

History of Friendship Star Quilt Guild

40th Anniversary Celebration

October 3, 2022

Meeting Agenda

- Pre-meeting Photo Display
- 1982 Trivia - Michele Barnard
- History of the Guild – Anne Flaggs
- How it all began – interview with Jane Phillips
- Door Prize Drawing – Harriet Sheinson
- Break – cupcakes; memorabilia table; socialize & photos
- Parade of Quilts by members

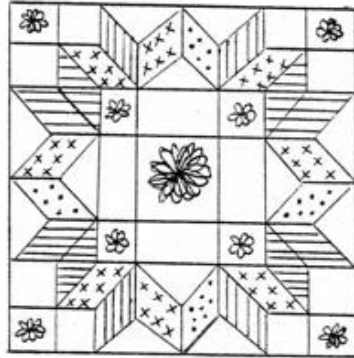
1982 Trivia



Friendship Star Quilters History – The Beginning

- 1979 –
 - **Fairhaven United Methodist Church** quilt group organized by Jane Phillips.
 - 5 Original FSQ members
 - Jane taught a beginning quilt class and 2 more members joined
- 1980/1981
 - 5 other members join and they met at Jane Phillips house
- 1982
 - Tuesday, October 5, first “public” meeting held at Fairhaven United Methodist Church, Darnestown, MD after the group decided to advertise for more quilters and meet in a more public space.
 - Monthly meetings started and they continued to meet at Fairhaven.
 - Programs include Slide show of Quilts; Folded Star pattern sharing and Holiday party with an ornament exchange.

QUILTERS



Join Friendship Star Quilters

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1982
7:30 PM

FAIRHAVEN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Route 28, Darnestown, MD

Learn new techniques, share patterns, meet new quilters,
attend workshops. Bring your needlework for show
and tell.

If you can come, please call for directions:

Kate Fowle 926-9008

Jane Phillips 977-8472

Gail Jones 972-4167

Karen Mull 362-1445

**1982 Flyer advertising
the first public
meeting of Friendship
Star held Tuesday,
October 5, 1982 at
7:30pm. Location
Fairhaven United
Methodist Church,
Darnestown, MD**

**Photo from the
Show & Tell held
at the first public
meeting in
October 1982**



Friendship Star Quilters

October 1982

Dear Quilters,

Our October membership meeting was certainly a success, and I know we're all excited about the new friends we made that night. We should all extend to Jane Phillips our special thanks for the great slide show she gave us!

Late October and early November will provide us with three quilt shows we shouldn't miss. On Sunday, October 24, from 10 - 4:00, the Chevy Chase Needle Chasers will sponsor a free, unjuried quilt show, with demonstrations throughout the day. The show will be held at the Clara Barton Historic Site, 5801 Oxford Rd, Glen Echo, MD, and you are all welcome to enjoy antique and new quilts and to bring your own to share.

November 3-7, the Continental Quilting Congress will be held at the Stouffert Hotel in Crystal City, Virginia. (There's a subway stop 1 1/2 blocks from the hotel.) Admission is free to the Merchant's mall where quilters and quilt suppliers will be selling their wares — there's a small entrance fee to the quilt show itself. Plans will be made at our November meeting to arrange car pools for those who are interested.

A very special display of quilts by Catherine Kuhn (I hope she got the right spelling) will be held at Green Spring Farm in Annandale, Va November 11-14. I'll provide more details on this one later.

For those of you who don't yet have the address of the Warehouse, where 100% cotton calicoes and solids can be purchased for \$2.98 /yard, the address is:

The Warehouse
390 Newton St.
Waltham, Mass 02154

Send \$5.00 to receive an envelope bursting with fabric swatches including the Ginny Beyer prints.

For those of you who need fabric in a hurry, all calicoes are on sale at Danneman Fabrics for \$1.99 /yard,

regularly \$2.99-\$3.99 /yard, now through Oct 23rd.

At our November 2 meeting, Sandy Reynolds will teach us the folded star pattern, two examples of which she brought to our last meeting. Anyone who has a cute Christmas pattern, please bring it along with you. And don't forget tracing paper if you want to copy others' patterns.

We like to have show and tell at each meeting, so do bring whatever you are working on!

Kate Goule will bring several copies of an article on quilting from Early American Life magazine which should be helpful to the beginners in our group. She will also bring x-ray film for those who would like to use it for making templates. Here are names of some books that beginners might enjoy:

The Perfect Patchwork Primer by Beth Gutcheon

The Quiltmaker's Handbook by Michael James

You should be able to find both at Recollections in Georgetown Square Shopping Mall or at Unicorn Books in Rockville.

See you in November!

Karen

October 1982 Newsletter after first public meeting. Highlights – Successful membership meeting, 3 upcoming quilt shows to attend, fabric sales and upcoming Programs.

Membership data – January 1983

Founding members 1981/1982

- Margaret Barnstead (original member)
- Beverly Bell
- Terri Berghers
- Kathy Devine
- Kate Fowle (original member – first Co-Chairmen)
- Barbara Hoffman
- Polly Hunter
- Gail Jones (original member – first Co-Chairmen)
- Joan Kelly
- Audrey Lary (original member)
- Cecilia Marzulli
- Regina Ming (original member)
- Karen Mull (original member – first Secretary)
- Marlene McTaggart (original member)
- Deborah O'Connell
- **Jane Phillips (original member – first Treasurer)**
- Sandra Reynolds (original member)
- Olga Richardson (original member)
- Carolyn Ridenour (original member)
- Debby Steinberg
- Jean Williams (original member)
- Frances Woodyear

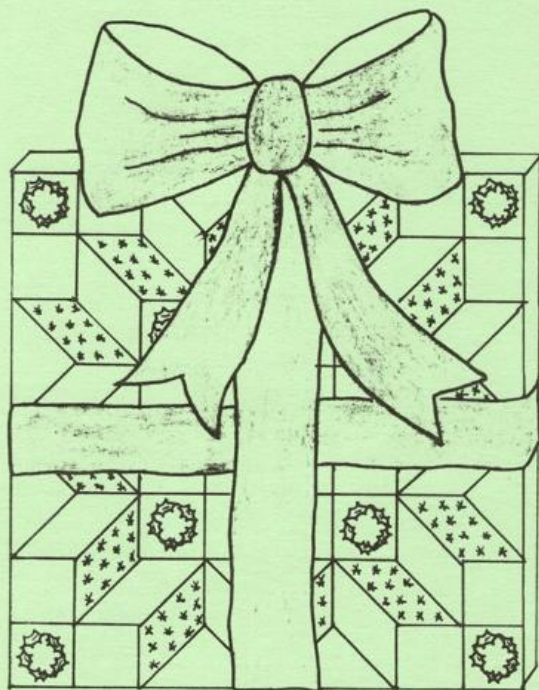
Dues were \$10/year

FSQ History continues

- 1983
 - Membership grows from 21 members in January to 64 members in December
 - May 1983 the meeting moves to the Home Economics room at Ridgeview Middle School in Gaithersburg, MD
 - August 1983 Gaithersburg Library display of FSQ Talents
 - Programs include stencil workshops; machine applique; quilted boxes; strip piecing; freezer paper applique; miniature quilting and outside speakers for \$35.
 - Books/Subscriptions, Fabric Sales and upcoming Quilt Shows are important parts of the newsletter
- 1984
 - Meetings moved to the Gaithersburg Library for the monthly programs with workshops held at Ridgeview Middle School.
 - First Service Project in November to make Stuffed Animals for Shady Grove Hospital
 - Membership continues to grow to 75 members in November
 - Programs continue with member run technique sharing

Friendship Star Quilters

Holiday Package



1983

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This "Holiday Package" has been compiled by members of the Friendship Star Quilters, Gaithersburg, Maryland for your stitching pleasure. November 1983.

Montgomery Village News

by Joyce Kim
Montgomery Village editor



Quilting: an old American art becomes a new phenomenon

by Joyce Kim

What's addicting and wholesome at the same time? What has a modern sub-culture but is as old and as American as apple pie? What's something your great-grandmother did, that your mother wouldn't do, that young women of today want to do?

The answer to all three questions: quilting, that old-time fireside craft. Today hundreds of thousands of women produce not only traditional bed quilts, but wall-hangings and clothes as well.

"It's a phenomenon," said Barbara Hoffman, a quilter who lives in Montgomery Village. "Most of the women who quilt are in their 30s and 40s. Many are becoming addicted to it. Our mothers never learned to quilt, though their own mothers did. It skipped a generation."

Hoffman is the president of the Friendship Star Quilters, started in 1981 by 12 women in the Germantown-Darnestown area. The club, which meets the first Tuesday of every month at 7:30 p.m. in the Gaithersburg Library, now has 70 members.

"This is a great area for learning to quilt," said Hoffmann, explaining there is a rich history of quilting here. The lore of the craft is vital to its interest. Out of the thousand named patterns, six have Potomac in the name.

"Quilting is a native American craft," said Hoffmann. "The British did piece work, without batting

fabrics can be a major undertaking. Exchanging cloth remnants is one benefit of quilting clubs.

Using plastic or cardboard templates (patterns) the quilter cuts the fabrics and sews together the pieces, sometimes by hand, usually by machine, creating a design with different fabrics. Finally a batting of cotton or polyester is placed between the quilt top and a sheet of fabric used for the bottom of the quilt.

Then the quilting begins. This is done by hand on either a quilting loom, a round quilting hoop, or on the floor. Tiny stitches, at least 10 to the inch, quilt the "sandwich" according to a marked pattern.

The finished quilt is one-of-a-kind. Good quilts fetch prices of hundreds or thousands of dollars, prices that sound high. However, a \$500 quilt may have 500 hours worth of work in it.

The Friendship Star Quilters meet to learn more about their craft. "I gasp when I see what other women have done," said Hoffman, who quilts for 40 hours a week. About half of the club members have outside jobs.

"They are envious of us who are able to stay at home. They want to

work on their quilting all day," said Hoffman, the mother of four children, who adds she has "never been bored as a housewife."

She meets on Thursday mornings with a smaller group of quilters. They work on a pattern together, deciding what adds interest.

"My family is glad I do it," Hoffman said. "They know it makes me happy." Hoffman doesn't sell her quilts. She makes them for her children and for gifts. For her husband, she made a wall hanging of a skating Capitals hockey star based on a program illustration. She does sell custom-made quilted jackets, and what she calls portrait dolls, hand-sewn cloth dolls representing a person.

Hoffman also attends quilters' conventions, including a recent one in Nantucket, Massachusetts, where experts teach the fine points of the craft.

Although it may be addicting to those who practice it, no Quilters Anonymous will be formed. Instead, hours spent practicing this native American art form result in a wealth of handmade quilts, wall hangings and clothing, made by a new generation of American women.



PIECING TOGETHER the pattern for a quilt are Friendship Star Quilters (from left) Nancy Newcomer, Barbara Hoffmann, Ruth Ann Monaco and Nancy Tuckhorn.
—Photo by Joyce Kim

"I promise you a first-rate job"



Fall

SERVICE
SPECIALS

AT DOBSON'S TEXACO

FSQ in
the news
October
1984

FSQ History continues

- 1985
 - Programs start including local speakers like Lois Smith and Jinny Beyer for workshops.
 - Quilt-in's start with first one at Ridgeview Middle School
 - Newsletter renamed to Friendship Star Quiltline in January
 - Second meeting each month starting in February at Ridgeview for business, show & tell and socialization.
 - Meetings moved from Tuesdays to Monday Nights due to Library scheduling
 - Membership – 99 in the annual membership book and 122 in June per newsletter
- 1986
 - Applied for Not for Profit Status
 - **First Quilt Show held at Casey Barns Community Center in May**
 - 2 days
 - 115 Quilts
 - 9 Vendors
 - Craft Boutique
 - Admission \$2.00
 - Raffle Quilt was a Bow Tie Quilt
 - Profits to be shared with House of Ruth in D.C. and Hartley House in Frederick MD
 - First Field trip in October to Amish country in Lancaster, PA – cost was \$30 including food

January 1985 First
Quiltline
Published. After
running a contest
to name the
newsletter,
Audrey Lary came
up with the
winning name

FRIENDSHIP STAR QUILTLINE

JANUARY 1985

CONGRATULATIONS to Audrey Lary for coming up with our newsletter name of Friendship Star Quiltline.

BOOK CORNER

Our January offering is Joyce M. Schlotzhauers' Curves Unlimited. It is 156 pages and is the second volume she has written about the curved two-patch system. We need ten people to buy this book at 24.95 - 20% discount to get the discount. Please sign up at the January meeting or if unable to attend call Nancy Tuckhorn - 963-4535 by January 15. PLEASE DON'T FORGET TO SIGN UP FOR THE BOOK IF YOU WANT ONE. THERE MANY NOT BE EXTRA COPIES.

The price of Homage to Amanda is \$13.00 and the Quilt Digest II is \$9.50. For those who ordered these books please pay at the January meeting. There will not be any extra copies.

BOARD MEETING

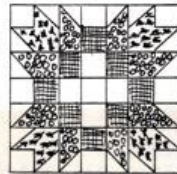
There is a board meeting scheduled for January 3, 7:30 P.M. at Barbara Hoffmann's house.

QUILTS

COMMUNITY QUILTS, INC.

7248 WISCONSIN AVE., BETHESDA, MD • 654-7763 • TUES 10-7, WED 5-8:30
20 minutes from Gaithersburg. Free parking at rear of building. Near Bethesda Metro

Just Browse
through our
fine selection
of notions &
fine fabrics. They



are skillfully selected
for their quality and
variety. There's everything
from calico to in quilting. We have
cutz. Our versatile
notion department will
add that special touch
in creating an heirloom
long to be treasured.

Our selection
of Books &
newsletters
on file can
assist you in
researching your
antique quilt as well
as the current trends
in quilting. We have
twice-a-year fabric
sales when all fabric
is 25% OFF. And
many other special
sales during the year.

The Sewing Basket would like to invite the F S Q members to visit our stores in Germantown Commons and in Damascus Centre. We have an excellent selection of calicos, ecology cloth, and muslin, along with our full yardgoods line. We also stock quilting and needlecraft items and "how-to" books.

Since we do drapery and upholstery, we can coordinate the crafts and the home decorating. We are always happy to special order fabrics and new items on the market.

We offer classes in a variety of needlecrafts and stenciling.

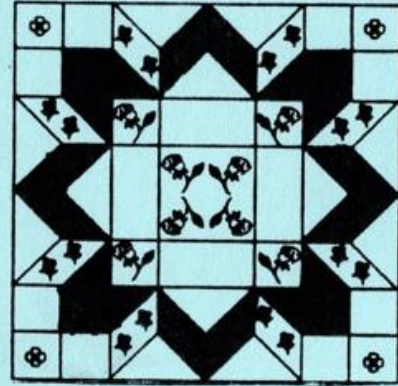
We know many of you, and are looking forward to meeting new members. Please accept a 20% discount on your purchases. Bring your Newsletter!

Have a creative year,

Pat Clark

First Quilt
show held
in May
1986 at
Casey Barns
Community
Center

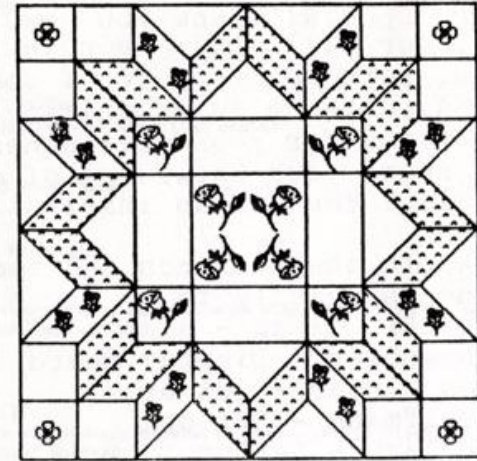
1986 QUILT SHOW



FRIENDSHIP STAR QUILTERS

FRIDAY - MAY 23
1:00 PM - 9:00 PM

SATURDAY - MAY 24
10:00 AM - 5:00 PM



Welcome to the 1986 Quilt Show presented by the members of Friendship Star Quilters. We hope that you will thoroughly enjoy our first exhibition of our work as we share with you our love of quilting. We do beg you not to smoke, eat, drink, or wave open pens near our beloved quilts.

You may photograph the quilts, but please use an electronic flash or flash cubes, and not unprotected bulbs or flood lights.

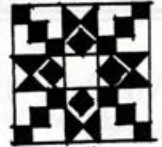
In consideration of those who have generously allowed their quilts and clothing to be displayed, may we ask you

PLEASE DO NOT TOUCH THE QUILTS.

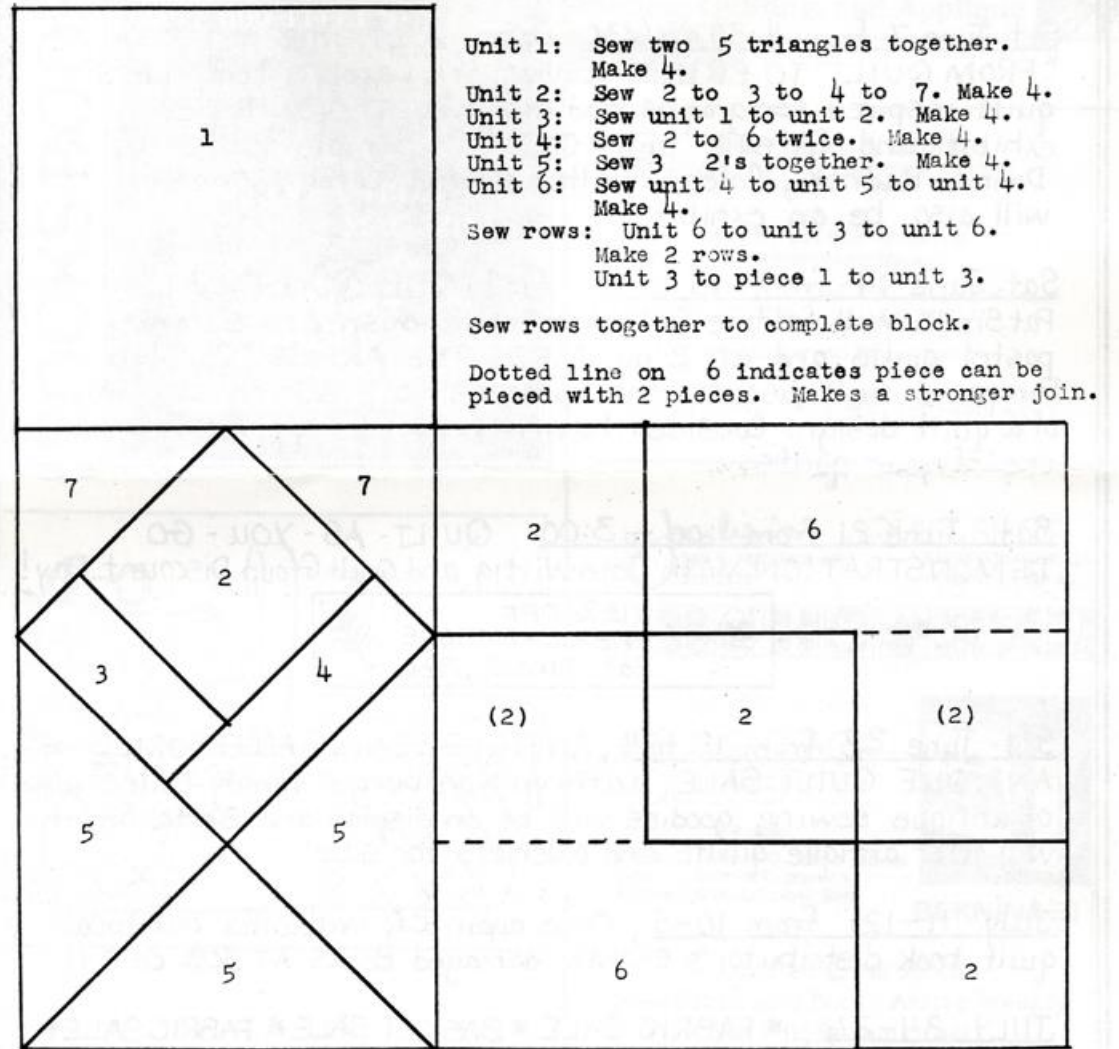
Sample of a
pattern typically
shared in the
monthly
newsletters
From June 1986.

ARROWHEAD

A Kansas City Star pattern submitted by Donna Fickie
and redrafted by Phyllis Merchant. Add seams.



12"



Unit 1: Sew two 5 triangles together.
Make 4.

Unit 2: Sew 2 to 3 to 4 to 7. Make 4.

Unit 3: Sew unit 1 to unit 2. Make 4.

Unit 4: Sew 2 to 6 twice. Make 4.

Unit 5: Sew 3 2's together. Make 4.

Unit 6: Sew unit 4 to unit 5 to unit 4.
Make 4.

Sew rows: Unit 6 to unit 3 to unit 6.
Make 2 rows.

Unit 3 to piece 1 to unit 3.

Sew rows together to complete block.

Dotted line on 6 indicates piece can be
pieced with 2 pieces. Makes a stronger join.

March 1987 - 75 quilters participated from FSQ and other Quilt Guilds. Quilts were donated to the House of Ruth shelter for women.

BEE PLUS



Joan Reinchart (left) of Monrovia and Lelona McConchie of Herndon, Va., trim batting for an almost-finished quilt at the Friendship Star Quilters quilting marathon at Gaithersburg Junior High School this weekend.

Sewing a fine seam for charity

By PHIL HOSMER
Journal staff writer

Throw together 500 yards of fabric, 32,000 yards of thread, 75 women and two six-foot-long submarine sandwiches, and what do you get?

A combination textile mill-Tupperware party? No, a marathon quilt-making project, of course.

On Saturday, the cafeteria at Gaithersburg Junior High School became a quilt factory. The humming sound of 50 sewing machines was background music as 75 women of all ages pinned, folded, arranged, hemmed, trimmed

and stitched together 37 quilts in one day.

That's not bad when you consider it can take up to two years to make one elaborate quilt.

The Friendship Star Quilters of Germantown organized the project and will donate the quilts to the House of Ruth, a shelter for abused and homeless women in Washington.

Several county merchants pitched in to help, too. Fabric, thread and batting for the quilts were donated by fabric stores, and a sandwich shop donated a pair of six-foot subs for the quilters.

The project began at 8 a.m. and ended at 5 p.m. with 37 quilts completed. The group

planned to make 50 quilts, and will finish the remainder at members' homes in time to give them to the House of Ruth on April 6.

Women from the Bethesda Quilters also helped with the project.

"This is for a cause that's close to women's hearts," said Debby Steinberg of Gaithersburg. "We're sending these quilts to women who are down on their luck. As I put together this quilt, it feels really good to know where it's going."

Debbie Bennett of Germantown carried Jessica, her 10-month-old daughter, in a backpack while she worked on a quilt.

Please see QUILT, B6

B6 THE JOURNAL MONDAY, MARCH 23, 1987 M

37 quilts stitched in a day

QUILT from A1

"It's great to get out of the house and meet people," Bennett said. "I'm fairly new to the area, and I meet all kinds of women here. Other than quilting, we have nothing in common."

The women were arranged in an assembly-line for the project, with each group assigned to a different duty.

First, the top of the quilt was sewn together in a "trip around the world" pattern, a simple, basic design. The bottom of the queen-sized bed quilt is a single piece of fabric.

The batting, a polyester stuffing, is sandwiched between the top and the bottom pieces, and held together with pins.

Then the three pieces are machine-stitched together with the border folded over.

The sewing machines, which cost as much as \$500 each, range in style from state-of-the-art models to the old-fashioned black steel and chrome trim that looks like the kind grandma used to work on.

The old ones work the best, Steinberg said.

Jane Phillips of Darnestown started the Friendship Star Quilters in 1981 and the meetings in her basement. The group now has about 100 members and meets twice a month in the Gaithersburg Library.

The meetings give members a chance to practice their hobby and is also a social event. The group even holds a "Ugliest Fabric Contest" occasionally.

Friendship Star also holds quilt shows, where members display their quilts and charge admission.

Phillips has quilts from her great-grandmother that were made in the early 1900s.

"One nice thing about it is the sharing of designs," Phillips said. "You can come up with a design that is unique to you and then you compare it with other people and find some interesting similarities."

Phillips said that quilt-making used to follow traditional patterns, but in recent years, original and creative art forms are becoming popular.

"A lot of people think it is very difficult to quilt and that it takes a lot of patience," Phillips said. "I think it takes more patience to decide what to make for dinner. It's not as difficult as it seems."



Threading the needle is a task repeated many times.



Geoffrey S. Baker/Journal

Audrey Lary of Darnestown takes a break from piecing the squares during the Friendship Star Quilters quilting marathon at Gaithersburg Junior High School.



Quilters Do Their Part For Shelter

By Will Hitchcock
Special to The Washington Post

It was a day for women to help women, said Mary Jo Richmond, surveying the reams of fabric, bales of batting and groups of women hard at work turning out quilts.

Members of Richmond's Gaithersburg-based quilting club, Friendship Star Quilters, gathered last Saturday at the Gaithersburg Junior High School to make as many coverlets as possible for one of the shelters for battered women run by the House of Ruth organization in the District.

Working from 8 a.m. until evening in the school's gymnasium, about 75 women, including a few from the Bethesda and Capital quilting clubs, finished 37 quilts and were on their way to completing another 19. About \$500 in donated material was used.

Except for the bleachers, the gym took on the happy look and sound of an old-time quilting bee.

"Quilting gets us doing what we like to do best: quilt and talk," a club member said.

The Friendship Star members, who meet twice monthly at the Gaithersburg library to discuss sewing techniques, held a quilt raffle last year among friends in the Gaithersburg area to raise money for the House of Ruth. But the organization, which runs four shelters for women in the city, also needed bedding.

"We knew we could help them out easily with their need for quilts, and we thought we could make 50 of them in a day," said Richmond, the special projects coordinator for the club.

Friendship Star undertook the project after a visit to the Madison shelter in December. After seeing the facility, "we felt especially thankful for what we had that Christmas," club President Lorraine Carter said.

Getting to know about the House of Ruth and the work it does with battered women "also has done a lot for the women in our group," Richmond said. "Three women have approached me and said, 'I'm glad we're doing this because I've been abused before and I know what it is like.'"

Vanessa G. Smith, volunteer coordinator for the House of Ruth, said she was pleased with the day's work. It would brighten the 85-bed shelter, she said.

The quilts, to be presented to House of

See QUILTS, Page 7, Col. 3



Friendship Star member Katherine Fanelli works on a quilt to be donated to the House of Ruth.

Washington Post article on the March 1987 Charity Quilt a thon.

THE WASHINGTON POST THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 1987

A Time to Sew: Quilters Help Shelter

QUILTS, From Page 1

Ruth representatives in a ceremony April 6, will be used at the Madison emergency dormitory at 651 10th St. NE, which was sheltering more than 100 women last weekend, Smith said.

"They will be a colorful and cheerful addition to the dormitory, and they will be useful as well," Smith said.

Carter said quilting always has been both a functional and decorative craft, particularly in the Pennsylvania Dutch and Amish communities of Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan and Indiana. The names of some quilt patterns reflect the rural origins of the craft: Hole in the Barn Door, Grandmother's Flowergarden, Baltimore Brides and Sunshine and Shadows.

On Saturday, members of Friendship Star (another quilt name), were all using the Trip Around the World pattern, which calls for several colors in diagonal patterns.

The quilt tops were tied with thick thread to a layer of batting and backings. Tying is a much quicker meth-

od of attaching the back to the top than stitching, the quilters said.

Members of the five-year-old club, which has an enrollment of more than 100, said socializing is a traditional part of quilting.

"Women used to sew alone all winter, working on their quilt tops. And then in the spring, when the roads thawed, they would gather at their friends' homes to add the back of the quilt and exchange a season's worth of gossip," said a member of the club who was working last Saturday.

Many modern women have to cope with other restrictions on their time: About two-thirds of the Friendship Star members, for example, work outside their homes.

Frances Woodyear of Poolesville, a procurement officer for the Central Intelligence Agency who has three children, makes the time to belong to two quilting groups. She likes to relax with hand work after a hectic day, and enjoys seeing a quilt take shape, but also likes to share problems with other women, she said.

"For me, quilting is my psychiatrist," she said. "I'm hooked."

FSQ History continues

- 1987
 - House of Ruth Project – Goal to make 84 twin sized coverlet
 - 50 Quilts in a day on Saturday, March 21st at Gaithersburg Junior High School
 - Dress rehearsal done at January meeting to make 5-10 quilts
 - Over 500 yards of fabric donated by local shops
 - Pattern used was Trip around the World
 - Mountain Mist donated 48 twin battings
 - Swiss Metrosene donated 200 spools of thread
 - Jerry's Sub Shop donated two 6 foot sub sandwiches
 - Members donated money and material
 - Included several other local Quilt Guilds
 - 64 Quilts completed and given to House of Ruth on April 9th
 - Membership dues increased to \$20, senior discount available
 - Joined National Quilting Association (NQA)

- 1988
 - 2nd Quilt show held May 21st – May 22nd at the North Creek Community Center
 - Cost \$2, members and spouses admitted free
 - Friday night preview for FSQ members & spouses included wine and cheese party
 - All night “Quilting Bee” planned for Saturday night to act as Security Guards
 - The net Proceeds from Raffle quilt given to the Dwelling Place in Gaithersburg. (\$500 donated with \$141 used to buy material for 1989 Quilt-in)
 - Quilt show had about 300 attendees and boutique made \$2,362
 - Meeting moved to the Village House from the Library in October
 - Membership - 88 in the annual membership book
- 1989
 - Meeting moved back to the Library in January due to size of the guild
 - Quilt-in-a-day Service Project held on April 15th at Good Shepard Lutheran Church to support The Dwelling Place and Wells Robertson House
 - Goal to make 30 quilts – made 31!
 - Fabric and thread donated from many shops, manufacturers and members
 - Membership - 87 in the annual membership book

FSQ in the news April 1989.



Photo by Rick Dugan

Handiwork

More than 30 members of the Friendship Star Quilters met at Good Shepard Lutheran Church in Gaithersburg on Saturday to make quilts for charity. Above, Nancy Palmer is shown working one. Twelve of the quilts made over the weekend will be given to the city's Wells-Robertson House for the Homeless.

QUILT-IN FOR HOMELESS



PHOTOS BY CRAIG HERNOON

Thirty-one quilts were made in one day as the Friendship Star Quilters sponsored a "quilt-in" in Gaithersburg for the Wells-Robertson House and The Dwelling Place for the Homeless. Binding a quilt are Jane Bergstrahl, left, and Maggie Gamble. At right are, clockwise from lower right, Debbie Smyth, Rita Koenig, Eleanore Miller and Eva Winterberg.

FSQ in the news
April 1989.

Pictures on the
previous page

Quilters to give shelters homey touch

by Anne Decker

Nimble fingers were busy April 15 at the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Gaithersburg, making 30 quilts for two shelters in the upcounty area.

The women doing the work were members of the Friendship Star Quilters, an organization of more than 100 members who meet at 7:30 p.m. on the first Monday of each month at the Gaithersburg Library. The members come from Rockville, Gaithersburg, Germantown and Frederick.

Co-chairing the service project were Katherine Fanelli and Nancy Newcomer.

Fanelli said that two years ago the guild made 65 quilts for the House of Ruth, but they underestimated how many people it would take and many members ended up carrying quilts home to finish.

This time she figured that 75 pairs of hands would finish the job in an eight-hour day.

"We are making tied comforters but we call them quilts," Fanelli said. "They were made around the time of the pilgrims—they will be pieced together and

tied with yarn." She said the quilts wash very well—much better than the old ones did.

On Saturday, some women did the cutting, some carried and some stitched—it's an old art form, but a modern-day assembly line.

The single-bed quilts went to the Wells-Robertson House in Gaithersburg, which provides shelter to single adults, and to the Dwelling Place, which is currently looking for a location.

Carroll Ribley, treasurer of the Dwelling Place, said the idea of a home for families in transition came about a year ago when the Lutheran Synod gave Good Shepherd \$5,000 to use for the homeless at Christmas. Interested people from other churches became involved and it was decided to use the gift as seed money for a home.

Members of the Star Quilters sat in on some of these planning meetings and the guild made a donation to the Dwelling Place. The idea of the Dwelling Place has caught fire, Ripley said. Those working on it are looking for a home for about 25 people in upper Montgomery County.

A smaller second meeting of

the Star Quilters is held on the third Tuesday of the month at 8 p.m. at Gaithersburg Junior High. Jean Jarrard, vice president and program chairman, said this meeting was started as an old-fashioned quilting bee, but now speakers teach all aspects of quilting techniques.

For the novice, it comes as a surprise that there is a very structured world of quilting that includes organizations like the National Quilters Association and the American Quilt Society and national judges for quilting competitions.

A group from the eight-year-old Star Quilters will take a bus to New York City on April 29 to see the American Quilt Festival.

According to Jarrard, each state had a quilting competition based on the theme "Memories of Childhood." The winners were featured in *Family Circle Magazine* and the quilts will be on display in New York.

While the quilts made last Saturday will not be in any national competition, they will serve perhaps a better purpose. They will give temporary homes a personal touch.

What happened in the 1990's?

A lot of the same, but if anyone has the Quiltline's from this time and are willing to donate them to the guild, I'd appreciate it.

Thanks,

Anne Flaggs

- Membership – 119 in the 1990 membership book
- 1994 – Friendship Star Quilters Incorporated
- 1998 – Annual retreats started (note: moved to Bon Secours in 2008)

FSQ History Continues... 2000's and on

- Membership – 242 in the 2000 membership book and 119 as of September 2022
- Meetings now held at Gaithersburg Church of the Nazarene
- Service Projects very well organized and now held at Fairhaven United Methodist Church in Darnestown, some workshops used to be held at Stedwick Community Center until 2008
- At some point, we added our website and online newsletters (probably 2007)
- Secret Sisters Program started and stopped
- Holiday Gift Exchange & Ornament Exchange stopped
- AQS Book Orders (30% discount) stopped
- Field Trips stopped, used to go to Oaks & Hampton shows and trips to Lancaster, NYC, Williamsburg
- Demos & Service by FSQ - Montgomery County Fair, Harvest Festival at Ag Park, MLK day of Service, Boyds Bears in Gettysburg, Maryland Historical Society (Flag Project) and more
- May 2007 – Dues changed to \$25 for all local members, senior & junior discount removed
- May 2014 – Dues increased to \$35
- 2008 retreat at Bon Secours – 3 days/2 nights cost for single room \$230 vs 2022 - \$328
- September 24, 2011 we held our first and only Quilt Bingo fundraiser

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

Quilters bring legacy of family, caring, friendship to Village

by Melissa E. Irion

A group of approximately 10 women meets once a month at the MVF Stedwick Community Center (SCC) to quilt for those in need, forming friendships and carrying on an important tradition of needlework and caring. As part of the larger 317-member Friendship Star Quilters Guild, these women have reached out to their neighbors, near and far, through their work since 1981.

The group began in the living room of Jane Phillips of Darnestown with five women who enjoyed quilting. Soon after, Phillips taught a class on the subject at a local church and more women asked to join. Word spread and new members came to every meeting. Before long, their number outgrew living rooms and the group moved to Fairhaven United Methodist Church in Gaithersburg. Phillips explains the popularity, "You can quilt on your own, but it's fun to meet, to share, to see what everyone is doing, and you can get help."

Now, on the advent of their 25th anniversary, the group is still going strong. Announcements are posted monthly at the Gaithersburg Church of the Nazarene to draw members to SCC meetings. At SCC, the place they've called home for

Crib Quilts (ABC), recently closed its doors. Until then, the guild donated their works to ABC for 15 years, knowing the quilts were comforting at-risk children ages six and under who had cancer, AIDS, a terminal illness, were in foster care or hospitalized.

Now, the quilters are in need of a destination for their quilts. Despite this, the group continues without falter, certain their work will soon find a deserving home.

Friendship Star's quilting process begins with a former D.C. resident who recently moved back to her farm in Missouri. She constructs the tops of the quilts with the use of both simple and complex patterns. Each month, she sends a box of finished tops for the group to fashion into complete quilts. The time it takes to construct each top varies based on the complexity of the design and the time taken to choose fabrics and thread.

At SCC, the members come together to cut and baste (glue) the backs, battings (center filler portion) and tops together; machine quilt (stitching done with a sewing machine to create a design and hold the quilt together); add ties (threads or yarn tied through the layers to

meeting's accomplishments are celebrated with a lunch outing at a Village locale.

Many guild projects are worked on at home and brought back to the SCC work sessions to be finished. Additionally, many guild members such as D'Angelo carry out more elaborate individual projects. She has worked on a quilt featuring appliqué for the past year while simultaneously completing many others for the group.

Most members have perfected the craft over a long period of time, drawn into the art and community for a variety of reasons. Newcomer elaborates, "We're all the type of people who need a creative outlet." Purtell has quilted for nearly 20 years and says it is the multi-dimensional aspect of quilting—geometry, history, artistry and socializing—that drew her in. Carol Lewis remarks, "We have a passion for textiles, even in our homes, in the palettes and colors we choose."

D'Angelo has quilted since age 11. For her, it relieves tension and she finds she can make something of a better quality than can be purchased. Most of all, quilting allows her to stay productive since many projects are portable. "I'm physically incapable of sitting still. Most of us



photos by Melissa E. Irion

Members of Friendship Star Quilters Guild discuss the best way to finish the next step on this quilt.

FSQ in the News July 2006

Kudos to Karen Slayton for leading us with Quilts of Valor for her son J.W. Medical Units in 2016 & 2020

459th Medical Unit
Andrews Air Force
Base



Kudos to Suma Glassman & Ellen Robinson & Susan Entwistle for Facebook



Service Projects – Kudos to Anne Weaver, Nance Brennan and the rest of their team

Currently we provide regular donations of quilts, from baby-sized to adult-sized to **Comfort Cases, A Wider Circle, Project Linus, Shady Grove Hospital Pediatrics, Mary's Center** and **Healthy Families Montgomery**.

Quilts for premature babies (preemies) go to **Shady Grove Hospital NICU** and **Children's Hospital NICU**.

Pillowcases for the national organization, **Ryan's Case for Smiles**, for distribution locally go to **Children's Hospital, Fairfax Inova Hospital** and **Walter Reed National Military Medical Center**.

Placemats go to **A Wider Circle, Iona House** and **Meals on Wheels**.



Kudos to Lori Coston & Others for leading us into the 21st Century with Social Media



Friendship Star QUILTERS

Gaithersburg, Maryland

Facebook Pinterest Instagram

Instagram ▾

Search



fsq_publicity Follow ...

59 posts 232 followers 500 following

Friendship Star Quilters
Meets first Monday night in Gaithersburg Maryland. Speakers, drawings, fun! Come join us!
friendshipstar.org



Friendship Star Quilters

@Friendship_Star_Quilters

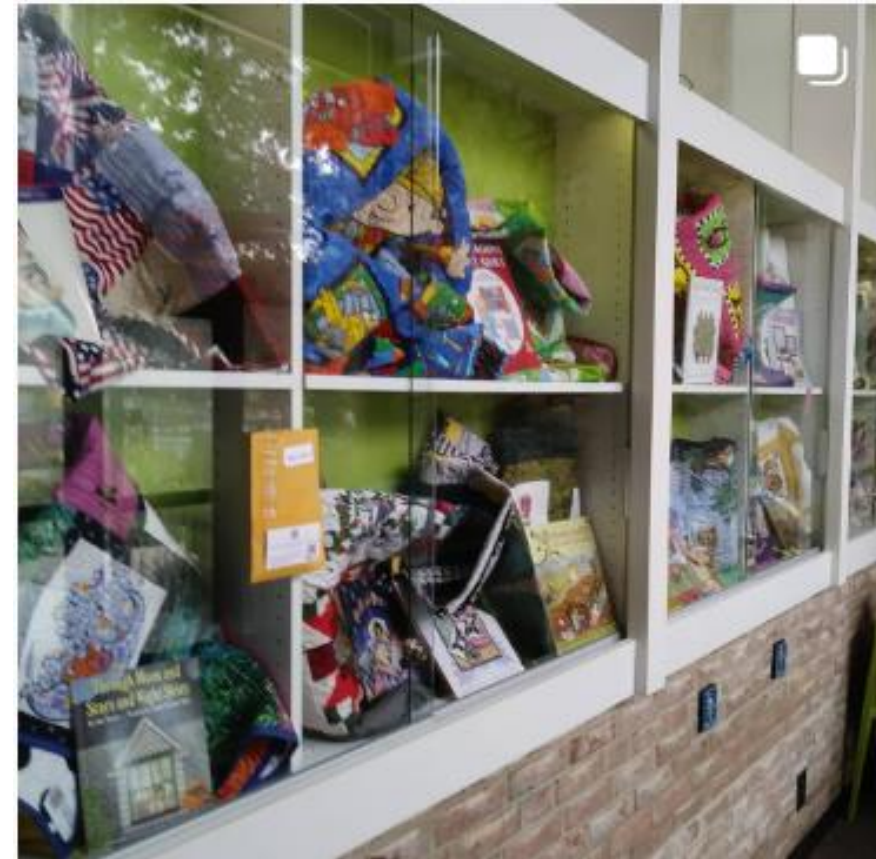
friendshipstar.org · FSQ provides a place for quilters to share & learn through fellowship, lectures, challenges, & demonstrations. We meet monthly in Gaithersburg...[more](#)

167 followers · 51 following

Share Message **Following** ...

Instagram & Pinterest

2018-2019 Library Displays around Montgomery County



2019 Quilt Show – what an adventure

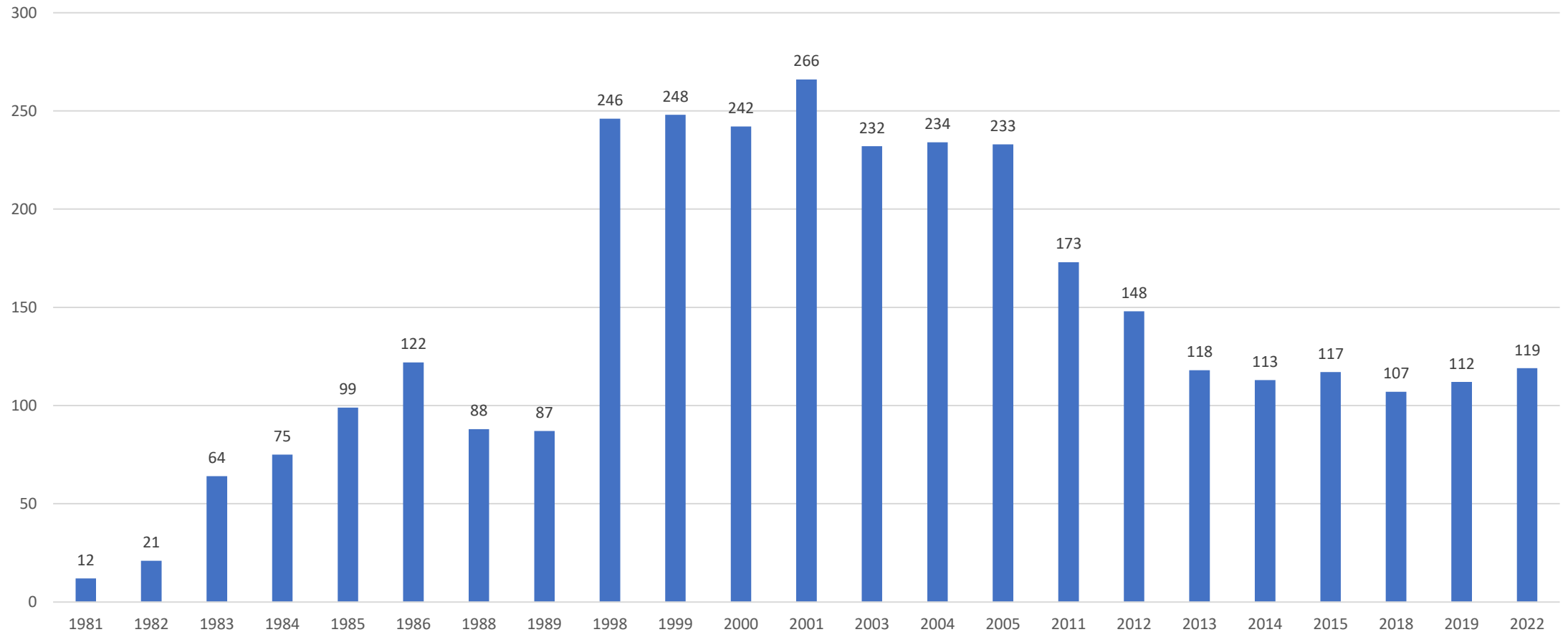


Working the Featherweight Raffle Table



Waiting out the Tornado Warning. Oh My!

Membership in FSQ Through the Years



When did you join the Guild

If you have been a member on/off, use the first time you joined

- Stand up if you were a new member in the 1980's
- Stand up if you were a new member in the 1990's
- Stand up if you were a new member in the 2000's
- Stand up if you were a new member in the 2010's
- Stand up if you were a new member in the 2020's

Hope to see you all here in 2032
when we celebrate 50's years as a guild

FSQ History Continues – Who are we in 2022?

- We are a guild of approximately 119 members
- We meet the first Monday night 7:30pm - 9:30pm at the Gaithersburg Church of the Nazarene for a business meeting and program
- Service Projects meets twice a month at the Fairhaven United Methodist Church from 9:30am - 12:00pm
- We do an annual retreat in January at Bon Secours in Marriottsville, MD
- We have an annual yard sale in June
- We have a Quilt Show Biennially (okay, every other year)
- We have a library, sell pins (Guild and Show), raffle quilts, challenges and more
- Dues are \$35/year

2022 Yard Sale



FYI: The First Yard Sale was held in June 2014



FSQ in the news 2022

The Maryland Register

Columbia and Gaithersburg- MD

Sept. - Oct., 2022

Quilt Feature

by: Laura Kowal

Friendship Star Quilters in Gaithersburg, MD

Friendship Star Quilters Guild is a fairly large guild of just over 100 members that meets at the Gaithersburg Church of the Nazarene at 8921 Warfield Road in Gaithersburg Maryland. This year the guild will be celebrating their 40th birthday in October 2022. The guild accepts members of all skill levels from beginning to advance and has incorporated to support fostering fellowships within the guild.

The guild started in the fall of 1981, after the founders started meeting in their homes. They decided to open their group to like minded members and started the guild meeting at the Fairhaven United Methodist Church. Later, as the guild grew they moved to the Gaithersburg Library then to their current location at the Gaithersburg Church of the Nazarene.

The guild meets the first Monday of the month at 7:30pm every month except January, February, and July. However, during January and February they hold zoom meetings so members don't need to travel during the harsh winter months. Since covid they also offer a zoom meeting option for all their in person meeting times for those that rather not attend in person. Typically during meetings there will be a guest speaker, and several non-speaker programs. Meetings that feature a guest speaker include a lecture covering topics from piecing to applique, machine to hand quilting, etc. In August they play Quilt-O which is basically bingo with fabric fat quarters as prizes and M&Ms as the bingo markers. They play other fun games when they don't have speakers, and each year have a year-end holiday party and a "yard sale" where you can donate your unwanted supplies, books, or UFOs (unfinished objects) and pick out whatever you would like. The guild also has hundreds of books and tools in their library that members can borrow whenever they please. There are other great things the guild offers such as retreats, group trips to quilt shows, small quilt groups that meet outside the large monthly meetings, mentoring opportunities, and more. The guild even holds a biennial Quilt Show with the next one being in 2023.



There are even volunteer opportunities through Student Service Learning (SSL) hours, and other community service programs. These programs are held regularly so those that need it can get their community service hours or you can just volunteer your time. No skill is required, fabric and basting spray donations are greatly appreciated, and you don't need to be a member to join the Service Learning projects. The guild provides quilts to several non-profits and hospitals in the Montgomery County Maryland area. Each year the guild makes a charity quilt (this one pictured

to the left) that they raffle off to raise money for a local charity. This year's charity is Manna Food Center.

The Friendship Star Quilters just like many other quilt groups are known for their generosity to their community. They have a long tradition of making and donating hundreds of items such as small quilts for premature babies, pillowcases, placemats for senior citizens, and other handmade items to organizations in need within the Washington Metro area. They also make other donation items upon request of members that bring charitable options to the community.

The guild invites guests to one meeting for free then offers a monthly attendance fee of \$5 for visitors to explore the guild until they are ready to join. For more information about upcoming events and activities the guild publishes a newsletter called Quiltline which is available on their website. So take a chance and visit the Friendship Star Quilters Guild, it might be just the opportunity you are looking for.



Thanks to our Presidential Leadership team

Kate Fowle 1982-83

Gail Jones 1982-83

Barbara Hoffman 1983-85

MaryJo Richmond 1985-86

Lorraine Carter 1986-87

Diane Heller 1987-88

Lauren Kingsland 1988-89

Linda Alexander 1989-90

Fran Woodyear 1990-91

Cathie Shelton

Kathy Freaman

Shirley Banks

Shirley Friedlander

Ann Graham

Margreta Silverstone

Melinda Lowy 1997-99

Margaret Natof 1999-01

Susan Schwarz 2001-03

Sandi D'Angelo 2003-05

Jo Anna Kruse 2005-06

Suma Glassman 2006-08

Kathy Barton 2008-10

Jean Farrell 2010-12

Karen Moss 2012-14

Dottie Acton 2014-16

Nicki Lynch 2016-18

Barbara Kilby 2018-19

Judy Walsh 2019-20

Michele Barnard 2020-22

Judy Hoffman 2022-

Please stand up and be recognized

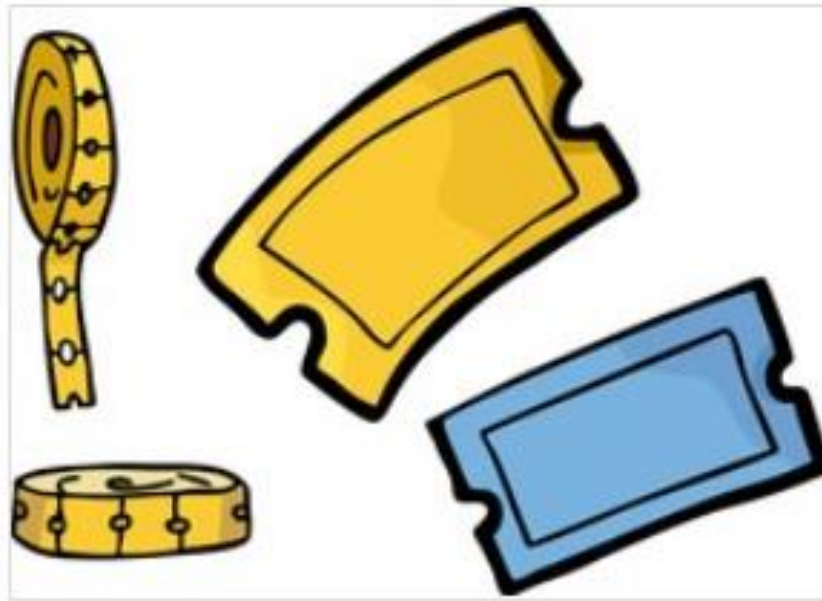
Thanks to the rest of our Leadership team

- Stand up if you were ever Vice President, Treasurer or Secretary of the Guild
- Stand up if you were ever Program Chair, Raffle Quilt Ticket Sales or Quilt Marketer for the Guild
- Stand up if you were ever Quilt Show Chair of the Guild
- Stand up if you ever coordinated the Fabric of the Month; Facebook; Library; Membership; Newsletter; Pins; Publicity; Retreats; Service Projects; Small Groups; Book Sales; Challenges; Secret Sisters; Sunshine & Shadows; Webpage; Yard Sale or other activity for the guild

Thanks for all your hard work, you are appreciated!!!

**Now for a Conversation
with Jane Phillips
A Founding Member of
Friendship Star Quilt Guild**

Door Prize Drawing with Harriet



15-20 minute break for food, memorabilia, photos then the Quilt Parade

