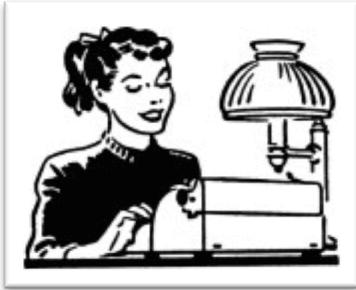


PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:



Hi Everyone!

What dreary days we've had! As I write my letter, it's gray and drizzling. I hear spring is around the corner—can't wait. I'm also looking forward to all we have planned for this year.

RaNae Merrill's free-motion quilting workshops were well received. *"Thank you!"* Linda Martin-Mills, for coordinating RaNae's visit to our guild.

I enjoyed seeing everyone's first BOM blocks. Be sure to bring your next blocks to our March meeting. You can post photos of your blocks on our new Facebook page, "Newtown Quilter's Guild-Members Sharing With Members." This is a private group for guild members only. *"Thank you!"* Joan Shipp, for this great idea and for serving as the group's administrator. If you are on Facebook, join in the fun and share your projects and ideas. Some members have posted their BOM blocks, and it's great to see them up close. You don't always have that opportunity when things are shown at meetings. Be sure to share other projects that you are working on, as well. Ask advice—I'm sure you will receive many suggestions.

Are you starting to think about what you'll make for our 2018 quilt challenge? The theme is a medallion quilt. Hmm, lots of possibilities! If you have any questions, contact Nancy Steigerwalt, Pam Sugrue, or Linda Martin-Mills. Join in and challenge yourself!

Our 2018 raffle quilt is being quilted. Please let me know if you have any suggestions for venues where tickets could be sold. Our raffle quilts are important fundraisers for our guild.

Pat Clayton and her committee have chosen a pattern for the 2019 raffle quilt. Stay tuned.

For 2018, we are asking you to choose a month when you can contribute to the hospitality table, rather than having Rosanne assign members each month. Response has not been robust. We enjoy having refreshments at our meetings, but everyone needs to participate so that can happen. We need between 8 and 10 people per month, so we have enough refreshments for everyone to enjoy. If you haven't yet signed up for 2018, please contact Rosanne Friebs to let her know what month works best for you.

Read on for Marsha Watro's article, "Seasonal Quilts." Celebrate the seasons with the beauty of a quilt. If you would like to contribute an article, please let me know.

Well, that's a wrap! I look forward to seeing you at our March guild meeting. In the meantime, sew like no one is watching!

Regards, Regina

NEXT GUILD MEETING – March 20, 2018

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 20, 2018, 7:30 pm at The Birches, 70 Durham Road, Newtown, PA 18940. Guests are welcome for a \$5.00 charge.

PROGRAMS: *Linda Martin-Mills*

2018 Upcoming programs – Janneke Van Der Ree will be joining us in March and Fulton Design will be coming in April with a talk about “Design in the Digital Age”. In May Jeannie Campbell will talk about how to use “New Techniques from Old Magazines” - Quilt Contrary. June is our annual garage sale and birthday celebration with strawberry shortcake!

Capital Health has invited us to show our quilts again this year. I will be curator of this show. I'm looking for a few good women/men to help with hanging and taking down the show (no heavy lifting on this one) We are hoping to have the theme Compassion, Caring and Kindness and have all of you register quilts that you have made for friends/family who were ill, bereavement quilts (like a Camp Erin quilt) Quilts for Kids, Operation Baby Blanket, Patriot program at CH, LINUS, placemats for meals on Wheels, holiday stockings for the Red Cross shelter, etc. There will be a registration/interest sheet for you to use to let the CH Show Committee know you are interested in hanging this type of work. Many thanks!

Upcoming goodies that you might be interested in:

County Line Quilters quilt show "Around the Garden Path" April 14 and 15th 2018 10-5 at St. Cyril of Jerusalem Social Hall 1410 Almshouse Rd. Jamison PA 18929

At Byrne's Sewing in Chalfont, May 2, 1-4, \$59 (\$30 for Byrnes Bees) class with Beth Helfter "Give it a Scrap Slap!" or go to her lecture on May 1 and 2 for \$25 or free if you are a bee. On April 3 and 4 Jessica Van Denburgh from Sew Many Designs will be speaking at Byrnes Bees as well.

The Lancaster AQS show 3/21-3/24, Paducah Spring AQS show 4/18-21, Paducah Fall AQS show 9/12-15 and Virginia Beach AQS show 10/3-6!!!!

Calico Cutter Guild has a \$10 guest fee and have many national speakers. Check out their website for upcoming classes which they are extending out to other guilds. This is a way for smaller groups of us to take advantage of these classes that our guild may or may not be able to afford. This guild is in West Chester area. We can carpool!

TREASURER'S REPORT: Donna Martinez**February 28, 2018**

Beginning Balance	23,372.54
Total Income	646.00
Total Expense	<u>3,247.38</u>
Ending Balance	20771.16

Income/Expense by Category

Income

Guest Fee	5.00
Membership- 2018 Dues	450.00
Quilty Prize	26.00
Workshop (Merrill)	<u>165.00</u>
Total Income	646.00

Expenses

Website	19.95
Workshop (Merrill)	2,700.00
Vice President/Program	400.23
Storage Rental	<u>127.20</u>
Total Expense	3,247.38

Ending Balance as of February 28, 2018 20,771.16**TREASURER'S TRIVIA: Donna Martinez**

During the February meeting the guild members present voted to accept our 2018 Budget. One of the line items listed under income was additional income from raffle ticket sales for \$1000.00. With our current membership of 85 members how many additional tickets would each member have to sell to reach our goal? Can you help us reach our goal?

The answer to the trivia question is 12 tickets.

MEMBERSHIP: Eve Vallorani and Teresa Wescott

A membership list for 2018 has been created. Please let us know of any changes to your information (address, phone number, email).

SUNSHINE AND SHADOWS: *Joan Shipp*

A sympathy card was sent to Elaine LaPrete on the loss of her father and a sympathy was also sent to Leona Law on the loss of her brother.

We now have a new, private Facebook page:
Newtown Quilter's Guild-Members Sharing With Members
link: <http://www.facebook.com/groups/203257543591042/>.

Let me know by text ([215-539-7426](tel:215-539-7426)) or email if you are having issues with joining at (lagoshipp@aol.com)

If you know of someone who needs a message of thanks, get-well, condolences or congratulations, please text me at [215-539-7426](tel:215-539-7426) (preferred method, I don't get to check my emails very often), or give me a call and leave a message.

PHILANTHROPY: *Melissa Curewitz*

Thank you to everyone for all the quilts for kids quilts that have been coming in. As quickly as we deliver them to QFK they are going out the door.

We are in need of Camp Erin quilts as the summer is just around the corner.

I would also like to thank all the quilters who have donated time to make and complete the quilts.

NEWSLETTER: *Doreen Aiello*

Contributions for the newsletter are due one week after our guild meetings, or the Tuesday after Guild. Please e-mail them to me at mrsCstitch@aol.com. Please feel free to call me at 215-779-0836 (cell) or 215-396-9098 (home).

HOSPITALITY: *Rosanne Friehs*

“Spring has Sprung,” It is the 1st day of SPRING on March 20th

We would like to take time to welcome everyone to Guild meetings. The new hospitality guidelines regarding snacks, beverages, and guild member responsibilities are:

- All guild members are responsible for bringing snacks for one regular guild meeting.
- Members need to choose a month that would work with schedules, small groups, or sewing circles. The Hospitality book is available for your choice at the meeting. If you do not choose a month then I will assign you a month. I will post the names of the members that are on the Hospitality Table for the upcoming month and send out emails so that we have a good variety of snacks and goodies, plus decorations for the table as well.

- If you are not attending the month you are assigned you can either switch with another member, have a friend bring in your snack, or let the Hospitality chairperson know at least one week in advance so that they can arrange a substitution.
- Snacks will not be available until the designated break time between the speaker and business meeting to allow all members time to socialize and have an opportunity to sample all of the items brought to guild. If we do not have a speaker, the snacks may be available the throughout the meeting.
- **Beverages will be provided by the Guild** and will be available throughout the meeting. If you have a special beverage choice please let me know and I will make it available. We would also like to **GO GREEN** by suggesting that members bring their own 'go cups' which we will be happy to fill with either soda or water.

March Snacks and Theme is "Spring has Sprung"

The members responsible for March snacks are as follows:

Pat Erhand, Lynn Ploughman, Jane Kiney, Pat Clayton, Dawn D'Agostino, Marlene Beeco , Doreen Aiello, Rosanne Friehs and Jane Nadig.

THANKS for participating in the Hospitality table! Please email me at rdfriehs@gmail.com or call at home # 215-493-6427 for any questions. Snacks and goodies are an important part of your guild members' break time and everyone always appreciates your efforts in making the Guild Meeting more enjoyable.

BLOCK OF THE MONTH: *Pat Clayton*

If you would still like to join BLOCK OF THE MONTH...it is not too late. Remember it is your quilt to keep, give as a gift, or give to one of our many charities. Go to our website and read all about it.

Blocks for February (completed by March Guild meeting)

1. SQUARES WITHIN SQUARES #2
2. TABLE FOR FOUR
3. HOVERING HAWKS

Can't wait to see your works of art!

RAFFLE QUILT 2019: *Pat Clayton*

Our raffle quilt is underway and now a work in progress. Thanks to the members of the committee who helped to get the ball rolling. We look forward to unveiling the beautiful pattern and fabrics and working on it together with the members of the guild.

MINUTES OF THE NEWTOWN QUILTER'S GUILD, FEBRUARY 20, 2018: *Diana Leslie*

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 p.m., as Regina Apuzzo and Linda Martin-Mills introduced our speaker for the evening, RaNae Merrill, who spoke to the guild about her inspirations and beginnings in her career as a fabric and quilt designer, and how her career developed into her several books and classes regarding free motion quilting. She had presented three workshops for the guild in recent days and was very complimentary to the guild for hosting and welcoming her.

Regina and Donna Martinez then introduced the guild's 2018 budget to the membership. Marsha Watro made a motion to accept the budget, and the motion was seconded by Christy Stephenson. Discussion centered upon a line item in the budget regarding "rent" for 2018. Regina indicated that the guild was presented with an opportunity to rent the newly-opened Lower Makefield Community Center for our meetings, and discussion ensued as to specifics of the facility. Regina indicated that no formal contracts had been signed, but she, Donna, and Linda had attended a board meeting of the Lower Makefield Parks and Recreation Board to see what the options might be for the guild to rent the facility for meetings and possibly workshop days. The budget was passed as written, and it was decided to continue the discussion of possibly moving our meeting place in the next month's meeting. Either way, there is money allocated in the budget if such a move comes to pass, or if the guild decides not to move its meetings, the money will not be expensed. Regina plans to send separate information to the guild when it becomes available from the Parks and Recreation Board. Regina indicated that the membership of the guild will be involved in any decision to move our meetings.

Nancy Steigerwalt and Regina are planning to continue making crayon quilts from drawings obtained on Market Day and possibly Lower Makefield Pride Day, as was done last year.

Kim Moll asked for a volunteer to help with the library, and Lisa Coccetti volunteered to assist her.

Linda Martin-Mills announced a listing of the upcoming programs and workshops for the next few months. Members can check the website for a complete list.

Attendance was 53 members and 5 guests.

The winner of the Treasurer's drawing was Teresa Westcott.

Quilty prize was won by Bonnie Piestrak, and the name tag drawing was won by Peg Bauman.

Linda dispersed various quilt tops and quilts for bindings that were provided by Philanthropy, so that our members might help with quilting and/or bindings for Quilts for Kids and Camp Erin, etc.

Show and tell included quilts from Marsha Watro, Kara Engleman, Judi Reiss, Nancy Steigerwalt, Nancy Lacey, Sara Ewing, Sallie Lloyd and Leona Law.

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

"A QUILT IS MORE THAN FABRIC"**Seasonal Quilts****Written by Marsha Watro**

I'm sure there was a time when we only thought about quilts when we wanted to crawl underneath one on a cold, wintery evening. Of course, there is nothing like sleeping under a handmade quilt, but there is SO much more in the quilt world today!

Holidays permit us to experience our "inner child" when we decorate, bake and wrap all the goodies of the season. But as many of us sew our way into the holidays, we find joy in the delights of thread and fabric!

I began creating homemade holiday treasures as a child. As I write this article, I am sitting in front of our Christmas tree and viewing the wonderful ornaments our daughter made when she was in grade school. Alongside them are the ones carefully crafted by our grandson. Next to them are the needlework ornaments I made as an adult; quilted, felted, crewel, needlepoint and counted cross-stitch. Every year, I give our daughter one of these old family ornaments for her tree. Our Grandsons love them and I'm sure will treasure them long into their adult years.

At the "wintery" time of the year, all my Christmas Quilts are on display. I hang them on walls, drape some over furniture and sleep under them at night. A special favorite is a wall hanging with seven embellished Santas done in felted wool. A red and white Hunter's Star and a miniature Pinwheel Quilt, embellished with tiny beaded wreaths, grace the walls.



As we turn the calendar to the New Year, many holidays beckon us to ply our needle and thread. I still display a mini heart quilt that I made for my Aunt Mary's 98th birthday. As spring approaches, I get ready for my favorite season of quilts, Easter! I love any type of "Egg Art" and I look forward to placing my "Not Eggactly Blue" quilt on the wall. Mini egg-themed quilts stand on my dining room cabinet and in the kitchen.

Spring also brings out an array of flower-themed quilts. I hang them on the porch and living room. Last year, I made a "Singing in the Rain" quilt and used all of my favorite fabrics in each umbrella. I then quilted it in a "raindrop" pattern.

Summer! Quilts with beach motifs are around my home and I've made many quilts with ocean creatures which I've gifted to friends and family. My mother grew up on the beaches of Rhode Island and instilled a love of the ocean in me. There is something about a beach house that is so welcoming and these quilts are especially comforting to me. Many babies in our family are growing up with these beach quilts.

As the summer wanes and we approach autumn, leaves are inside the house as well as outdoors! A very special quilt is one I made as a memorial to my best friend, Annette. We lived about two hours apart, but once we graduated from College we spent an annual "Fall Foliage" weekend together. Whenever I wrap myself in this lap size quilt, I remember the wonderful times we shared.

Every season offers fabric artists a chance to express themselves. From the depths of winter, newness of spring, to the lazy days of summer and the beauty of autumn, we create images in needle and thread. How blessed we are to be able to craft these heirlooms that will be treasured for years to come.



LOOKING AHEAD:

April 14 & 15, 2017 – “Path Around the Garden” presented by County Line Quilters. St. Cyril of Jerusalem Social Hall, 1410 Almshouse Road, Jamison, PA 18929. For directions: www.saint-cyril.com
Times: 10:00 am-5:00 pm, Admission: \$7.00. For more information go to: countylinequilters.org

Meeting Etiquette

- *Silence your devices or place them on vibrate, especially during the speaker's lecture*
- *Help clean up the snack area when you bring snacks.*
- *Resist the urge to turn down the volume or turn off the TV in the residents' TV room.*
- *If you have moved tables together, return them to their original location before you leave the meeting. Make sure your table is clean*
- *If you do any hand sewing during the meeting, make sure there are no pins, threads, etc. on the floor.*

We are guests at The Birches and we need to be good custodians of their property.
