



Friendship Star Quilters August 2025

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

The Quiltline

Aug. 4 -- FSQ Guild Meeting 7:30 pm
Asbury - Rosborough Center
301 Odendhal Ave, Gaithersburg, MD

July 1-Aug. 31 -- All Mid-Atlantic Shop Hop ([more info](#))

Aug 8-17 -- Montgomery County Agricultural Fair
Gaithersburg, MD
Quilts to be hung on the 9th. Look for the winner of FSQ's "Best Beginner's Quilt" Award, ([more info](#))

Sept. 11-14 -- 52nd Annual Pennsylvania National Quilt Extravaganza (PNQE)
Greater Philadelphia Expo Center, Oaks, PA.
([more info](#))

Sept. 25-27 -- Original Sewing & Quilt Expo
Fredericksburg Convention Center, Fredericksburg, VA ([more info](#))

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Guild Meetings

Guild meetings are usually held at 7:30 pm on the 1st Monday of the month. We meet at

Asbury Methodist Village
301 Odendhal Ave.
Gaithersburg, MD

If Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) evening activities are cancelled, FSQ meetings are cancelled. Check montgomeryschoolsmd.org.

Service Projects

Workshops are held from 9:30 am to Noon at

Fairhaven United Methodist Church
12801 Darnestown Rd
Darnestown, MD 20878

Workshops in September:

Thursday, Sept. 18th
Thursday, Sept. 25th

Executive Board Meeting

The next Executive Board Meeting will be via Zoom on **August 11, 2025 at 7:00 pm.**

If you have a topic to bring 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.

Fabric Raffle – August:

Fat Quarters of Sunshine Yellows and Oranges



President's Message

Anne Flaggs

Hello Quilters, I hope you are enjoying your summertime and finding ways to beat the heat. I've been up in New Hampshire for July so enjoying beautiful, cooler weather and not looking forward to returning to the Maryland heat for August. I hope to see many of you at our August meeting where we will have our first speaker of the year, Mary-Jeanine Ibargues (Quilto is moving to the September meeting). We will be meeting in the Rosborough Center at Asbury where we met last year, meeting starts at 7:30pm but come early to check out all that is going on, check in and socialize a bit. I will send out a meeting reminder with the hybrid Zoom link before the meeting.

Just a few reminders and info from me this month:

- Have you renewed your membership yet? You can pay with cash, check or credit card before the meeting, cost is still \$35 and a little cheaper if you are out of state or an Asbury resident.
- How is your Summer Disappearing Block Challenge coming along? You have plenty of time to complete it since it's not due until October.
- Our 2026 raffle quilt is coming along nicely, Karen Moss did the longarming and Anne Weaver is sewing on the binding. We hope to have it displayed for our September meeting when we will be passing out the raffle tickets.
- Ellen Robinson has stepped up to coordinate our next raffle quilt for 2027. This one will have lots of blocks to be completed by members. Look for more information on this throughout the year.
- The Montgomery County Fair is happening August 8th to 16th. Senior day is Tuesday, August 12th and admission is free if you are 62 or older (parking is \$20 or take a free shuttle from Montgomery College). Our Raffle quilt will NOT be entered this year, the board discussed this and decided for many reasons to take a break from the competition. Please check out all the other quilts in the 4H building and look for the winner of the Best First Quilt as that award is sponsored by the Guild.
- The next Executive Board meeting is on Monday, August 11th on Zoom at 7pm. Please let me or another officer know if you are interested in attending.

That's all from me. See you at the meeting and have a great summer.

Anne Flaggs

Anne.f.flaggs@gmail.com



Guild Meeting Minutes – JUNE

Jennifer Rossmere

Anne Flaggs welcomed the group at 7:35pm. Anne reviewed The Quiltline and mentioned that the Executive Board meeting will be next week on Monday, June 9, at 7:00 pm on Zoom. If you have an idea or suggestion for the guild or if you want to attend, please let Anne know. Service Projects gave their annual report of donations and over 500 quilts and 350 pillowcases were donated. A huge thank you to Anne Weaver and Nance Brennan. Summer workshops will be June 12 & 26, July 24 & 31 with August off.

There was a great wrap-up article from the Yard Sale on what we sold and where our leftovers go. We need a team to take over this for the guild. There was also a nice thank-you from Silent Auction. The Yard Sale made \$4,584.35 after expenses and sales tax. The Quilt Show made \$3,313.29 after expenses and sales tax.

The Service Project Challenge is the Disappearing Block and the finished quilts are due at the October FSQ meeting. You have up until September to renew your membership at \$35 or \$20 for out of state or Asbury resident.

Liz Plantz has volunteered to be our newsletter editor. Thank you, Liz. We need someone to take over the Fabric Raffle. Let Anne know if you are interested.

The 2026 Raffle Quilt is with Karen Moss to be quilted. Anne will send out an email asking for suggestions for the charity for next year and then Signup Genius will be used for voting.

JoAnne DuChez, one of the co-chairs of the Nominating Committee presented the slate of FSQ Officers for the 2025-26 Board: President Anne Flaggs, Vice President Marilyn Pierre, Co-Secretaries Harriet Sheinson and Jennifer Rossmere and Co-Treasurers Joy Dorman and Judy Walsh. Coralyn Colladay moved that we accept the slate of officers as presented. Slate of officers was approved by a show of hands.

Elaine Villforth reported that the Quilt of Valor that was started at the FSQ Quilt Show has been given to the longarmer.

Featherweight Raffle ticket was pulled and was won by Rosemary Garr.

Raffle Quilt ticket was pulled and won by Elizabeth Clifford. Coralyn Colladay sold the winning ticket. The top sellers of Raffle Quilt tickets:

1 st Place – Suma Glassman

2 nd Place – Maryjean Spencer

3 rd Place – Amy McNamara

The Quiltline – August 2025

Anne thanked all the Committee Chairs for their hard work throughout this year. Anne presented each with a lovely project envelope that she had personally made.

A volunteer basket had been returned and Anne pulled names to distribute the items in the basket. It was one item per person so there were a lot of people winning.

With the very successful potluck dinner with delicious food and lovely centerpieces, there was no speaker.

Show and Tell followed and as usual some lovely quilts were shown.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Rossmere (Co-Secretary)



Programs

Mary Ann Bruce, Joyce Danzig, and Ihsia Hu

We are looking forward to kicking off the new year with our August meeting! It will mark the first time we are serving together as co-chairs of the program committee. While many of the programs are set for this year, we will be looking for two additional speakers for the spring of 2025, and speakers for 2026-2027. We welcome your recommendations for speakers and topics for our future meetings. Please share them with us in person or email recommendations to programs@friendshipstar.org.

In August, Mary-Jeanine Ibarguen will present a StashBuster Lecture/Demo. She will bring a selection of her quilts and quick projects to inspire you to delve into your stash and will hand out free instructions for much of what she will show you. Some patterns will be available for sale. Mary-Jeanine lives in Florida and our August meeting aligned with her RV travel through our area. You can view her work at www.floridaquiltnetwork.com.

In September, we will play Quilt-O (a form of Bingo with fat quarters as prizes!) following our business meeting. Watch for the SignUp Genius email in the next couple of weeks. Please sign up if you plan to attend - it helps us determine the amount of M&M's we need to purchase!

Fabric Raffle 2025-2026

We have a new Fabric Raffle Leader!! Please welcome Nancy Debnam to the job. Please contact Nancy (fabric@friendshipstar.org) if you have any questions.

The Quiltline – August 2025

Harriet and Liz are so appreciative that she stepped forward!!

FSQ Fabric Raffle is a purely voluntary activity held at in person guild meetings. *Nancy* will be at a table in the hall collecting fabric before the meeting starts from anyone who wants to participate. A slip with your name on it will be collected for each fat quarter you contribute. Names are pulled at the end of the meeting. You may contribute as many fat quarters as you wish, but you can only win once per meeting. You must be present to win. [Click Here for the link to the Raffle on our web page.](#)

August – Fat Quarters of Sunshine Yellows and Oranges.

September -- No raffle. Bring your fat quarters to play Quilto

October -- Fat Quarters of Fall Colors/Prints.

November -- ***Service Projects Special*** -- Fat Quarters of Juvenile/Kid themed fabrics.

December -- Virtual Meeting, no raffle.

January -- Virtual Meeting, no raffle.

February -- Virtual Meeting, no raffle.

March -- Fat Quarters of Blues and Purples.

April -- Fat Quarters of Floral Prints

May -- Fat Quarters of Greens.

June -- Pot Luck. No raffle scheduled.



Service Projects Update

Nance Brennan and Anne Weaver

It certainly has been a hot, humid, rainy summer so far. Hopefully we have all been turning lemons into lemonade by spending more time inside sewing and quilting! As you all know, Service Projects donates quilts to several different organizations in the metro area. Since they serve babies and children of different ages, they have different size preferences. We can definitely find good homes for quilts from 36" x 36" up to lap and twin sizes. While we appreciate receiving all quilt tops, we can finish quilt tops that are between 36" and width of fabric more quickly, since we don't need to piece the backs.

Quilts that measure 36" x 36" up to 40" x 50" generally go to Sheppard Pratt, Project Linus and Comfort Cases, while larger quilts generally go to A Wider Circle.

Of course, premie quilts are different and we'll give more information in future newsletters.

Please also join us, if you can, for our upcoming Service Projects workshops on Thursday, Sept 18th and Thursday, Sept 25th.

We will be meeting from 9:30 am until noon at Fairhaven United Methodist Church, 12801 Darnestown Road (Route 28), a mile from Quince Orchard High School.

For more information, contact Nance Brennan or Anne Weaver. Thanks, as always, for your support.



Where Did That Darn Block Go?

JoAnne DuChez

THE DISAPPEARING BLOCK

SERVICE PROJECTS' 2025 SUMMER QUILT CHALLENGE

What do quilters do? They cut up fabric and sew the pieces together into blocks. This challenge adds one more dimension to that approach. Now you take that finished traditional block, slice it up, mix up the pieces and sew them back together in a different orientation. These new blocks may look much more intricate and nothing like the original block. You will be making your blocks disappear and become some other block. Is this confusing, or what?

The most common traditional blocks used for disappearing blocks are the 9- or 4 patch blocks. But many other blocks, such as pinwheels, windmills, hourglass, churns, may be used. Take a look on the Web or Pinterest and search for disappearing quilt blocks. You will be amazed! There are many tutorials that will walk you through how to make your block disappear.

Take the challenge and use up a lot of scraps or stash. You will be helping FSQ support our Service Projects mission to provide quilts to hospitals, Comfort Cases, Project Linus, A Wider Circle and other worthwhile organizations.

Also, please make an additional original block to display with your final quilt. It will be fun to figure out how you made that block disappear. Those additional blocks will also be donated to service projects for creating new quilts or kits.

Fabric bundles will be available at the May meeting. You may also select fabric bundles at the Service Projects Workshops beginning in April. If you'd rather, feel free to use fabric from your own stash.

The quilt size may be 40" square to twin size. Quilts must be sandwiched, quilted and bound. All challenge quilts will be donated to Service Projects for distribution.

Finished quilts are due at the October meeting by 7:15 pm. 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!

Phishing and scam emails and FSQ

Janice Drass

Like many of you, I have received a few "weird" emails from our guild president (from the generic email address President@friendshipstar.org), but it was not really sent by our guild president. I just finished my annual training for work, and there was a very good list of things to look for to figure out if an email you get is deceptive and designed to trick you into sharing personal information or infecting your computer with malware that can harm your computer and cause it to stop working, or use your computer to send scam emails to your contacts. These types of emails are often called phishing emails or scams.

So, how can you tell if the email you get is a phishing email or a scam? Here are 5 things to look for:

- 1)** Suspicious sender- check the email address carefully. The name of the person it is coming from might be known to you, but the email from this sender (listed after their name) does not match that person's real email address.
- 2)** Urgency- the sender often will tell you that you need to act quickly to avoid a big problem or to continue to get service.
- 3)** Grammar and spelling errors- very commonly found in these types of deceptive emails. Remember, professional groups and real businesses proofread emails carefully before sending them.
- 4)** Generic greeting- like Dear Customer.
- 5)** Request for personal info or sensitive info- often the sender may tell you to reply to the email or click on a link to provide that information. Don't do it-- even to just check out the link!

So, in summary, beware. Look at the emails you get that are "weird" or unexpected or ask you to take urgent action. If in doubt, don't click and ask someone. As soon as you know it is a deceptive email, trash it. If it involves your bank, email provider, etc, let them know.



FSQ Retreat

Jennifer Rossmere and Colleen Biasco

FRIENDSHIP STAR QUILTERS

2026 ANNUAL RETREAT AT BON SECOURS

FEBRUARY 13-16, 2026

REGISTRATION OPENS AUGUST 1

It is time to look forward to another great FSQ Retreat. Registration opens on August 1 for FSQ's 2026 annual "Quilters Unsupervised" sewing retreat which will again be held at the Bon Secours Retreat Center. 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.

Treat yourself to a long weekend without distractions of home and be with an encouraging and supportive group of quilters. [Complete details are on the Registration Form which will be available on the Retreat page of the FSQ website on August 1st. Click Here.](#)

The registration form includes mailing instructions if you want to mail in your registration form and deposit. You can also turn in your registration form and deposit at the August Guild Meeting on August 4th. We will have blank registration forms for you to fill out at the Guild meeting and will be available to take credit cards. Only the \$50 deposit is due at this time.

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

Jennifer Rossmere & Colleen Biasco, FSQ Retreat Co-chairs



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 in 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.



Tips & Tricks

Judy Walsh

Seems like everyone is trying to make a big dent in their stash and/or scraps lately.

Karen Brown of Just Get It Done Quilts has a Stashbuster series that may give you some new ideas. Each of her 15 Stashbuster quilts has both a free pattern and a video on YouTube that will walk you through making that quilt.

Check out the Stashbusters menu item on her [website](#) for her free Stashbuster patterns and links to those YouTube videos.

Browse around afterwards to discover other topics and free items she offers.



Membership

Carrie Horton and Jan Drass

Since our last newsletter, there were no new members. FSQ is currently at 124 members strong.

We will meet in person on August 4 at Asbury Methodist Village. You can also join the meeting virtually. Guests are welcome if space is available. Please let membership know if you have a guest who would like to attend.

Our annual membership renewal continues at the August meeting. A quick peek at the roster shows that the majority of members have already renewed their membership for the year. That means that only 35 members still need to renew their membership. You must join or renew by the September meeting to have an entry in our annual Directory. If you are renewing your membership, you can do that in person at any meeting, and no need to complete a form. You will need to verify your information on a paper copy of the directory to make sure your address, phone number, etc has not changed. We accept cash, credit card or check (payable to FSQ). If you renew your membership by mail, just send your check to the address below. Please let us know if any of your information on file (i.e., address, phone number, email address) needs to be updated.

If you are new to FSQ please, [fill out the form online by clicking here](#). Print the completed form and mail it with your membership fee to the address on the form, which is:

Carrie Horton

FSQ Membership Co-Chair
432 Girard St. Apt. 103
Gaithersburg, MD 20877



Happy Belated Birthday to our FSQ friends with July Birthdays, and Happy Birthday to our FSQ friends with August Birthdays:

Christina Ginsberg	July 2
Margaret Jones	July 5
Linda Belecki	July 7
Jenn Pye	July 7
Judy Buechel Boccuzazi	July 8
DeVeda Powell	July 8
Carole Weikert	July 15
Susan Horton	July 17
Ruth Shelley	July 20
Nancy Zachik	July 21
Rosemary Spezzano	July 22
Ihsia Hu	July 23
Eileen Malloy	July 24
JoAnne DuChez	July 26
Anna SantaMaria	August 9
Maryjean Spencer	August 10
Sheryl Walker	August 16
Jean Ellis	August 18
Anne Weaver	August 21
Cathy Cottom	August 23
Liz Lawrence	August 24
Denise Dewhurst	August 29
Carol Unger	August 29



Elected Officers	
<u>President</u>	Anne Flaggs
<u>Vice President</u>	Marylin Pierre
<u>Co-Treasurers</u>	Joy Dorman and Judy Walsh
<u>Co-Secretaries</u>	Harriet Sheinson and Jennifer Rossmere

Committee Chairs			
<u>Fabric of the Month</u>	Nancy Debnam	<u>Retreats</u>	Colleen Biasco and Jennifer Rossmere
<u>Facebook</u>	Suma Glassman and Ellen Robinson	<u>Service Projects</u>	Nance Brennan and Anne Weaver
<u>Membership</u>	Carrie Horton and Jan Drass	<u>Small Groups Coordinator</u>	Peggy Weidman
<u>Newsletter</u>	Liz Plantz	<u>Summer Challenge</u>	JoAnne DuChez, DeVeda Powell and Meg Tison
<u>Pins</u>	Linda Belecki	<u>Sunshine & Shadows</u>	Ellen Robinson
<u>Programs</u>	Mary Ann Bruce, Joyce Danzig and Ihsia Hu	<u>Web Administrator</u>	Lorie Coston
<u>Publicity</u>	Michele Barnard	<u>Yard Sale</u>	Volunteers needed
<u>Raffle Quilt Marketer</u>	Maryjean Spencer	<u>Zoom Coordinator</u>	Kathy Swartz
<u>Raffle Ticket Sales</u>	Karen Moss		