



VILLAGE QUILTERS NEWSLETTER

January 2018

Next Meeting – January 18

A NOTE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

HAPPY NEW YEAR! Welcome 2018! There's so much ahead this year. There will be new homes, new friends, new sites to see, new memories made. There will be engagements, weddings, graduations, and, perhaps, new babies to welcome into our families. Each new event also builds on our past with experiences, memories, successes and failures that made us stronger and who we are today. And, naturally, everything requires new quilts!

What will we choose to do this year? Explore new fabrics and techniques? Revisit favorite patterns with colors and patterns that sooth our souls? Mix it up with some of each? Where will our quilts find homes? Who will touch them and feel the love stitched into every block? And – what about the UFOs?

Enough now with the musings. It's a New Year. Let's make it great! Let the sewing begin!

Rene Stiebing

BABY QUILTS

I will bring baby quilt kits for you to work on at the January Charity Sewing meeting. There will also be a pile of fabric to cut into 6 1/2" squares. So, bring the appropriate sewing supplies. Would someone please volunteer to take over this worthwhile endeavor?

Daria Phair ~ dbphair@gmail.com

PROGRAMS

This year our January meeting is our charity sewing meeting! We will be working on quilts for Project Linus, Camp Quilts for FLOC and quilts for the Center for Pregnancy Concerns.

If you are able, bring a machine to work on piecing or quilting (walking foot is helpful).

If you cannot bring a machine you can bring mats and rotary cutters, iron and an ironing surface, or hand sewing supplies for whipping binding or adding labels.

BRING A BAG LUNCH. Drinks will be provided. Feel free to bring snacks or desserts to share.

Please come to this important meeting. Many hands really do make the work load lighter AND there will be door prizes at this meeting including a box or basket full of beautiful bright and jewel tone fat quarters!

NOTE: If the January meeting is a snow day then we will move charity sewing to February and save our in-house speaker for another time.

Patty and Daria, Program Co-Chairs

SPRING RETREAT

Retreaters, your balance is due January 30. If you are unsure what you owe, please contact me.

CindyReisberg@gmail.com

PROJECT LINUS & CAMP QUILTS

We collected 2 completed quilts, 4 quilt tops and fabric donations from Sharon Adams, Norma Campbell and Sue Hilton.

We are making progress on our charity project to make 20 cot quilts (size 45" x 86") for a summer camp for underprivileged, middle-school children. The camp quilts need to be finished by our March 2018 meeting. Thirteen quilt tops have been designed, five quilt tops are out for quilting and five quilts are finished. If you can help in anyway (fabric, full size batting donation, piecing tops, machine quilting, binding) please let me know.

Here is detailed information about our January 18, 2018 community service sewing meeting. Both hand and machine sewing projects for Project Linus and Camp quilts will be available at the meeting. If you are able to bring your sewing machine, you can sew quilt top kits, machine quilt or add binding to finished quilts. Remember to bring your necessary sewing items and machine walking foot. If you are unable to bring your sewing machine, bring rotary cutting supplies (rotary cutter, cutting mat, and ruler) or your hand sewing kit (needles, thread, scissors) or supplies to tie quilts. Let's have a fun, productive meeting in January.

Stephanie Sanidas

5-INCH SQUARE EXCHANGE

In January, the 5" square exchangers will bring 2 sets of 8 red squares, any shade of red. We will go through the rainbow for 2018. ROY G. BIV.

Anyone can join the group at any time.
Thank you. Kathy Appleton

RAFFLE WINNERS

Name Badge: Donna Shroff

BOM: Fran Betty won 20 blocks.

Raffle baskets raised \$161.00 for our Village Quilters treasury. The winners were:

Jackie Jones
Sue Grandizio
Joan Hammersla

Remember to bring your donations of sewing / quilt notions so our baskets are filled with items that others will take a chance to win as their own. Please bring your goodies to add to this basket.

Janet Ruehl

SUNSHINE

Mitzie Lepka still "hurts." Getting a note might be just the thing to add "sunshine" to her day.



Vera Hall had had a pacemaker put in December 15th. We were told she is doing well and is home recuperating. Please send Vera a note or card

Please let Janet Ruehl know of anyone in need of sunshine.

NEWS FROM THE KITCHEN

For January.... BRING A BAG LUNCH. Drinks will be provided. Feel free to bring snacks or desserts to share.

Clean Up - Stephanie Sanidas, Rose Mary Digby
Drinks -

2 liters clear soda, 1 regular & 1 diet-Rose Mary Digby

2 liters coke - Joan Costello

2 liters diet cola, 1 regular, & 1 caffeine free - Sharon Koscinski

Joan Costello (icostello@umbc.edu)

BLOCK OF THE MONTH

Happy 2018 Village Quilters! We hope that you will give this old standard a try. If you are new to quilting, the Shoo Fly Block is a good way to challenge yourself. It presents a making a perfect point issue – or not! That is your decision. Pull out the best blues and bright whites from your stash and cool off your warm winter nights.

There will be no new Block of the Month in January, so you have some time to work on this one. Why not make a few? Blue and white quilts are always charming and welcomed. Maybe your name will be picked!

The winner will be drawn at our February meeting, but if you bring in your block(s) in January we'll keep your name in the mix.

All the best – BOM Headquarters

Paulette and Dori
BOM Co-Chairs: Paulette Chellis & Dori
Batavick

CHARITY GIVING

Remember to bring your donations for food pantry.



A huge thanks to all those who contributed to Toys for Tots. I'm certain the toys were much appreciated!

Much thanks to those who fill their vehicles and drop off the donations.

Winter Weather Policy

We are heading toward winter! Bad weather is always a possibility. Here is our official snow policy... If Baltimore County schools are closed we are cancelled. If Baltimore County schools are 2 hours late we will meet. Now the caveat - USE YOUR JUDGEMENT IF THE WEATHER IS IFFY. If you live in Carroll County or PA you may have snow when Baltimore has a few flakes. Or, even a little ice may put you at risk for injury. Please be careful but come when you can during the winter months.



Next Meeting is January 18, 2018 at 10 am

Things to bring might include:

- ✓ Supplies for Charity Sewing Event
- ✓ Your own lunch and any desserts you might want to share.
- ✓ Block of the Month
- ✓ Food (non-perishable) for Charity Giving
- ✓ Raffle Basket items for meeting
- ✓ Bright and Jewel-tone fat quarters for January Door Prize
- ✓ Show and Tell items
- ✓ Library Books
- ✓ Free Table items

January 2018 Block of the Month

Village Quilters of Catonsville

Shoo Fly 12 1/2" Block in Blue and White

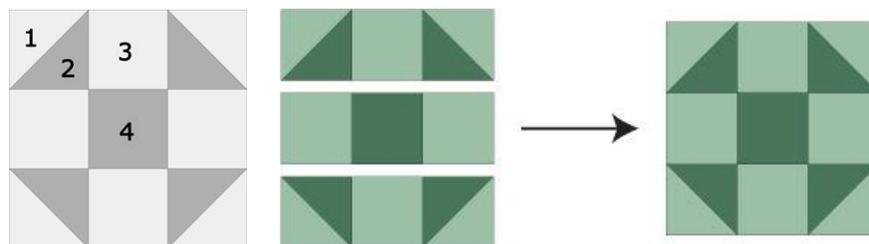
Here's a little history lesson:

With the whimsical name of Shoo Fly this block may have originated from the blooms of the clover broom plant, which the pattern is said to resemble, this simple nine-patch, composed of blocks and half-square triangles, is an excellent block for beginning quilters to master.



The block originated in the early-to-mid 1800's, and became especially popular later in the century. Like most quilt blocks, it's been around a while, and you've no doubt seen Shoo Fly in its original form as well as variations, and even under another name. Sometimes it's called Hole in the Barn Door. (This makes sense. If you've got holes in your door, you will definitely be shooing flies.)

There is a very romantic and persistent myth that the Shoo Fly block pattern was used in quilts to signal help and safe passage to slaves fleeing the South via the Underground Railroad. It's a great story, but sadly not true.



1. Cut two 4 7/8" White squares. Cut these on the diagonal to make four white triangles.
2. Cut two 4 7/8" Blue Squares. Cut these on the diagonal to make four blue triangles.
3. Cut four 4 1/2" white squares.
4. Cut one 4 1/2" blue square.
5. Sew each blue and white triangle together to form block 1-2
6. Sew four of block 1-2
7. Follow sewing instructions above to assemble the block

*Be careful not to stretch that triangle!