



# Valley Forge Homestead Quilters

Guild Newsletter

[www.valleyforgequilters.com](http://www.valleyforgequilters.com)

January 2025

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## President's Corner

I'm writing this the day after our holiday party. What a good time! I am amazed at all the wonderful food you provided. And it was great to see everyone enjoying the games. A big thanks to Fran, Marcy and Rita for a great evening.

It's time to think about the New Year. I am challenging myself to finish a long list of projects.

I have a few challenges for you too. Can we complete even more comfort quilts in 2025? Maybe 275? Another challenge is to try a new workshop - we have several fun, new offerings coming up. And don't forget the "initials" challenge that Dawn introduced that is due in September.

Are you up for a challenge?

Until next time,

*Linda Mitchell*



## Row of Every Other Month - 2025

Our first row should be finished by January 21. Please send a photo to Deb Graves as our January meeting is via Zoom.

Any questions, please contact Cathy Fennell.



## Happy Birthday

### January

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

### February

- 2 Ellen Kane
- 10 Barbara Jones
- 13 Susan Howatt
- 16 Joann Kirschenmann
- 17 Esther Canning
- 19 Ann Lister
- 24 Sandy Dounce
- 26 Jen Fillman
- 26 Laura Ocker



Emily Graff receiving Award from Linda for 'First Quilt Show'

## Programs

### January

*Emma Jane Powell: Arpilleras*

Emma Jane has carried on a family legacy of quilting for over 25 years., She has tried it all, and she loves every step of the quilting process. A career public school teacher for many years, she jumped ship after having a baby in her 40s during the pandemic, and now teaches quilting for guilds, shows, and her local quilt store. She studied Spanish in high school and college and has traveled to numerous Spanish speaking countries. Her love of travel has influenced her appreciation for craft art.

Arpilleras were a form of craft art resistance born during the Chilean dictatorship of the 1970-90s. Using applique tapestries closely resembling quilts, learn how impoverished women communicated human rights atrocities happening in Chile with the outside world. Explore various arpilleras from that time period. We will also look at arpilleras today and how this craft art is being recognized. Learn a little about history, politics, and art of South America during this very captivating lecture.

### February

*Meg Cox's topic is Making Meaning: How Quilters Celebrate Life*

Meg Cox is a nationally known leader on the topics of quilting and family traditions. She has been a writer since 1975 and also publishes the newsletter, Quilt Journalist Tells All.

Her expertise on quilting stems partly from the 25 years that she has been a passionate quilter. Additionally, Meg served on the board of the national nonprofit, [Quilt Alliance](#), for 10 years and was president for six years. See her commentary on modern quilting in the hit 2011 documentary, *Stitched*.

*Rita Mack*

## Guild Meeting Minutes - December 17, 2024

**Welcome:** Linda Mitchell welcomed all members.

**Announcements:** Linda Mitchell presented Emily Graff with a First Quilt Show Ribbon from the 2024 Quilt Show.

-Barbara Hughes mentioned that spots are still available for the Spring 2025 retreat, and she would accept deposits through December. Please contact her if interested.

-The Guild donated funds from the 2024 Quilt Show to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Quilts for Kids, and the Upper Merion Area Community Cupboard.

-Reminder that the January and February Guild meetings will be on Zoom only.

**Membership:** no new members.

**Comfort Quilts:** Maxine Close mentioned that there were 23 quilts collected during November 2024, making for a total of 242 quilts so far this year. She reminded members to ask for a quilt kit, batting or backing if needed to complete a comfort quilt. She is also collecting word puzzle books and more for the Coatesville VA. There will be a Zoom comfort quilt meeting in January 2025. Rita Mack won the drawing this month.

**Workshops:** January 25, 2025: String Piecing with Connie Stevenson, Zoom workshop.  
February 22, 2025: David Sirota and "Collide-O-Scope" paper piecing, Zoom workshop.  
Cost to members is \$20. Spots are still available.

March 22, 2025: Comfort Quilts, Dignity Bibs, and Fidget Quilts workshop.

April 26, 2025: Applique workshop with Rebecca Penniston. Cost to members is \$25.

**50/50 Drawing:** no 50/50 this month.

**Door prizes:** no door prizes this month.

**Program:** This month was the annual holiday party. Members enjoyed dinner, music, and games which included Bingo, Jelly Roll Races, pass the present table game, and a Christmas story gift exchange. There were multiple Bingo winners and Jelly Roll Race semi-finalists. Maxine Close was the overall Jelly Roll Race winner.

**Show and Tell:** show and tell followed.

**January meeting:** The January meeting will be Zoom only. Members will need to email photos of their completed Row of Every Other Month and Show and Tell items to Deb Graves for the January meeting. The January program will feature Emma Jane Powell via Zoom. Her talk is about folk-art applique, Arpilleras.

**The meeting was adjourned.**

Respectfully submitted,

*Jen Fillman*

## Our AccuQuilt Studio is Back in the Spotlight!

This year, the Guild looked at this quilting treasure with fresh eyes. The result: we're directing a healthy dose of TLC to our AccuQuilt program.

In 2024, we replaced the AccuQuilt *Studio* metal tray, disposed of worn accessories and purchased new dies and plastic cutting sheets. We highlighted the AccuQuilt and its capabilities at a Spring Guild meeting, and the *Studio* supported multiple workshops during the year. We will end 2024 on a high note: a new, tall shelving unit for the Studio and AccuQuilt supplies. The new shelves will allow us to meaningfully organize supplies and store our dies as recommended by the manufacturer.

We have exciting plans for 2025, including:

- Purchasing at least one new die. I'm eyeballing the alphabet die. But if you have other recommendations, please contact Lisa Lombardo, the AccuQuilt Coordinator.
- Offering more AccuQuilt Workshops
- Providing quarterly access to the Studio 45 minutes before specified Guild meetings, allowing quilters to cut fabric with the dies in between AccuQuilt workshops. I will be at these sessions to guide members in selecting and using the dies, and in properly using the Studio. We will publicize each AccuQuilt session in advance at the Guild Meetings and in the newsletter.

As interest in the AccuQuilt program grows, let us remember that we must treat this treasure with respect: the supplies are delicate and expensive. Each die costs between \$50-\$180. The plastic sheets and Studio trays are also costly.

We appreciate the efforts of all who have supported the Accuquilt program over the years, and we look forward to renewed interest in this wonderful Guild benefit in the new year!

*Lisa Lombardo*

## Comfort Quilts

At our December 17 meeting there were 11 quilts turned in making a total of 253 quilts for the year!! Thank you to all of you that helped to make such a wonderful productive year. I would like to thank the committee for all that you have done this past year to help make this such a success. I look forward to working with you again this coming year.

Our next Comfort Quilt Workshop on Zoom is Saturday, January 11, 2025, at 9:30 a.m. In addition to being on Zoom, I am inviting you to come and sew and have lunch at my house.

If you need backing, batting or anything regarding Comfort Quilts, please feel free to contact me.

*Maxine Close*



## Quilt Shows

### **Now through March 2, 2025**

**Signature Quilts** - through March 2, 2025. Creating identity and memory with quilts is the focus of the upcoming exhibit at Chester County History Center at 225 N. High Street, West Chester, PA. Two dozen quilts, most from the mid-1800s, with extensive inscriptions will be on view. Examples include recent acquisitions exhibited for the first time, along with quilts not on view for more than 30 years. The museum hours are Wednesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more info visit <https://mycchc.org/exhibits/changing-exhibits/>.

### **January**

**CRAFT NAPA 2025: Uncorked at Home Workshops** - January 9-12, 2025. Registration opened September 14th. Comprised of 6-hour (1-day) and multi-day workshops, all taking place virtually via Zoom. Classes begin at 8:00 AM PACIFIC with an hour-long lunch break from 11:00 AM-Noon PACIFIC, and resume from Noon- 3:00 PM PACIFIC. For more info visit <https://craftingalifelc.com/>.

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

### **February**

**AQS Quilt Week** - February 19-22, 2025. Presented by AQS at the [Ocean Center](#), 101 North Atlantic Avenue, Daytona Beach, FL. For more info visit <https://www.quiltweek.com/>.

**QuiltCon** - February 20-23, 2025. Presented by The Modern Quilt Guild at the Phoenix Convention Center in Phoenix, AZ. For more info visit <https://www.quiltcon.com/>.

**Mid-Atlantic Quilt Festival** - February 27 to March 2, 2025. Presented by Mancuso Show Management at the [Hampton Roads Convention Center](#), 1610 Coliseum Drive, Hampton, VA. For more info visit <https://www.quiltfest.com/upcoming-shows-and-events/mid-atlantic-quilt-festival/>.

### **March**

**AQS Quilt Week** - March 12-15, 2025. Presented by AQS at the [Branson Convention Center](#), 200 S Sycamore Street, Branson, MO. For more info visit <https://www.quiltweek.com/>.

**Lancaster Lebanon Quilt Show** - March 26-29, 2025. At the [Lebanon Valley Exposition Center](#), 80 Rocherty Road, Lebanon, PA. The show features over 55+ vendors, 150+ quilts and 30+ classes. It also includes free admission, free parking and free lectures. For more info visit <https://www.aquiltersdestination.com/lancaster-pa>.

### **April**

**History Revisited Quilt Show and Sale** – April 4-5, 2025. Presented by Homemaker's Country Quilters at the [4H Center](#), 1015 Bridge Road, Collegeville, PA. For more info visit <https://homemakerscountryquilters.org/>.

**AQS Quilt Week** - April 23-26, 2025. Presented by AQS at the Schroeder Expo Center, 415 Park Street, Paducah, KY. For more info visit <https://www.quiltweek.com/>.

**Quilt Expo 2025** - April 26-27, 2025. Presented by the Baltimore Heritage Quilters Guild at [Timonium Fairgrounds](#) - Home Arts Building, 2200 York Road, Lutherville-Timonium, MD. For more info visit <https://www.baltimorequilters.com/expo-2025/>.

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

## Shop Hops

**Mystery Quilt Shop Hop** 3/1/2025 - 3/9/2025 Philly & northern suburbs

Check out the [Shop Hop page](#) on our website for more events later in the year.

*Cathy Radcliffe*

## December Show and Tell



Joann Kirschenmann



Lisa Lombardo



Rita Mack



Kate Sevensky



Meghan Heslin

## Saturday Sew Along

*Date:* Jan. 4, 2025

*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, Jan 11, 2025

*Time:* 9:30 AM to 4:00 PM.

*Place:* your home via Zoom

## Workshops

### **Zoom String Piecing Workshop** with Connie Stevenson

*Date:* January 25, 2025

*Time:* 9:30 AM - 3:00 PM

*Place:* via Zoom in your home

Zoom link will be sent before the workshop.

### **Zoom Workshop** with David Sirota – *Sign up: there are openings*

*Date:* February 22, 2025

*Time:* 9:30 AM - 3:00 PM

*Place:* via Zoom in your home

*Price:* \$20.00 (The guild is paying half of the cost of the class.)

Zoom information will be sent before the workshop.

The paper pieced pattern is Collide-O-Scope:

<https://www.quiltmavendave.com/collide-o-scope>.

This workshop is limited to 25 participants.

Size is 50" x 50"

## **Collide-O-Scope**

Sirota "No More Tears" © Paper Piecing  
It's Paper Piecing for the 21st Century



### **Fidget Quilt Workshop** with Connie Stevenson and **Comfort Charity Quilt**

### **Workshop** with Maxine Close and **Dignity Bib Workshop** with Linda Mitchell

*Date:* March 22, 2025

*Time:* 9:30 AM to 3:00 PM

*Place:* Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

*Price:* No Charge

*Project:* Please contact Maxine if you need a kit, backing and/or batting. A supply list for the Fidget Quilt will be provided.

*Lunch:* Provided by the Comfort Quilt Committee.



# Holiday Party December 2024

Table Present Game led by Fran and Bingo led by Rita



Gift Exchange led by Judy

Jelly Roll Race led by Marcy



Maxine Close 1<sup>st</sup> and Emily Graff 2<sup>nd</sup>



## Bees, Bees, Bees!

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

Evening Bee 1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday <b>Zoom</b> 7:00 - 9:00 PM Coordinator – Deb Graves	Afternoon Bee 2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday <b>Zoom</b> 12:30 - 3:30 PM Coordinator - Jean Hayden	Evening Bee 4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday 6:00 - 8:30 PM Fairview Church, Germantown Pike, Fairview Village, PA Coordinator - Ruth Heslin	Northern Bee 5 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday <b>Zoom</b> 6:30 - 9:30 PM Coordinator - Barbara Hughes
January 7	January 14	January 23	April 29

# January 2025

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



## Valley Forge Homestead Quilt Guild

PO Box 62463

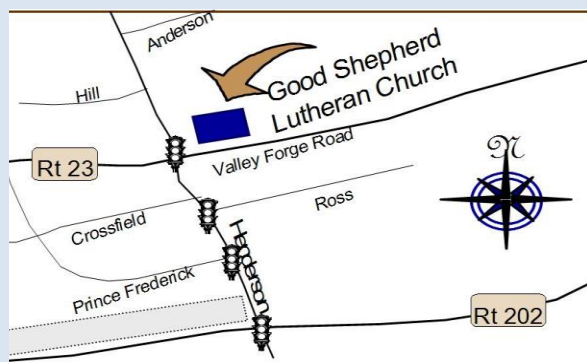
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[www.valleyforgequilters.org](http://www.valleyforgequilters.org)

### 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 25<sup>th</sup> 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	Dawn Heefner
Comfort Quilts	Maxine Close
Facebook	Deb Graves
Historian	April Hostler
Hospitality	Connie Stevenson
Hostess	Laura Chaplar
Library	Ruth Heslin
Member Comfort	Rosemary Geisler
	Judy Snook
Newsletter Editor	Judy Snook
Newsletter Publisher	Janet Gaboury
Programs	Rita Mack
Quilt Show	Cathy Fennell and Deb Graves
Refreshments	Charlene Hagerty
Retreat/Fall	Venessa Garst
Retreat/Spring	Barbara Hughes
Set-up	Cathy Fennell
Sunshine	Joan Shaw
Webmaster	Cathy Radcliffe
Workshops	Cathy Fennell
Zoom/Technology	Deb Graves