



Loose Threads News

Volume 19 Issue 12

September 2014

1st Wednesday Agenda

9:30 Doors open -
refreshments & socializing

10:00 Business Meeting

Time to renew your membership! Cost is \$15. Check is preferred, but exact change will work too. Please see Betty Ann Dawson, our Vice-President.

3rd Wednesday Agenda

9:30 Doors open -
refreshments & socializing

10:00 **SPEAKER: Bob DeCarli**

Author of Hill & Valley Log Cabin Quilts

President's Message

As I write this I'm watching my husband make his maiden launch in the kayak we gave him as a retirement gift. August into September seems an appropriate time for starting a new phase of our lives as it always signals a new year, a fresh start, in some ways more so than in January. Likewise, the guild is starting another year which means new committees, officers, speakers and programs. We've had no lack of inspiration over the past year with great speakers, an inspiring block of the month project, and a fun challenge.

If your sewing machine is collecting dust it's time to oil it up and get started on a project. Let's get back to QUILTING!

Debby



Stephanie Adrian wanted to share this picture from her trip to Haiti showing some of the women wearing the aprons we made. They made the Yo-Yo quilt in the picture and Stephanie will return in the fall to hang the completed quilt in the Community Center in Three Angel's.

Minutes - August Meeting

Rosemary Geisler called the meeting to order at 10:12 A.M.

New Business:

- Nancy Miller proposed a "Sewing Bee" to be held the Second Wednesday of each month at the church from 6:30pm to 8:00 pm. This was voted on and passed. This will be for Sept. through Dec. of this year and if successful will be continued. The rental cost of the church for each Wed night is \$30 and will be paid by the Treasurer. The first meeting is Sept. 10th.
- Needle Nite is usually held in August/September. The guild pays for pizza and everyone brings a pint of ice cream to share and their own drink. Plus – remember to bring your project! Lil Evans will hostess this night and will propose a date.

Sunshine: A Thank you card was sent around at the meeting for Ramona Moreland of Chester County Quilting as thank her for her support to our Teas over the years.

Treasurer's Report: Judy Peters gave the treasurer's report. Expenses this month were for label material for the charity projects. Income was from the Business Raffle & interest.

Retreats:

- Another retreat is being looked into for September 29th to Oct. 2nd for Blue Lake. Carolyn Thompson is looking to get away from this location in the future due to price increases.
- Open dates for the Pughtown location are Feb. 9-13, Feb. 23-17, Apr 6-10 and Apr 20-24. Carolyn is going to look at this facility and review the current open dates after the meeting.
- Other locations being looked at are St. Mary's, Black Rock, Sandy Cove in Maryland, and the new Hilton Garden Inn was also mentioned.

- Signup sheets will be available at the next meeting.

Speakers/Programs:

Reminder: There is a \$5 fee for Associate Members attending lectures by outside speakers. Please pay Rosemary Geisler 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.

- Bob DeCarli (author of Hill & Valley Log Cabin Quilts) from Penn Oaks Quilters will be our speaker for our second meeting in September 2014.
- Terry Krazmar will be doing a lecture at our second meeting in November.

Tea Committee: Dates for next year's Tea are March 21st with a snow date of March 28th. The committee rewrote all the duties for each committee as well as the committee assignments with the committee chairman printed in red type. These lists and descriptions were handed out at the meeting.

Library: All books are now filed alphabetically by author. Some books have never been checked out. There is some discussion whether to hold a book auction or possibly highlighting 5 books each month to let members know what is available. More to follow.

Fabric Exchange: August's color is Black and White. September's color is Aqua/Teal.

Secret Pal: This program seems to be going well but, if you are having any issues, please contact Margie Allen. Secret Pal for 2015 will start in January and that will be led by Donna Mathias.

Road Trips



We drove past woodland streams, then acres of cornfields and wound up at our farm country destination – the Wooden Bridge Quilt Shop. Great prices, beautiful sunshine and a tasty lunch on the front deck at Ozgood's made this road trip a complete success!

Marylou found just the right fabric in the sale bin to complete her fashion-forward (?) summer look.



Beautiful weather, friendly staff and wonderful fabric selection all contributed to a great day at Olde City Quilts (visible here in the background) in Burlington, NJ. We also toured their large retreat center located across the street from the shop...perhaps another trip to NJ is in our future?



Minutes - August Meeting, continued

Service Projects/Charity:

- The group was to meet after the business meeting to decide what name this committee wants to be known as. Vote on the name will be in September.
- August's Charity Workshop will be for the VA and ConCerr Cancer. Bring in your 8 ½" blocks to be sewn together at the meeting.

Block of the Month: This month's instruction was for finishing the quilt and it was revealed the inspiration was the 2013 Craftsy BOM. A finished quilt at the December meeting will be in the running for a \$50 gift certificate from The Quilt Block in Exton. Two finished quilt tops will be eligible to win \$25 gift certificates from other local quilt shops to be determined at a later date. Send in pictures of your blocks to post on the website to Lenore Clarke (LenoreClarke@gmail.com).

Hospitality: Gail Hammond signup sheet is full!

Field Trips:

- The car trip to Olde City Quilts, Burlington, NJ, was enjoyed by all who went. Another trip will be planned in the future.
- A car trip is being planned to The Wooden Bridge Dry Goods Store, Kutztown, PA, followed by a lunch at Ozgood's for August 13th. Plan is to meet at Betty Ann Dawson's house and proceed from there.

Business Meeting Raffle: Won by Margie Allen.

Show & Tell was held with lots of beautiful inspiration.

The meeting was adjourned by Rosemary Geisler at 11:47 AM.

Jo Quaglia - Secretary

From the Bookcase



If our July workshop on fabric dyeing and working with wool spiked your interest in a "woolies project", the following books might help to get you going with it.

Anderson --- ***FABRIC TO DYE FOR***
 Brannock --- ***COTTON AND WOOL***
 Farris --- ***FRESH FELT FLOWERS***
 Spargo --- ***15 3-HOUR MINI PROJECTS***
 Spargo --- ***FLOWER BED***
 Sullivan --- ***BONNIE'S GARDEN***

APPLIQUE WITH ATTITUDE from Piece O'Cake Designs has been added to our library and will be ready for borrowing at the September 3rd business meeting. All books are arranged alphabetically by author's last name. Ask Pat Pillion, Pat Leiter, or Marylou Boryta for any help that you might need.

Upcoming Events

Quilts from the Heart of Berks – Sept 12-13, Berks Quilters Guild, Leesport Farmers Market, Leesport, PA Admission \$8

PENNSYLVANIA NATIONAL QUILT EXTRAVAGANZA, Oaks, PA—September 18-21, Presented by Mancuso Show Management, the largest and most prominent quilting arts event in the Northeast all under one roof. Greater Philadelphia Expo Center in Oaks, PA Admission \$14, includes re-admission

Tea Committee Assignments

Tea Co-Chairs: Carolyn Thompson and Toni Hughes

Bathroom Monitor: Susan Glaser

Book Sale: Jo Quaglia, Jean Atwood, Carol Cossa, Millie Slean

Craft Sale: Margie Allen, Barb Painter, Takako Pike

Dining Room Set-Up: Donna Mathias, Jean Sullivan, Marie Traxler, Millie Slean, Cathy Nelson, Bonnie Strickland

Discussion Groups Selection: Judy Snook, Rosemary Geisler, Linda Hamel

Door Prizes: Linda Glass, Lil Evans

Emcee: Susan Glaser

Greeters: Lenore Clarke, Marylou Boryta

Hostesses: Marylou Boryta, Jill Cardamone, Judy Snook, Melinda Novatnak, Lenore Clarke, Marie Traxler, Donna Mathias, Sue Kehl, Laurie Kelly, Jane Russell, Bernie Hughes, Linda Glass, Debby O'Keefe, Rosemary Geisler, Judy Peters

Invitations: Joanne Cantwell, Linda Hamel

Kitchen/ Food Prep: Linda Garthe, Betty Ann Dawson, Bonnie Strickland, Gayle Hammond, Geri Dulis, Sally Ater

Kitchen/ Clean-up: Sally Ater, Bonnie Swartzentruber, Lenore Clarke, Judy Quintas-Gorman

Mailing & Email Address Table: Edy Martin

Parking and Shuttle: Lil Evans

Quilt Show: Rosemary Geisler, Laurie Kelly, Pat Leiter, Carolyn Ferradino, Bernie Hughes, Sandy Cantlin, Sue Kehl, Wendy Cole,

Registration: Laurie Kelly

Sewing Room Sale: Jane Russell, Jeanne Nalbandian, Debbie O'Keefe, Melinda Novatnak, Judy Peters

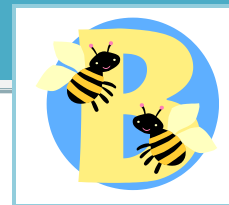
Take-a-Chance Auction: Pat Pillion, Marie Traxler, Donna Mathias, Jill Cardamone

Tea Block Design: Kathie Travis, Kathy Neiman, Sylvia Homa, Jean Sullivan, Jeanne Nalbandian

Tea Block Collection: Cathy Nelson, Judy Quintas-Gorman

Viewer's Choice Ribbons: Jo Quaglia, Kathy Neiman

Evening Bee



We are going to try a new gathering for guild members – an evening bee. It will be held on the 2nd Wednesday of the month from 6:30 - 8:30 at our regular meeting place, the First United Church of Christ in Spring City. The first meeting will be Wednesday, September 10, 2014. This will be an informal get-together; bring your own project to work on. You do not have to commit ahead of time - you're welcome to come when you can and leave when you're ready. If an evening out among friendly quilters is just the thing you need, please join us! Any questions, contact Nancy Miller at 610-970-6260 or nancymiller922@comcast.net.

Needle Nite

Needle Nite began as the 'Sleepover' in 1992 and has been a huge success through the years. We meet at a member's house around 7 p.m. and begin with pizza eating as our opening event. Work is done on our own projects and break times always involve Ben & Jerry's ice cream. The ultimate goal is a fun, relaxing and enjoyable evening spent getting to know folks better. This year's hostess is Lil Evans and the date will be either Friday, September 12th or Friday, Oct 3rd. (To be decided at the Sept 3rd meeting.) Lil lives in Collegeville and directions to her home will be distributed prior to the gathering. Please sign up ahead of time ...so we'll know how many pizzas to order!

Quilt Cruises

Judy Snook

A combination of passions:

I love to travel. I love to quilt. A wonderful way to combine the two is a quilt cruise. I have gone on many over the years to Europe (I never would have believed I would ever go to Russia!), Africa (another surprise), Alaska, the Caribbean, and the New England coast. I have learned new techniques from many teachers. When we are at sea, we are taking quilt classes. When in ports, we are regular tourists. Well, except the African trip. We learned redwork from Alex Anderson and received hand dyed fabric from right from Ricky Tims while on safari. (Nothing like a little name dropping.) The people who plan these quilt cruises do a great job of entertaining us while teaching with many treats thrown in. Sometimes sewing machines are provided; sometimes handwork is necessary because of tax rules on bringing sewing machines to foreign soil. Do you like to go places? Of course you like to quilt. Try a quilt cruise.



Judy & instructor Dana Goyer



Renowned paper-piecing instructor Carol Doak



Marsha Bergren, inventor of the Twister ruler, used to make Judy's colorful quilt.

**Caribbean
cruise on the
Royal Caribbean
'Oasis of the
Seas'**

July Basting Meeting



Kudos to the 40 hands that were busy basting two large quilts at our latest Basting session on July 30! Our three needle-threaders also helped make quick work of this enormous task. The next scheduled basting day is on October 29th, sign up with Jeanne Nalbandian or Takako Pike if you have a quilt to get on the schedule.

Joanne Cantwell

Kathy Neiman's Log Cabin quilt was enhanced by lovely leaf & branch applique.



Super needle threaders Joanne, Takako & Kathy kept us all busy!



Dolphins highlight the center of Laurie Kelly's Ocean Waves quilt that is for her daughter, Sabrina.

Continuing on the basting theme, Eileen Frankil took a stroll down memory lane, searching through her sewing room closet, to find a literary effort she created for the guild quite a while back. Enjoy!

Originally published in the Loose Threads Quilters' Guild Newsletter, Issue 3, Vol 1, Jan 17, 1996.

The Sleet Storm That Saved a Marriage

Twas the second of January, 1996
The night before basting, and I had the sticks.

Eight sticks on loan from my friend Judy Keller.
They'd been stored in my garage instead of her cellar.

Now here's where this tale takes a turn for the worse.
The saga unfolds in the following verse.

I'd just returned home from a long day at work.
My two kids in the car were just short of berserk.

I entered the garage in the midst of snow and sleet.
A sinking feeling struck when . . . The garage looked TOO NEAT!
WHERE are the sticks of six and ten feet?

I quick called my husband.
To the phone I did dash.
Can you believe what he told me?
He had thought they were TRASH!

They were already gone and I could not believe it.
Out with last week's trash and I could not retrieve it.

What to tell Judy and Laurie, et al?
I had to get busy and make some phone calls.

Certainly tragic, but not worth a divorce.
As bad as I felt, my poor husband felt worse.

The timing was not good; he was on duty till eight.
Lumber yards were already closed; it was getting too late.

But, my sweet loving husband could still make compensation.
On basting day we had yet another weather cancellation!

So Judy now has new sticks of six and ten feet.
Made by my apologetic husband, Robert,
Who was grateful for the sleet.

Eileen Frankil

Astrology of the Quilt Guild

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

Virgo August 24th to September 22nd

There is no way around the truth. You would make the best treasurer for your guild, Virgo. You would much rather spend your free time making Mariner's Compasses with perfectly matched points, but your gift for perfection and detail must be shared! You probably started your career as a quilter in a group making quilts for charity. You are fascinated by the quilt appraiser who visits your guild once a year and you just love to share your knowledge on archival storage of antique quilts.

September Birthdays

- 2 Linda Hamel
- 5 Laurie Kelly
- 13 Silvia Homa
- 14 Jolene Lorah
- 15 Carol Cossa
- 16 Clem Dupont
- 22 Nancy Miller



August Workshop

Our August 20th session was a 'working meeting,' with everyone attending busy sewing quilts for the local Veterans Centers or working on pillowcases for ConKerr Cancer. Bonnie Swartzentruber spearheaded the pillowcase effort and that group was able to complete **100** of the colorful pillowcases! We've seen through the years how dedicated Bonnie is to this worthwhile organization. Cindy Kerr stopped in to present Bonnie with an appreciation award for all her loving kindness and effort to the group. From the ConKerr Cancer web site - "Ryan Kerr, the inspiration behind ConKerr Cancer, lived his life with grace, kindness and had a remarkable love for life. His size 16 red high tops have become a symbol of his light in the world."



Hospitality

September 3

September 17

Snack:	Betty Ann Dawson	Kathy Neiman
Snack:	Gayle Hammond	Carolyn Ferrandino
Fruit/Veggies:	Linda Glass	Marylou Boryta
Cold Drink:	Milly Slean	Linda Hamel

We have seven Veterans' quilts finished and two went to homes to be finished. 100 pillowcases were sewn for ConKerr Cancer. Many thanks to the sewers, pinners, ironers, backing makers, and sergers for a job well done! Accolades to Bonnie Swartzentruber for receiving an award from Cindy Kerr, founder of Conkerr Cancer, for Bonnie's unbelievable work making pillowcases. When quilters get together, they are unstoppable!

Judy

Net Notes

I recently spent three weeks in Alaska with my brother and his fishing buddy Lyle. They are like salmon, only going to places they had been before. That's why I went past a shop called "Bearly Threaded Quilting" on the Kenai peninsula four times (!)... and have no shop review for you. The really fresh salmon tasted great tho, so I forgive them. I know - that has nothing to do with internet sites, but I just had to share.

One of our guild members mentioned soaking her cutting mat to prolong its life. I never heard of that but found "OlfaDeals" at olfacutterstore.com. They have some good mat maintenance information. Visit their website for a complete line of Olfa products at competitive prices, special offers, free projects and a help line.

I have learned a lot about mats, rotary cutters (and men who fish).

Linda Glass

September Program

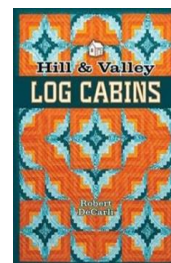
Excerpted from AQS QuiltViews:

Bob DeCarli's first life was as a math professor at a Catholic girls' college in Buffalo. He moved on to function as an engineer at Lockheed Martin in Valley Forge, all the while continuing to teach math at local colleges.

In 1992 his wife asked for help in making a quilt for their daughter's wedding. She showed him how to make a four-patch and he was hooked. As a mathematician, the seemingly endless number of patterns fascinated him. He has designed blocks and quilts since 1993, receiving a ribbon at the Vermont Quilt Festival and a blue ribbon at the Pennsylvania Quilt Extravaganza for "Butterfly" (designed in EQ5).

He discovered EQ in 2005 and has since designed more than one thousand quilts and blocks, including block and quilt settings for his wife's appliqué projects. His primary interest, besides teaching, is designing various interlocking log cabins and converting weaving patterns to quilts.

In his book, *Hill & Valley Log Cabin Quilts*, he explores the traditional Log Cabin block by inserting a curved log cabin block in the corner of a larger traditional block. Oriented one way, the curved block creates a "valley." Rotate the curve for a "hill" effect to completely change the look.



September's Polka Dot
is **Aqua/Teal**

Cut **ten** 6 ½ inch squares.

This completes our fabric
exchange for this
year...stay tuned for
details of our next swap.

Have you found a pattern yet to use all those polka dot squares? Check out the www.andover.com site next time you're in the mood to brose. They have over 300 free quilt patterns available. I thought *Bubble & Swirl*, *Pearl Bracelets* or *Catnap* could be modified to use all those great colored dots we've collected.

Loose Threads Officers 2014-2015

Let's get more acquainted with our incoming Loose Threads Officers:

President: Debby O'Keefe:

Debbie started life as one of a family of nine children, and now lives in Downingtown with her husband, Bill Beyer. In her early adult years, Debby was very interested in drawing, entered shows, won awards and was headed to grad school for a masters when along came Bill....no regrets!!! She taught middle school art for 16 years, then stayed at home as she raised their three daughters and did some teaching with other students in her home.

As a child, Debby started playing with a big box of scrap fabric from a great aunt who sewed dresses for ladies. Her first quilt creation was a memorable one - bright yellow and hippie florals! A member of Loose Threads for 25 years, Debby also enjoys lots of reading, vegetable gardening, exploring thrift shops and making paper crafts.

Vice President: Betty Ann Dawson

Born in Brooklyn, NY, Betty Ann grew up in the King of Prussia area and now lives on a small picturesque farm near Boyertown with her husband, Peter Christ. Encouraged by her mother, Betty Ann sewed lots of doll clothes for her sisters, then eventually got acquainted with quilting through her friends, Linda Garthe and Jane Russell at the Tudor Rose quilt shop, joining Loose Threads in 2013.

As a former antique shop owner, she still enjoys perusing antique shops, loves gardening and travel, and keeps busy with her company "Life Simplified" that focuses on cleaning out homes for the elderly who move or those who pass away. Betty Ann has been a frequent Blue Ribbon winner at both the Oley and Kutztown Fairs... but not for her quilting! Her other talents are in floral arrangements, jams and jellies, and as we know... baking!

Treasurer: Judy Peters

Judy grew up in Nanticoke, PA and now resides in Honeybrook with her husband Ted; they have three grown children and 4 grandchildren. Judy joined Loose Threads in 2004 and is now starting the second of her two-year term as Treasurer. She recalls some early experience with sewing and quilting back when all appliques were completely basted and she endeavored to help her mother with an "Orange Blossom" quilt, then lost interest for a bit. Later on, she became serious about quilting when circumstances at Lockheed Martin declared an early retirement for her. She visited Jane Russell's quilt shop (we know the path from there!)

In addition to her sewing, Judy enjoys reading and also currently volunteers at the Chester County Food Bank. She and her husband have a keen interest in travel and have visited every continent except Antarctica, especially enjoying river cruises.

Secretary: Jo Quaglia

After retiring from Lockheed Martin (formerly GE Aerospace), Jo joined Loose Threads in 2010. She served as our Secretary in 2013-2014 and has willingly offered to continue in that role one more year. Jo grew up in Long Island, NY, put herself through college, and became an engineer. She lives in Pottstown with her husband, Julio, his mother Helen, and Lucy, their dog. Jo's interest in quilting started seriously in the early 2000's although she had been exposed to it as a child at home where her mother quilted.

Aside from sewing, Jo loves to travel and can also frequently be found reading, or working at her cross-stitch, beading or wirework.

Interview by 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
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 \$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

Block of the Month

The Block of the Month for 2014-2015 will be based on a combination of assigned colors for each month coupled with a suggested theme to create a calendar quilt.

The block for September will be pure **red**, pure **blue** and pure **yellow** with a thought of going back to school and "back to basics".

We will have suggested themed patterns for distribution at the September 3rd meeting or feel free to choose one of your favorites - stars, 9-patch, pinwheel. They can be whatever you like as long as you use the assigned "3 colors-of-the-month".