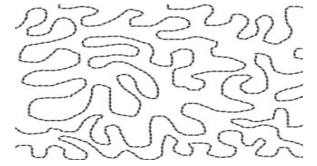


EVENING STAR QUILTERS' GUILD - THE STITCH LINE



SEPTEMBER, 2020 - VOLUME 4

A Note From the ESQG Vice-President

It's September again and autumn is just around the corner. I reminisce over childhood years of past Septembers. I used to relish the excitement of starting new school years, seeing old friends again, wearing new school clothes that I made or my mother made for me, and just doing things again. This September offers very little of those things for most of us. We continue to be home, social-distancing ourselves, wearing our homemade masks, and trying to maintain some type of normal in our lives. I find that I turn to my quilting for comfort time and time again, and this summer was no different.

In early July when our family reunion was cancelled, I picked up my great grandmother's quilt top, hand-pieced in the 1950's, and I began hand quilting it. I faithfully worked on it every evening for about four hours or so and enjoyed the time I spent with my great grandmother. I only knew her when I was very little, so the memories are few and dim, but it does not change how I think of her each evening and wonder what her plans were for this top that was never completed. Am I doing it justice? Are my stitches acceptable? Is she pleased that I am finishing it? I will never know... yet I continue to stitch it a little every day and think of her every time I pick it up. It brings me comfort to spend time with her now more than ever, and I wish that I had known her better. I love that we have this connection even though we are three generations apart and she is no longer walking this earth. This thought makes me look at some of my own quilts. I completed a whole-cloth quilt this summer as well... something I have been working on for several years. Will my children want this quilt? It's hand-quilted, yes; but there is no color. It's dull and lifeless. Will they sell it in a garage sale thinking that it was some fancy mattress pad? I will never know.

I turn to my fabrics and think about Janelea MacBeth's lecture in February this year. "You have scraps. We all do. Use them!" So I did. I began creating a string quilt, made with strips of fabric of different widths, of different colors, of different lifetimes. There were scraps from some of my first quilts, and scraps from quilts I just finished. There were scraps from my mom's stash, and scraps from my daughter's stash. So many strips! I loved making this quilt and I loved spending time with all the people for whom I made the quilts that created the scraps that were now creating a new quilt. My daughter refers to this string quilt as my "scrapbook quilt." What a great name for it and what a great concept. It truly is a scrapbook of my quilting life over the past 30 years. A true gem... a "keeper" for me. Creating this scrappy quilt gave me comfort during this pandemic, and hopefully the finished quilt will bring comfort to my family for years to come. Quilts live on even when we do not. Maybe not in the next generation, maybe not in two generations, but it will surface again. Somewhere down the road, I may have a great-granddaughter who will think of me as she finishes a quilt top that I might leave undone, and she will also wonder what I was like and what I had in mind when I started that project.

Quilting gives us comfort no matter the generation, no matter the reason. Our quilts will live on long after we do and continue to bring comfort to our family and friends.

See you via Zoom on Tuesday, September 8, 2020!

Cynthia A Smith

VP, ESQG

908.310.2466

numbers3.cs@gmail.com

REMEMBER

THINGS TO BRING TO THE SEPTEMBER ZOOM MEETING:

Pandemic Projects

Water, coffee, or soda for yourself

Smiles!

Show and Tell: Pandemic Pandemonium

Our first Zoom meeting may be full of pandemonium, but keep your Pandemic Projects nearby. If we have time for Show & Tell, we would love to see what you have been working on! **PLEASE** limit yourself to one or two, since this is our first time back. Feel free to pull them in at future meetings, as time permits.

Zooming through 2020

This will be an entirely new adventure for our guild this year as it has been for everyone. In some ways this new normal of virtual activity will be beneficial to those of you who have been house-bound or considered "shut-ins" in the past. With Zoom and Google meetings, a whole new world has opened up to all. For those of you who can no longer drive at night, this is a blessing! You can finally attend our monthly meetings again and participate in our activities, all from the comfort of your home. Sharon sent out a Zoom invitation to the current members of Evening Star to attend our first virtual meeting on September 8th. Please test that connection and play with the app on your phone, tablet, or pc in order to minimize the chaos Tuesday night. There are online training videos available. If you have problems, do not be afraid to use your local teenager or handy millennial to get you up and running. We look forward to seeing all of you on Tuesday!

Nominal Response to Nominations Committee

Though very few members responded to the request for nominations of officers for our upcoming guild year, thankfully some members held fast to keeping our current board of officers. Therefore, the slate of officers for the 2020/2021 ESQG guild year is as follows: President-Sharon Kubich; Vice President-Cindy Smith; Secretary-Carol Smith; and Treasurer-Sue DeCamp. There were no nominations for Historian. Quilt Show Chairpersons-Sharon Kubich and Theresa Schoonover. Due to the unusual circumstances, the board elected to forgo elections this year and continue onward. Last year's board is this year's board by default. Congratulations to our 2020-2021 board members and thank you for stepping up to carry on!

Judy Zeitler sent this after watching Karen Brown's videos of *Just Get It Done Quilts* on YouTube.

Some of the more common acronyms:

BOM - Block of the Month, when you join other quilters to learn a new block each month, either online or at a shop.

HST - Half square triangle

RST - Right sides together

WOF - Width of fabric

Acronyms that made me giggle:

WIP - Work in progress

WISP - Work in slow progress

WIVSP - Work in very slow progress

HIPS - Hundreds of ideas piling up

FAD - Fabric acquisition disorder

FART - Fabric acquisition road trip

JGID - Just Get It Done

PHD - Projects half done

PIGS - Projects in grocery sacks

SABLE - Stash accumulation beyond life expectancy

SEX - Stash enhancing experience, expedition, excursion

WOMBAT - Waste of money, batting and time

Board Meetings Slated

Upcoming board meeting dates:

December 1

March 2

June 1

All meetings are at 6:30 pm and currently planned as Zoom meetings.

All members are welcome to attend.

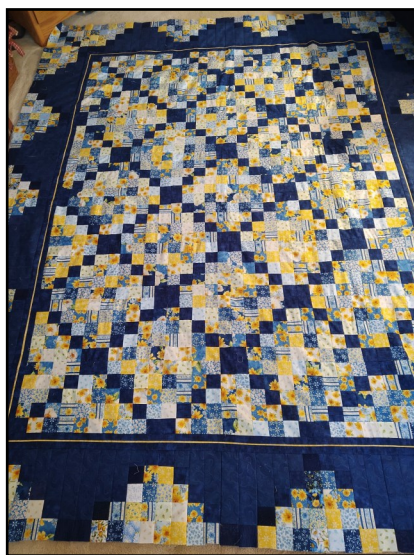
Committee Chairpersons are encouraged to attend. Please mark your calendars.



Virtual Monthly Mystery Quilt

Marlene Marlowe and Leana McCutcheon are ready to get you started on this year's virtual monthly Mystery Quilt! An email was sent out recently regarding this year's quilt. Please refer to that email for instruction and contacts. This year's Mystery Quilt was designed to be an advanced beginner level pattern containing half-square triangles, square in a square, and basic patchwork. It can be planned or scrappy. The finished lap-sized quilt measures 54" x 72". An optional size will be offered at 72" x 72" if preferred. Once you sign up with Leana, each step of the mystery will be sent to you on a monthly basis either by email or snail mail (your prebe reached ference). Please contact Leana McCutcheon or Marlene Marlowe for further information and/or sign up. Leana can via email at mlmoonspinner@yahoo.com. (Marlene can be reached at gotnocomputer.com. LOL! That's just a joke...Marlene does not have a computer, let alone email !)

2020 Raffle Quilt Postponed



This poor blue and yellow quilt has had such a hard life...first it was supposed to be our 2019 Raffle Quilt, but we hit a snag with the assembly. Then it emerged from the ashes and was destined to be our 2020 Raffle Quilt. Now, we believe we must hold onto it a little while longer. Due to our crazy Covid19 year, without the ability to meet people face to face, the board opted to hold the quilt until December 2021. Generally, most of our sales are generated by the Warren County Fair and Victorian Days events. With both of these events cancelled this year, it puts the entire burden on the guild members to sell the tickets. Since we cannot go out to group events, or to our workplace, or to major family events, it would be a great burden to all of us to try to sell all of the tickets. Further consideration was given to the fact that we do not know when the social distancing and group gathering limitations will be lifted, so it might be too late into 2021 to create a new quilt for next winter's drawing. The board considered all of these drawbacks and decided to delay the raffle of the blue and yellow Crossroads quilt to December 2021. On the bright side, it is completed, quilted and bound and ready for next year's raffle!

A New Twist on the Block of the Month

A suggestion was made to renew our Block of the Month program. If someone would like to volunteer to choose the patterns and colors for this year's Block of the Month, Cindy Smith has offered to run the drawing of the participants to announce the monthly winner. The monthly pattern will be sent via email to the member distribution list. Participants will notify the chairperson that they made a block for that month, and a drawing will be held from that group of names. The winner of the Block of the Month will be announced in an email, so everyone who made a block can mail their block directly to the winner. Imagine receiving 25 or 30 pieces of mail containing quilt blocks! Keep in mind we will be sending the patterns out via email, so be sure you adhere to copyright issues on the patterns you submit. More than one person could offer a pattern, or we could have months here and there with no pattern. It's up to you! This is your guild!

Ugly Fabric Challenge Projects

We saw a few glimpses of our ugly fabric projects last spring as members finished their projects early, and what beautiful results! Members had until June 2020 to complete their projects, which was extended to September 8th. If you finished your project, please submit a photo of your quilt/project to Kathleen Scala at skscala@gmail.com so we can post your photo in our newsletter. Since we cannot meet in person to vote on them, we will hold a drawing for everyone who completed their project and the winner will be notified by mail. Thank you to all who participated! Our ugly duckling fabrics made some beautiful swans for sure!!

Upcoming Programs

The speakers lined up for last spring have been contacted to reschedule for this year. Programs are still being ironed out (so to speak) for the upcoming months. We do have one speaker in place at this time: Jody Beck will be doing a virtual trunk show in November. She is actively learning how to present via Zoom and is also willing to attempt a workshop via Zoom. Hopefully by November, we will be familiar with the Zoom application so we can do her workshop. If you want to check out her website, please visit www.jodysjemsquilting.com. Most of her patterns are the stack and slash method of piecing.

Laura Lyman was on deck for her Color Play lecture and workshop last April. Unfortunately, this lecture involves interaction with the audience, so we cannot do that lecture via Zoom at this time. We are working with Laura to find another option from her catalog of lectures. Stay tuned!

Quilts of Valor

Our Quilts of Valor program is two-fold. Theresa Schoonover has been in charge of the assembly process for the past two years, and Audrey Planer has been in charge of the distribution process. This year, the assembly process will be in hiatus since we cannot get together to assemble quilt tops. However, Audrey still has six Quilts of Valor available and ready to distribute. If you know of someone who was wounded in one of the wars and who has not already received a Quilt of Valor, please contact Audrey. Audrey Planer and Irene Compton have the list of criteria to determine the qualifications of the war veterans.

Membership Dues and Update Forms

Your membership dues and renewal forms are due by the October meeting. In case you can't locate the email containing the membership form, we've included one on the next page, or you can download it from esqg.com. Your dues payment and the membership form are to be mailed to Darlene Kerr. Darlene will update the website with the information and forward your payment to Sue DeCamp for deposit. Please pay as soon as possible in order to expedite the process. If you are a returning member, we still need all your information. **BUT...** if you have a new email, cell number, or address, etc. PLEASE highlight that new information so it is easier to update the website. Thank you Darlene for continuing your role as Membership Chairperson.

Community Projects

Judy Zeitler agreed to stay on as our Community Projects Coordinator. If you have some ideas of what we can make or do from home, please contact Judy via phone or email. Thanks for continuing your role as Coordinator for Community Projects, Judy





ESQG MEMBERSHIP FORM APPLICATION



DATE: _____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ CELL: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

BIRTHDAY - MONTH: _____ DAY: _____

DUES \$25.00 PER YEAR

CHECKS MADE PAYABLE TO ESQG

PAYMENT INCLUDED: \$ _____

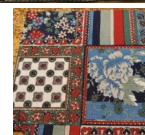
BRING TO MEETING OR MAIL TO:

EVENING STAR QUILTERS GUILD OR
PO BOX 253
BELVIDERE, NJ 07823-0253

DARLENE KERR
17 MORNINGSIDE DR
BELVIDERE NJ 07823

EVENING STAR QUILTERS' GUILD - THE STITCH LINE

Their UGLY FABRIC turned into BEAUTIFUL QUILTS!!



top left, Sue DeCamp's; top middle-left Judy Zeitler's; top middle-right; Solvai Sanchez's; top right, Cindy Smith's; bottom left, Kathleen Scala's; bottom middle, Peggy Sheidel's; bottom right, Nancy Geiger's

Guild Officers 2019/2020 Guild Year

President
Sharon Kubich

Treasurer
Sue DeCamp

Vice President
Cynthia Smith

Bylaws/Historian
Vacant

Secretary
Carol A. Smith

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