Loose Threads News

Volume 28 Issue 7 April 2023

1st Wednesday Agenda

9:30 Doors open - refreshments & socializing

10:00 Business Meeting
Show & Tell

3rd Wednesday Agenda

9:30 Doors open - refreshments & socializing

10:00 Tea Discussion Topics

President's Message

"Blossom by blossom the spring begins…"

Algernon Charles Swinburne

Happy spring! We made it! We got through the winter (not that it was much of a winter except for the winds, yuck). We made it through the Tea and its' aftermath. And here we are just waiting on some warmer weather. In addition to warmer weather, we have much to look forward to in the coming months.

April will let us know how successful the Tea was after all the bills are paid. May brings us another round of Day Camp (May 9 & 10), our 35th Anniversary luncheon (May 17) and, of course, our regular meetings. And June, well, we'll just have to wait to see what she brings us. In the meantime, enjoy the beginnings of spring, the birds, the flowers, the warmer weather!

Betty Ann

HOSPITALITY

	April 5	April 19
Snack:	Susan Koederitz	Carly Moore
Snack:	Judy McCourry	Silvia Homa
Cold Drink:	Susan Koederitz	Melinda Novatnak

March Meeting Minutes

The Monthly Business Meeting of the Loose Threads Quilt Guild was held at the United Church of Christ in Spring City on March 1st, 2023 facilitated by President Betty Ann Dawson. The meeting was called to order at 10:05.

Old Business: February minutes were read and approved. February Treasurer's report was approved.

Announcements:
• We have two guests, Cheryl and Melissa.
• The guild is having an anniversary luncheon on May 17th at Landis Creek. A sign-up sheet will be passed around.

Basting: Basting on March 29th at 9:30. There are people signed up for basting.

Block of the Month: Sylvia states that this month is hourglass blocks and we will finally use Fabric C with Fabric B. The directions are in the newsletter.

Challenge: The challenge should reflect the 35th anniversary and all the bags of fabric are distributed.

Charity Projects: Nancy says we are still collecting quilts. Also, any placemats donated will be given to Hope on the Hill after the Tea.

Day Camp: Sign-ups for day camp start March 15th.

Evening Bee: Next Wednesday, meet at Giovanni's in Royersford at 5:00 and then meet at the church.

Field Trips: Nothing on the calendar yet but just a reminder that there is a quilt show in Lancaster March 29th to April 1st and a local quilt show at the 4-H center in Collegeville on April 14-15. Also, a trip is being planned to see a special exhibit at the Schwenkfelter Heritage Center in either May or June.

Hospitality: Gail says we are good through April. Sign-ups are available for May.

Library: Carolyn says that the last issue of the magazine, Quilt Mania is available. Also, we need to update the Quilt Shop Reference Book.

Nominating Committee: Josie reminds the membership that if interested in running for an officer's position, please contact someone on the committee.

Programs: The next program will be Sylvia giving a talk on rulers and Debby O'Keefe talking about Scrap Quilts.

Speakers: Laurie is talking to Barbara Pershing from Aurifil Threads but not confirmed yet.

Sunshine: Linda Garthe - hip replacement going well, Kathy Neiman - still knitting and mentoring newbies and loves getting cards and visits, Jane Russell - husband says she has good and bad days and Joanne Cantwell is doing well.

Tea: Set-up is Friday, 3/24/23 from approximately 9-12.
• On Saturday, 3/25/23 members should arrive between 7:30 - 8:00 and plan to stay until around 2:30 - 3:00.
• Kiti will shuttle people from the parking lot at the pool to the church.
• We have 99 people registered so far.
• For the book sale, Clem reminds everyone that we are not accepting any books older than 10 years old. Books should be dropped off in the front room, in the back area. No religion or politics.
• Sylvia is taking stuff for the craft sale now until 3/24. See her for the necessary forms.
• For the sewing room sale, Betty Ann says that volunteers are needed to transport stuff. No more donations for this year's sale will be accepted after 3/15.
• Quilt rack loading is being done by Randy Umstead on Thursday. If anyone can help, see Sue. The load out is on Saturday by Diane.

Continued on page 3

Minutes, continued

Tea, continued:
• Quilt show sign-ups are being sent around. Susan K is the MC this year. Parking will be handled by Len, Doug and Randy M.
• Don't forget sleeves wide enough to fit the poles and label your quilts.

Treasurer: Report given by Marylou.

Raffle Winners: Donated by Bernie Hughes
Business Meeting Raffle: Clem Dupont
Name Tag Winner: Sue Umstead

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

Respectfully submitted by:
Winnie McCarraher, Secretary

March Show & Tell

Sue Umstead showing her completed Kaleidoscope quilt from last August's workshop.

Judy Snook at March Show & Tell.

Judy Peters

April Birthdays

4	Rosemary Geisler
5	Joanne Borgnis
14	Melinda Novatnak
20	Cathy Nelson
24	Diane Hess
28	Marylou Boryta
28	Janet Freedline

Our 2023 Quilters Tea

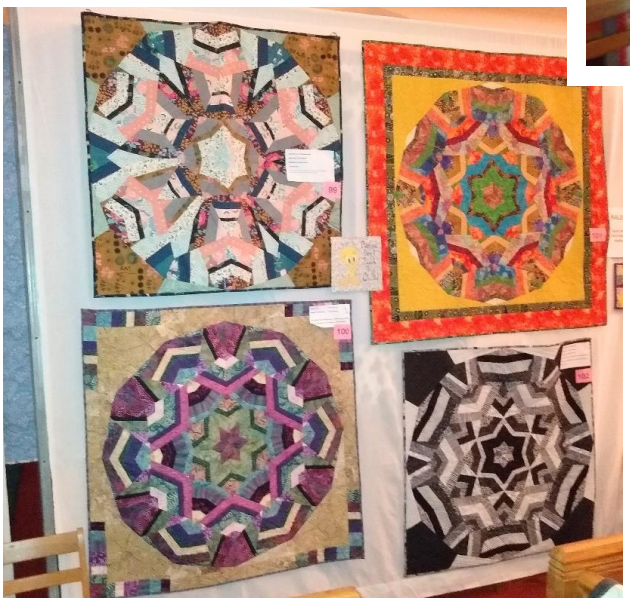
Melinda & Laurie at registration.

Susan did a great job as this year's emcee.

Chris, Marylou & Judy

Silvia taking care of business at the Craft Sale

Kiti & Cathy collecting the Tea blocks.



Judy & Linda counting up profits at the Book Sale.

Joanne Alburger of Keystone Quilters showed this clever quilt she made from last year's Tea blocks.

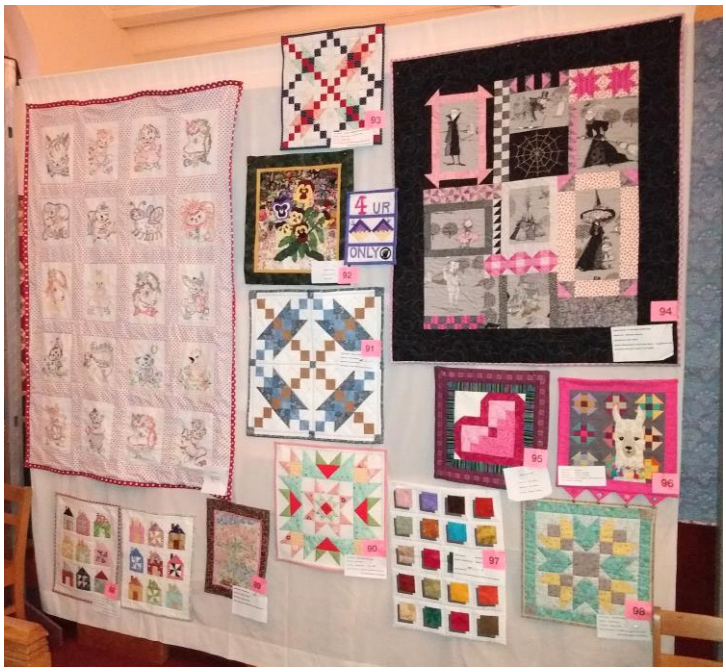
Guest speaker Janneke Van Der Ree

Sue, Josie, Jean & Barbara, just some of the very important Kitchen crew

Kudos to Diane Hess and Chris Rivard, our 2023 Tea co-chairs, for pulling off a very successful event. So many positive comments from our guests about the amazing quilts, great food, terrific speaker and fun discussion groups. Well done.

Bernie keeping up with the coffee demand.

Loretta & Betty Ann manning the ever-popular Sewing Room Sale.



March Program

At our March program meeting we heard from some of our members who were scheduled to lead discussion topics at our Tea.

Silvia Homa told us about her favorite rulers in her talk **Measure Up with Specialty Rulers**.

Debby O'Keefe showed all the possibilities for using a simple pattern to reduce your piles of scraps in her discussion **From Scrap Mountain to Quick Quilts.**

Sean Homa, Silvia's son, shared a special treat with members. Sean made a 7-minute video, titled *Stitches*, as a part of his college course requirements in 2020. He had come to two guild meetings, interviewed members and recorded some of the day's program. Sean was finally able to edit hours of material into his course submission. He showed us the video and then answered questions, including his final grade – a very respectable B+. If you would like to view Sean's video, here is the link.

https://youtu.be/P4gfE4ougC8

Debby O'Keefe, Silvia Homa & Sean Homa

April Program

In April we will again utilize the immense wealth of talent in our guild when we hear from two more members that presented discussion topics at our recent Tea.

Carly Moore - Marking Tools for Quilts and Labels - Discussion and demonstration of favorite tips, tricks, and tools for marking your quilts to either disappear (magically!) or stay put forever. Feel free to share your own marking tool hits or misses!

Winnie McCarraher - Sashiko, Kantha and Big Stitch Quilting - What is sashiko, kantha and big stitch quilting? What is it used for and how do you do it? We will discuss these three techniques, the differences and similarities, where they come from and how to use them in our next project. We'll also discover the meditative value of hand stitching.

As the Tea guests circled around the 25 (!) baskets chock full of enticing goodies, I heard over and over again, "Wow! These are amazing, I can't possibly decide where to put my raffle tickets!" And that is all because of the generosity of our guild members. Everyone gave me donations, large and small that helped make our Tea Basket Raffle the most successful ever! Many, many thanks to all. An additional thank you to Marie, Donna, Joanne, Carolyn, Nancy and Susan for all their hard work.

Linda Hamel

Website

https://suzyquilts.com/

Suzy Quilts generously donated a pattern bundle to our tea door prizes. Her website has free and for sale patterns, sew alongs, tips, and blog posts. There is lots of information and inspiration to explore.

This link takes you to examples of how she pulled colors for her quilts with examples.

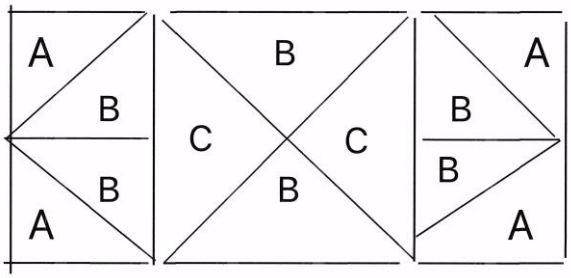
https://suzyquilts.com/part-i-maypole-quilt-sew-along-picking-fabric/

Susan Koederitz

April Mystery BOM

Is everyone caught up? It is time to put some parts together.
There are 3 clues this month
1. (We aren't done making those HST!) Again, cut another 12 of Fabric A and B squares cut at 4" and make another 24 HST that will measure 3 ½" square when complete.

2. Take 7 of the hourglass units you made last month (6 ½" X 6 ½") and add paired HST to both sides. This should measure 12 ½" X 6 ½" when complete. See picture for placement.



3. Cut 12 Fabric B (background fabric) into 3 ½" squares and set aside.

Silvia Homa

Quilt Shop Review

We were fortunate to be able to spend some time with family in Clearwater, Florida in March. My sister-in-law (aware of my quilting addiction) said that she found a quilt shop I had somehow managed to miss on previous trips south. In between cruising the intercoastal in a pontoon boat, shuffleboard tournaments and a number of extended 'happy hours,' we went to check it out.

The short version of this quilt shop review: stop in! It's a small shop but carries a wide variety of fabrics, from novelties, batiks, Moda to Kaffe Fassett and Tula Pink. They also have a large section dedicated to hand stitching featuring patterns, embroidery floss, wool and many kits. The owners, Marilyn and John who have run the shop for over 20 years, also have a fondness for teddy bears which are scattered throughout the store.

I was looking for fabric for a One Block Wonder workshop and I had been instructed to choose one with 6 repeats. The staff couldn't have been more helpful, pointing out and measuring the repeat sections of some possible choices. And, of course yes, I did manage to find something that I just had to have. I never seem to leave a quilt shop empty handed.

Linda Hamel

Country Quilts and Bears

1983 Drew Street
Clearwater, FL 33765
727-461-4171
Countryquiltsandbears.com
Open Tuesday – Saturday 10-4

Viewer's Choice Awards

There were an amazing variety of beautiful quilts displayed at our 2023 Tea quilt show. Our guests were asked to vote in two categories – Large and Small. These are the quilts they chose as this year's favorites.

Large Quilt First Place - Diane Hess – *Flower Dance*

Large Quilt Second Place - Nancy Miller- *Flowers Galore*

Small Quilt Second Place
Melissa Ciacci - *School*

Small Quilt First Place

Judy Snook, Linda Hamel, Winnie McCarraher, Laurie Kelly, Rosemary Geisler, Eileen Frankil & Lori Memmen – *Wehr's Bridge*

Getting to Know You Chris Rivard

Originally from Kalamazoo, Michigan, Chris relocated to the Ambler/Fort Washington area when her father was transferred with Smith Kline. Presently, she resides in Phoenixville.

Chris learned to sew in junior high at 4H. Her very first project was an apron. More recently, she was inspired by Judith Montano and her free form embroidery style. As Chris says, her "jaw dropped" while looking through a magazine that contained examples of Judith's work. The hand embroidered and quilted nature scenes were so realistic. Chris never realized that people could create tree bark and shrubs out of fabric and she decided to give it a try. You may have been lucky enough to see the Victorian house wallhanging that Chris has been working on. It incorporates many of the techniques she found in Judith Montano's books.

As a critical care nurse at Phoenixville Hospital for the past 37 years, Chris became acquainted with LTQ's own Sylvia Homa. When Chris was battling breast cancer 12 years ago, Sylvia presented her with a quilt made up of blocks signed by her coworkers. This was her official introduction to quilts, and the inspirational messages and Sylvia's quilting skills led her to be bitten by the quilting bug!

Chris is intrigued by the traditional Bachelor Button block and hopes to incorporate it into a quilt someday. She is inspired by nature and color and enjoys gardening in her spare time. Chris says, if she were rich, she would travel more and definitely spend lots of time riding horses!

Chris admits that she leads a "solitary life", so she is happy to be a part of LTQ. She is enjoying engaging with other people, making new friends, and learning from the talents of others.

Welcome Chris! We're glad you found us!

Nancy Miller

Chris's embroidered & embellished Victorian house.

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

Upcoming Events

Lancaster Quilt Show - March 29 - April 1, 2023. At the Wyndham Lancaster Resort and Conference Center, 2300 Lincoln Highway E, Lancaster, PA. The show features over 40 vendors, a quilt exhibit and classes throughout the week. https://www.thelancasterquiltshow.com/

2023 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. http://www.pareliefsale.org/.

Fabric of Life Quilt Show - April 13-15, 2023. Presented by Ocean Waves Quilt Guild at Sussex Academy, 21150 Airport Road, Georgetown, DE. http://www.oceanwavesquiltguild.org/quilt-show.

Quilts…Keeping Us in Stitches Show and Sale - April 14-15, 2023. Presented by Homemaker's Country Quilters at the 4H Center, 1015 Bridge Road, Collegeville, PA. http://homemakerscountryquilters.org/.