Loose Threads News

Volume 21 Issue 11 August 2016

1st Wednesday Agenda

9:30 Doors open - refreshments & socializing

10:00 Business Meeting

Time to Renew your Membership! Don't forget to bring Lil Evans your completed membership form and $20 check. NO CASH PLEASE

3rd Wednesday Agenda

9:30 Doors open - refreshments & socializing

10:00

Charity Workshop

5th Wednesday Agenda

9:30 Doors open - refreshments & socializing

10:00 Basting

President's Message

"Feeling hot, hot, hot…,"
Lyrics by Alphonsus "Arrow" Cassell (1949-2010)

That just about describes our weather of late. It has been hot and beastly humid. Got to love these summers in southeastern Pennsylvania. If you're lucky enough to have air conditioning, count your blessings. If not there are coping strategies. Sit in front of a fan, put your feet in a creek, go for a swim, eat a popsicle, invent errands so that you can be in the car AC, and, my favorite, visit as many fabric stores as you can find. You might have to put up with a little heat as you run from the car to the store, but all that glorious fabric will make it worthwhile. And, as a side note, the fabric that you purchase today will become the projects that will keep you warm all winter. Keep cool and happy shopping!

Betty Ann

We have completed the Farewell Quilt for Wendy Cole who has moved to Erie. After 49 signed blocks were made by members, Clem Dupont and Linda Hamel sewed the top together, then Lil Evans quilted it and Mary Lou finished up with (her specialty) the binding. We miss you Wendy!

July Program

Our July program was a mystery project. We were instructed to bring only a fat quarter of plain white cotton. The project turned out to be….quilt labels! Judy brought all the supplies we needed, including light box, iron, cutting board, rotary cutter, freezer paper, Pigma pens, crayons and books and books of quilt label designs. We were able to trace the labels or simply transfer the designs with heat. Great fun and everyone went home with a number of new labels to use on their quilts.

Need more ideas for making quilt labels?

http://www.allpeoplequilt.com/how-to-quilt/finishing/making-quilt-labels

Needle Nite

Needle Nite began as the 'Sleepover' in 1992 and has continued to be a huge success through the years. Held yearly at the end of summer, we meet at a member's home and the traditional menu is pizza and ice cream. Work is done on our own projects or, often, members take the opportunity to seek advice and opinions on their latest quilting dilemma The ultimate goal is a fun, relaxing and enjoyable time getting to know each other a little bit better.

This year's gathering will be held on Friday, August 12th at Lil Evan's home located at 220 Bechtel Road in Collegeville. Our hostess has suggested perhaps a change to our event name this year to **SWIM & SEW**. Lil encourages everyone to bring your swim suits, as the pool will open at 2:00! Hope you can make it.

Road Trip

On Wednesday, August 10th join your Loose Threads friends for a day in Berks County. We will all meet at Betty Ann's house in Boyerstown at 9:30, then car pool to **Lady Fingers Quilt Shop** in Oley. After lunch, we will travel to **Home Spun**, a wool shop on Route 100 with great supplies and patterns. Sign up with Cathy Nelson or Betty Ann so we'll know to expect you for a fun day in the country.

Speaker at local Guild

August 10, 2016 – Lea McComas
Calico Cutters Quilt Guild
Goodwill Fire Co., West Chester, PA

Lea's portrait quilts have won international recognition. Discover the influences of history and culture that inspire her pictorial quilts. She will share information about principles of composition, the geometry of faces and how value, color and temperature work together to create realistic pictorial quilts, as well as a brief overview of her techniques for fused applique and thread painting.

www.leamccomas.com

Net Notes

Are you one of those folks that has bunches of scrap fabric already cut into small squares? Here's a tip to use them! I follow Pat Sloan online and Pat had an interesting article on her blog that members might enjoy. The title is **How to Make a Bonus Quilt While You Are Making Other Things.**

http://blog.patsloan.com/2016/07/pat-sloan-how-to-make-a-bonus-quilt-while-you-make-other-things.html

Christine Fallon

Upcoming Events

AQS Quilt Week - Jul 27 - 30, 2016 at The Oncenter, 800 South State St., Syracuse, NY
www.quiltweek.com/syracuse/
(Laurie & Linda's contest quilt will be on display at the New Quilts from Old Favorites exhibit)

Calico Cutters Quilt Guild -
August 9, 2016 – Lee McComas Workshop – 'Thread Painted Portraits' at Goodwill Fire Co., West Chester, PA
Fee $40, Kit: $10
Class Size limited to 20
www.calicocutters.com/august-9-2016-lee-mccomas-thread-painted-portraits/

Thank you so much for the awesome quilts! They are beautiful and will bring warmth and pleasure to so many residents. Some will be given to residents in need and some will be labeled for the Activities Dept for use during church services.

Thank you again for your talent and kindness!

Sally Hawk Jones
Director of Activities/Volunteers
Parkhouse Nursing & Rehab Center

Minutes – July Meeting

Betty Ann Dawson called the meeting to order at 10:05 A.M.

Items of Note:

- Membership card will be printed for September
- Maylou Boryta will prepare the new budget for September.
- At August meeting explanations of the various guild committees will be circulated to members so choices can be made for next year. Members will choose first, second and third choice.
- Welcome back to Carol Cossa
- Concern was shared for Susan Glaser for injuries she sustained in a fall.
- Betty Ann presented a question about the membership list. Would it be acceptable to put the name of the significant other on the membership list so we could know who might be answering when we call? The idea was approved by the membership.
- The Guild gave a donation to Trinity Lutheran Church Cantata Choir in memory of Sue Kehl.
- Lil Evans has once again agreed to host Needle Nite. It is planned for August 12th.
- Does anyone still need the booklet of the Tea Block patterns. Let Betty Ann know and she will make a copy for you.
- A committee was formed to put the past year's Tea blocks (made for the 2016 Tea) together into a quilt. Committee members are Betty Ann Dawson, Sally Ater, Carolyn Thompson, Pat Leiter and Lil Evans.

Business Meeting Raffle: There were 2 raffle drawings. The winners were Linda Hamel and Judy Peters.

Block of the Month: Final information of BOM was in the June newsletter. Plan to finish your BOM project so you can show it at the Holiday Brunch.

Challenge: Information about the Bird & Word Challenge will appear in every other newsletter.

Charity Projects: The next Charity workshop will be the program at the August 17th meeting. There is also a basting scheduled on August 31st so charity projects could be worked on then also. The Charity workshop held at the June meeting was very productive. There were a number of quilts completed and tops that need to be tied.

Fabric Exchange: August is the last month. The themes are: *June* – summer, *July* – nautical, and *August* – vacations. Some people still owe donations from past months. They must turn all of them in by August to be eligible for a prize drawing at that meeting.

Field Trips: On August 10th there will be a trip to Lady Fingers Quilt Shop followed by lunch in Boyertown. Alter lunch there will be a trip to Homespun Woolens. Those members who will be going should meet at Betty Ann Dawson's house at 9:30 A.M.

On October 14 there will be a trip to the Berks Quilters' Guild's Quilt Show, Quilts form the Heart at the Leesport Farmers' Market. Admission is $8. After that we will go to lunch and then stop at Wooden Bridge Dry Goods.

Hospitality: Gayle Hammond passed the sign-up sheet around.

Retreat: October 11th to the 14th is the retreat at Blue Lake. The cost will be $45 per night and a share in the food.

Round Robin: Suggested to do a Row by Row instead of a Medallion style quilt. Round Robin will begin in January 2017.

Library: If you have a title or author that you would like the library to acquire , give the e information to Bernie Hughes or Jane Russell. Also, is there an interest in subscribing to the Magazine Quilt Mania for a year?

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July Show-'n-tell

Among the great sewing projects we saw at Show-'n-Tell in July were some finished items from guild programs held earlier in the summer.

Linda and Rosemary displayed their Fiber Lace Scarves demonstrated by Laurie Kelly at the June meeting.

Dear friends,

Thank you for the beautiful floral arrangement, your expressions of sympathy over the last week, and your support over the last several weeks. It is all appreciated beyond words.

Your grateful friend,
Linda Garthe

There will be a Quilt Retreat at Blue Lake in Lancaster County on Tuesday, Oct 11 – Friday, Oct 14, 2016. If you would like to sign up or need more information, contact Lenore Clarke.

Cathy, Laurie, Christine and Marylou showed off their finished tuffets from Erin Underwood's workshop held in May.

Getting to Know You Rosemary Geisler

Mention the word "cruise" to Rosemary Geisler and her bags are packed! She and her husband thoroughly enjoy taking cruises and often have one or two (they sometimes take back-to-back cruises) booked far in advance… they come home from one and have another to look forward to!

Growing up in the Mount Airy section of Philadelphia, Rosemary has always maintained a Pennsylvania address though she enjoys travel and has visited 45 states. She attended Little Flower Catholic High School for Girls, then went on to Philadelphia Community College and St. Joseph's, eventually pursuing a career in Telecommunications. Along with her three daughters, she enjoys three step children and a total of 10 grandchildren.

Having never been introduced to sewing, she ventured into the world of quilting by taking a quilting course with Linda Hall at the Owen J. Roberts evening school. This has led to many fun experiences, a trip to the Houston Quilt Show, seminars with Ricky Timms, and many retreats. Some of her favorite activities have also been Quilt Cruises, she has taken three and found them very enjoyable and educational.

As a member of the Valley Forge Quilt Guild, Rosemary heard about the Loose Threads Tea and back in 2001, Laurie Kelly told her about the location and time of the Loose Threads Guild meetings. Joining soon after, she has held many positions within our Guild, serving as President twice, Vice-President once, and has been Tea Chair among other activities

Aside from quilting and travel, Rosemary is an avid reader and loves to curl up with a book while spending part of each winter in Florida. She plans those Florida trips and cruises to always be present for our March teas.

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Rosemary shared with us that at age 18, she lived with a family in Ecuador for six weeks and traveled to various parts of that country. Upon arriving home, she surprised her family with her newly pierced ears!

Truly loving quilting, Rosemary is grateful for the many wonderful people she has met through the years, making great friendships while pursuing her passion.

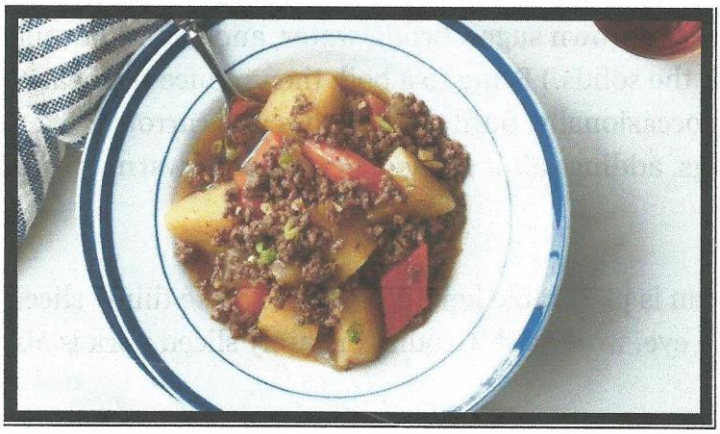
Joanne Cantwell

Recipe of the Month

Jane Russell recommended this recipe…it has the two very important qualities, it's very tasty and it's easy to make!

Japanese-style Meat and Potatoes

This recipe is based on a popular Japanese stewed dish called nikujaga (niku means "meat;" jaga means "potato"). Unlike in America, stewed dishes in Japan tend to be very light and contain only a small amount of liquid, which is more of a flavorful broth than a 'sauce.' Like most stews, though, it reheats well and tastes even better when the flavors have had a time to meld. Serve with steamed rice, if you like.



2 Tbsp vegetable oil
¾ lb ground beef
1 yellow onion, thickly sliced
1 large carrot, cut on diagonal into 1" chunks
1 ½ Tbsp minced fresh ginger
¼ cup dry white wine
1 ½ lbs potatoes (i.e. russets) cut into 1" chunks
2 Tbsp packed brown sugar
1 cup low-sodium chicken broth
½ cup water
¼ cup soy sauce
Salt
2 scallions, thinly sliced on diagonal (optional)

In a medium saucepan, heat oil over medium-high heat until it shimmers. Add beef and cook, stirring often and breaking up the meat, just until it's no longer pink, about 2 min.
Add onions, carrots and ginger and cook, stirring often, for about 2 min.

Add the wine and briskly simmer, scraping up any caramelized bits from the bottom of the pan, until almost evaporated. Add the potatoes, brown sugar, broth, water and soy sauce and stir to combine. (The liquid won't quite cover the solids.) Bring to a boil, then reduce the heat and simmer, partially covered and stirring occasionally, until the potatoes and carrots are tender, about 30 min. Check the seasonings, adding salt if needed. Serve hot or warm, sprinkled with scallions. Serves 4

TIP: Ground beef that is 85 percent lean is preferable here. You can also use thinly sliced beef instead. Well-marbled cuts, such as rib eye, work best. Ground or thinly sliced pork is also an option.

Reprinted from: *Keepers: Two Home Cooks Share Their Tried-and-True Weeknight Recipes and the Secret to Happiness in the Kitchen* by Kathy Brennan and Caroline Campion

FABRIC EXCHANGE

August's fabric theme is **road trip, camping or vacation** prints. Bring **12** rectangles measuring 3 ½" x 6 ½" and place in a ziplock bag with your name on it.

This month, August, completes the **FABRIC EXCHANGE** for 2015-2016. A special surprise drawing for all Fabric Exchange participants will be held at the business meeting on August 3rd….but ONLY if you have handed in **ALL** of the rectangles for every month. So check with Jo Quaglia, see what you may have missed, so you can take part in the fun!

August Birthdays

7	Jane Russell
13	Stephanie Adrian
14	Geri Dulis
24	Kathy Neiman
25	Pat Philion
26	Lovye Oesterlin

August Program

The plan for the charity workshop is to be able to sit at tables & tie quilts, but right now I only have 3 ready to go. If anyone has kits to complete, please try to finish the tops and then pillowcase them with the back, so they'll be ready for tying. If you can only finish the top, please do so & bring it in to the business meeting or the charity workshop. Hopefully we can have "a few machines" & I will bring in batting and backing

If we don't get any more completed tops, plan B is to bring in machines and start making tops and cutting kits.

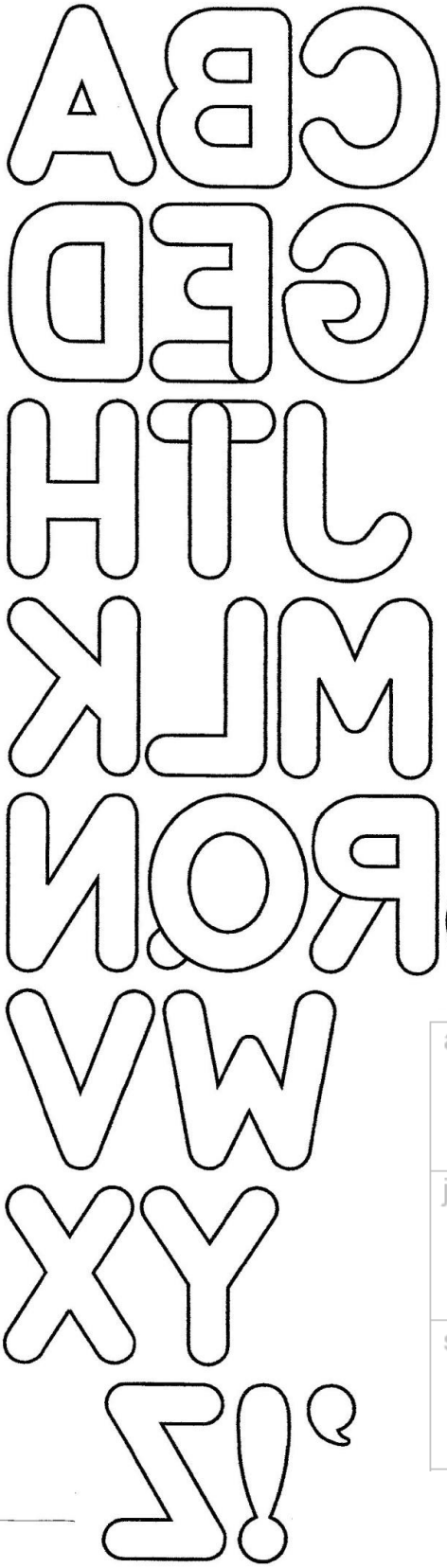
Please let me know what you have available.

Thank you,
Judy Peters

Hospitality

	Aug 3	Aug 17	Aug 31
Snack:	Marylou Boryta	Marie Traxler	Judy Snook
Snack:	Silvia Homa	Eileen Frankil	Betty Ann Dawson
Fruit/ Veg	Loretta Radewonuk	Jane Russell	Nancy Kinyon-Samec
Cold Drink:	Jean Sullivan	Lil Evans	Kathie Travis

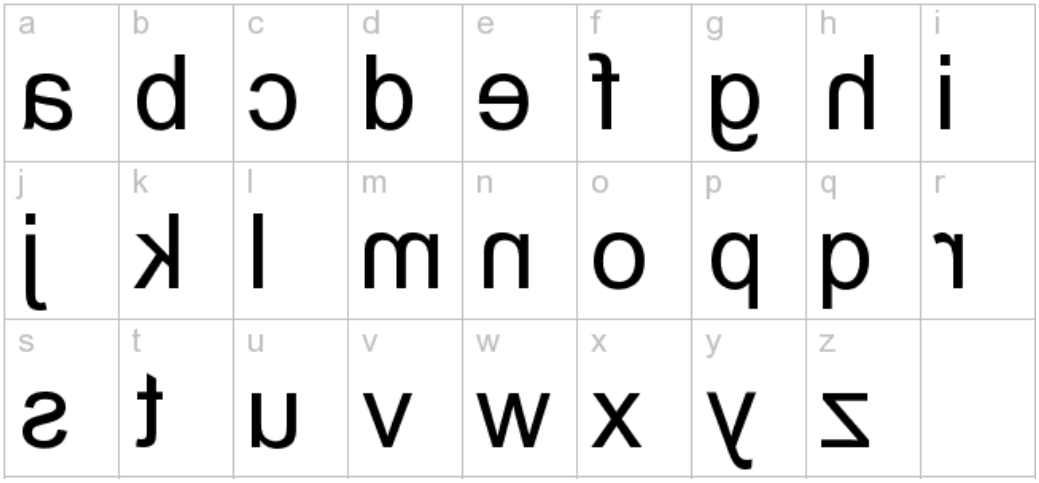
Birds & Words Challenge



Perhaps you've already found your design for this year's challenge. Now you're getting ready to add the 'words'. Using raw edge fusible applique might be the easiest technique to get those words on your piece. But, of course, you'll need to reverse them before tracing onto to the fusible web. Eileen has found a REVERSED alphabet among her pattern stash and would like it to share with members.

REMINDER:

- Quilts are due at our December 2016 holiday meeting and must be finished. Keep your project secret. Don't show it to anyone before the reveal.
- You must put two elements on the front of the quilt. At least one bird, and at least one word. The word(s) may be in any language.
- You can use any technique; including using commercial fabric containing words and birds. You may also write and draw directly on your quilt
- Maximum perimeter is 160 inches. May be smaller, but not larger.
- Clothing or other quilted items (handbags, pillows, TUFFETS! etc.) are acceptable.



July Minutes, cont.

Newsletter: Linda Hamel said that it really helps when members contribute information for the newsletter. She suggested giving her photos and short write-ups about our vacations.

Programs: It was suggested that a questionnaire be developed that would as members for ideas of what they would like in the way of programs and speakers.

Speakers: Robert Cannell will give a program on ergonomic quilting in September. Deb Karasik will be the speaker in November and do a workshop on paper-piecing on Tuesday, Nov 15th. Laurie Kelly has a list of names for next year that she is working through.

Website: Diane Hess has volunteered to work with Lenore Clarke on the guild website. The membership application is on the website. Membership needs to be turned in by September.

Treasurer's Report: Marylou Boryta gave an account of the Guild's income and expenses. The guild purchased a ruler (used to make the tuffet) for the library.

Other Items:

- The guild received a thank-you note from Linda Garthe.
- Betty Ann offered a summer challenge. She wants members to design a creative use for the number of plastic cat food containers she brought to the meeting. There will be 2 prizes, one for creativity and one for usefulness.
- Show-n-tell – This has been a very productive group! Four scarves were displayed and four tuffets, all from guild workshops as well as a variety of large and small projects. All of them were very impressive.

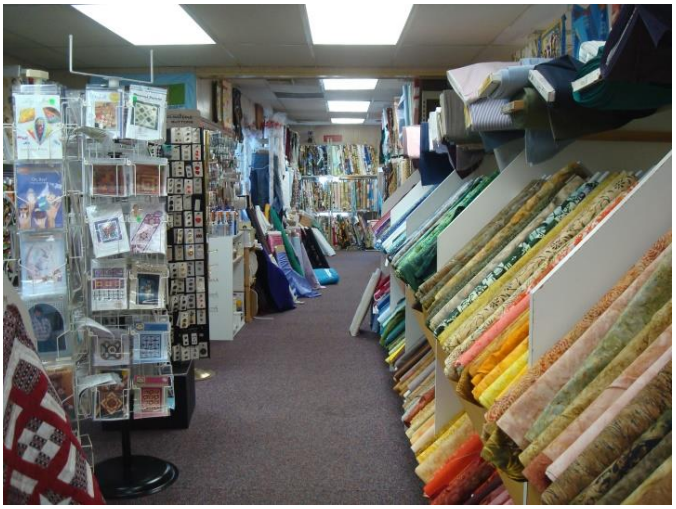
Sally Ater – Secretary

I thank you all for the help I received this past year while I was secretary. You are all very kind. In was an interesting job to do. Thank you, thank you!

Quilt Shop

Stitch & Craft
2957 Lebanon Road
Manheim, PA
www.stitchcraftpa.com
717-664-4230

Pat Leiter has moved to her new home in Manheim, Lancaster County and told us of a shop right down the road from her. Located right off Exit 266 of the PA turnpike, Stitch & Craft is a small shop with fabrics, thread, some books, and notions. The staff was very friendly, the prices were very reasonable and (bonus!) they were having a 20% off sale when we stopped by. If you are in the area, give it a look-see.



Quilting Tutorials

In each issue of the American Quilter magazine there is a free motion quilting piece by Lori Kennedy giving step by step pictorial descriptions on how to accomplish a featured quilting design. At the end of the article, it says, "For more than 100 FREE quilt pattern tutorials, visit me at www.theinboxjaunt.com." So I did and, boy, was that a great find! Across the heading on Lori's web site, click on the selection '**quilt tutorials'**, then choose '**Free Motion Quilting Tutorials (Motifs)**'. Here's just a few. Check it out for some inspiration the next time you're staring at all that blank space on your quilting project.

http://theinboxjaunt.com/2013/05/07/tuesday-tutorial-fly-like-the-wind/

http://theinboxjaunt.com/2014/08/05/the-spirograph-sun-a-free-motion-quilt-tutorial/

http://theinboxjaunt.com/2014/05/06/tulip-time-a-free-motion-quilt-tutorial/

http://theinboxjaunt.com/2013/03/19/tuesday-tutorial-the-small-open-leaf/

http://theinboxjaunt.com/2013/05/23/row-houses-a-free-motion-quilting-tutorial/

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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

Summer Fun!

Summer Days wall hanging via Craftsy member Tricia Mathis

Now is the perfect time to piece a summer-themed wall hanging to bring a taste of summer indoors. This 30 x 37" wall hanging features scrappy-pieced blocks along with simple appliqué. Have fun making the dragonfly, watermelon, stars, ice cream cones, sun, flip flops and "summer" lettered appliqué blocks!

Pattern available for $8 @
http://www.craftsy.com/pattern/quilting/home-decor/summer-days/2256?_ct=rbew&_ctp=100109