



## VILLAGE QUILTERS NEWSLETTER

*December 2019*

*Next Meeting December 19, 2019*

### **PRESIDENTS MESSAGE**

NOTE: If the message that follows is not applicable to you, please ignore it and proceed to the last sentence which is applicable to everyone.

This year the number of days between Thanksgiving and Christmas is unusually short. Regardless of the number of days, time seems to fly this time of year, leaving a happy but exhausted blur of memories. Somehow, there are times it almost seems as though we've missed Christmas!



I propose that we try to make Christmas INTENTIONAL this year. To that end, below are listed goals that may just guide efforts toward a saner, more balanced Season. If you are one of the fortunate individuals who has managed this feat, please share how you have done it with me!

This year I will make time each day to savor the Season.

This year I will make time each day to reflect on the meaning of Christmas – the joy, hope and promise the Good News brings.

This year I will make time each day to joyfully remember past Christmases – ribbon candy, tinsel on trees, caroling, Midnight Mass, children's squeals of delight on Christmas morning.

This year I will make time to participate fully in Christmas – sing carols, go to a concert, watch a Christmas movie, serve the less fortunate, breath in the Season deeply.

I wish you and your families a most wonderful and memorable Christmas and a year filled with Blessings.

Rene Stiebing, VQ President

### **Let's Celebrate the Season**

Our Annual Village Quilters Christmas Party will be held December 19. Come in your Christmas finery prepared to enjoy good food, colorful table decorations and some Holiday music. We'll play the traditional, quick-paced Right-Left Game guarantee to confuse some, tickle others and reward us all with a decorated package of three new fat quarters or a single yard of quilting fabric.

We'll also share the Christmas cheer with Toy for Tots, food donations, charity quilts and, of course, Show and Tell of our latest creations. Hope to see everyone there!

### **BINGO**

The BINGO made \$8,236.39 after \$370 was given to charities (Juvenile Diabetes Association and the House of Ruth). 250 tickets were sold but the target was 275. Cindy Hickman agreed to chair the BINGO Committee again in 2021 but noted that more helpers will be needed. Many thanks to Cindy for making the 2019 BINGO a big success!

## **NOVEMBER WINNERS**

*Name Badge* – Debbie McJilton

*BOM* – Robin Dodd won 19 Blocks

*Holiday Fat Quarter Raffle* – Michele Elder

**RAFFLE BASKETS** \$171 was earned. The winners were: Mitzie Lepka, Beth Bohac, Joan Costello, and Jacqueline Jones

Our guild members have provided loads of quilting supplies and ufo's for monthly raffle baskets that appeal to the group. Please continue to bring in items you'd like to share and ultimately scale down your sewing room / surplus. Janet Ruehl

## **KITCHEN NOTES**

*Morning Helpers:* Daria Phair, Michele Elder

*Lunchtime Helpers:* Beth Bohac, Stephanie Sanidas, Patty Stenpack, Joyce Hoelzer

*Clean-Up Helpers:* Fran Betty, Jenny Cecil, Carol Matlin, Elva Stiegler

Sodas:

- 1 - 2L - seltzer - Daria
- 2 - 2 L diet ginger ale, diet seltzer (1 each) - Patty Stenpeck
- 2- 2 L "real" cola - Stephanie Sanidas
- 2 - 2 L diet cola ( one caffeine free) - Beth Bohac

Joan Costello jcostello@umbc.edu

## **SUNSHINE**

Sharon Koscinski is having her gallbladder removed a week ago. I'm sure some sunshine notes would be appreciated.

Please remember to send me news of your friends in Village Quilters whom you know could use a bit of sunshine ☀ so I can send a card and alert our webmaster in order to send out a guild-wide message.

Janet Ruehl

## **PROJECT LINUS**

At the November meeting we collected 4 quilt tops and 7 finished quilts. Special thanks for fabric donations from Sharon Adams and Janet Elton and finished quilts from Robin Dodd and Nancy Winchester. We are focused on preparations for our Charity Sewing meeting on January 16, 2020. Start to think about what you want to work on at the meeting. If you are able to bring your sewing machine, you could piece tops or machine quilt. If that is not an option, you could rotary cut fabric or hand bind a quilt. Kits and quilts are provided but you can also bring your own charity project to work on. Since many quilters enjoy hand binding donation quilts during the Charity Sewing meeting, please see me if you can help with the preparations.



Stephanie Sanidas

## **5" SQUARE EXCHANGE**

Hi, exchangers! Merry Christmas to all. In December, we will exchange 2 sets of 10 fabrics that have a sewing theme, such as thread, scissors, buttons, etc. New exchangers always welcome.

Kathy Appleton

## **QUILT SHOW AT SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Don't forget to visit "The Agape Gallery and Village Quilters Present Pieced Warmth" quilt show, which continues through January 5, 2020. The exhibit is on the second floor of Salem Lutheran Church, located at 905 Frederick Road. There is a parking lot behind the church. The gallery is open on Sundays from 8-12 noon and on Saturdays from 4:30-6 p.m. To view the exhibit at other times, make an appointment by emailing the gallery director at charsart@gmail.com.

Daria Phair

### **CHARITY GIVING**

Kindly continue to bring your non-perishables for the local charity, and new, unwrapped toys for the Toys for Tots.

Kay Worley

### **DENVER SPRING "Shop and Sew" RETREAT**

Our Spring Retreat will be at the Blue Lake Retreat center in Denver, PA. The dates are May 4th (Monday) to May 8th (Friday). This is the week before Mother's Day Weekend. The cost is \$50/night with your own private room and a large community house for us quilters. There is a large sewing area attached to the house but separate from the sleeping area so you can quilt all night if that is your thing. Shopping up in the Lancaster area is always a treat and we shop as much as sew! Each quilter gets a 6 foot table in sewing area of her own so you can spread out. We have a "first evening communal Italian dinner on Monday and a cookout on Wed (work done by the husbands). Other than that you provide your own meals and we always have A LOT of food and snacks! If you are interested for more details, please contact Jacque Formica 410-552-1661 or e-mail [eburg999@hotmail.com](mailto:eburg999@hotmail.com)

### **CALL FOR SUPPLIES**

The Faith, Love and Hope Quilters of St. Matthews by the Sea United Methodist Church, Fenwick Island, Delaware, make quilts for the patients at Beebe Hospital's Tunnel Cancer Center, as well as homeless centers, crisis centers and where ever there is a need. All kinds of quilting supplies are needed especially fabric, floss, thread and batting. If you would like to contribute to this cause, give your donations to Robin Dodd at the regular guild meeting.

Robin Dodd

### **HOMETOWN GIRL QUILT EXHIBIT**

Don't miss Mimi Dietrich's Hometown Girl quilt exhibit and the Spectrum of Fashion exhibit.



Things to bring might include:

- ✓ Block of the Month
- ✓ Food (non-perishable) for Charity Giving
- ✓ Toys for Tots (new, unwrapped)
- ✓ Holiday Gift Exchange – three quilt store quality fat quarters or one yard of fabric wrapped (Right – Left Game)
- ✓ Donations for Raffle Baskets
- ✓ Show and Tell items
- ✓ Luncheon contribution

### **BLOCK OF THE MONTH**

Congratulations to Robin Dodd, who won 19 "Farm Friendliness" blocks last month. As for the Quilts of Valor 9-patch blocks, I mailed 76 to the national office after last month's meeting. Thank you to the ladies who participated.

This month's BOM is called "Plus Sign," which features sewing tool fabric, e.g., thimbles, scissors, pincushions, etc. See the pattern at the end of this newsletter and on the website.

Daria Phair

# *PLUS SIGN*

*December 2019*

Block Size: 12 1/2 inches (unfinished)

## **Fabrics**

For the Plus Sign, choose a fabric with a sewing theme.

For the Background, choose a coordinating pastel or light solid or tone-on-tone fabric.

## **Cutting Directions**

### *Plus Sign*

Cut one 4 1/2" square.

Cut a strip that is 3" x 18 1/2".

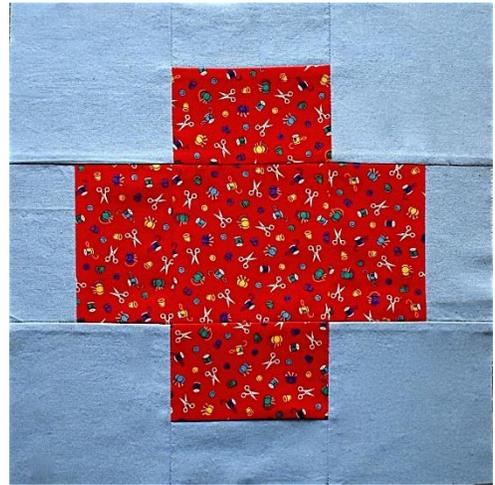
### *Background*

Cut four 4 1/2" squares.

Cut a strip that is 2" x 18 1/2".

## **Piecing Directions**

1. Sew the Plus Sign and Background strips together along the long edges. Note that the Plus Sign fabric is 1 inch wider than the background strip.
2. Press towards the Plus Sign fabric.
3. Subcut into four 4 1/2" squares.
4. Arrange the squares as shown in the photo.
5. Sew into rows. Press the seams in the top and bottom rows toward the Background fabric. In the middle row, press the seams toward the center square.
6. Sew the rows together.
7. Press the seams away from the center row.



**YOUR BLOCK SHOULD MEASURE 12 1/2" X 12 1/2". DO NOT TRIM IT!**