



DECEMBER 2020 NEWSLETTER

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Dear Village Quilters,
 Christmas is coming already? What happened to Spring, Summer, Fall? Oh, I remember. There are so many ways to view 2020. Historians, pundits, regular citizens, restaurant owners will all have varied and personal stories. As our unique perspectives, beliefs, experiences and resources have shaped our year, we also share many things in common.



- How the quest for toilet paper became all - consuming.
- How we realized how much we loved/hated television, technology and Zoom.
- How much we enjoyed eating out at restaurants, spending time in stores “just looking”.
- How much we looked forward to the monthly Village Quilters meetings and fabric shopping, or just fabric touching.
- We also realized how much “stuff” we have, how many nooks and crannies have not been thoroughly cleaned in quite a while.

- How many UFO’s we have, and how many we know we’ll never finish!

Also, how many masks we made, how we helped those less fortunate, and how we came to see the world, and ourselves, in new and, possibly, unsettling ways. Yes, 2020 has surely been quite a year.

Rene Stiebing, VQ President

PROGRAM

December's speaker will be the zany Eleanor Levie of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Her topic is *12 Ways to Rock Your Quilt* -- but with a nod to the 12 Days of Christmas!

You can check out her lectures, workshops, patterns and blog at <http://www.eleanorlevie.com>. We are sure to have fun with her techniques as well as finding out how she has worked her subject into a possible singalong! Enjoy, and see you in December.

Our next meeting is December 17, On the day prior you will receive the Zoom invitation and link.

Donna Badgett

CHARITY GIVING

I keep sewing and sewing during the pandemic and my stash remains the same size— maybe the Amazon deliveries?

The zoom programs have been a Godsend. A big shout out to the program chairs for providing such enjoyable lectures... and another reason for members to renew their memberships and pay their dues. Speakers do not speak for free.

Please, please, continue to support *Toys For Tots* this holiday season.

- Go to Baltimore-md.toysfortots.org
- Go to Drop Sites
- Type in your zip code— a list of box locations will appear
- If you would rather donate cash, you can do it on the same email address

Please remember to donate food or money to the Maryland Food Bank. Many among us are going through extremely difficult times. Let us be grateful and generous. Have a blessed Thanksgiving.

Kay Worley

SPRING RETREAT

After careful consideration, I've decided to cancel the Spring 2021 retreat. We all wish things could be different, but our top priority is staying safe and healthy. Hopefully, we can get back on track in 2022.

Cindy Reisberg



***Send Sunshine
requests
to Janet Ruehl***

SHOW AND TELL

Thank you so much for sending me your quilt projects for Show and Tell (due the Sunday before the meeting, December 13). This month we would also like to feature how you decorate for Christmas, doesn't have to revolve around a quilt (but that will be fun, too). Send a few pictures and let the holidays begin. If you haven't decorated by the 13th, you could send some from last year. Decorate early and bring a smile to yourself and others.

It will be a different holiday, so let's share our cheer. Can't wait to see how you all decorate your houses. Remember, jpeg format - that is what your smart phone and digital camera will do. Send to jcostello@umbc.edu. Thank you.

Joan Costello

LINUS PROJECT

On November 21st, 20 quilts were delivered to the Anne Arundel and Montgomery County Project Linus chapters. Children in the hospital during the holidays need to feel the love and warmth from our quilts. We also donated 10 quilts to the Alpha Pregnancy Center, delivered by Patty Stenpeck.

Since our annual community service sewing day has been postponed, please contact me if you can assist with Project Linus projects (sewing quilt top kits, cutting fabric, etc). I am available for porch drop off/pick up or I can meet you at a convenient location (quilt shops, Lodge parking lot). Thank you for any help you can provide.

Stephanie Sanidas

Excerpt from Thrills and Chills Short Story and Poetry Collection

By Shannon Rouchelle

Chapter Eleven: *Grandmother's Patchwork Quilt*
A Story about love and memories.

Sarah was beaming with excitement for Christmas was finally here,
a season of good will and love for one another, the best day of the year.
She bounded down the stairs, taking two at a time,
"Merry Christmas to all!" to the ringing of the chime.
The family sat round their Christmas tree, with light twinkling bright,
gifts of all shapes and sizes, glimmering in the light.
Sarah unwrapped packages with spirits all aglow,
with one last gift to unwrap, gently pulling off the bow.
A quilt of many colors lay in folds upon the floor,
the detailed stitch and design, not seen in any store.
The note read, "To Sarah, keep and use well,
for this quilt has an important story to tell."
"It's the precious memories I shared with you by my side,
the special granddaughter, who brings me pride."
It told of when Sarah was born, how her grandma held her tight,
rocking Sarah in her loving arms, in the wee hours of the night.
The countless times she scraped her knee, while learning to ride a bike,
with bandages and handkerchiefs, grandma always made things right.
The hot summer days they watched the boats sail,
as they sat on the beach with their shovels and pails.
The red wagon grandma pulled as they walked happily in the park,
playing hide and go seek, in the thick of the dark.
Grandma's house that always smelled of fresh baked rolls,
that she kneaded and prepared in a large mixing bowl.
The lollipops and ice cream they bought at the corner store,
the marbles they played, that lay strewn across the floor.
Sitting in a movie theatre, watching funny cartoons,
enjoying each other's company on a Saturday afternoon.
The cool wind blowing in their face on a cold December day,
the horse hooves clopping as they rode on a sleigh.
The pretty dough and clay they would mold themselves,
crafting pretty Christmas ornaments, they put upon the shelves.
The bright red dress with a polka dot bow,
stitching it together as she taught Sarah how to sew.
Tucking Sarah in at night and saying a prayer,
are all the precious moments the two of them shared.
The patchwork quilt grandma made with love,
Sarah will always cherish and think the world of.
She will hold this quilt to her heart so near,
and treasure the grandma who she holds dear.

