



VILLAGE QUILTERS NEWSLETTER

Next Meeting – May 19, 2016

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S WORKROOM

It's glorious May – that month of a riot of colors in flowers and trees. Just walking through the park is such a pleasure, and those magnificent colors are echoed in the materials in my cubby stash. They challenge and inspire me – I want to lay out more and more projects. Watch out To Do list – incoming!!

Meanwhile, back in the workroom, I am shivering away. It's cold here! And, in my new place, I don't control heat or a/c...the management has turned off the heat, and is in the process of turning on the a/c... so I had to dig out the sweaters I had packed away and bundle up! A cup of hot tea to warm my hands, and off I go. Curled into a cuddly quilt leads me into an introspective mood.

Quilting is such an integral part of my life that sometimes it is hard to remember that I've only been doing this since 2010. Thanks to all the wonderful friends I've made along the way, the incredible classes I've taken, the guilds I've joined, and the joy of building my stash and the creations of love I've made (ok, there have been a few projects along the way that I really wanted to bundle up and hide...), I have a body of work that gives me great joy to touch, remember, and delight in. I've turned into a fabric fonder, a material shopping enabler with friends, and someone who now sees quilting patterns everywhere.

I will admit, though, that I made a basic mistake, both strategic and tactical, assuming that my years (decades) of sewing would seamlessly transition to the wonderful world of quilting. I mean, how hard could it be? Please don't laugh too hard at me...while yes, those abilities were certainly foundational, I really would have benefited from taking a basic quilting course. It was such fun trying to machine quilt a top after I pinned it with straight pins...and wasn't it a hoot to learn why I really should measure a quilt top to bottom (and side to side) BEFORE cutting borders? Measure twice, cut once! Really... and those acronyms – WIP (work in progress), HSY (haven't started yet) and WOMBAT (waste of material, batting and time)...

Well, I had to learn somehow, just didn't realize that it would be in little increments of suggestions and hints, and here's how I do it from talented friends. I still think about taking

that basic quilting class – maybe soon! However, there is a flip side to not taking classes, no one ever told me I couldn't do something, so I would puzzle through, go to U-Tube, ask about, and came to realize that there are no quilt rules or quilt police! EXCEPTION: quarter inch seams!!!! Bonnie, a dear friend of mine, is also going through this same journey from the same starting point; I got a phone call from her asking just how important are these quarter inch seams anyway??

Carrying on with the theme of quotes touching on giving away that I have been sharing over the past months, I came across this one from Wayne Dyer, an American philosopher and motivational speaker, *The measure of your life will not be by what you accumulate, but by what you give away.*

Pat Wyatt

MAY PROGRAM

Our speaker this month is lifelong sewer Nancy Feve who works and teaches in the greater DC area. She is a former French teacher. Nancy started working on kaleidoscopes quilts in 2002 and continues her work on adapting traditional blocks of kaleidoscopes using new themes and variations. She enjoys working in series. Her topic this month will be "Color Choreography". Check out her site on fevequilts.com, we're sure you will be as excited to see her work and hear her ideas as we are!

-Your program chairs, Paulette & Dori

PROJECT LINUS UPDATE

At the April meeting, we collected 8 finished quilts, 22 quilt tops and fabric donations from Sue Galicki, Diana Gotsch and Mary Martin. There are only two meetings left until our summer break, so please remember to return your quilts and pick up some kits to sew or quilt over the summer. If you are donating a patriotic quilt for this year's TAPS Memorial Day camp, the deadline is the May 19th meeting. Thank you for finding time in your busy day to sew for children who need a quilted and cuddly hug.

Stephanie Sanidas

CHARITY GIVING

What a nice meeting we had last month: good speakers, food, and show and tell. What a great time and place to be a quilter. As you enjoy spring and all the pleasure that it brings, please remember to bring your canned food donations. We have two meetings left before the summer break; let us help stock the church food pantry before summer arrives. God Bless

Kay Worley

WINNERS

BOM: Patty Stenpeck, Chris Fittro

Raffle (4): Donna Shroff, Rene Stiebing, Janet Elton, Cindy Reisberg (\$95 made today)

Name Badge: Janet Elton

Jane Stolte

2016 JUNE TEA

Our annual tea will be here soon. Listed below are the details you need to know for the tea:

1. Please look for the food sign-up sheets at the May meeting.
2. At this year's tea we will have two special raffle baskets. One will be tea themed and one will be sewing/quilting themed. If you have new or good-as-new items to donate for these, please bring them to Patty Wheeler at the May meeting.
3. Tea Seating – Patty Wheeler is making place cards and doing table assignments for the tea. If you are planning to come to the tea and would like to be seated with a friend or group of friends, please give your names to Patty at the May meeting or e-mail them to her NO LATER THAN May 31.
4. Tea Tickets – We still have tea guest tickets for sale. They are \$10 each. See or e-mail Patty if you need one.
5. If you are certain that you will not be at the tea, please let Patty know (or sign the "I Am Not Attending" list in May). This count helps us if there is a demand for extra guest tickets.

Call or e-mail Patty with any tea related questions!

5-INCH SQUARE EXCHANGE

For May, bring anything you like - 2 sets of eight 5" squares. As the saying goes, "Anything Goes." Have fun!

Kathy Appleton

BLOCK OF THE MONTH

The block for May is honoring our mothers! I enjoyed making this block the most! The fabric you choose for the block should resemble wrapping paper. The knot for the bow will stand out if the fabric you choose is a shade or so darker than the rest of the bow. I used darker thread to sew around the knot. That seemed to work also. It is fun to imagine "what is in the box?" If you could still give your mother a gift this May, what would you choose to give her? I hope you too enjoy making this block. OH...Happy Mother's Day to all of you.

Jacque Formica
410-552-1661
eburg999@hotmail.com

MAY HOSPITALITY

Many thanks to the April crew. You were great!

Morning helpers - Put cloths on serving tables, set out plates and plasticware, napkins, cups, sweeteners, tea, etc. and be sure coffee and hot water are started, and ovens are turned on.

1. Karen Benson

Lunchtime Helpers - Help put food in to heat, get food on tables and serving utensils in each dish.

1. Sharon Coffman
2. Beth McGraw-Wagner
3. Debbie McJilton
4. Jeanne Markowski

Clean-up Helpers - Wash serving utensils and coffee pots, put used cloths and dishcloths in with used tablecloths, help put everything back in cabinet, including four clean tablecloths for next month's set-up, & turn off ovens.

1. Pat Lieske
2. Carol Matlin
3. Ethel Caudill

Tablecloths - Take 1/2 the tablecloths, dish towels, & cloths home to launder & return next month.

1. Pat Wyatt
2. Bette McKeldin

Sodas - Your group is responsible for bringing sodas

1. 1 Liter Clear Soda – Beth McGraw-Wagner
2. 1 Liter Caffeine-free Diet Cola – Jeanne Markowski
3. 1 Liter Clear Diet – Sharon Coffman
4. 1 Liter Real Cola – Carol Matlin

Kathy Appleton

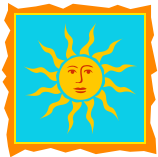
FOOD SAFETY NOTES

It has been brought to our attention that we can do a better job of protecting our members with serious food sensitivities. Here are a few things we can try:

- If your dish contains shrimp or nuts please label it. There will be cards available at each meeting to put next to your dish.
- Do Not move spoons from one dish to another. A gluten free or shrimp free dish can become unsafe for someone if a spoon from another dish is moved into it.

Thanks for helping us make sure we can all enjoy eating together.

SUNSHINE



Please remember to send news of members in need of “sunshine” to Janet Ruehl so she can share it with the guild.

Cards may be sent to Kay Lehmann, C/O Karl Lehmann, 1200 Windy Gate Road, Timonium, MD 21286

MEMBERSHIP

Four new members joined in February and March! Please look for the ladies listed below and say hello. We are so glad to have them join! We now have 121 members in Village Quilters.

Jenny Cecil
Kathy Muhly
Catherine Pelsinsky
Carol Phillips

If you have joined this year, please see me at the membership table in May or June. I need to take your picture for the membership handbook. I have a list of the ladies who are not pictured yet, but I may not always see you when you come in.

The membership form for next year will be in the June newsletter and I will be accepting dues for 2016-17 at the June meeting. You may also mail it to me over the summer. Dues will be \$30 for the year.

Linda Newsom

LIBRARY NEWS

Happy Mother's Day! Take a look at the titles of our 2 newest books! This isn't a suggestion of how you should quilt, or is it? ;->



Happy Hour; Relax and Enjoy by Atkinson. *Strippin' Along; Applique Quilts on a Roll* by Donna Kinsey and Linda Rocamontes.

Daria Phair
443-830-0408
dbphair@gmail.com



QUILT KITS AVAILABLE TO BENEFIT THE PREGNANCY CENTER

If you would like to make a baby quilt, or at the minimum piece the top, for the pregnancy center, I will have a few Quick Strippie kits available at the May meeting. Thank you kindly.

Daria Phair
443-830-0408
dbphair@gmail.com

WEST RIVER FALL RETREAT

Hello Ladies,

The Fall Retreat will be held November 10th-13th. Total cost of this year's retreat is \$230.00. A deposit of \$115.00 is due to me by June 16th meeting to hold your spot. If anyone is interested, I have 3 spots available. Please email me at ladybug3157@gmail.com if you are interested, or call 410-256-0749.

Sharon Coffman

RECIPE

Here is the link for the spiced pecan recipe that was requested several times at the meeting.

<http://www.melissassouthernstylekitchen.com/candied-cinnamon-sugar-pecans/>

Submitted by Debra McCarriar

ROAD TRIP TO QUILT ODYSSEY IN HERSHEY, PA

When: July 22, 2016.

Cost: \$48 which includes transportation, show admission, and driver's gratuity.

Departure: 7:30 am promptly from Park and Ride at Route 108 and Presbyterian Circle.

Return: 7:30 p.m. approximately.

Please make checks payable to Village Quilters and send to Sheri Thompson, 7422 Cherry Tree Drive, Fulton, MD 20759

TAKING CARE OF YOUR CUTTING MAT

Rotary Mats are a quilters best friend! When you begin quilting, your life will be made much easier by purchasing a self-healing mat. These mats close up or "heal" any incisions from rotary cutters leaving no visible slices on the mat. Self-healing mats have a certain limit to the amount of slicing they can take so if you start seeing cuts remain or need more pressure when using a rotary cutter, this may indicate your mat needs replacing.

Mats can last a long time, and to ensure your mat serves you well, take care of it!

Avoid harsh chemicals when cleaning your mat. Clean stains and dust by using a gentle soap/water combo and a lint-free cloth. If you cut a fuzzy fabric, like minky, the extra fluff can sometimes get stuck in the cuts. In order for your mat to heal, the fuzz needs to be removed.

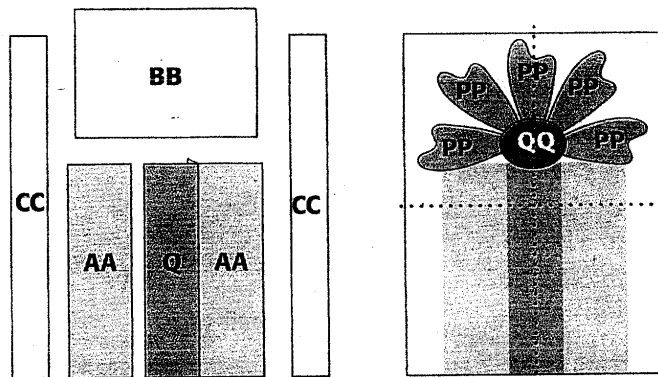
Store your mat flat, not on its side. Do not let your mat get too hot or sit on your cutting table in direct sunlight. These practices lead to warping and a sad quilter!

Take care of your mat and you can enjoy hours of cutting together!



May, 2016
A MOTHER'S DAY GIFT
(12" X 16" FINISHED)

- 1 rectangle (Q) 3" x 10 1/2"
2 rectangles (AA) 3 1/2" x 10 1/2"
1 rectangle (BB) 6 1/2" x 9"
2 rectangles (CC) 2 1/4" x 16 1/2"
applique patches as shown



1. The Background fabric should be white or white-on-white
2. Rectangles (AA) should be of a small floral pattern to resemble wrapping paper.
3. If you wish to appliqué the bow, then add 1/4 inch to template to have material to turn under.
4. You may use a *permanent* bonding product to adhere the bow segments instead of appliquéing .
5. (QQ) may be a darker shade of the bow color or sew around the "knot" with a small blanket stitch with darker thread to outline.

