



Valley Forge Homestead Quilters

Guild Newsletter

www.valleyforgequilters.com

December 2023

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President's Corner

Since we've just enjoyed the Thanksgiving holiday, I'd like to share some of the things I'm thankful for concerning our guild. First, I'm grateful for everyone that has stepped up to help on the board and on our committees. Thank you for giving your time and for your commitment to keeping the guild strong.

Second, I'm grateful for all those who contribute to our charitable efforts. I believe our comfort quilts, dolls, and dignity bibs are a great way to show kindness to others. It's amazing how just a little kindness can make such a difference. The board is working on ideas to increase our charitable giving. Let us know how we can make it easier for you to contribute. And finally, I'm thankful that we can join together in friendship and share our love of sewing and quilting. I've seen several articles about the importance of joining groups of people with like interests to stay active and build friendships.

I hope your experience in the guild is something you are thankful for too.

Until next time,
Linda Mitchell



Warmest
thoughts and
best wishes for a
wonderful
Holiday and a
Happy New Year.



Birthdays

December:

- 2 Joan Gunder
- 3 Ethel Hutchinson
- 4 Janet Gaboury
- 5 Ann Palmer
- 6 Connie Stevenson
- 8 Mary Pat Smith
- 12 Dottie Dolgash
- 19 Becky Weiland
- 30 Lynn Telson

January:

- 11 Cynthia Krommes
- 14 Martine Green
- 21 Mary Molettieri
- 21 Gigi Procaro
- 30 Debbie Bianco

December 19 Meeting

*December's **Holiday Party** - Are You Ready?
Start time is 6:00 pm (no Zoom).*

We picked **food assignments** (appetizer, entrée or dessert) at the November meeting. If you weren't there, please email Rita Mack - mackrita@gmail.com.

We're going to play **Quilters Bingo** - please make your "bingo game board" by sewing 2½ inch fabric squares in a 5X5 grid style (see example picture below). Bring bingo game pieces in the form of buttons or coins to place on the winning squares on your board. Don't worry if you forget your game board or buttons, we will have extra available. We'll turn the blocks over to the Comfort Quilt Committee to be sewn into quilts.

If you want to take part in the **gift exchange**, bring a wrapped gift (\$20 value). Don't forget your holiday attire - we will award a prize for the best **Ugly Sweater/Shirt** as well as the **most unique holiday clothing** item. Looking forward to seeing you there!

Rita Mack



Minutes from November 21, 2023 Meeting

Announcements: Linda Mitchell welcomed all members in person and on Zoom. One new member has joined the guild, Tracy Klinger.

Spring Retreat: Barbara Hughes announced that the dates for the Spring Retreat are April 4, 2024, through April 7, 2024, at Black Rock Retreat. The venue is able to accommodate a minimum of 10 members, with a maximum of 25. There are both 2-night and 3-night options, with 1, 2, or 3 members per room. If you are interested, please sign up with Barbara. A \$50 deposit is due at the December 2023 meeting.

Holiday Party: Rita Mack spoke about the plans for the Holiday Party that takes place during the December meeting. The event will start at 6:00 p.m. It will be an in-person meeting only, no Zoom. Members randomly chose food assignments by pulling a slip from a bag at the November meeting. Please create a 5 by 5 Bingo card for the meeting, using 2 ½" squares of various fabrics. There will be prizes given out for "ugliest holiday outfit" as well as "most unique holiday outfit." If you choose to participate, bring a wrapped quilting item, with a value of approximately \$20.00, to participate in the gift exchange.

BOM: Beth Mancini presented several examples of the completed Mystery quilt and provided the instructions for assembling the quilt top which should be completed and brought to the December meeting. Laura Chaplar won the Block of the Month drawing.

Comfort Quilts: Maxine Close mentioned that there were 19 quilts collected since the last meeting, making for a total of 157 quilts so far this year. She is hoping that the guild will reach over 200 completed comfort quilts by the end of the year.

Workshops: Cathy Fennell spoke about the October 21 yard sale and craft boutique. There were 21 total tables, including two tables for the guild, resulting in \$190 profit for the guild. The two guild tables made \$205 from sales, which will go back into the workshop fund to help keep the cost of workshops low. Joan Markowitz won the Fat Quarter raffle. Cathy estimated that there were about 100-150 attendees at the yard sale this year.

The Accuquilt workshop will be held on December 2, 2023. There is no cost to the members. Please see the weekly guild emails for the Signup Genius link, and the newsletter for additional information. The January workshop will be on Saturday, January 20, and will include both dignity bibs and comfort quilts.

Drawings: Our new member, Tracy Klinger, won the 50/50 drawing. Kayleigh Graff and Dawn Heefner won the door prizes.

Committee Interview: Rita Mack interviewed Judy Snook who is co-chair of the Member Comfort Committee. Judy described her personal history with quilting and detailed how much the Member Comfort Committee means to her. She and Rosemary Geisler provide quilts to members who are seriously ill and who may need some comfort during a difficult time. Judy is an avid quilter who has been quilting for over 30 years since her granddaughter was born. She estimated that she has personally created over 200 quilts.

Minutes Continued on Page 4

Meeting Minutes, Cont. from Page 3

Program: The guest speaker this month was Gretchen Gibbons. She is a quilter, designer, teacher, and author. She detailed how she started working in a quilt shop in 1994, and four short years later, she published her first quilting book. She has had numerous designs published in books, magazines, and calendars, and has even taught classes on a Quilting Cruise. Gretchen comes from a long line of quilters and shared many quilts created by multiple generations in her family, including a quilt created by her great-great-grandmother in the 1860's. She was very knowledgeable regarding the history of quilting and walked us through the changing quilt styles over the decades. Gretchen presented numerous exquisite quilts, including several that were very old, and many with very intricate applique.

UFO Challenge: The UFO number for November was #8. There were seven members who presented their completed quilts. Ruth Heslin won the UFO drawing. For the December meeting, please complete #6 from your list.

Show and tell followed.

Next Meeting: The December meeting will be the holiday party. The meeting will start at 6:00 p.m. and will be in-person only, no Zoom. Please see above and the newsletter for additional information.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jen Fillman

Programs

The January Program will feature Jennifer Houlden, a textile artist from Canada. Her lecture is titled: Creating Contrast in Your Quilts: How Is It Done? This will be through **Zoom**, not an in-person meeting.

Rita Mack

New Member

Welcome Tracy Klinger!

Tracy searched the internet for a local quilt guild – and found us! It is really nice when someone comes to a meeting and immediately signs up to join! Tracy grew up sewing but stopped when she entered the work field. But now that her kids are grown, she can get back to sewing. About a year and a half ago she began her quilting journey. Tracy is learning all types of quilting styles but hasn't chosen a favorite one yet. A bed-size quilt might be in her future. Meanwhile Tracy likes to crochet, knit, garden, and hike.

November Program - Gretchen Gibbons



Calling All Retreaters!

We may be in the days of long nights now but soon the daylight will begin getting longer. That means that the VFHQ Spring Retreat will be coming too. We are scheduled to go to Black Rock Retreat Center in Quarryville (southern Lancaster County) Thursday April 4 – Sunday April 7, 2024. Registration is now open. We need a minimum of 10 but there is space for up to 25 to attend.

There are options for 2 or 3 nights. Two-night participants can choose either Thursday and Friday or Friday and Saturday night. Accommodations for 1, 2 or 3 to a room are available. Each room has a double bed and two twins and its own bathroom. All meals are provided in the fee for the weekend and special dietary needs are accommodated with advance notice.

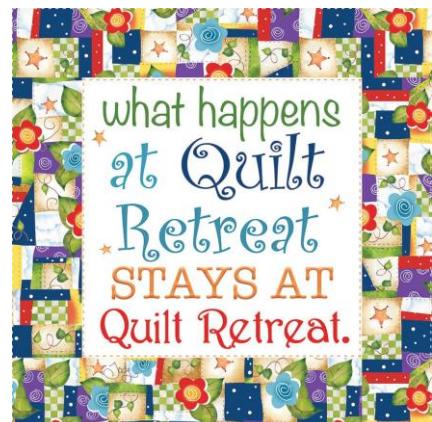
Black Rock has opportunities for short hikes and we always have a campfire and s'mores one evening. The shopping opportunities of Lancaster are also available. Other activities may be on tap too.

Please send your completed registration form (Page 7) and check for the \$50.00 deposit to:

Barbara Hughes
362 Church Rd
Elkins Park, Pa 19027
baarbhughes@verizon.net
215 635-2715 or 215 407-0580

Paid registrations are due by December 21 as we must notify Black Rock of the number in attendance. The balance is due by February 20, 2024. Don't miss this opportunity for uninterrupted sewing time.

Retreat Coordinator,
Barbara Hughes





Valley Forge Homestead Quilters

Spring Retreat – April 4-7, 2024

Blackrock Retreat Center, 1345 Kirkwood Pike, Quarryville PA 17566 (www.blackrockretreat.com)

Coordinator: Barbara Hughes (baarbhughes@verizon.net)

3 or 2 Night Options

3 Nights	1 person/Rm	2 people/Rm	3 people/Rm	(8) Meals Included:
Thurs-Fri-Sat Nights	\$545 pp	\$325.00 pp	\$260 pp	Th-D; Fri-B-L-D; Sat-B-L-D; Sun-B
2 Nights				(5) Meals Included:
Thurs-Fri Nights	\$350 pp	\$220.00 pp	\$175 pp	Th-D; Fri-B-L-D; Sat-B
Fri-Sat Nights	\$375 pp	\$230.00 pp	\$170 pp	Fri-D; Sat-B-L-D; Sun-B

Timeline	June, 2023	VFHQ Paid Non-Refundable Deposit to BRRC (based on 20 attendees)
	November, 2023	Communication to Guild
	December 19, 2023	\$50 Non-Refundable Deposit due from attendees
	January, 2024	Balance Payments (full or partial) Accepted
	February 20, 2024	Final payment Due.
		<i>No cancellations or refunds after this date!</i>
		<i>Unless spot filled by a new registration</i>
	Up To March 1, 2024	Will take additions with full payment (if room available)
	April 4-7, 2024	Retreat
	Minimum/Maximum	10/25

Final Balance Due Tuesday, February 20, 2024

(check payable to **VFHQ**)

Name: _____

eMail: _____

Balance Payment

Cash

Check Check # _____

3 Night Option (Thr Apr 4 - Sat Apr 6)

2 Night Option (Thr Apr 4 & Fri Apr 5)

2 Night Option (Fri Apr 5 & Sat Apr 6)

Requested Roommate(s):

(1 Full + 2 Single beds per room)

Commitment Due by Tuesday, December 19, 2023

(check payable to **VFHQ**)

Name: _____

eMail: _____

\$50 Non-Refundable Deposit Payment

Cash

Check Check # _____

3 Night Option (Thr Apr 4 - Sat Apr 6)

2 Night Option (Thr Apr 4 & Fri Apr 5)

2 Night Option (Fri Apr 5 & Sat Apr 6)

Requested Roommate(s):

(1 Full + 2 Single beds per room)

Cathy's UFO Challenge



The challenge number for December is #6. Send a photo of your completed project to Deb Graves to be shown at the January ZOOM meeting.

Cathy Fennell

November UFO Finished Projects



Gretchen Gibbons' Wool Creations



Bees, Bees, Bees!

(A Zoom link will be sent out before each bee.) Mark your calendar!

Evening Bee 1 st Tuesday Zoom 7:00 - 9:00 PM Coordinator – Deb Graves	Afternoon Bee 2 nd Tuesday Zoom 12:30 - 3:30 PM Coordinator - Jean Hayden	Evening Bee 4 th Thursday 6:00 - 8:30 PM Fairview Church, Germantown Pike, Fairview Village, PA Coordinator - Ruth Heslin	Northern Bee 5 th Tuesday Zoom 6:30 - 9:30 PM Coordinator - Barbara Hughes
December 5	December 12	No meeting in December January 25, 2024	January 30, 2024

Quilt Shows

January

QuiltFest Virtual Schoolhouse #7 - January 24-27, 2024. Our seventh QuiltFest Virtual Schoolhouse will take place, ONLINE. Mancuso Show Management is no stranger to online quilting and textile arts seminars. We've learned that many students enjoy learning new and exciting techniques from the comfort of their homes. The great strength of this platform is that both instructors and students do not have any country borders or cultural barriers to their participation from around the world. For more info visit <https://www.quiltfest.com/upcoming-shows-and-events/quiltfest-virtual-schoolhouse-5/>.

March

QuiltFest Virtual Schoolhouse #8 - March 20-23, 2024. Our eighth QuiltFest Virtual Schoolhouse will take place, ONLINE. Mancuso Show Management is no stranger to online quilting and textile arts seminars. We've learned that many students enjoy learning new and exciting techniques from the comfort of their homes. The great strength of this platform is that both instructors and students do not have any country borders or cultural barriers to their participation from around the world. For more info visit <https://www.quiltfest.com/upcoming-shows-and-events/quiltfest-virtual-schoolhouse-8/>.

Art Quilt Elements 2024 - March 24 to April 27, 2024. At the Wayne Art Center, 413 Maplewood Ave, Wayne, PA. Art Quilt Elements 2024 is the 16th biennial exhibition of this internationally acclaimed show, unique for its professional presentation of contemporary fine art quilts. For more information, visit <http://artquilelements.org/>.

Check out our website, the [Quilt Show page](#), for upcoming local and regional shows.

Cathy Radcliffe

Comfort Quilts

The Comfort Quilt Workshop is Saturday, January 20, 2024, starting at 9:30. Lunch is provided. If you won't be coming to the workshop, please get a kit at the December meeting to work on during January and February since we will not be meeting in person. If you need batting or backing, please let me know so I can bring it to the meetings.

The total number of quilts picked up at the November meeting is 27 making a total of 184!! Thank you to all who have worked so hard!!

Maxine Close

Comfort Quilts and Dignity Bibs recently donated to the Coatesville VA



Block of the Month

Final Quilt Reveal!



Final Blocks



Saturday Sew Along

Date: December 2, 2023

Time: 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Place: your home via Zoom

Project: one of your own choosing

Workshops

AccuQuilt Saturday with Cathy Fennell, Judy Snook, and others

Date: Saturday, December 2, 2023

Time: 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Place: Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Price: Free

Lunch: Please bring your own lunch.

Learn about and use the AccuQuilt Go! and Studio as well as many dies.

Comfort Charity Quilt Workshop with Maxine Close **and**

Dignity Bib Workshop with Linda Mitchell

Date: Saturday, January 20, 2024

Time: 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Place: Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Price: Free

Lunch: Lunch will be provided by the Comfort Quilt committee

Please contact Maxine if you need a kit, backing and/or batting

Zoom UFO Workshop and **Demo** with Connie Stevenson

Date: Saturday, February 24, 2024

Time: 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Place: Your home via Zoom

The demo is 'Crayon Quilts'. Coloring on shapes then using an iron and paper towels to remove the wax.

Honoring a Veteran

Jacque Paltrinieri, Karen Glasthal, Susan Gustafson, and Ann Palmer made a Quilt of Valor quilt. An opportunity to give this quilt to a veteran arose when the Valley Forge Chorale asked if the guild would like to make a quilt to be presented at their concert at Lower Providence Presbyterian Church on Veterans Day. The four offered their QOV quilt. Karen and Ann presented it to Kiti Williams, an Air Force veteran, at the event. What an honor for all.



November Show and Tell



December 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 Accuquilt Workshop 9:30-1:00pm
3	4	5 Zoom Evening Bee 7:00-9:00 pm	6	7 Start of Hanukkah	8	9
10	11	12 Zoom Afternoon Bee 12:30-3:30 pm	13	14	15	16
17	18	19 Guild Meeting Holiday Party 6:00 pm	20	21	22	23
24	25 Christmas	26	27	28	29	30
31						



Or
Maybe.....





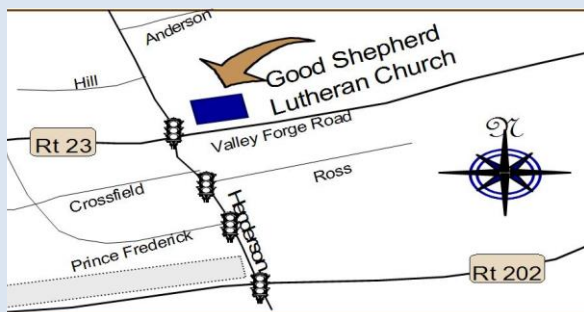
Valley Forge Homestead Quilt Guild

PO Box 62463
King of Prussia, PA 19406

www.valleyforgequilters.org

VFHQ on Facebook

Monthly Guild Meetings are held on the **Third** Tuesday of every month at 7 P.M. at the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in King of Prussia, PA



Newsletter Submissions

Send to: Judy Snook
Information for the next newsletter must be received by the 25th of the month.

Board of Directors

President	Linda Mitchell
Vice President	Kayleigh Graff
Treasurer	Kathie Haney
Secretary	Jen Fillman
Membership	Karen Glasthal
Programs	Rita Mack
Newsletter Editor	Judy Snook
Parliamentarian	Lou Chandler

Guild Committees and Resources

50:50	Debbie Bianco
AccuQuilt Die Cutter	Lisa Lombardo
Bees: Afternoon	Jean Hayden
Evening	Deb Graves
Northern	Barbara Hughes
Thurs Evening	Ruth Heslin
Challenge	Sandy Dounce
Comfort Quilts	Maxine Close
Facebook	Deb Graves
Historian	April Hostler
Hospitality	Connie Stevenson
Hostess	Laura Chaplar
Library	Ruth Heslin
Member Comfort	Rosemary Geisler
Newsletter Editor	Judy Snook
Newsletter Publisher	Judy Snook
Programs	Janet Gaboury
Quilt Show	Rita Mack
	Cathy Fennell and Deb Graves
Refreshments	Charlene Hagerty
Retreat/Fall	Babette Sutherland
Retreat/Spring	Barbara Hughes
Set-up	Cathy Fennell
Sunshine	Joan Shaw
Webmaster	Cathy Radcliffe
Workshops	Cathy Fennell
Zoom/Technology	Deb Graves