

Friendship Star Quilters

January 2020

Website: www.friendshipstar.org

P.O. Box 8051, Gaithersburg, MD 20898

The Quiltline

Mid-Atlantic Quilt Festival

Feb 27 – Mar 1, 2020

Hampton Roads Convention Center, 1610 Coliseum Dr
Hampton, VA

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January – Fat quarters of geometric prints or plaids

Meetings

Next Meeting is January 6th. Guild meetings are at 7:30pm on the 1st Monday of the month at: Gaithersburg Church of the Nazarene
8921 Warfield Rd.
Gaithersburg, MD

Inclement Weather: If Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) evening activities are cancelled, the FSQ meeting will also be cancelled. Cancellations of MCPS activities are posted on <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/>

Service Projects

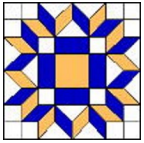
Service Projects Workshops are held from 9:30 AM to Noon at:
Fairhaven United Methodist Church
12801 Dunston Rd.
Darnestown, MD

Service Projects Workshop Dates:
Thursday, January 2nd
Thursday, January 30th

Executive Board Meeting

The next board meeting will be announced soon.

If you have a topic to bring up to the board, please contact any of the officers to add your item to the agenda.



President's Message

Judy Walsh

Years ago, when I was first introduced to paper piecing, I found that I hated it. It always seemed awkward, upside down and backwards, so I've basically avoided it.

Recently I had to make a 6.5 inch pineapple block that had 40 pieces, and I decided to try paper piecing once again. After a few rocky starts and some dumb mistakes, I discovered a way that works for me, and I'm now a real fan of paper piecing.

So **if you're frustrated with a technique** you've been using (or avoiding), **don't give up!** There are often several ways of doing something; we each just need to find the way that works for us.

Block kits for our 2021 raffle quilt will be available at our January meeting. There are kits for 2 types of blocks: a Square-in-a-Square and a "Bordered 9-patch". Since the sewing is not complicated, we are asking to have the completed blocks returned at our February meeting.

The **Mid-Atlantic Quilt Festival** at Hampton Roads, VA is Feb. 27-March 1st. Selling raffle tickets at this show is a major source of income for our guild. Gerda Sherwood is again planning to take our raffle quilt to the show, but she'll need help from other guild members for the 32-hours of white-gloving required in order to have our quilt there, as well as help with selling raffle tickets. A Sign-Up Genius list will be available soon on our web site in order to sign up for these tasks at the Hampton show.

Quilting tip of the month:

Karen Brown of "Just Get it Done Quilts" (on YouTube) shared the following technique. I've used this tip, and it really works!

Have you noticed that your quarter-inch seam suddenly gets "smaller" when the presser foot has to go over a "hump" where several layers of fabric come together?

To solve this, stack several layers of fabric scraps and sew them together to make a "hump jumper". Then, when joining blocks with "humps", **stop with your needle down *before* the "hump"**, raise the presser foot and insert the "hump jumper" **directly *behind* the needle, under the presser foot**. Lower the presser foot and continue sewing over the hump; you'll find that your quarter-inch seam has been preserved.

Happy quilting!

Judy



December Guild Minutes

Carmen Contreras-Sesvold

President Judy Walsh called the meeting to order at 7:30. We had 1 visitor.

Minutes No changes to the minutes were proposed and thus they were approved by the membership.

Treasury report

Joy Dorman reported that Bobbie Draves was moving to another state and so Bobbie will step down as Co-Treasurer. Thus, check requests and deposit summaries can be handed to Joy or mailed to her home address. In addition, please send an email letting Joy know to be on the lookout for items in the mail. She will email back when check requests or deposits are received.

2020 Raffle Quilt Marketing Schedule - Judy reported details of the current schedule.

She thanked Suma Glassman & Anne Flaggs for taking "After Midnight..." to Clustered Spires

Gerda Sherwood implored us to get the Quilt out and sell tickets.

2021 Raffle Quilt - Judy also reported that **kits** will be distributed at the January meeting. Each kit will contain 1 of 2 Blocks and finished blocks are due at the February meeting.

Former FSQ president, **JoAnna Kruse**, passed away recently. Her family would appreciate your thoughts and prayers.

Service projects - Anne Weaver reminded us that the next service project meetings are December 5th and 17th. "She also told us that when **pillowcase kits** are completed they should be washed and ironed and returned in their original sealed plastic bag."

Quilts of Honor Challenge – Karen Slayton reiterated that 20 of these quilts are to be twin size or **approximately** 64 x 88 inches and are due at the May 2020 FSQ meeting. These patriotic quilts for the 459th Aero-medical Squadron should be red, white, & blue. They may also have gold or silver accents. Please include a label and sleeve on the back.

Programs - Cathy Miller announced the January speaker will be **Ginny Brown**, Owner of Brown Rabbit Quilts of Gaithersburg, MD and Deb Tucker Studio 180 Design Certified Instructor. Cathy also indicated there would be a **SignUp Genius** created to help determine how many people will attend the speaker dinner.

Fat Quarter Drawing – Liz Plantz and Harriet Sheinson- Winners were Judy Walsh, Judy Newton, and Linda Duzick.

The next **Executive Board meeting** will be held on Dec. 9th at 7:00 PM at Asbury Methodist Village, 400 Russell Ave., Gaithersburg, MD 20877. All FSQ members are welcome to attend.

Our meeting was adjourned at 7:45 P.M.

I and others would like to thank Michele Barnard for organizing our Holiday Party.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carmen Sesvold, FSQ Secretary



Service Projects Update

Anne Weaver and Nancy Brennan

One of the local organizations that FSQ's Service Projects support is Healthy Families, which provides our quilts to first-time at-risk parents as part of its home visiting program. You can read more about Healthy Families Montgomery at <https://www.sheppardpratt.org/care-finder/healthy-families-montgomery/>.

We recently received a thank you letter from Kylie McCleaf, Executive Director, which said, in part:

We here at Family Services are most appreciative of your recent in-kind donation of 40 handmade baby quilts....With your support, Family Services, a part of the Sheppard Pratt Health System, is able to offer 34 programs that help mitigate social circumstances that contribute to adverse academic, health, and economic outcomes seen in both Montgomery and Prince Georges Counties today....We are grateful to count you among our many partners and for your commitment to Family Services and the residents of Montgomery and Prince Georges Counties.

Thank YOU to all FSQ members for the support that makes these donations possible. We hope you all have a healthy, happy, and productive New Year!

January Service Projects workshops will be held on Thursday, January 2, and Thursday, January 30. We meet from 9:30 am until about noon at Fairhaven United Methodist Church, 12801 Darnestown Road (Route 28), about ½ mile west of Quince Orchard High School. Questions? Contact Nancy Brennan or Anne Weaver

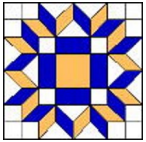


2020 Retreat

Joy Dorman and Nancy Brennan

With the weather taking a turn to the cooler side, it feels like our Jan 17- 19/20, 2020 retreat is just around the corner. For those attending the retreat we will send out more information in December.

The retreat is currently filled but we often have unavoidable cancellations as the date gets closer. To be added to the waiting list or if you have questions E-mail Nance Brennan or Joy Dorman at retreats@friendshipstar.org.



Programs

Cathy Miller

On January 6, 2020, Ginny Brown of Brown Rabbit Quilt shop will be our speaker. After raising six children, Ginny was exhausted past the point of distraction, so she needed a hobby where she could sit down. She started quilting, and in three years made close to 30 quilts.

In 2016 she became a Studio 180 Certified Instructor and very much enjoys teaching at several local quilt shops. With more than 25 years experience as a high school science teacher, Ginny has the ability to break down complex techniques and processes into simple achievable chunks. She effectively applies this skill to her quilt classes. She uses humor and enthusiasm to motivate and encourage her students to complete projects and increase their confidence.

As always, we will host a dinner for our speaker at 5:30 pm at the Dogfish Head Alehouse in Gaithersburg. Everyone is invited to join us. In order to get a better handle on the number of people to expect and to provide adequate seating at the restaurant, we have set up a signup genius. Please RSVP if you plan to attend.

This link should take you to the signup sheet, or use the email sent on Dec 16, or our website. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409084fa5ad2baafd0-dinner>

Hope to see you there.

Below is a list of upcoming FSQ 2019-2020 Programs and Events

February 3, 2020	Mary Koval	How to make your quilts more valuable
March 2, 2020	Phyllis Reeves	Scrap Sensible: Organizing scraps
April 6, 2020	Erin Underwood	Blue Hen Quilt Shop Trunk show
May 4, 2020	Barbara Cline	Designing inside different block layouts



Membership
Peggy Weidman

There were only 25 members who signed in at the Holiday party in December, although the number of attendees may have been slightly larger due to confusion over where to find the the sign up list. The nasty weather that night may have depressed attendance relative to previous months.

Please join me in wishing a Happy Birthday to our FSQ friends with birthdays in January:

Rosemary Hormuth	Jan 1
Colleen Biasco	Jan 4
Holly Trotter	Jan 7
Jan Baweja	Jan 10
Linda Gordon	Jan 11
Lynn Stieber	Jan 19
Judy Chandler	Jan 22
Elizabeth Brodsky	Jan 26





Yard Sale News

Jennifer Rossmere

The newly formed Yard Sale Committee had their first meeting. JoAnne DuChez graciously explained what is needed to run the Yard Sale and we discussed how best to handle all the jobs as a committee. We will start collecting in February so please hold your items until then. Look for further information in the new year.

If you have any questions, please contact me. My email is in the membership directory.

Jennifer Rossmere



Pinterest Guest Program

Lorie Coston

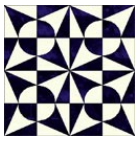
The guild has a Pinterest account as you know. You can find it by searching in Pinterest for Friendship Star Quilters and look for Gaithersburg, MD. The site has about 1,300 monthly viewers and close to 1,750 pins! Those pins are on now on 58 boards because Kathy added a board.

Starting in October, our FSQ location on Pinterest will be “curated” by a different FSQ member each month. I’m so excited that Kathy Brown agreed to be the first hostess. We see a bit of Kathy’s quilting personality and tastes in her pins since she started a new board called “Easy Peasy Quilts”. There are baby quilt and quickie quilt pictures to help you get creative to use up your fabric stash. Kathy has chosen some sweet patterns and you’ll be happy you popped in to take a look around our FSQ site. I am so glad that she agreed to take on the site and be the first hostess. Thank you, Kathy.

Our hostess for the month of November is Vontina Collick. Yay! Vontina has been a member for several years and is a master craftsperson but has a heart for quilting. Let’s keep checking back during the coming month to see what gems Vontina finds for us to enjoy. Thank you Vontina.

If you haven’t already, “Follow” the Friendship_Star_Quilters account! Kathy and Vontina will make you glad that you did.

Lorie



Raffle Quilt Tickets

Suma Glassman

We are in the midst of our ticket selling and I encourage everyone who has not picked up packets to do so at the next meeting. I also want to remind those that have taken packets to return them. If you need more tickets, I usually have them at the meetings. You can let me know before-hand and I will have the extras.

For new members, what am I talking about? Annually we raffle off a guild made quilt to support our activities. The speakers you enjoy, and Service Projects, are among them. Also, a portion of the proceeds from the ticket sales goes to a charity that the membership selects each year. This year, the charity is Comfort Cases, which supports foster kids. Members are all asked to sell a minimum of 30 tickets each to help. At 6 tickets for \$5 that would be \$25. You can sell them individually also for \$1 for 1 ticket.

This is a major fundraising effort for us, and I encourage you to participate. Buy them yourself and ask friends and relatives to take a chance. As an incentive, the top three ticket sellers will receive a prize. By writing your name on the back of all the tickets you turn in, you also stand a chance to win another prize if a ticket you sold is selected as the winner.



Library News

Rosie Hormuth and Liz Lawrence

Books may be borrowed. Still time before the holidays to get projects started with a little help from our excellent FSQ library resources.



Keep current with Facebook!

Suma Glassman and Ellen Robinson

Did you know that FSQ has a Facebook page? If you are on FB, why not like our page: <https://www.facebook.com/FriendshipStarQuilters/> And if you aren't on Facebook, the page is "public" so you can still view it just by going to the link. We will be posting meeting reminders and other items deemed of interest to you. If there is something you think might be good information to others, quilt related of course, contact us, the page administrators, and we will get it posted.



Elected Officers		
President	Judy Walsh	president@friendshipstar.org
Vice-President	Teresa Peterson	VP@friendshipstar.org
Treasurer	Joy Dorman	treasurer@friendshipstar.org
Secretary	Carmen Contreras-Sesvold	secretary@friendshipstar.org

Committee Chairs			
Fabric of the Month	Liz Plantz and Harriet Sheinson	Raffle Quilt Marketing	Gerda Sherwood
Facebook	Suma Glassman and Ellen Robinson	Raffle Quilt Ticket Sales	Suma Glassman
Field Trips	open	Retreats	Joy Dorman and Nancy Brennan
Holiday Party	Michele Barnard	Service Projects	Anne Weaver and Nancy Brennan
Library	Rosie Hormuth and Liz Lawrence	Small Groups Coordinator	Nicki Lynch
Membership	Peggy Weidman	Summer Challenge	Meg Tison, DeVeda Powell, JoAnne DuChez
Newsletter	Liz Brodsky	Sunshine and Shadows	Ellen Robinson
Pins	Susan Spencer	Web Master	Lorie Coston
Program	Cathy Miller	Yard Sale	Jennifer Rossmere
Publicity	Lorie Coston		