



Valley Forge Homestead Quilters

Guild Newsletter

www.valleyforgequilters.com

May 2026

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President's Corner

As I'm writing this, it's just after our meeting in which Andrea Hoke delighted us with her trunk show – those bright colors, and such a variety of patterns! She describes herself as a “modern traditionalist”, which I could see represented in her quilts. It got me wondering, how would I describe my style, based on my color and pattern choices? How would you describe yours? A great way to play with a technique that isn't our typical style is to make a mini quilt for the raffle at our show! I'm going to look at some ideas online and find something that isn't typically “me”.

Connie Stevenson



Andrea Hoke's Patriotic Quilt

Reminder

OUR STAR CHALLENGE

I'm seeing stars - YOURS! Our September meeting will be full of stars for the 2026 Challenge. Any size, any number of points, and yes, any color. But we are partial to red, white, and blue.

Dawn Heefner



Happy Birthday

May

- 2 Debbie Wallingford
- 14 Ruth Heslin
- 25 Melissa Degenhardt
- 27 Linda Jarosz

June

- 4 Lisa Lombardo
- 6 Sue Fisher
- 8 Nancy Hannum
- 10 Kathie Haney
- 15 Colleen Wortley
- 16 Rita Mack
- 16 Linda Muzroll
- 23 Joyce Stemple
- 28 Donna Raymond
- 29 Linda Mitchell

Programs

May

On May 19th our meeting is ZOOM only. We will meet Ruth Ann Berry from rural Fife Lake, Michigan speaking to us on "Color and Contrast for a 3 D Effect". Ruth Ann is the author of multiple books on 3D Quilts and two on Bargello Quilting. She is a frequent presenter at national quilt shows, has designed patterns for Northcott and Free Spirit Fabrics and has over 50 patterns for sale via major distributors. She owns and operates a small-town quilt store and online business (www.quiltersclinic.com). Welcome Ruth Ann!!!

June

Our June meeting will be our Red White and Blue Patriotic Picnic celebrating the 250th Anniversary of the USA, the "Semi-quincentennial."

We will be starting to party early at 6:00 PM and enjoy luscious foods that we all bring. Please bring your food item according to your birthday month.

Dessert	Entrée	Side Dish
January	May	September
February	June	October
March	July	November
April	August	December

Let's commemorate our quilting heritage by making red, white and blue quilt blocks at home and bring them to the June picnic. Make one or as many as you want!!! When you get here, you can choose to enter the blocks into a block lotto (safety pin a paper with your name on each block) or donate them to charity quilts (there will be a box for them) or **make some for both**. Donated blocks will be assembled at our charity quilts workshop on June 19th.

Here are the two websites we are using with patterns and instructions.

1. Missouri Star has a fun, fast and **EASY** pattern entitled "Sawtooth Stars and Stripes." It has a wonderful video of instructions with specifics on cutting and piecing too. Just search "*Missouri quilt company at home with misty tutorial sawtooth stars and stripes*". Once I started, I couldn't stop making them! These blocks are 8.5 inches and finish at 8 inches. You can to use solid fabrics of tone on tone but please don't use cream, off-white or tan in place of white.
2. The Lincoln Nebraska Quilters Guild "published" 17 different star block patterns using a variety of techniques. If you are printing out the instructions/patterns, make sure your printer is set at 100%. Go to the Lincoln Quilt Guild website. Click on Blog. Click on Semiquiltenial Quilt Project. Click on Semiquiltenial Quilt patterns. Choose any you like.

For our speaker in June, we will be featuring several of our own members doing short demos of techniques to inspire us to "get it done" for our quilt show. While there is no dress code, consider wearing red, white and blue!!!!

Hope to see you here! It should be a blast!

Deb Bianco

Guild Meeting Minutes - April 21

Welcome: Connie Stevenson welcomed members and one guest, Ann Purcell.

Door Prizes: Linda Juzbasich and Ann Purcell won door prizes.

Announcements: Connie announced that the County Line Quilters Guild (near Doylestown) will have a show this weekend, Saturday and Sunday April 25-26. She reminded members that the 4th Thursday evening bee at Fairview Village will take place on the 5th Thursday instead for April only.

Comfort Quilts: Jen Fillman announced that 50 quilts were collected in March, to be distributed as follows: 10 to Paoli Hospital, 10 to the VA, 15 to Einstein, and 15 to St. Christopher's. A total of 78 quilts has been collected so far this year. Laura Chaplar won the Comfort Quilt drawing.

Fall Retreat: Linda Mitchell reminded members of the Fall Retreat that will take place from Wednesday, November 4 through Sunday, November 8. Members may choose to stay 2, 3, or 4 nights, and rooms may have 1, 2, 3, or 4 occupants. Half of the rooms are currently taken. We need to know by June how many people will be attending. Let Linda know if you would like a form to sign up (costs are broken down on the form).

Workshops: -April 25, 2026 – Invisible Applique with Sue Suhre. Cost to members is \$20 (the guild is paying the other half of the cost). Contact Anita Bennett to sign up and coordinate payment of workshop fee. Some spots are still open.

-May 23, 2026 – Gyleen Fitzgerald's Carpenter's Wheel (with butterfly seams). \$25 fee includes the pattern.

-June 20, 2026 – Eleanor Levie Art Quilt workshop. Participants will send Eleanor 2 or 3 photos, and she will help you decide which would make the best quilt. She will optimize and enlarge the photo. She also brings specialty scraps that would enhance your collage. Cost to members is \$20.

Quilt Show: Ruth Heslin reminded members to donate mini quilts (16"x20") for a raffle at the quilt show and showed examples. Labels are not required, but the winners will want to know who made it! Ruth has books set aside from the library to help with patterns. The last opportunities to donate will be at the September guild meeting and at the Friendship Tea that month.

Ellen Kane explained another fundraiser at the quilt show, the Basket Raffle. Attendees buy tickets and choose which baskets they'll enter to win. Letters are sent to area businesses to solicit donations for the baskets, but donations can also come from members. Members can create their own basket with a theme or can donate items to be included in baskets (must be new). You can also donate money. Ideas for themes include sports teams, dogs, cats, food, cooking, gardening, holidays, and quilting.

50/50 – Nancy Hannum won \$28.

Program: Andrea Hoke, a quilting instructor at the Old Country Store in Intercourse, PA presented her trunk show, "A Love of Quilting and a Love of Teaching."

Food drive: Jennie Spotila announced that our next Food Drive for the Upper Merion Area Community Cupboard will take place in June. The focus will be on children who are getting out of school and losing access to breakfast and lunch that is served there. There are pictures in the newsletter with suggestions of what they need.

UFO Challenge: March (#7) and April (#1) UFOs were shown. Meghan Heslin and Jen Fillman won the drawings. Cathy drew #4 for next month's UFO.

Show and Tell: Show and Tell followed.

May meeting: The May 19, meeting will be Zoom only. The speaker will be Ruth Ann Berry, who will speak on "Color and Contrast for a 3D Effect."

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Kayleigh Graff

April Show and Tell



Rita Mack



Linda Juzbasich



Susan Gustafson



Charlene Hagerty



Elsa Scherphorn



Janet Gaboury



Meghan Heslin



Gigi Procaro



Carol Fishman



Connie Stevenson



Nancy Hannum



Sue Fisher



Barbara Hughes

Quilt Shows

May

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://bvq.clubexpress.com/>

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 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>.

June

A Celebration of Quilts - June 5-6, 2026. Presented by the York Quilters Guild at the York College of Pennsylvania, Grumbacher Sport and Fitness Center, 899 South Richland Ave, York, PA. Please enter from Richland Avenue onto West Campus Drive to parking lot. For more info visit <http://www.celebrationofquilts.com/>.

Trash to Treasure Sale - June 13, 2026. Presented by Main Line Quilters at Saint Luke Lutheran Church, 203 N Valley Forge Road, Devon, PA. For more info visit <https://mainlinequilters.org/2026-trash-to-treasure/>.

MidAppalachian Quilt (MAQ) Retreat - June 5-7, 2026. The Mid-Appalachian Quilters gather each summer for a three-day quilting seminar at [Gettysburg College](http://www.gettysburgcollege.edu), 300 North Washington Street, Gettysburg, PA. We offer a variety of classes presented by some of the best teachers in the Mid-Atlantic area. For more info visit <http://maqonline.org/>.

QuiltFest Virtual Summer Schoolhouse - June 24-27, 2026. Presented by Mancuso Show Management, leaders in online quilting and textile art events, this four-day virtual experience is your chance to discover new techniques, spark creativity, and explore fresh ideas - all from the comfort of home. With instructors and participants connecting from across the globe, Summer Schoolhouse brings together a vibrant quilting community where inspiration and learning thrive. All workshops will be live on Zoom and will not be recorded. For more info visit <https://www.quiltfest.com/upcoming-shows-and-events/>.

Road to Virginia Quilter's Conference and Showcase - June 25-27, 2026. A quilt show sponsored by the Road to California, Inc, the company that puts on one of the largest quilt shows in the USA - Road to California. It is at the [Greater Richmond Convention Center](http://www.greater-richmond-convention-center.com), 403 N 3rd Street, Richmond, Virginia. For more info visit <https://www.road2va.com/>.

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

Cathy Radcliffe

Shop Hops

[All Mid-Atlantic Shop Hop](#) 7/1/2026 - 8/31/2026. [List of Shops in DE, MD, NJ, PA](#) (smaller this year: VA and WV moved to All Blue Ridge Shop Hop)

[All Ohio Shop Hop](#) 8/1/2026 - 9/30/2026. [List of Shops](#)

Cathy Radcliffe

New Member

WELCOME ANN PURCELL

Ann always loved to sew as a child. She made simple things like a dolly and curtains. She made a quilt with a lot of help. About twelve years ago a quilter friend helped her make a quilt. Last year Ann began quilting on her own. Now she is working on a t-shirt quilt for her adult child. Ann is a retired special education teacher who also likes hiking, visiting friends, photography, and RV camping. Her husband supports her quilting. Her adult child lives in Vermont and will surely love the new quilt.

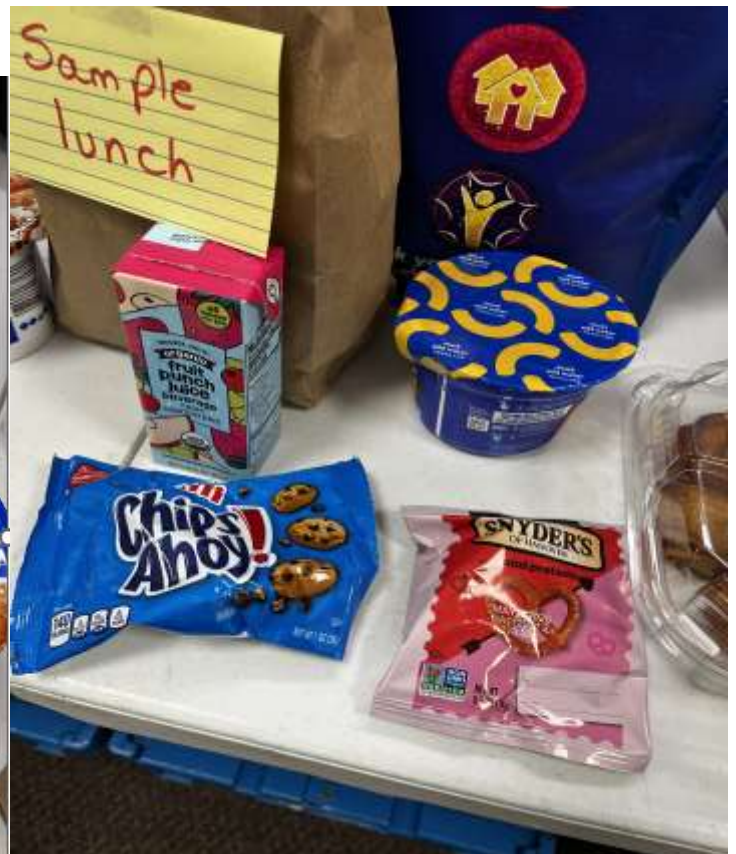
April Program with Andrea Hoke



Food Collection for Needy Children

The Upper Merion Area Community Cupboard supplies food and personal items on a weekly basis to 150 food insufficient families in the Upper Merion School District. In June, the children will be getting out of school, increasing the food pressure on these families. All donations are welcome, but the Cupboard especially needs items for breakfast and lunch bags for the kids. Requested items include cereal cups, juice boxes, squeezable applesauce, 8 fl oz bottled water, mac & cheese cups, and snack size cookies/pretzels/crackers (examples in pictures below). We will be collecting donations at the guild meeting on June 16th.

Jennie Spotila



Charity Efforts

There were 31 quilts and 10 dolls turned in at the April meeting making a total of 109 quilts for the year!!!

VA 6 Paoli 7 St. Christopher's 9 Einstein 9

One of our quilts went to Barb Emery. Barb was the contact person at Paoli Hospital when we started delivering quilts there. The quilt top was made by Ruth Heslin and quilted by Jen Fillman.

Monday, May 4 is the next gathering at Upper Merion Senior Center, 431 W. Valley Forge Road, King of Prussia from 9:30 to 3:00. There will be batting, backing, and kits available. Lunch is not provided. Our next Zoom is Saturday, May 9 starting at 9:30.

Thank you to everyone making quilts to donate!!

Maxine Close



Barb



April Collection

The Fall Retreat

The annual fall retreat will be held at the Amish View Inn from Wednesday, November 4, through Sunday, November 8. Attendees may elect to stay two, three or all four nights. The cost is outlined in the attachment (Page 9) and shows the price per person based on how many people share a room (up to four). The cost of the sewing room is \$25 per person per night.

There is a maximum of 16 attendees, and room reservations will be made based on when the deposit is received from all the persons sharing the room. Please note that if someone in your room cancels, the remaining person(s) are responsible for the higher amount or for finding a replacement. Deposits are non-refundable.

Any questions, email Linda Mitchell

NAME: _____ **EMAIL:** _____ **CELL:** _____

2026 PRICE PER ROOM WITH TAX INFO

	SINGLE	DOUBLE	TRIPLE	QUAD	ROOMMATE NAME(S)
WED 11/4/26	189.00	189.00	204.00	219.00	
THURS 11/5/26	219.00	219.00	234.00	249.00	
FRI 11/6/26	249.00	249.00	264.00	279.00	
SAT 11/7/26	249.00	249.00	264.00	279.00	

CIRCLE YOUR CHOICE to calculate your cost.

	Per Person	Per Person	Per Person	Per Person	Fill in Amount
	SINGLE	DOUBLE	TRIPLE	QUAD	Your selection
WED 11/4/26	189.00	94.50	68.00	54.75	\$
THURS 11/5/26	219.00	109.50	78.00	62.25	\$
FRI 11/6/26	249.00	124.50	88.00	69.75	\$
SAT 11/7/26	249.00	124.50	88.00	69.75	\$

Workroom # Nights _____ x \$25/night = \$ _____

Your cost to attend \$ _____

Less Deposit Due 6/16/2026 \$ _____

Balance Due 8/18/2026 \$ _____

Less \$50.00 \$ _____

- Print this page and send with \$50 Deposit payable to Valley Forge Homestead Quilters (or VFHQ)
- Mail both to VFHQ/Mitchell, [REDACTED] by 6/16/26 (or bring to June meeting)
- Keep a copy for yourself as you will need it to calculate your final amount due.

There are a maximum of 16 slots, taken in order of receipt of deposit per person AND roommates. If someone in your room cancels, the remaining person(s) are responsible for the higher amount or for finding replacement.

Questions? Linda Mitchell [REDACTED]

Cathy's UFO Challenge 2025-2026

The UFO number for May is 4. Please send a photo of your finished UFO to Deb Graves so it can be shown during the Zoom meeting in May.

Thanks,

Cathy Fennell



Cathy Fennell



Linda Juzbasich



Judy Snook



Ruth Heslin



Jen Fillman



Meghan Heslin



Carol Mellom



April Hostler

Workshops

Carpenter's Wheel with Gyleen Fitzgerald

Date: May 23

Time: 9:30 – 3:00

Price: \$25.00

Place: Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Lunch: Bring your own lunch

Description: Learn to master the "Butterfly Seam", it's a snap...enjoy the magic of effortless precision piecing. The illusion of difficult made easy. Plan to finish this as a wall hanging or the center of a medallion quilt. Create the surprise of a perfectly pieced border.



Art Quilts-Take Your Best Shot

with Eleanor Levie

Date: June 20

Time: 10:00 – 3:00

Price: \$20.00

Place: Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Lunch: Bring your own lunch

Description: You will submit jpegs of 2-3 pictures ahead of time. Elly will decide which would make the best art quilt, then enhance the picture in ways to improve the artistic result in the quilt. She will then bring each participant the final photo along with a selection of some specialty fabrics from her collection, to go along with your own fabrics, meant to enhance your quilt. Despite the name, Elly says even mediocre photos can sometimes lead to a fantastic art quilt. You will assemble the collage in class but do the sewing at home.



April Workshop



Ann Palmer and Linda Ulinski



Dawn Heefner

Reoccurring Workshops and Bees

Event	Day of the Month & Time	Location	Coordinator
Sr. Center Comfort Quilt	1 st Monday/9:30-3:00 Bring your own lunch	Upper Merion Senior Center 431 W. Valley Forge Rd. King of Prussia, PA	Maxine Close
Tuesday Evening Bee	1 st Tuesday/7:00-9:00	Zoom	Deb Graves
Saturday Sew Along	1 st Saturday/9:30-4:00	Zoom	Deb Graves
Tuesday Afternoon Bee	2 nd Tuesday/12:30-3:30	Zoom	Jean Hayden
Online Comfort Quilt	2 nd Saturday/9:30-3:00	Zoom	Maxine Close
Thursday Evening Bee	4 th Thursday / 6:00-8:30 <i>April 2026 only 5th Thur.</i>	Fairview Village Church 3044 W. Germantown Pike Eagleville, PA	Ruth Heslin
Northern Bee	5 th Tuesday / 6:30-9:30	Zoom	Barbara Hughes

May

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

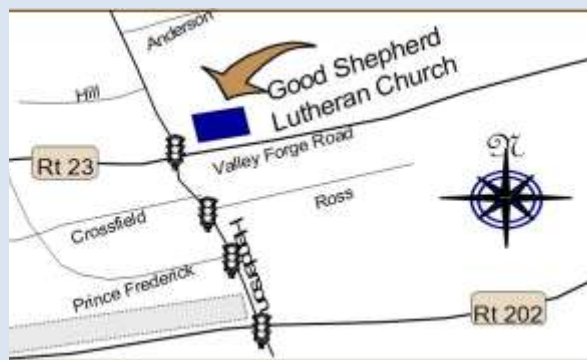


Valley Forge Homestead Quilt Guild

PO Box 62463
 King of Prussia, PA 19406
ValleyForgeQuilters@gmail.com
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 23rd of the month.

Board of Directors

President	Connie Stevenson
Vice President	April Hostler
Treasurer	Babette Sutherland
Secretary	Kayleigh Graff
Membership	Jen Fillman
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