THE LOOSE THREADS

NEWSLETTER

June 2012 **http://www.theloosethreadsquilters.org/** **Volume 17: Issue 6**

President: Carolyn Thompson **Vice President:** Elizabeth Snead **Secretary:** Joanne Cantwell **Treasurer:** Linda Hamel

Babysitting: Jean Atwood
Basting: Kathy Neiman
Block of the Month: Silvia Homa
Challenge: Debby O'Keefe
Charity Projects: Jean Sullivan
Field Trips: Cathy Nelson
Meeting Raffle: Marie Traxler
Historian: Sue Kehl

Holiday Brunch: Judy Snook
Hospitality: Gayle Hammond
Librarian: Jo Quaglia
Newsletter: Wendy Cole
Fabric Exchange: Sandy Michalec
Programs: Judy Peters
Raffle Quilt Design: Laurie Kelly
Raffle Quilt Tickets: Marylou Boryta

Retreats: Bernie Hughes
Secret Pal: Kristi Burtch
Speakers: Rosemary Geisler
Sunshine: Judy Shafer
Tea: Susan Glaser & Linda Garthe
Website: Lenore Clarke

In Seattle, you haven't had enough coffee until you can thread a sewing machine when it's running.

Attributed to Jeff Bezos, Starbucks Coffee

MAY MINUTES

Carolyn Thompson called the meeting to order at 10:00am with 46 members and associates in attendance. The Treasurer's report was shared.

New Business: The **Nominating Committee** has concluded its work and nominees for officers for next year are: President - Lenore Clarke, Vice President - Rosemary Geisler, Secretary - Joan Markowitz and Marie Traxler. An election will be held at the June meeting.

The **Shannondale Quilt Show** will be held from June 15 - July 19. Kristi Burtch and Jill Cardamone will coordinate collecting and delivering the quilts.

Amy Smith-Moniz will host a **Pillowcase Potluck** at her home on Friday, May 11 from 5 - 10 pm.

Block-of-the Month: Silvia Homa will add the block-of-the-month patterns on the website.

Challenge Quilts: Debbie O'Keefe encouraged members to start working on their challenge quilts.

Charity Quilts: Pillowcases completed for Pillowcase month may be brought in throughout the June meetings and on the July 11th meeting.

Librarian: Jo Quaglia reported that there are new novels available for check-out in our library.

Newsletter: Wendy Cole requested that input for the June newsletter be shared with her by May 15.

Programs: The May workshop will feature the creation of button bracelets led by Judy Peters.

Raffle Quilt: Raffle tickets will be available for sale at the Hershey Quilt Show in July.

Retreats: Mary Lou stated that another retreat is being planned at Blue Lake in October with a weekday price of $25 per night without linens or $30 per night with. A maximum of 20 may participate. The North Mountain retreat is filled for June.

Bernie Hughes reported that the St.Mary's retreat will be held July 20 - 22. A minimum of fifteen people may attend at $110 for room and food. Participants must sign up with Bernie by next business meeting.

Speakers: Rosemary Geisler announced that Pat Sloan will speak at the meeting on June 20. Look up patsloan.com for information on her whimsical fused appliques.

Website: Lenore Clark is eager to receive more information for the website.

The Business Meeting Raffle was won by Millie Skean.

The meeting concluded at 10:50 am followed by Show and Tell.

Joanne Cantwell, Secretary

Marylou Boryta has a new e-mail: mboryta2@verizon.net

NOTES FROM THE LIBRARY

An updated Listing is now available on our website. There is a hardcopy of the listing available in the book rack.

New additions to the library:

- *"Heavenly Patchwork and Heavenly Patchwork II"* by Judy Howard
- *"The Lovers Knot"* by Clare O'Donohue
- "A Case for Adventures" by Katie Kerr *(NOTE: Written for ConKerr Cancer, this is a children's book but it has directions in the back for making a pillowcase)*
- *"Hidden In Plain View: A Secret Story of Quilts and the Underground Railroad" by Jacqueline L. Tobin*
- *"Perfect-Fit Pieced Borders" by Sheila Sinclair Snyder*
- *"60 Pieced Quilt Borders Mix & Match" by Judy Laquidara*

Novels by Jennifer Chiaverini:

- *"The Christmas Quilt"*
- *"The New Year's Quilt"*
- *"The Runaway Quilt"*
- *"The Sugar Camp Quilt"*
- *"The Quilters' Legacy"*
- *"The Master Quilter"*
- *"The Quilters' Homecoming"*

As a reminder, in order to conserve space on the mobile book rack, all novels are now kept in the Maple Room.

UPCOMING AREA EVENTS

Pennsylvania Quilts II: Patterns and Variations - June 12-October 16, 2012. Packwood House Museum presents antique quilts on display in addition to 34 in the exhibition gallery at 15 N Water Street, Lewisburg PA. For more info visit www.packwoodhousemuseum.com.

Quilters Unlimited 39th Annual Quilters Unlimited Show - June 1-3, 2012. At Dulles Expo Center, South Building, Chantilly, VA. For more information visit www.quiltersunlimited.org/show.htm.

Quilts, Quilts, Quilts - July 21, 2012 from 10 am – 2 pm The Alapocas Run State Park's 2nd Annual Quilting Event at the Blue Ball Barn, located off Route 202 Wilmington, Delaware.

Quilt Odyssey - July 26-29, 2012. At the Hershey Lodge & Convention Center in Hershey, PA 17033. For more information visit www.quiltodyssey.com/

Pennsylvania National Quilt Extravaganza XVIII - September 13-16, 2012. Presented by Mancuso Show Management, the largest and most prominent quilting arts event in the Northeast all under one roof at the Greater Philadelphia Expo Center, Phoenixville, PA. For more information visit www.quiltfest.com/activities.asp?id=4.

Airing of the Quilts Outdoor Quilt Show - October 6, 2012. Rain or Shine. Presented by Endless Mountain Quiltworks hundreds of quilts hanging from buildings, homes, storefronts, and porches all along the street of a scenic town known as the gateway to the Endless Mountains , at Tunkhannock, Pennsylvania. For more info visit www.airingofthequilts.com/.

ValleyForgeQuiltShow - October19-20,2012. Presented by Valley Forge Homestead Quilters at the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 132 E. Valley Forge Road, King of Prussia, PA on Friday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more info visit our website at www.valleyforgequilters.org/Evt-QShow- Pg.html.

Quilts from the Heart of Berks - October 19-20, 2012. Presented by the Berks Quilters Guild at Designer's Place at VF Outlet Center, 801 Hill Ave., Reading PA. For more info visit www.berksquiltersguild.org.

Making Memories...A Fat Quarter Century of Quilts - October 20-21,2012. Presented by the Brandywine Valley Quilters honor their 25th anniversary as a guild For more info visit www.brandywinevlyquilters.org/.

QUILT JUMBLE

N L G O R A M I I L T Q U N G

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The answer to the Jumble is on page 3 along with a description of this quilting term.

QUILT CHAT

For all the embroiderers in the group, here are three more "freebie" designs from "Bird Brain Designs:" http://www.birdbraindesigns.net/products/419-freebie-mothers-day-tea-towel.aspx, http://www.birdbraindesigns.net/products/767-freebie-all-things-grow-with-love-tea-towel.aspx and http://www.birdbraindesigns.net/products/689-freebie-united-we-stand.aspx.

Here is another product I found on the "Bird Brain Designs" site...8½" x 11" sheets of freezer paper. No more hand tracing those designs for applique. This paper goes through your printer or copier. Just iron the patterns on to your fabric and cut them out. http://www.birdbraindesigns.net/products/539-freezer-paper-sheets.aspx.

Free Cyber Newsletters...Sign up here...http://www.freepatterns.com/newsletters.html.

FABRIC EXCHANGE 2011-2012...BATIKS

November - orange
December - gold
January - light blue
February - red
March - green
April - purple
May - pink
June - yellow
July - turquoise
August - brown
September - dark blue

Cancer Ribbon Colors

"We see pink ribbons everywhere and most of us know that pink ribbons represent breast cancer awareness. You might not be familiar with the other ribbon colors that are used to promote awareness for different cancers and other diseases."

Black: Melanoma
Dark Blue: Colon Cancers
Gold: Childhood Cancers
Gray: Diabetes & Brain Cancer
Green: Kidney Cancer
Green/Blue: Mental Health Awareness
Jade: Liver Cancer& Hepatitis
Jigsaw Puzzle: Autism
Lace: Osteoporosis
Lime Green: Lymphoma & Lyme Disease
Orange: Leukemia & Multiple Sclerosis
Periwinkle: Hypertension & Stomach Cancer
Pearl: Lung Cancer
Pink: Breast Cancer
Pink, Purple & Teal: Thyroid Cancer
Purple: Testicular & Pancreatic Cancers & Eating Disorders
Red: AIDS/HIV, Heart Disease
Silver: Parkinson's Disease
Sky Blue: Prostate Cancer
Teal: Ovarian Cancer
Yellow: Bladder Cancer
White: Bone Cancer

New Books on the Market

Just Add Flowere

By Elizabeth Angus

Big, beautiful dimensional blooms are popping up on these nature-themed quilts, and each one is so sweet to sew. The seasonal quilt designs are created with fun piecing and simple machine or needle-turned applique.

T ★ Shirt Quilts

By Martha DeLeonardis

It is possible to make great looking quilts from mis-matched t-shirts! Follow along with Martha as she teaches you how to sew "Cinderella" quilts, which she describes as, "asymmetrical designs infused with a variety of fabrics."

Recipe of the Month

Here is the recipe for the yummy Blackberry Buttermilk Cake that Linda Garthe made for a meeting in May.

BLACKBERRY BUTTERMILK CAKE

¾ c. unsalted butter at room temperature
2⅓ c. cake flour, sifted, then measured
2½ c. (10 oz.) fresh blackberries
¼ c. plus 1⅓ c. sugar
1½ tsp. baking powder
¾ tsp. salt
½ tsp. baking soda
3 eggs at room temperature
2 tsp. vanilla
1½ tsp. finely grated orange zest
1 c. well-shaken buttermilk
powdered sugar for dusting

Position a rack in middle of oven and preheat to 350º. Butter a 9" to 10" springform pan. Line bottom of pan with parchment paper and butter that, too. Dust pan with flour and tap out excess. Arrange berries in a single layer in the bottom of the pan. Sprinkle evenly with the ¼ c. of sugar.

Sift flour, baking powder, salt and baking soda into a medium bowl. Set aside. Using an electric mixer at medium-high speed, beat butter and 1⅓ c. sugar, in a large bowl, until pale and fluffy (about 2 minutes). Add eggs one at a time, beating well after each addition. Beat in vanilla and orange zest. Reduce speed to low and beat in flour mixture (in three additions), alternating with the buttermilk (in two additions), beginning and ending with flour. Beat until just incorporated. Pour batter over berries and smooth top.

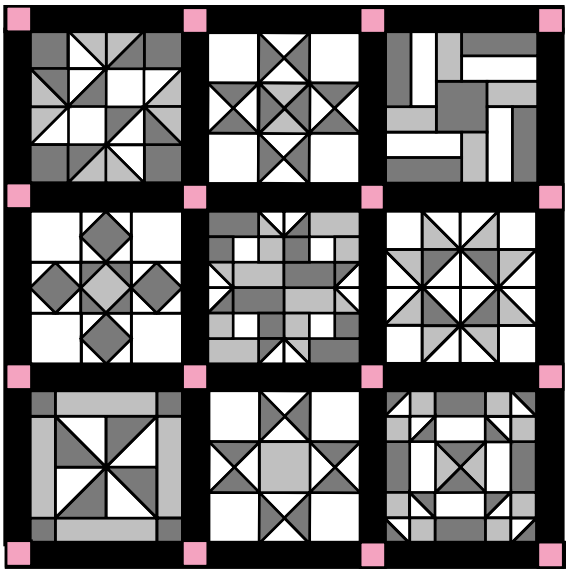
Bake for about 1 hour and 25 minutes, until golden brown and a cake tester inserted in cake comes out clean. Cool in pan on wire rack for 15 minutes. Run a thin,sharp knife around the edge of the cake. Remove pan's sides. Invert cake onto a rack to remove pan bottom; peel off parchment paper. Dust top generously with powdered sugar and let cool completely.

Quilt Jumble Answer

Long Arm Quilting: Quilting using a very long bed (often as long as 12 feet) commercial quilting machine to do the overall quilting. A popular cottage industry.

MINI BLOCK

JUNE



YEAH, ALL THE BLOCKS ARE DONE!!! Now it's time to start putting it together with sashing and corner stones. Next month we start the applique panel at the top. Don't start to tremble when you read the "A" word (applique). This is going to be easy, fun and 3 dimensional too.

CUTTING INSTRUCTIONS

1. Cut twentyfour 1½" x 6½" rectangles (black).
2. Cut sixteen 1½" squares (pink).

SEWING INSTRUCTIONS

1. Using the illustration as a guide, piece together your quilt top.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

3rd BARB PAINTER
9th SANDY MICHALEC
20th JILL CARDAMONE
23rd DEBBY O'KEEFE
23rd JOYCE STEMPLE
24th KRISTI BURTCH
24th LINDA MILLER
25th CAROL FERRADINO

TIPS & TRICKS

If you have a very large piece of backing which must be prewashed, try this trick to prevent twisting and fraying as it is washed and dried. Open up the large piece of fabric and machine baste the top and bottom edges (not the selvedge edges) together. Place this in your washer around the center spindle. Wash as desired. When removing from washer dry in clothes dryer and then remove the basting stitches.

My favorite way to "corral" my foot pedal is to use a mouse pad under it! Sure stops the slipping and sliding and stretching to get to the pedal after a while sewing!

Apply rubber cement to the back sides of pattern templates. Allow it to dry very well, of course. It will help the templates to stay put when you marking around them.

While in a mad rush to make a quilt for granddaughters kitten, I noticed a small hole in the backing. I grabbed a roll of lightweight fusible hem tape to keep it from fraying but then got the idea to tear off small pieces and lay about the batting, spritz with water and voila! instant fusible batting! The tape was lightweight enough that it didnt show thru and held everything in place while I quilted like a maniac..'

Does your rotary cutter blade have a nick? Put TWO older blades in your rotary cutter at the same time. Rarely are the nicks in the same places on both blades, and you can extend the life of your blades substantially.'

Paper pattern pieces that are used over and over last longer if you cover them with clear contact paper. Works best if you cover them before you cut them out.

Before saying farewell to that old dishwasher save the utensil basket for storing scissors, rotary cutters, etc on your work table.

To quilt without marking on your quilt-top, use Glad Press 'n Seal. You can draw your pattern directly on the Press 'n Seal, then stick it to your quilt-top for either machine or hand-quilting. You can quilt right through the paper, and the paper tears away easily once you're done.

Our Guild meets on the first and third Wednesdayof each month, with a special basting meeting on the fifth Wednesday. We meet at the First United Church of Christ, 145 Chestnut Street, Spring City, PA 19475. Babysitting is available if arranged in advance with Jean Atwood. Dues are $15 per year and guests are always welcome.
Elizabeth Snead, has more membership information.
Our newsletters are now on-line. Check us out at out website
loosethreadsquilters.org

4 inch Finished Blocks