



## President's Notes



This is the season we are to express our gratitude for all that has been given us. But with a worldwide pandemic bringing fear and isolation hanging over our heads, political divisiveness, climatic upheavals, and shortages of things like toilet paper and thread we may be left wondering what there is to be grateful for. Then we are privileged to see Marcia's beautiful challenge quilt, "Hope," and are reminded how grateful we can be for the companionship and generosity of our quilting community. I think of all the challenges we're facing in our own lives and how we have still been able to reach out with support for each other and our community - coming together virtually, making thousands of masks and other PPE, and exceeding our goal for community service quilts. It makes me proud to be a part of such a caring organization. And I am grateful for all of you. Happy Thanksgiving!

Danita Frisby

## November 2020 Newsletter

Next Meeting: **2nd Thursday each Month**  
**Thursday, November 12, 2020**  
 Zoom Virtual Meeting

**Meetings:**  
 Second Thursday of the Month  
 (unless otherwise noted)  
 7 pm Guild Virtual Zoom Meeting

Delaplaine Visual Arts Center  
 40 South Carroll Street  
 Frederick, MD 21701

## Contacts

**President:** Danita Frisby 240-818-3405  
**Vice-President:** Kathy Shankle 301-710-5223  
**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 & Marcia Walker 240-446-8919  
**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  
**Newsletter:** Brenda Barnhardt 301-662-2943  
**Opp Quilt Const.:** Nancy Speck 301-694-8121  
**Opp Quilt Marketing:** **Needs Chair**  
**Publicity:** Marty Simmons 301-845-7046  
**Programs:** Fran Scher 240-361-8733  
**Quilt Show:** Joan Watkins 301-461-0348  
**Refreshments:** Linda Beavers 301-831-9821  
**Sunshine:** Olga Schrichte 301-668-2221  
**Website:** Fran Scher 240-361-8733

**NOTE:** Articles for the newsletter are due on the 25th of each month. Send to Brenda Barnhardt at [brenz2catz@gmail.com](mailto:brenz2catz@gmail.com). Thank you.



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Clustered Spires Quilt Guild Meeting Minutes  
October 8, 2020

The meeting began at 7pm. The meeting was a virtual Zoom meeting hosted by Sandy Dunning. Thirty-two members participated, with two visitors, Nina Morrison-Luny and speaker Shari Scher.

We started with a Community Service presentation introduced by Co-Chair Kay Rice. Kay showed the 46 quilts (collected on her table!) made by our members for Children for Incarcerated Parents (COIP), and introduced Shari Scher from COIP. Shari described the group’s supportive activities at the jail. She indicated that the current pandemic has presented challenges. Many of the group’s activities are in-person, and therefore complicated by the lack of visitation permitted at the jail. She expressed appreciation for the quilts, indicating that she and another COIP Board member will get together to determine how they will be distributed to families involved with the jail residents. A slide show developed by Sandy Dunning showed several of the quilts where guild members had sent pictures of quilts they donated.

The second presentation were the challenge quilts submitted by 9 members. Pictures were arranged in a slide show. A poll was then shown allowing participants to vote. First place winner was a beautiful quilt from Marcia Walker entitled “Hope.” There was a tie for second between Dot White (“Looking Up”) and Darlene Morris (“Tea”). Joan Watkins noted that these quilts are expected to be included in the guild’s Delaplaine exhibit. She currently has 24 - 25 entries and still needs a few more of the challenge quilts. She said that she can accept entries in the next few days, but needs pictures soon, as the Delaplaine is developing its show brochure.

A short business meeting followed.

**Minutes** of the September 8 meeting were accepted as published in the newsletter.

**Treasurer’s Report:**

Income as of August 31, 2020	\$1,825.00
Expenses as of August 31, 2020	1,955.61
Net Income as of August 31, 2020	(130.61)
Checking account balance August 31, 2020	\$10,993.30

There will be a Board meeting on November 19, the primary business being the development of next year’s budget. Committee chairs need to think ahead about plans for 2021.

The November speaker will be Karen Fricke whose topic (on embellishments) is “Belts, Buckles and Buttons.” Members should mail Show and Tell pictures to Sandy before the meeting on November 12.

Kay Rice asked members to begin thinking about possible Community Service projects for next year. The target for a plan is the beginning of February 2021. She also asked for new members for the committee.

Brenda Barnhardt announced a newsletter deadline of next Thursday (subsequently corrected to October 25).

Claudia Helta won the door prize, a Stonehenge fat quarter bundle from Web Fabrics.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Speck  
Secretary





**COMMUNITY SERVICE - Children of Incarcerated Parents in Partnership**

I was struck by something I heard recently. *“I was overwhelmed by the generosity of perfect strangers.”* For the most part, when Clustered Spires reaches out to the Frederick Community each year to share our gifts and talents, we are in essence *“perfect strangers”* reaching out to let someone know we care. For me, the operative word in that sentence is *“perfect.”* I would venture to say that most of us would say ... *“my quilt is not perfect!”* Remember, your *“perfect generosity”* is what is received when we reach out into the community each year.



Everyone in the guild is committed to sharing the absolute best of what they could share given their individual circumstances. Whatever your contribution to our annual community outreach project, on behalf of the committee, thank you. Together we were able to donate to COIPP 46 quilts. When Shari Scher, Executive Director of COIPP, came to pick up the quilts recently, she was overwhelmed by the bounty of quilts ... so were Marcia and me. Thank you. (See Page 7 for more photos from the meeting.)

Kay Rice

Kay Rice and Marcia Walker, 2020 Community Service Co-Chairs

**The Community Services Committee:** Brenda Barnhardt, Danita Frisby, Pat James, Kay Rice, Fran Scher, Barbara Scuderi, Karen Smith, Kathy Shankle, and Marcia Walker

**PROGRAM COMMITTEE - November**

Karen Fricke "Beads, Buckles and Buttons"



I began sewing at the age of nine with my grandmother, Etta, in her attic sewing room. When she turned 75, and I 15, we both learned to quilt. For many years, I meticulously followed commercial patterns, matching colors and designs as closely as I could to the originals. It was a leap of faith to finally try out my own ideas with art quilts - choose my own colors, dye my own fabrics.

My first venture into Judaic fiber art was making my son's tallit, the prayer shawl that a Jewish child wears for the first time as he/she becomes a bar/bat mitzvah.

Since then, I have used quilting as a tool to explore my adopted religion. I can express my spirituality through the medium of textiles, almost like a prayer.

I have found machine quilting to be the most cathartic part of creating a quilt. It is a little like meditating. My mind turns off, and the motion of the needle and the hum of the machine take over. I have also come to appreciate and even enjoy mistakes — I can always count on making them (!), and they add excitement and challenge to the project.



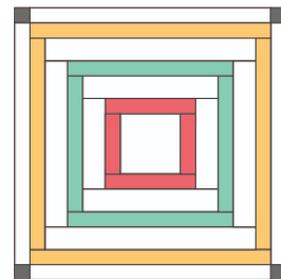


BLOCK OF THE MONTH

This month's block is called "Rainwashed." It is in the Sundays Best book and begins on page 79. The breakdown is as follows:

From the background fabric all strips are 2" wide.  
Cut 2 of each, 6-1/2", 9-1/2", 11-1/2", 14-1/2", 16-1/2"  
Cut 1 4-1/2" square.

From the assorted colors all strips are cut 1-1/2" wide.  
Cut 2 of each, 4-1/2", 6-1/2", 9-1/2", 11-1/2", 14-1/2", and 16-1/2".  
Cut 4 1-1/2" squares for the cornerstones.



One more block to go ladies. If you have anything you would like us to do next year, please let Cindy, Darlene, or myself know and we just may do it! As always, have fun with it!

Kathy Shankle, Chair  
Committee members: Cindy Shugars, Darlene Morris and Kathy Shankle

HOSPITALITY

We had 36 members attending (via Zoom) our October 8th Clustered Spires meeting. Claudia Helta won the door prize which was 8 fat quarters of Stonehedge Twilight donated by Web Fabrics.

Barbara Scuderi, Chair

MEMBERSHIP

There were 12 renewals for September.

Darlene Morris, Chair



- |    |               |    |               |
|----|---------------|----|---------------|
| 2  | Anne Roessler | 17 | Sharon Keller |
| 2  | Gale Vernon   | 19 | Sylvia Cooper |
| 15 | Christie Vu   | 21 | Nancy Davis   |



## December 2020 Quilt Exhibit at The Delaplaine Arts Center From the Quilt Show Committee

Thank you to everyone who submitted quilts for our exhibit at the Delaplaine in December. Entries for our guild's Tree challenge will be featured. We are going to have one fantastic show!

If you submitted a quilt, you will be receiving an email from Danita with further instructions.



We need more people to help with hanging the quilts starting on Tuesday December 1 at 10 am. Please let me know if you can help. We have a plan so it should go quickly—maybe just one or two days. Our deadline is noon Thursday.

Opening day is also First Saturday in Frederick. That's December 5. The Delaplaine will have the annual Artist Market online November 27 - December 14.

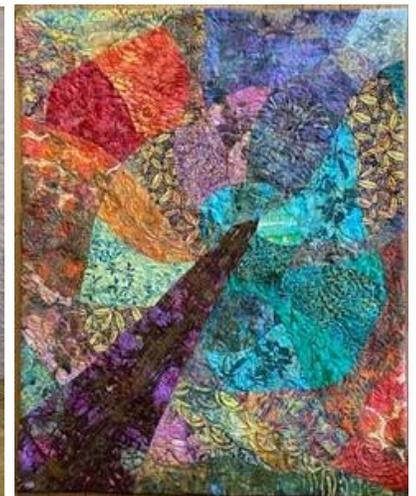
For anyone who can't attend in person, the Delaplaine will present all the exhibits online—good way to review what's there too!

Joan Watkins, Chair  
[joanspatches@gmail.com](mailto:joanspatches@gmail.com)

## 2020 CLUSTERED SPIRES QUILT GUILD CHALLENGE - TREES

Our annual guild challenge yielded nine entries which were displayed thanks to Sandy Dunning hosting the October guild meeting and preparing a slide show of the quilts. Considering this was the first time we used this technology for the challenge, it ran smoothly and also facilitated voting. The top three vote getters were: Marcia Walker's "Hope" quilt which represented the aftermath of fires in Yosemite Park in the 90's and the new growth it spawned. She won \$75 in Frederick downtown shopping cards for first prize. There was a tie for second place so there were two (and no third prize). In the middle photo below, Darlene Morris made a quilt from a photo of a stamp by Linda Edwards with a tea theme, winning \$50 in gift cards. Also winning second place was Dot White's "Looking Up" made from watching a Ricky Tims video using freezer paper guide lines. All hand dyed fabrics were from her stash.

Photos continue on the next page.





Guild Challenge Entries (Continued)... Top line's quilters are: Danita Frisby's bottle tree representation - bottles hung on trees believed to catch spirits to keep them from your house. It's needle turned applique. Next is Fran Scher's - from a childhood memory of a dead beech tree she named "Rebirth" showing a sapling that's raw edge applique. At right, Joan Watkins's dogwood on gray background that reminded her of lace, so she used it for the foliage. The background is a commercial print and she used her Shasiko machine to quilt it.



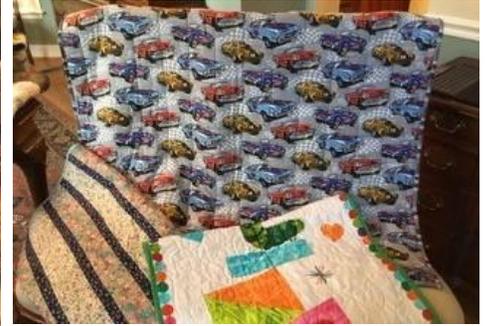
Below left, Julie Howell's quilt is based on a Smokey The Bear poem from her childhood in Montana. She used buttons and cut fabric flowers. The middle section is double batted for tree texture. In the middle, is Nancy Speck's "Trees 4", the fourth tree themed quilt she's made. It's a Christmas tree collage with scalloped edges. And finally, Kathy Shankle's moon over the tree is from a Washington Post calendar photo. She used Swarovski crystals for the stars in the sky and ruby colored ones for the leaves.





# THE COMMON THREAD

COMMUNITY SERVICE - Children of Incarcerated Parents in Partnership presentation: Shari Scher talked about COIP activities which served 700 children last year. With visitation at the jail reduced because of COVID, they've only met 300-400 kids this year. Below are quilts that our members donated.



Above, middle, a baby quilt by Barbara Yinger. At right, sailboat and polka dot prints used by Brenda Barnhardt were donated to the guild. Bottom left, Claire Daley shows two lap quilts. Middle, Danita Frisby's monkey print quilt and at its right, Fran Scher shows three quilts she made.



Continued on Page 8





COIP Presentation (Continued)... Top row, a close-up of Fran Scher's modern lap quilt. Frances Shearer holds three baby quilts she did in pastels while recuperating from her recent surgery, with close-ups of two after that. Middle row, middle photo, is Helen Wasserman's quilt made from her African fabrics. To the right, is Joan Watkins's with a twelve patch lap quilt and striped backing.



Below are two self binding baby quilts by Julie Howell, and a floral row by row quilt with appliqued borders. At right is Kay Rice showing her quilt of 24 blocks with an orange background.

Continued on Page 9





# THE COMMON THREAD

COIP Presentation (Continued)... Top row, left, Linda McNey's primary color blocks. Middle, a contemporary black, white, gray and red quilt made by Marcia Walker. At right, Olga Schrichte made a pocketed book worm quilt with the blue fabric used for backing.



Above, Pat James's pastel strip quilt. Middle, an appliqued floral quilt by Peggy Haser. On the right, Susan Gnatt shows her large star-themed quilt. Below are three lap quilts made by Nancy Speck in photos not included in the slide show. This is only a sampling of our talented ladies and their contributions to the families of COIPP.





This is one of the best balanced online quilt conferences I've seen, and I'm sure not everyone in the guild is on their mailing list. I'd hate to think someone who might like to attend didn't get a chance because they didn't know it was going on!

The Road to California Quilt Virtual Conference/Show scheduled for January 2021 just announced the names of their instructors, several of whom have taught at MAQ. They're presenting a wide variety of classes and lectures at different price points. If you haven't tried a virtual class yet, this would be a great opportunity for you to experience the joy of being able to work at home without distraction, with your familiar quilting setup, while learning something new. And a virtual environment makes it really easy to get the instructor's attention when you want it, and take a break when you need it, without disturbing your fellow students. Anyway, even if you decide you don't want to attend, you might find reading about some of the classes to be interesting. <https://online.roadtocalifornia.com/classesroad.php?day=2>

Submitted by Marty Simmons

I am reaching out on behalf of the [Catoctin Furnace Historical Society, Inc.](#), to enlist your talents to help our site make face masks. We are a small, non-profit historical society in western Maryland that is attempting to create and offer free face masks to all visitors that reflect the site's historical findings and utilizing fabric inspired by historic worker clothing found at the Forgerman's House.

The face mask kits (see below) are equipped with all of the necessary items that one needs (minus the sewing machine) to construct the masks, including a Catoctin Furnace ribbon tag. The kits make 16 children's masks and 8 adult masks each. Masks will be provided to every visitor to promote visitation and create interest in wearing a part of history. We hope that our investment in the historically inspired fabric and our intention to keep our visitors safe will be met with an eagerness from visitors to protect themselves, fellow visitors, and our volunteers. When distributed to visitors, each mask will be accompanied with a link to our website with historical background research.

We believe that even after sites reopen and events resume, there will be significant hurdles in convincing the public that a visit to a heritage site is "worth" the risk. This perception of safety and consideration for the wellbeing of the visitor and volunteer is paramount to us. Providing facemasks inspired by historic Catoctin Furnace fabric creates a desire for visitation to secure a free mask and signal the site's concern for visitors and volunteers' wellbeing. (Note: the pattern chosen includes a pocket for inserting a filter, increasing effectiveness.)

Thank you very much for your consideration. If interested, we would like to offer each mask maker a year's membership to the historical society. Thank you again for your time.

We are happy to answer any questions and deliver the kits. We may be reached at 240-288-7396.

Kind regards,  
The Catoctin Furnace Historical Society, Inc.

**Link to Lena Day Face Mask tutorials (the kit fabric was prepared with this pattern in mind):**

Adult & Children's facemask tutorials (downloadable pattern below video):

<https://leahday.com/pages/how-to-make-a-face-mask-free-pattern>

Global Quilt Connection is your connection to teachers offering live virtual workshops & lectures.

Global Quilt Connection presents a new "meet the teachers" webinar series showcasing teachers offering open enrollment to individuals in a variety of virtual workshop formats. Each teacher will present a glimpse of the virtual workshops they offer and their class formats to give you a sense of what you can learn and create with them.

Webinar 1: November 17, 2020 4:00 - 5:30 p.m. eastern

Webinar 2: November 19, 2020 4:00 - 5:30 p.m. eastern

Webinar 3: February 9, 2021 4:00 - 5:30 p.m. eastern

Webinar 4: February 11, 2021 4:00 - 5:30 p.m. eastern

REGISTER HERE: <http://www.globalquiltconnection.com/studentmainpage.html>

Sue Bleiweiss & Lyric Montgomery Kinard Global Quilt Connection

**2020 CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

November	12	CSQG Virtual Meeting - Karen Fricke "Beads, Buckles and Buttons"	<a href="http://www.karenfrickequilts.com">www.karenfrickequilts.com</a>
November	19	CSQG Virtual Board of Directors Meeting	
December	5-27	Delaplaine Center Clustered Spires Quilt Guild Quilt Exhibit	
December	10	CSQG Virtual Meeting - Diane Harris - "Jingle Bells" Trunk show	<a href="http://stashbandit.net">stashbandit.net</a>

**For more information, go to [www.clusteredspiresquiltguild.org/programs](http://www.clusteredspiresquiltguild.org/programs)**

*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. Articles must be submitted to the newsletter editor by the 25th of each month by postal mail, e-mail or written message given at the quilt guild meeting. The newsletter is posted on the guild's website on the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month.

Newsletter Editor: Brenda Barnhardt, 301-662-2943, [brenz2catz@gmail.com](mailto:brenz2catz@gmail.com)  
Show & Tell Contributor: Linda McNey  
Website: [www.clusteredspiresquiltguild.org](http://www.clusteredspiresquiltguild.org)

