



Loose Threads News

Volume 28 Issue 6

March 2023

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 Tea Discussion
Topics

5th Wednesday Agenda

9:30 Doors open -
refreshments & socializing

10:00 Basting

President's Message

"I try not to limit my madness to March." --- Maxine

Speaking of madness, it's time for the Tea! So much to do! Quilts to be finished, books to be brought in, crafts to be organized, food to be ordered, fabric and notions to be donated, folders to be filled, and everything needs a label or a price tag! Whew! But we will get it all done, the miracle will happen and the 2023 Quilter's Tea will be a huge success, as long as our guests have a good time and we make some money.

In our world, March Madness has a very different meaning than it does in the sports world. Ours is so much better!

Betty Ann



March Program

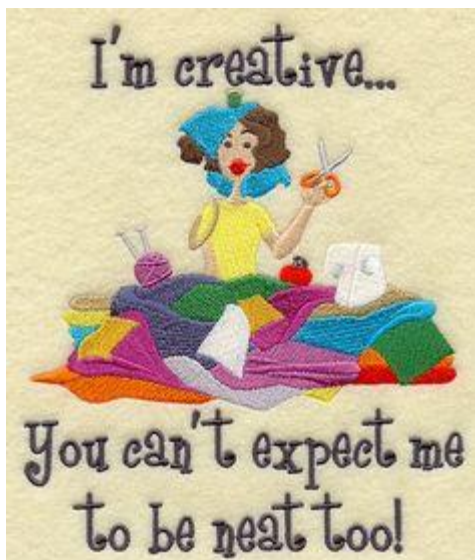
At our March program meeting we will hear from some of our members who will lead discussion topics at our Tea. Scheduled for March are:

Measure Up with Specialty Rulers – Silvia Homa

Brush up on how to use those specialty rulers you bought and forgot how to use. Rulers from Deb Tucker, Fons and Porter, Bonnie Hunter, and Eleanor Burns will be demonstrated. Also, get a refresher on how to use the bloc-loc and binding tool to finish up those quilts.

From Scrap Mountain to Quick Quilts – Debby O’Keefe

Using one rectangle we’ll show you how to make an easy pattern that you can use for any size project. Variations of color and block size will be demonstrated to show endless possibilities for using this simple pattern to reduce your mountain of scraps.



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 really anxious to see all of your personal quilts but don’t forget about those ‘Guild Projects’, such as the Mini-Quilt BOM, the Kaleidoscope workshop taught by Laurie Kelly and Nancy Miller and the 2022 PLACEMAT challenge.
- Each quilt must have a paper 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 24th. **NO QUILTS WILL BE ACCEPTED ON SATURDAY!**
- Quilts larger than ~50” must have a permanent hanging sleeve sewn on the back to facilitate hanging on the quilt racks. If quilts of this size do NOT have a sleeve then they will be hung over the backs of the church pews.
- All of the quilts will be numbered so that the Tea guests can vote for Viewer’s Choice. **Reminder: THERE WILL BE SEPARATE VOTING FOR MEMBERS ONLY.**

Specifications for typing and printing the quilt label:

Attached with this newsletter is an electronic MSWord.doc version of the quilt show label for guild members to use at the Tea quilt show. Just type your info directly into the label and print out. Add whatever information you’d like, i.e. inspiration, technique etc., in the INFORMATION slot.

Label size: ~5” x 6” Pin with safety pins on the **front**, in the middle of the **RIGHT** side of the quilt.

If you can’t do this readily, type your info into an email and send it to Linda Hamel who will print it for you.

Quilt for Dona Kern

Sometimes, I worry about how sneaky we can be. Our February Business Meeting was a prime example. We managed to get Dona Kern to come to a meeting with the excuse of going out to lunch, which we did do. Dona was called up to the front of the room and presented with her quilt. Not sure but there might have been tears. Needless to say, Dona was thrilled with the quilt and it now resides in a place of honor on her favorite chair!

Betty Ann Dawson



Dona's new quilt fits in perfectly in her family room!

Block of the Month



For the March mystery you'll finally use your fabric C !!!

CUT: 9 Fabric B and 9 Fabric C (7 ½" X 7 ½" squares)

Place right sides together, draw diagonal line and sew ¼ inch on both sides of line. Cut on diagonal line and press seams towards fabric C.

Place those HST units together so that the seams nest with each other, draw another diagonal line and sew ¼ inch on both sides of the line. Cut on the diagonal line. You should now have 18 Hourglass blocks. Trim these to a 6 ½" squares. You will only be using 17 of these blocks for the mystery.

NOTE:

If you are using multiple prints or colors for fabric sets B or C, be sure to mix up the HST units within the pairs of HST units to ensure a good mix of colors and/or prints in the final Hourglass units.

February Minutes

The Monthly Business Meeting of the Loose Threads Quilt Guild was held at the United Church of Christ in Spring City on February 1, 2023 facilitated by President Betty Ann Dawson.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Reminder to not fold your raffle tickets in half.
- Give your receipts to Mary Lou for reimbursements

NEW BUSINESS:

- Minutes and treasurer reports will be approved before going into the newsletter.
- Motion voted and agreed 35th Guild Anniversary Luncheon will be May 17, 2023 at the Landis Creek Golf Club (in Eagle room) from 11:30-2:30pm cost is \$20 per member.
- Dona Kern was given her surprise quilt from the guild
- Last year's Challenge placemats can be donated to Hope on the Hill.

BASTING: Next day is March 29th See Kiti to get on the schedule.

BOM: Mystery continues with more HST for February. In March we will finally introduce Fabric C to the mystery.

CHALLENGE: All 40 Challenge fabric bags were sold. Hope to see 40 quilts/ items at the 2023 holiday brunch

FIELD TRIP: Good times were had by all who went to Weaver's quilt shop with some extra "slide" shows in the snow and ice.

HISTORIAN: Kathy Parker presented 2 photo books. One with set-up photos from the Tea we didn't have in March 2020 and another from Aug 2019-Dec 2019.

MEMBERSHIP: Give any updates to Josie. If you are bringing a guest to a guild meeting, let Josie or BettyAnn know. Fabric flowers will be given to our guests to wear during the meeting.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Ballots will be at next meeting.

PROGRAMS: February program will be Lori Memmen instructing on the Sew Together bag. Info in newsletter, need to purchase the pattern.

ROUND ROBIN: Moving along; exchanges are being made with all the groups.

SPEAKERS: Laurie Kelly is in the process of scheduling Meg Cox, a historian, through Zoom.

SECRET PAL: Reminder to take your gift back if your pal isn't at the meeting.

SUNSHINE: Linda Garth hip surgery has been postponed until February. Kathy Neiman is at Bryn Mawr Extended Care. She'd welcome visitors, cards and calls.

TREASURER: Mary Lou presented recent report for January.

Respectfully submitted by:

Silvia Homa

For Winnie McCarraher, Secretary

National Quilting Day, which recognizes quiltmakers and their quilt-making abilities, is on March 18, 2023. The National Quilting Association started National Quilting Day in 1991 and since then it has grown into a global celebration for all quilt lovers and makers.

How to celebrate National Quilting Day:

1. Hang quilts outdoors to inspire people to join in celebrating this creative skill and as a sign you are observing it.
2. Show your quilting skills by offering to teach a project.
3. Make it a service day.

February Program



Lori Memmen took us step by step through the construction of the Sew-Together Bag focusing on installing the zippers and creating the pockets. If you're interested in obtaining the pattern Lori recommends getting it directly from the author at [Sew Together Bag](#).

Search for "Sew Together Bag" on youtube for tutorials created by the author of the pattern. The following site will also be helpful to complete your bag.

<http://quiltbarn.blogspot.com/2014/03/sew-long.html>

Can't wait to see all the different versions at future show and tells.

Susan Koederitz also found some tips from blogger Sarah Ruiz at [Sew Together Bag \(saroy.net\)](#).

March Birthdays

- 4 Susan Glaser
- 9 Gayle Hammond
- 16 Kiti Williams
- 19 Jo Quaglia
- 25 Marie Traxler
- 25 Judy McCourry



Upcoming Events

Sharing the Quilts XXXVIII – March 21, 2023. Presented by Harvest Quilters of central New Jersey at Willow Grove Church, Raritan Road, Scotch Plains, NJ. www.harvestquilters.com/quiltshow.htm.

Lancaster Quilt Show - March 29 - April 1, 2023. Wyndham Lancaster Resort and Conference Center, At the 2300 Lincoln Highway E, Lancaster, PA.. www.thelancasterquiltshow.com/

2023 PA Relief Sale – March 31- April 1, 2023. Since 1957, all sale day proceeds benefit the worldwide relief efforts of Mennonite Central Committee which include aid to the victims of poverty and other man-made and natural disasters. At the Farm Show Complex, Harrisburg, PA. www.pareliefsale.org/

All About Thimbles

Sections of this article was taken from the quiltinghub.com

Modern thimbles started around 1695 and were created from metal. Thimbles were also commonly made from leather, but these usually have a small metal spot to cover the finger pad. Some leather thimbles are long enough to reach the knuckle. This protects the spot on the third finger where we tend to rest our pencils because many of us use that same spot to push the needle through the fabric. Ouch!

Quilters can't avoid hand-stitching. Even if you choose another binding method, a hanging sleeve must still go on any quilt to be displayed on a wall or in a quilt show. For that, you need a thimble because a thimble protects the finger pushing on the eye of the needle while hand stitching. This allows the use of a third finger to help control the needle. The guidance this extra finger provides allows the quilter greater precision in stitching. No wonder in colonial days, women being judged by their fine stitching they treasured their finest thimbles!

Reading online, you can find many articles about choosing and measuring for a thimble. If you can enlist a jeweler, you can use a ring gauge to measure for a thimble. Just fit the ring at the base of the fingernail on the finger you want to protect. If you are shopping online and don't have access to a jeweler, use a piece of scrap paper to measure around the base of the fingernail and then measure the paper in millimeters. This will give you the correct size for ordering the thimble.

Thimbles in use today are mostly made from metal, leather, rubber, plastic, or combinations thereof. For hand quilting, some quilters recommend choosing a thimble with a flat top and a slip stop border. This rim helps keep the needle on the thimble. However, some say that a thimble for hand quilting is clumsy for whip stitching.

All this advice probably brings us to the two basic rules:

1. Find and buy what will do the job.
2. Find and buy what fits best for **your** hands!



Jelly Roll Quilts

From the McCall's Editor:

Jelly Roll fabric packs, originated by Moda Fabrics, have taken the quilting world by storm. These precut 2½" x width-of-fabric strips are like quilter's candy. The colorful combinations and pretty presentations make these packs super tempting to buy and display. Better yet, Jelly Rolls are great fun to use in quilting. The precut strips mean less time spent cutting fabric before sewing. Quilt designers have come up with countless patterns that take advantage of the 2½-wide strip. We've gathered 3 of our favorite McCall's Quilting Jelly Roll patterns here. Many fabric manufacturers and quilt shops adhere to Moda's model and include 40 coordinating precut strips per pack, but always check the contents before purchase to be sure a pack will work with the quilt pattern you plan to use. Once you've found a Jelly Roll (or two or three) that you love and that will work with your pattern, you're ready to start your next quilt project. It's that easy! Happy stitching

Beth Hayes, Editor-in-Chief

McCall's Quilting and Quick Quilts

Susan Koederitz found this McCall's site with three simple jelly roll quilt patterns: Little Princess, Gelato and Pick-Up Stick.

[free-jelly-roll-quilt-patterns.pdf \(quiltingdaily.com\)](http://quiltingdaily.com/free-jelly-roll-quilt-patterns.pdf)

Hospitality

March 1

Snack:

Mary Larkin

Snack:

Sue Umstead

Cold Drink:

Rosemary Geisler

March 15

Barbara Sherman

Josie Sharp

Kiti Williams

March 29

Laurie Kelly

Betty Ann Dawson

Geri Dulis

February Show & Tell



Nancy Miller



Carly Moore



Judy Snook.



Sue Umstead



Carly Moore

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

St. Patrick's Quilts



[15 Festive and Free St. Patrick's Day Quilt Projects – Quilting \(craftgossip.com\)](http://craftgossip.com)

Do you love the color green, are you 'Irish' in your heart or do you have all the other holidays covered EXCEPT St. Patty's Day? If you answered yes to any of these questions then perhaps this site is for you.

There are a total of 15 free St. Patrick's Day downloadable quilt patterns ranging from simple table runners to complex bed quilts – something for everyone at all skill levels.