

Friendship Star Quilters January 2026

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

The Quiltline

Jan 5 FSQ Guild Meeting via Zoom 7:30 pm**

(December thru February are Zoom meetings)

Fabric Raffle – will resume in March at our next in person meeting

Guild Meetings	Service Projects
Guild meetings are usually held at 7:30 pm on the 1st Monday of the month.	Workshops are held from 9:30 am to Noon at
When we resume in-person meetings in March we will meet at Asbury Methodist Village Rosborough Center 301 Odendhal Ave. Gaithersburg, MD	Fairhaven United Methodist Church 12801 Darnestown Rd Darnestown, MD 20878
** Enter the Zoom at 7:00 pm for mingling and conversation!	Workshops in January: Thursday, Jan, 22 Thursday, Jan. 29

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Executive Board Meeting

The next Executive Board Meeting will be via Zoom on **February 9, 2026 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.



President's Message

Anne Flaggs

Hello Quilters,

I hope you all have enjoyed your Holiday Celebrations and are ready for a Joyous New Year in 2026. I hope all your goals and wishes are attainable and include some sewing/quilting time.

Just a few things from me this month.

- If anyone needs their Raffle Tickets for our 2026 Raffle Quilt, please contact Karen Moss. See the most recent membership directory for her details. She will work with you to figure out a delivery method during the winter months.
- Do you have a favorite teacher or topic to recommend to our program team? Perhaps you saw a speaker at a larger Quilt show like Oaks, Hampton, QuiltCon, MAQ or someplace else that might be interesting for either an in-person or Zoom meeting. If you do, please let the program committee know your thoughts.
- We meet on Zoom in January and February and return to live/hybrid meetings in March. Make sure you send in your show and tell items to Mary Ann Bruce for our January meeting. This can be something you just completed or something you may have done a while ago but didn't get a chance to share with the group yet.
- Service Projects still meets in person over the winter. Please consider joining them to help tie/bind quilts and socialize with other members of the guild. We have a lot of fun while we work together on charity quilts.
- We are about ½ way thru our year and it's time to start thinking about organizing a nominating committee to look for next year's officers. If you are interested in doing this or being an officer, please let me know.

Thanks and enjoy this winter season. I hope to see you on the Zoom meeting Monday, January 5th, 2026. Look for an email from me a few days before with the Zoom link.

Anne

Anne.f.flaggs@gmail.com



Guild Meeting Minutes – December 1, 2025

Harriet Sheinson, co-secretary

Meeting on Zoom

7-7:30 pm Meet and Greet

7:30 pm President Anne Flaggs began the meeting.

There were two new members welcomed and no visitors.

There were no changes to the minutes of the last meeting and they were accepted as written.

Executive Meeting was announced to be held next Mon., Dec. 8, 2025 at 7 pm. If anyone not on the executive board wishes to attend, please contact Anne Flaggs and she'll send you a link to the meeting.

Anne reviewed the Quiltline, mentioning the raffle quilt and that Karen Moss has the raffle tickets. Please sell your raffle tickets and give the ticket stubs and money to Karen or ask for more tickets if you would like to sell more.

Service Projects will meet at Fairhaven Methodist Church from 9:30am-noon on December 11th and 18th.

A history of the making of the FSQ Service Projects' preemie quilts was given by Suma Glassman and was very interesting.

The retreat is full and there is a wait list.

There will be an April sew in at Asbury. Stay tuned for more details!

Committee reports:

Peggy Weidman will send out a request for those interested in small groups on zoom for embroidery or other groups interested in forming.

Maryjean Spencer, Marketing Chair, has six guild meetings to take the opportunity quilt to. If you would like to volunteer, just contact her. A Signup Genius is coming soon.

Ellen Robinson and Trish McTighe are organizing a raffle quilt sew-in Jan. 24 & 31, 2026 at Asbury from 10:30-2:30pm. There is only room for 20-24 sewers. More information will be forthcoming.

Ihsia Hu introduced our speaker for the evening, Leila Gardunia. Her subject was Traditional Blocks, Modern Quilts in Modern Traditionalism. No matter what the style, members learned how to plan out a quilt, seeing it being worked on EQ8 and how it was developed.

Show and Tell was wonderful as usual.

The door prize was won by Ihsia Hu.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15pm.



Programs

Mary Ann Bruce, Joyce Danzig, and Ihsia Hu

Reminder: In January and February, we'll be meeting via Zoom!

In January our Zoom speaker will be HollyAnne Knight, the founder of String & Story, a company dedicated to helping people learn to quilt with confidence. She offers a number of online courses about quilting, and is currently being featured in a series in American Patchwork & Quilting about learning how to free motion quilt. Her presentation is "Intro to Quilting Plans". She will show us what quilting plans are and how to make them so we can finish our quilts with confidence! Visit her website at <https://www.stringandstory.com/>.

In February, Beth Ann Williams will present "Heirloom Appliqué by Machine". Learn how satisfying it can be to create the look of heirloom-quality hand appliqué with finished edges – all with your sewing machine! Beth Ann will showcase a step-by-step overview of three of her favorite beginner-friendly methods for preparing finished edges. She'll also explore her top recommendations for presser feet, needles, thread, stitch settings, and handy notions that help make the process faster, easier, and more enjoyable. Her website is <https://bethannwilliams.com>.



Service Projects Update

Nance Brennan and Anne Weaver

We hope your holidays were restful and full of good food, celebrations with family and friends, and, of course, time for yourself for quilting! We're happy to welcome in a new year and can't wait to see everyone at our January Service Projects workshops on January 22 and 29 at Fairhaven United Methodist Church.

We're excited to introduce a new partner, JSSA (Jewish Social Services Agency) to our list of donations. JSSA has taken over the contracts for several programs that were formerly managed by Shepard Pratt, including the Betty Ann Krahne Domestic Violence Center and the Family Discovery Center, among others. On December 18, we delivered 20 pillowcases, 22 premie quilts, 1 adult quilt and 4 knitted children's hats to them, just in time for the holidays.

Project Linus was also excited to receive 40 children's quilts from us in December. The Project Linus coordinator said she was thrilled when we contacted her because they were down to the

last 2 quilts in their storage area.

Your contributions mean so much to our area children and families who need some extra warmth and comfort, especially at this time of the year. Thank you all!



FSQ Retreat

Jennifer Rossmere and Colleen Biasco

FRIENDSHIP STAR QUILTERS

2026 ANNUAL RETREAT AT BON SECOURS

FEBRUARY 13-16, 2026

The FSQ Retreat is a little more than a month away. We hope you are planning what projects to bring. We are looking forward to a wonderful weekend of sewing, socializing and viewing the amazing creativity in the room. We will be sending out information very soon in terms of what to bring, chair massage options, etc. Please let us know if you have any questions at the moment.

Please email any questions to retreats@friendshipstar.org

Jennifer Rossmere & Colleen Biasco, co-chairs



Facebook

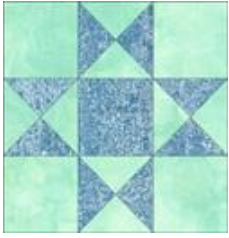
Suma Glassman and Ellen Robinson

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.



FSQ Workshops for 2027 Raffle Quilt

Ellen Robinson and Trish McTighe

2027 Raffle Quilt Chairs

Happy Holidays and Happy New Year! We are getting started on our 2027 raffle quilt! We think it's going to be a beaut! We are very excited about the prospect of many members being able to participate.

In January, after the holiday rush is over, we will be holding two Sit'n'Sews for the purpose of making the quilt blocks that will go into our 2027 raffle quilt. Due to electrical limitations seats and irons will be limited, so we will be sending out a Signup Genius email in early January requesting members to sign up.

Details: Workshops will be scheduled on January 24 and 31 (both are Saturdays) from 10:30 to 2:30. They will be held at the Asbury 'clubhouse' building, which is also referred to as 'building 400.' It is off of Russell Ave. The blocks will be made using the foundation paper pieced (FPP) technique. We will send a list of supplies to each signup, but here is a preview:

- * Sewing machine with a new needle and an extra needle. (power cord and foot pedal, too)
- * White thread and white bobbin (all cotton preferred, otherwise cotton/poly blend)
- * Scissors (thread snips)
- * Cutting mat, ruler (one side should be 12 or 12.5") and rotary cutter
- * Pins ("flower head" ones will help)
- * Seam ripper
- * Paper/cloth bag at your table for scraps
- * Task lamp in case your seat needs more light
- * Seat cushion if chairs are not at a good height for sitting and sewing
- * Lunch (FSQ will provide bottles of water)

Looking forward to seeing you there!



FSQ 2026 Opportunity Quilt Tickets

Karen Moss

The 2026 FSQ Opportunity Quilt, ***Jubilation***, is ready to go! This beautiful quilt (100" x 100") is a design by Deb Tucker and pieced by Joy Dorman, who graciously donated it to the Guild for our raffle. It was long-arm quilted by Karen Moss and the handwork was completed by Anne Weaver!

The drawing will take place at our June 1, 2026 Guild meeting. A portion of the profits will go to our chosen charities, Comfort Cases and Manna Food Center.

In addition to selling tickets when we take the opportunity quilt to other guilds or venues, we ask each member to either sell or purchase 15 tickets. Although participation in ticket sales is voluntary, this is a major source of funding for the Guild, and your support is appreciated. Tickets are \$2 per ticket or 3 tickets for \$5. If you buy all your own tickets, it's only \$25.

Ticket stubs and money are to be returned to Karen at a guild event or other arranged drop-off. If you don't yet have your tickets or you would like additional tickets, those are all available from Karen.

The seller of the winning ticket and the top three ticket sellers will be rewarded with a prize. We look forward to your support for this endeavor which supports Guild activities. Please let Karen know if you have any questions.





FSQ Opportunity Quilt Sales

Maryjean Spencer

2026 **Opportunity** Quilt Ticket Sales Invite

OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND THIS NEW YEAR

Don't miss your **opportunity** to visit area quilt guilds with the wonderful **opportunity** quilt Jubilation! A sign-up genius went out recently giving you the **opportunity** to volunteer to take our lovely **opportunity** quilt to area guild meetings to sell raffle tickets. The sale of these raffle tickets contributes to all the opportunities we have as a guild to help others and to keep our guild running smoothly.

Opportunities like this are special, so please take a few minutes to review the sign up genius and sign up for your **opportunity** to help the guild and have a good time in the process!

[2026 Opportunity Quilt Signup Genius](#)

Maryjean Spencer

240.401.9950



Membership

Carrie Horton and Jan Drass

Since our last newsletter, we have added two new members, Kim Jalette and Teri Williams. A warm welcome to each of you! FSQ is currently at 122 members strong.

We will meet on Zoom for our meeting on January 5. You will be sent a Zoom link to 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.

The updated FSQ Member Directory was sent out via email to all members in December. Please let Membership 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 and want to join the guild, 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:

The Quiltline – January 2026

Carrie Horton
FSQ Membership Co-Chair
[432 Girard St. Apt. 103](#)
[Gaithersburg, MD 20877](#)

Happy Birthday to our FSQ friends with January Birthdays:

Rosemary Hormuth	January 1
Colleen Biasco	January 4
Karen Shpiece	January 6
Linda Gordon	January 11
Bunny Galladora	January 12
Lynn Stieber	January 19
Judy Chandler	January 22
Kimberly Strong	January 30



Member Quilty News & Stuff

*From Janice Drass:

Some of you may already be familiar with the Elm Creek Quilt book series by Jennifer Chiaverini, but if not, they are excellent and provide some interesting historical fiction reading! There are several new titles that have come out since 2024, [The Museum of Lost Quilts](#), [The World's Fair Quilt](#) (which I am currently reading) and in 2026, [The Patchwork Players](#) will be released. If you are interested, this link will provide the titles of all her books, and the order they are written:

<https://www.bookseriesinorder.com/jennifer-chiaverini/>

From the site:

The author "writes of how the people we love the most can be the source of our deepest regret and insecurity, and also our greatest strength. One of the things she hopes readers get from reading the "Elm Creek Quilts" is a better knowledge of the tradition and history of quilting. They can also understand how it can be a creative outlet that draws one into a community of welcoming and talented quilters that encourage and offer support to each other. Jennifer also believes that through her novels, readers can discover that quilting can bring together people from a variety of religions, nationalities, generations and socioeconomic backgrounds and make them friends."

*From Judy Walsh:

FSQ on the Map

I was browsing through the latest Membership directory and realized that we have members from 11 different states and the District of Columbia!



From MaryGrace Gagliardi:

The State Fairs: Growing American Craft exhibit at the *Renwick Gallery* (Pennsylvania Avenue at 17th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20006) includes over 15 quilts and is so large that it spans both floors of the building. The free exhibit lasts until September 7, 2026, and is a short walk from the Red Line Farragut North Station. I spent 3 hours going through the exhibit and would go again if you want a buddy,

The exhibits feature many state fair classics such as a cow made of butter, a pyramid of preserves, hand carved leather saddles, and our favorites, the quilts. No two quilts are the same. One is made completely from fair ribbons, one made of buttons, another of yarn, and of course there is a 4H one. Two quilts stood out for me. First, a crazy quilt by Margaret Gillman, circa 1903. The quilt features many different styles and varieties of flower embroidery including prominent satin roses. Second, a Pioneer Quilt by Dora Boles Frink, circa 1959. The quilt tells the story of Oregon in 32 embroidered blocks. The blocks depict animals and plants native to Oregon along with state buildings and pioneer scenes. The last block is of a woman at home ironing with a spinning wheel in the background.

Preview from CBS Sunday Morning <https://www.facebook.com/share/v/1C5nMYAjsm/>,

Northern Shenandoah Valley Quilt Show

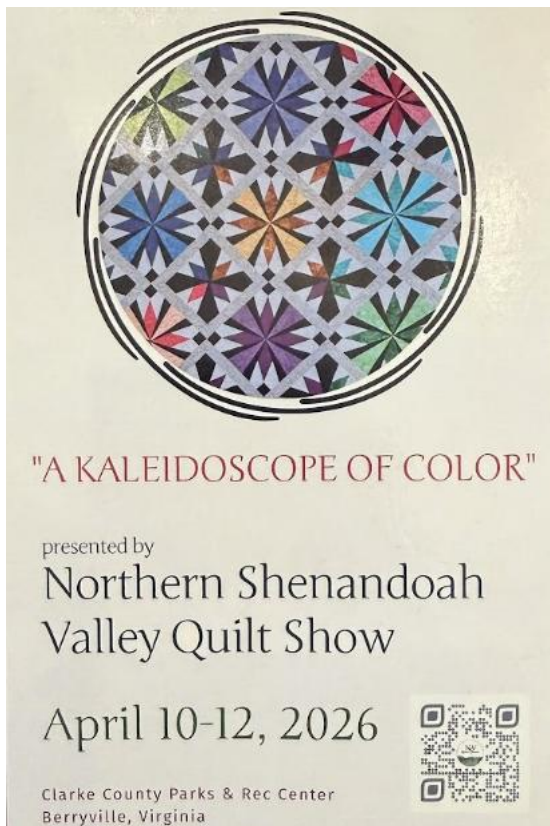
Greetings Fellow Quilters,

Sending out an invitation to our **Northern Shenandoah Valley Quilt Show** in Berryville, VA on **April 10-12, 2026**. We are so excited with all the plans coming together as the deadline to submit your quilts rapidly approaches.

This year's theme "**A Kaleidoscope of Color**" promises to bring an explosion of color and creativity to inspire your imagination! There will be over 170 quilts, 15+ vendors, a gorgeous raffle quilt, demos, scissors and knife sharpening, door prizes and so much more.

Attached is a photo and our website that provides more information about the show. Please see: www.nsvquiltshow.com. Quilt registration is open to the public and begins January 1, 2026 and closes February 10, 2026. Look on-line for rules and requirements.

We are looking forward to seeing both you and your quilts there in April 2026!





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		