Volume 30 Issue 7 March, 2025

Loose Threads News

1st Wednesday Agenda

9:30 Doors open - refreshments and socializing

10:00 Business Meeting

3rd Wednesday Agenda

9:30 Doors open - refreshments and socializing

10:00 Program Meeting - Tea prep

President's Message

March is here! Loose Threads Quilter's Tea month. I know it is a lot of work, but I think in the end everyone has a great time! So, organize your committees, find your teapots, and select which quilts you want to put in the show. Our second March meeting is right before the Tea, so we can start getting ready and set-up on Wednesday, and then finish setting up on Friday morning. Then, after the Tea, the Lancaster/Lebanon quilt show starts the next week! March is shaping up to be a fun month!!
~Diane

Mark your calendar!
FIELD TRIP
April 9
Little Cocalico
Ephrata

Judy McCourry is working out the details on this trip. Stay tuned for more specifics!

March 19 Program
TEA PREP

This will be our final meeting before the Tea. Be prepared to meet with your committees to finalize your plans.
Questions about the Tea? Contact Chris Rivard or Ruth Ann Joslin.

2025 Challenge: IT

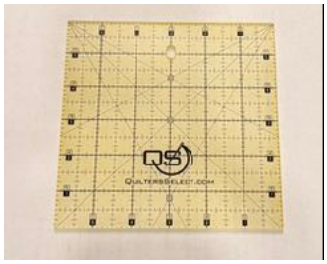
Inspiration and Transformation

Open up your interpretation and creativity and let your inspiration transform your creation. Is there a particular piece of art you are inspired by? A flower? A landscape? What inspires you? A particular genre? A favorite book? An art piece? A style of painting? A person? Let that idea inspire you in your creation (quilt, soft sculpture, bag, runner, pillow, etc.) This is your inspiration and transformation. No size limitations. Let your imagination and inspiration take you away. By the November business meeting, please submit to the committee an approximate size of your piece (for determining display size requirements at the holiday party). At the reveal, please include a photo of your inspiration and a brief written description of what inspired you. Questions? Contact Susan Koederitz or Beth Hammond-Ritschard.

CALLING ALL TEAPOTS!

Please help us decorate our tables for the Tea. Bring a teapot or two on Friday, March 21 and leave them in the dining room. The Set Up Committee will use them to help make our event look festive. Please remember to retrieve your teapots at the conclusion of the tea. Questions? Contact Pat Leiter

LTQ Library RULERS



Did you know that our library has a collection of quilting rulers? Before you purchase that once and done ruler, check out the rulers that are available to borrow!

MYSTERY BOM

Get in on the fun! A new BOM kicked off in September and it's going to be a mystery! You will need:
2 yards background fabric and

- A layer cake or
- A fat quarter bundle or
- Scraps in a color scheme or
- Totally random scraps

Challenge yourself to use up some fabric that you already have!
Instructions will be passed out and explained at the business meeting each month. These instructions will also be posted on the LTQ website.
Questions? Contact Silvia Homa or Nancy Miller.

UFO Challenge

If you have too many projects started but not finished, the UFO Challenge is an opportunity for you to rid yourself of the guilt and maybe win $25.00! Here is how it works:

Go to your sewing room and list all of your UFO's on the form available from Linda Glass. Return the form so that they can be entered into the UFO Challenge book.
Now for the tough part, finish your project! Bring it to show and tell and receive a raffle ticket for a drawing that will take place each quarter. Finished projects are recorded in the Challenge book so you needn't worry about losing your ticket. The winning ticket holder will then receive $25.00.
Please note- For our purposes, a UFO will be any project that is 6 months old or older.
Any questions, don't hesitate to ask Linda Glass.

Little Cocalico Field Trip - Wednesday, April 9

Judy McCourry has been in contact with Little Cocalico to arrange a trip to see how they print fabric. If you are interested in participating, please visit their website at www.littlecocalico.com to learn about the process. You can either choose one of their designs or create and download a design of your own. All fabric will be printed on Kona cotton. You can order as little as 1/4 yard. The program committee is also considering having LTQ fabric printed which will be available to everyone. You will need a coupon code in order to process your order…check with Judy McCourry before ordering.

QUILTS WANTED!

Now is your chance to have your wonderful creative quilts displayed for all to see!

A few guidelines:

Only bring quilts that have NOT been displayed at previous LTQ shows.

Quilts should be dropped off in the church sanctuary first thing Friday morning. ALL drop-offs must have a Quilt Check in Sheet from Rosemary with your name and a listing of the quilts you are dropping off. Pickup of quilts will be at the conclusion of the tea AFTER the tea committee has taken down the show. Please DO NOT remove your own quilts.

Quilts will be judged in two categories: small (240” perimeter and less) and large (over 240” perimeter). There will be a first and second place winner in both categories. There will also be a LTQ guild only vote for viewers choice which will be awarded at the April business meeting.

All quilts twin size and larger MUST have a sleeve for hanging. The sleeve should be 4 inches wide in order to accommodate the rack poles. Google “quilt sleeve” to find easy instructions. If you prefer not to attach a sleeve, your quilt will be draped over the pews for display.

All quilts must have a paper label. Labels can be found on the LTQ website in the Member category.

We have all been very busy, so our show should be jam packed! BOMs, challenges, workshops, SAHRR, and online quiltalongs are just a few of the items we know you have been working on.

Questions? Please contact Rosemary Geisler or Nancy Miller.

Fat Quarter Basket

We will be collecting fat quarters for a basket for the Basket Raffle. Please consider donating two or more fat quarters. We would love to advertise it as a 100 Fat Quarter Basket. Drop off your donations with Susan Koederitz.

Bernette Sewing Machine Raffle

As part of our 2025 Tea, the Loose Threads Quilting Guild is pleased to announce a special treat. Through the generosity of Mr. Zimmerman, owner of Hinkletown Sewing and Machine Shop, we have a brand new **Bernette 77** to offer via raffle.

Take a chance to own this quality machine!
1 chance for $5.00 or 3 chances for $10.00
Some features include:

- 5" touchscreen
- Dual feed for fast, even fabric feed
- 500 stitches
- 17 buttonhole options
- 7 mm stitch width
- Free arm

Questions? Contact Chris Rivard

CRAFT SALE

Let's talk crafts!

At the Tea, guests like to browse our craft table(s) to see what they can buy that may be unique to them. You provide the craft items, and I will sell them at the guild table. If you have a craft that you would like to sell, see me and I will give you a form to fill out. You will need to list the item name, price, and number of units you have to sell. Please bring this form, along with your item(s), to set up on Friday. Crafts that you make do NOT have to be quilt related and you do NOT have to mass produce them. You can make more than one type of craft to sell. If you would like your items displayed in a certain way, bring your display item on Friday too. There will be a one time charge of $5 per member to reserve a "spot" on the craft table. You will receive **100%** of the proceeds of the sale of your items. All money will be distributed at the next business meeting. If you would like to donate your proceeds to the guild, please note that on your form.

There are many many craft ideas out there that are easy to make. Check out Youtube, Pinterest, and/or any DIY videos for inspiration. There might be something that you enjoy making, but never thought about selling it before. Questions? Contact Silvia Homa.

BOOK SALE

Start saving your books for the 2025 Tea Book Sale

- Any quilting books or magazines that are not older than 2015
- Any novels, paperbacks, or hardcovers —NO religious, political, craft, or cooking books

Please start your pile and keep it at home until the day of the Tea setup (Friday). There is not room to store books at the church.

Here are some helpful hints from Judy Snook:

I've been watching www.justgetitdonequilts.com/blog. Karen Brown, a Canadian, has been putting together this challenge for five years. During the first week, she talks about getting rid of items so you have more room in your sewing room. Day 4 talks about books. The first question to ask yourself is "how much space do I have for books?" That makes sense. Then the question is "does this book belong on my shelf?" Of course, some favorites go right back on your shelf. For the rest, you could think about how your tastes and style have changed. You are likely more skilled now and that might influence keeping a book or not. There are techniques you aren't interested in anymore. Or ones that spark an interest now. What do you like to do? Are you really going to use this or that book? Yes, then put it back on the shelf. If no, bring it to the Book Sale for our Tea. (But make sure the book came out since 2015.)

Questions? Please contact Clem Dupont, Judy Snook, or Linda Glass

April 16 Scrapstashtic Workshop - Janellea Macbeth

On April 16, Janellea Macbeth will be presenting a lecture and workshop. If you are interested in participating in the workshop, you might want to start gathering supplies:

- A 2 - 3 inch high stack of 2 1/2" strips cut WOF (from your stash, of course!)
- 2 - 5 yards of a fabric you love! Preferably dark teal, maroon, brown, blue, or green
- A copy of her book Scrapstashtic Quilts ($20). Highly recommended but not required
- Small post it notes

You can also bring a jelly roll and three yards of one fabric.

Prep before class: cut 2 1/2" strips of fabric, oil and clean your sewing machine, and wind 3 bobbins

Bring usual sewing supplies, machine, rotary cutter with fresh blade, and mat.

Don't forget your lunch!

FEBRUARY 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 February 5, 2025 and facilitated by President, Diane Hess. The meeting was called to order at 10:05.

The meeting began with Show and Tell. So many beautiful quilts and bags. The ladies have been busy during this cold weather.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Announcements:

Basting Day: Next basting day is April 30th.

Block of the Month: Silvia Homa and Nancy Miller showed the blocks for February. There are three 6-1/2" blocks. Instructions were handed out to those in attendance that are participating. All blocks and patterns will be posted on the website each month in case you missed a meeting or instructions.

Challenge: Susan Koederitz reported that the description of the 2025 Challenge, Inspiration and Transformation, was sent out in January and in the latest newsletter. If you have any questions, please contact Susan or Beth Hammond-Ritschard.

Day Camp: Barbara Sherman announced Day Camp has been scheduled for April 29th and 30th. As before, there is no charge. April 30th is the next basting day so any quilts you need basted can be done at Day Camp on the 30th.

Afternoon Bee: Afternoon Bee will be starting up on February 12th. Meet at the church from 3-5 pm to sit and sew or just chat with other members. Dinner is at Giovanni's in Royersford for those wishing to attend. Please contact Rosemary Geisler, 610.659.2260, if you are planning to attend.

Facebook Group; public and private: We have 2 Facebook groups, one is public and any member of the group can post, and one is private. Kiti Williams is the admin for the private page and is the only one that can admit new members. Since Kiti is dealing with health issues at this time, we discussed having a backup admin for the page. Lori Memmen mentioned that any member of the guild that is not a member of the private FB group and would like to be, can contact her and she will invite you to join.

Field Trips: Sue Umstead announced that since the January field trip to Stitch Central was cancelled, we will be going to Stitch Central in Glenside for the February 25th field trip. Lunch will be at Longhorne Steakhouse in Jenkintown. We will meet at 9:30 at Michaels in the Providence Shopping Center in Collegeville and leaving for Glenside at 9:40 at the latest. Please let Judy or Sue Umstead know if you have any questions.

The following is the schedule of field trips planned so far:

March – no field trip

April 9th (Wednesday)– Little Cocalico, Ephrata

May 16th (Friday)– Penn Dry Goods Market at Schwenkfelter Library and Heritage Center, Pennsburg

May 27th (Tuesday) – Fabric Mart, Sinking Spring and In Stitches, Womelsdorf

June 25th (Wednesday) - Mook's Fabrics, Leola

No field trips for July or August.

Judy McCourry is still working on the field trip to Little Cocalico Fabric Printer for April 9th(website – www.littlecocalico.com). She has been corresponding with the president of the company regarding a tour of their factory and fabric printing process. More details will be provided once we hear back from Little CoCalico.

Diane Hess ordered fabric from their website to get a better feel for the fabric and their printing. She passed the fabric around to the group. She was impressed with the selection and how you could manipulate the size of the pattern.

Holiday Brunch: Nothing

Hospitality: Good until June

Library: Nothing

Membership: Susan Koederitz stated that we have 46 active members and 19 associate members with no waiting list.

Newsletter: Nothing

(Continued on page 7)

(minutes, continued from page 6)

Programs: Silvia Homa, Diane Hess and Kathy Santillo reported that the next program will be making crafts for the Craft Sale at the Tea. The crafts we will be making are design boards, coasters and bunny treat bags. ***All materials for these crafts will be provided. We need more hands to make the crafts to sell.*** An email will be sent with a list of items to bring to help make the crafts, i.e. small irons, sewing machine, basic sewing items.

Secret Pal: Carly Moore asked that anyone having issues with the program to contact her. They are working out the kinks.

Service or Charity Projects: Judy Peters reported that Nancy Kinyon-Samec has donated all charity quilts and they are starting to collect any that you have to donate to be distributed at a later date.

Sewing Room Sale: See Tea discussion

Speakers: Debby O'Keefe reported that the next speaker will be Janellea McBeth. Her presentation will be on scraps and how to use them to make quilts and other projects. She will present her program in the morning with a workshop to follow in the afternoon.

Sunshine: Margie mentioned that Marcela Sivco has not been at any of the meetings since December. Maybe someone could check on her to make sure everything is OK.

Debbie Popp is having some health issues and could use some sunshine.

Tea Discussion:

Speaker - Diane Hess reported that the speaker, Barbara Garrett, has been secured and a contract signed.

Sewing Machine Raffle – Tickets need to be printed for the raffle. Must show donated by Hinkletown Sewing, date of the drawing, value of prize and that the machine must be picked up the day of the Tea. Chris was going to work on getting the tickets printed.

Basket Raffle - Still need donations of items to be included in raffle baskets and/or completed baskets. Does not have to be sewing related. So far there are only six baskets for the raffle. We usually have about 15.

Sewing Room Sale – fabric donations for the sale are closed until after the Tea. Lil explained that on the Friday before the Tea, once she has the room all set up, members are free to shop. However, you must pay in cash at that time. No items will be held until the day of the Tea and no IOUs will be accepted.

Book Sale - Judy Snook reminded members to be collecting all of their books for the sale. Please bring them in the Friday before the Tea since there is no room to store them in our room.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer's report was provided. Josie Sharp reported that it is coming up on 6 months into the fiscal year for the guild. She will be reviewing each committee's budget and report on how much of their budget remains for the rest of the year.

Website: Mostly up to date. Diane will be updating the Tea committees and the Block of the Month patterns.

Other Items: UFO challenge is starting over since there were a number of tickets that had been in the mix for several years. Linda Glass has the book and forms for members to complete and submit. If you have previously filled out a form, you can still put those on a new list to submit with any additional UFOs.

Raffle Winner: The Name Tag winner was Judy Peters.

With no other business to discuss, the meeting was concluded at 11:35.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sue Umstead
Secretary

SHOW AND TELL

Linda Ulinski was busy this month. She stumbled across and completed a BOM from Gail Kessler made with Andover fabrics. She also did some machine embroidered blocks using Mylar. Beautiful work, Linda!

Judy Snook made this gorgeous leaf quilt on a recent quilting cruise. Such lovely fall colors!

Val Fisher whipped up this gorgeous blue snowflake quilt from a kit she found on Craftsy.

Pat Leiter does NOT recommend this Bumble Bee by Me bag kit. She found the pattern to be very difficult. Looks great to me!

Debby O'Keefe stitched up this quilt using a 2 1/2" strip method. Melissa Ciacci machine quilted it. Beautiful job!

UPCOMING EVENTS

March

AQS Quilt Week - March 12-15, 2025. Presented by AQS at the Branson Convention Center, 200 S Sycamore Street, Branson, MO. For more info visit https://www.quiltweek.com/.

Lancaster Lebanon Quilt Show - March 26-29, 2025. At the Lebanon Valley Exposition Center, 80 Rocherty Road, Lebanon, PA. The show features over 55+ vendors, 150+ quilts and 30+ classes. It also includes free admission, free parking and free lectures. For more info visit https://www.aquiltersdestination.com/lancaster-pa.

April

History Revisited Quilt Show and Sale – April 4-5, 2025. Presented by Homemaker's Country Quilters at the 4H Center, 1015 Bridge Road, Collegeville, PA. For more info visit https://homemakerscountryquilters.org/.

AQS Quilt Week - April 23-26, 2025. Presented by AQS at the Schroeder Expo Center, 415 Park Street, Paducah, KY. For more info visit https://www.quiltweek.com/.

Quilt Expo 2025 - April 26-27, 2025. Presented by the Baltimore Heritage Quilters Guild at Timonium Fairgrounds - Home Arts Building, 2200 York Road, Lutherville-Timonium, MD. For more info visit https://www.baltimorequilters.com/expo-2025/.

May

Airing of the Quilts - May 3, 2025. In historic downtown Palmerton, PA and Palmerton High School. The event will include over 500 quilts displayed throughout historic downtown Palmerton; live entertainment and vendors in the park; a quilt show with artisans, crafters and vendors at the Palmerton High School gymnasium; free parking at the high school with shuttle bus to the venues, a scavenger hunt with prizes, and more. For more info visit https://www.theairingofthequilts.com/.

June

MidAppalachian Quilt (MAQ) Retreat - June 6-8, 2025. The Mid-Appalachian Quilters gather each summer for a three-day quilting seminar at Gettysburg College, 300 North Washington Street, Gettysburg, PA. We offer a variety of classes presented by some of the best teachers in the Mid-Atlantic area. For more info visit http://maqonline.org/.

Shop Hop

Mystery Quilt Shop Hop 3/1/2025 - 3/9/2025 Philly & northern suburbs

Hospitality

Mar 5	snack	Donna Matthias
	snack	Chris Rivard
Mar 19	snack	Dana Bala
	snack	Barb Sherman

March Birthdays

2	Kathy Snyder
4	Susan Glaser
9	Gayle Hammond
16	Kiti Williams
19	Jo Quaglia
25	Judy McCourry
25	Marie Traxler

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