

Friendship Star Quilters February 2024

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

The Quiltline

Calendar of Events

Feb 5	FSQ Guild Meeting via Zoom
Feb 15	FSQ Sip & Sew 7 pm Watch for email from Peggy
Feb 17	Mother Seton Quilting Angels 9 am – 3 pm 19951 Father Hurley Blvd, Germantown Sewing Demonstrations Quilt of Valor awards (see page 11)
Feb 29 - Mar 3	Mid-Atlantic Quilt Festival Hampton Roads Convention Center Hampton, VA 23666 (more info)
Mar 4	FSQ 2025 Raffle quilt blocks due at our in-person guild meeting

Fabric Raffle: Will return in March when we resume in-person meetings. The theme in March will be FQs in white, black or a mix of black & white.

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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>If Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) evening activities are cancelled, FSQ meetings are cancelled. MCPS 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:</p> <p>Thursday, Feb 1 Thursday, Feb 29</p>



Executive Board Meeting

The next Executive Board Meeting is via Zoom on **Monday, February 12th 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

Hello Quilters,

I hope you are enjoying the winter weather; we finally got some snow, some days of sunshine & warmth and some rain to bring many seasons into January. I took a break to visit some relatives in Florida but didn't leave until after the snow so I got to enjoy the winter whiteness and the cold temperatures.

There are a few things swirling in my brain these days so I thought I give you some reminders:

- We are still looking for a Quilt show location; do you have any possible locations to suggest? How about volunteering to chair the Quilt Show committee, the show can't go on if we don't have someone to keep us organized. Let me know if you are interested.
- I'm looking forward to our retreat in a few weeks, are you getting your projects together yet? This will be a lot of fun and I always get a lot of sewing done but never touch many of the projects I bring since I always over-pack. I'm excited about being pampered while someone else cooks and spending time with other members of the guild. It is always inspiring to see what everyone is working on.
- Have you been working on your AQS Challenge Quilt? Our Food for Thought quilts are due at the March guild meeting so there is still time to get it done. If you have any questions, contact Michele Barnard.
- How is your block for our 2025 raffle quilt coming along? All blocks are due at the March guild meeting. If you have any questions, contact Karen Kehl.
- We will be having an executive board meeting on February 12th at 7pm. We will be discussing some possible by-law changes and other topics. If you are interested in attending, please let me or another officer know and we will send you the Zoom link. We always appreciate your ideas and suggestions to improve the guild.

See you at the meeting,

Anne



January Guild Meeting Minutes

Harriett Sheinson

7:00PM the meeting opened for Meet and Greet.

7:30PM President Anne Flaggs called the meeting to order. There were no visitors or new members.

The minutes from the December meeting were accepted as presented.

Teresa Grate, the winner of FSQ's Best Beginner's Quilt award at the Montgomery County Fair was on the zoom. She was really excited about receiving her prize.

Anne Flaggs noted that she hoped that the change to send out the zoom notice worked easier for our members.

The next Executive Board meeting is in February. If any of the members have suggestions, please let Anne Flaggs know.

Anne Flaggs reviewed when Sip and Sew was going to be as well as mentioning the Quilt Show for 2025 as FSQ is looking for chairs for the Show and possible change of venue.

The Program Committee is planning for next year. If any of the members have suggestions, please call the chairs.

Charlene Danka, Membership Chair, reported that there were 113 members.

Jennifer Rossmere reported on the Retreat, February 16-19, 2024 saying there was ONE slot open and to contact her as soon as possible if you are interested in attending.

Michele Barnard reported on the AQS Challenge: Food for Thought. She explained that this theme was open to interpretation.

Stacy Ross, Program Chair introduced Teresa Duryea Wong, speaker for the evening. She is an expert on American Indian quilts and spoke about the quilts from 1880-1990. The talk was so very interesting and was enjoyed.

Judy Walsh presented Show and Tell.

The Door Prize was won by Jackie Barone.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 PM.

Respectfully Submitted, Harriet Sheinson.



Programs

Stacy Ross and Judy Walsh

We're lining up speakers for 2024-25, so please [contact us](#) with your suggestions for speakers or topics. "Thank you" to those members who have already suggested topics or speakers.

We'll be meeting via Zoom in February. If you wish to invite a guest, please contact Charlene at mbrshp@friendshipstar.org.

In February, **Brandon Wulff** will present **The Trunk Show to Biscotti**, sharing his art and business journey as well as his personal journey. You can find out more about his art and his company [here](#).

In March we'll be meeting in person again! **We're STILL looking for someone to host our "Dinner with the Speaker"** when it resumes in March! Please contact Michele Barnard at vp@friendshipstar.org to find out more.

Our speakers in March will be the founders of "**Brimfield Awakening**" - **Kim Martucci & Nisha Bouri**. The two friends went antiquing together in 2017, discovered an antique quilt block and ended up creating a business making modern English Paper Piecing designs inspired by antique quilt blocks.



Service Projects Update

Anne Weaver and Nancy Brennan

Service Projects has continued to keep a quick pace this month! We just delivered 49 children's and teens' quilts to Comfort Cases (<https://comfortcases.org>), which puts them into backpacks full of new pajamas, toiletries, books and art materials for babies, children and adolescents who are entering the foster care system.

Comfort Cases' motto is "No more trash bags", which is what the children usually put their belongings into when they are moved from their home into a foster home. Comfort Cases is a national organization and we are fortunate that their headquarters is right here in Gaithersburg, on Gaither Road.

Our February Service Projects workshops will be held on Thursday, February 1, and Thursday, February 29. We hope to see you there!



Quilter's Rainbow Karen Kehl



Quilter's Rainbow: The 2025 FSQ Raffle Quilt

First, a reminder that your completed blocks for the Quilter's Rainbow - the 2025 Friendship Star Raffle Quilt - should be turned in by the March FSQ meeting. You can turn blocks in at the retreat, or at Service Projects, if you will not be at the March meeting. Please turn in the block in the numbered envelope.

If you are not able to complete the block, please return the pieces in the numbered envelope. We understand that life sometimes gets in the way of the best intentions!

If you are still working (or haven't yet started) on your blocks, I just wanted to share a few tips I have been gathering as I and others have been making blocks:

- While the blocks were all cut with the Accuquilt, some of them may be distorted, especially if they have bias edges.
 - If you get a piece that just is not the right size or is too distorted to work with, please e-mail me with your address and I can send you replacement pieces via e-mail.
- The finished block should be 8 ½ inches square. To achieve this, you will need to sew with a scant ¼ inch seam. If you tend towards a wide or full ¼ inch, the block may be smaller than 8 ½ inches.
 - The blocks will all have sashing, and we can adjust if the finished block is at least 8 ¼ inches. If it measures less than that, you may need to make a new block. If so, please let me know and I can send more pieces.
- If you press thoroughly after each seam, you are more likely to end up with the right sized block at the end.
- There are extra pieces in some of the packets. You can return them with the block, or use them for leaders or enders.

I still have about a dozen block kits that no one has signed up to complete. I will have them at the February retreat, or I can mail them out, if you are interested in making more blocks. Just e-mail me if you want one.

If you have any questions, the best way to reach me is to e-mail me at betterdonequilts@gmail.com

Happy sewing!



FSQ 2024 Retreat

Jennifer Rossmere and Colleen Biasco

We are getting excited as there are only about two weeks before the 2024 FSQ Retreat. We hope those of you who are coming have identified some of the projects you want to bring with you. We have sent out a few informational emails already. If you have not received them, please get in touch with us immediately so we can get you the information. Additional details will be coming soon.

The Retreat is full at the moment but if you are interested in being on the waitlist, please let us know. Your registration form and payment would need to be received by Feb 1st and we will hold your check until a space becomes available.

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



Finance Committee

Jennifer Rossmere and Kathy Swartz

The FSQ Finance Committee has developed some proposed changes to the FSQ By-Laws. These will be presented for discussion at the February 12th Executive Board meeting. The changes include;

- adding wording that would need to be included if we decided to apply for status as a 501c3 organization;
- increasing the years an elected officer may serve consecutively to four years rather than the two years now stipulated in the By-Laws;
- changing, under Fiscal Matters, the wording “check request” to a “payment request and wording related to the timing of the audit;
- adding Service Projects as a standing committee as part of the Executive Board.

If you would like to be part of this discussion, please come to the February Executive Board meeting. The proposed changes will be sent to FSQ members at the end of February and will be voted on by the FSQ membership at the April FSQ monthly meeting.

If you have any questions about what the Finance Committee is doing, please reach out to Jennifer or Kathy.



AQS Ultimate Guild Challenge

Michele Barnard

How is everyone doing on their Ultimate Quilt Guild Challenge?

Hopefully better than me! I have ideas, but none of them have made it into fabric yet. But there's more than a month left, and we CAN do this. Quilts are due at the March guild meeting.

As a reminder, our theme is 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.

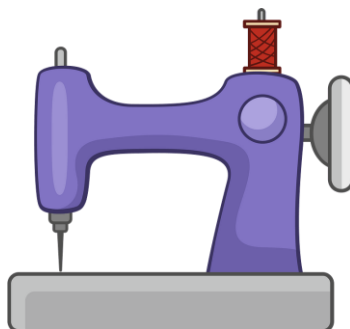
Size: Quilts must be within 30 - 36 inches in width and 30 - 36 inches in length.

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. <https://www.americanquilter.com/media/event/contest/2024-rules/2024-rules.pdf>

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





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 to 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

With back to back snowstorms in late January, it looks like the *Farmers' Almanac* prediction of a cold, snowy winter has come true. And there is more snow predicted for February! You won't need to leave the comfort and warmth of your home to enjoy our February 5th meeting because it's on Zoom again!

Currently there are 113 FSQ members. No new members joined this past month.

Renewal Forms are online [here](#) and you may mail the completed form along with a check made out to FSQ to the name and address listed on the form. New member applications are online [here](#).

Charlene Danka & Lynn Stieber
Membership Co-Chairs



February Birthdays

Barbara Skelly	Feb. 8
Ginger Peebles	Feb. 10
Dolan Ghosh	Feb. 13
Stacy Ross	Feb. 14
Susan Sandler	Feb. 19
Charlene Danka	Feb. 22
Mary Moore Payne	Feb. 24



Tips & Tricks

Judy Walsh

- ❖ Does your top or bobbin thread keep breaking?
- ❖ Are you getting skipped stitches?
- ❖ Do you know how to fix thread loops on the back of your fabric?
- ❖ What's making that popping or ticking sound as you sew?

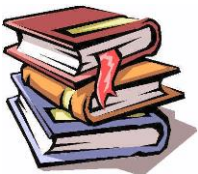
The folks at SCHMETZ needles can help! Go to their [website](#) and scroll down until you see

Problem Solving

Solutions to common sewing problems.

Clicking on the list of problems shown will display several possible solutions.

Editor's Note: Please also use this column to share videos, blogs and free pattern sites that you may have found helpful.



Readers' Corner

Meg Tison

Threads of Awakening: An American Woman's Journey into Tibet's Sacred Textile Art
by Leslie Rinchen-Wongmo

This book is about her awakening as a Buddhist through applique. The textile parts were especially interesting.

Editor's note: You can see examples of Leslie's work and watch various videos on her [website](#).

QOV NATIONAL SEW DAY
FOUNDATION
QOV TO HONOR AND COMFORT



FREE Demos

- HOW TO CREATE A SCRAPPY DISAPPEARING RAIL FENCE QUILT
- RAGS TO RICHES - HOW TO CREATE A RAG QUILT
- I'LL DRINK TO THAT! - HOW TO CREATE A GIFT BAG FOR BOX WINE
- DOUBLE UP! HOW TO APPLY A DOUBLE SIDED BINDING
- SWEET MEMORIES - HOW TO CREATE A MEMORY QUILT
- IT'S CHRISTMAS TIME! - CREATE A UNIQUE CHRISTMAS TABLE DECORATION
- WRIST WATCH - HOW TO CREATE A WRISTLET BAG FOR SMALL ITEMS

FEB 17 2024

9 AM TO 3 PM

MOTHER SETON
PARISH CENTER

19951 FATHER HURLEY BLVD.
GERMANTOWN, MD 20874

A DAY TO HONOR & COMFORT

SPECIAL AWARDS CEREMONY

JOIN NOW!



 mspquiltingangels.org

wecare@mspquiltingangels.org



Elected Officers	
<u>President</u>	Anne Flaggs
<u>Vice President</u>	Michele Barnard
<u>Co-Treasurers</u>	Trish McTighe and DeVeda Powell
<u>Secretary</u>	Harriet Sheinson

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