Loose Threads News

Volume 21 Issue 1 October 2015

1st Wednesday Agenda

9:30 Doors open - refreshments & socializing

10:00 Business Meeting
Show and Tell

3rd Wednesday Agenda

9:30 Doors open - refreshments & socializing

10:00 Guest Speaker - **Kelly Meanix**

12:30 Workshop - Pieced Trees

Carole Cossa, Jean Sullivan, Kiti Williams and Judy Peters delivered 36 wheel chair quilts and 15 walker bags to the residents of Manatawny Manor on September 4th.

"On behalf of the residents at Manatawny Manor we wish to express our heartfelt appreciation for the amazing lap quilts and walker bags. We are having a lot of fun handing them out. Many smiles when they are choosing their favorite!!!"

Sincerely,
Janet S. Acting Director

President's Message

"Creativity is the power to connect the seemingly unconnected."
William Plomer

Fall is here, the days are getting shorter and the temperature is dropping. What a perfect time to get those creative juices flowing. There's still plenty of time to finish your challenge project before the Christmas luncheon due date. And, for those of you who participated, there are the UFO's that got switched around to be completed by someone else. We expect great things! The creativity can't be stop there as we are only five months away from the Tea and our quilt show. It's time to get busy and be creative.

Betty Ann

Minutes – September Meeting

Betty Ann Dawson called the meeting to order at 10:00 A. M.

Items of note:

- Committees may elect a chairman as a contact person. It is up to the group. Let Betty know.
- The Guild could enter quilt shows. To do so the quilt must be made by the group. What does the group think of the idea?
- Thanks to Clem and Bernie for their great class in the last meeting. Clem would like to have her examples back.
- Supplies for the basting meetings are in the Church/Guild closet.
- Lansdale Quilt and Craft Fair Sept. 25-26.

Business Mtg Raffle: The list was sent around for sign up for the next year. Needed - another member to help out.

Basting: September 30 is the next basting day. Let the committee know if you have a quilt to baste so they can schedule it. kitikatz2001@yahoo.com.

Block of the Month: Linda Garthe showed us a cotton and wool house block. It is a basic idea with room for individual creativity. Linda is willing to help those who need it. Give her a call. There will be a new block each month.

Challenge: Linda Hamel encouraged all members to participate. The new challenge will begin in January.

Charity Projects: 27 lap quilts are going to Manatawny Manor on Friday, Sept. 4. All are invited to go. Meet there at 10:45. In addition there are 14 children's quilts, 11 adult quilts, 1 ICE set, 6 walker bags, 13 infant demise quilts and 1 white crocheted afghan. They are being donated to the Manor and to Pottstown Hospital. Give finished projects to Judy Peters.

Does anyone know of any women's shelter that accepts charity items? Give Info to Judy Peters.

Fabric exchange: Sign up with Jo Quaglia.

Field Trips: October 28 - Intercourse. Meet at the Walmart, Rt 23 Morgantown at 9:00 A.M. December 9 - Michener Museum and stop at Byers Carolers Factory.

Historian: Anyone interested in volunteering? The Historian keeps records and photos of trips and events. Keeps newsletters in a binder. Kathy Neiman was Historian last year.

Hospitality: The sign up list was passed around.

Library: The Library Cart is packed solid. We need to have a book sale. Details to follow.

Newsletter: Linda Hamel appreciates items sent by members. Kathy Travis suggested we add a feature in which "quilting" tools are evaluated by members.

Membership: New cards will be distributed in October. Susan Glaser has a list of unpaid members.

Sunshine: Cards were sent to Edy Martin, Jean Atwood, and Kathy Neiman who are ill and to Pat Philion whose husband had heart surgery.

Programs: Sept-UFO's. Bring unfinished blocks. Take a number for an exchange. Will pick in order. We'll have a show n' tell when projects are finished. The UFO you take is yours to keep. Remember to bring in your Bingo squares. Sept. was blue and Oct. will be yellow

Retreat: Mackinaw Island – May. Info online. Let Lenore Clarke know if you want to go.

Round Robin: Info coming in the second September meeting. Hint – project for the coming year will be small.

Business Raffle: Won by Melinda Novatnak.

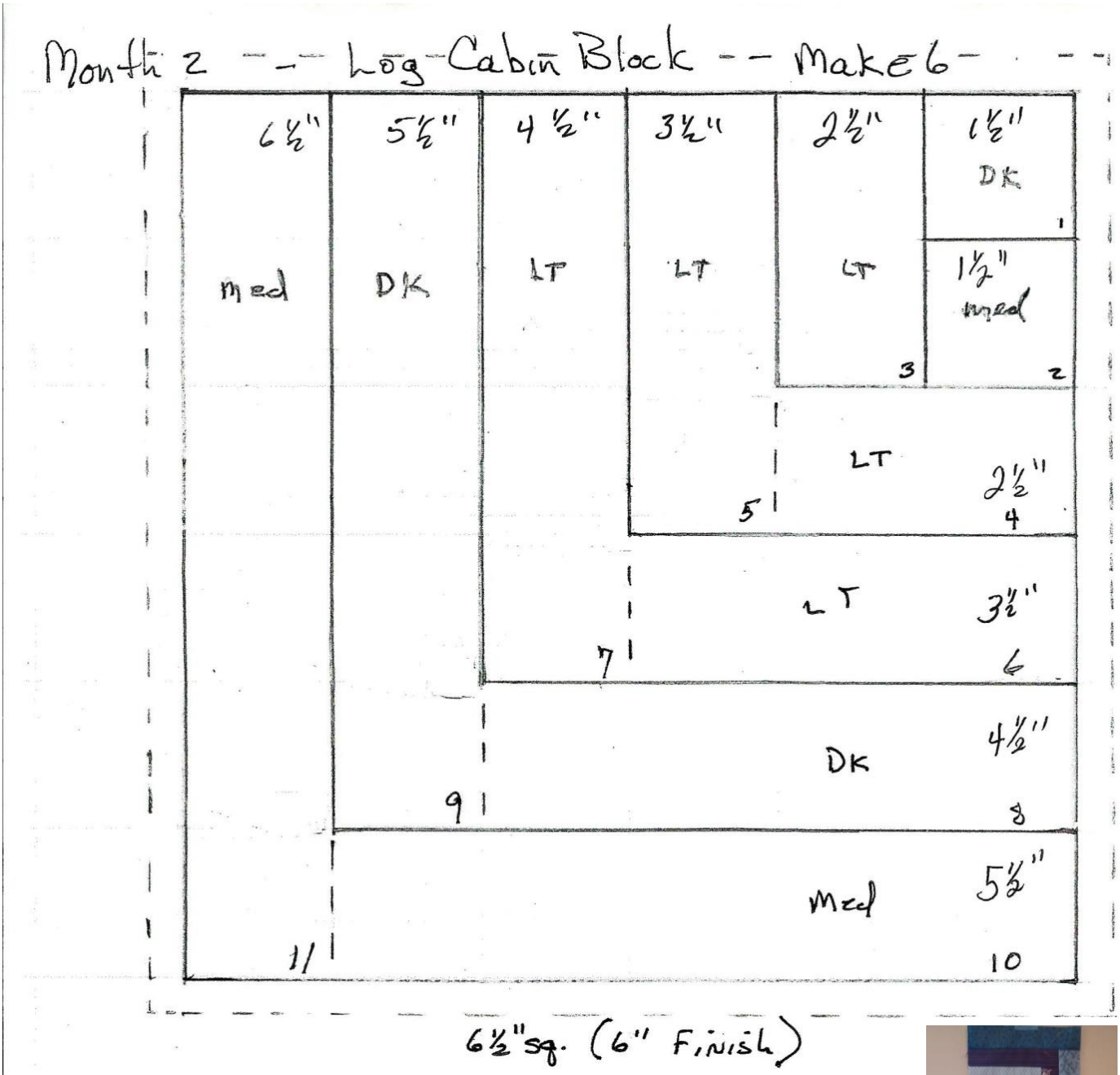
Block of the Month 2015-2016

Linda Garthe has chosen a lovely design by Leisa Firth of Black Sheep Woolens located in Logan, Utah. The original quilt was done using both cotton and wool but have fun and instill your BOM quilt with your own creative ideas.

There is no pattern available so Linda has been very busy drafting all the blocks. There will be 9 block installments for this BOM quilt project.

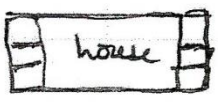
The 5 page set of instructions for the first block – the HOUSE block – were distributed at the September business meeting and by email. The block measures 20" X 18" and is the centerpiece of the BOM project. Linda decided to change up the trees from the original in her version and suggested that embroidered 'weeping willow' trees flanking the house would also look great in this block.

October BOM



From assorted strips of fabric 1 ½" wide, cut the following lengths:
Dark fabrics: 1 each: 1 ½", 4 ½", 5 ½"
Medium fabrics: 1 each: 1 ½", 5 ½", 6 ½"
Light fabrics: 2 each: 2 ½", 3 ½" 1 each: 4 ½"

Cut and assemble in numbered order or copy pattern and paper piece. Trim to 6 ½" square. Make 6 log cabin blocks. Sew 2 columns of 3 blocks and add 1 column to each side of HOUSE block.



Fat Quarters Needed

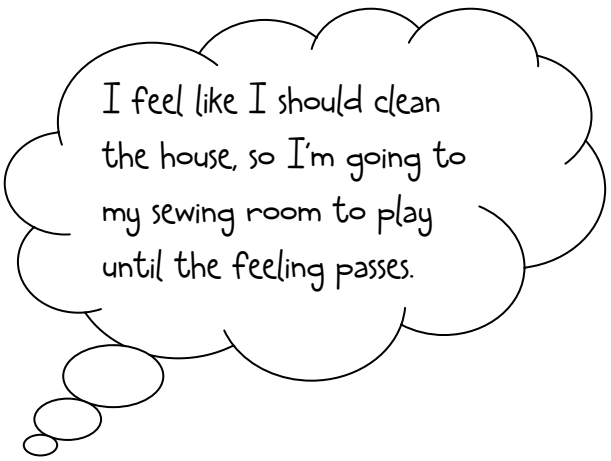
For years, one of the highlights of the raffle room at the Tea was the basket of 100 fat quarters donated by Ramona Moreland of Chester County Quilting. That shop has now closed. We would like to continue that tradition at this year's Tea and are asking the help of our members. If you could, please consider donating two fat quarters for the basket.

Upcoming Events

Color Burst Quilt Show - Oct 9 - 10, 2015 – Presented by Keystone Quilters Guild at Quakertown Christian School, 50 E. Paletown Road, Quakertown, PA Admission $7
www.keystonequilters.org

Quilting Up a Storm – Oct 16 -18, 2015 - Presented by Shore Shore Stitchers Quilt Guild at the Upper Township Community Center, 1790 Route 50, Tuckahoe, NJ
www.southshorestitchers.com

Mainline quilters - Oct 16, "A Trunk Show! From Then to Now" Erin Underwood
www.ErinUnderwoodQuilts.com



Road Trips

Set aside Wednesday, October 28th for a road trip to Intercourse, PA with your guild friends. We will meet in the Walmart parking lot located on Rt. 23 in Morgantown at 9:00 and car pool from there. We plan to visit the quilt shops around the area and stop for a leisurely lunch. Join us!

Another day to mark on your calendar is Wednesday, December 9th. The excursion scheduled that day will be to Doylestown to visit the Michener Museum for the exhibit of *Blanket Statements: New Quilts by Kaffe Fassett and Historical Quilts from the Collection of the Quilt Museum and Gallery in York, UK.* There will also be a stop at Byers Collection factory. Details are still being worked out and will follow in the November newsletter.

http://www.michenermuseum.org/about/press/press.php?id=230&PHPSESSID=7ooagj6iq4ik87ehpkbid1lln1

I did thank our group, the 1st time I made it back for a meeting. I wanted a chance to thank you again, so that I did not miss anyone. Please know how wonderful it was to receive so many cards. Thanks for all your thoughts, visits and really caring. This is certainly a wonderful group for learning beyond anything I ever could imagine. You are all so kind and caring.

Thanks again,
Bonnie

October Program

Kelly Meanix will be our guest speaker this month. Here's some information she sent us that will whet your appetite for our October 21st program / workshop meeting. "Blogging and Instagram have greatly influenced my quilting over the past few years and have opened my eyes to new ideas, fabrics and techniques. Some of my quilts are the product of those social media outlets. Maybe by the end of my lecture you will be blogging about your quilts too! I will be having a trunk show with over 50 quilts for your viewing pleasure."

http://pinkadotquilts.blogspot.com/

The Workshop includes everything you need to know to make a quick and easy no-template (and if you are brave enough) no ruler tree block. We will be making a couple of blocks and none of them will look the same. As an extra I will also show you how to make some no template flying geese to go with your trees. I will bring a completed quilt for you to use as inspiration or you can copy it exactly.

Workshop Supplies:

- 4 pieces of your choice of a background fabric about 12" x 18". Batiks are great for this project. If you are using regular cotton starch it well before class. It should be very stiff.

- 8-10 strips of fabric (for each tree) for the branches cut into 1 1/4" strips and about 20" long. Fat quarters can be used for this, cut them on the long side. Again batiks work well for these and starch if you are using cotton.

- If you are interested in making some flying geese, bring scraps that are about 6" x 6" to 8" x 8", they do not need to be exact squares.

You will also need a sewing machine in good working order
Thread for your machine
A large cutting mat big enough to fit your 12" x 18" background
Rotary cutter
Misc sewing items, scissors, pins, stitch ripper

Fabric Exchange – Can you believe it's October…does the expression 'the frost is on the pumpkin' come to mind? First frost is the inspiration for this month's theme. Bring any color frosted fabric. There are now 12 members in the exchange group so cut **12** rectangles measuring 3 ½" x 6 ½" and place in a ziplock bag with your name on it.

Fabric Exchange Group:

Melinda Novatnak	Rosemary Geisler
Cathy Nelson	Kathie Travis
Gayle Hammond	Edy Martin
Judy Snook	Linda Hamel
Pat Philion	Silvia Homa
Marylou Boryta	Geri Dulis

Alaskan Shop Hop Betty Ann Dawson

My 15 day, 11 stop Alaskan Shop Hop trip was great! The boys (husband and grandson) were not as thrilled, but I figured if I had to put up with sports and "Naked and Afraid" on TV then they had to deal with a few quilt shops.

We started out in Ketchikan at the **Whales Tail Quilt Shop** (lots of cozy flannels) and then on to **Rainforest Crafts**. We did see a few other things along the way, of course, but that is not the point of this article. In Skagway we visited **Changing Threads** (mostly yarns for knitting, but a very nice collection of wools for applique…and at great prices) then off to **Rushin' Tailor's Quilt Alaska** (beautiful flats, more wools and fabulous buttons). Our next stop was Juneau. We accidently discovered **Raintree Quilting** (tons of Alaska themed material) on a walk from our hotel. While at **Raintree**, I commented on a really cute wool applique sewing case only to discover that the creator and the clerk were one in the same. Needless to say, I bought the pattern but I should have gotten her to sign it. Also in Juneau is **Changing Tides** (more wool for applique and Alaska themed patterns located on the 2nd floor of a row of shops. We almost missed it!

Rushin' Tailor's Quilt Shop

Material Girls

Whale's Tail Quilt Shop

Alaskan Shop Hop, cont.

On to the town of Sitka and a visit to **Abby's Reflection** (great Alaska themed patterns and material). The owner and clerks were excited to have visitors from the 'lower 48'. They happily gave me the Row by Row 2015 pattern *Sitka Sound Sea Dance*, all whales of course. Stops in Anchorage included the **Quilted Raven** and the **Quilt Tree**.

Our stop in Fairbanks led me to two of my favorite shops, **Northern Threads** and **Material Girls**. The boys went out ATV riding so I walked up the highway to **Northern Threads**, arriving half an hour before opening time. The gal on duty must have felt sorry for me and opened the doors. What a great shop! It was full of flannels, lots of Alaska themed patterns and several displays of Native Alaskan crafts. I wandered around for quite a while and spent quite a few dollars. When I finally left, I headed up the highway again to **Material Girls** near the University of Alaska. It's another shop loaded with wonderful fabric. This was the first shop were they had tons of batiks (I think the owner has a particular fondness for them.) and one of my personal favorites, lots of Halloween fabric.

We came home with great memories of moose, whales, grizzly bears, mountains, fjords, glaciers and native culture. And I came home with additions to my stash and projects for the future.

Northern Threads

Abby's Reflection

Round Robin

In January of this year a group of guild members, Pat Leiter, Judy Snook, Linda Garthe and Linda Hamel, began a Round Robin project under the guidance of Clem Dupont. Each participant provided a center square and coordinating fabric that would be passed to all the others, at designated intervals, for the addition of successive borders. There really no rules set; each quilter just tried their very best to do what they felt would add to the beauty of each quilt. I think you'd have to agree – the ladies were successful!

Sept Minutes, cont.

Speakers: October 21st Kelly Meanix will do a lecture in the morning and a workshop on piecing trees in the afternoon. November 18, lecture by Lonni Rossi.

Tea: Each member is asked to bring in 2 fat quarters to make up a basket of fat quarters for the Tea. Give them to Donna Matthias, Marie Traxler, or Pat Philion.

Tea block – Disappearing Hour Glass – Missouri Star website, also Utube directions. 1 light –pale colors –beige – light grey. Other is medium to dark blue plus off white. Attach name to block. Directions will be in the newsletter. Bring any problems to guild meeting.

*Toni asked for folders for the Tea. She also asked for ideas for the discussion session.

Treasurer: Expenses – hospitality Income – Business mtg raffle, membership dues, interest

Other Items:

- A big thank you to Lil Evans for a great Needle Night. She said that 18 -20 people attended. Only question was what to with all the left over ice cream.
- Honey Bee Quilt Shop closing. 35% off sale from Sept. 8 to Sept. 30. Shop is located outside Carlisle.
- The Old Country Store is having a sale from Sept. 10 to Sept 28.
- A motion was made to qualify people for membership who attended the Evening Bee. Motion carried.
- Any blocks left over from the Quilts of Valor can be made into Mug Rugs. These will be handed out on Veteran's Day, November 11.

Meeting adjourned at 11:25.

Sally Ater - Secretary

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

8 Bonnie Swartzentruber
16 Jean Sullivan
18 Judy Peters
27 Joanne Cantwell

Hospitality

	Oct 7
Snack	Betty Ann Dawson
Snack	Margie Allen
Fruit/Veg	Kiti Williams
Cold Drink	Judy Shafer

	Oct 21
Snack	Carole Cossa
Snack	Jane Russell
Fruit/Veg	Bonnie Strickland
Cold Drink	Jean Sullivan

Just a reminder to bring in your 2 ½" squares for the Bingo program that will take place in the spring. Put 10 -12 squares in a Ziplock bag with your name on it and give them to Judy Snook. It is fine to give them monthly or all at once. The design choices are batik, polka dot, floral, geometric, hearts, holiday, leafy, metallic, a novelty fabric, paisley, plaid, solid color, stars, stripes, or a 30s print. Variety is good but not necessary.

September - blue
October - yellow
November - purple
December - green
January - red

Getting to Know You Sally Ater

Taking on the role of Secretary for Loose Threads this year is a "local gal", Sally Ater, who grew up on a farm in Birchrunville about 6 miles from where we meet in Spring City. Sally's mother had her own business, at home, as a seamstress (wedding gowns, prom dresses, and much more, even making a costume for Miss Pennsylvania in the Miss America pageant!) so Sally learned to sew at a very early age. Always interested in homemaking skills, she was a Home Economics major at Simmon College in Boston, MA, then went on to earn a Master's degree in Home Ec education at Drexel and eventually taught that subject at Radnor High School for a number of years.

Sally never actually tried quilting until much later in life when she took various classes, mainly on applique techniques. Her introduction to Loose Threads is another interesting story… she happened to be in a *pet supplies store* and crossed paths with Carolyn Thompson when eventually their conversation led to our quilt guild. Several months later, Carolyn and Sally again met in a *pet shop* – a different one – and Carolyn invited Sally to attend one of our meetings. She has been a guild member now for about four years. Sally's pets? At the time she heard of Loose Threads, she had a rabbit and a cat, but now only her cat keeps her company.

Living in Europe for 16 years while her former husband was Director of International Schools was a very interesting period in Sally's life. She enjoyed Vienna, Austria for three years, then spent another 13 years in Brussels, Belgium. She also taught English at a Japanese school and at an International school during this time. Her two sons were very young when they moved to Europe and both grew up going to the International school. One son now lives in Germany with Sally's three grandsons so she regrettably doesn't see them very often but tries to get together with them twice a year.

Gardening (did you sample her tomatoes?), Sudoku, puzzles and reading are amongst her interests today and she lists applique as her most favorite type of quilting. Quizzed about one of her most special quilting experiences, Sally recalls being snowed in with her sister, a master quilter, and luxuriously sitting by the fire, sewing, laughing and chatting all day!

Joanne Cantwell

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

SHOP HOP
NOVEMBER 5 – 8, 2015

Grand Prize Drawing: Bernina 350 PE with Quilting Package, Oak Apple-rail Display Ladder from Orchard Woodcraft, $175 Shopping Spree, Fabulous Collection of Fat Quarters

All Shops Open: Thursday and Friday 9 am - 8 pm, Saturday 9 am - 5 pm, Sunday 12 pm - 5 pm

Granny's Sewing Den
Glenside PA
www.grannyssewingden.com

Handcraft Workshop
Philadelphia, PA
www.handcraftworkshop.com

The Quilt Academy
Bensalem, PA
www.thequiltacademy.net

Steve's Sewing Center
King of Prussia, PA
www.stevessewandvac.com

The Quilt Block
Exton, PA
www.quiltblockincfabric.com

The Quilt Ledger
Christiana, DE
www.thequiltledger.com

The Round Bobbin Quilt Shop
Ambler, PA
www.roundbobbinquilts.com