

THE LOOSE THREADS

NEWSLETTER

December 2011

www.theloosethreadsquilters.org

Volume 16: Issue 12

President: Carolyn Thompson **Vice President:** Elizabeth Snead **Secretary:** Joanne Cantwell **Treasurer:** Linda Hamel

Babysitting: Jean Atwood
Basting: Kathy Neiman
Block of the Month: Silvia Homa
Challenge: Debby O'Keefe
Charity Projects: Jean Sullivan
Field Trips: Cathy Nelson
Meeting Raffle: Marie Traxler
Historian: Sue Kehl

Holiday Brunch: Judy Snook
Hospitality: Gayle Hammond
Librarian: Jo Quaglia
Newsletter: Wendy Cole
Fabric Exchange: Sandy Michalec
Programs: Lenore Clarke
Raffle Quilt Design: Laurie Kelly
Raffle Quilt Tickets: Marylou Boryta

Retreats: Bernie Hughes
Secret Pal: Kristi Burtch
Speakers: Rosemary Geisler
Sunshine: Judy Shafer
Tea: Susan Glaser & Linda Garthe
Website: Lenore Clarke



“The best things in life are quilted”

MESSAGE FROM THE PREZ

As we prepare for our upcoming celebrations and holidays, I have decided to take one activity out of your lives for the month of December. At our November 30th meeting, I suggested we cancel the December 21st meeting since it is so close to Christmas this year and it is likely that the attendance will be low. The majority of those in attendance were in agreement, so we will meet

again on January 4, 2012 for our regular business meeting.

We will see you at the brunch on December 7th! Bring your appetite and those challenge quilts!

Merry Christmas! Happy Hanukkah!

NOVEMBER MINUTES

Carolyn Thompson called the meeting to order at 10:00am.

Membership: No changes in membership were reported in the past month.

Treasurer's Report was shared.

The next **Basting** meeting will be on Wednesday, November 30.

Block of the Month: Sylvia shared a sample of the latest Mystery Block of the Month.

Members were reminded that **Challenge quilts** will be displayed at the meeting on December 7.

Charity Projects: Jean reported that 17 Quilts for Kids are on hand along with 19 completed ICE (In Case of Emergency) quilts. Additional walker bags are encouraged.

The latest **Fabric Exchange** has started but additional members may still participate. See Sandy, Barb or Carole if you have any questions.

A Field Trips to a display in Doylestown was discussed.

Christmas Brunch: Gifts to exchange, wrapped with the donor's name inside, may be brought to the Brunch on December 7. Value of gifts should not exceed \$15. You may also bring cookies to exchange.

Newsletter: Members are encouraged to submit information to Wendy or Susan on quilt shops that they visit.

Programs for the next two months are: On November 16, Speaker will be Gretchen Gibbons (author of "Pennies from Heaven"). Guests will be charged \$5. The Christmas Brunch on December 7 is considered the program for the month with the business meeting being held on Dec. 21.

An election was held for **Nominating Committee** members: Those elected are Bernie Hughes and Judy Snook who were asked to prepare a slate of candidates for Loose Threads officers for the May meeting.

Lorie reported that all cutting for the **Raffle Quilt** has been completed. She will be submitting an **order to AQS** very soon. See her for details.

Retreats: Twelve guild members enjoyed a great retreat at **Blue Lake Retreat** house (near Burkholders) in October. Carolyn was thanked for her many contributions in making this a success.

The next **Retreat at St. Mary's in Elverson** will be on January 20-22, 2012. Sign up now.

AIN'T THAT THE TRUTH

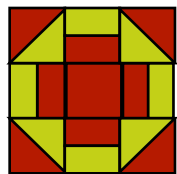
Lunch With the Girls Through the Ages

A group of **15-year-old-girlfriends** discussed where to meet for dinner. Finally, they agreed to meet at the Dairy Queen next to the Ocean View restaurant because they had only \$6.00 among them and Jimmy Johnson, the cute boy in Social Studies, lived on that street.

10 years later; the group of **25-year-old-girlfriends** discussed where to meet for dinner. Finally, they agreed to meet at the Ocean View restaurant because the beer was cheap, the restaurant offered free snacks, the band was good, there was no cover and there were lots of cute guys.

10 years later; the group of **35-year-old-girlfriends** discussed where to meet for dinner. Finally, they agreed to meet at the Ocean View restaurant because the cosmos were good, it was right near the gym and, if they went late enough, there wouldn't be too many whiny little kids.

10 years later; the group of **45-year-old-girlfriends** discussed where to meet for dinner. Finally, they agreed to meet at the Ocean View restaurant because the martinis were big and the waiters had tight pants and nice buns.



NAME THE QUILT BLOCK

Answer and pattern on page 4.

BUSINESS MEETING RAFFLE

January 4: Wendy Cole
February 1: Gayle Hammond
March 7: Amy Smith-Moniz

April 4: Sue Kehl
May 2: Linda Hamel
June 6: Laurie Kelly

July 4: Jo Quaglia
August 1: Margie Allen
September 5: Jean Sullivan

North Mountain Retreat near Carlisle is scheduled on June 22-24.

Additional mid-week retreats at Blue Lake will be investigated as well as interest in a retreat at White Oak, both in Lancaster County.

Secret Pals will be revealed at the December 7 brunch.

The Sunshine Committee will follow members who are having surgeries in November.

Meeting concluded at 11:10 am followed by Show and Tell.

Joanne Cantwell, Secretary

10 years later; the group of **55-year-old-girlfriends** discussed where to meet for dinner. Finally, they agreed to meet at the Ocean View restaurant because the prices were reasonable, the wine list was good, the restaurant had windows that opened (in case of a hot flash) and fish is good for cholesterol.

10 years later; the group of **65-year-old-girlfriends** discussed where to meet for dinner. Finally, they agreed to meet at the Ocean View restaurant because the lighting was good and the restaurant had an early bird special.

10 years later; the group of **75-year-old-girlfriends** discussed where to meet for dinner. Finally, they agreed to meet at the Ocean View restaurant because the food was not too spicy and the restaurant was handicapped-accessible.

10 years later; the group of **85-year-old-girlfriends** discussed where to meet for dinner. Finally, they agreed to meet at the Ocean View restaurant because they had never been there before.

From the Country Threads Pattern Company and Quilt Shop's "Goat Gazette" (Fall Issue). Check out their website, <http://www.countrythreads.com/>, for some great "country style" patterns.

RECIPES OF THE MONTH

Linda Hamel wowed us at the Blue Lake retreat with this tasty casserole. It's perfect for a holiday breakfast. Enjoy!!!

BAKED FRENCH TOAST CASSEROLE

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 loaf cinnamon-swirl bread | 1 tsp. vanilla |
| 8 eggs | ¼ tsp. cinnamon |
| 2 c. half-and-half | ¼ tsp. nutmeg |
| 1 cup milk | ~ 1 c. blueberries (optional) |
| 2 Tbsp granulated sugar | ~ ¾ c. coarsely chopped pecans |

Slice bread into cubes, 1 inch in size. Add bread to a greased 9" x 13" baking dish, mixing in blueberries and pecans, if desired. In a large bowl, combine eggs with the remaining ingredients and whisk until well blended. Pour mixture over bread, making sure all are covered evenly with the milk-egg mixture. Cover and refrigerate overnight.



The next day, preheat oven to 350°. Bake casserole for 40 minutes, until puffed and lightly golden. Serve with maple syrup.

Here is another great recipe for a holiday breakfast. Linda Garthe's yummy, gooey Cinnamon Buns.

CINNAMON BUNS

Dough

- 1 pkg. dry yeast
- 1 c. warm water (105-115)
- 3 Tbsp. sugar
- 2 Tbsp. soft butter or shortening
- 1 egg
- ¾ tsp. salt
- 3 c. more or less, all-purpose flour,
- ½ c. potato flour (use an additional ½ c. all-purpose flour instead if desired)
- 1 Tbsp. vital wheat gluten (if you have it)



If using active dry yeast, dissolve it in warm water in a large bowl. Add sugar, shortening, egg, salt and half the flour; beat at low speed until smooth. Stir in enough of the remaining flour to make soft dough.

If using instant yeast, put everything, except a little of the flour, into the bowl of your mixer with the dough hook attached. Mix on your machine's kneading speed, adding enough flour to make a soft dough.

Turn dough out of the bowl, form it into a ball and place it in an oiled bowl. Turn to oil the top and cover the bowl with plastic wrap. Let raise in a warm place (85°) until doubled, about 1 hr, or refrigerate up to 5 days.

When ready to make the rolls, take the risen dough out of the bowl and knead 4 or 5 times. Roll dough out on a

Filling

- 2 Tbsp. softened butter
- 2 - 3 tsp. cinnamon
- equal parts brown and confectioners' sugar.(about ⅓ c. each)

Frosting

- 1 - 8oz. pkg. cream cheese, room temperature
- ¼ c. softened butter
- ¼ c. heavy cream
- 1½ tsp. vanilla or vanilla paste
- 1½ c. confectioners sugar

lightly floured surface to about 14" x 9". Spread with a couple tablespoons of softened butter and sprinkle the cinnamon mixture evenly over the dough. Roll up the dough, starting at the long edge. Cut with a knife or dental floss into about 1½" slices and place in greased baking pan. The recipe calls for a 9" square pan but I think a bigger one works better). Cover and let rise in warm place (85°) for about 40 minutes or until doubled in bulk.

Bake at 375° for 15 to 20 minutes or until lightly browned.

While they are baking make the icing. Beat all but the sugar until fluffy. Add sugar and beat again until fluffy.

Remove the rolls from the oven and cool a little. Spread with icing and enjoy!

NEW BOOKS ON THE MARKET

Weekend

By Barb Adams & Alma Allen

Blackbird Designs for Kansas City Star Books. Make your weekend creative! Quilts, easy projects, rug hooking and a bit of cross stitch await you in Barb and Alma's latest book, Weekend.



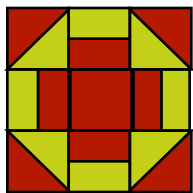
New English Paper Piecing

By Sue Daley

A Faster Approach to a Traditional Favourite. You'll love these ten soft and pretty designs made with traditional hexagons, as well as squares, circles, pentagons, and other shapes. Learn the fundamentals of English paper piecing and needleturn applique to add to your repertoire of quilting skills.



NAME THE QUILT BLOCK



GREEK CROSS (12" Block)

- Cut one 4½" square, four 4½" x 2½" rectangles and two 5" squares
- Cut four 4½" x 2½" rectangles and two 5" squares

1. Sew HSTs from the red & green 5" squares. Trim to 4½".
2. Sew the red rectangles to the green ones.
3. Piece the units together as shown in the illustration.

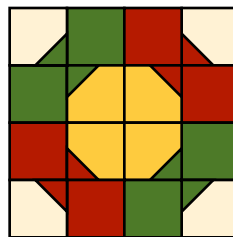
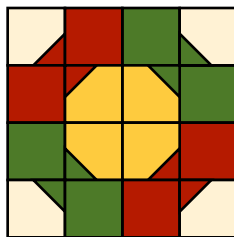
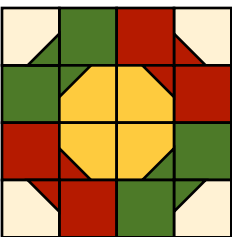
BLOCK OF THE MONTH

MYSTERY BOM #2 (Stash Only)

Dark 1: Cut four 2½" squares & eight 1½" squares

Dark 2: Cut four 2½" squares & eight 1½" squares

Medium: Cut four 2½" squares
Light: Cut four 2½" squares (makes an 8" finished block)



L D1	D1	D2	L D2
D1	D1 M	D2 M	D2
D2	D2 M	M D1	D1
L D2	D2	D1	D1 L

QUILT JUMBLE

Rearrange the jumbled letters to spell out a quilting term.

O R U F - T C H A P

L O B C K

The answer to the Jumble is on page 5 along with a description of this quilting term.

FABRIC EXCHANGE 2011-2012; BATIKS

November - orange
December - gold
January - light blue

February - red
March - green
April - purple

May - pink
June - yellow
July - tan

August - brown
September - dark blue

QUILT CHAT

How about knitting up a "passel" of Candy Cane Bedroom Socks for stocking stuffers. Here's how...<http://www.purlbee.com/candy-cane-bedroom-socks/2010/11/7/whits-knits-candy-cane-bedroom-socks.html>.



Need some new ornaments for your Christmas tree? Here are a couple of free patterns that you might want to check out. [http://www.purlbee.com/felt-](http://www.purlbee.com/felt-snow-ball-ornaments/http://)

[snow-ball-ornaments/http://](http://www.purlbee.com/felt-star-pendant-and-tree-top/) and www.purlbee.com/felt-star-pendant-and-tree-top/.

Bird Brain Designs has two new holiday embroidery patterns. Check them out at <https://mail.google.com/mail/?shva=1#inbox/133ffb22e4d1bcc8>.



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

10th LINDA GARTHE

14th MOLLY GEHRING

25th JUDY QUINTAS-GORMAN

10th CAROLYN THOMPSON

18th LENORE CLARKE

14th JEAN ATWOOD

20th BERNIE HUGHES

UPCOMING AREA EVENTS

Quilt Art: International Expressions. September 10 - December 31. 40 Contemporary Quilts from nine countries is at the James Michener Art Museum, in the Fred Beans Gallery, located at 138 South Pine St., Doylestown PA. Museum hours: Tuesday through Friday, 10 am to 4:30m pm; Saturday 10 am to 5 pm; Sunday noon to 5 pm. www.michenermuseum.org/exhibits/quilt-art.php.

Explore the Art of Quilts in a Three Part Series at the Newark Museum. Pre-registration is required; call 973-5096-6613 or purchase tickets online. Fee for the series: \$25 members and \$30 non-members. Individual programs: \$10 members and \$15 non-members. October 15: Patchwork Folk are or Fine Art. November 19: Why Quilts Matter: History, Art and Politics. December 3: An Enduring Tradition: African American Quilt-Making. www.newarkmuseum.org/artofquilts.html.

Mid-Atlantic Quilt Festival XXIII - February 23-26, 2012. Presented by Mancuso Show Management, a compilation of quilting, fiber arts, and wearable arts. It's the perfect place for quilt enthusiasts and textile artists to meet, shop, learn and explore their art all under one roof at the [Hampton Roads Convention Center](http://www.quiltfest.com/activities.asp?id=8), Hampton, Virginia. For more information visit www.quiltfest.com/activities.asp?id=8.

The Quilt Fest of New Jersey VIII - March 1-4, 2012. Presented by Mancuso Show Management, featuring a Merchants Mall offering the best in fabrics, notions, sewing machines, wearable art, embroidery and everything for the quilter and home sewer at the [Garden State](http://www.pareliefsale.org/default.aspx)

[Exhibit Center](http://www.quiltfest.com/activities.asp?id=30), Somerset, NJ. For more information visit www.quiltfest.com/activities.asp?id=30.

Garden of Quilts - March 2-4, 2012. Presented by Susquehanna Valley Quilters, over 100 quilts made by guild members will be on display, a Quilter's Corner featuring hand-crafted items, vendor booths at Hughesville Fire Hall, Hughesville, PA. For more information visit susqvalleyquilters.org/our2012quiltshow.html.

AQS Lancaster Quilt Show - March 14-17, 2012. At the Marriott at the [Lancaster County Convention Center](http://aqss-hows.com/AQSLancaster/). For more information visit aqss-hows.com/AQSLancaster/.

ArtQuilt Elements 2012. Wayne Art Center, Wayne P.A. This is the 10th exhibition of the internationally acclaimed AQE show set in suburban Philadelphia. This is a juried Art Quilt show. www.artquilelementsentry.com. Show is March 30 - May 13, 2012.

2012 Relief Sale - April 13-14, 2012. 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](http://www.pareliefsale.org/default.aspx), Harrisburg, PA. For more information visit www.pareliefsale.org/default.aspx.

Quilters Unlimited 39th Annual Quilters Unlimited Show - June 1-3, 2012. At [Dulles Expo Center](http://www.quiltersunlimited.org/show.htm), South Building, Chantilly, VA. For more information visit www.quiltersunlimited.org/show.htm.

QUILT JUMBLE ANSWER

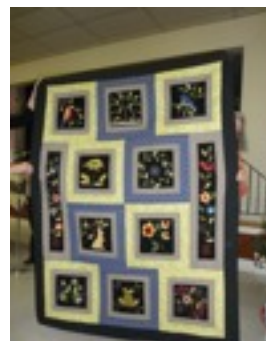
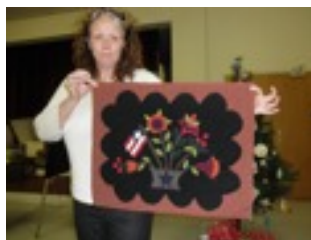


Four-Patch Block: A block with two, four, or multiples of four units per row.

NOVEMBER SPEAKER

Thanks to Gretchen Gibbons for a wonderful lecture at our November 16th meeting. Seeing all her quilts and learning about her quilt journey was so inspiring.

Thanks also to the Speaker Committee for a great choice! Keep em coming.



QUILT SHOW

The Phoenix Village Art Center located at 207 Bridge St in Phoenixville is hosting a quilt exhibit during the month of January and has invited the members of Loose Threads to participate. The space is somewhat limited so they are requesting smaller quilts or wall hangings for display. They are also interested in selling your smaller hand crafted items i.e. purses, mini-quilts (minus 30% commission). The quilts will be collected at our January

4th guild meeting. If you are interested in having one or two pieces displayed, please contact Laurie Kelly (family5kelly@comcast.net) or Linda Hamel (dhamel1283@aol.com). We will need your name and the size of the quilt by mid-December. If you have a digital image of your quilt, send that also. An advertising postcard will be printed and your quilt may be chosen!

REFRESHMENTS

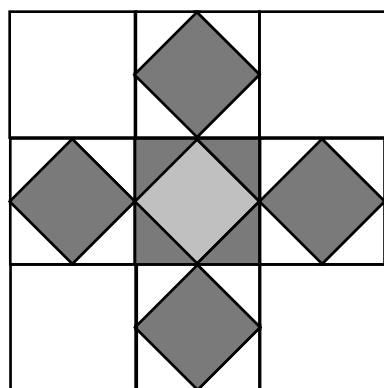
JANUARY 5th

Baked Goods: Sue Kehl & Jean Atwood
Fruit or Veggie: Sandy Michalec
Cold Drink: Rosemary Geisler

JANUARY 19th




Baked Goods: Jane Russell & Bonnie Swartzentruber
Fruit or Veggie: Lenore Clarke
Cold Drink: Molly Gehring

MINI BLOCK



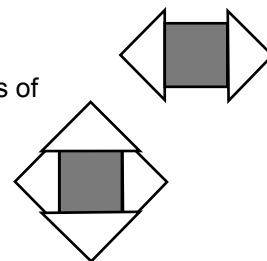
DECEMBER: BLOCK 4 (6" finished)

CUTTING INSTRUCTIONS

-  Dark: cut four 1 15/16" squares & two 2 1/4" squares (cut these two across, on the diagonal, to make four triangles)
-  Medium: cut one 1 15/16" square
-  Light: cut four 2 1/2" squares & eight 2 1/4" squares (cut these eight across, on the diagonal, to make sixteen triangles)

SEWING INSTRUCTIONS

1. Construct the five "square in a square blocks" by first sewing a triangle piece on opposite sides of the 1 15/16" squares. Iron seams towards the outside of the block.
2. Sew two more triangles on the remaining opposite sides of this unit. Iron seams. Carefully trim blocks to 2 1/2" square, making sure the center square stays centered evenly in the block.
3. Sew these units together with the 2 1/2" squares as shown in the illustration.



Our Guild meets on the first and third Wednesday of each month, with a special basting meeting on the fifth Wednesday. We meet at the First United Church of Christ, 145 Chestnut Street, Spring City, PA 19475. Babysitting is available if arranged in advance with Jean Atwood. Dues are \$15 per year and guests are always welcome.

Elizabeth Snead, has more membership information.

Our newsletters are now on-line. Check us out at our website
loosethreadsquilters.org