

LOOSE THREADS

NEWSLETTER

January 2010

www.loosethreadsquilters.org

Volume 15: Issue 1

President: Joyce Stemple **Vice President:** Jane Russell **Secretary:** Debbie Oister **Treasurer:** Susan Glaser

Babysitting: Jean Atwood

Basting: Jean Sullivan

Block of the Month: Silvia Homa

Challenge: Lenore Clark

Charity Projects: Kiti Williams

Field Trips: Amy Smith-Moniz

Fish Bowl Raffle: Judy Shafer

Historian: Joanne Cantwell

Holiday Brunch: Shirley Horning

Hospitality: Bonnie Swartzentruber

Librarian: Bernie Hughes

Newsletter: Wendy Cole

Nickel Squares: Wendy Cole

Programs: Debbie O'Keefe

Raffle Quilt: Laurie Kelly

Retreats: Carolyn Thompson

Secret Pal: Gayle Hammond

Speakers: Linda Hamel

Sunshine: Linda Glass

Tea: Elizabeth Snead & Amy Smith-Moniz

Website: Joyce Stemple

T.G. I. J... Thank goodness it's January!!! Now we can put away all the decorations and take a deep, cleansing breath to release all the holiday stress. It is time to focus our energy on what is really, really important, **quilting!**

With the start of the new year comes that dreaded phrase, "new years resolution." As quilters, we are always looking for new ways to organize our quilting projects and our sewing spaces and I suspect that this subject may be somewhere on all our "resolutions lists." I (Wendy) am thinking of putting together an article on that subject for the newsletter and I could use your input. Please send me your hints and ideas for sewing organization, whether you actually use these ideas or if you've just read about them or been told about them.

I hate to keep harping on this, but we need your help in other areas of the newsletter as well. Please, please, please send Susan and I any of the following...

- **RECIPES.** We have some great cooks in this guild and we would love to print some of your favorite recipes, so please take a few minutes and flip through your recipe cards and cook books and find us that one special one that everyone loves. If every member in the guild brought in just **one** recipe, that would give us 50 to work with and we would stop bothering you for awhile!
- **TIPS for QUILT CHAT.** We all read magazines and watch quilting shows on T.V. and on the internet. Please keep your eyes and ears open for helpful tips and ideas to share. Also, let us know what sewing gadgets and gizmos that you love and hate.
- **QUILT SHOP REVIEWS.** With 50 plus members in the guild, we do a lot of traveling and with that comes visits to new quilt shops. Please share the information on these shops with us.
- **NEW BOOKS.** We all love to browse through a good quilt book. If you find a new one that you love or if you have an old favorite that you couldn't live without, please pass that information on for the newsletter.

December Minutes

- After enjoying the holiday brunch, the business meeting was called to order by President Joyce Stemple.
- JaneRussell reported that 147 pairs of socks were donated to the reservation. Thank you all who donated food and time this past year.
- The party favors for the brunch were done by Millie Skean, Marie Traxler is responsible for the centerpieces and the slide show was set up by Amy Smith-Moniz. Thanks to all for a delicious and enjoyable holiday party!
- Judy Shafer requested that a charity quilt be basted, it was decided to baste it December 16th.
- Linda Glass reported that a card was sent out to Alicia Paist who lost her mother recently. One was sent to Joanne Cantwell who had her knee replaced. A card and flowers were sent to Jolene Lorah on the sudden passing of her father on Thanksgiving day.
- See Sylvia for the pattern for the Block of the Month.
- Next year's challenge will be using “ugly” fabric. If you want to participate, bring \$ 2.50 for a fat quarter to the next business meeting. Lenore Clarke will provide you with the piece of “ugly” fabric which you must incorporate into your challenge project. More information to come.
- For charity, the SPCA can use towels, blankets and newspapers.
- **Please be sure to wear your name tags at our meetings!** There will be materials on the side table to make a name tag for yourself if you have not done so already.
- Please remember to put your name on the tea block when you hand it in, so that you get credit for turning it.

January Workshop

“Alzheimer quilt workshop: A home for orphan blocks.” Amy Smith-Moniz will be leading the January workshop where we will be creating small quilts that will be donated to raise money for Alzheimer’s research. The finished quilts have to be small enough to fit into a Priority Mail envelope. Please bring an orphan block and coordinating fabrics for the background and backing, a 9” x 12” piece of each will be sufficient for most. If you're extra fast, bring batting, binding fabric and two 4" squares of a coordinating fabric. Also bring your basic sewing supplies; machine or hand sewing is okay.

Fish Bowl Raffle

February: Kathie Travis

March: Cathy Nelson

April: Linda Hamel

Tea Block

Don't forget about those quilt blocks for the Tea. Hand them in to Sandy Michalec as soon as you have them done. Remember to put your name on them so she knows who still owes her blocks. If you lost your pattern for the block, contact Sandy.

Quilt Repacking

Amy Smith-Moniz reports that the "Quilt Repacking" field trip to Harrisburg has been cancelled. They have finished repacking the quilts ahead of schedule and they have no need of our help in January. She hopes that we will be able to schedule a museum outing to go see the quilts at a later date. Sorry to all those who signed up to help.

Thank You Notes

"Sincere thanks to the Loose Threads ladies for the many cards and notes of encouragement during my recent recuperation from surgery. It all has helped greatly to get me back to my sewing machine and soon to another interesting meeting. Best regards, Joanne Cantwell"

We're glad Joanne's recuperating and we are looking forward to her return to the guild meetings. Keep up the good recovery, Joanne!

Jane Russell writes, "Thank you to all who donated 147 pairs of socks! That is 1,470 warmer toes on the Reservation. For those who meant to bring socks but forgot, there are a lot of feet that will still be cold in January. I will take socks, hats, mittens, backpacks, diapers, receiving blankets, quilts, soaps, shampoo and toothpaste anytime. Thank you all so much for your generous donations this year. You are making a difference!"

Change of E-mail

If you didn't catch it at the last meeting, Susan Glaser has a new e-mail address. Don't forget to add it to your member's list. www.sewglaser@verizon.net.

Quilt Jumble

Rearrange the jumbled letters to spell out a quilting term.

G T S T N I E

E I T N A G R L

The answer to the Jumble is on page 5 along with a description of this quilting term.

2009 Challenge Quilt

Thanks to all who participated in the 2009 Quilt Challenge. We had a great turn out this year with lots of wonderful quilts and quotes! The winners of the different categories were:

- **First Finished** - Debby O'Keefe, "Life's too short for beige" by Susan Sargent
- **Best Piecing** - Susan Glaser, "I'm going back to dignity and grace. I'm going back to Charleston, where I belong." by Rhett Butler
- **Best Applique** - Wendy Cole, "Home is where one starts from." by T.S. Eliot
- **Best Machine Quilting** - Susan Glaser
- **Best Hand Quilting** - Margy Allen, "Though nothing can bring back the hour of splendor in the grass, of glory in the flower ..." by Wordsworth
- **Viewer's Choice** - Wendy Cole
- **Best Interpretation of the Theme** - Wendy Cole

Quilt Show

Mancuso's show "The Quilt Fest of New Jersey VI" is coming up in March, the 4th through the 7th to be exact. It is taking place at the Garden State Exhibit Center in Somerset, NJ. Do I hear rumblings of "field trips?"

The show will include the juried and judged "Tri-State Quilt Competition." If any of you are interested in entering one of your quilts, the registration deadline is January 28, 2010. The categories to be judged are Best of Show, 2nd Place, 3rd Place, Best Hand Workmanship, Best Machine Workmanship, Best Pictorial Quilt, Best Use of Color, Best Use of Embellishments, Viewers' Choice and Judge's Choice Ribbons. Get more information about the competition at www.quiltfest.com.

There will also be over 400 quilts, wearable and textile art works on display. Of course there will be a merchant's mall with fabrics, machines, notions, patterns, kits, etc. Some of the faculty presenting workshops and lectures include Gloria Loughman (from Australia), Christine Fries, Lois Smith, Bobbie / Joel Berquist, Diane Dennis, Phyllis Twigg Hatcher, Deb Tucker and more.

January Birthdays

1st Takako Pike **7th Whitney Beatty & Deborah Flack** **17th Debbi Petty**

Recipes of the Month

Here is a chicken casserole from Jean Sullivan that would be perfect for a cold and snowy January day.

Chicken Nacho Bake

Prep Time: 10 min

Total Time: 40 min

Makes: 4 servings

4 small boneless, skinless chicken breast halves (1 lb.)

1/2 c. Thick 'N Chunky Salsa

1/4 c. sour cream

1/2 c. tortilla chips, crushed

1/2 c. mexican style cheese, finely shredded

Preheat the oven to 400° F. Place the chicken on a foil-covered baking sheet. Slice three cuts on the top of each chicken breast with sharp knife. Top each chicken breast evenly with salsa, sour cream and tortilla chips. Bake for 20 min. Remove from the oven; sprinkle with cheese. Bake for an additional 10 minutes or until the chicken is cooked through.

Here is Lenore Clarke's recipe for anise flavored cookies. A perfect dessert for that "cold and snowy January day."

Anisplatzchen

3 eggs at room temperature

1 c. plus 2 Tbsp. sugar

1 3/4 c. flour

1/2 tsp. baking powder

1/2 tsp. salt

1 tsp. anise extract

Beat the eggs until fluffy. Add sugar gradually and beat for 20 minutes (yes, you are incorporating air). Reduce the speed and add dry ingredients. Beat for 3 minutes more. Add anise extract and drop by teaspoonfuls (use 2 spoons, it's easier) onto a greased cookie sheet. Let stand at least 8 hours to dry - preferably overnight. Bake at 325 degrees for 10 minutes until creamy.

Quilt Jumble Answer

SETTING TRIANGLE

The triangle shaped blocks that are needed around a quilt to make the edges straight when you set your quilt blocks on point (at an angle).

Nickel Squares

January's color is BLUE. Please be sure to bring your 11 blue squares to the business meeting this Wednesday. If you won't be at the meeting, please try to send your squares in with someone else. The "nickel bags" will be available for you to pick up at the second meeting of the month. If you still haven't brought in your **RED** squares from December, please do so.

February Refreshments

February 3..... Fruit or Beverage - Rosemary Geisler

Baked Goods - Judy Snook & Sue Kehl

February 17... Fruit or Beverage - Wendy Cole

Baked Goods - Kiti Williams & Bonnie Swartzentruber

Project of the Month Contest

We have so many very talented people in our guild and we know that you enjoy sharing that talent with others. We (Wendy and Susan) are asking you to submit ideas for a quick and simple project for the newsletter's "Project of the Month." Each proposed project should contain written instructions that can easily be followed (please test them out to make sure that there are no errors) and, if you can, either a drawing or picture of the finished project. If that isn't possible, we can design a project sheet from your written directions. Just send either of us an e-mail with your proposed project. If we choose your project, it will be featured in the newsletter and the originator will be given a prize". Please join in on the fun and share all of your creative ideas!

February Project of the Month

Just a heads up for the project of the month for February. You will need to save a plastic bottle cap. The ones from the 2 liter bottles of soda are good or if you like to do things larger, find a larger bottle cap. It should have some height to it, that's why the ones from water bottles or small soda bottles don't work as well. You will want to gather some scraps of wool or felt, too. You'll have to wait and see what the project is, though.

Meet a New Member

This month's new member is Shirley Buckwalter. She lives in Audubon and found the guild on the internet. Shirley has three daughters and seven grandchildren. She was a teacher in Spring-Ford school district when she retired and moved to Florida in 1986. Shirley moved home to Pennsylvania in 2005. She has been busy teaching bridge locally and on cruise ships. She says that she has been quilting "forever." Machine embroidery and cross-stitch are some of Shirley's other loves. Welcome to Loose Threads!

Quilt Shop Review



Pucky Huddle Delight Quilting Fabrics

71 Owego Road, Route 96 B

Candor, NY 13743

607-659-7PHD (7743)

www.puckyhuddledelight.com

Tuesday - Thursday 11 - 6, Friday - Sunday 11 - 5

Coming back from a weekend visiting our daughter in Rochester, NY, my husband and I (Wendy Cole) decided to meander home on back roads. Our meandering took us down through the finger lakes of New York state and into the town of Ithaca. On our way out of town, pretty much in the boonies, we passed a lone quilt shop flying an OPEN flag with a huge red SALE sign in the window. Being the nice husband that he is, Jerry turned the car around, parked and settled in with some kind of sports on the radio.

This shop has an amazing amount of fabric for a fairly plain country store. Their brochure says they offer over 6,000 bolts of quality quilting fabric including Asian, batiks, blenders and backgrounds, children's, Civil War, contemporary, flannels, florals, holiday, landscape, 600 plus bolts of Moda, novelty and wide backings. They have pretty much anything you could want. Full lines of fabric are available, too. You don't find that in many places. They also brag about having thousands of precut fat quarters, half yards and one yard cuts. They were having a big sale on precut fabrics the day I was there. Needless to say, I stocked up. This shop is about a 3 hour drive from here, so it's basically a day trip when you include lunch. I would highly recommend Pucky Huddle Delight. I don't know what's up with the name, though. Even so, it is well worth a stop.

Upcoming Area Events

“Layers: Unfolding the Stories of Chester County Quilts:” September 10, 2009 – February 25, 2010 (part two) - An exciting new exhibit of quilts never publicly shown before reveals the many stories of Chester County, PA quilts, their makers and their owners. For more information contact the Chester County Historical Society, 225 N. High Street, West Chester, PA 19380, 610-692-4800 or www.chestercohistorical.org.

County Line Quilters present “New Directions:” Archbishop Wood High School, 655 York Road Warminster, PA 189074. March 20 - 21, 2010, 10 am – 5 pm. Admission \$5. countylinequilters.org.

Susquehanna Valley Quilters Presents “Hurray for Spring!” Hughesville Fire Hall, Railroad & Water Sts., Hughesville, PA 17737. Mar. 5 – 6PM-9PM. “Meet the Quilters,” Sat., Mar. 6 – 10:00-6:00, Sun., Mar. 7 – 12:00-4:00. Admission: \$5.00. www.susqvalleyquilters.org.

AQS Quilt Show & Contest: Lancaster, Pennsylvania Lancaster County Convention Center March 24 - 27, 2010. Welcome to the 1st Annual Quilt Show & Contest - Lancaster, PA.

January Project of the Month

Scissor Case

Susan Glaser came up with this handy pattern for a scissor case. This size case fits embroidery scissors and if you attach a cord, it can be worn around your neck so you'll always be able to find those little scissors. The pattern could easily be enlarged to fit a pair of larger shears.

Supplies:

8" x 8" patchwork square or fabric of your choice

8" x 8" batting

8" x 8" lining fabric

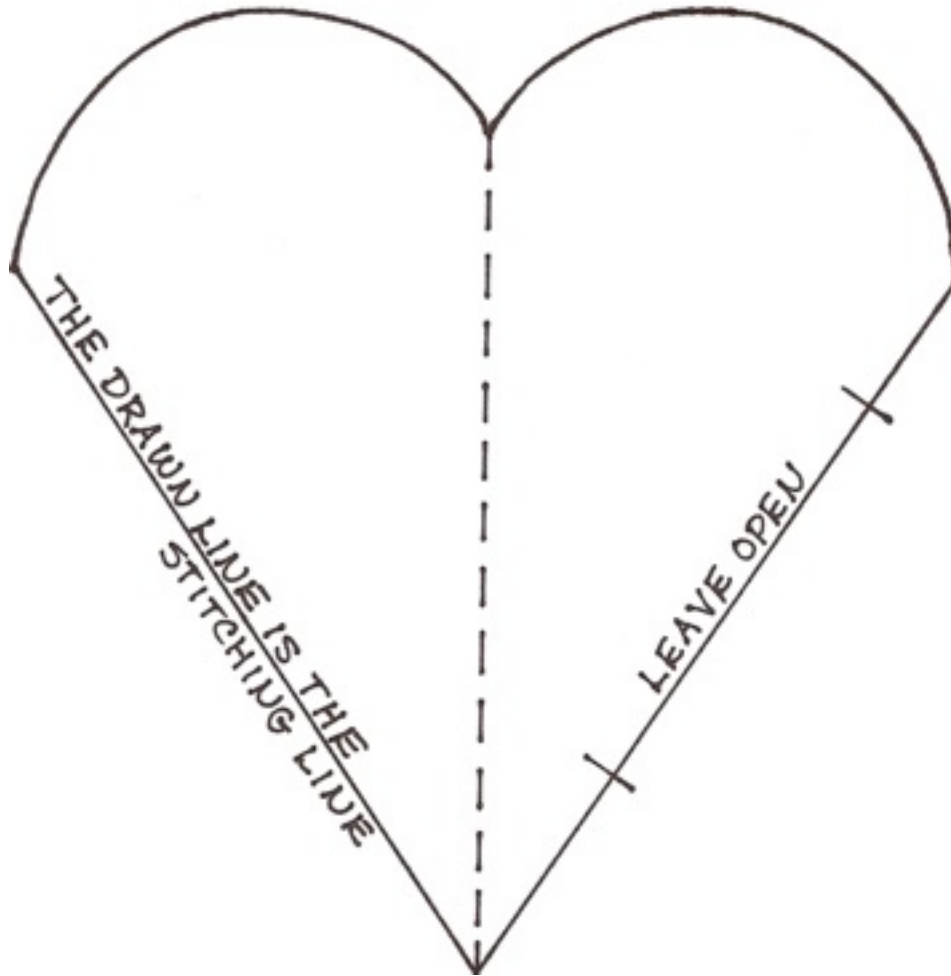
Pearl cotton or floss

Cording or ribbon

Embellishments of your choice



1. Create an 8" x 8" square of patchwork, use an orphan block or pick a fabric of your choice.
2. Trace the template shape onto the wrong side of one square of fabric.
3. Stack batting, lining right side up and pieced square right side down. The traced template shape should be visible on the back of this square. Pin layers together.
4. Stitch on the drawn line, starting on a straight edge and leaving a 2" opening for turning.
5. Trim to a scant 1/4" seam allowance all around. Clip bottom point and inside edge of top point.
6. Turn right side out. Press and hand stitch opening closed.
7. Machine stitch along the center line as marked on the template. This will help the scissors case fold flat.
8. If you are using cording or ribbon, tack it in place inside the case before you fold it and stitch it closed.
9. Either hand stitch (using a blanket stitch or whip stitch) or machine stitch along outside straight edge.
10. Fold down one of the curved edges and tack into place.
11. Embellish as desired.



Type to enter textOur Guild meets on the first and third Wednesday of each month, with a special basting meeting on the fifth Wednesday. We meet at the First United Church of Christ, 145 Chestnut Street, Spring City, PA 19475. Babysitting is available if arranged in advance with Jean Atwood. Dues are \$15 per year and guests are always welcome. Jane Russell, has more membership information.

Our newsletters are now on-line. Check us out at our website
loosethreadsquilters.org