



President's Notes

Happy 2023! I hope you all had a good holiday season and New Year's celebration with loved ones. This is the time, of course, when many of us make resolutions for the new year. What are yours? As quilters, we may be thinking of learning new techniques, finishing those UFO's, starting new projects that stretch our skills, or making quilts for charity. Our wonderful guild is here to support you in whatever you want to do. Please consider supporting the guild by joining a committee or filling an officer position. We will have two open officer positions up for election in May — President and Secretary. Our Program Committee has a super lineup of speakers, workshops, and fun activities for us this year. I hope to see you there!

Happy New Year and happy quilting!

Fran



January 2023 Newsletter

Next Meeting: **2nd Thursday each Month**
Thursday, **January 12, 2023**

Guild Meetings:
Second Thursday of the Month
6:15pm Social Time
6:45pm Meeting Begins

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

OFFICERS

President: Fran Scher
Vice-President: Sandy Dunning
Secretary: Jennifer Chua
Treasurer: Robin Rippeon

CONTACTS

BOM: Kathy Shankle
Challenge: Brenda Barnhardt
Community Service:
Facebook Adm: Jennifer Chua
Instagram Adm: Jessica Halpin
Membership: Darlene Morris & Sandy Dunning
Last Chance Stash: Mary Pauley
Newsletter: Brenda Barnhardt
Marketing/Fundraising: Jessica Halpin
PayPal Adm: Sandy Dunning
Public Relations: Becky Lyon
Programs: Sandy Dunning & Stella Penalver
Quilt Show: Joan Watkins
Refreshments: Linda Beavers
Sunshine: Olga Schrichte
Website Adm: Fran Scher
Zoom Coordinator: Sandy Dunning

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



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Clustered Spires Quilt Guild Meeting Minutes - December 8, 2022

Fran Scher opened the meeting at 6:48pm with 28 members and 5 guests.

Fran thanked Joan Watkins and the Quilt Show Committee for their hard work in putting the show together. The show is spectacular!

Olga Schrichte is having knee surgery. Wish her well by sending her 5" squares of fabric.

The guild needs a chair to oversee our Community Service. Fran thanked Kay Rice for her years of work in putting this together.

Danita Frisby announced that sales of raffle tickets for our opportunity quilt reached our \$1,500 goal. Part of its success is due to Billy Fuller who bought \$300 worth of tickets and subsequently won it too! Congratulations, Billy!

Sandy Dunning thanked the Program Committee for all their hard work to put together our party. We would like to thank Sandy for her hard work too!

We had 5 guests this evening:

- (1) Marilys Gilbert, who was introduced to the guild by Jennifer Chua,
- (2) Pat Toth who came with Sharon Keller,
- (3) Kate Lane,
- (4) Kara Myren, who was introduced to the guild by our brochure conveniently placed in her handbag by her friend when they visited the quilt show, and
- (5) Monica Spilis.

Fran announced that as a gift to our guests, they won't have to pay for the remainder of 2022, should they choose to join the guild.

A special holiday Show and Tell followed.

Time was also set aside for members to turn their strips of fabric into a Scandinavian star. Jessica Halpin produced a step-by-step video to show how it is done.

Door prizes were won by Helen Wasserman, Nancy Woods, Danita Frisby, Kara Myren (guest), Daryl MacCrehan, Fanny Johnsson, and MJ Greer.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:40pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Chua



Greetings Ladies!

As we begin the New Year, we begin a new quilting experience. Cindy, Darlene and I chose the book "Schoolgirl Sampler" to work from. The book features 4 1/2" blocks. We will be making the first 6 blocks for January. Sorry I don't have mine to show yet but they will be at the January meeting! Schoolgirl Sampler also features small quilts along the way. You might get sidetracked and make them all! Have fun with them and enjoy!

Kathy Shankle, Co-Chair



PROGRAM COMMITTEE

January is the month when we have a short Annual Report and vote on a finalized budget. After that our January Program will be “Fun and Games.” There will be games to play and lots of prizes to win. In fact, there will be a prize drawing every fifteen minutes! (Thanks to Sew ‘N Place, Sew ‘N Sweep, and Charlotte’s Cottage for providing some of our prizes!) Everyone will go home with at least one prize selected from the Prize Table. What better way to spend a cold winter’s night than playing games with friends?

One of our games is a modified version of “Strip Poker.” Some of you may remember this from a few years ago. To play you will need to bring 20 – 25, 2 ½ x 42 inch strips. You may use jelly roll strips or cut your own. These will be used as you “ante up” for each round. As in all games of chance, you could go home with a large stash of 2 ½ inch strips or only just a few. But you will have FUN playing with your fellow quilters!

You will also need to bring one yard of ugly fabric with the selvages cut off. Curious? Come to the meeting and find out what we will be doing with ugly fabric!

It wouldn’t be a game night without a few snacks. Individually packaged snacks and water will be provided. (There might even be some chocolate available for those high stress moments!)

As always there will be Show and Tell.

Sandy Dunning, Co-Chair

Wanted: A Few Caring Members

Do you CARE about quilting?

Do you CARE about having a Program when you come to guild meetings each month?

Do you CARE about sharing, laughing, and learning with your fellow guild members?

If so, then YOU qualify to be a member of the Clustered Spires Quilt Guild Program Committee. I, Sandy Dunning, have agreed to chair this committee for 2023; however, I need members on the committee to help out. Last year the committee members were Linda Beavers, Mary Pauley, Stella Peñalver, Marty Simmons, and Fran Scher. While I hope all of these members will continue in 2023, we all agree that new ideas and new members are needed in order to maintain the vibrancy of this important committee. Please contact anyone of us to volunteer or discuss the fun you can have on this committee!

SECOND MONDAY, SIP N SEW



The Second Monday Sip N Sew will be January 9 at the Sew n Place in Fayetteville, PA from 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM. Quilters from Four County Quilters Guild and Clustered Spires Quilt Guild are invited to join each other for a fun day together sewing, laughing, sharing, and indulging in one of the many coffee drinks offered at the cafe bistro. Cost is \$10 per person. To register or for more information, please contact Sandy Dunning at sdunning0117@gmail.com or 978-806-7894.

LAST CHANCE STASH

As you are tidying up, cleaning out, and reorganizing your sewing spaces to start off fresh in the new year, please consider donating some items (fabrics, notions, patterns, etc.) for the Last Chance Stash sales table. We will be set up for the January guild meeting and are looking forward to some fun and productive monthly sales this year.

Mary Pauley, Chair



The Frederick News-Post

QUILTS FOR AFGHANS

Members of Clustered Spires Quilt Guild present quilts for Afghan refugee children to Lutheran Social Services/ National Capitol Area. Pictured, from left, are Fran Scher, President, Clustered Spires Quilt Guild; Pastor Christine Dunn, director for community engagement, LSSNCA; and Kay Rice, chair, Community Service Committee, CSQG.



Courtesy photo/Brenda Barnhardt

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NEW QUILTING BEE FORMING

There are nine guild members getting together on Saturday, January 14th from 10:00 am until noon to brainstorm and plan monthly group meetings, forming a new quilting bee. Ideally, we'd like to have at least 12 members so each person is responsible for hosting once a year.

A quilt bee offers a great opportunity to work on quilts, exchange ideas, learn, socialize, and get to know other members better in a small group setting.

If you would like to join this start up group, please RSVP Mary Pauley, pauley.mary.ann@gmail.com.

QUILT FOLDING TIP

Here's some good information on how to fold quilts to send to quilt shows, but it's also good for folding them for storage so that when they hang, they don't have wrinkles. I thought the explanations were excellent. https://youtu.be/9fP60_6MxCw

Submitted by Olga Schrichte





SUNSHINE NEWS

Olga Schrichte had a total knee replacement recently! The outpatient surgery went well and she is home recovering. Let's help Olga take her mind off her knee by sending her cards and 5-inch squares of fabric.

Here is her address:

Olga Schrichte
2558 Bear Den Rd.
Frederick, MD 21701



Joan Watkins was kind enough to let me know that Darlene Morris' mother died on November 18th. Please reach out to Darlene at this sad time to let her know that you're thinking about her. Remember to include a 5-inch square of floral fabric so Darlene can make something special with it.

Here's Darlene's contact information:

Darlene Morris
2304 Mt. Ephraim Road
Adamstown, MD 21710
Email: vmorris24@outlook.com

If you know of anyone else who could use a little sunshine please be sure to let me know. Thank you for being part of our caring, creative community.

Olga Schrichte, Sunshine Committee Chair

Also, some sad news for those who remember Mary Beth Glover and Eva Roessler who used to be in our guild. Both recently passed away. Mary Beth was in Baltimore and Eva, most recently, in West Virginia. They remained faithful to the guild and made friends who still kept in touch.



A NOTE FROM DARLENE:

I would like to thank everyone for their cards and prayers for the passing of my precious mother. Thank you all so very much for your kind words.

Darlene Morris

Interested in improv piecing? Join Sherri Lynn Wood as she hosts a free Zoom class on January 7.
<https://www.sherrilynnwood.com/free-scrap-quilting-class>

Save the date: Nimble Fingers Quilters Yard Sale will be held from noon to 4 pm on Sunday April 16 at the Izaak Walton League, 18301 Waring Station Rd, Germantown, MD 20874



QUILT SHOW COMMITTEE

Thank you to everyone who helped to make this the best quilt exhibit ever at the Delaplaine! The colorful quilts, the members who hung the quilts in record time and the ones who took the show down—all contributed to a very successful month of sharing quilts with the community.

For several years, we have successfully sold notecards with a popular Frederick theme featuring a quilt Olga Schrichte made and gave permission to the guild to use. Thank you, Olga!

There has been some talk about making notecards from photos of other member's quilts. It would be lovely to offer an assortment. If you have made a quilt that is an original design and would be interested in this project, let me know. We have photos of the quilts in the exhibit, thanks to Brenda Barnhardt, that we could start with. Using an original design is important to avoid any problems with copyright issues.

Joan Watkins, Chair

MEMBERSHIP



Lisa Newcomer is our newest member. She has been quilting 15 years on and off but has never been in a guild before. She heard about us from Facebook. Lisa loves cutting and piecing, but wants to get better at quilting and completing her projects. Lisa lives in Rocky Ridge. Welcome Lisa!



Clustered Spires Quilters Go Beyond Expectations!

By Bob Lebron, Veteran Liaison, Frederick Health Hospice

Veterans serve at the pleasure of the President of the United States, our Commander and Chief for the Armed Forces. They take an oath to defend and protect the Constitution of the United States of America against all enemies foreign and domestic, whether they serve one enlistment or an entire career. A grateful nation continues to honor their service. We at Frederick Health Hospice also honor our veterans who are at their end of life.

When a veteran on hospice is honored there are specific items used to recognize each one. Their branch of service, job, and time in service is inquired initially upon admission to hospice. If the veteran desires to be recognized he or she is honored with the anthem of their branch, a certificate and tribute to their service, a Proud Veteran ballcap, a service branch pin and VA Benefits information. The icing on the cake, and it is sweet ☺, is the more than thirty-eight quilts that Clustered Spires have made. The smiles I wish could be bottled and sent to all of you. The expressions of surprise and awe are witnessed by the Liaison and attributed to your group. The veteran label is a reminder that the veteran served and is being honored as such.

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Clustered Spires Quilters Go Beyond Expectations! (Continued)

Thank you for the reactions that you will never see but can imagine I've seen and heard. The many hours of work brings joy at the veteran's end of life. I, and we at Frederick Health Hospice hope, that you know the same joy the veteran does when receiving a quilt. The joy that is stored in your quilts is unfolded in their faces. Again much gratitude to all of you and Happy Holidays!



Coming Soon! March 2023 – Lecture and Workshop

Quilt Maven Dave [Sirota], a nationally respected and highly sought after lecturer and workshop instructor, will be coming to CSQG via the magic of Zoom. On March 9, 2023 Dave will present a Zoom lecture during our monthly meeting at the Delaplaine. His lecture, "What Makes a Quilter Tick?" is a fun filled look in the mirror. We will all be able to relate to some of his quilty stories!

Dave will then present his workshop using the paper piecing technique he has made famous, "No More Tears", on Saturday, March 11, again via Zoom. Not only will the workshop be fun and instructive, you can also participate in the workshop from your own home/sewing studio – everything you need right at hand and no lugging machines and supplies to an off site workshop.

Lecture: Thursday, March 9, 2023
7:00 PM during our regular program
Delaplaine Arts Center
Frederick, MD

Workshop: "Storm at Sea"
Saturday, March 11, 2023
10:00 – 4:00
Zoom

Cost: \$40
Workshop limited to 24 participants



Storm at Sea

You'll be using the versatile, graphic, complex, quite simple Storm at Sea pattern to learn Dave's "No More Tears" © method of paper piecing. Although you won't be finishing the entire project in class,



Storm at Sea (Continued)

you'll have a good start, and the tools you'll need to finish it at home, in half the time you'd expect from paper piecing.

- Register on line at our website, in person at a guild meeting, or email Sandy Dunning at sdunning0117@gmail.com to reserve your spot. Contact Sandy if you have additional questions by phone or text, 978-806-7894.
- Pay by PayPal on our website or by check, made out to CSQG. Submit your check to Robin Rippeon (201 Bennett Court, Thurmont, MD 21788) or give to Sandy or Robin at a meeting.
- Registration open *only to CSQG members until February 14, 2023*. After that, the workshop will be offered to members of other quilt guilds.

Quilt Maven Dave

It all started because I needed kitchen curtains and decided to make them myself. But that's a whole other story.

I have been quilting since the late 90's (that's 1990's) after my friend Amy Fitzpatrick taught me the basics of quilting. And I thank "Simply Quilts" for all of the information and instruction that Alex Anderson and her guests provided. It felt like I was going to quilting school, and I tried not to miss a class.

There was one technique that I was immediately drawn to, and that was paper piecing. I thought it was so cool because of the intricate and accurate results you get. The only drawback was that it was really difficult to wrap my brain around, kinda like upside down and backwards. If you've ever tried it, you know what I mean. But once I got it, the results were quite exciting. Except, there were a couple of huge drawbacks...how to orient the next piece of fabric, and removing the paper. Regardless of the kind of paper I used, it still had to be removed at the end, which took as long or longer than the construction of the quilt!



So, I started thinking about how to make paper piecing simpler and faster. And I'm proud to say that in 2004, I figured it out. My "Sirota No More Tears Paper Piecing"© method is easier to understand and takes half the time of the old way of paper piecing.

My goal was to take the anxiety out of paper piecing and replace it with the joy of the process. Paper piecing is now fun, easy and quick.



*Left, Hunter's Star and Storm at Sea
Made by Sandy Dunning*

*Right, Not Your Daddy's Log Cabin
Made by Susan Gnat*





FUNDRAISING

I'm so excited and grateful for the opportunity to chair fundraising — thank you for having me! The Fundraising Committee has decided that for this year, we will not be doing an opportunity quilt to focus on trying other outlets to raise funds. We will reassess next year to see where to go from there. This year, some of the things we want to try are teaching, creating kits for people to make projects, and selling more items via markets and craft fairs!



We are thrilled to say we are teaming up with the Delaplaine to teach a one day, 3-hour workshop to teach making EPP patches scheduled for the afternoon of April 29th. We are looking for members to shop their stash for donations of bright, funky fabrics. The resident/inspiring artist for the semester is sculptor Dan Lam, so please check out her website — <https://bydanlam.com/> — for inspiration. While we need both prints and solids, prints with great fussy cutting potential would be a bonus! We will also need 2-3 volunteers to help walk around and assist students. Please email me or see me at our meeting for more information.

Jessica Halpin, Chair



HELP WANTED - Caitlin Herrera is looking for a quilter who can generously donate their time to create a quilt for her best friend Vicki and husband John Richardson, in honor of their son Georgie, who just passed away. When Georgie was born, he was placed in the neonatal ICU, had undergone multiple heart surgeries, had a tracheostomy and was on a ventilator. He was released home but unfortunately died. Caitlin would like to create a quilt, using Georgie's clothing, blankets, tracheotomy dressing, tubing covers, etc. to give to Vicki and her family some comfort in their time of need. If you would like to help, please contact Caitlin at c.m.herreradoll@gmail.com or by phone at 301-768-8555.

Submitted by Jennifer Chua

Fiber Art Show, *Beyond Traditions*, at the Sandy Spring Museum will be held January 9 thru March 20. *Beyond Traditions* brings together seven multicultural women artists, curated by Felisa Federman. Participating artists bring their diverse backgrounds and cultural histories that have led them to the art world. They each create textiles that reflect their individual connections to countries of origin, various educational paths, or other forms of expression. See <https://www.sandyspringmuseum.org/exhibits-collections/upcoming-exhibits/> for more information.



Submitted by Jennifer Chua

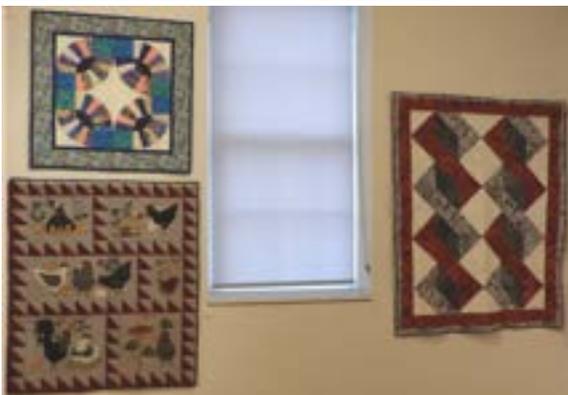
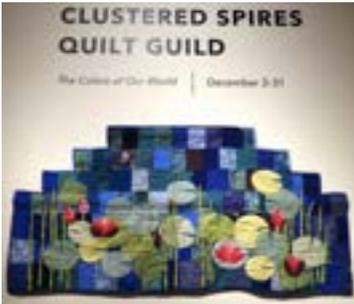


January Birthdays

10	Marcia Walker	19	Nancy Pedersen
12	Jennifer Reckley	19	Denise Wagenaar
14	Frances Shearer	26	Fran Scher
15	Eleanor Weitzel	27	Barbara Ogden
17	Sandy Dunning		



The 2022 Clustered Spires Quilt Exhibit in December at the Delaplaine Center highlights... Danita Frisby's "Carroll Creek" quilt was featured, announcing the exhibit.



Individual entries follow on Page 11





Quilt Exhibit (Continued)... Row 1: Libby Driggers, Nancy Woods, Danita Frisby. Row 2: Jennifer Chua, Nancy Speck, Julie Howell. Row 3: MJ Greer, Olga Schrichte, Helen Wasserman

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Quilt Exhibit (Continued)... Row 1: Peggy Hauser, Jessica Halpin (front and back). Row 2: Fran Scher, Beth Fulcher, Sandy Dunning. Row 3: Sandy Dunning, Jessica Halpin, Patricia Cronin Continued on Page 13



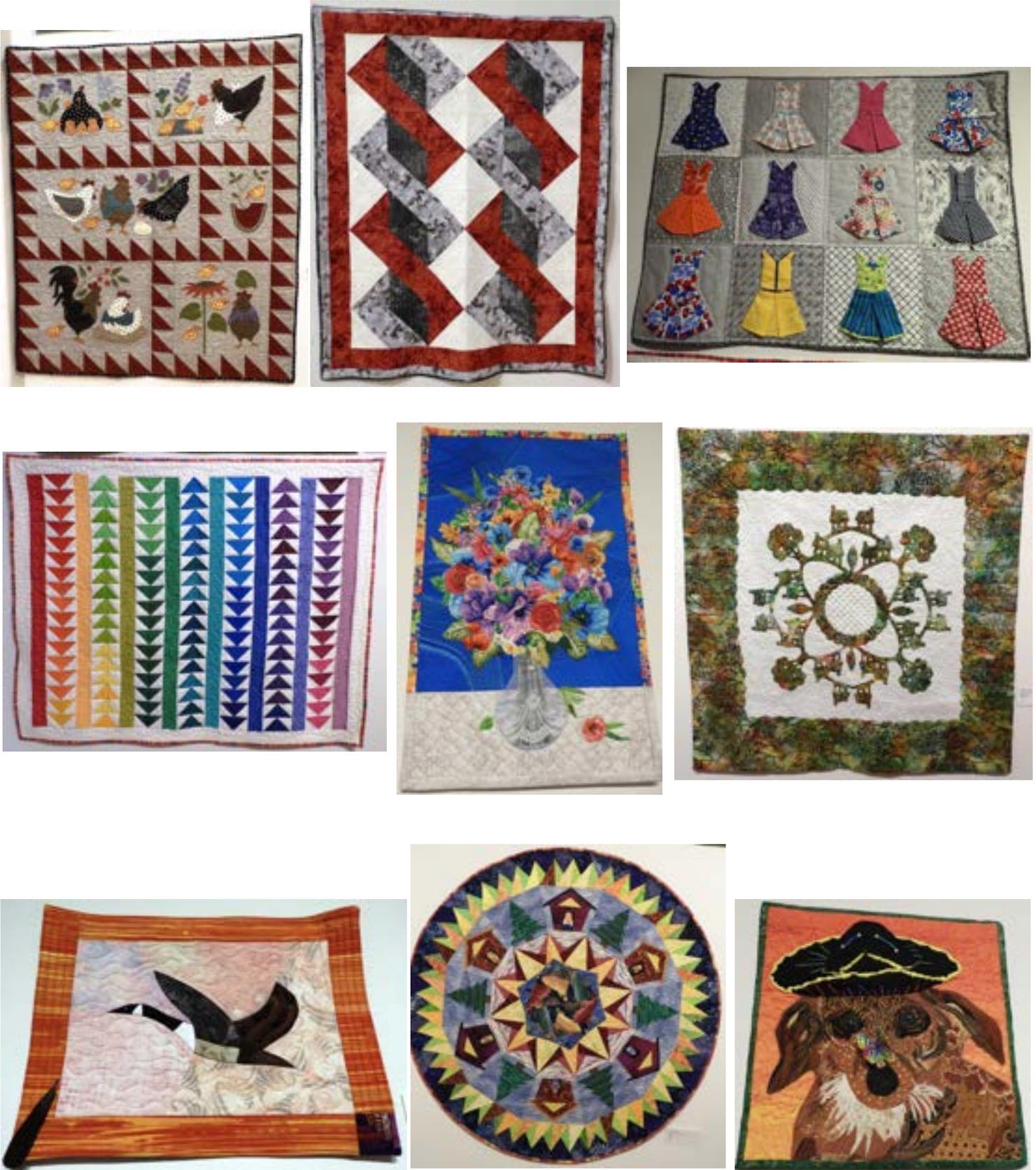


Quilt Exhibit (Continued)... Row 1: Sue Heslin, Helen Wasserman, Nancy Woods. Row 2: Olga Schrichte, Stella Peñalver, Julie Howell. Row 3: Fran Scher, Jessica Halpin, Brenda Barnhardt
Continued on Page 14



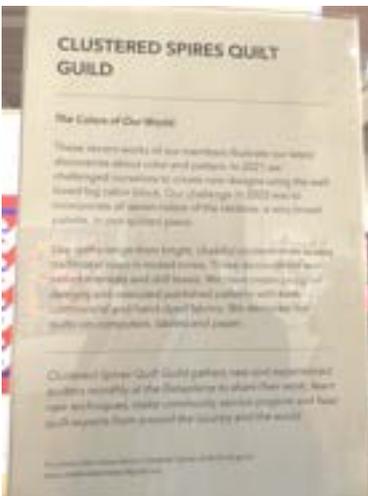
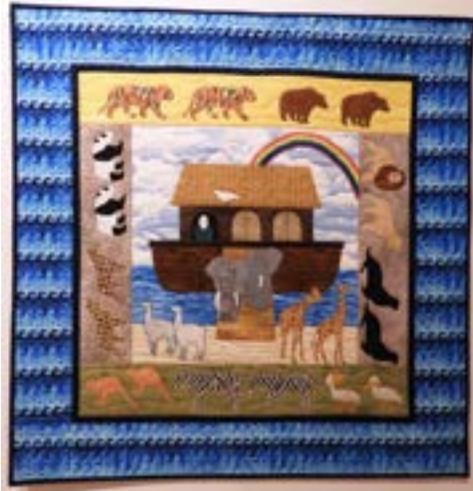


Quilt Exhibit (Continued)... Row 1: Libi Driggers, Kay Rice, MJ Greer. Row 2: Dot White, Olga Schrichte, Peggy Hauser. Row 3: Joan Watkins (left and middle), Mary Pauley
Continued on Page 15





Quilt Exhibit (Continued)... Row 1: Pat James, Barbara Scuderi and Jennifer Chua.



December meeting Show & Tell photos follow... The Holiday Party Committee: Mary Pauley, Stella Peñalver, Fran Scher, Sandy Dunning and Linda Beavers. Right, donations from members for the Frederick Rescue Mission.



Below, Stella Peñalver shared a heart-warming advent calendar she made with one of her children when they were young, having her sew some of the simpler pieces. Stella intends on replacing some of the hooks that have seen better days, as all the fabric parts are in fantastic shape. At right, Bernice Huff brought two holiday pieces. The first was a twister pattern using the smallest possible mat. The second was a lovely holiday colored quilt using a pattern from Elizabeth Carlson, who specializes in miniature quilts. Each "block" was actually a mini quilt, including an exquisitely pieced tiny lone-star!



Lots of cookies were brought to share.



Jessica Halpin shared a gift and ornament wall hanging that was memorable as the first quilt she designed herself.

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Show & Tell (Continued)... Jessica also brought a quilt made by her eldest daughter, Lilly, as Christmas gift for her middle daughter. It was a Frozen quilt made from a kit and Lilly made the entire quilt except the binding herself, even free motion quilted it on the long arm!

Sandy Dunning brought 3 amazing pieces. The first was a hand quilted table runner with a ruffle edge made by her mother-in-law. The second was a huge and stunning log cabin Christmas tree quilt that she only realized was a tree after unfolding it all the way a couple of years ago (after having it 47 years) as it is so large! Sandy says she is grateful to have been able to come to appreciate her MIL's skill and hard work and to tell her so before she passed. The final piece was one she made from squares made by members of the guild that she won in a raffle, and is one of her most prized possessions and the most incredible treasure she's ever won.

Barbara Ogden brought several holiday pieces she has made for her daughter. First was a table runner with three dimensional poinsettias. The second was a lovely "window pane" style embroidery of a Christmas message with gold metallic ribbon. She also shared a clever double faced napkin folded into A Christmas tree for an easy gift idea.



Her final piece was a very cute Christmas dog themed quilt with machine embroidery.



Nancy Woods brought a gorgeous angel wall hanging. While she said she did not intend for it to turn out so large, it was a happy accident as the size made it a show stopper!



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Show & Tell (Continued)... Danita Frisby's holiday Show and Tell was a very special crocheted lace piece created from the strings used in feed sacks by her great aunt Noni in the 1940's. She also brought a cozy wool appliquéd gnome table topper.

Darlene Morris shared her block of the month, "Rocky Road to Dublin", which of course, she did in green! She also shared a lovely finished floral appliqué piece from the pattern "Spring Blossoms" by Hoop Sisters.

Fran Scher showed a quilt she started to use up some scraps. She went to QuiltCon a couple years ago and received a paper piecing pattern for pineapple blocks. For the center of blocks, she used the sunshine squares she received after her shoulder surgery from our members!



Kathy Shankle's daughter is a professional chef and asks for an apron every year. She also cares for the feral cats in her area, so Kathy found this amazing "avo-cat-o" fabric to create a meow-tastic apron!



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Show & Tell (Continued)... Kate Lane shared a quilt made from her collection of Anna Maria Horner's "Echinacea Glow" fabrics. Anna Maria closed her store in Tennessee and Kate made a road trip to get some fabric before they closed, with the ulterior and main motive of actually meeting Anna Maria. Lucky enough, Kate was able to do so and even got a picture of Anna Maria with her quilt! Kate was inspired to bring this quilt and join as a guest after seeing Fran Scher's "Petal Play" in our exhibit!



Helen Wasserman brought her Big Blue sampler quilt, created from Anne Holt's "Lancaster Diamond Sampler." It is based off a traditional quilt created in the 1800's. Helen enjoyed this quilt as it had 41 unique blocks as opposed to the same block over and over. Big Blue was too large for the guild's exhibit but we are so glad we were able to see this beautiful piece in person!

7 Great New Year's Resolutions for Quilters from Thimbles Quilting Supplies & Sewing Machines

What do you want to accomplish this year? At the outset of a new year, resolutions feel like a promise we make to ourselves. Then, a few months into the year, suddenly our resolutions feel like an extra weight on our shoulders. But it doesn't have to be that way! We're of the opinion that anything you resolve to do should be added to your list of resolutions—whether you planned it or not. Whatever your accomplishments may be three, six, or nine months from now, you deserve a pat on the back. There's nothing wrong with resolutions made after the fact.

With that positivity in mind, we came up with some simple and straightforward quilting and sewing resolutions you were probably planning on implementing anyway. If you were stumped on resolutions to set for yourself, this should help you create some manageable goals for the year.

Tend to Your Quilts

As avid quilters, we're surrounded by quilts. We have quilts on display, quilts in storage, quilts in use on beds. Now is a great time to take stock of your quilts and consider switching up their rotation.

Your displayed and used quilts may need to be washed. Lovingly handmade quilts can be delicate objects—especially if they have lace or dimensional applique work. Determine which quilts can be machine or hand washed (cold water only, gentle cycle, gentle detergent) and which need to be dry cleaned.

A good rule of thumb is that an actively used quilt should be washed approximately twice a year. Children and kids in the house? You might need to wash that quilt a bit more. If your quilts are on display, they may not need to be washed so much as hung outside to air out—choose a shady area, out of the sun, to preserve your colors!

Consider pulling quilts out of storage to replace the quilts you used last year for bedding and display. The more you rotate your quilts, the longer they will last on the whole.

Replace Old Needles

Your sewing machine needles get a really tough workout. As a result, they degrade at a fairly rapid rate. Old and potentially rusty needles create a nightmare for sewing projects. Needle points grow dull and blunt over time and use. If you don't replace old needles they can ruin beautiful fabrics and threads and destroy your quilts before they're even finished.

So, how often should you replace needles? We recommend *always* checking the needle before you start sewing—just in case—but a good rule of thumb is to replace needles after every three to four bobbins. Touch the tip of the needle when you first install it, and then after a few projects. Listen to your machine working with a new needle, and then working with a needle that you know is old and requires changing. You'll soon learn what a new vs. old needle feels and sounds like, making it easier to determine when it's time for a replacement.

Organize Craft Room

Take a deep breath. It's time to tackle your fabric stash and—if you have one—your craft room. If your craft room requires decluttering, now is the time. The process of decluttering and organizing your craft room should reveal some potential next steps for your fabric stash, but we'll get to that later. If fabric is part of your clutter, set your stash aside for our next step.

First, take stock of your room and what needs to be addressed. Do you need to organize the space? Do you require additional storage to organize things?

Organize Fabric Stash

Now, let's talk fabric stash. Part of decluttering your craft space will likely reveal the state of your stash. First, ask yourself: What do I want to keep? What do I want to donate? What do I want to work with *this year*?



7 Great New Year's Resolutions for Quilters (Continued)

That last question is important, because it will help guide how to store your stash in your newly decluttered space. The fabrics you plan on working with this year will be stored at hand, whereas fabrics that pad out your stash for the future can be tidied away.

Go through your fabrics and make three piles that accord with the above questions. Make another pile for fabric scraps—we know you have them! Set aside fabrics you know you want to keep but won't work with right away, and store them. Do the same for fabric donations.

Keep fabrics you want to work with this year close at hand, where you can see them. Nothing will inspire you to get your quilting started or done than seeing it every day.

Invest in New Projects

Once you've cleared your craft space of fabrics and pieces that "don't spark joy" anymore, it might be time to invest in new projects.

Invest in New Skills

One of our favorite New Year's Resolutions is to learn something new. Quilting and sewing involve so many different, fascinating skill sets—whether you're paper piecing, embroidering, dyeing fabric, or conquering the latest software.

Finish Unfinished Objects

We saved the best (worst?) for last. Because if one of your resolutions was decluttering and organizing your projects, you likely came across some UFOs. This is one of those resolutions that can be hard to keep—we all love the shiny, new project we haven't started yet. We don't all love basting our quilts or the tedium of marking our sewing lines.

2023 CALENDAR OF EVENTS			
January 9	Sip N Sew	In Person	Sew N Place, Fayetteville, PA 10am - 4pm
January 12	Fun and Games (Sandy Dunning)	In Person	
February 9	Make and Take/Special Show and Tell (Stella Pellauer)	In Person	
February 13	Sip N Sew	In Person	Sew N Place, Fayetteville, PA 10am - 4pm
February 23 - 26	Mid-Atlantic Quilt Festival @ Hampton, VA		www.quiltfest.com/upcoming-shows-and-events/mid-atlantic-quilt-festival
March 2	Board of Directors Meeting		
March 9	David Sirota Lecture "What Makes a Quilter Tick?"	Zoom	www.quiltmavendave.com
March 11	David Sirota Workshop "Storm at Sea" Paper Piecing	Zoom	www.quiltmavendave.com
March 13	Sip N Sew	In Person	Sew N Place, Fayetteville, PA 10am - 4pm
March 29 - April 1	Lancaster Quilt Show @ The Wyndham		www.lancasterquiltshow.webs.com
April 10	Sip N Sew	In Person	Sew N Place, Fayetteville, PA 10am - 4pm
April 13	RaNaee Merrill Lecture "Paper Piecing and Mandala"	Zoom	www.ranaemerrillquilts.com
April 16	Nimble Fingers Quilters Yard Sale, Germantown, MD		
April 22 - 23	Baltimore Heritage Quilters' Guild Expo		www.baltimorequilters.com
April 26 - 29	AQS Fall Quilt Show @ Paducah, Ky		www.americanquilter.com
May 5-6	Milfown Quilters Quilt Show, Columbia MD	In Person	www.milfownquilters.com
May 8	Sip N Sew	In Person	Sew N Place, Fayetteville, PA 10am - 4pm
May 11	David Owen Hastings Lecture "Minimal Design, Maximum Impact"	Zoom	www.davidowenhastings.com
May 13	David Owen Hastings Workshop "Mini Mid Mod Quilts"	Zoom	www.davidowenhastings.com
June 1	Board of Directors Meeting		
June 8	Cheryl See Lecture "Journey of My Work"	In Person	www.CSeesQuilts.com
June 12	Sip N Sew	In Person	Sew N Place, Fayetteville, PA 10am - 4pm
July 10	Sip N Sew	In Person	Sew N Place, Fayetteville, PA 10am - 4pm
July 13	No Meeting - MAQ		
July 14 - 17	Mid-Appalachian Quilters Seminar		www.maqonline.org
August 4 - 5	Four County Quilters Guild Quilt Show		www.fourcountyquiltersguild.org
August 10	Kara Mason and Ten Young Lecture "The Stories in Our Quilts"	In Person	www.needlesandstores.com
August 14	Sip N Sew	In Person	Sew N Place, Fayetteville, PA 10am - 4pm
September 7	Board of Directors Meeting		
September 11	Sip N Sew	In Person	Sew N Place, Fayetteville, PA 10am - 4pm
September 14	Rae Cumble Lecture "Fit for Art"	In Person	www.fitforartpatterns.com
September 14 - 17	Pennsylvania National Quilt Extravaganza @ Oaks, PA		http://www.quiltfest.com/upcoming-shows-and-events/pennsylvania-national-quilt-extravaganza/
September 15-23	Great Frederick Fair	In Person	www.thegreatfrederickfair.com
October 9	Sip N Sew	In Person	Sew N Place, Fayetteville, PA 10am - 4pm
October 12	Annual Guild Challenge	In Person	
November 2	Board of Directors Meeting		
November 9	Annual Community Service Project Presentation	In Person	
November 13	Sip N Sew	In Person	Sew N Place, Fayetteville, PA 10am - 4pm
December 11	Sip N Sew	In Person	Sew N Place, Fayetteville, PA 10am - 4pm
December 14	Annual Holiday Program	In Person	

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