

County Line Quilters News

www.countylinequilters.org

February 2025

Dear Ladies and Jacob,

We have had two functions at our new venue – Philanthropy Day and Sew Fun Day- “I Spy Quilt!” Our space can fit 20 comfortably working on projects with wonderful lighting. The “I Spy Quilt” day ran very successfully with a special thanks to Kathy Webb for being our guided teacher and Joyce Helstrom for her generous donation of fabric and those who helped her precut the fabric into the desired squares and rectangles.

We had such enjoyable time at our successful 2024 Quilt Show and hope to replicate this in 2026. It was wonderful talking and working with fellow guild members, as well as perusing the diverse array of beautiful quilts our members made. We now need members to step up to head the various committees for the 2026 Quilt Show to make this happen. Please consider doing this and contacting Sylvia O'Neil.

It is great to see all the opportunities being offered-

February 5 -10AM-2PM Cradle to Crayons – organizing outfits for children,
contact Denise Beck

February 10- 7PM -Guild Meeting on Zoom

February 20- 10AM-2PM- Philanthropy Day- Knotting with the ladies from
Doylestown Mennonite, contact Barb Gleason

February 22-10AM Moda Block of the Month with Marilyn Lopez and Joanne D'Allura

February 22-10-2PM Sew Fun Day

We have two reasons to be excited on March 10th. Our first meeting at our new venue Doylestown Mennonite, 590 N. Broad St., Doylestown and our winter challenge- Weigh to Go is due. I cannot wait to see all the many Philanthropy items made by you! Please come early if you have donations to be weighed that night, 6:15 to 6:45PM. Our speaker will start at 7PM, so we would like everyone seated by 6:55PM. If you need a CLQ label for any quilts, please contact Barbara Lewis or Carol Cotter.

Beautiful things come together one stitch at a time!

Looking forward to seeing you on Zoom February 10th!

Carol Cotter

COUNTY LINE QUILTERS GENERAL MEETING MINUTES 1-13-2025



Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order by President Carol Cotter at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was held on Zoom.

President Carol Cotter welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Vice President Stella Bredin introduced the speaker, Mel Beach, whose presentation was "Let's

Get Rolling on your 2025 Quilting/Creativity Goals."

Vice Presidents – Denise Beck/Stella Bredin – Upcoming speakers will be as follows: February – Kris O'Neill, who will speak about "Scrap Management" (she also does antique quilts); March – "Color Theory."

Secretary – Vickie Detwiler – A Motion was made by Suzie Sergeant and seconded by Denise Beck to accept the Minutes of the December 2024 meeting. The Motion passed.

Treasurer – Kathy Webb – A Motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made by Dee Carr and seconded by Joyce Helstrom to accept the Treasurer's Report. The Motion passed.

Activities – Sue Edelman – Carol reminded everyone that first and last names are needed on the tickets for the monthly drawing on gift cards.

Communications – Jeanne Malone – The Blast deadline is February 5th. If you want something to go in the Blast, please send it to Carol first.

Events – Joyce Helstrom – We will be having guided classes, with the first one being held on January 25th from 10:00 to 3:00. We will

be doing I Spy quilts. The cost for the guided classes will be \$10.00. Scraps will be available and they will be pre-cut. Kathy Webb came up with a pattern, but you can do whatever design you want. Participants should bring their own sashing fabric and lunch. We have had 13 people respond and there is room for seven more. Instructions will be sent out to those who sign up.

Sue Edelman will do a guided class on Paper Piecing, possibly on June 7th. A pattern is required. The class limit will be 15 as there are only 15 patterns.

Pat Clayton will do two guided sews, one in the morning and one in the afternoon, for a child's reading pillow and cloth pencil case. This will be towards the end of April, possibly the 26th.

Kristen Kern will do a guided sew on a Child's Sun Hat. This project uses just two fabrics, no interfacing and is quick and easy.

Some people have expressed an interest in a class on EQ8 Software. Please let Joyce know if you are interested.

Joanne and Marilyn have been working on another project, which they will let us know about.

Marilyn Lopez will be heading a Moda Blockheads monthly club on Zoom. There are links on the website. The purpose will be to create a community and encourage everyone to use fabrics from their stash. So far eight people have signed up. They would like as many as possible.

Joanne said that they plan to do Zoom meetings once a month, starting with the third Saturday in February. They will send a link for the first block beforehand. Blocks can be either 6" or 12". Participants would sew

the block ahead of time and they can show their blocks and chat on the Zoom meeting. Anyone who is interested in participating should send an email to either Marilyn Lopez or Joanne.

Historian/Ambassador – Nancy Williams – The yearbooks have come in and will be distributed at the March meeting to those who purchased them.

Membership – Helen Haun/Lois Moore – There were 54 people in attendance at this meeting, as well as one guest, Sherri Voorhees. There was someone who didn't receive their newsletter and Zoom link. Sylvia suggested that it could have gone to their junk or spam folder, as this has happened to her. Lois will send out the membership list.

Newsletter – Jacob Kane – The newsletter deadline is January 25th.

Facebook – Kathy Acker – No report.

Philanthropy – Barb Lewis/Barb Gleason – Barb Gleason said that Philanthropy day will be January 16th from 10:00 – 2:00. We will be sewing pillowcases. On February 20th we are hoping to do another tying session with the Mennonite sisters. We will need 10-12 people.

Barbara Lewis said that this month's sew day will be held at the new church location. The doors will not be open until 10:00 a.m. so please do not come early. The doors will stay open until 10:30, as we usually do. Joanne stated that the two Mennonite women also have quilt tying at their farm on Saturdays and we are welcome to participate then also.

Publicity/Crafts – Liz Watson – We made donations to Philanthropy of some item which still weren't selling. If anyone would like to make eyeglass cases, we are out of them. Microwave bowl cozies sold very well. Liz will make a list of about 10 – 15 items that sold well, which will be put in the newsletter. Also, she started the process of getting business cards made up with our new location.

Raffle & Challenge Quilt – Ellen Cicak – Ellen said to "keep piling on the pounds!" She explained that you can add your own fabric to your projects for the challenge; you are not limited to the fabrics you took home in December. They also have a surprise for the entire guild in March.

Also, she and Kathy will be getting together regarding the Challenge Quilt and will keep us posted. Kathy said if anyone participating in the Weigh to Go Challenge can't make the March meeting, they should contact her and they will find a way to make it work.

Website – Marilyn Malik – No report.

Technology – Emily Kane – Zoom seems to be working well; she got all the names for the raffle.

Quilt Show – Sylvia O'Neill – The Quilt Show will be held on April 25 (setup), 26 and 27, 2026 at St. Cyril's. They still need volunteers to be in charge of various committees for the show. She will write a little description for the newsletter. She has the following areas covered: raffle quilt, food, front desk. Mini quilts and the Boutique should be started now. These can be groups of several people.

Show and Tell – Carol said that if anyone has a show and tell for February, they should send a picture to Ellen, with dimensions and any comments.

New Business:

Denise said we will be participating in Cradles to Crayons on February 5th from 10:00 – 12:00. It is located on Wissahickon Avenue. We will be sorting clothing and putting sets together.

Carol stated that our newsletter is our main vehicle for providing information, so please make sure to read it. Information should be sent to Jacob.

Carol said that the Bucks County Food Pantries are the umbrella for the pantries in the area, including New Britain Food Pantry.

We are going to do gift cards for them and they will share with the pantries.

Barbara Bailey will be stepping down from the Hospitality Committee as she has another opportunity to take advantage of. Barbara has done an awesome job. The Board has decided not to have Hospitality at this time as we don't have as much room in our new venue. We will see how it goes. But we will still do the ice cream social in June, which the Vice Presidents will handle. Members are welcome to bring a bottled drink and a snack. We will still have an intermission to socialize for a short time.

Ellen reminded us that the website is a great resource and that Marilyn is doing a great job keeping it up to date.

Barbara Lewis invited members to make 5-inch fabric hearts for parents with babies in the NICU.

Parents put the heart on their chest and then the hearts are put in the isolette so the baby has the scent of the parents. The hearts should be sewn around the edges and turned inside out, with the opening being sewn shut; edges should not be pinked.

Old Business – Dog beds are still being accepted. Carol said that if you have scraps you aren't going to use, cut them into 2- to 3-inch pieces and donate them. People will use them to make dog beds. Fabric for the outside of the dog beds should be heavier than quilting cotton, such as home dec fabric.

Drawings – Sue Edelman explained that Emily is entering names into a random generator on the

computer. Winners will receive their gift card in the mail.

Gift Cards: Barb Miller – Stitch Central

Barbara Lewis – Byrnes

Emily told everyone that if their full name does not appear on the computer, she cannot enter them in the drawing.

Carol said that she had forgotten two items. First, she delivered 17 gift cards to New Britain pantry the Wednesday after our previous meeting. Secondly, the Mennonite quilters use bed sheets for the backing of their quilts. If you have any to donate, they can use anything twin size or larger. Please make sure there are no stains or holes and also no white sheets. If you have pillowcases, they will cut them up for the front of the quilts.

Show and Tell – There were four members who showed their quilts: Lois Moore, Stella Bredin,

Bev Smith and Denise Beck.

Carol invited everyone to take advantage of some of our opportunities and wished everyone a good

rest of the month.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Vickie Detwiler, Secretary

GUILD HAPPENINGS

Programs

For those interested, you can have free, limited access to a virtual Quilting Summit to be aired Feb 4 and 5. Information is available at:
www.tickets.quiltedsommit.com

There will be multiple presenters. For full access to the programs, a fee is required.

February Speaker: (via Zoom) Kris O'Neill, www.sewthedistance.com

Kris O'Neill, owner of Sew The Distance, will be talking about scrap management during her presentation with us. She started sewing and quilting in the early 1990s as a young wife and mother, even though she nearly failed Home Economics in high school due to her lack of sewing skills. Nonetheless, she dove into sewing anyway. Over the years, she honed her craft through her guild, books, magazines, and of course, Sew Simple on HGTV. Later, when YouTube emerged, Kris watched and learned, further building her skills. Her business, Sew The Distance, began as a hobby in September 2020. For many years, she worked as a high school English/Language Arts teacher. Later, she returned to school and earned her master's degree in linguistics, becoming an ESL (English as a Second Language) teacher, a role she held for about four years. In 2020, everything changed, as it did for many people. Her husband's job went permanently remote, and the couple decided to move from Massachusetts to Pennsylvania, where they had both grown up. Although she initially planned to get licensed to teach in Pennsylvania, the pandemic complicated things, with testing centers still adjusting their operations. In the meantime, she decided to dive into YouTube—and the rest is history! Kris now teaches quilting classes both in person and online, is a quilting content creator, runs a website, and has recently started writing quilt patterns. She specializes in vintage and antique quilts, offering tips and techniques for quilters of all levels, and creating fun tutorials using precuts and scraps. Kris can be found on all major social media platforms under Sew The Distance and can be reached at info@sewthedistance.com. Her YouTube channel is <https://www.youtube.com/@SewtheDistance>

March speaker: (in person at Doylestown Mennonite Church)

Lois Mease, www.riverlawnquilting.com

Color Confidence for Quilters

Created by Shannon Brinkley, taught by Lois Mease

Class Description

In this program, quilters will learn about hue, color harmony, and balance. We'll explore the science of color and the art of trusting our intuitive inner artist. We will do several exercises that will literally train our eyes to distinguish subtle differences in color, value, and saturation.

This program is practical, concrete, and fun. It is appropriate for quilters who have no idea how to use a color wheel and only trust themselves to use precuts. It is also helpful for quilters with a great eye for color who are looking to create more interesting, dynamic palettes and develop a signature style. And it will be good

for everyone in between!

Students will learn:

- Color Theory basics
- How to use a color wheel to choose fabrics
- Classic Color Palette
- How to use hues and values to make your quilts interesting
- The key role tone plays, and how to use saturation and clarity to pair fabrics beautifully
- How to use contrast and harmony to create a balanced quilt

It is helpful for students to have a Color Wheel or Color Tool. They are available on the web page below and/or the instructor can bring them to live programs.

Philanthropy

Thank you to everyone who came out to sew at our January charity sew day in our new space. It worked out really well. We made lots of pillow cases for Beds for Kids. I won't deliver them until I see what comes in at our March meeting.

Our next sew day is the third Thursday, February 20. We'll be working from 10 to 2 helping two of the congregants from the Mennonite church to tie quilts. This promises to be a really fun day. I have 4 ladies signed up already, but I really am hoping for at least 12 people. Contact me by text or email if you'd like to come. Come on out and learn something new. Just bring your lunch and a thimble if you like working with one.

On that note if you have any old sheets you're no longer using bring them along on the 20th or to the March meeting. No stains or holes, no white. Twin size or up.

I hope everyone is enjoying sewing time during this frigid weather. Thanks for all you do for the charities we support!

Barb Gleason and Barbara Lewis

Activities

Fat Quarter Drawing - during the months when we meet by Zoom, we don't conduct a fat quarter drawing - but start getting ready for our return to in-person meetings in March 2025, when the Fat Quarter Drawing will resume. The color for March will be LIGHT BLUE. Please bring TWO light blue fat quarters to the March meeting and see Sue Edelman to be entered in a drawing to win one set of the FQ's received.

We will still draw two winners for gift cards from Byrnes and Stitch Central at the end of our January and February Zoom meetings. Names will be randomly chosen from those logged in to attend the meeting, Please make sure your name is displayed on the Zoom link - "anonymous" sign ins aren't eligible to win. As with our in person meeting, in order to win you must be present/still attending the zoom meeting at its conclusion when two names are announced.

Website

Please make sure to refer to the Philanthropy page of the website (countylinequilters.org) for directions on many of our charity projects. You will need to scroll down the page.

Also, recently added is a guide to making Cuddle Hearts/Bonding Hearts for the NICU.

WEIGH TO GO

Keep putting on the pounds.

We'll be weighing your finished philanthropy projects at our in-person March meeting, so keep stitching.

We're looking forward to a bounty of items for our charitable mission.

As a reminder, directions for several philanthropy items are on the website.

If you can't make the March meeting, you can still participate. Just contact Ellen Cicak (215-622-5708) and we'll make arrangements to include your items.

Questions? Give Ellen a call.

Events Committee

Well Ladies, the Events Committee hosted the first Sew Fun event: I Spy Quilts. We had great attendance, a full house, and the room was humming with lots of machines creating quilts for family members and several for Philanthropy. A huge thank you to Kathy Webb for creating a fail- proof pattern and offering lots of guidance for layout and various sizes.

Our new space is a perfect venue for guided sews, classes, and meetings. It's very clean, spacious, and the lighting is great! We are so lucky to have found such a wonderful space where we are warmly welcomed.



Book Pillow



Bucket Hats

Moda Blockheads are up and running. If you haven't registered as of yet, don't hesitate to contact Joanne D'Allura or Marilyn Lopez; it's never too late. This is a monthly event with sharing on Zoom. You don't even need to leave the house to participate.

Guided sews are scheduled for the rest of the year; we do have a limited registration. We have tested our space for 20 people, and we know we can safely and comfortably register 20 quilters. If you want to register for any of the guided sews, the cost is \$10, and you can register by texting Joyce Helstrom at 215-512-3220 (be sure to include your name and the date you want.

February 22 ... Sit and Sew (remember there will be lots of quilters for conversation, sharing, and help)

March 8... Child's Bucket Hat (infant to @5Yrs.) guided sew led by Kristin Kern

March 29... Book Pillow (AM) and Fabric Case for pencils, pens, marking tools(PM) both of these could be great items for the craft room for our next show. This is a guided by Pat Clayton

April 26 ...Sit and Sew (if you have something you would like to guide, let me know)

May... Possible Guild Flea Markert waiting for approval and date



Pencil Case





Bucket Hat (Model not included)

June 14... Guided Sew and an added feature: Ruler 180 Demo and Guidance by Ellen Cicak and

Kathy Webb ... Running with Scissors. Come learn how to use your tools and enjoy some time for guided practice.

If you have a particular item or craft that you would like to share during a Guided Sew, please contact Joyce Helstrom. Sue Edelman will be doing a Guided Sew on Paper Piecing in September; details coming.

Required materials and equipment will be sent to you after you register. Hope you can join us!

Committee Members: Joyce Helstrom, Joanne D'Allura, Marilyn Lopez

RAFFLE QUILT UPDATE

The assembly of the raffle quilt is going well, and we expect to send it to the quilters soon.

Many thanks to all who have helped in this project.

The 2026 Quilt Show

Please consider volunteering to be a chairman for a committee for the Quilt Show. The following committees still need someone.

Boutique - Collect, store, organize and price donations for the Show.

Mini Quilt - Collect mini quilts to be raffled at the Show.

Vendors - Hire vendors to sell products at the show.

Quilt Registration - Plan for the registration, collection and return of quilts being displayed at the Show.

Door Prizes - Solicit a variety of items to use for door prizes.

Volunteers- Sign up and organize volunteers for the Show.

Decorations - Plan decorations for the floor of the Show. This has included purchasing fresh flowers.

Quilt Layout - Plan the layout of the show.

Set Up - Organize volunteers to set up the Show using the layout.

Food Donations for New Britain Baptist Church's Food Pantry

Food Pantry Donations -

Although we are no longer gathering in the building where the New Britain Food Pantry is located, I encourage you to still support them with donations of shelf stable food items, Giant gift cards and on line financial contributions. The pantry serves over 700 people in our community each month. If you're travelling through the area, please consider dropping off donations - the Pantry is open most Monday and Wednesday mornings and if not open at the time of your visit, food items can be left in the silver rectangular "locker" located to the left of their door. There is a secure drop box on their door should you wish to leave Giant gift cards or monetary donations - and you can always donate on line by using this link:

<http://app.autobooks.co/pay/new-britain-food-pantry>

Our contact at the Food Pantry has often expressed their appreciation for our guild's many years of support for their program - hopefully our members can continue to support them on an individual basis.

LONGARM QUILTERS IN OUR GUILD

Many people ask about finding a longarm quilter who quilts as a business. Here are two names and contact information. If you are also longarmer and would like us to share your information, please contact me, Carol Cotter 215-802-8904, cacotter@yahoo.com.

Bonnie Kane -Bonnie does edge to edge quilting on an Innova longarm 267-673-8444; 610-304-8022 abk102995@msn.com

Joanne D'Allura – Joanne does pantograph edge to edge quilting, custom free motion, and ruler work.
917-750-3371 jdalldesignss@gmail.com
