Volume 31 Issue 12 August 2026

Loose Threads News

1st Wednesday Agenda

9:30 Doors open - refreshments and socializing

10:00 Business Meeting & Voting

3rd Wednesday Agenda

9:30 Doors open - refreshments and socializing

10:00 Program Meeting - Jelly Roll Quilt Workshop

President's Message

AUGUST….already?!?!? What a great year we've had! A few glitches along the way, but overall, OUTSTANDING (thanks to everyone who's played a part in making OUR guild tremendous)!

We have quite a few BIG events in the coming months….a fabric sale in September, a Barbara Black workshop in October, a visit from Seth Apter and a Quilts of Valor presentation in November, and our Holiday Brunch in December. Whew!

Speaking of events, it has come to my attention that there are quite a few members willing to work on The Tea. Most of the key sub-committees have willing "worker bees"; we just need 1 or 2 people to step up to chair the event. I'm hoping we can resolve this at our next business meeting.

See you there!!!!! ~Val

Membership Renewal Deadline 9/1/2026

Thank you to everyone that has already submitted their 2026-27 membership dues. Forms will be available at the August and September business meeting. Dues deadline is 9/2.

Mystery Row by Row BOM

The big reveal will be at the September business meeting!

Bring your completed tops!

All patterns have been posted on our website.

Questions? Contact Kathy Snyder or Nancy Miller.

Ask Miss Quiltsalot

Dear Miss Quiltsalot,
I am trying to determine what widths I should use for borders on my quilt, but I'm not sure what will look balanced. Any thoughts?

Dear Border Challenged,
Well, dear quilter, why not check out Pinterest and look for a Fibonacci grid for quilting? Who knew that the Italian mathematician actually provided us with the perfect combinations of numbers that would play well together in our quilts? If you want natural balance and good visual interest, try one of these combinations.

Dear Miss Quiltsalot,
I'm just getting started on a new quilt and I'm wondering what stitch length should I be using for piecing. What do you suggest?

Dear Stitcher,
Great question! A lot of machines have a default of 2.5 but I recommend dialing down to a 2.0 for piecing. The smaller stitches give a little more integrity to your seams. And, if you are paper piecing, consider dialing it down even further to a 1.8 to insure a secure stitch that won't break when you are tugging out all of that paper.

Until next time,

Miss Quiltsalot

AUGUST 19 PROGRAM

Jelly Roll Quilt 64 1/2" x 79 1/2"

Bring your machine, basic sewing supplies, and a lunch and join us for this fun and easy extended day workshop.

If you want to do prep work before the workshop:

- Using an accurate 1/4" seam allowance, sew together 10 strip sets with four strips in each (be sure to switch directions when sewing so that the unit doesn't get wonky). Press seams as you prefer - direction does not matter.
- Cut a total of 40 - 8 1/2" squares from your background fabric (cut fewer squares if you are making a smaller quilt). On the wrong side of each square, draw a line along ONE diagonal.

A rotary cutter, mat, and a large square ruler (8 1/2" or larger) would be helpful. I will have some rulers to share so don't go out and buy one.

Ironing stations will be set up.

Any questions, please contact Nancy Miller.

SHOW and TELL

Laurie Kelly finished her Mondo bag! Beautiful batiks!

Judy McCourry finished this cute baby quilt from a kit that she purchased in 2014. Way to use up those UFO's!

Rosemary Geisler was scrolling on Pinterest and came up with a great way to use up some of her patriotic prints…potholders! Very creative!

Sue Umstead was cleaning and organizing her sewing room when she rediscovered some fabric buried in her stash. She made a set of placemats for her home in Delaware - one side patriotic, and the other side… chickens? Very resourceful!

Melinda Novatnak whipped up this beautiful king size rail fence quilt made from a BOM. Love how the sashing pulls it all together. Great job!

Diane Hess has been busy! She finished this lovely 2006 BOM from Keepsake Quilting. She also completed this Advent calendar from Scandi. And, she managed to whip up this pre cut kit from The Old Country Store. Beautiful work! Now take a nap!

Thank you from Hankin Library

The quilting display has been a big hit and works so nicely with the 250th celebrations. Many thanks to you and your quilters for putting it together.

Nancy Kinyon-Samec also added:

Thank you for all the donations for our display. I heard quite a few positive comments by people who were thrilled to see our beautiful display!

2026 Library & Embellishment Challenge

The challenge this year is to use an item from the guild library and to embellish your quilt. Library items include patterns, books, rulers, and magazines. Embellishments include beading, embroidery, painting, etc. Any shape and color, but the total perimeter should be no bigger than 80" (20" per side if a square). The committee will be starting a collection of donated embellishments from members of the guild that will be available at each business meeting. Please consider bringing in any extra items such as buttons, special threads, beads, etc. that other members could use. Be sure to credit the library resource you used in creating your challenge.

Stay tuned! There may be some additional surprises revealed in the future.

Calling all members…anyone with embellishing techniques they would like to share, please contact Susan Koederitz, Silvia Homa, or Beth Hammond-Ritschard.

Airing of the Quilts & Quilt Fest

September 19 @ 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Join us for a Garden Spot Village tradition! Our 2026 Quilt Fest will include demonstrations, a lecture by local Art Historian Gloria Mast entitled, "Crazy Quilts & Scrap Boxes," quilt sales and a community Airing of the Quilts. Come for all or part of the day!
This event is free and open to the public.

**Susan Koederitz attended this event a few years ago and highly recommends it!

THANK YOU!

Approximately 30 of our seatbelt pillows were delivered to the Malvern location of Unite For Her, an organization which supports breast and ovarian cancer patients nationwide. Our seatbelt pillows will go in some of the care boxes filled with educational resources, safe home and beauty products, and access to live and digital resources, all free.
They were thrilled to receive our donation so perhaps we can make more in another charity day program in the coming year.
~Debby O'Keefe

Quilts of Valor

Debbie Haas will be coordinating a Quilts of Valor event on November 11. Several members of LTQ have agreed to put together quilt tops that some of our gracious longarmers have agreed to quilt. Please let Debbie know if you are working on one that will be completed in time. She needs to confirm recipients who would be willing to attend a small ceremony we would have at the church. If you know of any local military vets who would appreciate a quilt, please let Debbie know asap. The ideal size for quilts is 60" x 80". No smaller than 55" x 65" and no larger than 72" x 90". Check out www.qovf.org for more specifics.

Email Blast Requests

Any information that you want emailed to guild members should be forwarded to theloosethreadsquilters@gmail.com.
Please format your email so that it can be copied and sent to the group.
Thank you - Missy Smith

DAY BEE

Day Bee meets on the second Wednesday of each month from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Bring along a project to work on and get to know your fellow LTQ members.

Questions? Contact Rosemary Geisler

HELP WANTED

Measuring for the Farm Home and Youth/4H Giant Fabric Sale started on July 7. If interested in participating, please see Sharon Beideman or Joanne Borgnis for a schedule/ calendar.

Ways to Use Up Batting Scraps

- Pet beds
- Packing material for storage or Christmas decorations
- Use for “snow” with Christmas scenes
- Eye masks
- Zipper pouches
- Use to clean cutting mat or sewing machine
- Swiffer pads
- Wrap around broom to knock down spider webs
- Erase black marker lines on white board
- Use small squares for make up removal
- Draft dodgers tubes for windows in the winter
- Quilt as you go coasters or small pads to place under plants
- Use for making the front portion of your anatomy appear more ample than it really is (stuff your bra)

JULY MEETING MINUTES

The monthly business meeting of the Loose Threads Quilt Guild was held at the United Church of Christ in Spring City, PA on July 1 and facilitated by President Val Fisher. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m.

The meeting began with Show and Tell.

Old Business: A general discussion was held regarding committees. It was suggested to combine the speaker and program committees at this time. The hospitality committee will remain the same. There is currently no volunteer to chair the Tea committee, and only one volunteer to help with food. At this time, it is questionable if the guild will have a Tea in 2027.

New Business: Kimberton Fair requested to rent the guild's quilt racks from September 20 - 25. The guild is looking for a new home to store the quilt racks, and is open for suggestions.

Basting Day: There will be a basting day in July.

Block of the Month: The Block of the Month reveal will take place at the September business meeting. While we'd love to see finished quilts, it doesn't have to be quilted, but if your top is together, please bring it in.

Challenge: Don't forget to work on your embellishments.

Day Camp: No changes.

Morning Bee: Bring your projects and enjoy working with guild members the second Wednesday of the month.

Field Trips: There are no field trips scheduled at this time.

Hospitality: No changes.

Membership: Updated.

Newsletter: Contact Nancy Miller with any suggestions or corrections.

Programs: July meeting will be working with batting scraps and a jelly roll pattern will be presented at the program workshop in August.

Sewing Room Sale: The sewing room sale will be September 18, from noon until 6, and September 19, 9 until 2. Set up will be on September 17th.

Treasurer's report: Treasurer's report was provided.

Website: If you see anything on the guild's website that should not be there, please let one of the officers know.

Raffle Winner: The Name Tag winner was Rosemary.

With no other business to discuss, the meeting was concluded at 11:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Haas, Secretary

UPCOMING EVENTS

June - October 2026

Pieced Together: American Quilts Across Generations – June 8 - October 18, 2026. An exhibit opening in the Pearl S. Buck House Museum this summer at 520 Dublin Road, Perkasie, PA. Explore American quilting traditions from the Civil War era to the present. Featuring a remarkable range of quilts, from early utilitarian quilts reflective of 19th-century life to contemporary art quilts, including pieces that have won awards in regional and national quilt shows. Tickets are on sale now at https://pearlsbuckinternational.ticketspice.com/quilt-exhibit.

August 2026

Eureka Montana Quilt Show - August 1, 2026. This show has graced downtown Eureka Montana for 17 years and has become a go-to destination for quilters from all over the Northwest, Canada and other countries. It decks out Eureka's downtown and Historical Village with unimaginable color and supports the local economy with tourism dollars. For more info visit https://www.eurekaquiltshow.com/.

AQS Quilt Week - August 19-22, 2026. Presented by AQS at the DeVos Place Convention Center, 303 Monroe Ave NW, Grand Rapids, MI. For more info visit https://www.quiltweek.com/. September 2026

September 2026

Pennsylvania National Quilt Extravaganza - September 17-20, 2026. Presented by Mancuso Show Management, the largest and most comprehensive quilt festival in a state known for its rich history of quilting is all under one roof at the Greater Philadelphia Expo Center, Phoenixville, PA. For more info visit https://www.quiltfest.com/upcoming-shows-and-events/pennsylvania-national-quilt-extravaganza/.

Annual Giant Fabric Sale - September 24-27, 2026. Presented by Montgomery County 4H at the Montgomery County 4-H Center, 1015 Bridge Road, Collegeville, PA. All kinds of fabrics, patterns, notions, needlecrafts, yarn, and assorted sewing supplies are available. In addition, many vintage fabrics and quilting supplies are available. For more info, visit https://www.fhycomplex.org/annual-fabric-sale.

October 2026

Quilts from the Heart of Berks - October 2-3, 2026. Presented by the Berks Quilters Guild at Leesport Farmers Market, 312 Gernant's Church Rd., Leesport, PA. For more info visit https://www.berksquiltersguild.org/quilt-show.

Keystone Quilters 2026 Quilt Show - October 9-10, 2026. Presented by Keystone Quilters Guild at the Finland Mennonite Church, 1750 Ziegler Road, Pennsburg, PA. For more info visit https://www.keystonequilters.org/quilt-show.

Quilts in the Mill – October 16-17, 2026. Presented by the Courthouse Quilters Guild at Prallsville Mills, 33 Risler Street, Stockton, NJ. For more info see the quilt show flyer.

Every Quilt Tells a Story- October 16-18, 2026. Presented by South Shore Stitchers Quilt Guild at the Upper Township Community Center, 1790 Route 50, Tuckahoe, NJ. For more info visit http://www.southshorestitchers.com/.

Valley Forge Quilt Show - October 23-24, 2026. Presented by Valley Forge Homestead Quilters at the Good Shepard Church, King of Prussia, PA. For more info go to the Valley Forge Quilt Show web page.

Shop Hops

All Mid-Atlantic Shop Hop 7/1/2026 - 8/31/2026. List of Shops in DE, MD, NJ, PA (smaller this year: VA and WV moved to All Blue Ridge Shop Hop)

All Ohio Shop Hop 8/1/2026 - 9/30/2026. List of Shops

Eastern PA Shop Hop 10/23/2026 - 11/7/2026

Hospitality

Aug 5	snack	Rosemary Geisler
	snack	_____
Aug 19	snack	Loretta Radewonuk
	snack	Debby O'Keefe

August Birthdays

3 Barb Sherman

3 Missy Smith

11 Debbie Popp

14 Geri Dulis

17 Susan Koederitz

21 Marcela Sivco

21 Linda Ulinski

Loose Threads Quilt Guild

Meets at 9:30 a.m. on the
1st and 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