Loose Threads News

Volume 28 Issue 10 July 2023

1st Wednesday Agenda

9:30 Doors open – refreshments & socializing

10:00 Business Meeting

3rd Wednesday Agenda

9:30 Doors open - refreshments & socializing

10:00 Service Projects Workshop

President's Message

"Ah, summer, what power you have to make us suffer and like it."

Russell Baker

It's summer! It's time to be outside gardening, playing, running, hiking, swimming, walking, etc. What? You don't care to get hot, sweaty and miserable? Well then, get back inside, crank up the air conditioning, grab a cool drink and find your way to your favorite sewing spot and get busy. Busy doing what, you say? That's easy! We have a Challenge to complete before our Holiday luncheon, we have charity quilts to do and, of course, quilts to finish for the Tea quilt show. Regardless of how you spend your summer, inside or outside, enjoy these next few months as they will go quickly!

Betty Ann

Loose Threads Fabric Sale

August 19, 2023

Set up is on the 18th, with the actual sale on the 19th.
This will be a group event.
Sign-up sheet for set-up and sale will be available at the July 5th business meeting.

No donations are being accepted until **after** the sale.

June Meeting Minutes

The Monthly Business Meeting of the Loose Threads Quilt Guild was held at the United Church of Christ in Spring City on June 7th, 2023, facilitated by President Betty Ann Dawson. The meeting was called to order at 10:06.

Old Business: Last month's minutes were read by the membership and approved. Last month's treasurer's report was read and approved.

- A reminder for the fabric sale in August was announced. The date is August 19th with set-up on the 18th. It will include fabric already donated and quilting books already donated. No additional donations accepted. There will be sign-ups for working the set-up and sale.

New Business: Election held of new officers for the 2023-2024 term. 33 members are present. Treasurer - Josie Sharp, Secretary - Carly Moore, Vice-president - Susan Koederitz, and President - Nancy Miller. They will take office September 6, 2023.

- The guild received a new lease from the church to sign which raises the price to $1500/year or $125/ month, starting in January 2024. It is not due back until September. A committee was formed to evaluate options before signing.

Announcements: Betty Ann announced that Country Living Magazine has an article on quilted items this month and recommends reading it.

- Betty Ann also announced that she will be moving to Delaware soon so the guild needs to find a place to store the quilt racks. Melissa Ciacci and Diane Hess will check to see if they can store them on their properties.
- The church asks that some of us park in the back parking lot during business meetings.

Block of the Month: Sylvia showed a square in square which is this month's assignment.

Challenge: A reminder to work on the challenge.

Day Camp: Betty Ann handed out refunds of $5 since the costs were not as high as expected.

Evening Bee: August 14th, meeting at Giovanni's for dinner at 5:00 then meet at the church after that.

Field Trips: Winnie reported nothing scheduled at this time but considering a trip to Burkholder's and a show of hands for who would be interested. It would be in July or August.

Hospitality: Gail stated we just needed 1 person to sign up for snack on 8/1/23, which someone did.

Library: Members need to go to the front room to access the library today. Also, Carolyn said they are taking suggestions for books that the library can purchase.

Membership: Josie reports that there was a glitch in the computer but the new membership cards will be passed out soon.

Programs: Next meeting we will make Manx blocks. The supply list is in the June newsletter. No sewing machine required. The July meeting will be charity quilts. The plan is to make 3 yd quilts as teams or individuals. We will probably be staying longer and we should pack a lunch to bring.

Round Robin: Everyone should have their projects back. The finished quilts will be shown at the Holiday Brunch.

Secret Pal: Margie reminded everyone that if your secret pal isn't here, then take their gift home until next month.

Service Projects: A reminder to members to fill out the form on the website to have the guild's quilts or projects donated to a specific organization. Nancy is holding onto quilts until a location is identified to donate these quilts. Also, we need walker bags. Batting is available for charity quilts.

Continued on page 3

June Minutes, continued

Speakers: No new information. The committee is waiting for responses. Karen Miller is available for the 4th Wednesday in September but details need to be worked out.

Sunshine: Status quo for our members but our favorite custodian, George, is under the weather and recovering from major surgery. All went well but he won't be able to set up the room for meetings. The guild has decided to send a quilt to George and encourages cards to be sent.

Website: Diane is updating the website.

Other Items: Today is the last day for raffle tickets for a bundle of Cherrywood fabric.

Raffle Winners: Donated by Josie Sharp
Business Meeting Raffle: Carly Moore
Name Tag Winner: Linda Glass

The meeting concluded at 11:20 followed by Show 'n Tell.

Respectfully submitted by:

Winnie McCarraher – Secretary

Kutztown Folk Festival – July 1-9, 2023. The Kutztown Folk Festival is proud to present America's largest quilt sale. https://www.kutztownfestival.com/quilts.

18th Annual Quilt & Textile Show - July 14-15, 2023. Presented by the Muncy Historical Society at the First United Methodist Church, 602 S. Market Street, Muncy, PA. https://www.muncyhistoricalsociety.org/18th-annual-quilt-textile-show/.

Barn Quilt

I took a workshop at Valley Forge quilt guild in May on making a Barn Quilt. It was a lot of fun, in fact, I wound up making a second one at home.

I told Susan Koedertiz about my class and she sent this link. If you're going to be traveling through New Jersey, perhaps you might want to be on the lookout for these barn quilts.

Linda Hamel

NJBarnQuilts com

What is a Barn Quilt?

Barn Quilts are colorful square plywood blocks mounted on barns and other buildings. The idea was originated in Ohio by Donna Sue Groves who wanted to honor her mother, an avid quilter. A "Clothesline of Quilts" has since spread through counties in Iowa, Kentucky, Missouri, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Tennessee and soon New Jersey.

Several barn quilts have been mounted in key locations in New Jersey. We will soon have maps to pinpoint where you can find these beautiful quilt blocks. These 'scavenger hunts' can easily become day long or season long trips that will entertain the whole family while educating everyone about New Jersey's agricultural legacy, and promoting these locations.

June Program

At the June program meeting Nancy Miller led us through the ins and outs of Manx quilting. This quilt-as-you-go style of log cabin quilt block, developed by inhabitants of the Isle of Man, is made by hand. There were lots of participants who were having lots of fun.

Dear Members,
Thank you so much for the beautiful lap quilt. It's so cold getting dialysis. The quilt helps keep me warm. It was such a thoughtful gift. God bless all of you!

Sincerely,
Donna Wineland

HOSPITALITY

	July 5	July 19
SNACK	Margie Allen	Clem Dupont
SNACK	Barb Sherman	Joanne Borgnis
DRINK	Rosemary Geisler	Geri Dulis

June Show and Tell

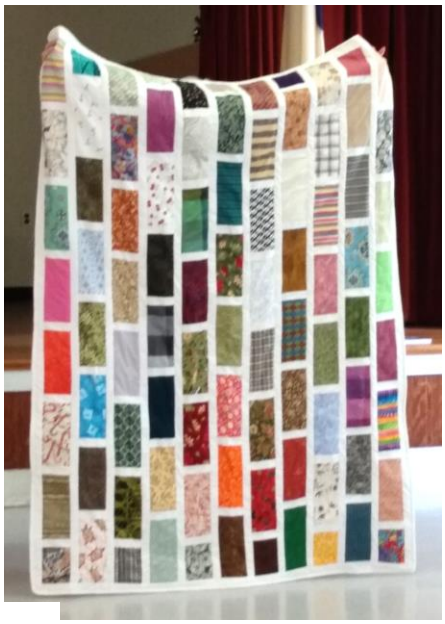
Winnie McCarraher

Betty Ann Dawson

Carly Moore

Marcela Sivco

Judy Snook



Melinda Novatnak

Carly Moore

Nancy Miller

Our new guild officers for 2023 – 2024:
President: Nancy Miller
Vice-President: Susan Koederitz
Secretary: Carly Moore
Treasurer: Josie Sharp

July Program

The program for July 19th will be working on charity quilts. Working with partners or individually, you can plan and start a quilt to eventually complete and donate to one of our charities. You can work together each step of the way or round robin style (first do one task, then pass it along to another member), or do whatever works for you. There are bundles of 3 yds. of fabric if you want to use a fabriccafe.com pattern or choose your own pattern. Sign up with Debby O'Keefe if you want to be partnered.

On July 19th bring your sewing machine, cutting tools, or your own fabric to get started. If you have a top to be quilted we could also set up basting frames. Participate wherever you choose to help us make quilts to warm the people who need them.

Debby O'Keefe
Nancy Kinyon-Samec

Sewing Tip

I discovered something that I did not know. I was helping my sister with the points on a block so that the points would not be cut off when she sewed the blocks together. If you sew from the edges down (making sure you match the edges perfectly) instead of up to the edges; you usually get a quarter inch seam allowance for your points. I never knew this…it was just dumb luck that I discovered this secret. Perfect points on most of her blocks! Probably everybody already knows this but it sure was awe inspiring for me!

Margie Allen

July Birthdays

4	Christine Rivard
20	Linda Glass
20	Ruth Ann Joslin
21	Judy Snook
28	Josie Sharp
31	Winnie McCarraher

Road Trip – Schwenkfelder Library

In June, Loose Threaders were off to the Schwenkfelder Heritage Center for the Penn Dry Goods Market, a textile-focused antique and vintage sale. We were also able to view the special exhibit, there, *Once Upon a Thread*, which featured works of textile art inspired by stories from the artist's childhood, world-famous books, family legends and the artist's imagination.

There followed a tasty lunch at Alfredo's in Bally and a stop at Longacre's for the yummiest ice cream ever. But at the end of the day, the happiest member of the group was definitely Judy Magner who got a terrific bargain on a lovely vintage quilt at the Market.

Sharon, Joanne & Rosemary

Judy Snook

Judy Magner

Betty Ann, Marylou & Lil

Bisa Butler

If you're not familiar with the portrait quilts of Bisa Butler, then you are missing out on an amazing experience. Checkout this piece from the Arts & Culture section of Smithsonian Magazine:

The Genius Behind Bisa Butler's Vibrant Quilts

https://www.smithsonianmag.com/arts-culture/bisa-butler-quilts-portraits-vibrant-color-180982331/

"A renowned portraitist, Butler has done for quilt-making what Matisse did for paper-cutting: elevating a humble technique to a high art. For years, quilting has been dismissed by the fine arts world as decorative craft or domestic labor. Butler's stunning work has helped shatter that barrier. She made her first portrait quilt, *Francis and Violette (Grandparents)*, while pursuing a master's in arts education in 2001. Today, her life-size quilts hang in museums across the country."

Don’t Tread on Me, God Damn, Let’s Go!—The Harlem Hellfighters.

Textile Exhibit

At our April program meeting, Winnie McCarraher spoke to us about 'big' stitch quilting including sashiko, kantha and modern big stitch quilting. Susan Koederitz learned of this new local exhibit where you can learn much more about kanthas.

A Century of Kanthas: Women's Quilts in Bengal, 1870s–1970s

Opening May 2023 at the Philadelphia Museum of Art

Like quilts around the world, kanthas embody thrift, labor, and imagination. Women in Bengal (modern-day Bangladesh and the state of West Bengal, India) created kanthas for a host of reasons—as ritual seating, bedcovers, baby swaddling, and much more. Most disintegrated with household use, but many that survived are now heirlooms that carry women's individuality and love for their families across generations.

This exhibition brings into conversation two types of kanthas: *nakshi* (ornamented) kanthas and *galicha* (carpet) kanthas.
The *nakshi* kanthas on view, from between about 1870 and 1930, are made on layers of soft, white, repurposed fabric embroidered with meaningful motifs in a delicate palette and often covered with rows of parallel white running stitches. *Galicha* kanthas, produced especially in the 1950s and 1960s, are thick, uniformly rectangular quilts with vivid cross-stitch embroidery in intricate geometric forms on a surface of new cloth backed by upcycled fabrics

https://philamuseum.org/calendar/exhibition/a-century-of-kanthas-womens-quilts-in-bengal-1870s-1970s

August Program

At our August program meeting, we will be demonstrating the steps involved to make the Cobblestone Quilt by Alison Glass. The pattern is available at this website for $12. (Lori Memmen has a pattern available for $10)

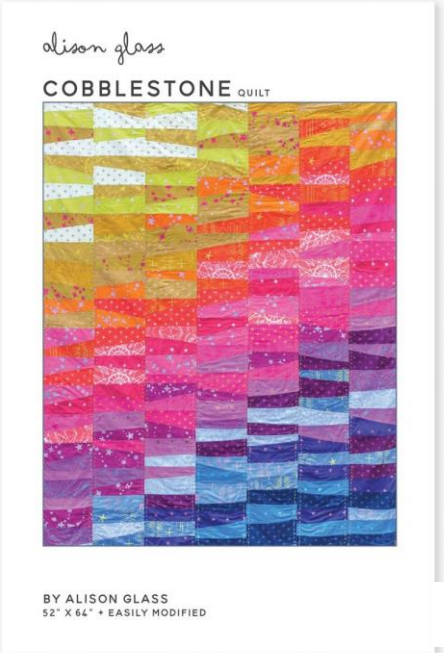
Cobblestone Quilt Pattern | Alison Glass

For this color gradation quilt, you will need a variety of bright solids (or fabrics that 'read' as solids) and coordinating prints. The pattern suggests using 5 or 6 rectangles from about 21 fabrics (116 total).

If you're feeling intimidated by the large range of colors, you could opt for a monochromatic quilt, choosing one color, blue perhaps, and do a range from baby blue to navy.

Per the pattern instructions, rectangles are cut 5 x 8" resulting in a quilt measuring ~52 x 64" If you'd like to do something smaller, you could cut your rectangles at 3 x 5" and this would make a wall hanging.

Linda Hamel



Officers & Contacts

PRESIDENT
Betty Ann Dawson wildberryfarm@dejazzd.com

VICE PRESIDENT /MEMBERSHIP
Josie Sharp josie.sharp@sharperoutlook.com

TREASURER
Marylou Boryta mboryta2@verizon.net

SECRETARY
Winnie McCarraher mc_quiltinau@yahoo.com

PROGRAMS
Nancy Miller Nancymiller922@comcast.net

SPEAKERS
Laurie Kelly family5kelly@comcast.net

WEBSITE
Diane Hess diane.hess@outlook.com

NEWSLETTER
Linda Hamel dhamel476@gmail.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

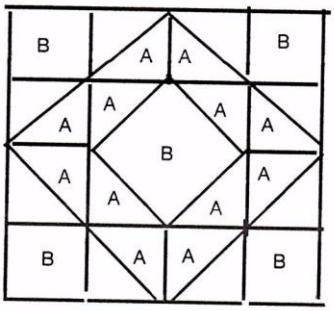
Loose Threads News is a monthly newsletter for the members of Loose Threads Quilt Guild
and is available on our website
www.theloosethreadsquilters.org

July - Mystery Block of the Month

Cut another 12 3 ½" squares from fabric B.

Cut 12 4" squares from A & B and make another 24 HST from fabric A & B measuring 3 ½".

This month we are finally using up those HST !
We will be making 12 diamond blocks

To make 1 block :
use (8) 3 1/2 HST
(4) 3 1/2 background squares
(1) 6 1/2 square in a square block . Follow the diagram below

This will measure 12 1/2 unfinished