

WELCOME TO CENTREVILLE QUILTERS UNLIMITED



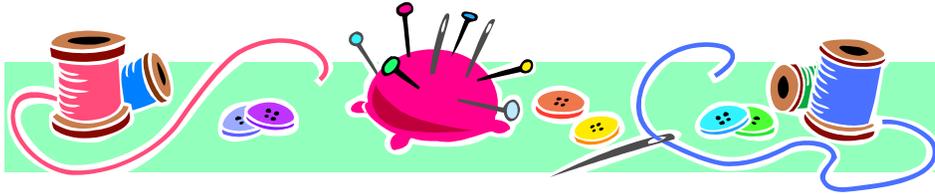
Centreville Quilters Unlimited (CQU) is pleased to have you join our chapter. We were formed in 1992, and we meet the second Thursday evening of the month during the school year (September through June) at 7:00 p.m. at Colin Powell Elementary School. We meet to enjoy quilting by learning, teaching, and understanding the traditions, history and culture of quilting. It is our policy to enjoy rather than judge other's work.

We are one of 11 chapters of Quilters Unlimited (QU) in Northern Virginia. QU has been in existence since 1972. When QU was founded, it was with the aim of furthering quilting through a non-judgmental approach. We take part in an annual quilt show in late May or early June and other events. Please visit the Quilters Unlimited website for more events and activities at www.quiltersunlimited.org.

We offer a workshop most months during the chapter year. Some are free and some have a fee. We also offer two retreats a year for marathon quilting and laughing. Each month of the chapter year we publish "Centrestitch", our chapter newsletter, which keeps us up to date on all our activities. Read on to learn more about CQU and the Big QU and how you can make the most of your membership.



QUILTERS UNLIMITED ACTIVITIES



Many newcomers have difficulty distinguishing between Quilters Unlimited and its activities and the Centreville Chapter and its separate activities. Quilters Unlimited (also called "QU," "Big QU," or the "Organization") sponsors events for all the chapters, publishes the Quilters Unlimited newsletter, sends out the QU Digest on the Internet, and provides the incorporation and framework under which each chapter operates. It receives half of each regular member's dues. All chapters have one quilt show responsibility and one rotating responsibility supporting other QU activities each year. The activities are described below.

ANNUAL MEETING - The meeting at which the new board of directors is elected. A nationally known quilter usually speaks. Workshops given by the speaker may follow on other days.

ANNUAL QUILT SHOW - A quilt show held during a spring weekend (usually the end of May or the first of June) with vendors. Each member may enter pieces of their own work including quilts, wearable art, and dolls (no antique quilts). There is no judging or prizes. Each chapter has assignments such as set-up, take-down, programs, etc. The annual quilt show is run entirely by QU volunteers and each member is asked to donate some time to the show, both for preparations during the year, and to setup, takedown or running of the show on the big weekend.



DIRECTORY - A listing of all members published each winter.

DISCOUNTS - Some merchants offer a discount to card-carrying members. Sometimes quilt shops in other cities will also provide a discount to guild members - so carry your card to your out-of-town shopping sprees.

FALL EVENT - A well-known speaker does a presentation each fall with workshops held in conjunction with the presentation.

NEWSLETTER - Called "Quilters Unlimited Newsletter," it is published four times a year and distributed to paid members.



QU DIGEST - Up-to-the minute local quilting news provided frequently to members that have email with an internet provider and have signed up for the service.

QU WEBSITE - <http://www.quiltersunlimited.org>. The QU website is a great place to visit to keep up to date on the guild's activities, see what the other chapters are doing and keep up to date on the annual QU Show.

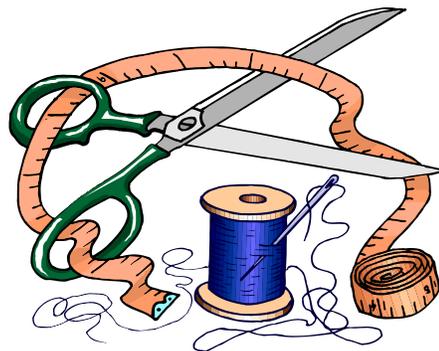
WORKSHOPS - Nationally known quilters present full day workshops for a fee to QU members. These usually follow the annual meeting and the fall event.



HOW TO GET INVOLVED

Attend the meetings and the bees and talk to people. Share some of your work at Show and Tell. We can always use volunteers for the committees. While the meetings start at 7:30pm, many people come around 7:00 for socializing and Early Bird Demos. Come at 7:00 and get to know more members.

Some of the responsibilities for each officer and activities of the committees are described below. Please help out - it's a good way to make friends. You don't have to volunteer alone - we've had co-Presidents and co-Chairs before - why not consider it.



Officers

PRESIDENT - Presides at CQU business meetings once or twice a year. Coordinates activities of all officers and the board of directors and committees. Attends Big QU Board meetings, serves as liaison between Big QU and Centreville Chapter. Reports on activities of Big QU to the chapter. Hosts the monthly CQU chapter meetings.

VICE-PRESIDENT - Fills in for President in her or his absence. Acts as "program" chair: obtains speakers for meetings, coordinates transportation, payments, logistics, and introduces speakers, helps get the speaker packed and out of the building following the chapter meeting.

SECRETARY - Takes minutes of business meetings. Submits minutes to the newsletter editor in time for publication in *Centrestitch*. Prepares correspondence as needed.

TREASURER - Prepares annual budget. Maintains bank account, receives and deposits income and writes checks for expenses. Maintains financial records, prepares financial reports for Big QU and reports financial status to members. Notifies Big QU of members' names and addresses.

NOMINATING - Obtains volunteers to run for office in the Centreville chapter and in Big QU. Also obtains volunteers to serve as committee chairs in Centreville QU chapter.

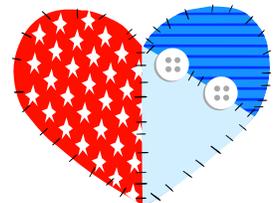
Committees



AUCTION - Plans, sets up, and runs the annual auction. This is our big revenue raising event of the year.

BLOCK OF THE MONTH - Plans, creates instructions, and provides an example of the block of the month displayed at each monthly meeting to be made by members and brought to the next meeting. Takes submitted blocks from the last month's request, coordinates a name drawing of members who have donated blocks, and distributes blocks to winner of drawing.

COMMUNITY SERVICE - Finds charity projects and collects donations (such as quilts, fabric bears, tote bags, knitted and crocheted caps and booties for newborns, etc.) and provides them to the recipient organizations. Often a bee or group of members takes on this responsibility.



FUND RAISING - Develops ideas for fund raising activities and carries them out.

HISTORIAN - Takes pictures of activities and quilts.



LIBRARIAN - Maintains Centreville QU chapter's books and materials, brings them to meetings, notifies members of acquisitions. Keeps a current list of what is available for loan.

MEMBERSHIP - Greets visitors and enrolls new members at meetings.

Provides informational packets, nametag kits, and QU pins (optional) to new members. Orders QU pins and membership cards as needed through big QU and coordinates membership status with the Treasurer for reporting to QU. Coordinates the Name Tag drawing for members who are wearing their nametags at the meeting.

NEWSLETTER - The editor develops, publishes and distributes the Centreville QU newsletter, "*Centrestitch*," from September through June. The newsletter is sent electronically to its



membership, but on an as needed basis can be sent by snail mail. The newsletter editor is also responsible for forwarding an electronic copy of the newsletter to the QU Webmaster for posting on the Centreville Chapter page of the QU Website.

PUBLICITY - During the 2009-2010 year, CQU added a Publicity role to its roster. The publicity chair promotes participation by existing members in all aspects of the Centreville chapter - workshops, programs, holding office, etc. - coordinating promotion activities with the other officers of the guild; attracts new members to the guild through public outreach, and publicizes all the good works of the guild in the community. Follow us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1159403820738829/>

QUILT COLLECTOR - Provides guidance on display of quilts and other items at annual quilt show. Photograph and measure quilts and collect applications in February. Collects members' quilts and other items for display, transports items to the show site, hangs items, takes down items, and retrieves items for members. Quilts and other items are then available for members to pick up either at a meeting or scheduled location.



QUILT SHOW REPRESENTATIVE - The CQU Quilt Show Representative chairs the chapter's assigned responsibility for the show. They can create a chapter committee to assist them. She or he represents CQU at Quilt Show Meetings held by Big QU concerning the annual quilt show. She or he makes monthly reports to the chapter on the show's progress, encourages members to enter quilts and volunteer and interprets the quilt show rules and application for the chapter.



RETREATS - Plans and sets up retreats where members may participate in a group project or bring their own project to work on.

SOCIAL - Plans, sets up and arranges refreshments for social meetings, usually held 3 times a year.

SUMMER CHALLENGE - Plans challenge, obtains materials, provides guidance to members.

ANNUAL QU ASSIGNMENT - Responsible for coordinating our annual Big QU assignment. These assignments rotate every 2 years. They include Quilt Show support, Fall Seminar and Annual Meeting.

WORKSHOPS - Plans workshops, obtains instructors, obtains place, arranges transportation and other logistics, sets up and takes down any tables and supplies.



DEFINITIONS

AUCTION - A biennial fund-raising event usually held at the November meeting in which members and guests bid on new or gently used items. Members donate quilts, totes, bags, wall hangings, table runners, fabric, quilting books and other items. We'd love new members to participate by making something for the auction. An exciting voice auction is held along with silent auctions and "bag" auctions. Please invite your friends and neighbors to come to auction.

BEE - A small group of Quilters who get together to quilt, sew, and share ideas. Bees have been formed by groups of 6 to 10 quilters. These bees are usually held at members' homes, and since homes are limited in capacity, new members can only join when there is a vacancy and current members want to fill the vacancy. New bees may be formed when there is enough interest. The "bee keeper" keeps a list of bees and will collect names of those interested in joining or forming new bees. On Thursday evenings other than the CQU meeting, an open bee is held at Colin Powell Elementary School from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.



BIG QU - The parent organization of Quilters Unlimited.

BLOCK OF THE MONTH, BLOCK DRAWINGS, OR BLOCK EXCHANGE - Members make a block(s) according to the instructions provided, and enter it into a drawing. You enter your name for each block submitted. The winner gets the blocks that were submitted.

CENTRESTITCH - The name of the Centreville QU newsletter issued each month from September through June to paid members. Members are encouraged to share articles, stories, pictures, and tips and hints with the Newsletter Editor.



SUMMER CHALLENGE - A challenge is issued by a committee to make a quilt following specific instructions, such as using a particular fabric, or theme, etc. The quilts are made over the summer for display at the first fall meeting in September.



CHARITY QUILTS - Quilts made for donation to various community outreach activities. Other items we make include bears, tote bags, and knit/crocheted items.

CQU - Centreville Chapter of Quilters Unlimited.

FACEBOOK - CQU has a Facebook page at:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1159403820738829/>

FAT QUARTER - This is a quarter yard of fabric that is cut 18 inches by about 22 inches. Some Quilters prefer this size to a traditional quarter yard cut because the fabric is wider than the 9 inches in a traditional quarter yard.

LIBRARY - Centreville QU maintains a number of books, videos, and other items that can be borrowed. To see a current list of all that we have, visit the Centreville chapter page on the QU website.

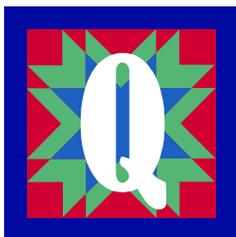
MEMBERSHIP - The official calendar for the year is from July 1 through June 30, although regular meetings are held September through June. Dues are \$30 for a regular membership. For a family membership (two or more at the same address) after the first member joins for \$30, additional family members can join for \$10. Free Lifetime membership is available only to a specific membership group as of June 2017. Confirm eligibility with your Chapter Membership Chair. An Associate membership (second and each subsequent chapter joined) is \$10. This not only gives you membership at the Centreville Chapter, but also allows you to participate in all Big QU events.



MYSTERY QUILT - One step at a time is revealed to participants. Until the last step, no one knows what the finished quilt will look like. The clues are included in the monthly newsletter.

NAMETAG & NAMETAG DRAWING - New members are encouraged to create a fabric nametag to be worn at each month's meeting. A drawing is held at each month's meeting from the members who have entered their name when they remembered to wear their nametag to the meeting. A prize is given to the winner.

PROGRESSIVE QUILT (OR ROUND ROBIN) - A group of 5 to 6 people, or even more, participate in making blocks for each others' quilt. Each person makes a center block using a design and fabrics of her/his own choice. The blocks are then passed in a specified order to each of the other participants who make a border or block to add to the original block. The original quilter does not see the blocks again until all members of the group have added their ideas to the original block.



QU - Abbreviation for Quilters Unlimited. QU consists of 11 chapters and a parent organization in Northern Virginia. Also called "Big QU."

QUILT-O - This is quilters' "bingo." Buttons are used to mark spaces on the cards as the quilting object is called and prizes (usually fabric or gift certificates) are awarded to the first person to fill up a row and yell "QUILT-O."

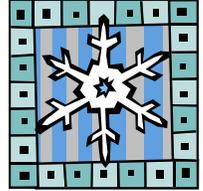
RETREAT - Members join together at a specified place, often on a weekend, to quilt. This is a great opportunity to get to know your fellow chapter members. You can sew all day and all night. It's a great opportunity to finish up all those UFO's or start something new. Retreats are generally held twice a year - once in the Fall and once in the Spring.

SHOW AND TELL - Members display their quilts at each of the regular monthly meetings for all the other members to enjoy.

SOCIALS - Meetings at which refreshments are served. The refreshments are usually contributed by members, based on requests from the chairman of the "Social" committee. Check the "Centrestitch" for upcoming socials.

UFOs - Unfinished Objects

WEATHER - Since Centreville QU meetings are held in a Fairfax County school, we follow Fairfax County school weather policies - if the schools are closed, have an early release or if FCPS decides that all afternoon/evening activities are cancelled, we do not meet at the school that night. Sometimes decisions are not made until 2:00 p.m. Please check local TV, radio or websites if you have any doubt.



WORKSHOPS - Members join together at a specified place, with a teacher, often on a weekend, to learn and work on a class project, often finishing it in a single day. We try to provide the workshops free of charge, but sometimes there is a fee.