



Valley Forge Homestead Quilters

Guild Newsletter

www.valleyforgequilters.com

March 2026

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President's Corner

It's mid-February as I am writing this, and I think all of us are rather tired still having snow on the ground. However, yesterday one of my favorite designers released a free pattern, and it sure makes me think of spring flowers! I pulled out all my bright yellows in anticipation of the daffodils that are one of the earliest bloomers in our area. I'm so glad that even when the outdoors looks rather brown and gray, we can create gardens of color in our sewing rooms!

Connie Stevenson

Reminders

Membership: If you have a friend who has been thinking of joining the guild, now is a good time. Dues are \$17.50, half the price of dues for the last half of the year.

Port Pillows: If you took a Port Pillow kit at the December meeting, please bring the completed pillow to the March meeting. If you end up not using the kit, please bring it back, as Linda and April put a lot of time, effort, and expense into making them. Thank you!

The 2026 Guild Challenge

6 Months and Counting!

We're just six months away from the deadline for our 2026 Challenge - Stars! I hope you have stars in your eyes. Actually, it's tough deciding which one to use, right? Who says you can only use one? As long as viewers can tell your creation has stars, the sky's the limit.

Enjoy the process!

Dawn Heefner



Happy Birthday

March

- 4 Lou Chandler
- 9 Cindy Brennan
- 13 Gail Forster
- 15 Lisa Steuer
- 18 Cathy Fennell
- 28 Tracy Klinger

April

- 4 Rosemary Geisler
- 6 Marge Quinn
- 8 Carol Olinick
- 8 Babette Sutherland
- 9 Jean Corday
- 22 Denise Pokorny
- 23 Kate Sevensky
- 27 April Hostler

Programs

March

On March 17th our meeting at Good Shepherd Church will have us welcome back again Bethanne Nemesh as our speaker. While we know her for her expertise in free motion machine quilting, this time she is sharing another topic with us. Pictorial yarn couching is a fast growing and creative art form. Bethanne’s presentation is “Yarn Couching: Free Motion to Fine Art”. Get ready for a trunk show of yarn couched quilts and garments. She will introduce us to the basics of free motion machine yarn couching, tips, tricks, and uses. In addition to Bethanne’s wearable art, she will explore with us her use of yarn couching in upholstery, accessories and sculpture.

April

At our April meeting we will welcome Andrea Hoke from Elizabethtown, PA. Presenting her lecture and trunk show “A Love of Quilting and A Love of Teaching”. She loves all things vintage which is reflected in her work yet describes her style as being “Modern Traditionalist”. You may know her from her frequent classes taught at The Old Country Quilt Store in Intercourse, PA and from Lancaster Quilt Shows. Let’s welcome Andrea and Spring!!!

Deb Bianco

Refreshments for the March 17th Meeting

Sweet	Savory	Drinks/Ice
Anita Bennett Maxine Close Ruth Heslin Ellen Kane Becky Weiland	Joan Gunder Gigi Procario	April Hostler Ethel Hutchinson Joan Kirschenmann - Water Joan Shaw

Guild Meeting Minutes - Feb.17, 2026

Welcome: Connie Stevenson welcomed members and one guest, Alicia Wilhelm.

Comfort/Fidget Quilts: Maxine announced that 13 people attended the Comfort Quilt sewing day at Upper Merion Senior Center in February. The next sewing day at the Senior Center will be Monday, March 2nd from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. You can email Maxine ahead of time if you need backing for a specific comfort quilt. The next Comfort Quilt Zoom session will be on Saturday, March 14th at 9:30 a.m. -Connie reminded members who took a Port Pillow kit at the holiday party to please bring the completed pillow(s) to the March meeting. If you did not have time to complete the pillow, please return the kit, as Linda and April put a lot of time, effort, and expense into making them.

Workshops: -February 21, 2026 (Zoom) - Fabric Weaving with Eleanor Levie. This workshop was full, but one person is no longer able to attend, so one person can sign up on the Sign-Up Genius. The supply list is in the January newsletter.

-March – Project Bags with Linda Juzbasich. Sign-Up Genius has been sent; there are still several spots available. Workshops are offered at no cost, and some supplies will be provided. The supply list is in the February newsletter.

-April 25, 2026 – Invisible Applique with Sue Suhre. Cost to members is \$20 (the guild is paying the other half of the cost). Sign up at the March meeting (\$20 due at sign-up). If you don't attend the meeting in March, contact Anita Bennett to sign up and coordinate payment of workshop fee. You will receive the supply list when you sign up.

Quilt Show: When? Every two years on even-numbered years. This year's quilt show is Friday, October 23 and Saturday, October 24, 2026.

Where? Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Why? It's our guild's biggest fundraiser and raises more than guild dues. It's a chance to attract new members, it's a form of public outreach, and it's a chance to show off your quilts in a non-competitive environment.

How? Lots of people help, and there's very good documentation on how to perform each of the roles required. You can: make quilts, lead a venue, help organize, sign up for a shift on Sign-Up Genius, share flyers, tell friends, bake for the Bake Sale, sell at the Boutique, donate to Grandma's Attic.

The Quilt Show Committee is still looking for committee heads. No one does these jobs alone, but someone needs to represent each committee at meetings and lead their various efforts. One committee that still needs a head is Raffle Baskets. The sooner this position is filled, the better, so they can begin soliciting donations immediately.

If you have questions about the Quilt Show, you can talk to Cathy Fennell or Deb Graves. There is also information available on the [Quilt Show page](#) on the website.

Program: Barbara Black presented her lecture on "The Hard Stuff," which included pictures of historical quilts and a trunk show of her own quilts.

UFO Challenge: Participants showed their finished projects; Ruth Heslin won the drawing. The next UFO # is 7.

Show and Tell: Show and Tell followed.

March meeting: The March 17, 2026, meeting will be a hybrid meeting, at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church and on Zoom. The Speaker will be Bethanne Nemesh, who will speak on pictorial yarn couching. She will present a trunk show of yarn couched quilts and garments and will include the basics of free motion yarn couching and tips and tricks.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Kayleigh Graff

February Show and Tell



Charlene Hagerty



Joan Markowitz



Judy Snook



Jennie Spotila



Susan Gustafson



Linda Jarosz



Sandy Dounce



Laura Ocker



Joan Shaw

Quilt Shows

March 2026

Art Quilt Elements 2026 - March 23 to April 25, 2026. 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 info visit <http://artquilelements.org/>

QuiltFest Virtual Schoolhouse #14 – March 25-28, 2026. Presented by Mancuso Show Management—leaders in virtual quilting and textile art events—this dynamic online experience is your chance to explore new techniques, spark your creativity, and connect with fellow enthusiasts, all from the comfort of home. With instructors and participants from across the globe, QuiltFest celebrates a lively and inclusive international quilting community. Please note: All workshops at QuiltFest Virtual Schoolhouse will be live on Zoom and will not be recorded. For more info visit <https://www.quiltfest.com/upcoming-shows-and-events/quiltfest-virtual-schoolhouse-14/>.

A Quilter's Destination Lancaster Quilt Show @ Lebanon Valley - March 25-28, 2026. At the [Lebanon Valley Exposition Center](#), 80 Rocherty Road, Lebanon, PA. Celebrating 34 years. The show features over 55+ vendors, 150+ quilts and 50+ classes. It also includes free admission, free parking and free lectures. For more info visit <https://www.aquiltersdestination.com/lancaster-pa>.

April 2026

AQS Quilt Week - April 8-11, 2026. Presented by AQS at the [Connecticut Convention Center](#), 100 Columbus Blvd., Hartford, CT. For more info visit <https://www.quiltweek.com/>.

Sharing the Quilts XXXXII – April 11, 2026. Presented by Harvest Quilters of Central New Jersey at Willow Grove Presbyterian Church, 1961 Raritan Road, Scotch Plains, NJ. For more info visit <https://harvestquilters.com/quilt-show/>.

2026 Three Rivers Quilt Show: Log Cabin - April 16-18, 2026. Presented by Three Rivers Quilters at Loft Conference Centers – Southpointe, 1000 Noble Energy Drive, Ste 100, Canonsburg, PA. A juried and judged show featuring up to 130 quilts from quilters throughout the tri-state area and beyond. This will be the second year in our new, beautiful, location at The Loft Conference Center that is easy to find off I-79 with lots of free parking. For more info visit <https://threeriversquilters.org/quilt-show>

70th Annual PA Relief Sale - April 17-18, 2026. Since 1957, all sale day proceeds benefit the worldwide relief efforts of Mennonite Central Committee which include aid to the victims of poverty and other man-made and natural disasters. At the [PA Farm Show Complex](#), Giant Expo Hall, Harrisburg, PA. For more info visit <http://www.pareliefsale.org/>.

AQS Quilt Week - April 22-25, 2026. Presented by AQS at the Schroeder Expo Center, 415 Park Street, Paducah, KY. For more info visit <https://www.quiltweek.com/>.

Starlight Starbright – April 25-26, 2026. Presented by County Line Quilters Guild at St Cyril of Jerusalem Church, 1410 Almshouse Rd, Jamison, PA. For more info visit <https://countylinequilters.org/quilt-show-2026>. Go to <https://saint-cyril.com/directions/> for directions.

Patchwork Paradise - April 11-12, 2026. Presented by the Beachplum Quilters of the Jersey Shore at The Toms River Elks Lodge #1875, 600 Washington Street, Toms River, NJ. See the flyer at <https://www.beachplumquilters.org/files/2026quiltshowflyer.pdf>.

2026 will bring together historic textile enthusiasts. You will be able to attend lectures, see demonstrations, and talk to experts. We will also bring back the successful rummage sale that provided treasure hunters with fabric, notions, and historic patterns and books. Oh, and course, great food! For more info visit <https://www.schwenkfelder.org/penn-dry-goods-market>.

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Quilt Shows, Cont. from Page 5

May 2026

Airing of the Quilts - May 2, 2026. In historic downtown Palmerton, PA and Palmerton High School. The event will include over 500 quilts displayed throughout historic downtown Palmerton; live entertainment and vendors in the park; a quilt show with artisans, crafters and vendors at the Palmerton High School gymnasium; free parking at the high school with shuttle bus to the venues, a scavenger hunt for valuable prizes, and more. For more info visit <https://www.theairingofthequilts.com/>.

1776-2026 Evolution & Revolution – May 29-31, 2026. Presented by the Brandywine Valley Quilters at Neumann University, Miranda Center, 501 Convent Dr., Aston, PA. For more info visit <https://www.brandywinevalleyquilters.org/2026-quilt-show.html>.

Penn Dry Goods Market - May 15-16, 2026. Presented by the Schwenkfelder Library & Heritage Center at 105 Seminary Street, Pennsburg, PA. Drawing on the Heritage Center’s extensive collection of textiles demonstrating centuries of Pennsylvania artistry, Penn Dry Goods
Check out the [Quilt Show page](#) on our website for upcoming local and national shows.

Cathy Radcliffe

Cathy's UFO Challenge 2025-2026

I am unable to be at the March meeting. Please bring your March #7 and April #1 UFO challenges to the April meeting.

Cathy Fennell



Cathy Fennell



Jen Fillman



Ruth Heslin



Judy Snook



Linda Juzbasich



Meghan Heslin

Charity Efforts

For the month of February, we received 28 beautiful quilts!!!

VA 7 Paoli 6 Einstein 8 St. Chris 7

The next gathering for the Upper Merion Senior Center is Monday, March 2 from 9:30 to 3:00. There will be kits available to sew along with backing and batting. If you would like me to bring a certain color for backing, please send me a picture so I can do my best to match the color of the quilt top. Let me know if you plan to attend. Bring your own lunch. In February, there were at least 13 people along with others that stopped in to drop off quilts.

The next Comfort Quilt on-line Zoom is Saturday, March 14 from 9:30 to 4:00.

Hope to see you soon,
Maxine Close



Saturday Sew Along

Date: March 7, 2026
Time: 9:30 AM to 4:00 PM
Place: your home via Zoom
Project: one of your own choosing

Zoom Comfort Quilt Workshops

Date: Saturday, March 14, 2026
Time: 9:30 AM to 3:00 PM
Place: your home via Zoom

Workshops

Project Bags *with Linda Juzbasich*

Date: Saturday, March 21, 2026
Time: 9:30 AM to 3:30 PM
Place: Good Shepherd Church
This is a "one and done" workshop



Supply List to make a project bag:

- 2 pieces of coordinating fabric 18 x 17 inches each
- 3 strips of 3-inch fabric x 46 inches (only 2 strips needed if making bag smaller)
- Cotton batting 18x 17 inches or you may use firm interfacing or the foam purse stabilizer- your choice for how firm you want the finished bag to be.

I will supply the plastic for the window, zipper, tape and zipper slides. If you have a special zipper you want to use, you may bring as well.

Additional Supplies:

- | | | |
|-----------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Craft scissors | Pins / clips | Walking foot-Suggested |
| Fabric scissors | Extra machine needle | Sewing machine |
| Rotary cutter | Zipper foot | Matching thread |
| Ruler | Quilting foot-Suggested | |

Invisible Applique *with Sue Suhre*

Date: April 25, 2026
Time: 9:30 – 3:00
Price: \$20.00 (bring to the March meeting)
Place: Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
Lunch: Bring your own lunch
This workshop is limited to 16 participants.
Supply list will be given when the workshop fee is paid.



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
March 3	March 10	March 26	March 31

March 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 Zoom Evening Bee 7:00 - 9:00 PM	4	5	6	7 Zoom Saturday Sew Along 9:30 - 4:00 PM
8	9	10 Zoom Afternoon Bee 12:30 - 3:30 PM	11	12	13	14 Zoom Comfort Quilt Workshop 9:30 - 4:00 PM
15	16	17 Guild Meeting 7:00 PM	18	19	20	21 Project Bags Workshop 9:30-3:30 Zoom
22	23	24	25	26 Evening Bee Fairview Church 6:00 - 8:30 PM	27	28
29	30	31 Zoom Northern Bee 6:30 - 9:30 PM				

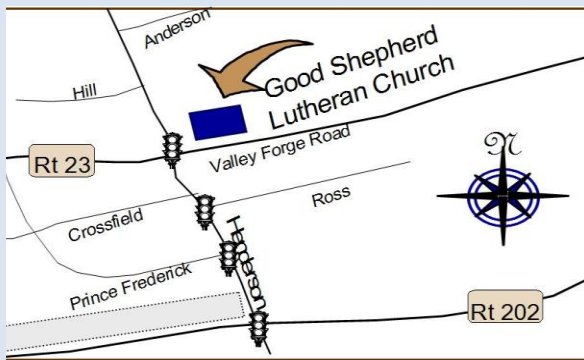


Valley Forge Homestead Quilt Guild

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VFHQ on Facebook

Monthly Guild Meetings are held on the **Third** Tuesday of every month at 7:00 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 23rd of the month.

Board of Directors

President	Connie Stevenson
Vice President	April Hostler
Treasurer	Babette Sutherland
Secretary	Kayleigh Graff
Membership	TBA
Programs	Deb Bianco
Newsletter Editor	Judy Snook

Guild Committees and Resources

50:50	Kathie Haney
AccuQuilt Die Cutter	Lisa Lombardo
Bees: Afternoon	Jean Hayden
Evening	Deb Graves
Northern	Barbara Hughes
Thurs Evening	Ruth Heslin
Challenge	Dawn Heefner
Comfort Quilts	Maxine Close
Facebook	Deb Graves
Historian	April Hostler
Hospitality	Jen Fillman
Hostess	Laura Chaplar
Library	Ruth Heslin
Member Comfort	Rosemary Geisler & Judy Snook
Newsletter Publisher	Janet Gaboury
Quilt Show	Cathy Fennell & Deb Graves
Refreshments	Charlene Hagerty
Retreat/Fall	Linda Mitchell
Retreat/Spring	Barbara Hughes
Set-up	Cathy Fennell
Sunshine	Joan Shaw
Webmaster	Cathy Radcliffe
Workshops	Anita Bennett & Linda Juzbasich
Zoom/Technology	Deb Graves