



Loose Threads News

Volume 21 Issue 5

February 2016

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

Woven Snowflake
Ornament
Diane Hess



President's Message



Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow!

By Sammy Cahn



As I sit in my kitchen, watching the snow fall, I'm reminded that sometimes it's good to sit and not have any place to go. It's a perfect time to work on projects, finish those quilts for the Tea Quilt Show, read a good book, take a nap, or bake some cookies. However you plan to use your snow days, this one and any others to come, keep warm and dry and enjoy!

Betty Ann

PS About those cookies – you could always share them at the next guild meeting.

Walk down Memory Lane



Can you identify
this winner of the
1993 Loose
Threads
Challenge?

Answer on page 5.

Tea Information

REMINDER! 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.

Have you given your Tea block to Clem Dupont or Lil Evans?

Have you given your 2 fat quarters to Marie Traxler or Pat Phlion?



● Quilt Show:

Put the finishing touches on your quilting projects so they will be ready

for display at the Tea. If you participated in the UFO exchange in the fall or Kelly Meanix's tree workshop it would be great to see some at the Tea quilt show display. We hope that all our members will have something to show at our annual show. Please take part!

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

● Book Sale:

WANTED: BOOKS & MAGAZINES in good condition with NO torn covers

ANYTHING CRAFT RELATED i.e. QUILTING, BEADING, KNITTING, CROCHETING
Also: CHILDREN'S BOOKS, COOKBOOKS, NOVELS

NOT WANTED: MAGAZINES of the following categories: TIME, Newsweek, National Geographic, Gardening, Cooking,

BOOKS of the following categories: Self Help, Religious

(These can be donated to the Mennonite Re-Uzit Shops or Liberty Ministries)

Any questions please contact Jo Quaglia at 610-326-1186 or 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 Phlion, Marie Traxler, Donna Mathias, Linda Hamel) to see if your donation would help their efforts.

Do you have a new (or virtually new) sewing item, book, fat quarter or small rulers that would be a suitable addition to the large gift basket that is being assembled for the auction? Linda Hamel is collecting any treasures you would be willing to pass along.

● 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.

2016 Challenge

This year, 2016, the challenge is:

Birds and Words

You will be creating a finished quilt that must contain two elements on the front of the quilt. It must contain at least one bird AND at least one word. The word(s) may be in English or any other language. And think of all the different birds you might depict. There are 10,000 different kinds of birds! (Owls, penguins, chickens, eagles, turkeys, ostriches, songbirds, etc.) Do not just use a block with a bird-like name like “flying geese”. It should be recognizable to the public as a bird.

The quilt should be a wall hanging size. The maximum perimeter should be 160 inches. But it may be smaller if you like. It may be any shape, but please keep it within the maximum size. Clothing or other quilted items (such as handbags or pillows) are welcome too.

You may use any technique to place birds and words onto your quilt. A quick search on Pinterest will provide much inspiration. For example:

Paper-pieced

Applique

Reverse applique

Machine-quilted shapes

Computer printing onto fabric or iron-on transfer sheets

Writing/ drawing with fabric pens

Stamping on fabric

Stencils

Commercially available fabric with birds/ words/ letters.

Couching novelty threads, yarns, or stitching bias strips onto your fabric.

Found items attached to your quilt (charms, scrabble tiles, etc.)

Challenge quilts are due to be finished and displayed at the holiday brunch in December 2016. Please work on your challenge in secret. Do not show it to any other members before the big reveal.

Throughout the year the committee will plan some helpful articles in the newsletter that provide details and resources on some of these techniques you might like to try. If you have any questions, or if any of you have a favorite way of putting words or images onto quilts that you might like to share, please contact the committee.

Eileen Frankil and Carolyn Thompson



Minutes – January Meeting

Betty Ann Dawson called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M.

Items of Note:

- Pat Leiter has tickets for the raffle quilt. They will be available now through the TEA. Tickets for the raffle quilt are \$2.00 a piece or 3 for \$5.00. The proceeds will be donated to the American Prophyria Foundation.

Business Meeting Raffle: The raffle was won by Judy Snook.

Basting: The next basting session will be in March. The longer needles have arrived.

Block of the Month: The next section uses a Log Cabin design which is 8 inches square. Directions are on line.

Challenge: The 2016 challenge is “Birds and Words”. The quilt must contain at least one bird and one word. The quilt can be any shape and can use any technique. It should measure no more than 160 inches around the outside edge. Remember not to show your challenge design to anyone in the guild until the finish date at the Holiday Brunch in Dec. More information is in the Newsletter.

Charity: There are a few quilt kits available. Check your stash and do your thing. We are a nonprofit organization so we are obligated. We contribute to St. Mary’s Shelter, Manatawny Manor, Phoenixville Senior Center, and walker bags go to the Southeast Veterans. Does anybody know of any other charities to which we could donate?

Field Trip: The trip to the Lancaster Quilt Show is on Thursday, March 17. The cost will be about \$35 - \$37 for the bus trip and the show. Some other possible field trips are Marathon Thread in Conshohocken and Round Bobbin Quilt Shop in Ambler.

Historian: Linda Hamel is looking for Tea Block patterns of the past. Does anyone have Newsletters from the past that contain block patterns? She will be looking for volunteers to make quilt block for this year’s TEA.

Library: There are two new books for the library: *Heritage Quilts* and *Wool Applique*. Don’t forget to check out the novels that are a part of the Guild Library.

Newsletter: Linda Hamel asks that we send her anything that might be of interest to the members.

Program: There are some members who still need to turn in their bingo squares to Judy Snook. Also many are missing the novelty and holiday squares. In the February meeting we will get the bingo squares back to make into a block.

Retreat: The Camp Innabah Retreat in Pughtown scheduled for Feb 8 - 10 has been cancelled because there are not enough people signed up to go.

Secret Pal: If for some reason you don’t bring your gift in for the Business Meeting, you should bring it to the next meeting.

Speakers: The speaker for April is Beth Nemesh. She does very intricate machine quilting and edge finishes. Her presentation will be about edging designs. Gyleen Fitzgerald will be a speaker for September 2017.

Sunshine: Kathy Travis said that Edy Martin is feeling overwhelmed with her medical problems. She suggested that members send her a cheerful “hang in there” note. Edy is staying with Kathy. Betty Dawson called Linda Glass and left her a message saying that we are thinking of her.

January Minutes, cont.

The TEA: For the TEA block the word is, "Do the best you can. Don't worry about being exact."

Turn the 2 completed blocks to Clem Dupont or Lil Evans by February 17. Also turn in the 2 fat quarters to Pat Phillion or Marie Traxler by February 17.

Items are needed for the Raffle Basket. Any sewing equipment will do but they must be virtually new or look new. Turn in to Linda Hamel

Fabric pieces can be donated to the Sewing Room Sale but they must be labeled with the measurement. Turn in to Debby O'Keefe.

Books and magazines should be brought in closer to the set-up date.

Membership: There is a waiting list of two people.

Other items:

- There will be a mini lesson on the topic of rulers on Feb 3. Susan Glaser would like members to submit ideas for topics they would like to see covered in the mini lessons.
- There are still about 11 openings for the TEA. Spread the word.
- String quilts will be introduced at the next meeting. Members need to bring strips.
- The AccuCutter will be at the Church for the Wednesday Sew Night.
- The meeting ended with Show and Tell during which a variety of interesting, well-made items were displayed.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30.

Sally Ater - Secretary

Evening Bee



There were only 3 people attending the Evening Bee in January. Many folks are away in warmer climes and the frigid weather may be keeping us indoors as the evening darkness rolls around. So, it was decided that the Evening Bees will be cancelled until spring is in the air. NO Bees will be held in February or March. We hope to reschedule this monthly gathering in April

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 Thursday, March 17, 2016 and the cost will be \$37 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.

That's our Clem Dupont!

Upcoming Events

Undercover Quilters: Something Wonderful - Saturday, February 27, 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.

www.undercoverquilters.com/something-wonderful

Mid-Atlantic Quilt Festival XXVII – February 25 - 28, 2016 Presented by Mancuso Show Management at the Hampton Roads Convention Center, 1610 Coliseum Drive, Hampton, Virginia. For more info visit: www.quiltfest.com

The Quilt Fest of New Jersey XI – March 3-6, 2015 Presented by Mancuso Show Management at the Garden State Exhibit Center, 50 Atrium Drive, Somerset, NJ For more info visit: www.quiltfest.com

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

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



The fabric exchange theme for February is **Mardi Gras!** The colors to look for are purple green and gold. Bring **12** rectangles measuring 3 ½" x 6 ½" and place in a ziplock bag with your name on it.



Hospitality

February 3

Snack: Pat Philion
Snack: Nancy Kinyon-Samec
Fruit/Veggies: Donna Matthias
Cold Drink: Millie Slean

February 17

Betty Ann Dawson
 Laurie Kelly
 Lil Evans
 Geri Dulis



February Program

The next scheduled guild program is very appropriate for mid-winter with all that 'white stuff' piled up around us. Diane Hess will be showing us how to make a **Woven Snowflake Ornament** at the February program meeting. We won't need shovels for these snowflakes but check the list below to see what you do need to bring.

Supply List

Materials needed for each person:

- 1 - 6 ½" x 6 ½" piece of white card stock paper (I bought my card stock at Staples in an 8 ½" x 11 pack, then cut to size)
- 2 - 6 ½" x 6 ½" pieces of fusible (Wonder Under or Steam-A-Seam 2)
- 2 - 6 ½" x 6 ½" pieces of fabric, coordinating colors
- 1 - 6"- 8" length of string or thin ribbon to hang ornament

Tools needed: (These tools can be shared with a friend, not everyone needs their own, so buddy up!)

- iron & ironing mat
- 6"x 6" ruler (or a ruler that can cut at least 6" length)
- Rotary cutter (with a sharp blade!)
- Cutting mat (that can cut at least 6 1/2" length)
- Hot glue gun & glue sticks (2 or 3 ought to do!)

Notes:

- I first bought a pattern & kit for the '*Woven Snowflake Ornaments*' at Keepsake Quilting. They still sell the pattern & kit. Here is a link:
<http://www.keepsakequilting.com/catalogsearch/result/?q=Woven+snowflake+ornaments>
- The original pattern designer is Penny Marble Quilt Designs. (www.pennymarblequilts.com)
- **I will have a materials kit available for \$2.** (Please let me know if you would like a kit, so I bring enough. My email: coventryquilts@comcast.net)



String Block Comfort Quilt Workshop

Many thanks to all the sewers, the pressers, the rippers, the cutters, the fabric selectors and donators, and even the hospitality providers. Nothing like apple pie and coffee at 10 in the morning.

I think we made great progress. We should have some great comfort quilts in the future. For those who took strips home to work on. THANK YOU.

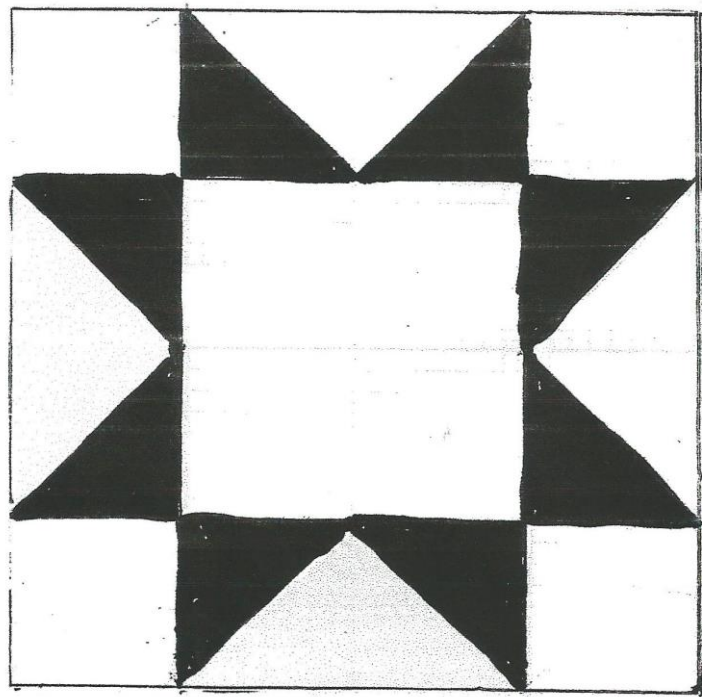
If anyone has enough horizontal blocks to sew into a row and wishes to take it further, a reasonable wheel chair quilt is 6 blocks by 7 blocks. This will be about 39 x 45.5 inches. It's about one width of yardage.

If you have blocks you want to turn in, please give to Debby O'Keefe.

Lenore Clarke



February Block of the Month



4 1/2" sq (4" Finish)

Star Block Block 6

From white/light:

4 - 1 1/2" x 1 1/2"

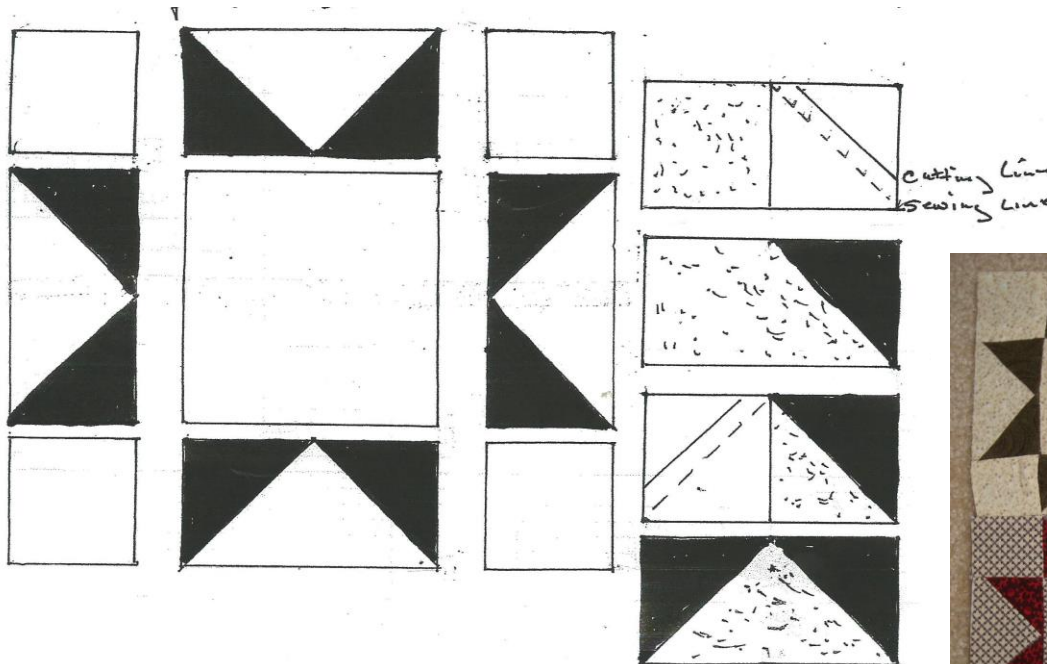
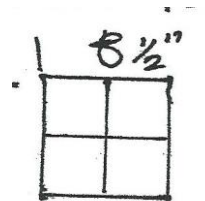
4 - 1 1/2" x 2 1/2"

1 - 2 1/2" x 2 1/2"

From dark:

8 - 1 1/2" x 1 1/2"

Make 4 - 4 1/2" star blocks using a different dark and light for each. Join together to make an 8 1/2" block



Getting to know you

Mary Larkin

Welcome to Mary Larkin, one of our newest Loose Threads members! Mary is a member of the Valley Forge Guild and heard about our daytime guild meetings which really appealed to her. Friends Rosemary Geisler and Judy Snook urged her to come along to a meeting and she was hooked! Mary is enjoying the size of our guild and the friendly people who are most welcoming. As a LT member less than one year, Mary looks forward to receiving our newsy newsletters, loves our road trips, and will be helping with our Tea for the second year.

Born and spending most of her childhood in Conshohocken, Mary moved to Norristown. Her first job was at the PA State Employment Office, thus giving her the opportunity to find her way to a job at General Electric in King of Prussia where she enjoyed working on publications and proposals. Marriage and children (3 boys) followed and she worked part-time for a period in ER hospital admissions for Sacred Heart Hospital where she gained a lot of respect for nursing and the medical profession. As the children grew older, Mary started courses at MCCC and continued to further her education while she went back to GE to the same department where she had been before and eventually retired after a 25-year career with GE, now Lockheed Martin. Mary now lives in Eagleville.

The theme in much of Mary's life has been service to others, lots of charity work and helping out where needed. She was a caretaker for a sister with special needs who became ill. She then ventured into more structured organizations including "Baby's Breath" in Norristown where she was able to get grants from GE/Lockheed Martin to furnish a baby store with storage cabinets and wall shelves, and maintain it with generous donations from various churches. She then went on to coordinate a chapter for Binky Patrol, helping newborns, those in foster homes and abused children. She and her team made as many as 1000 crocheted and fleece blankets one year.

Her other charity work has included "Caring Hearts," part of the American Sewing Guild of Philadelphia. Here they made angel gowns using wedding gowns for materials. Since Mary had not sewn since her children were small, she decided to join the American Sewing Guild of Philadelphia to learn some new methods for sewing. Here she met a few women who wanted to help her with making these gowns.



She also helped with Breast Cancer sewing endeavors and has worked with the Girl Scouts sewing projects assisting with cutting and sewing. Always interested in learning quilting, she heard about the Valley Forge Guild and has been a member there for six years.

Travel is also high on Mary's list of interests... her best trip ever was a Ski Club trip to Europe where she skied over the Austrian mountains into Switzerland. She has also enjoyed cruises and the countries she has explored are England, Norway, Italy and Spain among others. A Pennsylvania cottage at Lake Wallenpaupack also has been a special place in her heart for 18 years. . Mary loves the beach and ocean and her dream was realized when she purchased a condo in Ocean City, MD. Seeing the grandchildren playing in the sand and jumping the waves is a true blessing and of course, treating them to the Boardwalk rides and goodies became a tradition for the summer.

Mary also loves spending time going to baseball, soccer and hockey games, swim meets, and drama shows with the "Fabulous Five," grandkids ages 6-9-9-9-10 and... there are still more countries to explore on her "bucket list."

Joanne Cantwell

Officers & Contacts

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NEWSLETTER

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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



Here are links
to two very
cute
Valentine's
quilts which
could make
sweet baby
gifts.



[http://dearstelladesign.com/2014/01/
big-love-quilt-tutorial-from-modern-
handcraft/](http://dearstelladesign.com/2014/01/big-love-quilt-tutorial-from-modern-handcraft/)

[http://www.modabakeshop.com/2014/02/
big-hearted-quilt.html](http://www.modabakeshop.com/2014/02/big-hearted-quilt.html)