



## Friendship Star

### Who are we

The Friendship Star chapter is a group of quilters that enjoy quilting, and friendship. It was started in about 2000 and is one of the first chapters in The Villages quilt guild. It was started based on an interest in machine quilting and has evolved to be more generalized. It is now made up of a variety of quilters from beginners to experienced, where machine quilting is just one of the activities. The atmosphere is relaxed, sociable and enjoyable. Activities are varied and include all aspects of quilting as well as other projects and group activities that members might want to do. The experienced members are more than willing to share their expertise with other members and there are some excellent teachers in the group. If you want help getting those points to line up, or maybe you want to get started with free motion quilting, or just to learn the quilting basics there is help, support and friendship at Friendship Star.

### What is a Friendship Star

The Friendship Star is a very old quilting block. It is a basic 9 patch design with a star pattern around the center patch. The center patch was typically embroidered with a name and the completed block was included in a Friendship Quilt. Friendship Quilts were often given to pioneer women by their friends as they prepared for the journey west. This gave women a sense of connection to their former way of life. It kept alive the memory of family and friends, providing comfort and company during the difficult days of homesteading. In a sense, here in The Villages, this same concept is valid today. We come to The Villages from all over the country to a new lifestyle. Quilting can be a connection to your previous lifestyle or a new and rewarding aspect to The Villages Lifestyle.

### Come join us

If you are looking for a quilting chapter and want an informal, friendly, supportive and relaxed atmosphere, the Friendship Stars are for you. We meet at the Saddle Brook Recreation center every Tuesday from 8:30 to 11:00. There are no strict time tables, so show up when you like, for as long as you like.