



Loose Threads News

Volume 26 Issue 5

January 2021

1st Wednesday Agenda

- 9:30 Doors open - socializing
10:00 Business Meeting

3rd Wednesday Agenda

- 9:30 Doors open - socializing
10:00 Origami
Takako Pike

President's Message

"Tomorrow is the most important thing in life. Comes into us at midnight very clean. It's perfect when it arrives and it puts itself in our hands. It hopes we've learned something from yesterday."
– John Wayne

2020 is gone! We look forward to all of the tomorrows of 2021. Vaccines being high on the list, followed closely by seeing and hugging family, businesses being open, and the world getting back to some degree of normal. Can't promise that any of this will happen quickly but I'm an optimist and I think it will happen.

In the meantime, we still have Guild things happening. With any luck, we will be able to have our regular meetings starting on the 6th of January. We will continue to wear our masks, keep our social distance and wash/sanitize our hands and environs. Hope to see you at a meeting soon!

Happy New Year!

Betty Ann



Write it on your heart
that every day is the
best day in the year.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Recipe

New England Clam Chowder

3 cans minced clams
 2 bottles of clam juice
 1 yellow onion, chopped
 12 cups of broth (I use vegetable bullion)
 1 cup sour cream
 1.5 cups heavy whipping cream
 5 to 10, medium russet potatoes, peeled and cubed (medium sized ones, this is a less or more ingredient)
 4 Tablespoons old Bay {or a spice mix you use for seafood}
 3 Tablespoons potato starch

Mix the broth, clams, onions, clam juice, & spices together in a big pot. Bring to a boil and add the potatoes and simmer until done. Mix in the heavy cream and sour cream, take off approx. 4 Cups of broth to cool for thickening. Bring pot to a boil. Mix starch and the broth until smooth. Add this to the boiling soup and remove from pot from the heat. Mix well as soup begins to thicken, this happens quite fast, so be prepared. Serve with crusty bread and butter.

Kiti Williams

Just think how upsetting it would be to Loose Threaders to NOT have a newsletter in their incoming mail! It seems we're going without so much these days... travel, eating out, getting together, etc., that missing the LT Newsletter would be even worse! Many cheers for our dedicated Newsletter Editor who continues to be so resourceful, finding interesting quotes, clips, wonderful photos, patterns and incentives, using color to greatly enhance each edition. Linda, thanks so much for sharing your creative expertise with us each month!

Joanne Cantwell

Challenge 2020/2021

The year may be over but our challenge is not! Just a reminder that we will celebrate and reveal our handy work in July.

“Winter Wonderland” is our original theme and we hope to see some snow depicted on your quilt. Just look at your Christmas cards for inspiration. This year we have a second theme.

Dubbed the “Silk Purse” challenge, the concept is to create something of value out of our difficult times. Focus on the bright spots that get us through and show us in your quilt. Size dimensions are 100 inches total.

Linda Glass

Purple Challenge

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 - the only requirement is the predominant color should be purple. We hope to donate these quilts to a local nursing facility. Due in March



Linda Glass - A “purple piece” in memory of Barb. Hoping it can brighten the hall of the nursing home.

January Pincushion of the Month

After the Holidays in the long cold month of January, I often find myself cleaning up and cleaning out, generally getting rid of unused items. In the vein of figuring out what to do with those unwanted items - reuse & recycle by making a pincushion!! This month is all about repurposing household items into a pincushion. Have an unwanted cookie cutter? ... a useless vintage teacup? ... an extra jelly jar or mason jar? ... a picture frame you don't know what to do with?

You can repurpose many decorative, vintage or antique items into a pincushion! While the weather keeps you inside this month, I challenge you to find a decorative, vintage or household item and remake it into a pincushion. I will give a prize for the most unique and 'extra-ordinary' pincushion at February's business meeting.



Directions: Find household object. Most of these ideas involve a small piece of quilt cotton fabric that is baste stitched around the edge with needle and thread and then gathered, stuffed with poly stuffing and then sewed shut and the fabric 'pouf' is hot glued to/in the object. Use your imagination and experiment!! Add ric-rac, ribbon or some leftover trim for an extra touch of detail :) Most importantly HAVE FUN !!!

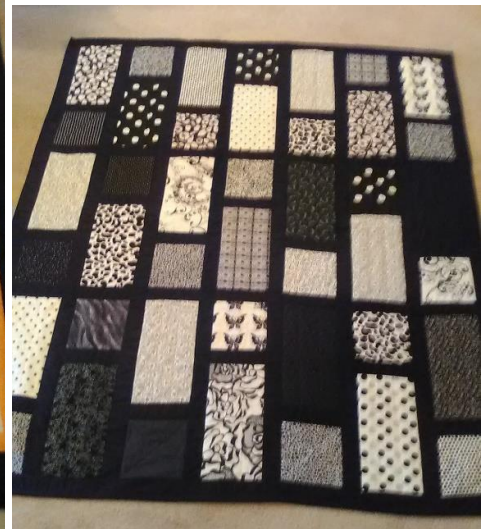
Diane Hess

An attachment was sent with this newsletter containing numerous pincushion ideas to stimulate your creative juices.

Show and Tell from Our Busy Members



Marge Allen – Snowman quilt for my daughter, made a bunch of these for friends...when we get to see them again and a modern quilt for my sister.



Marie Traxler - Finished Christmas tree wall hanging from Debby O'Keefe's workshop, T-shirt quilt for my grandson, Zach, made from T-shirts from his Fraternity days and black and white quilt made primarily from left over blocks.



Lenore Clarke - Working on Affiknitty knit a long time, reading Sasha Martin "Life from Scratch", among other books, and still more masks. Working at Hankin library one day a week in the Book Nook. Continuing Spanish lessons on Duolingo, and riding stationary bike almost every day. Funnest part is reading to /with granddaughters. They read to me, and I read to them. Separate nights for each girl.



Loretta Radewonuk



Loretta Radewonuk - Made for two of my daughters' families



Rosemary Geisler – Christmas tree, quilted by me, was given as a gift.



Marie Traxler – Christmas table runner made from orphan blocks using a "quilt as you go" method.



Pat Leiter - These are Christmas gifts for two preteen girls. The plain composition books - I covered them and added a few gel pens. What girl doesn't like to journal or draw or just doodle? I got the idea from Pinterest.



Clem Dupont – Got to use my Nutcracker this season



Marylou Boryta – This is a Jim Shore puzzle that I finished and had dry mounted. Still needs a frame, but will hopefully get done in 2021.



Sandy Michalec – Finished a UFO, my Winterberries quilt



Linda Hamel - Hand sewn tree ornament, pattern by Larissa Holland [mmmcrafts](http://mmmcrafts.com)

January Program

Our member, the talented Takako Yokoyama Pike will be presenting a fun presentation on origami. This is a hands-on event, and you will learn how to make easy, fun projects. You may want to bring a bottle of paper glue for your personal use. We hope to see you on January 20.

Many people have heard of the word, "Origami". It is a Japanese paper craft. Children at a young age learn to make many objects using a square piece of paper. Yes, everything is made with a square piece of paper by folding into so many different angles to make different objects. None of them, as a rule, make use of scissors or glue to complete an object.

For the program, she will make several items to show and demonstrate the square papers needed. One of them will be to show how to make a "Japanese Warrior's Helmet" in a size a little boy can actually wear on his head. It is easy and fun to make. Although origami does not use glue or scissors, when it comes to the helmet, while handling it may come apart. For this reason, we may use some glue to stabilize as an exception.

There will be time to make a few more items. You can pick which ones you would like to try from the samples you will see.

Making origami is supposed to have a therapeutic effect as moving fingers stimulate brain...also it is fun.

Josie Sharp



January Birthdays

- 1 Takako Pike
- 14 Lil Evans



Charity Projects

Several service groups have been found who are accepting donations of quilts. If anyone in our guild has somewhat-larger than lap quilts they don't know what to do with, I found a dialysis office who is wanting to accept them. Since the patients are in reclining positions, and dialysis can cause a patient to be cold, having the quilts cover them from shoulders to knees might work (~36" x 48"). The Salvation Army would like to receive more if we have them. Shannondell took what quilts and walker/wheelchair bags. we had on hand in the Fall.

Nancy Kinyon-Samec



What I've been up to ...

Debby O'Keefe

I have actually been pretty productive over the past 9 months, having finished up some UFO's (my three-year old wedding quilt for my daughter which I worked on during two Quilt Camps and still didn't finish until this summer and my 100-day quilt project which was a Tea discussion topic in 2018). I also made three baby quilts, one for my new grandson Nolan, and two spares so I'm ready for any baby emergency.

With short notice about a friend's retirement, I put together a quick lap quilt (pictured) of flannel squares that I tied and need to bind. It's extra-long and cozy and perfect for stretching out on the couch, plus it was all from my stash, yay!

My final project was the most frustrating. I do not sew clothing. I never took Home Ec. Anything I made for my daughters did not include a zipper or buttons. However, I still had a few patterns stored away thinking at some point I might give them a try. When I went through my flannel, I came across 3 yards of a cute print and decided to try the pajamas pattern (PJ's being the attire of choice in the days of COVID), after all how hard could it be? Two pieces, a couple seams, an elastic waist. I even had the elastic. Probably an afternoon's project and I'd be wearing them that night. Three days later... I finally finished them after sewing the first seams wrong, had to adjust the length, and had trouble with the elastic which seemed to keep stretching when I inserted it. I've worn them, washed them and already I need to open a seam and either cut away some of the elastic which was probably too old and has now stretched out of shape or replace it altogether. Which means a trip to Joann's. So much for a quick project.

My recommendations for reading: *Where the Crawdads Sing* by Delia Owens, *Educated* by Tara Westover, *Dear Edward* by Ann Napolitano, *Becoming* by Michelle Obama and *The Life and Times of the Thunderbolt Kid* by Bill Bryson (This is really funny if you need something light, whereas the others are more serious) These are all from the library and if you're not familiar with them you can look them up to get a summary to see if they interest you.



Blogs I read:

[Treadlestitches](#) - Sylvia was an early member of LTQ and introduced me to the guild, then moved to Ohio and Wisconsin. She actually sews on a treadle machine. Her work is very traditional, uses up her stash, almost all of it is for charity and she accomplishes an amazing amount while babysitting grandkids, gardening and canning. Reading her blog is like visiting your neighbor who happens to be a quilter.

[Cluck Cluck Sew](#) - She has patterns that are mostly simple, kid oriented, with cheerful colors. A lot of them are available as PDF patterns.

[Stitchedincolor.com](#) - Rachel Hauser is an American quilter who moved to the Netherlands about two years ago.

Continued on page 9

What I've been up to, continued

She's the author of *The Quilter's Field Guide to Color*, is a longarm quilter (EU only) and pattern designer. She posts three times a week, often about her new life in the Netherlands, and has a lot of insight about pattern and color.

[Wendy's Quilts and More](#) - Wendy is from Australia so it's summer there now and fun to hear about opposite weather. She's a fan of Kaffe Fassett, and makes beautifully detailed, colorful quilts. She also shares the work of other quilters and quilt shows so it's interesting to see what's going on in the quilting world "down under".

I could spend hours reading blogs so I'll stop here. Don't even get me started on Pinterest or Instagram!

Debby O'Keefe

While I do not subscribe to any blogs, I found this website to be of great interest to me. Many of my friends are Jewish and I have a difficult time coming up with ideas for them. Here I found a free pattern for a Hanukkah Table runner, a yamulke and even a Santa belt mug cozy for hot coffee cups. The link is tarareed.com

Happy Holidays to all!
Jo Quaglia

Editor's Note – Available on Tara's website:

Festival of Lights Hanukkah Fabric -

Classic and sophisticated designs. Menorahs. Star of David. Dreidels and more.

With 8 prints and a table runner panel this is a versatile collection of prints for all of your Hanukkah sewing!

Quilters' Resolutions?

8 Resolutions Quilters Make (But Never Keep!)

It's that time of year again -- time to make resolutions! If you're like us, you make a bunch on January 1 and then immediately fail to keep them. See common resolutions that quilters make (and ones that are totally okay to break!).

1. To pull fabric from your stash instead of buying new yardage.
2. Keeping your sewing space neat and organized.
3. Finish your works-in-progress before starting a new quilt.
4. To finally make a quilt for yourself.
5. Starting your holiday projects and gifts earlier.
6. Do your own quilting instead of sending it to the quilters to be finished.
7. To stop promising you'll make a quilt for your [friend's sister, neighbor's nephew, etc].
8. Make more time for quilting

Are you rolling on the floor laughing hysterically? We'll take a survey at the end of 2021 and see if ANYONE has kept even one of these resolutions!

www.allpeoplequilt.com

Virtual Quilt Shows

We've learned that many quilt shows scheduled for 2021 have already been cancelled. Some include all the AQS QuiltWeek Shows, the Lancaster Quilt Show (next show in Lancaster will be March 23-26, 2022) and the Mid-Appalachian Quilt (MAQ) Retreat (next educational seminar series will be held in July 2022). But there are some VIRTUAL shows available that you may enjoy.

January 13-16, 2021. Quiltfest presents - **Create DIY** described as a comprehensive journey into the magical world of the textile arts. This online festival includes educational workshops, studio tours, live presentations, and more.

www.quiltfest.com/upcoming-shows-and-events/create-diy/.

January 13-17, 2021. **Craft Napa Uncorked at Home** will be virtual with special events.

<https://craftingalifelc.com/>.

January 20-23, 2021. **This is Road to California's** first ever virtual quilting event. The event will feature both old time favorites and new activities to bring something to quilters everywhere.

<https://online.roadtocalifornia.com/>.

February 18-22, 2021. **QuiltCon Together** is hosted by the Modern Quilt Guild. This is a special virtual event that will focus on providing many of the same things you've come to expect from QuiltCon in a virtual format.

- Live lectures will be broadcast throughout each day and recorded for playback throughout the event.

- Standard workshop access includes recorded video lessons as well as pdf handouts.

- Interactive Vendor Hall and Quilt Show

www.quiltcon.com/. View the QuiltCon Together Catalog for more details on registration fees.

February 24-27, 2021. **Mid-Atlantic Quilt Festival – Online** - Presented by Mancuso Show Management, for their 4th online event, virtual show-goers will view competition quilts from around the world, shop the Merchants Mall vendors online, and take virtual, interactive workshops from the comfort of home.

www.quiltfest.com/upcoming-shows-and-events/httpwww-onlinequiltfestival-com/.

March 23-25, 2021. **Quilt, Inc.** – Presenting a virtual quilt market.

www.quilts.com/quilt-market/virtual-quilt-market/

Feel like going on a virtual stroll through a local guild quilt show? Try these two virtual visits to guilds who were unable to have their annual shows this year, but offered this peek into their member's beautiful work.

www.bmqg.org/quilt-show.html - A 48-minute video of the Belknap Mill (New Hampshire) Guild's October 2020 Harvest Quilts show

UTube – A 15-minute video of the Streetsboro September 2020 quilt show

Officers & Contacts

PRESIDENT

Betty Ann Dawson wildberryfarm@dejazzd.com

VICE PRESIDENT /MEMBERSHIP

Marylou Boryta mboryta2@verizon.net

TREASURER

Diane Hess diane.hess@outlook.com

SECRETARY

Silvia Homa Silvia.homa@gmail.com

PROGRAMS

Josie Sharp Josie.Sharp@sharperoutlook.com

SPEAKERS

Laurie Kelly family5kelly@comcast.net

WEBSITE

Diane Hess diane.hess@outlook.com

NEWSLETTER

Linda Hamel dhamel476@gmail.com

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

Pickles

