



President's Notes



Happy holiday season! The time of quilts and comfort is here, as well as treasuring family and community like our quilting family at Clustered Spires Quilt Guild. We have had a year worth celebrating. Our guild has grown by over 20 members in 2023, and we have accomplished so much from our Community Service efforts to our flourishing committees. Thank you to all of our membership for making our guild such a wonderful and warm group!

I look forward to coming together at our December meeting to celebrate and continue giving back as we collect items to be donated to Frederick Community Fridge. A full list of accepted items is available on the website under the Members section.

Wishing you merry and bright season,

Jessica



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December 2023 Newsletter

Next Meeting: **2nd Thursday each Month**
Thursday, **December 14, 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: Jessica Halpin
Vice-President: Sandy Dunning
Secretary: Sue Heslin
Treasurer: Robin Rippeon

CONTACTS

BOM: Darlene Morris
Challenge: Brenda Barnhardt
Community Service: Jennifer Chua
Facebook Adm: Kara Jones
Holiday Banquet: Jennifer Chua
Instagram Adm: Jessica Halpin
Membership: Darlene Morris & Sandy Dunning
Last Chance Stash: Mary Pauley
Newsletter: Brenda Barnhardt
Marketing/Fundraising: Jessica Halpin
Nominating Committee: Marty Simmons
PayPal Adm: Sandy Dunning
Pillowcase Project: Kate Lane
Public Relations: Kara Jones
Programs: Sandy Dunning & Fran Scher
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.



Happy Holidays



Clustered Spires Quilt Guild Meeting Minutes November 9, 2023

Members present: 31, and 2 guests.

Community Service Program

The annual Community Service meeting was opened by Jenny Chua, Community Service Chairman. She reviewed the charities we are supporting this year, the James M. Stockman Cancer Center and the Animal Welfare League of Frederick County, who are with us this evening. She also shared plans for our "Last Chance Stash" leftovers to be donated to Truth and Hope, a charity that supports local and South American children in need. Jenny recognized her Community Service Committee members: Marty Simmons, Pat James, Danita Frisby, Jessica Halpin, Helen Wasserman, Marcia Walker (liaison with Stockman), and Brenda Barnhardt (liaison with Animal Welfare League).

Jody Gerber, Medical Oncology Social Worker at Stockman Cancer Center, shared information about her role at the Stockman Center supporting patients who are receiving treatment for cancer as well as patients with other medical diagnoses. She also let us know how much the quilts we are donating are appreciated by their patients. She said that "the patients love them" and they "bring smiles to their faces." They have given out 36 of the 45 quilts we made. She impressed us how much the quilts are appreciated. After Jody's presentation, we were able to send the remaining quilts with her to be distributed to patients.

Two, well really three representatives, from the Animal Welfare League of Frederick were introduced by Brenda Barnhardt: Heather Light, Erin Cunningham (Dog Hospice Coordinator) and BJ, an adorable and well-mannered canine guest. Heather and Erin spoke to us about their program for animal rescue and adoption which is completely staffed by volunteers. They expressed their great appreciation for the cat hammocks and pads that we made for the League. Their animal adoption center is located on 1202 East Patrick Street if anyone would like to visit (week-end hours or by appointment). A large number of cat hammocks and pads were given to them.

Business Meeting

Jessica Halpin convened the business meeting at 8:20. She reviewed upcoming fundraising activities and asked that if anyone can assist, please let her know. The first is a large Pop-up sale at the Delaplaine this weekend, November 11. Jessica is looking for volunteers for a.m. and p.m. shifts that are available. On November, 18, there will be an English Paper Piecing Workshop at the Delaplaine and there is another opportunity to volunteer. On the same day, the Christmas Craft Fair will take place at Worman's Mill. This will be staffed by members who reside in that community. Please consider volunteering to assist with our fundraising activities as this is how we are able to fund our goal to have excellent speakers.

Our Holiday Banquet will take place at our December meeting. Members need to RSVP on Sign Up Genius to let the committee know if they are coming. If anyone has difficulty signing up, please email Jenny Chua.

Jessica let the group know that based on discussion with the Board, we will be using Zoom when we have a speaker only going forward, as that is primarily when members are tuning in from home.

We had a large donation of yarn in the Last Chance Stash this evening. Barbara Ogden has volunteered to teach German style knitting to anyone who is interested.

Two guests were present this evening. Jo Padgett who described herself as a new quilter but has much experience with fiber as she has been raising alpacas for the last 24 years and currently has 120 of them! Stephanie Fitz-Enz was not able to stay for the whole meeting so we will meet and greet her next time.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 pm.

Respectfully Submitted
Sue Heslin



Clustered Spires Quilt Guild Board Meeting Minutes – November 2, 2023

The November 2, 2023 Board Meeting of the CSQG was called to order by Jessica Halpin, President at 7:03 pm.

Members present: Jessica Halpin, Robin Rippeon, Fran Scher, Jenny Chua, Brenda Barnhardt, Sandy Dunning and Sue Heslin.

Sue Heslin was welcomed as the new interim Secretary.

Agenda Items:

1. Community Service - Jenny Chua shared plans for the November guild meeting which will focus on the presentation of Community Service projects completed by guild members to benefit the Stockman Cancer and the Frederick County Animal Welfare League. Representatives from each will share information about their organization.
2. Holiday Banquet - Plans are underway for a very festive Holiday Banquet this year. Jenny Chua discussed the menu, games and activities that she and her committee have planned for us. Jessica will send out information next week, as well as sharing it at our November guild meeting. Information and instruction for the gift exchange items can be found on the CSQG website.
3. Google Workspace/Zoom/Email - Fran Scher has been researching the pros and cons of using Google Workspace versus Microsoft 365 for guild business documents and activities. After some discussion it was decided to stay with the Microsoft software.

As Program Co-chair, Fran also talked about the use of Zoom for our meetings. After much discussion, it was decided to use Zoom just for our speakers. We are currently using Sandy Dunning's Zoom account which will expire in February, at which time the guild will purchase its own Zoom account.

4. Budget Review - Robin Rippeon, Treasurer, reported financial numbers for the period of February - October 2023:

Total Income	\$11,383.00
Total Expense	\$ 7,487.23
Net Income	\$ 3,895.77

Robin also led the group to review the proposed budget for 2024-2025 with discussion of necessary line items. The budget will be published in December for review by the members and voted on in January 2024 for the period 2/1/24 to 1/31/25.

Fran Scher reminded the group that as we consider our end of the year donations to charitable organizations, CSQG would be a great place to consider.

5. Membership Update - Sandy Dunning gave a brief membership update. We currently have 84 members. We are fortunate to be an energetic and growing guild! It was noted that many of the newer members are taking an active part in our programs and activities, which is much appreciated!
6. Resuming Retreats for 2024 - There was discussion of resuming retreats in the coming year after several years of their absence due to Covid. Sandy Dunning led a retreat recently that was open to members which she is planning to continue but there is an opportunity to plan additional retreats to allow more members to participate.
7. Open Floor Session - Jessica discussed Danita Frisby's offer to house a guild library in her basement. There are details still to be worked out but this will be a great benefit for members.

Door Prizes - There was a discussion of how to handle door prizes. It was suggested that by having more members involved in the purchase of them, there can be a greater variety of items to be given out with the added benefit that the job would not fall on just one person. More discussion on this at the next board meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sue Heslin



PROGRAMS - DECEMBER PLANS

We invite you to a quilter's night of good fun and cheerful conversations. Planned activities are below. (Please note that although we would love everyone to participate, all activities are optional. It is more important that you enjoy the festivities with us.)

- (1) Cookie exchange - Bring 2 dozen cookies and a container to take cookies home. Please provide a list of ingredients for our allergen sensitive members.
- (2) Potholders Exchange - Make a pair of potholders to exchange. They may be matched or unmatched, seasonal or non-seasonal, but please bring TWO. Please wrap them together.
- (3) Holiday Postcard Exchange - Make a holiday postcard. Please wrap for surprise.
- (4) Gift Baskets - We will have two gift baskets to give away.
- (5) Traders Dice Game & Left-Right-Center Game - Please bring a selection of 10 fat quarters to participate.
- (6) Hors d'oeuvres will be catered by Wegmans. Beverages provided: water & wine.
- (7) Please bring un-expired food items for the Frederick Community Fridge, our holiday charity. Don't want to bring anything? You may also donate with Amazon wish list.



Schedule of events

6 to 6:45PM - Social hour, eating, pick up cookies.

6:45PM to 7PM - Business meeting

7PM - Start games

8PM - Potholder and Postcard exchange

8:15PM - Show and Tell; Clean up.

Jenny Chua

December Banquet Coordinator



COMMUNITY SERVICE

2023 has been a busy year for Community Service. We have and will be supporting 6 charities this year.

Organizations we supported:

- (1) Frederick Health Hospice - we made pillowcases for kids who recently lost a loved one.
- (2) Stockman Cancer Institute - we made wheelchair quilts and quilt bags for cancer patients to comfort them during cancer treatments.
- (3) Animal Welfare League of Frederick County - we made cat hammocks for Tokyo cages and cat pads for homeless cats and kittens seeking their forever home.
- (4) Heartly House - This is an ongoing project. We are selling nine patch blocks to benefit both our guild and Heartly House. The blocks will eventually be sewn into a quilt that will be given to Heartly House to hang at their new permanent building.



COMMUNITY SERVICE (Continued)

(5) Truth and Hope - Fabrics, patterns, and notions that did not sell at our Last Chance Stash and flea market has been given to make items for both local and international children.

(6) Frederick Community Fridge - For our December charity, we will be bringing in non-perishable items to contribute to this mutual aid group serving our community.

All this would not be possible without the generous support of our members. Thank you for your time and donations. We truly are making a positive impact in our community.

Jenny Chua
Community Service Chair



From: Gerber, Jodi A. <jgerber@frederick.health>

Sent: Wednesday, November 29, 2023 at 01:18:57 PM EST

Subject: Picture and write up from cancer patient at Jame M Stockman Cancer Institute who received the hero quilt

Hi Jennifer,

Here is a picture and write up of what the Hero quilt meant to this cancer patient when he received this beautiful quilt.

We will be sending pictures and write ups as patients allow and desire to you. We know you would appreciate and love to see who gets your quilts. Not every patient will want a picture taken, but these are a few who signed a release and had no problem having their picture taken for you and words they shared.

Thanks again for your hard work, many hours, heart and soul, and impressive quilt making skills put into every quilt you made for our patients. Every patient absolutely loves them when they receive one. Your thoughtfulness, kindness, selfless time and generosity means more than you know.

Below is a write up on John Carnegis , who is in the picture at right.

John Carnegis, a 61-year-old patient at the James M. Stockman Cancer Institute is pictured with his daughter Zoe at his side while getting chemotherapy. While receiving treatment, John wears his Hero quilt, which the Clustered Spires Quilt Guild donated.

John has been a part of the fire service for over 44 years. Throughout his time, he has served in numerous positions. He went from being a career firefighter in North Providence, RI, to a program manager for the Executive



(Continued on Page 6)



COMMUNITY SERVICE (Continued);

Fire Officers Program through the National Fire Academy and a volunteer firefighter in Frederick County, MD.

He could not describe how much receiving this quilt meant to him. His whole life has been about helping others in need, and receiving this quilt made him feel more supported than you'll ever know. He mentioned this quilt made him feel connected to the community and wants to thank the Clustered Spires Quilt Guild volunteer who took the time to make the quilt. He loves this quilt and brings it with him every time he comes for treatment. John verbalized, "You made my day when I got that quilt!"

Jodi Gerber, OSW-C, LCSW-C
Oncology Social Worker JMCSI

FUNDRAISING

I want to take a moment at the end of the year to recognize everyone who has volunteered this year at events to help, or lent out tools and supplies. Without fundraising, many of our programs would not be possible, and the time guild members have taken to make sure we reach our goals and come out in the black is invaluable. While I have a large list of volunteers, I want to especially acknowledge a few members who have gone above and beyond.

Thank you, Brenda Barnhardt, who volunteered for almost every single event this year and processed the huge donation we received from Mary Beth Glover. Thank you to Jenny Chua, who helped sort and price the majority of the Last Chance leftovers for the flea market and coordinated our Sponsor A Block partnership with Heartly House. Thank you, Mary Pauley, who coordinated and led our Worman's Mill market, and organizes our Last Chance table, which has been a huge undertaking and success this year. Thank you to both Pamela Lloyd and Karen Smith for their very substantial donations of merchandise to be sold. Last, but not least, thank you to Joan Watkins, who lent out several of her beautiful antique hand crank machines to do our first Helen Smith workshop for kids at the Delaplaine.

A huge thank you to: Brenda Barnhardt, Trish Bodine, Jenny Chua, Patricia Cronin, Sandy Dunning, Sally Fink, Danita Frisby, Susan Heslin, Pamela Lloyd, Nancy Orzechowski, Mary Pauley, Kathy Phillips, Kay Rice, Fran Scher, Olga Schrichte, Barbara Scuderi, Cindy Shugars, Marty Simmons, Karen Smith, Marianne Szuberla, Helen Wasserman, Joan Watkins and Dawn Worley.

Our Fundraising Gift Basket raffle will be drawn at the January 2024 meeting -- volunteers had their name put it in for each event the volunteered or contributed to. We are already working on events for 2024 and sign up will be available at the December meeting once dates have been. Happy Holidays and thank you for a successful 2023!

Jessica Halpin, Chair

QUILT SHOW COMMITTEE

Good news! We will have the larger gallery on the first floor of the Delaplaine for our December 2024 exhibit! I would like our committee to meet in January. We will discuss a theme and look at the new display possibilities. Contact me if you'd like to be involved. Joanspatches@gmail.com or 301-461-0348.

Joan Watkins, Chair



PROGRAMS

Would you like to learn fabric collage? Jane Haworth, who will present a lecture on the topic to our guild next April, is making her workshop “Love of Pets, Fabric Collage” available to guild members at a discounted price (\$45). Note that you can pick a non-pet topic, such as flowers, if you prefer. If interested, please save these dates: workshop intro on Saturday, April 27, 2024 and workshop questions/answers and show-and-tell on May 27, 2024 (both from 10 am to noon). This is an on-demand workshop with pre-recorded instruction that you can do at your own pace. More info and registration to come after the new year! Have a question now? Contact Fran at fmkess@gmail.com.

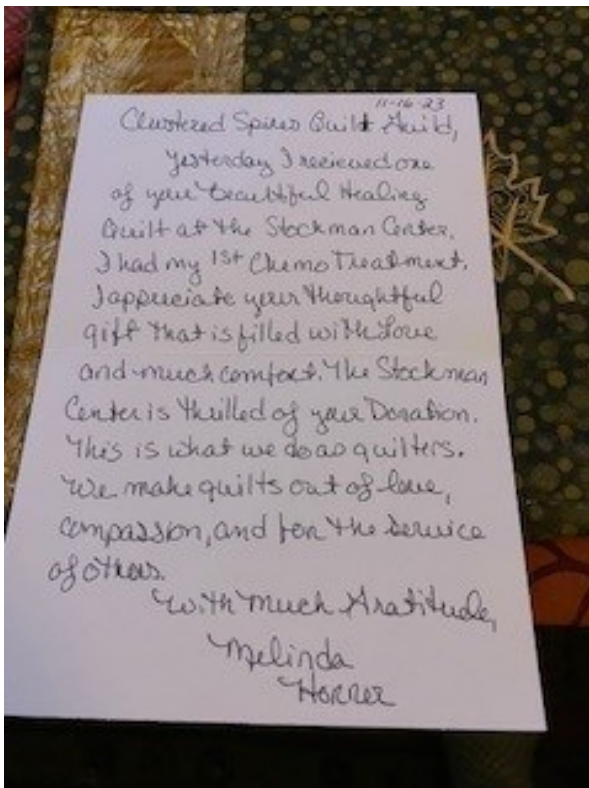


Fran Scher, Chair

LAST CHANCE STASH

We will not have a Last Chance Stash sale during the December meeting, so please save your donation items until the January 2024 guild Meeting.

Mary Pauley, Chair



I received this thank you note from Melinda Horner. Melinda is a member of Four County Quilters Guild and just so happened to begin her chemotherapy at Stockman Center. Here is evidence of our work touching the lives of not only cancer survivors, but also fellow quilters.

Sandy Dunning

BLOCK OF THE MONTH

I hope everyone is finishing up their borders and completing their quilt. Cindy Shugars and I would like to thank everyone who joined us in this BOM venture. Although the blocks were small to work with it was a great way to use up some of your scrap fabrics. Join us at the December meeting to find out what we have in store for you for 2024. I hope that we will have more people join in next year.

Darlene Morris, Chair



THE COMMON THREAD

Clustered Spires Quilt Guild Proposed Budget for 2024-2025

	Proposed 12 month Budget 2/1/2024 - 1/31/2025	
Income		
Fundraising Income		
2024-2025 Fundraising Income	3,000.00	
Sponsor A Block Fundraiser Income		
Fat Quarter Basket Income	50.00	
Last Chance Stash Income	500.00	
Merchandise Sales Income		included in Fundraising Income for 2024-2025
Note Card Sales Income	50.00	
Pin Sales Income	50.00	
Total Fundraising Income	3,650.00	
Membership Income		
Membership Dues Income-55 members @ \$35	2,800.00	Based on 80 members @ \$35.00
Programs Income		
Workshop Fees Income	0.00	
Total Programs Income	0.00	
General Income		
Donations Income	500.00	
Donations In Kind Income	0.00	
Total General Income	500.00	
Total Income	6,950.00	
Expenses		
Program Expenses		
Zoom Annual Membership	150.00	
2024 Holiday Banquet Expenses	700.00	
May Guild Birthday Expenses	100.00	
Refreshments Expenses	75.00	
Speaker Fees Expenses	2,375.00	
Demos Expense Reimbursements	100.00	
Speaker/Workshop Mileage Expenses	93.00	
Speaker/Workshop Lodging/Meals Expenses	30.00	
Total Program Expenses	3,623.00	
Challenge Expenses		
Guild Challenge Expenses	200.00	
Community Service Expenses		
Community Service Expenses	400.00	
Fundraising Expenses		
2024-2025 Fundraising Expenses	669.00	includes Frederick County Permit \$69
Total Fundraising Expenses	669.00	
Membership Expenses		
Hospitality & Membership	400.00	badge fabric, brochures, door prizes, hospitality
Total Membership Expenses	400.00	
Public Relations Expenses		
Public Relations	200.00	
Website Backup-renewed until 5/20/24	107.64	for 3 years
Website SSL Secure Site-renewed 10/8/22 for 2 years until 10/8/24	199.98	for 2 years
CSQG Domain		renews 10/10/23 for 2 years
Privacy & Protection		renews 10/10/23 for 2 years
WebSite Deluxe Linux Hosting		for 3 years starting 10/30/23



THE COMMON THREAD

Clustered Spires Quilt Guild Proposed Budget for 2024-2025

	Proposed 12 month Budget 2/1/2024 - 1/31/2025	
Go Daddy support	100.00	
Website Microsoft 365 Email	80.00	for 1 year starting 10/30/23
Total Public Relations Expenses	687.62	
Quilt Show Expenses		
2024 Delaplaine Quilt Show Expenses	100.00	
General Expenses		
Donation Expense	0.00	
Misc. General Expenses	175.00	Delaplaine employee gifts
Quickbooks Software-1 year	274.50	If cost doesn't increase
Library Expense	150.00	for set up
Insurance Policy Expense	205.00	
Meeting Room Rental Expense-55 members @ \$5 +\$125	525.00	80 members @\$5 +\$125
Paypal/Square Reader Fees Expenses	200.00	
Supplies / Printing / Postage Expenses	75.00	
Total General Expenses	1,604.50	
Total Expenses	7,684.12	
Net Income (Loss)	(734.12)	



Happy Birthday to...

- 15 Kathy Cramer
- 26 Celeste LaJoie
- 26 Joan Watkins
- 27 Helen Wasserman
- 23 Fanny Johnsson

MEMBERSHIP

We have one new member from November. Susan Richter has been in the area for many years and quilting for 25 plus. Welcome to Clustered Spires.

I would like to thank everyone who joined our guild in 2023 and hope you will renew your membership in 2024. Our Programs Committee has some exciting teachers lined up for next year. We are ending the year with 84 members. Thanks to all of you for a successful year.

Darlene Morris, Chair





NOVEMBER MEETING AND SHOW & TELL PHOTOS...

Jody Gerber from the Stockman Center accepting quilts donated by our members with Jessica Halpin, President, and Marcia Walker, Coordinator for this project.



In the middle, Heather Light and Erin Cunningham with BJ from The Animal Welfare League of Frederick County who gave an informative talk about the organization and both groups expressed their appreciation for the donations and how impressed they were by our talented and generous donors. Both organizations can continue to receive items throughout the year.

2nd row, Kay Rice and Fanny Johnsson showed the lap quilts they finished for the Stockman Center. At right, we see the status of the fundraiser for quilted batik blocks that will be completed with half the proceeds going to Heartly House and and half to the guild for fundraising.

3rd row, Fran Scher's pleasing pineapple quilt was created using the flower squares received during her recovery from shoulder surgery.

Cindy Shugars completed her stunning School Girl Sampler from our 2023 Block of the Month.



Lisa Huffman's beautiful building blocks were from a Project Linus mystery quilt. It will be donated.

Continued on Page 11





SHOW & TELL PHOTOS (Continued)... Helen Wasserman's perfect paper pieced star is a sample for the upcoming class for beginner paper piecing at Sew 'N Place. Check their website for other classes Helen will be teaching. Marianne Szuberla's lovely landscape was free cut and used a combination of hand painted and commercial fabrics. Darlene Morris showed her progress on the 2023 Block of The Month.

2nd row: MJ Greer shared a sweet pillow sewn by her granddaughter as one of many she will be making for Christmas gifts this year. MJ also showed us her beautiful Storm at Sea finished from our David Sirota workshop earlier this year, quilted by Susan Gnatt. Lastly, MJ shared a top ready to be long armed that once completed, will be donated to charity.

Sharon Keller's amazing and fun quilt was a kit that used her embroidery machine. It took about two years to complete but taught her a lot about her machine!

Kathy Cramer finished a t-shirt quilt made from her husband's golf shirt at a retreat. Kathy also created some super snuggly travel blankets with a self-containing pocket using dinosaur fabric that glows in the dark!



Continued on Page 12





SHOW & TELL PHOTOS (Continued)... Nancy Wood shared a beautiful and functional walker pouch for an upcoming craft fair in her community. Thanks to Jessica Halpin for descriptions.



From: Jo Padgett <apacafunfiberworks@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 21, 2023
To: Clusters Spire Quilt Guild
Subject: Re: CSQG Contact Submission



For Sale:

Innova 26" long arm quilter on 12 foot Pro frame. Very lightly used. \$7,500.

Inquires to apacafunfiberworks@gmail.com or 410-808-0385.





2023 CALENDAR OF EVENTS			
December 11	Sip N Sew	In Person	Sew N Place, Fayetteville, PA 10am - 4pm
December 14	Annual Holiday Program	In Person	
December 28	Wanna Bees	In Person	Location TBD Monthly

Updated 8/31/23

2024 CALENDAR OF EVENTS			
January 11	Kristin Echols, "A Lesson in Every Quilt"	Virtual	
Jan 6-Feb 25	Aynex Mercado - Quilting Frederick Exhibition - Delaplaine Center		
February 8	Member Trunk Show		
March 14	"Tips, Tricks and Demos - Let's Learn from Each Other"		
April 11	Jane Haworth "Fabric Collage: What's It All About?"	Virtual	
April 12 - 24	Northern Shenandoah Valley Quilt Show, Berryville, VA		
April 27	Jane Haworth's Fabric Collage On-Demand Workshop		
May 9	Lisa Ellis - "Personal Journey as an Art Quilter"		
May 27	Jane Haworth's Fabric Collage Q&A and Show & Tell		
June 13	Carol Lyles Shaw - "What Makes a Quilt Modern"	Virtual	
July 11	Community Service Sew Along		
August 8	Member Trunk Show		
September 12	Lesley Riley - "Seduced by Fabric: A Quilter's Story"		
October 10	2024 Guild Challenge		
November 8 - 9	Lancaster - Lebanon Quilt Show, Lebanon, PA		
November 14	Community Service Presentations		
December 12	Annual Holiday Party		

Updated 11/30/23



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 1st of the month.

Newsletter Editor: Brenda Barnhardt, 301-662-2943, brenz2catz@gmail.com
 Show & Tell Contributor: Jessica Halpin
 Website: www.clusteredspiresquiltguild.org

