



President's Notes



Now, when almost all of us have a cell phone with internet access, it's hard to amaze us. We see images of "strange but true" phenomena and videos of seemingly impossible stunts. But when we come to quilt guild we find the wonder of all this virtual reality pales in the face of our natural reality. The warm community, the generosity and caring, the creative spirit is so inspiring. What's better than watching a montage of who knows whose pets doing silly things? Being face to face with people who share your interests, ooo-ing and ahh-ing over their newest creations. So put down your phones and enjoy "actual reality." See you at quilt guild where our featured speaker, Geraldine Wilkins, will take away our fears of free-motion quilting.

Danita Frisby

March 2020 Newsletter

**Next Meeting: 2nd Thursday each Month
Thursday, March 12, 2020
Delaplaine Visual Arts Center**

Meetings:

Second Thursday of the Month
(unless otherwise noted)
6:00 - 6:30 pm - Arrival, Social Time
6:30 - 8:30 pm Guild meeting
Delaplaine Visual Arts Center
40 South Carroll Street
Frederick, MD 21701

Contacts

President: Danita Frisby 240-818-3405
Vice-President: Joan Watkins 301-874-5095
Secretary: Nancy Speck 301-694-8121
Treasurer: Robin Rippeon 540-270-6210

Committee Chairs:

BOM: Kathy Shankle 301-710-5223
Challenge: Brenda Barnhardt 301-662-2943
Comm Service: Kay Rice 301-662-2104
Facebook Adm: Karen Smith 301-371-0293
Fundraising: **Needs Chair**
Holiday Banquet: **Needs Chair**
Hospitality: Barbara Scuderi 301-432-5291
Last Chance Stash: Mary Pauley 301-732-6462
Membership: Darlene Morris 301-363-5759
Month Drawing Basket: Danita Frisby 240-818-3405
Opp Quilt Constr.: Nancy Speck 301-694-8121
Opp Quilt Marketing: **Needs Chair**
Publicity: Marty Simmons 301-845-7046
Programs: Frances Shearer 630-730-3592
Refreshments: Linda Beavers 301-831-9821
Sunshine: Olga Schrichte 301-668-2221
Website: Fran Scher 240-361-8733
Sandra Dunning 978-806-7894



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THE COMMON THREAD

Clustered Spires Quilt Guild Meeting Minutes
February 13, 2020

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The meeting began at 6:30. There were 33 members present, and visitors Anne Roessler, Bernice Huff, Celeste LaJoie, Marie Cochran, Barbara Coonrod, Susan Gnat, Sharon Price and Daryl MacCrehan. Several visitors became members at the meeting.

Minutes

The minutes from January 9 were approved as published in the February newsletter.

Treasurers Report

Reports transmitted by Treasurer Robin Rippeon showed:

Income Year ending 1/31/20	\$8,600.35
Expenses Year ending 1/31/20	(\$7,052.13)
Net Income Year ending 1/31/20	\$1,548.22
Bank Balance as of 1/31/20	\$11,123.91

Announcements

- Kay Rice reported a response from the Stockman Cancer Center of appreciation for the quilts donated by the guild. Also a Facebook thank you was received from a patient. [See Page 21]
- Brenda Barnhardt advised that there are as yet no sign ups for the spring retreat. There is information in the back. We have 6 slots. Those we don't use will go to another group. If we have no takers we will lose this venue.
- Mary Pauley provided information about Brittani Locke, who does silk marbling. A workshop is being considered for 6-8 people to do this in cottons. It would be in Boonsboro for 3 hours, at a cost of \$75 per person. An "interest only" signup sheet is in the back.
- Frances Shearer reminded everyone participating in the valentine gift exchange to put their names in the jar on the table. She also repeated that the April meeting has been moved from Thursday (Maundy Thursday) to Tuesday April 7, with the workshop on Wednesday the 8th.
- Becky Lyons said "Thank you" for the cards and fabrics sent to her during her recent illness.
- Fran Scher announced that the MAQ schedule is out and signups for classes begin on March 7.
- Danita Frisby presented information about making pressing mats from horse blankets. Four can be made from one blanket.

Committee Reports

- Opportunity Quilt Construction – Nancy Speck has agreed to chair this committee for 2020. She requested anyone who is interested to contact her. Nancy is planning an organizational meeting some time before the next guild meeting in March.
- President Danita Frisby advised there is still an opening for a Quilt Marketing coordinator who will work with other members to handle individual venues.
- Claire Daly has chaired the Banquet Committee for several years and is recruiting for a member to take this job on.
- Kathy Shankle showed a sample of the Block of the Month for February. It is the Starling Block for Sunday Best Quilts on the web site [A Quilting Life.com](http://AQuiltingLife.com).
- The Community Service project for 2020 is for the Children of Incarcerated Parents Partnership (C.O.I.P.P.). We will be making small quilts to be given to children whose parents are incarcerated, or their children's caregivers. They can be either baby or lap quilts and will be presented at the October guild meeting.
- Barbara Scuderi indicated that we still have kits for Quilts of Valor blocks. We will not make a quilt this year, but will do blocks that will be collected through June and then sent to the Quilts of Valor group.
- Darlene Morris noted that membership dues are due and continue to be \$30.
- Brenda Barnhardt asked for submission of articles for the newsletter.
- 2020 Challenge – Brenda Barnhardt reviewed the challenge for this year, which has a trees theme. The project requirements are very open. It must relate somehow to trees and have three layers. The primary requirement is that it be 24" wide and any length up to 36". Entries will be presented at the October guild meeting for prizes.
- Linda Beavers noted that there are still some signups needed for refreshments for 2020.
- Olga Schrichte advised for the Sunshine Committee that Madeline Wajda is still hospitalized. Cards and fabric squares can be sent to her address in the Member Directory.
- Fundraising - Sandy Dunning reiterated the need to make items to be sold at the bazaar in December, preferably those that can be priced \$15 or under.

Kathy Makers, proprietor of The Wool & Needleworks Shop in Shab Row, was our guest speaker. She explained her goal of meeting a demand from crafters working in wool, providing materials and classes. She offers over 150 bolts of wool as well as rug yarn. Her presentation included examples of rug hooking, punch needle, wool applique, ribbon work and decorative stitching.

The meeting concluded with a valentine gift exchange and Show and Tell. The door prize was won by Kathy Shankle.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Speck
Secretary



From the Program Committee:

Thanks to all who participated in the Valentine exchange last month. The dish towels were beautiful! Creativity was amazing!!

Geraldine Wilkins (see below) will be our March speaker. Her presentation is "From Frustration to Fabulous: Taking the Fear Out of Free-Motion Quilting." Looking forward to this presentation and what I can learn about free motion quilting.

Remember to sign up for our April workshop with Debby Kratovil. She will be teaching "Ezekiel's Eye" (photo at right). It's April 8 at 9am—3pm at the Church of Christ, 1305 North Market Street in Frederick for \$45. **ALSO a date change for the April meetings. Lecture by Debby Kratovil will be on the second Tuesday, April 7th (time and place remain the same) and the workshop will be Wednesday, April 8th.**



Frances Shearer, Chair

Geraldine Wilkins



Our March guest speaker, giving a lecture "From Frustration to Fabulous: Taking the Fear out of Free-Motion Quilting."

As a Westalee Design Accredited Teacher, an Island Batik Ambassador and Designer, and a former Juki America Educator Geraldine lectures and teaches at quilt shops and guilds. She also shares her love of quilting on her blog www.livingwaterquilter.com and social media outlets.

Her quilts have exhibited in local and regional quilt shows, national touring events and shows with Hoffman Fabrics, American Quilt Society Quilt Week at Paducah, Mid Atlantic Quilt Festival, curated exhibits at the Virginia Quilt Museum and

Sacred Threads 2019 exhibition.

Geraldine is a contributor to the following quilt books: 1000 Quilt Inspirations 2015, The Quilter's Planner 2017 & 2020, and Free Motion Framework, 2018. View her quilt designs in McCall's Quick Quilts, Quilt-maker, McCall's Quilting and Pre-Cut Patchwork magazines. Her work as been featured on the websites of quilt industry partners, Island Batik, AccuQuilt, Sew Steady, Quilter's Dream Batting, and Quilt in a Day.

The Opportunity Quilt Construction Committee met and had a great time at Nancy Speck's new place searching through potential patterns. After much deliberation, a pattern was chosen. However, a conundrum hangs over the enterprise causing a delay— there is no volunteer to chair the Marketing Committee. Without a Marketing Committee the profitability of making a quilt is questionable. There are several guild members dedicated to getting a quilt made to benefit the guild. Please consider your contribution by volunteering for Marketing chairperson and committee. Our guild has made many successful contributions to our community and been able to provide many exciting programs for our members but continued success relies on the commitment of each and every member.



Danita Frisby



Clustered Spires Quilt Guild, Inc.
Financial Statement Actual vs. Budget
February 2019 through January 2020

	Feb '19 - Jan 20	Budget
Income		
Membership Dues Income	1,680.00	1,500.00
2019 Opportunity Quilt Income	3,573.00	3,000.00
Merchandise Sales	709.50	
Fundraiser Income		
Pin Sales	5.00	
Note Card Sales	231.80	300.00
Fat Qtr/Monthly Drawing Income	98.00	
Last Chance Stash Income	642.05	500.00
Total Fundraiser Income	976.85	800.00
Workshop Fees Income	1,661.00	950.00
Total Income	8,600.35	6,250.00
Expense		
General Expenses		
2019 Opportunity Quilt	721.40	975.00
2020 Opportunity Quilt	59.00	300.00
Community Service	172.91	300.00
Donation Expense	50.00	
Guild Challenge	150.00	175.00
Hospitality	11.34	100.00
May Guild Birthday Expense	294.75	
Membership expense		10.00
Misc. Fundraising Costs	80.05	220.00
Refreshments	77.66	105.00
Sunshine	34.31	46.00
2019 Holiday Banquet	93.84	300.00
Insurance Policy	280.00	280.00
Meeting Room Rental	400.00	400.00
Square Reader Fees	6.42	70.00
Supplies/Printing/Postage	36.25	25.00
Website Domain	62.32	30.00
Website Email	59.88	60.00
Total General Expenses	2,590.13	3,396.00
Program Expenses		
Speaker Fees	1,675.00	1,650.00
Speaker Mileage	471.88	436.00
Speaker/Workshop Lodging/Meals	278.33	425.00
Workshop Teacher Fee	950.00	950.00
Workshop Room Rental	300.00	200.00
Workshop FeesSuppliesMisc. Exp.	645.00	80.00
Misc. Program Expenses	141.79	600.00
Total Program Expenses	4,462.00	4,341.00
Total Expense	7,052.13	7,737.00
Net Income	1,548.22	(1,487.00)



Double O Retreat

The April 2020 retreat is full—4 from our guild and 8 from Modern Quilts from Baltimore.



2020 COMMUNITY SERVICE – Children of Incarcerated Parents Partnership



It is the Community Services Committee's privilege to partner with the Children of Incarcerated Parents (COIPP) for our 2020 community service project. COIPP is a local grassroots organization which serves the needs of the caregivers and children whose parent or parents are incarcerated. <https://www.coipp.org/>

Quilt Opportunities:

Quilt Size: Lap size quilts for baby, small child, teenager or adult caregivers (grandparents, aunts, uncles, older siblings, etc.).

Color: Any color or design – quilter's choice. Quilts may be made of cotton or flannel.

Quilt Goal: 40 quilts

Due Date: Quilts should be brought to the October 8, 2020 meeting. At which time our donations will be given to a representative of the COIPP Organization.

The Community Services Committee would like to thank each of you for always having a generous heart and willing hands for our outreach projects.

Marcia Walker, 2020 COIPP Liaison
Committee Services Committee

A HUGE THANK YOU to all the guild members who have *contributed* items for sale, and also to those guild members (and visitors) who have *purchased* items during our monthly Last Chance Stash sales. Everyone seems to enjoy a little shopping time and finding treasures during our meetings. All proceeds from the sales support our monthly programs. Please keep making it work 😊

Mary Pauley



Fabric Marbling Workshop

We are planning a Fabric Marbling Workshop with artist, Brittani Locke, in her Boonsboro studio on Saturday, May 23rd.

It will be a 3 hour workshop. Brittani has generously offered to hold 2 sessions on the same day: 9:00 a.m. – Noon and 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

We will continue sign ups during the March guild meeting. Brittani will be attending the meeting to show some of her fabric, samples, provide more information, and answer any questions during announcement time.

Cost for the workshop will be \$75 and must be paid by April 23rd.



March Refreshments



Snacks: Karen Smith and Marcia Walker
Drinks: Darlene Morris and Cindy Shugars
(For foods, please bring a list of ingredients for food allergies and other health issues.)



If you signed up to bring snacks or beverages and cannot come, please notify Linda Beavers at 301-831-9821.

- 10 Denise Flora
- 21 Celeste Schley
- 25 Darlene Morris

CLUSTERED SPIRES QUILT GUILD BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

March 5, 7pm, Linton Shafer Warfield offices. All members welcome. Board and Committee Chairs please attend or send a representative from your committee.

Quilts of Valor Block Drive

The purpose of the block drive is to give individuals or groups a way to participate by making quilts. There is a backlog of requests for Quilts of Valor.

We are making 9 patch blocks measuring 12-1/2 inches unfinished using red or blue solid or patriotic prints and white or white on white prints (see directions on next page).

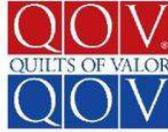
We have some kits and fabric or you can use your own fabric. We had 33 blocks turned in at the February meeting bringing our total so far to 57 blocks.

Questions - See Barbara Scuderi

Continued on Page 7



20,000 Blocks in 2020 - We Can Do It!



Quilts of Valor® 2020 Block Drive

The 2020 QOV® block drive features a basic Nine Patch. The purpose of the *National Block Drive* is to give individuals or groups a way to participate by making blocks, and have their blocks used in QOVs made and awarded to our service members and veterans across the nation.

The 9-patch block is versatile and can be assembled many ways into a QOV. They will be used by our State Coordinators to help fill outstanding requests not covered by local groups and will ease our waiting list of requests from 2017 (627 requests) & 2018 (3,712 requests).

How to participate: The deadline for this block drive is December 1, 2020

Send your completed blocks to the Block Drive Coordinator for nationwide distribution. Mail block to: **Block Drive Coordinator, Suzanne DiCarlo, 111 Minwood St, Mineola, TX 75773-1122**

Make and keep your blocks and assemble into a QOV. If you make QOV with 9-patch blocks, please post a picture on our public Facebook page for others to see.

Mail blocks directly to your State Coordinator. Contact information for your Coordinator is found on www.qovf.org/meet-us/

If you keep and use your blocks, or mail directly to your State Coordinator, we ask that you please report the number you make to_blockdrive@QOVF.org. We'll add them to the total number published on our website at www.qovf.org.

Block Guidelines:

1. There are two colors needed: 1) red or blue solid or patriotic print; and 2) white or white on white (see photos).
 2. Use a scant 1/4" seam allowance and press carefully (see directions).
- Block should measure 12 1/2" as sewn and will finish at 12" in a quilt.

Mailing instructions:

1. If mailing ONE block, fold it carefully and mail in a standard business size envelope with a "forever" stamp. It cannot be more than 1/4" thick.
2. If mailing more than ONE block, use a manila envelope (remove the metal clasp as that make it non-machine able and costs more) and take it to the post office to have postage attached.
3. If sending a lot of blocks, place them in a Ziploc bag and put a label with your name and address IN THE BAG. Please be sure to attach the correct postage so your blocks don't arrive "postage due."

Questions? [Email BlockDrive@QOVF.org](mailto:EmailBlockDrive@QOVF.org)

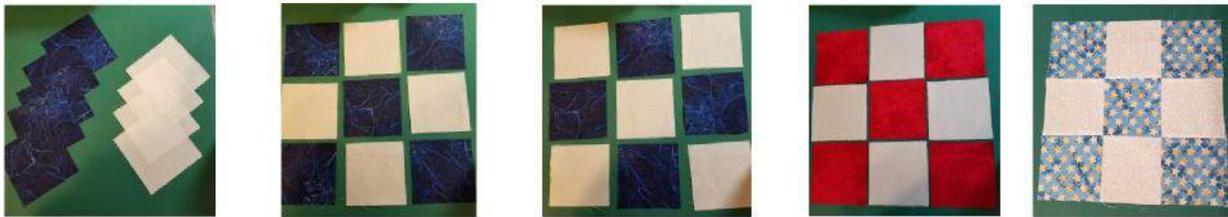


Quilts of Valor 2020 Block Drive (Continued)

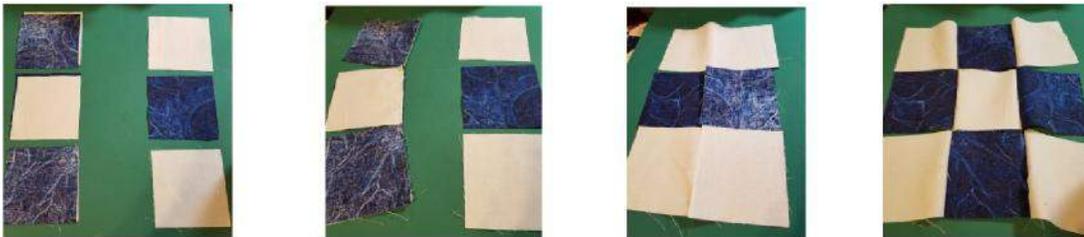
CUTTING INSTRUCTIONS:

Colors #	Size of blocks	AccuQuilt Dies Used
#1 – Red, Blue or Patriotic Print	5	4 1/2" squares 55060 or 55018 (Go Die)
#2 – White or White on White	4	4 1/2" squares 55060 or 55018 (Go Die)

Step 1: Picture 1 below shows your cut pieces. Take your nine 4 1/2" squares and lay them out as in Picture 2. You may use your colors or prints on the outside or inside (Picture 3,4 & 5). If you cut 9 squares of each color, you can make both blocks. We will accept either or all.



Step 2: Take your squares and sew them together your favorite way. The pictures show how I like to do it. Take your center row and lay it right sides together with the left row (Picture 6). Chain piece these 3 together. Do NOT cut apart (Picture 7). Lay open your two columns. Lay the right row on top of the center row and chain piece them together (Picture 8). When you finish, it will look like Picture 9.



Step 3: Final step is to turn top row down and sew row horizontally. As you do, pin the seam to the dark material (Picture 10). Turn bottom row up second and sew it horizontally. Press it open (Picture 11 & 12). Your finished block should measure 12 1/2" (picture 13).



We chose the Nine Patch to help us get more blocks. If you want a challenge, Google, Disappearing Nine Patch (Pictures 14 & 15). You can turn these in too or use them in your QOVs for a different overall design.



Quilts of Valor 2020 Block Drive (Continued)



NOTE: For additional instructions & ideas, check out <http://maryquilts.com/9-patch/>. She has great instructions to make these blocks quickly with strips, if you're interested. She also has layout samples including a red/white/blue one. Mary has great patterns which can be used for donation quilts like Quilts of Valor®.



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Dear Members,

Sandy Dunning was kind enough to let me know that Linda Beavers's brother was in a serious accident on December 19th. As a result, he'd been in the Shock Trauma Center until recently. Since he came home Linda and her sister have been taking care of him. Please keep Linda's brother in your thoughts and prayers and please let Linda know that you're thinking about her.

Linda's mailing address is: 6201 A Green Valley Road, New Market, MD 21774. Her email address is: lbeavers59@yahoo.com. Please remember to include a 5-inch square of floral fabric for Linda to brighten her day.

Kay Rice was kind enough to let me know that Madeline Wajda is now recovering from her knee replacement surgery at Citizens Rehabilitation Center. I'm sure she'd be very happy to receive some cards from her fellow quilters.

The address is: c/o Citizens Rehabilitation Center - Room 107, 1920 Rosemont Avenue, Frederick, MD 21702. Her email is: wajda.md@gmail.com. Please remember to include a 5-inch square of floral fabric for Madeline.

Thank you very kindly.

Olga Schrichte
Sunshine Committee



MARCH: [Sunday Best Quilts Sampler Block 3 | A Quilting Life](https://www.aquiltinglife.com/2019/10/sunday-best-quilts-sampler-block-3.html)
[https://www.aquiltinglife.com/2019/10/sunday-best-quilts-sampler-block-3.html/](https://www.aquiltinglife.com/2019/10/sunday-best-quilts-sampler-block-3.html)



Kathy Shankle
Chair





MEMBERSHIP

It was good to see Bernice Huff and Sharon Price re-join our guild again. Bernice brought 2 new members to join as well. Anne Roessler is new to quilting after retiring about one year ago. She is looking for support and community involvement. Heard about us from a friend. She is interested in learning about applique.

Bernice recently returned to Frederick after living in Arizona for 8 ½ years. Has been quilting since 1986. Was one of the charter members of our guild and also a member of an Arizona guild. She wants to get reacquainted with old friends and get some new ideas. Perhaps you can let us know what they are doing in Arizona. She is interested in free motion quilting and machine embroidery. Her contact info is:

104 Mercer Court, Apt. 14-1B
Frederick, MD 21701
Cell 240-285-1180
bernicehuff@msn.com

Anne Roessler's contact information:

18 Linden Boulevard
Middletown, MD 21769
Cell 301-305-0752
annemroessler@gmail.com

Sharon Price's contact information is:

5924 Jefferson Boulevard
Frederick, MD 21703
Cell 301-788-1002
therightpricemd@gmail.com

Celeste LaJoie has been quilting for about one year. She has been a member of the Four County Quilt Guild and wants to learn some new things and get ideas. She also heard about us from a friend. Wants to learn or improve all quilting skills. Her contact information is:

PO Box 519
Walkersville, MD 21793-0517
cmarieLajoie@gmail.com

Welcome ladies to our guild. Marie Cochran, a former member, also rejoined our guild. She just upgraded her Lenny for a Gammill. Welcome back Marie.

Five new members joined in February and we had 15 renewals. Total membership is 24 for 2020. Please try to get your dues in early this year. We have lots of programs planned for the year and these instructors will need to be paid. See you in March.

By the way, here's contact information for Sharon Keller who joined in November:

8517 Indian Springs Rd
Frederick, MD 21702
Home 301-514-1246
thekellers44@verizon.net

Darlene Morris, Chair



Above, Bernice Huff, Anne Roessler, Sharon Price, Celeste LaJoie, Marie Cochran and Sharon Keller.

Darlene Morris, Chair

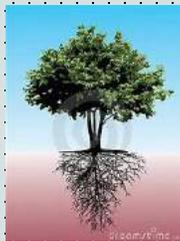
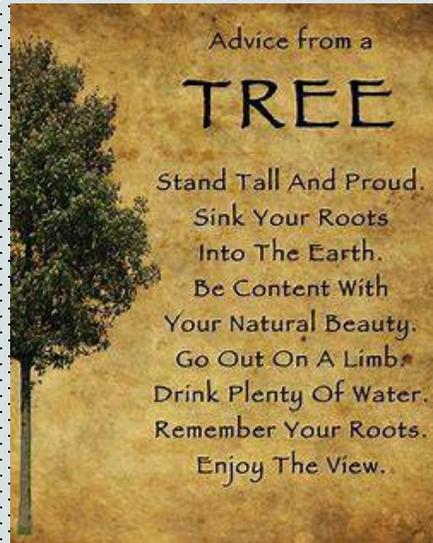
Happy
St. Patrick's
Day



2020 CLUSTERED SPIRES QUILT GUILD CHALLENGE

TREE(S)

2020's challenge theme is TREE(S) – one or more. Where would we be without trees?



Requirements are below. Please follow these rules to be eligible to win a prize.

Rules of the Challenge

1. Your entry must represent a **tree** in any way.
2. It has to be predominantly **3 layers** (top, batting, and backing) with **some quilting**.
3. There is a size requirement – it **MUST BE 24" WIDE** and **ANY LENGTH UP TO 36"**.
So it can be square or rectangular, portrait or landscape orientation – just **24 inches wide**.

That's it! We're planning on featuring the entries at the CSQG quilt show at the Delaplaine in December so all sizes need to be of a consistent width.

Prizes: First place (valued at \$75), second (\$50) and third (\$25) will be awarded at the October meeting with the members voting. Have fun!!!

Brenda Barnhardt, Chair



Antietam Quilt Guild in Hagerstown

From: Kim kim.reecher@gmail.com
Subject: AQG March Program

For our March 10 program we will be having a Yard Sale!!! We have a large amount of quilting items and fabric donated to us from a family of a former quilter who has developed Alzheimer's and her family wanted to donate all her things to our guild. This will be a way to raise some money for our guild. If you want to donate anything to the guild for us to sell, please feel free to do so. We have plenty of room for those of you that have your own things to sell (quilting or sewing items). Please feel free to set up a table at no charge and sell fabric/kits/patterns/etc. that you will never use at this event. The money is yours. The more we have to sell the more successful the event will be. We are opening this event to Buchanan and even letting Chambersburg and Penn Needles know. We are hoping for a large turnout. All items will be priced to sell. If the guild items do not sell, we will be donating them to the Salvation Army for their sale in May. A sign up sheet will be provided in February so that we know how many tables to set up. Set up will start at 4 pm on 3/10. Sale will begin at 5 pm. Come early to get the best selections!!

Below is an email received from the Mid-Appalachian Quilters Board regarding the workshops this year at Gettysburg College July 10-12, 2020. Their website is maqonline.org.

Hello from MAQ,

We have our 2020 instructors and classes listed on our new website! If you haven't logged on in recent months you will see a different website as our webmaster has been busy making it fun and informative.

Our instructors' bios and pictures are listed with the classes they will teach in July. We ask that you take your time to review the classes and select those that interest you the most. Make a list with first and second choices so you are ready to register. Almost 90% of our members register the first weekend.

At registration you will be asked to select housing. If you were with us last year you are familiar with the campus. Anyone in campus housing will have three meals included: dinner the day you arrive, breakfast and lunch the following day. We will be using "Traditional" housing which are converted motels that sleep two. You can register as a single or double, having a roommate. The other housing option is "Apartment" style. These are multi-level buildings with several rooms joined with a living area and kitchen. Some of the bedrooms are doubles, many are singles. One apartment style does not have an elevator, but we will have porters to help handle luggage. If you wish to be housed with a roommate, please list them in the appropriate box on the registration form. Please list additional names of those you wish to have in your Apartment style rooms.

If you are going to be a day student, you will be asked to select meals you wish to have on-campus: breakfast, lunch or dinner.

Our registration process is different this year. We hope you will find it smooth and simple. As you select your classes it will show how many spots are still available. You will complete the form with classes, housing, membership fee and meals at the same time. When you check out you have the option to pay with credit card (Visa, Mastercard, or Discover) or your personal PayPal account.

We're sure more questions will come up. There will be more information that we will provide as we get closer to July. Remember you can always log onto Facebook or maqonline.org to see updated information.

MAQ's summer educational seminar is one of the best local annual quilting events. Please share registration information in your local quilt guilds and among friends.

We hope to see you in July!

MAQ 2020 Board
Faye, Kathy, Lisa, Andrea, Pat and Carolyn (our ex-officio webmaster)



47TH ANNUAL QUILTERS UNLIMITED QUILT SHOW



MAY 29, 30, 31, 2020

QU GOES TO THE ZOO

The Quilters Unlimited Show will be held on May 29 - 31, 2020. We have a wonderful show planned with over 500 quilts and 70 vendors. We are also hosting an exhibit of quilts inspired by endangered species. Quiltmania magazine will also return with a vendor booth and an exhibit of international quilters.

Dulles Expo Center, 4320 Chantilly Shopping Center, Chantilly, VA 20151
\$15 per day or \$20 for all 3 days

<https://quiltersunlimited.org/quilt-show/>



Here's a link to Geta Grama's website, which has "My Secret for Easy free motion quilting." There, quilters can sign up for a free, downloadable 20-page booklet. I think it has lots of great tips in it. The timing of this is perfect since our guest speaker next month, Geraldine Wilkins, will be addressing how to take the fear out of free-motion quilting. <https://www.getasquiltingstudio.com/2018/09/my-secret-for-easy-free-motion-quilting.html>



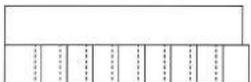
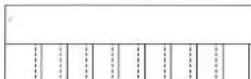
Olga Schrichte

A perfect seam allowance is the ultimate shortcut

I have found that it is helpful to do my simple scant quarter-inch seam allowance test before beginning patchwork of any kind.

Cut 9 squares, each exactly 1 1/2". Cut 1 rectangle to measure 1 1/2" x 9 1/2" with the long edge on the lengthwise grain.

Use your usual seam allowance guide to stitch the 9 squares end to end.



Press seams to one side. Pin and stitch the long edge of the squares unit to the long edge of the rectangle. (Do not ease.) If the ends of both align at each end, your seam allowance is a perfect scant 1/4". If the rectangle extends beyond the squares, your seam allowance is too deep. If your squares extend beyond the rectangle, your seam allowance is too shallow.

There are 16 seam allowances in the 8 seams of the squares unit. Even if you are way off and your rectangle extends a whole inch beyond the squares, you'll only need to move your needle to the left just 1/16" or lay a strip of tape on your throat plate 1/16" to the left of your previous guide. Of course, your seam allowance test results are likely not that bad. In fact, if your seam allowance test is not perfect, each seam is likely off by just the width of a thread or two.

American Quilter | November 2019

Thanks to Judy Martin at judymartin.com

Once your seam allowance is adjusted for take-up (resulting from the line of stitching and the hump at the seam allowance), all of your patchwork will proceed without a hitch. Thus, the right seam allowance is the ultimate shortcut!

Accurate Log Cabin blocks

I have made more than 50 Log Cabin quilts. I suggest cutting strips parallel to the lengthwise grain for more stability. I rotary cut each stack of strips, then rotary cut each stack into the needed log lengths, cutting a variety of log lengths from each strip and cutting the longest logs first and the smaller ones from the leftovers.

After adjusting your needle position or seam guide to the left or right just slightly to find your machine's perfect scant quarter position, try making two Log Cabin blocks. You should not have any logs extending beyond the patch or the unit to which you are

stitching it. (If you are still not happy with your results, try pinning each seam before stitching.)

I suggest that you not complete all of the similar units until you have made two complete blocks to test your accuracy. If you cut logs to length, the ends of the logs and units should align when you stitch them. If they don't, you will need to adjust your seam allowances before proceeding.

I recommend pressing with steam or using a dry iron with starch. I have an 18" square board covered with cotton fabric that I drop over the units after I press. I remove the board after the fabric has cooled. This results in perfectly flat work.



From Log Cabin Quilts by Judy Martin. See the entire quilt on page 35 in Judy's article, "A Very Personal History of a Very Personal Quilt."

Submitted by Olga Schrichte



February meeting photos – Kathy Makers, owner of The Primitives Homespuns Wool and Needleworks was our guest speaker. Assisting her in the store and trunk show was her daughter Kathlyn. Also helping was Kathy’s father, Jack Marken, owner of Primitive Homespuns, a shop of fine folk art and reproductions of colonial furnishings a few doors down from Kathy’s store. Numerous samples of wool applique and punch needle projects were shown.



Kathy sells various Perle cotton and wool threads.

Wool items are framed, attached to baskets, canvas bags, and boards using Aleene’s glue or double sided carpet tape except for hook rugs. Above, the acorn caps were made with multiple French knots. They and the leaves are whip stitched to the backing.

Go on her website for classes. YouTube Mary Corbet for embroidery stitching help.





THE COMMON THREAD

February Valentine Dish Towel Exchange Photos - Frances Shearer, Chair-
man of the Program Committee, kicked off the Valentine towel exchange.
Olga Schrichte chose Kay Rice's. Joan Watkins chose Darlene Morris's.
Kathy Shankle drew Claire Daly's. Sharon Keller got Mary Pauley's. Claire
Daly chose Nancy Pedersen's with a sweet, lacy valentine as a bonus. Cindy
Shugars got Nancy Woods's towel and Barbara Coonrod (visitor) drew
Kathy Shankle's.





Towel Exchange (Continued)... Frances Shearer chose Joan Watkins's towel. Becky Lyon's was by Frances Shearer. Nancy Woods got Linda McNey's. Sandy Dunning won Nancy Speck's. Linda McNey chose



Olga Schrichte's. Darlene Morris chose Sandy Dunning's. Dorothy Herrington got Becky Lyon's.



Nancy Pedersen chose Dorothy Herrington's and Pat James chose for Teresa Killar who was absent and picked Brenda Barnhardt's.

Continued on Page 17





Towel Exchange (Continued)... Danita Frisby chose Sharon Keller's, Fran Scher picked Cindy Shugar's, and Mary Pauley got Fran Scher's. Karen Smith took Barbara Coonrod's, and Kay Rice won Karen Smith's.



At right, Pat James picked Joan Cornell's. Below, Joan Cornell got Teresa Killar's. Brenda Barnhardt drew Pat James's and Nancy Speck, who had to leave early, got Danita Frisby's towel. Everyone did a great job and enjoyed their Valentine gifts. If we got any wrong, please let Brenda Barnhardt know.





THE COMMON THREAD

February Show & Tell Photos... Barbara Scuderi made her grandson a quilt based on a Capital Quilts Quilt Quest pattern in sea greens. Sandy Dunning made her 14th grandson a big boy quilt in an ocean theme. She also made a chenille rug from Laurel Burch panels. Kay Rice showed her Stockman cancer quilt of colorful patches. Claire Daly showed a couple of her Cheryl Lynch mosaic workshop mini quilts.



Stockman cancer quilt of colorful patches.



Lynch mosaic workshop mini quilts.



The cardinal pillow was a design from Kathy's Shop backed in wool from an old jacket.

Marcia Walker made a "fake news" tote.

More on Page 19





Show & Tell Photos (Continued)...



Fran Scher used her Electric Quilt software to make a modern quilt top to take to QuiltCon to work on. Karen Smith displayed her block of the month block she's including in a quilt for her granddaughter. Sharon Keller showed her skewed Christmas trees quilt. Olga Schrichte made another diva wallet from So Many Creations, a reverse appliqued tote bag and a wonky heart in raw edge applique trimmed with French braid inspired from Greta Gama's web page.

Becky Lyon showed her colorful pieced sampler quilt whose completion was interrupted by a move, flood and health issues.

At right, Nancy Pedersen made a baby quilt with the center quilted in a teddy bear on the moon with stars design quilted by Olga.



More on next page...



Show & Tell Photos (Continued)...



Marie Cochran showed a teal and gold quilt called "Grand Adventures" made for a niece. After helping a friend, Kyle, dispense of his late wife's (Amy) sewing collection, found a bin of eight quilt tops that Amy had made. Marie has been finishing them and giving them back to Kyle shown in the second photo. Joan Watkins showed her first block of the month square. Danita used the Curvy Ruler from Cheryl Lynch's workshop to make a table runner. She next showed a raw edge birdy applique small

quilt and two block of the month squares in blue. Finally, Danita made a table runner from a Simple Vintage pattern that she's convinced was not meant to be made. She had to recalculate all measurements, adjust overall pattern, and seam allowances.





2020 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Table with 4 columns: Month, Date, Event Name, and Website. It lists various quilting events from March to December 2020, including board meetings, quilt shows, and workshops.

For more information, go to www.clusteredspiresquiltguild.org/programs

Updated 1/30/20

Sent to Clustered Spires via Messenger...

I started chemo today at Stockman Cancer center. received a beautiful quilt from your guild. It was very comforting to wrap up in. Thank you so much! I make quilts for others but have never kept one. It was very special to receive one today and the design was perfect for me. I will greatly cherish it. Blessings to all of you, you truly blessed me today

.6 minutes ago · Sent from Messenger

The Common Thread is published monthly by the Clustered Spires Quilt Guild of Frederick, MD. Subscription to the newsletter is included in the annual membership fee.

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