



Friendship Star Quilters September 2023

P.O. Box 8051, Gaithersburg, MD 20898
Website: www.friendshipstar.org

The Quiltline

	Sep 11 FSQ Guild meeting
	Sep 14-17 PA National Quilt Extravaganza Greater Philadelphia Expo Center Oaks, PA (more info)
	Sep 21 FSQ Sip & Sew - 7:00 pm via Zoom Watch for the email to get the Zoom link
	Sep 28-30 Quilting and Sewing Expo Fredericksburg, VA (more info)
	Oct 13-15 Sew Many Colors Quilt Show Brookhaven, PA (more info)
	Oct 22 The Village Quilters – Quilt Bingo 2:00 pm Catonsville, MD. Email for more info: contact@villagequiltersmd.com

Fabric Raffle: Fat quarters of geometric prints, circles, squares, dots, stripes, etc.

Guild Meetings	Service Projects
<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>If public school evening activities are cancelled due to weather, FSQ meetings are cancelled. School cancellations are posted on montgomeryschoolsmd.org.</p>	<p>Workshops are held from 9:30 am to Noon at</p> <p>Fairhaven United Methodist Church 12801 Darnestown Rd Darnestown, MD</p> <p>Workshops this month: Thursday, Sept. 7 Thursday, Sept. 14</p>

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Executive Board Meeting

The next Executive Board Meeting is via Zoom on **Monday, October 16th at 7:00 pm.**

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.



President's Message

Anne Flaggs

Welcome to September, hard to believe that summer is almost over but we still have a few more weeks of hot weather before Fall arrives. It's going to be an exciting year with lots of great programs and an AQS challenge to keep us busy for a while.

Thanks Linda August, Judy Chandler and Trish McTighe for ensuring that our yearly audit has been completed.

I'm sorry I had to cancel the August Quilto meeting, the weather was really strange that day and I was getting alerts on my phone that worried me. We do follow the Montgomery County school closing but since they weren't in session, nothing was issued. I used my judgment and discussed the decision with several other board members before making the call to not have a meeting out of safety concerns for everyone. Thanks so Suma for posting a notice on the church door for anyone that may have missed our communications and ventured out. One additional note about the school closings, if our meeting is scheduled to be on Zoom, we will still meet even if schools are closed.

Each year FSQ presents an award for the Best Beginner's Quilt at the Montgomery County Agricultural Fair. The judging is done by the Fair's judges, not by FSQ. The winner receives a check for \$25.00, a free one-year membership in our guild and an invitation to bring their quilt to our next in-person meeting. This year's winner was Teresa Grate. We're hoping she will join us at our September meeting!

I put out a sign-up genius to vote on our charity for this year's raffle quilt. The choices were KindWorks (4 votes), Sleep in Heavenly Peace (9 votes) and A Wider Circle (40 votes). With about 50% of our members voting, the overwhelming choice was A Wider Circle. All three charities are very deserving and thanks to everyone who recommended the charities and who voted.

I'm looking for some folks to help work on some ad-hoc committees. If you would like to help with either or both of these endeavors, please let me know.

- First we need a group to research potential 2025 Quilt Show locations. Asbury was a wonderful place but a bit small for us to hold the kind of Quilt Show FSQ usually hosts. Think about community centers, fire halls, schools (around a holiday), empty warehouse, wherever we can rent for Thursday to Sunday and not be overly expensive.
- I'm looking for someone to help host Hybrid meetings for FSQ so that our members who are unable to attend the in-person meetings can still participate and hear the wonderful programs. Other guilds have been able to make this work and I'm sure we can also if we try. I know we can't use the church equipment but we can do this with a laptop and phone on a tripod both of which would be in a Zoom meeting.

Thanks,
Anne



August Guild Meeting Minutes

Harriet Sheinson

The meeting was not held because of the weather. See you all in September.

Respectfully submitted,
Harriet Sheinson, Corresponding Secretary



Programs

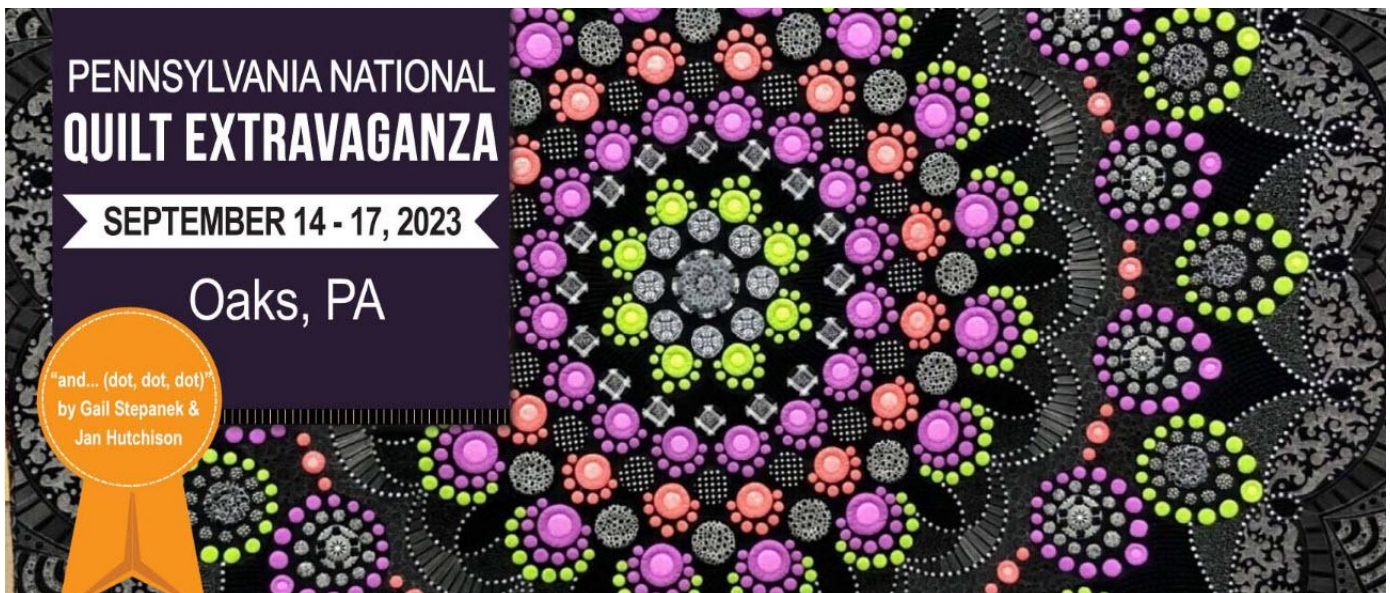
Stacy Ross and Judy Walsh

It was unfortunate that we had to cancel our August Quilt-o, but “that’s the way the thunder rumbles”!

We’re still looking for someone to replace Michele as hostess for “Dinner with the Speaker” prior to our guild meetings. Please contact us at programs@friendshipstar.org if you’re interested or would like to know more about helping with this.

On **September 11**, Lauren Kingsland will be presenting “Written in Fabric” - a program on memorial quilts. You can learn more about Lauren and her work at <https://www.laurenkingsland.com/>.

In **October**, our speaker will be Nicki Allen, who will share her quilts as she talks about her quilting journey. You can see some of her work at nickiallen.com and on Instagram at [@allennicki](https://www.instagram.com/allennicki).





Service Projects Update

Anne Weaver and Nancy Brennan

If you can't attend Service Projects workshops but would like to pick up some materials to make quilt tops and/or pillowcases at home, stop by the Service Projects table at each guild meeting. We will have kits available before the meeting and during the break. The kits will contain all of the materials needed for the project, including preemie quilts, small quilts for children, larger quilts and pillowcases.

We continue to be impressed by the generosity of FSQ members who want to participate in our community service outreach. While many of you use your own stash to make these items, which is wonderful, we want to provide these kits to those who want to have something "ready to go".

Of course, kits will also be available at our two monthly workshops for anyone who would like to work on them at home.

September Service Projects workshops will be held on Thursday, September 7 and September 14, from 9:30 am until noon at Fairhaven United Methodist Church, 12801 Darnestown Road (Route 28).

Please contact Anne Weaver or Nancy Brennan if you have questions. We love to welcome newcomers! See you there.

Announcement – Information Needed!

If you are a member of another local guild, please contact Judy Hoffman at (301) 775-9120 so she can get direct information about taking our 2024 raffle quilt to other guild meetings. Thank you for your help.



2024 Raffle Quilt Ticket Sales

Karen Moss

We have begun to sell raffle tickets for our 2024 Raffle Quilt, **Alaska**. It's a lovely quilt in soothing blue, cream and tan with beautiful quilting. The raffle drawing will take place at the June 3, 2024 FSQ Guild meeting and a portion of the profits will go to our chosen charity this year which is A Wider Circle. The quilt was pieced by our own Colleen Biasco and quilted by Robin Conran of "Your Longarm Quilter" in Sterling, VA.

Along with selling raffle tickets when we take the raffle quilt to other guilds, we also ask each FSQ member to either sell or purchase 15 tickets. Although participation in the raffle quilt ticket sales is voluntary, this is a major source of funding for the Guild and your support is appreciated. The prices have changed this year to reduce the actual number of tickets to sell but the chance of winning remains about the same. Tickets are \$2 per ticket or 3 tickets for \$5. If you buy all your own tickets, it's only \$25.

I will be in the lobby at the September FSQ meeting with envelopes of 15 tickets for all guild members. Please come and see me so you can get your envelope with the raffle tickets, a letter explaining the process and a picture of the raffle quilt. The ticket stubs and money are to be returned to me at a guild event. If you want additional tickets, I will have those as well.

The seller of the winning ticket and the top ticket seller will be rewarded with a prize. I look forward to your support for this endeavor which supports all the guild activities. Please let me know if you have any questions.



Alaska – FSQ's 2024 Raffle Quilt



Show Pins for Sale

Linda Belecki

We have a large inventory of FSQ Guild Show pins for the years 2006 through 2019; the 2010 pins are sold out.

I will be selling these pins at the monthly Guild meetings for \$1.00 each. The FSQ Guild pin will remain at \$5.00.

I hope you will consider adding some of these pins to your collection or perhaps purchasing a Guild pin to put on your name tag.



Small Groups

Peggy Weidman

It's been a rocky summer for me but I hope to get back on track with FSQ Sip and Sew in September. This is a monthly Zoom meeting open to everyone in the guild to visit and sew with other members for an hour or so every third Thursday of the Month. The meetings are scheduled through April, 2024, with the same Zoom link for each meeting.

If you would like the Zoom link for these meetings, email me at Small_Groups@friendshipstar.org. I will try to remember to send a reminder a day or two before hand, but just in case, you should write the dates on your calendar!

Hope you will join us!

FSQ Sip and Sew:

Sep 21, 2023 07:00 PM
Oct 19, 2023 07:00 PM
Nov 16, 2023 07:00 PM
Dec 21, 2023 07:00 PM
Jan 18, 2024 07:00 PM
Feb 15, 2024 07:00 PM
Mar 21, 2024 07:00 PM
Apr 18, 2024 07:00 PM



What's the Point?

JoAnne DuChez

SERVICE PROJECTS 2023 SUMMER QUILT CHALLENGE

Only one month left to finish your challenge quilts. We've heard back from a lot of members saying they have been having fun with this challenge. It looks like we will get to view quite a few quilts and pass them on to Service Projects.

Just as a reminder, here are the specifics of the challenge:

The quilt size may be 40" square to twin size. Quilts must be sandwiched, quilted and bound.

Finished quilts are due at the October meeting by 7:15. Voting will take place before the meeting and during the first 5 minutes of the break.

Yard Sale Bucks will be awarded to the three quilts with the most votes.

We can't wait to see what your imaginative spirits create. Have fun and good luck!



FSQ and Quiltfolk Magazine

Trish McTighe

In the June issue of *The Quiltline*, I wrote about the magazine and web site Quiltfolk. The guild receives free issues of the magazine. They also sent three exclusive Quiltfolk Foundry Patterns. I will be giving Michele Barnard magazine Issue 27 and the three patterns for door prize drawings at our in-person meetings.

The magazine is also offering a custom coupon code **GUILD27** for a 15% discount through September 30 at <https://www.Quiltfolk.com>.

Check it out for interesting stories, virtual workshops, and even twelve different DIY Barn Quilt kits.



AQS Ultimate Guild Challenge

Michele Barnard

Are you ready for a yummy new challenge?

Hopefully everyone is finishing up their quilts for the Service Projects Summer Challenge.

For the upcoming year, FSQ is proposing that we submit quilts for the 2024 Ultimate Guild Challenge sponsored by the American Quilters Society (link for 2023 below). We, as a guild, have not participated in the challenge for a number of years, but it has been great fun in the past.

Our theme will be **Food for Thought**. The challenge is to make a quilt inspired by a favorite food.

This can be interpreted in a number of ways.

- Do the colors of citrus make you swoon? Make a quilt in bright yellow, lime, and orange!
- Aren't cupcakes the cutest things ever? Fill your quilt with cupcakes.
- Are you thinking about the source of your food? Picture your garden filled with ripe tomatoes.
- What will you come up with? Traditional, modern, pictorial ???

The possibilities are endless- but there are some rules.

- Shape: Quilts should be square or rectangular.
- Size: Quilts must be within 30 - 36 inches in width and 30 - 36 inches in length.
- Quilts must be labeled with the name of the quilt maker.
- Quilts must be finished to be considered for submission to AQS.
- All other AQS rules must be followed.

Timeline: I've estimated when AQS will want entries based on previous schedules, so the timeline *may* be adjusted based on the actual dates.

- September meeting: Challenge announced
- Middle of January: Submission of a photograph of at minimum a quilt top started.
- Early February: Finished quilts due. Since our February meeting is virtual, I will make arrangements to collect your quilts for judging, if more than 8 are received.
- March: AQS entry due online

2023 rules: ([2023-ags-quilt-contest-rules.pdf \(americanquilter.com\)](https://www.americanquilter.com/2023-ags-quilt-contest-rules.pdf))

The Ultimate Guild Challenge: This challenge honors the results of a quilt guild's challenge to its members. The guild issues its own challenge to its members, choosing rules, fabrics, themes, or whatever! The top eight (8) quilts from the guild are submitted as one entry to The Ultimate Guild Challenge.

- One entry submission per guild (include theme, challenge description and rules, contact information, and guild group photo).
- Each individual can stitch or quilt on only one challenge quilt for one guild.
- Information (title of quilt and size) must be included for each of the eight (8) quilts, including full and detailed images of each quilt (see rule 6 in General Quilt Contest Rules).
- Each guild may submit quilts online at <https://www.americanquilter.com/quiltweek/event/homepage>.

If you have any questions, my contact information is in the directory.



FSQ 2024 Retreat

Jennifer Rossmere and Colleen Biasco

FRIENDSHIP STAR QUILTERS

2024 ANNUAL RETREAT AT BON SECOURS

FEBRUARY 16-19, 2024

REGISTRATION OPEN – SPACES ARE GOING QUICKLY

Registration is still open for FSQ's 2024 annual "Quilters Unsupervised" sewing retreat but spaces are going quickly. The retreat is open to all FSQ members. The maximum number of participants is 30 and a wait list will be maintained. Registration will be accepted on a first-come first-served basis.

Bon Secours has beautiful facilities including a large conference room (our sewing space) with natural light coming from a wall of windows. Bring your sewing machine and your projects and treat yourself to a long weekend without the distractions of home.

Lodging and meals are included. All rooms are single occupancy with 2-night and 3-night options offered. We are offering two methods of payment, check or credit card with a \$6.50 per night discount if paying by check.

Paying by Credit Card

Option 1: \$365 (Friday and Saturday nights)

Option 2: \$547.50 (Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights)

Paying by Check

Option 1: \$352 (Friday and Saturday nights)

Option 2: \$528 (Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights)

Complete details are on the [Registration Form](#).

If you have any questions, please email retreats@friendshipstar.org

Jennifer Rossmere and Colleen Biasco, FSQ Retreat Co-chairs



Best Beginner's Quilt Award

Judy Walsh

Our newer members may not know that FSQ sponsors an award for the Best Beginner's Quilt at the Montgomery County Agricultural Fair each year. I had the privilege of meeting this year's winner when I delivered our award to the Home Arts building, and she had an interesting story to tell.

Theresa Grate grew up in Montgomery County and has volunteered at the Fair for so long that she is a lifetime member. She was working at the front table in the Home Arts building when I met her, despite the fact that she now lives in the state of Washington!

Theresa and her two sisters – who were also working with her that day – had challenged each other to make an entry in every Home Arts category this year! So she was quite excited when the first quilt she's ever made was chosen to receive our award - which also includes free membership in our guild for one year.

Unfortunately, Theresa will be back in Washington on September 11th, but perhaps one of her sisters will be able bring the winning quilt to our September Show & Tell.



Theresa's quilt is the teal one on the wall behind her. Hopefully she will be able to attend our Zoom meetings in December, January and/or February.



Facebook

Suma Glassman and Ellen Robinson

We have a Facebook Group in addition to our regular page on that platform. Please like the page and join the group. The group will allow you to share pictures of your work with other members. Both pages are public so you can still view them just by going to the links. We post various items of interest to both areas.

The regular Facebook page is located at <https://facebook.com/FriendshipStarQuilters/>

The Facebook Group is at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/421870746339372>

If you have any questions, you can contact either Ellen or Suma individually, or send an email to facebook@friendshipstar.org.



Library News

Rosie Hormuth and Liz Lawrence

The library will be open for all FSQ in-person meetings and returned books will be gladly accepted!

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 you and get your creativity flowing.

If you have a particular book you would like to see added to the Library selections, please let us know. Suggestions are welcome.

Please take note that we have reduced the volume of books available for immediate loan in order to lighten the weight of our storage cabinet. All books copyrighted from 2005 to 2010 are still available upon request. The complete inventory can be found on the FSQ web site.



Membership

Charlene Danka & Lynn Stieber

Hopefully everyone got to see the lovely quilts and other items at the Montgomery County fair. Congratulations to our members who won ribbons! Those who live in Damascus or surrounding areas can enter quilts and other handiwork in the Damascus fair on September 7. Details can be found [here](#).

We're looking forward to seeing you at our September 11 meeting, especially since the August meeting was cancelled due to expected severe weather that evening. Hopefully, everyone weathered the storm well!

If you haven't renewed for this year, please pay by the September 11 meeting to be included in this year's directory which will be emailed to current members the week of September 25. You may pay by check, made out to FSQ, or cash in the exact amount, or electronic payment.

If you're not able to attend this meeting, please complete the renewal form and mail it along with a check to the address on the form. Dues are \$35 or \$20 for out-of-state members. If you have no updates, you may write *No Changes* on your renewal form, and we will have blank ones at the Membership table.

Renewal Forms are online ([here](#)) and new member applications are online ([here](#)).

Charlene Danka & Lynn Stieber
Membership Co-Chairs



September Birthdays

Phyllis Eddy	Sept 1	Cathy Miller	Sept 13
Jean Farrell	Sept 1	Marilyn Pierce	Sept 18
Barbara Kilby	Sept 5	Mary Ann Bruce	Sept 25
Jane Campos	Sept 8	Estelle Inn	Sept 27
Judy Hoffman	Sept 12		



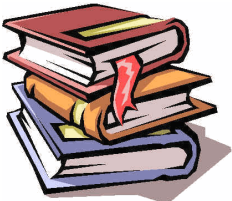
Tips & Tricks

Colleen Biasco

Below is a link to a video which illustrates glue-basting seams and spinning seam allowances at intersections.

It may be helpful to anyone who has trouble getting their corners to match up or getting their seams to nest.

<https://youtu.be/rj4un1TNPC8>



Readers' Corner

Anne Flaggs

I spent the month of July with my aunt who is a voracious reader. One of the many books she was reading was *Only the Beautiful* by Susan Meissner and it caught my eye.

It's a story about a young mother's fight to keep her daughter and the injustice that tears them apart. It starts in 1938 California in a vineyard and jumps to 1947 Austria during the Nazi regime.

If you like historical fiction, you will most likely enjoy this book.



Elected Officers		
President	Anne Flaggs	president@friendshipstar.org
Vice President	Michele Barnard	vp@friendshipstar.org
Co-Treasurers	Trish McTighe and DeVeda Powell	treasurer@friendshipstar.org
Secretary	Harriet Sheinson	secretary@friendshipstar.org

Committee Chairs

Fabric of the Month	Liz Plantz & Harriet Sheinson	Raffle Quilt Ticket Sales	Karen Moss
Facebook	Suma Glassman and Ellen Robinson	Retreats	Colleen Biasco and Jennifer Rossmere
Library	Rosie Hormuth and Liz Lawrence	Service Projects	Anne Weaver and Nancy Brennan
Membership	Charlene Danka and Lynn Stieber	Small Groups Coordinator	Peggy Weidman
Newsletter	Judy Walsh	Summer Challenge	JoAnne DuChes, Meg Tison and DeVeda Powell
Pins	Linda Belecki	Sunshine & Shadows	Ellen Robinson
Programs	Stacy Ross and Judy Walsh	Web Administrator	Lorie Coston
Publicity	Michele Barnard	Yard Sale	Carmen Sesvold and Lorie Coston
Raffle Quilt Marketer	Judy Hoffman	Zoom Coordinator	Kathy Swartz