



Loose Threads News

Volume 21 Issue 6

March 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 **BINGO!**



President's Message

"Yes, that's it!" said the Hatter with a sigh, "it's always tea time."

-Lewis Carroll, *Alice in Wonderland*

And Tea time it is! Our main fundraiser of the year is rapidly approaching. Invitations have been sent, replies are in, tea blocks are completed, fat quarters have been turned in, quilts are ready to be hung and we are counting on all committees to be ready to go on March 12th. Questions and concerns should be taken up with Toni Hughes but, please, don't wait until the last minute. We know this is a lot of work for all but keep in mind all the benefits...we have great speakers and programs, we have an operating budget, we can occasionally supplement portions of field trips, and we are able to purchase things for the Guild's use. Most important, in all the craziness and hard work, remember to enjoy yourself and our guests and have a little fun!

Betty Ann

Walk Down Memory Lane



Most of the long term members will recognize both of these smiling ladies, but everyone should know the one on the right. Photo taken at a Pineapple Block workshop in 1994.

Answer on page 8

Tea Donations

Have you sifted through your sewing room yet to see if you have anything to donate to the Sewing Room or Book sale? If you've already got your items all bagged up, bring them along to our March business meeting...less to carry on set-up day! The items may be stored inside the 2nd classroom on the left. Check the posted signs and put your donations in the appropriate area. Please keep the room as neat and organized as possible.

2016 Tea blocks must be turned by the March business meeting.

March Program

We'll be playing BINGO at our March program meeting. Don't forget to bring your completed 10" bingo block. Judy Snook has passed out all the themed color squares at our previous meetings. Sew the colors into rows, then sew the rows together – in no particular order – to make your block.

Important...remember to sew the **black** square right in the center of the block.

Leave the blocks with unfinished edges; when our bingo day is done, the blocks will be sewn together into scrappy comfort quilts.



Tea Quilt Show

One of the main attractions of the Quilter's Tea is our member quilt show. Here are this year's show rules and reminders:

- All sizes and shapes of quilts are welcome as long as they have never been shown at the Tea before.
- We're anxious to see your personal quilts but don't forget about those 'Guild Projects.' Some of this year's projects were Kelly Meanix 'tree' workshop, the UFO Swap, the Block of the Month and of course, our Say It with Flowers Challenge. And hopefully we'll see all the Round Robin quilts.
- Each quilt must have a label (described below) attached with safety pins.
- The quilts must be delivered, first thing, to the 2nd floor Church Sanctuary on set-up day, Friday morning March 11th. **NO QUILTS WILL BE ACCEPTED ON SATURDAY!**
- Queen-size quilts must have a hanging sleeve on the back. If you don't want to sew it, then pin it on with safety pins.
- The quilts will be numbered so the Tea guests can vote on Viewer's Choice.
- **DO NOT TAKE DOWN YOUR OWN QUILT** when the show is over. The committee will do the dismantling so there aren't any accidents.

Specifications for typing and printing the label:

Information to include: Quilt name, Sewn by, Quilted By, Pattern Name, Pattern Designer, Technique (Pieced, appliqued, hand or machine quilted, etc.) and the story behind your quilt.

Typeface: **Helvetica Bold** (or something similar)

Typesize: 14 Pt, all capital letters for Quilt Name
12 Pt for everything else
Center everything

Label size: 5" x 6" Pin with safety pins on the front, in the middle of the RIGHT side

Questions: Contact Rosemary Geisler @ Roe305@aol.com



To the Loose Threads Quilt Guild,

For the food, books, quilt, many cards and phone calls!! THANK YOU, but mostly for being such good friends!

Linda Glass

Road Trips

On March 17th 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 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.

On April 13th there will be a car pool day trip to Marathon Threads in Conshohocken. We'll stop for lunch at the Fayette Grill and then head to Ambler to the Round Bobbin quilt shop. Check out their web sites to see what you may need to add to your sewing room!

www.marathonthread.com

www.roundbobbinquilts.com

April Program

Betty Neff of Allentown, PA, will be our speaker in April. Betty's sewing and design roots began with a creative childhood. She mastered the treadle sewing machine by age 6, thanks to her mother, and has been sewing ever since. Quilting since 1976, she developed a love of vintage quilts, their history and their stories. She is known to rescue forgotten and damaged quilts, only to bring them to the classroom for inspiration and study! She believes every quilt has lessons to teach us and stories to tell, if we look closely. Betty is a student of 19th Century quilts and shares her experiences with others in a way that is highly motivational. Her workshops usually include historic and contemporary approaches to fabric selection and design. She has been published in Quiltworks Today and Quilters Newsletter Magazine. She has authored Quilts to Treasure which has 8 full patterns of her original designs. Betty and her husband own Pennsylvania Quilter which carries her line of patterns and vintage sewing machines including Featherweights.

Betty will be presenting a lecture and teaching a workshop in the afternoon. The workshop will teach us 3 edging techniques. You will need to bring a sewing machine with zig zag capabilities and a zipper foot. She will be providing a kit at a cost of \$15. There is a maximum class number of 20 so sign up with Laurie Kelly to reserve your spot.

<http://www.bettyneff.com/index.html>



Getting to know you

Jean Sullivan

One of our members was startled recently while shopping and the fire alarm went off, she went outside and here was a member of Loose Threads driving up in the Black Rock Fire-Rescue vehicle. Sure enough, volunteering as a Fire Police Officer is only one of Jean Sullivan's pastimes!

A true "Mainer," Jean grew up in Auburn, Maine and graduated from Bliss College. She went to work at Bates Fabrics in Lewiston, Maine and spent a period of time in New York City, in fact she was there for the big blackout in 1965. Jean taught at the Auburn Maine School of Commerce, then married her husband Richard, a graduate of the Maine Maritime Academy. Dick worked for a shipping line that carried cargo worldwide and many of his trips were to the Mediterranean area. After their first of two children was born, they moved nine times, finally arriving in Pennsylvania.

Sewing has been one of Jean's interests most of her life, first to make school clothes for herself and eventually sewing home decorations. She started quilting about 15 years ago, then heard about Loose Threads and joined in January 2003. She has held a number of positions within Loose Threads and has been especially effective while working with charitable organizations.

Volunteer work has been a serious part of Jean's life throughout her life. She started with Civil Defense back in 1968, helped out with a preschool program at her local elementary school, coached soccer, was scorekeeper at baseball and soft ball games and was a Girl Scout leader for 25 years. She also served as head of publicity for the Springfield Athletic and Band associations for six years. She presently is a Director and drives the Traffic Unit for Black Rock Volunteer Fire Police Association as well as being Membership Secretary and Fire Police Awareness for the Montgomery County Vol. Fire Police Association where she is in charge of their annual publication. In addition she takes care of Membership for the Pennsylvania Fire Police Association in Montgomery County.



Travel is also high on Jean's list of activities and one trip in particular stands out, vacationing in Ireland, home of some of their ancestors, in the summer of 2015. She enjoyed trading Pennsylvania's 90 degree days for 60 degree days in lush and green Ireland. She found that their museums have rich history back to the 5th century and go back 7,000 years when the Vikings settled on the Irish coast. Mention travel to Jean and she'll be ready to go on any number of ventures in the future.

Joanne Cantwell



Shenkel Sewing Circle

Did you know that doing creative projects together has many psychological benefits? It definitely can contribute to the feeling of well-being and that improves our quality of life...plus, it's just plain fun! So bring your projects, no matter how big or small and join our group for that "boost" we all need in this winter season. It is a small group right now but hopefully more will join us as the word spreads that we are such a friendly group of ladies!

This March we will meet on Tuesday the 8th and the 22nd at 9:30 AM in the Shenkel UCC Church Social Hall at 1580 Shenkel Road in Pottstown (~3 miles west of Coventry Mall)

Looking forward to seeing everyone! Margie Allen
handheld786@yahoo.com

Snowflake Workshop



Our newest member, Diane Hess, led a great workshop in February showing us all how to make woven snowflake ornaments.



Judy Snook met YouTube icon, Jenny Doan of Missouri Star Quilts, on a quilt cruise in the Caribbean. Jenny showed the class how to make two quilts using batiks using her clever techniques. She really is as nice as she appears on the internet. What a treat!



Minutes – February Meeting

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

Items of Note:

- Edy Martin is still dealing with many medical issues. A card was sent and a Row by Row quilt made by the members was given to her to show we are thinking of her. Kathy Travis will take them to her.
- Pat Leiter has tickets for the Raffle Quilt for the Tea. They are \$2.00 a piece or three for \$5.00.
- On February 20, the Lady Finger Fabric shop is making animal beds for the Animal Rescue League from 10:00 to 5:00. You are invited to join them.
- Betty Dawson's correct cell phone number is 610 256 4235.

Business Meeting Raffle: The raffle was won by Susan Glaser.

Basting: The next basting session will be at the end of March. See Kiti Williams to make arrangements if you will have a quilt to be basted.

Block of the Month: Linda Garthe showed the block that will be the next step.

Challenge: Eileen Frankil reminded us that the challenge for this year is "Birds and Words".

Charity: It was suggested that we look through our stash for things that could be used for the Tea.

Fabric Exchange: For March the fabric exchange will be white on white. Please catch up if you are one of those who need to.

Field Trip: The trip to the Lancaster Quilt Show will be on March 17. The cost is about \$35-\$37. An over payment will be refunded. A field trip is planned to Marathon Threads in Conshohocken, with a stop at Freeman's Nuts and lunch at the Fayette Grill. After lunch there would be a visit to the Round Robin Quilt Shop in Ambler.

Hospitality: Gail Hammond sent a sheet around to finish sign-ups for upcoming meetings.

Newsletter: Linda Hamel asked members to send her any news worthy items.

Nominating Committee: The Committee is meeting in the second meeting in February to start the process. Please let them know if there is any position you are interested in for the next year.

Program: Judy Snook passed out the squares to members that are to be sewn together into a bingo block by the March program meeting. Squares are to be sewn together in rows by color. Blocks are not to be finished off as they will later be used to make a charity quilt.

Retreat: Several questions were raised about the possibility of a one day retreat. Maybe we could go to Camp Innabah. Then it was suggested that if we were only doing one day why not see if we could do it at the church. Lenore Clarke will look into it.

Secret Pal: Secret Pal is working fine. If you forget a gift, please let Margie Allen know.

Speakers: Beth Ann Neff will be the speaker on April 20. She will give a lecture in the morning and a workshop in the afternoon. For the workshop there is a \$15 kit fee and members will need to bring their sewing machines with zig zag stitch and bring a zipper foot.

The program for the February 17th meeting will be led by Diane Hess who will show us how to make a Woven Snowflake Ornament. Check the newsletter for information and the supplies needed. Email Diane if you would like a \$2 kit so she will bring enough.

TEA: Members can now drop off items for the Tea. They are to be put in the middle room (used to be the nursery school) in the entrance hallway.

Feb Minutes, continued

Clem Dupont needs the rest of the blocks for the tea.

Sign-up sheets for food have been passed around at the last two meetings. They will be passed around again. There is a need for more volunteers.

If you have a tiered server, would you bring it in for use at the Tea?

This year is the 25th anniversary of the Tea. Linda Hamel has been looking for quilt block patterns from past Teas and has found them all except for the years 1996 and 2009. Members signed up to make the blocks using white and blue. Blocks will be displayed as an exhibit at the tea.

Crafts made by members for the Tea should be given to Margie Allen, Takako Pike or Barb Painter. Members will receive 90% of the sale price of their item and 10% will go to the Guild.

Treasury: Next report will be the first meeting in March.

Other items:

- Betty discussed renting a refrigeration unit for the Tea. Delivery, set up, and pick-up return will be \$126. A motion was made and carried by the membership.
- Stephanie Adrian asked if anyone had smaller sized art pieces that they would be interested in exhibiting at small show for about a month. She is looking for about 15 pieces. There is no theme to the show.
- The meeting ended with Show and Tell during which some beautiful projects were displayed.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 by Betty Ann Dawson.

Sally Ater - Secretary

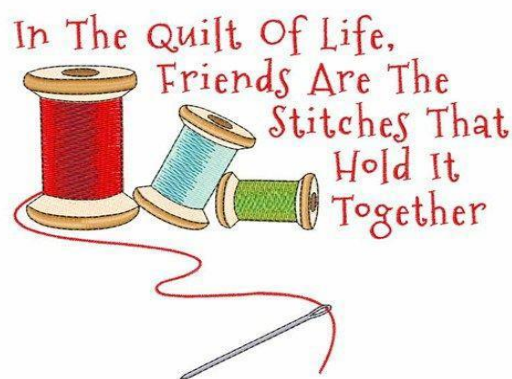


On behalf of the First United Church of Christ I would like to thank you all for the wonderful donations of stamps, ink, paper, toilet paper, Kleenex, and paper towels. It is such a joy to us that the guild has chosen our church to call home. Your kindness is greatly appreciated!

Thru Christ,
Donna Kern

Walk Down Memory Lane Answer:

These 'two prolific quilters', as the guild scrapbook heading states, may refer to the number of quilts they turned out or that they were both pregnant! That's Terri Salindong on the left and of course, Laurie Kelly on the right.



The fabric exchange theme for March is **Goodbye Winter!** Think Snow – white on white. Bring **12** rectangles measuring 3 1/2" x 6 1/2" and place in a ziplock bag with your name on it.

Upcoming Events

The Quilt Fest of New Jersey XI – March 3-6, 2016 Presented by Mancuso Show Management at the Garden State Exhibit Center, 50 Atrium Drive, Somerset, NJ
For more info visit:
www.quiltfest.com

AQS Quilt Week - March 16-19, 2016. Presented by AQS at the Lancaster County Convention Center, 25 South Queen St, Lancaster, PA
For more info: www.aqsshows.com.

Lancaster Quilt Show - March 16-19, 2016. Many vendors at the Continental Inn, Lancaster, PA.
For more info visit:
www.lancasterquiltshow.webs.com

Art Quilt Elements 2016 – March 18 – April 28, 2016. At the Wayne Art Center, 413 Maplewood Ave, Wayne, PA
www.artquilelements.org

Antique Quilts in the Mansion – March 14-19, 2016 At Historic Poole Forge located on Rt 23, 3 miles east of Shady Maple in Churchtown, PA
Admission \$7
www.HistoricPooleForge.org

A Quilt & Fabric Exhibition – April 5-6, 2016. Presented by County Line Quilters at Buckingham Friends School, located right next to Peddlers Village, Lahaska, PA
www.countylinequilters.org

March Birthdays

4 Susan Glaser
9 Gayle Hammond
16 Kiti Williams
19 Jo Quaglia
25 Marie Traxler
26 Betsy Miller



To all,
Thank you for the cards, calls and well wishes. They certainly made me feel better over the last few months.

Thank you again
Susan Glaser

Hospitality

	<u>March 2</u>	<u>March 16</u>
Snack:	Linda Garthe	Bonnie Strickland
Snack:	Carolyn Ferrandino	Judy Snook
Fruit/Veggies:	Linda Hamel	Judy Shafer
Cold Drink:	Rosemary Geisler	Melinda Novatnak

March Block of the Month

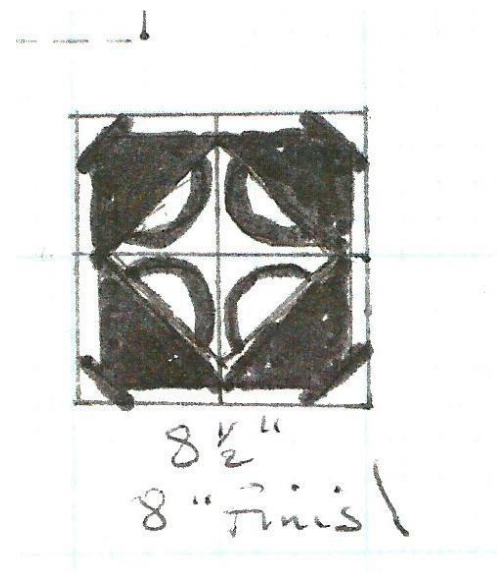
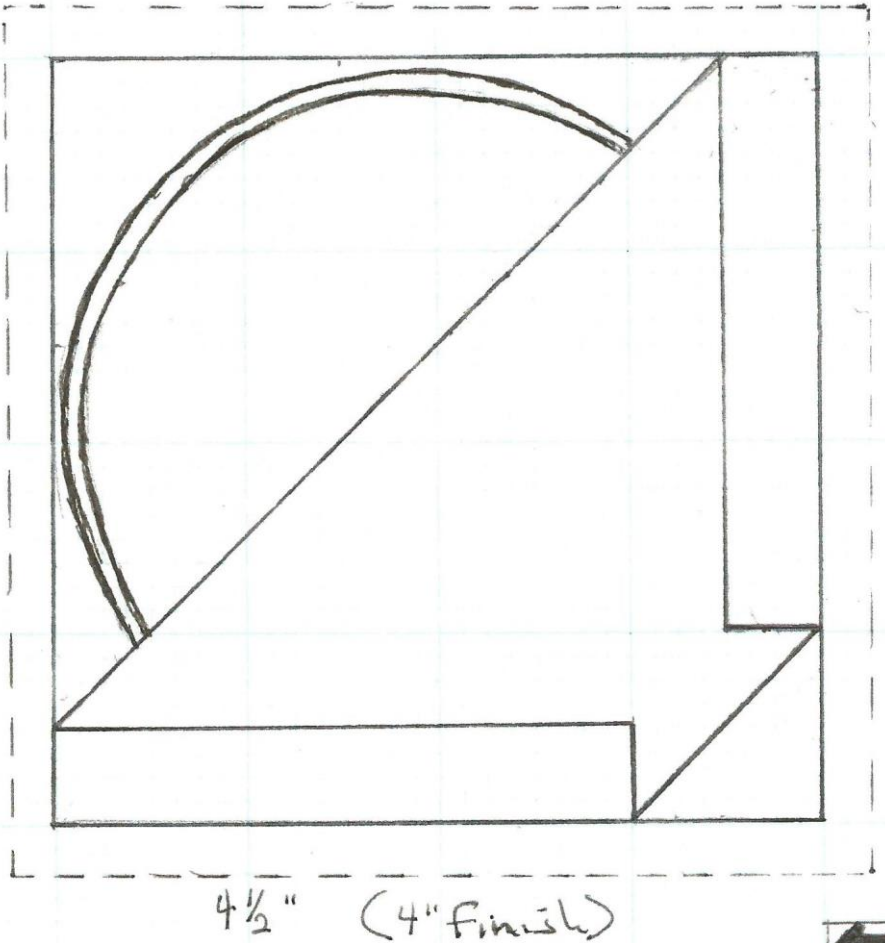
Baskets Block 7

4 - 4 ½" squares background
(use different fabrics)

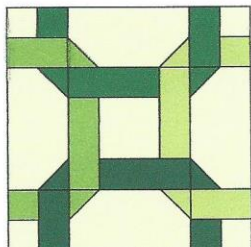
4 Baskets and handles cut from
contrasting fabrics

Applique baskets onto each
background fabric by preferred
method and embellish as
desired

Complete the 4 - 4 ½" basket
blocks and sew together to
make one 8 ½" square.



Everyone's Irish on St. Patrick's Day!



Celtic Twist Block

Skill Level
CONFIDENT BEGINNER

Finished Block Size
12" x 12"

Cutting Instructions (cut in order listed)

White/green print (background)

4 rectangles $3\frac{1}{2}" \times 6\frac{1}{2}"$

1 square $3\frac{1}{2}" \times 3\frac{1}{2}"$

4 squares $2" \times 2"$

Dark green swirl print, medium lime mottle, light green floral, and dark green texture (links)—cut from each:

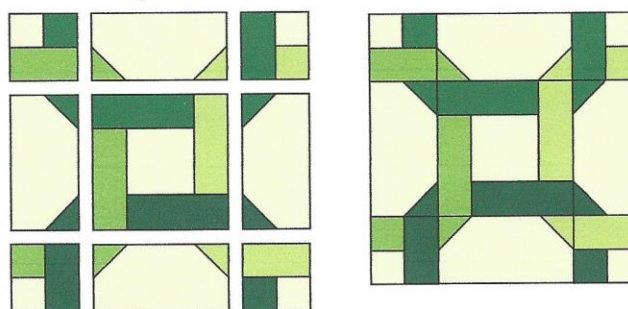
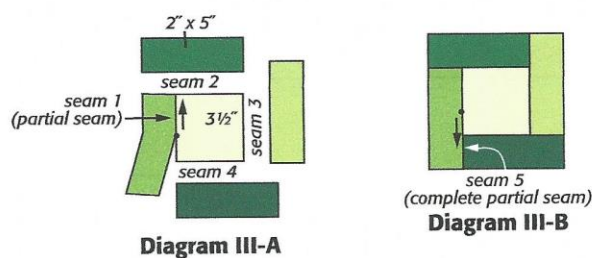
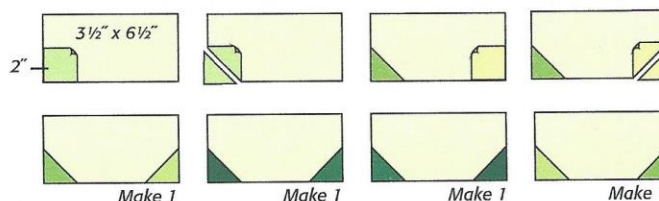
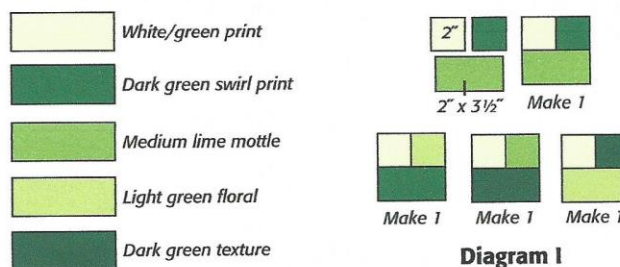
1 strip $2" \times 5"$

1 rectangle $2" \times 3\frac{1}{2}"$

3 squares $2" \times 2"$

Piecing the Block

- Referring to **Diagram I**, sew together 1 white/green print $2" \times 2"$ square, 1 dark green swirl print $2" \times 2"$ square, and 1 medium lime mottle $2" \times 3\frac{1}{2}"$ rectangle to make pieced square. Make 4 total in fabric arrangements shown.
- Draw diagonal line on wrong side of lime $2" \times 2"$ square. Place marked square on white/green $3\frac{1}{2}" \times 6\frac{1}{2}"$ rectangle, right sides together, aligning raw edges (**Diagram II**). Stitch on drawn line; trim away and discard excess fabric. Open and press. Repeat on opposite end of rectangle with light green floral $2" \times 2"$ square to make pieced rectangle. Make 4 total in fabric arrangements shown.
- Referring to **Diagram III-A** for fabric placement, lay out $2" \times 5"$ strips around white/green $3\frac{1}{2}"$ square. Stitch first seam as shown, starting approximately $2"$ (dot) from top left corner of center square. Open strip and press partial seam. Following seaming order, add remaining strips. Complete partial seam to make block center (**Diagram III-B**).
- Arrange pieced squares, pieced rectangles, and block center as shown (**Diagram IV**). Check placement to make sure that links appear to interlock. Sew 3 rows, and then sew rows together to make Celtic Twist Block.



Officers & Contacts

PRESIDENT

Betty Ann Dawson wildberryfarm@dejazzd.com

VICE PRESIDENT /MEMBERSHIP

Susan Glaser sewglaser@verizon.net

TREASURER

Marylou Boryta mboryta2@verizon.net

SECRETARY

Sally Ater aters@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
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

Washing and Drying Tips for Vintage Quilts

A wet quilt is a heavy quilt...

...just lifting a wet quilt puts lots of strain on quilting stitches. Even more so if the quilting is sparse. The less quilting, the more strain on each individual stitch. Support the quilt as much as possible anytime the quilt is wet to prevent your stitches from breaking or popping.

If you are washing your quilt in the bathtub:

Lay a sheet in the bottom of the tub, underneath the quilt. Wash as usual. Now after all the water has been drained and "smushed" out, use the sheet like handles to lift the wet quilt and eliminate the strain on the stitches. You may find it handy to transport your wet quilt in a laundry basket.

Don't hang a wet quilt to dry...this puts too much strain on the quilting.

If you wash your quilt at the Laundromat:

Run an empty load first before washing your quilt just in case bleach or something else was remaining in the dispenser from the previous load.