

NORTH PITTSBURGH QUILTERS GUILD

From the President's Desk

It's hard to believe that another year is over. It seems that the years keep going faster and faster. I had a college professor explain that once. He said when you are 4 years old one year is a quarter of your life so when you compare a year to your whole life it's a lot. But when you are 50 a year is just 1/50th of your life and you are comparing it to a lot more so the year seems shorter. Having said that a year is still 365 days but that doesn't seem like enough to get everything done that I want. As I look to 2025 I keep hoping that if I make clear goals and gather supplies that I will finish more projects in 2025. To that end I have started to clean up and throw out and make a pile for the free table/Treasure Chest. So if you are like me and have the desire to regroup and clean with a new year - don't forget about the free table and Treasure Chest. The downside is that you have to hold on to stuff until March when we meet in person again but worth it for the good cause.

Our meeting this month is a little later and via zoom - thanks to the holiday (New Years) and the potential for bad weather. Deb will be sending out the Zoom link. Remember the meeting is January 7 at 7:00 pm. Yes, you can attend in your jammies if you want. Of course you could do that when we meet in person as well :)

Judy Gough

Programs

Jennifer Chiaverini will be our Guest Speaker via Zoom on Tuesday, January 7, 2025 at 7 pm. Jennifer is a New York Times Bestseller author with over 34 novels including critically acclaimed historical fiction and the best selling Elm Creek quilt novels. Jennifer will discuss the “The Museum of Lost Quilts” and give us a preview of her new novel coming out this April.

We will start the meeting at 7 pm with a few announcements and then move into our program. January and February meetings are via Zoom. Look for your Zoom invitation soon.

Deb Thompson

Also on Tuesday

Social Time AGAIN!

If we have time...which I'm never real sure we will ...but if we do, we would love to hear what you're planning for your first project of 2025. The fickle finger of fate will select names (aka out of a hat). If you want to share, you can...if you don't, that's OK too!

See you on the 7th,

Stacy

Treasurer's Report

Financials: December End of Year 2024

Total income for December was \$37.75. Total expenses for December was \$184.27.

Total income from July through December 2024 was \$1893.75 and total expenses for the same period was \$3410.47.

The bank balance is purposely not reported in the newsletter. Bank balances will be reported at the monthly meetings and are reported to the Executive Board/Committee at their meetings. Any questions regarding the finances can be made to me.

Happy New Year.

Sandra Schott

Thanks for your great comments, excitement and support of the Secret Pal for our North Pittsburgh Quilters Guild. Since our January & February meetings are not in person, we will resume exchange of gifts at Berkeley Hills Lutheran Church in March 2025. If you want to mail cards or letters to your Secret Pal, that is always your option and privilege to do so.

Deb Thompson

Profiles in Stitching

Special thanks to Carol Hartman who kindly provided her profile for our Newsletter this month. If you are willing to do your profile, please contact me at abshearon@gmail.com or 412-897-1000.

Hi to Everyone.

My name is Carol Hartman and I'm not sure how long I've been a guild member, but it's been a long time. I put off becoming a member for a while before I joined. I'm regretting that decision as being a member

has brought me many friendships and experiences. When I first started, I jumped in with both feet and became President early on. It gave me the opportunity to get to know everyone in the guild. I highly recommend getting involved for that reason.

I started sewing when I was 13. I really didn't start quilting until much later. I took a class on piecing and after our first class there was a blizzard. I stayed in my sewing room till I had a king-sized quilt pieced. I haven't really stopped since then. I went to the Beaver Valley show one year and decided I needed to check into longarming. Quite a few years later after my children were on their own, I needed something to take up my time and feel productive. I bought my machine 25 years ago and well it's still a thing here. Sewing has become so much to me, and I hope I'm able to continue for many years to come.

I enjoy seeing what everyone is working on and has worked on. It truly is an inspiration that makes me want to make it too! So much so that my house is full of projects done and lots of projects to do along with a sewing room full. I have loved and continue to enjoy quilting your quilts and being your friend. When asked to do this, I wasn't sure what to write but I know, I enjoy coming to guild each month and seeing all my friends who just happen to quilt.

Carol Hartman

littleshoes2072@verizon.net

Local Exhibition You Might Like

In December, I went to the ***Louise Silk: A Patchwork Life*** exhibit, at the History Center. It was very interesting to see her craft change from the beginning of her artistic career to the present. As I recall Silk learned to quilt from magazines in the 70's in Pittsburgh when there were no quilt guilds and few quilt shops. She struggled to learn, to be recognized as an artist, and to build and join artistic communities in Pittsburgh.

You might still have time to participate in Silk's Witness Quilt project, a very interesting display of folk sayings, written or stitched on fabric, that is found at the end of the exhibit. You can participate by contributing a piece of fabric and/or by joining the Stitching Circle. There is a QR code at the end of the exhibit to do so. However that quilt will be dismantled in February, so I do not know if it is too late (so go sooner rather than later).

When I go to quilt shows, I am so much in awe about the quilts that I see (all of the points match and the fabrics are gorgeous!) that I feel inadequate and discouraged about my own efforts. Some of Silk's quilts are similarly awe-inspiring, but a lot are very free-flowing and have more to do with her memories, faith, and principles. So instead of being discouraged, after seeing this exhibit I feel inspired to: be creative; learn; take my time; enjoy the process; combine different fabrics and crafts; and express myself. I hope that you will too.

The ***Louise Silk: A Patchwork Life*** exhibit, runs through April 6, 2025, at the Senator John Heinz History Center. Admission to the entire museum is \$20.

Abigail Thompson

The Panel Exchange will take place on January 14, 2025 at 6:30 pm at Berkeley Hills. Any questions, please contact Denise Ludwig at 412-913-5045

More NPQG Fun on the Way

**NPQG Retreat
Crestfield Camp and Conference Center
May 15-18, 2025**

Our NPQG Retreat will again be held at Crestfield in Slippery Rock, May 15-18.

There is a large sewing room with a refrigerator and microwave. Water and coffee are provided during the day. Crestfield has many walking paths and a lovely setting. Our rooms are just a few steps away from the work room and the dining room. Each room has its own bathroom. Sheets and towels are provided. Meals are included: Thursday dinner, Friday & Saturday brunch and dinner, and brunch on Sunday. And, of course, we will have a snack/dessert area in our sewing room. If you have a quilting friend or relative who would like to join us, please invite her.

The lodge has singles, doubles and triples. Obviously, the more we double or triple up, the more people we can accommodate. The lodge does have a few rooms with a partial handicap bathroom and a couple with a full handicap bathroom. If you want to request either of these, please note it on your registration slip. Also if you have any dietary restrictions, please include that on your form.

So check your calendar, find a roommate or two and get your registration in. Space is limited. First come, first served.

It's unfortunate that we don't have an in-person meeting in January or February. If you want to come, and don't have a roommate, let me know and perhaps we can get you together with someone in the same situation.

The registration form is attached. Please call or email if you have any questions.

Tracey Zigo

412-916-1280

zigo13@comcast.net

NPQG Retreat May 15-18, 2025

Crestfield Camp and Conference Center <http://www.crestfieldcc.org/>
195 Taggart Road
Slippery Rock, PA 16057

Each room has its own bathroom. Sheets and towels are provided.

Three night stay (Thursday, Friday, Saturday)

includes 6 meals:
Dinner—Thur, Fri, Sat
Brunch—Fri, Sat, Sun

single \$320
double \$215
triple \$190

Refund policy: We need to give the center our final count a month prior; therefore, no refunds after April 16

Two night stay (Friday, Saturday)

includes 4 meals:
Dinner—Fri, Sat
Brunch—Sat, Sun

single \$253
double \$160
triple \$132

Large work room - everyone will have a 6 foot table.
Refrigerator, coffee, hot tea, ice water - provided by Crestfield

Complete the form below, detach and send with your check **made out to NPQG**.
Mail to: Tracey Zigo 2507 W Hardies Road Gibsonia PA 15044

Name: _____

Phone # _____ Email _____

Circle your choice: 3 nights 2 nights

Type of room: Single Double Triple

List roommate(s)

Dietary requests such as vegetarian, vegan, no dairy, no gluten...

Amount enclosed: _____

NPQG Guild Meeting Minutes

Date: 12/03/2024

Time: 7-9

Location: Berkeley Hills Lutheran Church

Recording Secretary: Abigail Thompson

Board Members and Committee Chairs in Attendance

President: Judy Gough; Secretary: Abigail Thompson; Treasurer: Sandra Schott; Members at Large: Alice Gibson and Raven Fagelson,

Past President: Stacy Koehler; Activities and Education: Stacy Koehler and Connie Angermeier; Fundraising: Teri Tuminello; Historian: Connie Angermeier; Sunshine: Connie Angermeier; Membership: Carol Beck; Quilt Show: Carol Beck; Programs: Deb Thompson, Webmaster: Tracey Zigo; Facebook: Carol Hartman; Greeter: Molly Healy; Hospitality: Sally Taylor;

Number of Meeting Attendees

0 guests, 34 members in person, no Zoom

Approval of the Minutes

Janie Walker moved to accept the October (10/1/2024) and November (11/5/2024) Guild Meeting Minutes. Linda Williams seconded the motion. Members approved.

Announcements

Our Quilting Retreat at Crestfield will be held on May 15-May 18, 2025.

Upcoming meetings will be held on Zoom: Jennifer Chiaverini with "The Museum of Lost Quilts" in January and John Flynn and his daughter Kate Flynn Nichols in February.

Christmas Party Games

We: Decorated snowmen. Played Holiday Lefts and Rights. Answered "where do you hide new fabric?"

Meeting Events

Pre-meeting third exchange of panels for Panel Round Robin.

Cup and a Quarter, Fat Quarter, the Free table, Make it in a Minute (Stacy Koehler) with the Bare Trees Block.

The Name Tag raffle winner, Barb Beideman donated her prize back to the guild.

