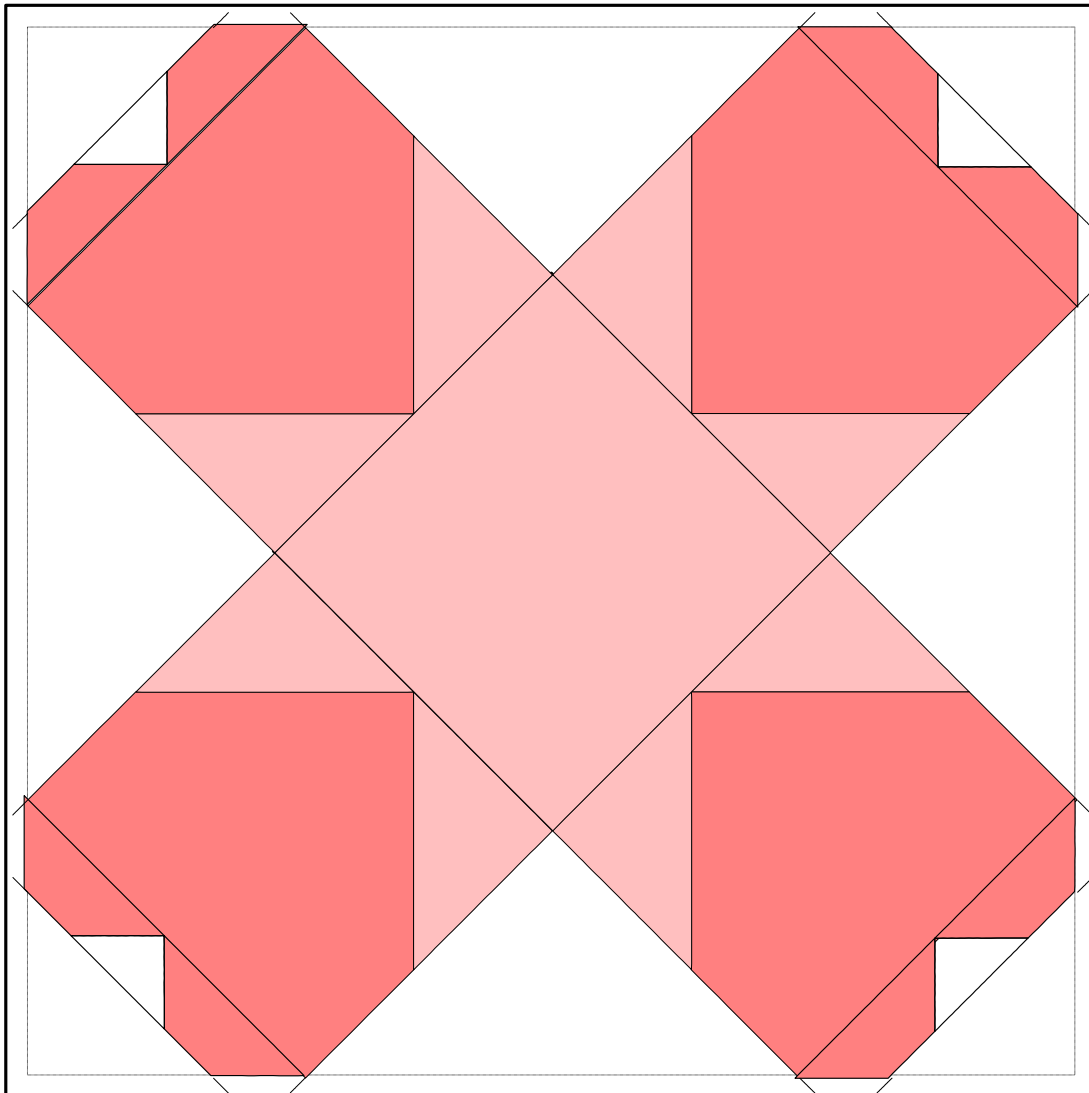
Sweetheart Star Designed by Kathie Travis ©2015

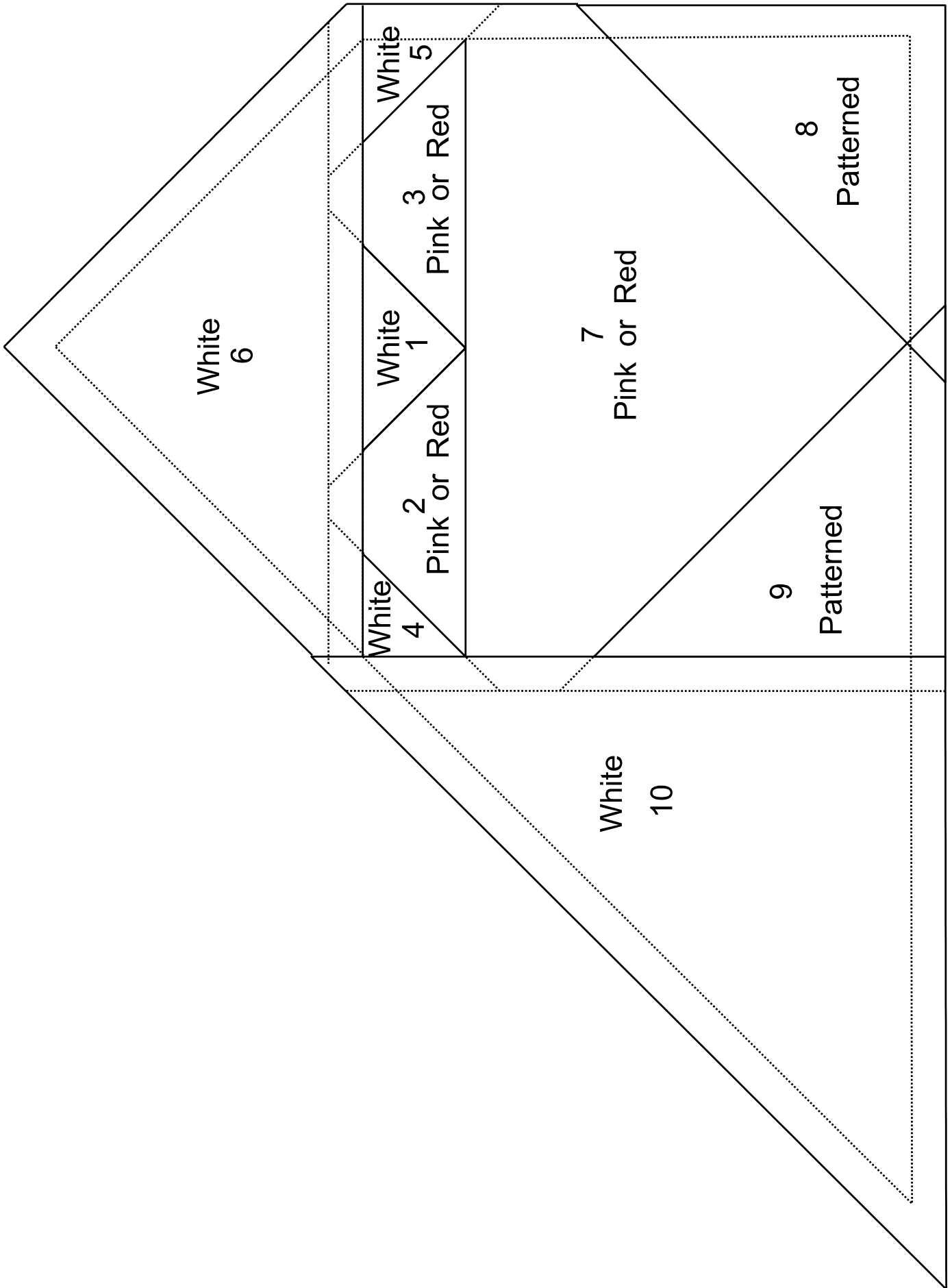
- 5" x WOF Solid red or pink for hearts
- 5" x WOF Mini-patterned red or pink for star  
Cut (1) square 5" x 5"
- 5" x WOF White for background

Make (4) Paper-pieced sections.

Set the first section to the center square utilizing a partial seam.  
Add the other 3 sections. Finish the partial seam

Raw size should be 12 ½"





## Getting to know you

## Toni Hughes

As Co-chair of our Tea this year, it's time to learn a bit more about Toni who created that lovely polka dot quilt featured in the December newsletter. Toni grew up in Pittsburgh and moved to Downingtown in 1988 from Jamison, PA near Doylestown. Her father introduced her to sewing as a child and subsequently she came to quilting through a friend. She has been a member of LTQG for about four years now.

Toni started her teaching career in Pittsburgh and taught for 6 years until they relocated to Chicago with her husband's work. She then took a 16 year hiatus from teaching to raise their two daughters. Toni eventually returned to teaching as a Family and Consumer Science teacher at Downingtown East High School for 12 years, retiring about 6 years ago.

Traveling to visit their children keeps Toni and her husband busy. One daughter is located in Columbus, OH where she too is a Family and Consumer Science teacher, and the mother of their two beautiful grandchildren. They also enjoy their trips to Denver, CO to visit their youngest daughter who works with the environment as a source water protection specialist. Visiting CO means fun trips to those magnificent mountains for some terrific skiing and enjoying the outdoors.

Toni's other hidden skills are cooking and *organizing*, something she's great at as we can see from these photos of her sewing space!

Joanne Cantwell



## Officers & Contacts

### PRESIDENT

Debby O'Keefe dokeefe19@hotmail.com

### VICE PRESIDENT /MEMBERSHIP

Betty Ann Dawson wildberryfarm@dejazzd.com

### TREASURER

Judy Peters jtp930@verizon.net

### SECRETARY

Jo Quaglia joann1455@verizon.net

### PROGRAMS

Judy Snook judyann112@verizon.net

### SPEAKERS

Laurie Kelly family5kelly@comcast.net

### WEBSITE

Lenore Clarke LenoreClarke@gmail.com

### NEWSLETTER

Linda Hamel dhamel1283@aol.com

## Loose Threads Quilt Guild

Meets at 9:30 AM on the  
1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month,  
with a special basting meeting on the 5<sup>th</sup>  
Wednesday at:  
First United Church of Christ  
145 Chestnut St  
Spring City, PA 19475  
610 948-4516

Annual dues are \$15 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](http://www.theloosethreadsquilters.org)



Erica Jackman of Kitchen Table Quilting gives detailed instructions for this 36" contemporary wall hanging which would be terrific to display during the month of February.

<http://www.modabakeshop.com/2013/02/my-improv-valentine-wall-quilt.html>