



Friendship Star Quilters January 2022

P.O. Box 8051, Gaithersburg, MD 20898

Website: www.friendshipstar.org

The Quiltline



Dec 30 – Last day to sign up for the guild meeting & to send in photos for Show & Tell



2022
HAPPY NEW YEAR



Jan 3 – FSQ Guild Meeting via Zoom at 7 pm. Business meeting starts at 7:30.

Jan 20-22 – Quilt Show – free admission
Cumberland Valley Relief Center
4225 Molly Pitcher Hwy South
Chambersburg, PA

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Monthly Fabric Raffle – will resume when we meet again in-person

Meetings	Service Projects	Executive Board Meetings
<p>Guild meetings are usually held the 1st Monday of the month at</p> <p>Gaithersburg Church of the Nazarene 8021 Warfield Rd Gaithersburg MD</p> <p>Mingling and conversation start at 7:00 pm; business meeting & program at 7:30 pm.</p>	<p>Service Projects Workshops are held from 9:30 am - Noon at</p> <p>Fairhaven United Methodist Church 12801 Darnestown Rd Darnestown, MD</p> <p>Face masks are required. See page 5 for more information.</p>	<p>The next board meeting will be held via Zoom on Monday Feb. 21 at 7:00 pm</p> <p>If you have a topic to bring up to the board, please contact any of the officers to add your item to the agenda or to receive the Zoom link for the meeting.</p>



President's Message

Michele Barnard

"If I had my way, I'd remove January from the calendar altogether and have an extra July instead."

- Roald Dahl

I looked at my little part of the newsletter from last year, and... not much has changed!

Despite my dislike of January weather, I do like the illusion of a fresh start. I accidentally found my "what I would like to accomplish this year" list from 2021, and to my surprise, despite not having looked at it during the year, I'd actually gotten much of what was on the list done. There is a certain power just in writing a list. This year, I'm going all in and making a vision board.

Also from last year - organizing the stash! This year I signed up for a de-cluttering challenge at Just Get It Done Quilts: <https://www.justgetitdonequilts.com/declutterchallenge>

It's free, so join me if your sewing room could use a little help.

Also from last year - finishing UFOs! I signed up for the Stashbusters UFO Challenge (although I still need to find a couple of fat quarters to send in for sign-up) and plan to actually start making a list (remember the power of a list?) of the UFOs I have in the New Year.

And last but not least - Challenges! I loved my mini-group challenges this year and what I got done in Project Quilting. The New Year for Project Quilting starts in January at <https://kimlapacek.com/project-quilting>

Unfortunately, COVID is still hanging on from last year. This year, I'm happy my family is vaccinated and boosted, and that my youngest can (so far at least) go to school in person.

I wish you all the best in this coming year, and always.

Yours in Quilting,

Michele



December Guild Minutes

Peggy Weidman

President Michele Barnard called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM and asked everyone to mute their lines if not speaking. She then asked any new members to introduce themselves and there was no response.

Meeting Minutes: The November FSQ Meeting Minutes were approved as submitted.

Treasurer's Report – Kathy Swartz

Kathy was unable to attend but told Michele she had nothing to report.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next Executive Board Meeting is Monday, December 13, 2021 at 7 PM by Zoom. Anyone interested in attending is welcome. Contact one of the officers if you wish to attend.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership Chair – Brenda Knopp

Brenda reported that we now have 105 Members.

Service Projects – Anne Weaver and Nancy Brennan

Anne reported that as of June 1 2021, service projects has donated 305 quilts, 272 preemie quilts (old small-sized ones), 100 preemie hats, 163 pillow cases and 80 placemats. She thanked everyone for participating in the program There are still about 200 old preemie quilts to be given away. They are only collecting the new sized ones that are 30-34 inches square, no batting.

Program – Cathy Miller

Cathy introduced the December speaker Veruschka Zarate.

Program Speaker – Veruschka Zarate “My Journey from Traditional Piecing to Paper Piecing”

Show and Tell – Judy Walsh presented a slideshow of 25 quilt photos submitted by 11 guild members who described their creations.

Door Prize

The FSQ door prize gift card was won by Ellen Robinson.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 PM

The next meeting will take place at 7:30 PM, January 3, 2022 by Zoom. Be sure to sign up in advance when you receive the invitation.

Respectfully submitted,
Peggy Weidman, Secretary



Programs

Cathy Miller

Our speaker this month is Karen Combs (www.karencombs.com) who will be presenting



QUILTS OF ILLUSIONS

Explore the world of optical illusions as Karen shows you some of the wonderful quilts that she has created and shares tricks and tips how to make them. This virtual lecture is a beautiful and inspiring trunk show. There will be time for questions after the lecture.

Karen is an internationally known quilter, teacher, author and designer. Teaching since 1989, she is in high demand as a teacher who encourages her students, makes learning fun and makes the complex easy to understand! She has been nominated 3 times by students for *Quilt Teacher of the Year*.

Karen is fascinated with optical illusions and quilts; this is the subject of many of her workshops. She is the author scores of magazine articles, quilt patterns and has written 9 quilting books, among them, *Optical Illusions for Quilters*, *Combing Through Your Scraps* and *Celtic Patchwork Illusions*. She has designed over 100 fabric collections, both quilting cotton and batiks and is known for her innovative designs. She currently designs for Banyan Batiks, a division of Northcott. Karen has appeared on many quilting TV programs and has a Craftsy class, *New Directions in Tumbling Blocks*.

She has worked with Quilt Seminars at Sea for over a decade, teaching her quilting techniques and traveling the world.

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Karen lives in the rolling hills of middle Tennessee with her husband, Rick and cute Shih Tzu named Benji.

Karen has her books, patterns and fabric available on her website at: www.karencombs.com as well as her Etsy store: <https://www.etsy.com/shop/KarenCombsStudio>

You can visit her Facebook page, Instagram and YouTube Channels by clicking on the icons below.



Service Projects

Anne Weaver and Nancy Brennan

Several guild members have recently asked us, “Where do the quilts (and pillowcases and preemie quilts) go?” Looking back over the years it’s interesting to see that the donation locations have changed, depending on the needs of each organization. One thing that remains constant, though, is that our focus remains on bringing warmth and comfort to those who need it, especially babies and children.

We’ve compiled a list of where we donate currently. If you have questions about the requirements for one of the categories, or if you have a suggestion for another organization or group with which we can partner, please contact either Nance or Anne (contact details are in the membership list, or you can email servproj@friendshipstar.org).

Quilts:

- Comfort Cases
- A Wider Circle
- Healthy Families Montgomery (affiliated with Sheppard Pratt)
- Shady Grove Hospital Pediatrics Department
- Project Linus

Preemie Quilts:

- Shady Grove NICU

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Pillowcases: to Ryan's Case for Smiles for distribution locally to:

Children's Hospital

Fairfax Inova Hospital

Walter Reed National Military Medical Center

Placemats:

A Wider Circle

Iona House



A Wider Circle



Shady Grove NICU

Interested in joining us for a daytime workshop? Our next meetings will be on **Thursday, January 6th** and **Thursday, January 27th**, from 9:30 am until noon, at Fairhaven United Methodist Church, 12801 Darnestown Road, about ½ mile west of Quince Orchard High School.



Yard Sale Thank You

The Yard Sale Committee: Wendy Bauman, Mary Anne Bruce, Carmen Contreras-Sesvold, Jennifer Rossmere and Peggy Weidman

Happy New Year and we hope you are planning what to do with all the treasures you found at the Yard Sale. If you find some treasures you no longer want, remember we will have another Yard Sale in June.

Thank you for all of your generous donations for the last Yard Sale. There were many leftovers after the sale ended. Carmen has agreed to store some of these leftovers and we continue to thank her.

The Yard Sale Committee had two Yard Sale “donation sorting” events and worked hard to thoughtfully donate items to other charities for their sewing/quilting endeavors. A list of some of the organizations that received items is as follows:

- FSQ Service Projects
- Nimble Fingers Service Projects
- Quilts of Valor
- Project Linus
- The Navajo Project
- SCRAP Creative Reuse – uses donated sewing/art supplies to teach children in Baltimore to tap into their creativity <https://baltimore.scrapcreativereuse.org/>
- Days for Girls
- Tutwiler Quilters – selling quilted items is a way for the women of the Tutwiler, Mississippi community to make their own money
<https://www.tutwilercommunityeducationcenter.org/blank-page-2>
- Friends of the Library, Montgomery County
- Social Justice Sewing Academy www.sjsacademy.org

The Yard Sale Committee is going to take a little, well deserved rest and will let you know when we will start accepting items for the June 2022 Yard Sale.



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:// facebook.com/FriendshipStarQuilters/](https://facebook.com/FriendshipStarQuilters/)?

If you aren't on Facebook, the page is "public" so you can still view it just by going to the link above.

We will be posting meeting reminders and other items that might interest to you. If there is something you think might be interesting to others - quilting related of course - please contact us and we will get it posted (facebook@friendshipstar.org).



Library News

Rosie Hormuth and Liz Lawrence

The library is open for all FSQ in-person meetings! Please drop by our tables, page through a few books, and make a couple selections to take home for a month. We have lots to inspire and get your creativity flowing.



Membership

Brenda Knopp

Hi!

Happy New Year! At least we were able to meet in person a couple months in 2021. 2022 is not starting out the best but we planned for this since we will not be meeting in person until March. I look forward to seeing everyone on Zoom this month!

I am still accepting membership renewals and always accepting new membership in general.

Cheers to everyone and Happy New Year!

Looking forward to seeing everyone in their respective boxes!

Brenda Knopp
Membership Chair



January Birthdays

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



Tips & Tricks

Cathy Miller

While looking for speakers I came across this tool and had never heard of it. I thought others would be interested too.

It's a presser foot designed by a quilter (Sandy Chandler - aka Lawhon) for quilters, and is adaptable for many sewing machine brands.

<https://www.amazon.com/Curve-Master-CM008-Presser-Foot/dp/B002Y19J3W>

All members are invited to contribute to this column. Please share a sewing/quilting tip you've found helpful by sending in a brief write-up for our next newsletter.



Readers' Corner

Nicki Lynch

I love libraries. When I first joined FSQ, it was meeting in the Gaithersburg Public Library. I've spent many happy hours roaming (and getting books from) libraries. Then COVID-19 hit and the libraries all closed and we stayed home.

But by then, I had discovered another joy the library had to offer – apps that let me search and check out e-books, magazines, movies, and music without going to the physical library or the library website. Our local library has all three apps available for us.

First, you must have a library card. It can be from any county in Maryland, D.C., or Northern Virginia (we have reciprocity). Along with your library card number, you will need a login PIN. If you don't have a PIN, you will need to create one at the library website under "Log In to My Account." These apps are available in the app store on your tablet or phone. Just search for "Overdrive", "Hoopla", or "Libby" to download them to your device. Libby may not be available for all Android devices.

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Overdrive and **Libby** access e-books, magazines, comics, and audio books in the Montgomery County library system. Both apps can be used to search for items and can put a hold on an e-book or audiobook. While both access magazines, Overdrive downloads magazines in the browser, while Libby downloads magazines into the app. Both apps can change the font size, typeface, and background color in e-books. I prefer Libby for magazines, despite the slow loading, as it has a special feature for magazines. In the middle of the bottom control bar, there is a circle with a page icon. By tapping the icon, the page is enlarged, one article at a time.

Hoopla! is a wonderful app for e-books, audio books, comics, movies, and music. The separate from the Montgomery County library collection of electronic material available is extensive and continually updated. One major advantage of Hoopla is all materials are *available immediately*. I've discovered new (to me) authors and rediscovered authors I read years ago, most unavailable in the Montgomery County library. The searches can be filtered; the fonts and background customized. One limitation to Hoopla is that only ten items can be downloaded per calendar month. Unlike the library, returning an item does not increase the number of loans allowed. To log in to Hoopla, you will need to identify the country and library, along with your library card number and create a PIN for Hoopla (make sure to write the PIN down).

So in these cold winter days, I hope you will give one or more of these apps a look and enjoy our public library.

All members are invited to contribute to this column. Please share some of the books or authors you've enjoyed by sending in a brief write-up for our next newsletter.



Elected Officers		
President	Michele Barnard	president@friendshipstar.org
Vice President	Judy Hoffman	VP@friendshipstar.org
Co-Treasurers	Colleen Biasco & Kathy Swartz	treasurer@friendshipstar.org
Secretary	Peggy Weidman	secretary@friendshipstar.org

Committee Chairs			
Fabric of the Month	Liz Plantz & Harriet Sheinson	Raffle Quilt Marketer	Volunteer(s) needed
Facebook	Suma Glassman & Ellen Robinson	Raffle Quilt Ticket Sales	Gerda Sherwood
Holiday Party	Volunteer needed	Retreats	Joy Dorman & Colleen Biasco
Library	Rosie Hormuth & Liz Lawrence	Service Projects	Anne Weaver & Nancy Brennan
Membership	Brenda Knopp	Small Groups Coordinator	Nicki Lynch
Newsletter	Judy Walsh	Summer Challenge	Meg Tison, DeVeda Powell & JoAnne DuChez
Pins	Linda Belecki	Sunshine & Shadows	Ellen Robinson
Programs	Cathy Miller	Web Master	Lorie Coston
Publicity	Volunteer needed	Yard Sale	Jennifer Rossmere
Quilt Show 2023	Volunteer(s) needed		