



## President's Notes



All you need is Love—and fabric...and thread.... Oh, and a sewing machine, rotary cutter, and iron.... Oh dear. Well, Love is great, but quilting? It's right up there with it! That's why our community of quilters is so wonderful and why we need this community now more than ever. I'm so appreciative of the committee chairs and members who dedicate so much time to making our guild informative, interesting, and fun. If you haven't joined a committee, think about it. Working closely with other committee members just adds to the experience. If you're really looking to stretch your creative talents, please consider becoming the chairperson of the Opportunity Quilt Marketing, Fundraising, or Banquet Committee. Remember, Love of quilting is fantastic, but it's not all we need to keep the guild running.

Danita Frisby

## February 2021 Newsletter

Next Meeting: **2nd Thursday each Month**  
Thursday, February 11, 2021

### Meetings:

Second Thursday of the Month  
6:30pm Social Zoom Meeting  
7 pm Zoom Virtual Guild 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  
Sandra Dunning 978-806-7894

**Workshop Listings:** Marty Simmons 301-845-7046

**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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FEBRUARY  
winter groundhog  
love is in the air  
President's Day  
HUGS & KISSES  
LOVE  
leap year friends



## Clustered Spires Quilt Guild Meeting Minutes January 14, 2021

We gathered (26 members) for a virtual Zoom meeting hosted by Sandy Dunning, beginning with small group sessions between 6:30 and 7pm. The business meeting began at 7pm.

**Minutes** – The minutes of the December holiday gathering were approved as published in the January newsletter.

<b><u>Treasurer's Report</u></b> – Income as of December 31, 2020	\$2,643.00
Expenses as of December 31, 2020	3,368.34
Net Loss as of December 31, 2020	725.34
Bank Balance as of December 31, 2020	\$10,398.57

**Budget** – President Danita Frisby presented the budget as published in the December newsletter. She noted that as in previous years, it is a deficit budget. She asked for any discussion and there was none. Nancy Speck moved to accept the 2021 budget as published. The motion, seconded by Darlene Morris, was passed.

**PayPal** – Sandy Dunning reported that she has received the necessary information from Treasurer Robin Rippeon and will be getting the guild's PayPal account set up soon. Fran Scher advised that she is working on securing the website and will include a PayPal button to establish a link once the PayPal account is working. She indicated that a personal PayPal account will not be necessary for someone to pay through this process from the guild website.

### **General**

- Sandy Dunning said that Show and Tell pictures can be sent to her in advance of a meeting or can be held and shown at the meeting in person.
- Fran advised that a list of workshops in the area (being collected by Marty Simmons) will be included on the website.
- Danita indicated that committee chairs are needed for the Banquet, Quilt Marketing and Fundraising committees. These are important committees if we are to continue to raise income to fund our programs and other activities. A suggestion was made that contacts be made with other guilds that have done virtual fundraising.

### **Committees**

- Community Service – a mystery project is planned. Contact Kay Rice or Marcia Walker to follow up.
- Olga Schrichte, for the Sunshine Committee, asked members to think about Nancy Pederson who recently lost her father to COVID, and asked for follow up with Gale Vernon who had recent surgery.
- Kathy Shankle, for the Block-of-the-Month Committee, advised that this year's program uses blocks from the Quilters Cache website. The first month is a "make it scrappy" project entitled Star Flower. It uses ½ square triangles and results in a 12" finished block. She will send the information on the Quilters Cache link to the newsletter and to Danita to e-mail to guild members.
- Brenda Barnhardt reported that the Challenge Committee will have a report in February. She also asked that Show and Tell pictures be sent to her for the newsletter.
- Darlene Morris noted that membership dues for 2021 will be due starting next month. She will begin to collect in February once PayPal is in place. Fran Scher advised that she will set up the process to ensure that Darlene receives membership information from PayPal payments.
- Nancy Speck advised that the opportunity quilt is in process. She will have a top and back, but will need a quilter. Any member who does long arm quilting should contact her about doing the quilting.

Continued on Page 3



Clustered Spires Quilt Guild January 14, 2021 Meeting Minutes (Continued)

**Announcements**

- Mary Pauley discussed the Valentine exchange. Anyone who wants to participate should let her know. The item needs to be homemade, creative and mailable. Should be mailed early!
- February Show and Tell should include any items that are red and white or include hearts, even if not recently completed.
- Fran Scher presented the 2021 programs. They are on the web site and also included here on Page 4. The Program Committee is holding off on anything firm for 2022 until budget information for that year is available.
- The speaker for next month is Michelle Banton on the topic of "Cotton to Consumer."

**Program** - The program for the meeting consisted of presentations by several guild members of tips and practices that they use in their quilting. Included were: Brenda Barnhardt about her sewing station setup, Olga Schrichte with a demonstration of accurate piecing, Fran Scher about making a QR Code pillow, Sandy Dunning and Barbara Scuderi about use of a Bloc-Loc tool for making half-square and quarter square triangles, Helen Wasserman on foundation/paper piecing, Danita Frisby about the disappearing nine-patch block, Mary Pauley showing a porcupine quill tool, Nancy Speck making a machine cleaning tool, and Barbara Yinger's hemostat and Kelly clamp tools.

Sandy Dunning won the door prize – a pattern called Wiggle by Eye Candy Quilts donated by Web Fabrics.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Speck

**PROGRAMS**

Thank you to everyone who participated in our "Tips and Tricks" program last month. I think it was great and I learned a lot! There is now a section in the members' area of our website for the tips presentations. If you have content you would like put there, please send to me (Fran) at [fran.scher@gmail.com](mailto:fran.scher@gmail.com).

On February 11<sup>th</sup>, Michelle Banton of Little Pup Designs will teach us all about cotton and how it gets from the field to become the fabric in our quilt shops! We will also use our social time at 6:30 to ask you to think about what learning opportunities you would like to see the guild offer in 2022. So be thinking about what speakers and workshops would inspire you!

Your Programs Committee has scheduled a full lineup of fun speakers, events, and workshops for 2021! All are shown on the Programs tab of our website at [clusteredspiresquiltguild.org/programs](http://clusteredspiresquiltguild.org/programs) and in this newsletter on Page 4 and the monthly Calendar of Events on the last page.

We will let you know about signing up for the fall workshops once we are a bit closer to those dates and are sure of whether we will be doing them in-person. Mary Pauley introduced the Valentine Exchange! If you'd like to participate, email her at [pauley.mary.ann@gmail.com](mailto:pauley.mary.ann@gmail.com) so she can pick a name for you.

See you at our February meeting where we will learn from Michelle Banton, and show-and-tell items of red and white, Valentine's, or heart-themed quilts.



Fran Scher, Chair



CSQG 2021 Programs		
Meeting Date	Speaker	Topic
January 14	Guild Members	Tips, Tools, and Tricks from members?
February 11	Michelle Banton Lunenburg, MA	"Cotton to Consumer"
March 11	Barbara Cline Bridgewater, VA	"Where, When, Why, and How of Quilting"
April 8	Patricia Belyea Okan Arts Wauconda Studio Wauconda, WA	"The Alluring World of Japanese Yukata Quilts"
May 13	Joan Watkins	"Fabric Faces"
June 10	Heather Kojan Owings Mill, MD	"Quilt Remix"
July 8	Open (cancel due to MAQ?)	
August 12	Guild Members	Community Service
September 9	Debby Kratovil Herndon, VA	Lecture "Turning 60, the Joys of Hex"
September 10 (Friday)	Debby Kratovil	Workshop "Ezekiel's Crown"
October 14	Guild Challenge	
November 11	Lenny Truitt Seaford, DE	Lecture, "The History of Feedsacks"
November 12	Lenny Truitt	Workshop, "Improv Quilt As You Go"
December 9	Holiday Banquet	

### 2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING DATES

March 4, June 3, September 2 and November 4. Meetings will be virtual until further notice. Committee chairs need to attend, and all members are invited.

### Hospitality

At the January meeting of Clustered Spires Quilt Guild, we had 26 members attending via Zoom. Sandy Dunning won the door prize - a pattern called Wiggle by Eye Candy Quilts. It was donated by Web Fabrics.

Barbara Scuderi, Chair





Since we could all use a little cheering up these days, Clustered Spires Quilt Guild members are invited to participate in a **Valentine Exchange** (via Mail). Reconnect with your former 8-year-old self, and use your fancy papers, doilies, glues, glitter, paints, fabrics, lace, mod podge, origami, or even stitch a little, and create a little Valentine to send to another member.

The only requirement is Valentines must be handmade and flat (US mailable).

If you would like to participate, email Mary Pauley – [pauley.mary.ann@gmail.com](mailto:pauley.mary.ann@gmail.com) by next Tuesday, January 19<sup>th</sup>. I will add all participants names to a hat, then draw a name for each to send their surprise creation to.

Also, since the Post Office is so slow these days, it's suggested we all try to mail them by February 4<sup>th</sup> – a week before our next guild meeting.

Submitted by Mary Pauley

## CLUSTERED SPIRES QUILT GUILD 2021 Community Service Projects

We are excited to share with you the details of our 2021 Community Service Partners. We are partnering with *Homewood's Alzheimer and Dementia Units* to provide "fidget quilts." And, with *Faith House [Frederick Rescue Mission \(therescuemission.org\)](http://therescuemission.org)* to provide *various size quilts*. Thank you to Pat James and Karen Smith for their commitment to our new Community Partners.

**FAITH HOUSE** is home to up to 19 women and 16 children. The program empowers and equips women on their journey from homelessness to self-sufficiency through healing trauma, finding employment, developing healthy financial practices, parenting, and resiliency skills by focusing on health and wellness, spiritual and emotional well-being, life skills and connections. Moms would love small quilts to cover infants in car seats and strollers or to cuddle with while they rock them. The children would appreciate the encouraging and cheerfulness of a quilt on their beds, either as a comforter or a lap blanket.

### **Faith House Target Goal:**

10 car seat/stroller quilts for babies (approximately 30" x 36")  
20 quilts for children 10 years and under (lap size to twin)

Pat James [pjames1749@gmail.com](mailto:pjames1749@gmail.com)

### **HOMEWOOD** at Crumland Farms - Dementia Unit - "Fidget Quilts"

A Fidget Quilt or Activity Blanket is a lap quilt that provides sensory and tactile stimulation for the restless hands of someone with Alzheimer's, other forms of Dementia, Autism, or people who have experienced a stroke. Completed fidget quilts are usually 17" by 21" so that the patient can hold it on their lap. Below are two You Tube links:

Continued on Page 6



## 2021 Community Service Projects (Continued)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GhojS0jTAn4>  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bcF90LdG5pE>

Need more instruction? Our March program will include a demonstration of how to make a fidget quilt by our very own Olga Schrichte. Thank you Olga!

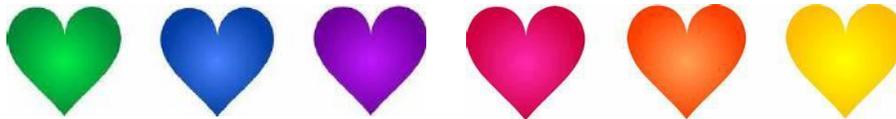


**Homewood Dementia Unit -Target Goal:**  
25 fidget quilts (17" by 21")  
5 lap size non-fidget quilts

Karen Smith  
[smitty2@ix.netcom.com](mailto:smitty2@ix.netcom.com)

Kay Rice and Marcia Walker, 2021 Community Service Co-Chairs

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



### A WORD FROM SANDY DUNNING:

In re: Show and Tell

There are two ways for members to “show and tell” at our monthly virtual meetings.

One is to send photo(s) of your project to Sandy to be included in a PowerPoint presentation. The advantage of this way is that members will be able to see your work up close. Photos may be sent to Sandy at [sdunning0117@gmail.com](mailto:sdunning0117@gmail.com). Just be sure to get your photo(s) to Sandy no later than the Tuesday before the Thursday monthly meeting.

The other way to “show and tell” is to simply hold your project up to your device’s camera. The advantage of this way is there is no need to send photos to anyone.

Either way you choose, everyone is invited to share your work during our monthly virtual Show and Tell. It’s always a favorite for our members and guests!

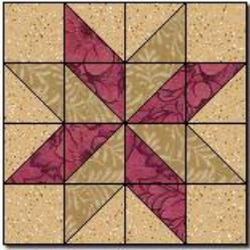


## MEMBERSHIP



Two memberships have been received. Members may now pay by PayPal on our web site. If you pay with PayPal and any of your information has changed, please complete a membership form and email to me for update. If paying by check continue to send to me at: 2304 Mt. Ephram Rd, Adamstown, MD 21710. Membership dues are due in February.

Darlene Morris  
Membership Chairman

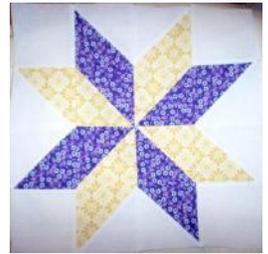


BLOCK OF THE MONTH 2021

For 2021, the Block of the Month Committee decided to select blocks that will easily make use of scraps.

The first block is made up of half square triangles and squares. It is named "Starflower." The instructions can be found on the Quilter's Cache website. Here is the link: [www.quilterscache.com/S/StarflowerBlock.html](http://www.quilterscache.com/S/StarflowerBlock.html).

It makes up into a 12" finished block. (Darlene Morris's block shown at right.)



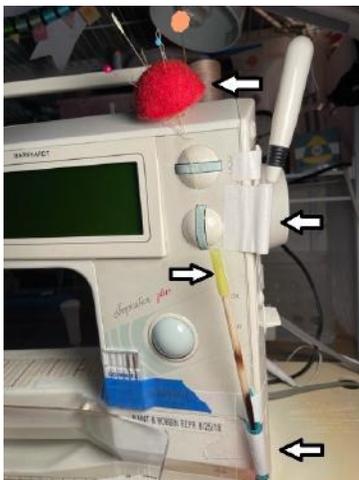
Kathy Shankle, Chair



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAY

February 25 Dot White

JANUARY MEETING PHOTOS... This month, ten of our members showed tips, tricks and tools at our Zoom meeting. Brenda Barnhardt started out with tips, and notions she has attached to her sewing machine that make life more organized and easier. First photo shows half of a wool ball she cut and velcroed to the top of her machine for pins' and needles' quick access. On the lower front and side are two pen caps taped to the machine to hold a quill stylus and seam ripper. Among other tips, she keeps a piece of painters' tape to catch loose threads and lint. Two right photos are two of Olga Schrichte's three pointers for precision piecing starting with cutting and sewing. She emphasized that for accuracy, check your pieces as you go. Continued on Page 8.



**Cutting**

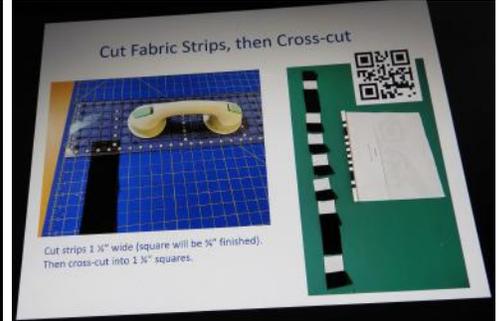
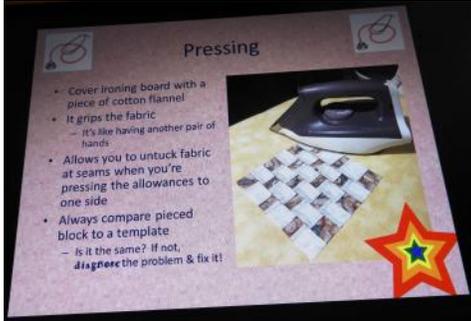
- Use Best Press or Spray Starch before cutting out pieces
- Stabilizes them
- It's like having a second pair of hands
- Creases hold better
  - Finger pressing
  - Pressing
- Double-Check piece against template
  - Is it the same?
  - If not, **disagree**

**Sewing**

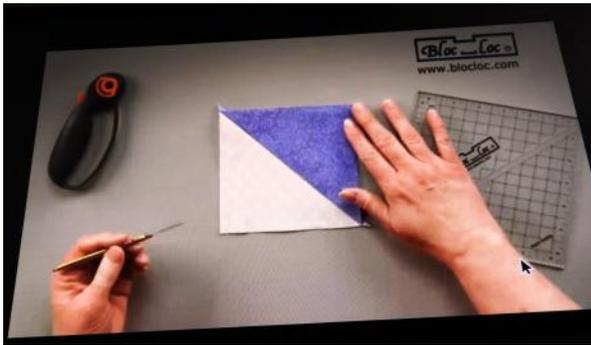
- Double-check scant 1/4" seam allowance
- Adjust needle left or right
- For sewing machines that set in, use a mirrored tile to double-check alignment of fabrics
- Use "starter" & "ender" pieces when chain stitching
- Leave little tails to lock stitches
  - Especially at the outside of the quilt
- For seam allowances pressed to one side, use stitch length of 2.0
- For seam allowances pressed open, shorten stitches to 1.8
  - They take more stress when pressed open



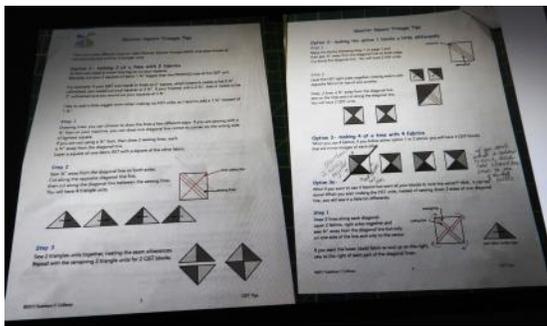
JANUARY MEETING PHOTOS (Continued)... Olga's third point, garnered from Sharon Blackmore's "Piece Your Way to Freedom" class from Love Shack, was pressing. Check online for Sharon's videos. Next, Fran Scher showed how to make a QR Code pillow that can actually be read from a phone reader (if your piecing is accurate).



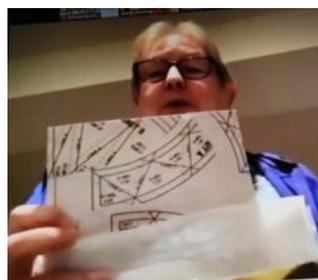
Barbara Scuderi demonstrated a Bloc-Loc ruler to make half square triangles. To the right is a quilt using this tool which has a groove on the diagonal center seam which prevents slippage when cutting.



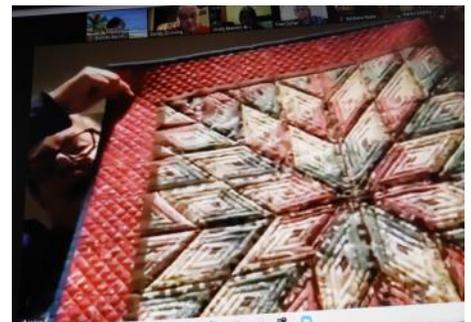
Again, check the internet for videos about these rulers. Sandy Dunning showed tips from Kathleen C. Colleran's [Seamslikeadream.com](http://Seamslikeadream.com) website on making quarter square triangles below.



Below, Helen Wasserman talked about foundation and paper piecing. Her two favorite tools are Add-A-Quarter rulers, a wooden roller to "press" seams, and patterns from EQ software, printable sheets and books. She likes a stabilizer from RaNae Merrill. She showed one of her paper pieced quilts.



Continued on Page 9





# THE COMMON THREAD

JANUARY MEETING PHOTOS (Continued)... Danita Frisby showed how to make disappearing nine patches for 6" and 3" squares. Then finishing with a floating star block.



Middle row, Mary Pauley is also a fan of the porcupine quill as a stiletto. And her second tip was to prethread needles by threading them onto your thread spool and cutting the thread between each one as you need them. At right, Nancy Speck told about making a machine cleaner (or anything that has a small area to clean) made from a folded pipe cleaner and coffee stir. Since these materials usually come in large quantities she offered to give you some if they want to make them yourself. And finally, Barbara Yinger showed that she likes to use a Halstead hemostat for various situations including pulling the thread up from your machine's bobbin or holding a machine needle to reinsert it when you change or break a needle. She also makes use of a larger Kelly clamp with a curved tip to insert stuffing in pillows. She sent a **Show & Tell** quilt photo explaining it's a "Battle of Burgoyne" I stitched by hand, quilting done by Amish in Southern Maryland in 2009. The pillow was made a different time. "



NATIONAL  
HEART MONTH  
February





Dear Quilt Guild,

Our guild, Friendship Quilters of Linthicum, has set up a class with Cindy Grisdela on Feb 6, 2021. We need a few more students to make it affordable for all. Please read the information below about the class we have scheduled.

This class will be held via Zoom. A link will be emailed to all a couple of days prior to the class. **Fearless Curved Piecing - Take the fear out of curved piecing with Improv Circles and Curved Stripes. There are no template, no pins, and no matching seams. You will be confident with curves in no time! Wall hanging is about 17" x 20".** <https://www.cindygrisdela.com/> Cost is \$40. If I have not received enough checks by Jan 30<sup>th</sup>, I will have to cancel the class. Please send your check ASAP! Made out to Friendship Quilt Guild, to Carol Orme, 1025 Bell Ave, Glen Burnie, 21060. If you put it in the mail, please send me an email so I know it's on the way. Please include your email and guild with the check.



Thank you,

From Marty Simmons: Please remember that we're keeping the latest and greatest version of our workshops and opportunities spread sheet in the Members Only section of our website. The plan is to put the regular updates out there, probably once a month, and to only send the spreadsheet to our fellow guild members when there've been major changes. But if you want to share time critical workshop or opportunity information with the rest of the guild and you don't feel comfortable sending it out yourself, send it to me ([CGJLILLY@NETZERO.NET](mailto:CGJLILLY@NETZERO.NET)) and I'll share it for you and make sure it goes into the spreadsheet!

**QUILTER'S BLESSING**



★ May your Bobbins be full and everflowing.

★ May your Stash be rich, colorful, and abundant.

★ May your Stitches-in-the-Ditch be even and straight.

★ And may your heart be joyfilled and your life...

★ SEW BLESSED. ★

**HEALTH BENEFITS OF QUILTING**



- **RELIEVES STRESS**  
The meditative action of quilting encourages positivity and feelings of relaxation
- **PROMOTES BRAIN GROWTH**  
The creative nature of quilting encourages the formation of new brain cells
- **HAPPINESS**  
Quilting increases dopamine in the brain, which makes us feel HAPPY!!
- **FIGHTS DEMENTIA**  
Quilting keeps the mind clear, focused, and active, which can help prevent dementia as we age
- **IMPROVE YOUR HAND & EYE COORDINATION**  
Quilting requires a certain type of attention to detail, that encourages coordination, especially hand & eye



## 2021 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January	14	CSQG Meeting - Tips, Tools, and Tricks From Guild Members	
February	11	CSQG Meeting - Michelle Banton - "Cotton to Consumer"	<a href="mailto:www.michelle@littlepupdesigns.com">www.michelle@littlepupdesigns.com</a>
February	24-27	Mid-Atlantic Quilt Festival @ Hampton, VA (Online)	<a href="https://www.quiltfest.com/upcoming-shows-and-events/httpswwww-onlinequiltfestival-com/">https://www.quiltfest.com/upcoming-shows-and-events/httpswwww-onlinequiltfestival-com/</a>
March	4	CSQG Quarterly Board Meeting	
March	11	CSQG Meeting - Barbara Cline - "Where, When, Why, and How of Quilting"	<a href="http://www.delightfulpiecing.com">www.delightfulpiecing.com</a>
April	8	CSQG Meeting - Patricia Belyea - "The Alluring World of Japanese Yukata Quilts"	<a href="mailto:www.patricia@okanarts.com">www.patricia@okanarts.com</a>
April	16 - 18	Northern Shenandoah Valley Quilt Show	
April	16 - 18	Northern Shenandoah Valley Quilt Show	<a href="http://www.nsvquiltshow.com">www.nsvquiltshow.com</a>
May	13	CSQG Meeting - Joan Watkins - "Fabric Faces"	
June	3	CSQG Quarterly Board Meeting	
June	10	CSQG Meeting - Heather Kojan - "Quilt Remix"	<a href="http://www.heatherkojan.com">www.heatherkojan.com</a>
June	4-6	Quilter's Unlimited Quilt Show (Virtual)	
June	4-6	Quilter's Unlimited Quilt Show (Virtual)	<a href="http://www.quiltersunlimited.org/quiltshow">www.quiltersunlimited.org/quiltshow</a>
June-Sept.	June 21 ...	Row by Row Experience Shop Hop (Now Quilters Trek)	
June-Sept.	June 21 ...	Row by Row Experience Shop Hop (Now Quilters Trek)	<a href="http://www.quilterstrek.com">www.quilterstrek.com</a>
July	8	CSQG Meeting - TBD	
July	7-11	Mid-Appalachian Quilters Seminar	<a href="http://www.maqonline.org">www.maqonline.org</a>
August	12	CSQG Meeting - Show & Tell of Community Service Quilts; Mystery Project Revealed	
September	2	CSQG Quarterly Board Meeting	
September	9	CSQG Meeting - Debby Kratovil - "Turning 60, the Joys of Hex"	<a href="http://www.quilterbydesign.com">www.quilterbydesign.com</a>
September	10	Workshop - Debby Kratovil - "Ezekiel's Crown"	
September	17-25	Great Frederick Fair	<a href="http://www.thegreatfrederickfair.com">www.thegreatfrederickfair.com</a>
October	14	CSQG Meeting - Guild Challenge	
November	4	CSQG Quarterly Board Meeting	
November	11	CSQG Meeting - Lenny Truitt - "The History of Feedsacks"	
November	12	Workshop - Lenny Truitt - "Improv Quilt As You Go"	
December	9	CSQG Meeting - Holiday Banquet	

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

Updated 1/31/21



*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.

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 Show & Tell Contributor: Linda McNey  
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