



County Line Quilters News

www.countylinequilters.org

Wow, we had several new members join at our September meeting – welcome and please feel free to reach out to me with any questions or suggestions. Look forward to getting to know each of you better!

· We recognize that it is a little chaotic when you arrive at the meeting and we are working to better streamline the process. For you to make sure that you hit each area, please:

1) Sign in when you arrive

2) Drop off any philanthropy donations and fill out the sheet and collect your tickets for the drawing

3) Head downstairs and visit each of the three tables to sign up for any upcoming activities, visit the Quilts of Valor Table, pick up your raffle ticket for the Byrnes or Stitch Central gift card, pick up your raffle for to guess the word of the month in the newsletter and visit the philanthropy table to pick up any kit to work on the following month

· Great turnout at the scrap quilt philanthropy sew on 9/17. Great way to use discarded scraps and make beautiful quilts to donate to children.

· We have created several quilt tops at the philanthropy sew days that need to be quilted. Please let me know if you can help out by quilting these items for us. I currently have four tops that need to be quilted.

· I will be away for the October meeting, Bev Smith and Pat Clayton will be running the meeting.

The Fat Quarter color for September is Gold.

PLEASE READ THE NEWSLETTER - Each month there will be a special word inserted throughout the newsletter. There will be a raffle each month for the person who lists to correct number of times the word of the month is listed throughout the newsletter. The word for October is Frankenstein.

Please feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions, ideas or suggestions for our Guild.

Denise

COUNTY LINE QUILTERS GENERAL MEETING MINUTES 9-14-2026



The meeting agenda was introduction of board members and committee heads to talk about their plans and responsibilities. (Board members serve a two-year term):

Meeting Minutes

Vice Presidents: Pat Clayton (in attendance) and Bev Smith (not in attendance).

Responsible for planning monthly programs, the December holiday party and the June ice cream social.

Secretary: Stella Bredin.

Responsible for board and general meeting minutes.

Treasurer: Lynn Holtzman

This is Lynn's 3rd term as treasurer and she is looking for someone to shadow her to take over as treasurer when her term expires. Treasurer is responsible for developing an annual budget, handle Frankenstein checking account and payments, depositing checks and paying for guild insurance. Knowledge of Excel spreadsheet is helpful. Lynn stated that the guild's funds come from the bi-annual quilt show and member dues. The guild has approximately \$30,000 at present, but the funds must last through 2028. Lynn will publish the budget monthly in the newsletter.

Membership: Helen Haun and Lois Moore.

7 new members are in attendance tonight; 41 members signed in but the number may be inaccurate because not all members signed in. Lois keeps the database of current members and develops a spreadsheet with member contact information. It's important to let Lois know if your information has changed (lomo151@gmail.com). The contact information and guild bylaws will be emailed to members. Helen generates and distributes name tags; you may take your tag home or leave it with Helen at the end of the meeting. More help is requested at the sign-in table to expedite the process.

Philanthropy: Barbara Lewis and Barb Gleason.

The Philanthropy group meets at the church the third Thursday of the month from 10am-2pm to work on specific items needed to distribute to various charities. Charity is part of the guild's mission and our donations are very appreciated by the organizations. Directions for the types of items and how they are made are posted on the guild's website. Items made at home and donated by members at the general meetings will be tallied and noted in the newsletter. Those who donate items will be eligible for prizes. Examples of the Jelly Roll quilts made at the last Philanthropy meeting were shown to members. Kits for various items were put together by Denise Beck and Carol Cotter and distributed to members to sew. Let Denise know if you can assist with

making kits. It was noted that the Michaels store in King of Prussia has a larger selection of fabrics at a lower cost.

Quilts of Valor: Eileen Witowski (leader), Pat Piesecki, Carol Cotter.

Guild members determined that they would like to start a chapter in June 2026 and 30 members volunteered to help. Eileen agreed to be the leader. The organization was started in 2003 by a woman whose son was serving in Iraq and over 450,000 quilts have been donated thus far. Quilts made by members, typically in a red, white and blue colorway, are donated to active service members and veterans. Eileen and Sharon Moran recently awarded a quilt to a 92-year-old veteran. It was noted that recipients are very moved by donations and family members typically attend the award ceremony. We presently have 15 nominees who are awaiting quilts. Recently, the Military Purple Heart organization that Bill Malone (Jeanne's husband) belonged to, donated funds for the group's use in Bill's memory. Materials used should be of good quality and the quilts should be a certain size, fully quilted and bound. Instructions are on the QOV website. Carol Cotter distributed kits to members who were willing to sew blocks. Plans for a sew day to make these quilts are in the works.

Newsletter: Jacob Kane

Send any information you would like published in the newsletter to Jacob at jacobpkane@outlook.com by the 25th of each month for the upcoming month's Frankenstein newsletter.

Communications: Vickie Detwiler (not in attendance)

Any information you would like to send to guild members in the weekly email blast must be sent to Denise Beck(DAB53990@gmail.com) by the Wednesday of each week at noon. Denise will forward the information to Vickie. The blast will be sent to members on Friday or Saturday of each week. Blasts about Philanthropy sew days will be sent on Sunday or Monday.

You may send information about sad news directly to Vickie (vdet.c1@gmail.com) and she will email that separately from the main blast.

Sunshine: Dee Carr

Notify Dee at deecarr127@comcast.net if you know of anyone in the guild who needs a card sent to them (typically for illness, personal difficulties or death of a family member).

Events & Workshops: JoAnne D'Allura, Marilyn Lopez (chairpersons) assisted by Beth Curley, Barb Henry, Mary Beth Hoff, Mary Finley, Dee Carr

A review of past events was given; items made at some of the events and workshops from last year were displayed.

Upcoming Events: (let Joanne or Marilyn know if you are interested in any of the events: jdalldesignsss@gmail.com, cmlop@aol.com)

- 3rd Saturday of the Month at 10 AM-11 AM: Moda Blockheads via Zoom; not too late to join in
- Chubby Charmer carryall bag class taught by Pat Clayton, Tuesday, 9/29, 10-3 at the church; \$20, spots still available; attendees must purchase the pattern and do some prep work prior to the class
- Patriotic Mystery Quilt class taught by Pat Clayton, Tuesday, 10/6, 10-3, at the church; \$20 for the class payable to the guild and \$10 for the pattern payable to Pat the day of the class; prep work required
- Fall Potluck Luncheon: Tuesday 10/13, 11-3 at the church
- Day trip via tour bus to Lancaster, Tuesday 11/17, leave from the church lot at 8AM, (arrive at 7:45AM), return at 6:30 PM; will visit multiple quilt shops, Kitchen Kettle village for lunch or bag lunch on your; \$55, payable at registration; seats are available for other guild members as of 9/22
- Tuesday Oct 27, Wool Mistletoe Workshop, no sewing involved, all materials supplied, \$25 for the kit and \$15 for the class
- Guild Holiday Dinner, Tuesday, Dec 8, 6-8 PM at Ciao Pazzo, 355 York Road, Warminster; order from the menu and open bar; individual checks available
- Holiday Party, Monday, Dec 14, 7-9 at the church (in lieu of regular meeting)
- Circle of Friends Retreat, April 1-4 at the Heritage Hotel in Lancaster, \$210 per person; hotel fees separate

Possible future events, dates TBD: Name tag workshop, Sew Togethers via Zoom in January and February, Valentine's Potluck, Airing of the Quilts, Palmerton, PA, May 1.

Activities: Eileen Witowski, Anita Lehman

Visit the Activities table when you arrive at the meeting; fill out a name form to be eligible for a drawing to win a gift card to Byrnes or Stitch Central

Fat Quarter of the month; Each month you are asked to bring in two fat quarters of a certain color; One bundle of Fat Quarters is awarded to a member the night of the meeting and another bundle is saved for an end of year raffle

The Fat Quarter color for October is GOLD; the color is chosen by the winner of the prior month's bundle

Website: Marilyn Malik (not in attendance); Liz Watson presenting for Marilyn; www.countylinequilters.org

Information on the website is available for public consumption and members' use. There is a great deal of useful information on the site including guild history, mission, photos of members, quilts, and past shows, instructions for philanthropic items and "How to Make Stuff", newsletters, calendars and events and guild presentations.

Technology: Liz Watson, Suzette Trucksess

Liz and Suzette will operate the Zoom platform to air in person meetings to members who can't attend in person; Jan and Feb meetings will be aired to all members via Zoom; in rare instances, out of state speakers will present via Zoom at in person meetings.

Historian: Nancy Williams

Responsible for preparing a yearbook highlighting the guild's activities. Nancy passed around a hard cover book of last year's activities that was well received; a sign-up sheet to order a soft cover edition of the book was distributed; the book is estimated to cost \$20; need a minimum of 10 people to sign up. Other responsibilities include taking pictures of members show and tell items, guild speakers, workshops and events. Nancy is looking for someone who is willing to take over this role when her term expires. She is willing to mentor that person.

Challenge and Raffle Quilt: Carol Cotter, Pat Piasecki, Sylvia O'Neill

The "Two Color" quilt is the challenge quilt for this year and is due at the December meeting. Members pick 2 crayons and must sew an item of any type using only those two colors and a background color. The item may not be larger than 40" by 40" due to space limitations for the display at the church. Votes will be taken and prizes will be awarded to the winners of 4 different prize categories.

Raffle Quilt for the 2028 Quilt Show: Designed by Gina Gempshaw, one of the members who has had patterns published in various magazines. Carol displayed the design of the quilt and asked for members to sew some of the blocks. Gina prepared detailed directions; kits for the blocks are made and will be distributed to volunteer members. Specific directions were given to allow for consistency. They include sewing with light grey or cream thread, & hand applique of the Dresden plate blocks. It was noted that some blocks include partial seams, flying geese and half square triangles. The skill level to sew the blocks varies from beginner to advanced. Members are encouraged to volunteer for blocks they feel comfortable in making. There is ample fabric in the kits for most methods of construction. Distribution of the kits will begin soon. Contact Carol Cotter, cacotter@yahoo.com if you are willing to help.

"Getting to Know You" Committee: Rose D'Alisa, Mary Beth Hoff, Mary Finley, Dee Carr

This committee was recently formed to welcome new members into the guild and to get to know more about each other. Members of the committee will provide information, answer questions and introduce new members to the activities of the guild and to other members. Rose will be writing a short bio of individual members in the

newsletter each month. The bios will be based on answers provided by members to a short questionnaire that she will send them.

Quilt Show: Marilyn Malik and Marilyn Lopez, chairpersons

The quilt show is the biggest fundraiser for the guild and supports our programs over a two-year period. All guild members are needed to volunteer for this undertaking and there are various jobs that need to be fulfilled. The next show is scheduled for Thursday March 30 to Saturday, April 1, 2028, at St. Cyril of Jerusalem's Church Hall in Jamison, PA.

- A few of the Subcommittees of the quilt show include **Crafts Sale Table**, organized by Val Rudan, Judy Patko and Pat Kohne

Consignment Sales, run by Suzette Trucksess and **Mini Quilts raffles**.

More information about other committees and the show in general will be forthcoming.

BUSINESS MEETING

- The meeting was called to order at 7PM by Denise Beck, Guild President.
- Denise welcomed everyone back and remarked that many donations were brought in for Philanthropy. General information was shared about how all meetings are available via Zoom for those who are unable to attend in person; the January and February meetings are aired via Zoom only. It was noted that the Doylestown Mennonite Church Hall is only available on a limited basis, so a second location was found at the Buckingham Township Building for classes and the like. Denise mentioned that the Newsletter will have a hidden "word of the month" listed in various places each month; members should count how many words are listed and may win a prize at the next meeting if they guess correctly.
- The meeting agenda focused on an overview of the plans and responsibilities of board members and committee heads. The details about that portion of the meeting are extensive and are described in a separate document also attached to the newsletter email.
- The Business Meeting was held after all Board Members and Committee Heads had spoken and proceeded as follows:
 - o A motion was made by Denise to approve the Minutes from the June meeting; Dee Carr motioned to proceed, and Lynn Holtzmann seconded the motion. The guild members unanimously approved of the minutes.
 - o A motion was made to approve the last treasurer's report and was motioned for acceptance by Bonnie Frankenstein Kane and seconded by Joyce Helstrom with unanimous approval from all guild members.

o A motion was made to accept the Budget as proposed in the last newsletter and was motioned for acceptance by Carol Cotter, seconded by Susie Sargent with unanimous approval from all guild members.

· Drawings and Winners for the evening:

o Judy Patko won the newsletter "hidden word" contest and was awarded a prize.

o Barb Miller won a Frankenstein Fat Quarter bundle and a ticket to the Oaks quilt show for the Philanthropy donation drawing.

o Nancy Williams won a gift certificate to Byrne Sewing.

o Rose Marie Wert won a gift certificate to Stitch Central.

o Barb Miller won the Orange Fat Quarter Bundle and picked next month's color: GOLD

o Other Door prizes were awarded to Beth Curley, Jeanne Malone and Naomi McAuliff

· Lynn Holtzmann announced that volunteers are needed to sew "Reach for Recovery" bags at the Rydal Park Clubhouse near Abington/Jefferson Hospital on Sept 18. Kits are provided and there will be other opportunities to help out in the future.

· The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 12, 2026.

· The meeting was adjourned at 9:02 PM by Denise Beck

Respectfully submitted,

Stella Bredin

GUILD HAPPENINGS

Programs

A Note from your VP's,

Thank you to all the CLQ members who were so enthusiastic in sharing information about their jobs, their responsibilities, and all the great activities that are forthcoming for the 2026/2027 year. It was very exciting to hear about all the new ideas and initiatives for get-togethers, BOM, quilt show changes, speakers, philanthropy, Quilts of Valor, and workshops just to mention a few. Thank you all.

Becca Fenstermaker will be our in-person speaker at the October meeting. For quilt designer and storyteller Becca Fenstermaker, creativity begins close to home, on her family's cranberry farm in southern New Jersey. Becca creates her favorite designs through her own stories and experiences. Every choice she makes for her designs comes from the story that she tells. Her main objective is that quilters should tell their own story. Maybe you will share your story...

In November, Tina Curran will be our zoom speaker for the evening. Tina is a specialist in Art Quilts and many of her quilts have been on display at multiple art and quilt shows as well as showcased in national quilt magazines. In Tina's own words, she enjoys the deep American roots of traditional quilting combined with the unlimited possibilities of today's art quilts. Tina often uses contemporary fabrics in century-old quilt traditions.

Bev and Pat

Activities

Don't forget to stop at the table on your way into the meeting to fill out a ticket for a gift card drawing. Even if you have one a gift card, you can put your name in in case we have other prizes....however, you may only win one gift card per year.

Also, the fat quarter color is Gold. The more fat quarters we get, the more we will have to raffle off in the spring.

Philanthropy

All I can say is WOW! Thank you so very much for bringing in so many fantastic items. Because of your generosity I have enough place mats to meet my Fall deliveries. Since we have enough, we won't be working on placemats for October charity sew day. Instead we'll be working on receiving blankets. The Baby Bureau has specifically requested these and so we'll oblige. Our monthly projects are decided on as our charities express a need. One of the main tenets of the guild is our focus on Frankenstein philanthropy for our community. Please continue to make placemats through the year, so we'll be ready for the Spring delivery in May and June.

Our next Charity Sew Day is the third Thursday, October 15 from 10:00 to 2:00. Please bring your machine, sewing equipment, lunch and a pen or marking pencil. I can show you the

trick to making the perfect mitered corners on the blankets. We will have the baby flannel, but if you happen to see a good deal we use one thirty inch piece and one forty inch piece.

As always we encourage you to make projects for our charities at home. If you have questions you can look on the web site or reach out to either of us. Again, my heartfelt thanks for your continued generosity!

Barb Gleason and Barbara Lewis Philanthropy Chairs

Giant Gift Cards

Ten dollar Giant Gift Cards will be available for purchase at our general meeting. The cards are distributed to those in need by the Bucks County Opportunity Council. Please see Joyce Helstrom or Ellen Cicak to buy one or more. Your generosity makes a difference!

Membership

Thank you to all who paid their dues thus far. If you have not, please bring a check for \$35.00 made payable to County Line Quilters.

Things get pretty hectic at the membership table at this time of the year, If you must pay be cash, please PUT IT IN AN ENVELOPE WITH YOUR NAME ON IT. Cash without an envelope will not be accepted from prior members. Only new members can pay by cash initially.

If you have a problem paying your dues, please contact me (Lois, lomo151@gmail.com) or Helen (hb.haun@verizon.net).

If you plan to not renew your membership for the 2026-27 Frankenstein season, please let us know.

If dues are not paid by November 1, your name will be removed from the membership list.

Thank you.

Quilts of Valor (QOV)

Thank you for all of your support with our new endeavor! If anyone took a kit in either June or at the Sept meeting, please return as soon as you can. Questions about the kits should be directed to Carol Cotter. We are working on a date to gather to cut, make kits, work on quilt tops, make presentation bags (basically a pillow case), make binding and to bind quilts.



The following picture was from our presentation to the Military Order of the Purple Heart.

Raffle Quilt Blocks

We need your help in completing blocks for our 2028 Raffle Quilt. I want to reiterate about the various blocks available to sew. Pick the block in your wheelhouse. We ask you to precisely measure your 1/4" seam, so it's a thread less than 1/4". Please use light gray or cream thread when piecing and give finished blocks to Marilyn Malik or Carol Cotter by the December meeting.

Blocks

Odd Fellow – large 20 1/2 " block with 7 colors

Fan Setting – Dresden block applique stitched by hand

Rail Twist – This block has straight lines with partial seams

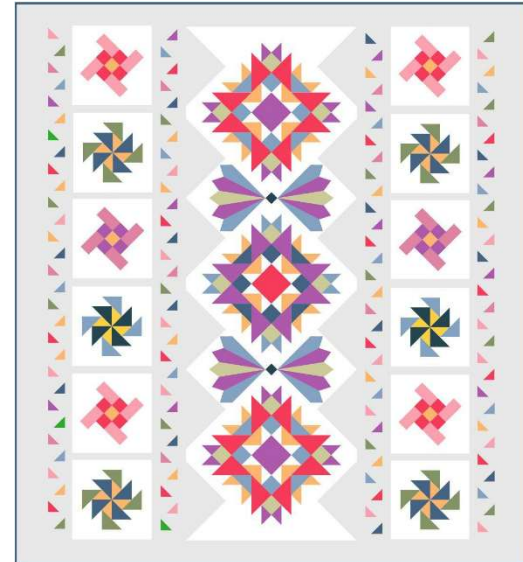
Flying Dutchman – This block has flying geese

Confetti – 15 -2 1/2" half square triangles with borders in a column

Please text to let us know which block you would like to sew.

Carol Cotter 215-802-8904

Marilyn Malik 267-625-9667



Communications/Blast

A Blast will be sent out to all members with news of upcoming events and important information every week. We are aiming to send it on Fridays. If you have any information that you would like to have included, please email Denise Beck at DAB53990@gmail.com and Vickie Detwiler at vdet.c1@gmail.com

Any "sad news" will be sent out separately from the regular Friday Blast and will be sent out as soon as possible with relevant information.

Website

The County Line Quilters website is Countylinequilters.org

It's a great resource for information for not only the public but also for our members. You'll find our history, our mission, our programs and lots of photos!

On the **philanthropy page** it gives directions for making fidget lap quilts for patients with alzheimers, NICU quilts, placemats, walker bags, moontime bags for native Americans, receiving blankets, hot dog pillows, pet beds and cuddle hearts for premies.

On the page titled **How to Make Stuff** you'll find out to make an Iron Caddy Tote, Snappy eyeglass case, casserole cozy, scissor holder, rollup pouch, jewelry case, cosmetic bag,

tissue holders, how to add a sleeve to your quilt, journal cover, rope bowls, vinyl project bag & wallets for tea bags or RFID credit card holder.

You'll find past **presentations & workshops, newsletters, challenges** and past **quilt shows**.

The **Calendar and Events** page helps you plan your own calendar. There's a general guide outlining when board meetings, general guild meetings, philanthropy & MODA blockheads meet. Then below that is the next month presentation/activities detailed, including what color the Fat Quarters are. On the side it tells whether Zoom is available and the meeting time.

If someone emails the website, it is usually to inquire about meetings or about donating items. We received a ton of fabric and notions from these donations to use at our quilt show. We try to capture many pictures of our activities and members being involved and hope this is a good resource. It's a pleasure to see so many people being involved, getting inspired and contributing to our communities.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Sylvia O'Neill

Sylvia was born in Hazelton, PA, but moved to Chalfont in 1955 where she still lives with her nephew Frank and her dog, Molly. She graduated from Gwynedd Mercy College and taught middle and high school Social Studies and English for 35 years. Between college graduation and her teaching profession, she worked at a map store and was an American Airlines Flight Attendant. Sylvia's parents met in Italy where her father was a soldier. She went to Europe for the first time when she was 6 and spent the summer with her mother's family in Italy and Yugoslavia. She has traveled all over the US in a motor home, but would like to visit Alaska, Prague and Hawaii, and also see the northern lights. Sylvia started quilting in 1988. She took classes with Karen Buckley and learned to piece and quilt everything by hand. Now she machines quilts everything using free motion quilting. While keeping with a traditional style of quilting, she enjoys trying new things, learning new techniques with every quilt she makes. Currently, along with Carol Cotter and Pat Piasecki, Sylvia heads the "Challenges" committee for the guild.

Marilyn Dooley

Marilyn is one of the newer members of our guild. She was born in Syracuse, NY and grew up outside of Buffalo, NY. She is widowed and has lived in the same house for 55 years. She has three daughters and five grandchildren, all living fairly close by. She married her second husband in Maui, Hawaii in 1996, and while Hawaii is one of her favorite places, she would like to travel to Europe, especially Ireland. Marilyn learned to sew in her Home Economics class in the sixth grade. She began to quilt in 2004 after attending a quilt show in Lancaster, PA, and taking a quilting class at County Quilt Works. The wonderful quilts on display at the big show in Fort Washington provided even more inspiration. She mainly sticks to the traditional style of quilting, but enjoys using applique, paper piecing, and even modern quilting as well. She works with a long-arm quilter to finish all of her quilts, although she has done her own quilting of small pieces over the last few years.

UPCOMING QUILT SHOWS



**2026
QUILT SHOW**
Presented by the
NEWTOWN QUILTERS' GUILD

❖ **Saturday, November 14, 2026**
10:00 am – 5:00 pm

❖ **Sunday, November 15, 2026**
10:00 am – 4:00 pm

Newtown Middle School
116 Newtown-Richboro Road
Newtown, PA 18940
newtownquilters@gmail.com



A Thread Runs Through It

Keystone Quilters
"Freedom of Expression"
2026 QUILT SHOW
October 9 - 10, 2026
Finland Mennonite Church.
1750 Ziegler Rd, Pennsburg, PA 18073
questions can be emailed to jacobquiltersguild@gmail.com
2026 Keystone Quilters Quilt Show [entry form](#)
Raffle quilt: pieced and hand quilted by our members



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 a longarmer and would like us to share your information, please contact Jacob Kane.

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

Pat Clayton – Quilt Labels Your Way by Patricia Clayton – custom-made embroidered labels.
(215) 704-1057 | plc3274@gmail.com



Happy Birthday to you, Happy Birthday to you, Happy Birthday dear ...

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Sue Edelman - 10/2
Sharon Moran - 10/8
Linda Pickett - 10/15

Gina Gempesaw - 10/24
Patricia Piasecki - 10/29

PHILANTHROPY ACTIVITY SUMMARY

Philanthropy	September
Dog Beds	28
Fidget Quilts	0
NICU Quilts	36
Pillow Cases	5
Placemats	124
Quilts for Beds for Kids	16
Receiving Blankets	16
Walker Bags	19
Other	
Knitted hats	6
Stroller Blanket	3
Knitted blankets	9



21 walker bags dropped off at Neshaminy Manor

We will be tracking philanthropy activity throughout the year to share with the Guild! Stay tuned for Frankenstein updates.