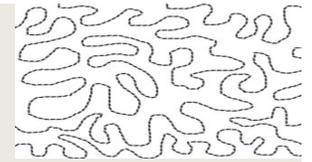


EVENING STAR QUILTERS GUILD - THE STITCH LINE



JANUARY, 2018 - Volume 1

A Note From the ESQG President

Dear Evening Star Quilt Guild members,

Happy New Year! and Baby it's **cold outside!!** Amazing things are happening in the weather these days. Up and down the east coast we are experiencing blizzard conditions and the newly phrased "BombCyclone," thanks to social media. It's a snow storm, folks and it's New Jersey... we've had them before and we'll have them again.

Well, I don't know about you, but after the flurry of activity during the holiday months, my quilting studio looks like a bomb-cyclone hit it! Remnants of projects completed for the holidays, as well as remnants of projects that didn't quite make the deadline, but will be ready for next year, (Wink, wink. Nod, nod... know what I mean?) are spread all over the place! Time to tidy up and start anew! Let's bring in the new year with our updated list of UFOs and start working on that list. Bring some order to your quilt room and to your life and tackle those projects during these cold winter months. I think some of my projects are so old they will be new again since I don't remember working on them in the first place... but I digress.

Our little weather monitor claims next Tuesday will be a balmy 40 degrees, so this cold snap, crackle, and pop weather should be on it's way out, or at least granting us a reprieve to have our meeting. Since we may be feeling a little blue due to this cold weather, how about bringing in "Something Blue" for our January Show and Tell? Obviously we love our blue and white quilts as evidenced by our gorgeous Kutztown Quilt and also our 2018 Raffle Quilt. Let's see how many of us have already done the fabulous blue and white quilt scheme! As always, you are also encouraged to bring in any other show and tell items. I'm sure quite a few were finished in the wee hours of Christmas morning so Santa could get them under the tree.

Bundle up in your favorite quilt today and put a movie on. Grab your cup of hot cocoa and a little hand sewing or hand quilting and relax. Spring will come, I promise... and when it does you will dream of these days when we were forced to stay at home, sewing, creating, and enjoying our favorite past-time. There is always a blue sky behind the blackest cloud.

Cynthia A Smith
President, ESQG

REMEMBER

THINGS TO BRING TO THE JANUARY MEETING:

Block of the Month - 30's reproduction
Quilts of Valor BOM
Jacob's Ladder Blocks for Happiness is Camping
Row Quilt box to exchange
Show and Tell - "Something Blue"
Warm Thoughts and Happy Smiles

The next Board Meeting will be
Tuesday, March 6, at 6:30 pm
at Dixie Sutton's home. All Guild
members are welcome to attend.

Quilt of Valor Blocks

Rich handed out another pattern for the Quilts of Valor program. The Patchwork Square block pattern was handed out in December and should be completed and returned at the January meeting. If you have blocks made from patterns issued in prior months, please feel free to complete them and bring them in, as well. Quilts will be assembled this spring from the blocks collected, so just keep bringing them in. And thank you if you've been making more than one!

Block of the Month

The 30's reproduction prints are still going strong for the Block of the Month program, celebrating our 30th Anniversary year! Congratulations to all of the winners so far. Complete your True Blue Quilt Block for the January meeting and maybe you will win enough blocks to make your own 30's reproduction quilt! Audrey will be collecting the blocks at the January meeting and handing out the new "diplomas" for next month's block.

Mystery Quilt

Mystery Quilt Saturday is coming soon... don't be left out in the cold! Marlene has the supply list and cutting directions for this year's mystery quilt. You will only need three fabrics, but time is running out. The Mystery Quilt will be revealed at the end of the workshop on Saturday, February 3rd, at St John's UMC in Hope, NJ. For \$20 you, too, can join in the fun. See Marlene as soon as possible if you still need to sign up. Workshop hours are 9 am to 3 pm. Bring lunch or order out.

Row, Row, Row Your Quilt

Row quilts are underway and moving right along. The next exchange will take place at the January meeting. Those of you participating, please remember to bring the box with your completed row to the January meeting. If you are unable to attend the meeting, please be sure to get the box to the next person on your list. We are seeing some awesome work on these projects! Also, please be sure to add your blurb to the journals. The owner will want to know who created each row and what your thoughts were on their theme or current events.

Community Projects

WOW!! What a fabulous show of community support we witnessed at the December meeting! Thank you so much for giving of yourselves. The food pantry received a pile of food, we donated over 80 placemats, and people are still making and donating blocks for the Happiness is Camping project. Theresa will collect ALL of the quilt blocks outstanding for the HIC quilt at the January meeting. If you offered to do one, please complete it and bring it in so we can begin assembling this beautiful quilt! Each kit contained nine black fabric squares and one purple fabric square. You need to supply the balance of brights to complete the two blocks as indicated in the instructions.

Coming soon - hospital gowns for cancer patients and pillowcases for the veterans' home.

Ways and Means - A Special Treat this Month

Many of you may have heard of Quilty Box, a new online subscription program for beefing up your quilt supplies, patterns, fabrics, and tools. Patrick Claytor, CEO of Quilty Box, wants to send quilt supplies and inspiration directly to your doorstep, and such he has.

Quilty Box sent the guild a free sample of their products to give away. As a treat at the January meeting, peruse our Quilty Box and take a chance on winning it through our Ways and Means drawing.

Quilty Box has donated over \$4,500 to *Quilts for Kids* and over \$3,500 to the *Pet Finder Foundation*. They are launching a Special Edition *Quilts for Kids* Quilty Box, of which \$10 for each box sold will be donated to *Quilts for Kids*.

If you would like to start a subscription to Quilty Box, you can use the code QUILTGUILD201748 for a \$10 off coupon towards the Quilty Box Classic subscription. This is not an endorsement of the product(s); we are merely passing on information provided on something new available to guild members.

Quilt of Valor Presentation

Audrey Planer made a special Quilt of Valor presentation to our very own Ed Pacenti (Sharon Kubich's father) at the beginning of the meeting in December. Mr. Pacenti served in the navy during World War II and continues to serve our guild (literally!) in the cafe during our quilt shows. Congratulations and a big THANK YOU to Mr. Pacenti!



Saturday Sewing at the St. John's Church in Hope

If you would like to *sit, sew, and socialize*, our Saturday 'Stitches in Hope' dates are as follows:

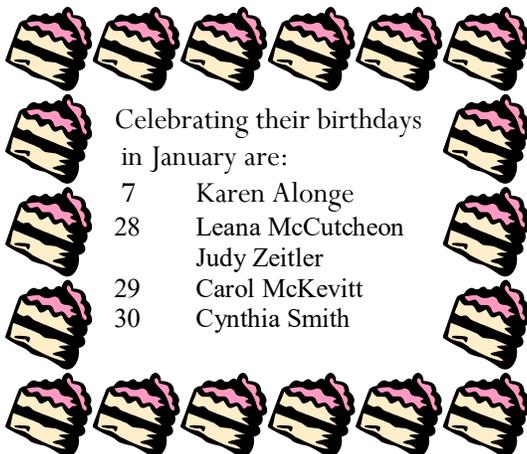
- January 13, 2018 - Charity Project - making pet beds for Father John's Animal House - 9 am - 3 pm
- February 3, 2018 - Mystery Quilt Workshop 9 am to 3 pm (Snow date Feb. 10)
- February 17, 2018 - Bucklebee Bags Workshop - \$40 for pattern, bag hardware and lunch - class size is 20
- March 17, 2018
- April 14, 2018 -
- May 12, 2018

All members are invited to attend. These Saturdays are for open sewing, or may be used for working on guild charity projects. All of them are held at St. John's United Methodist Church in Hope, NJ from 9 am to 3 pm.

Bring a lunch unless instructed otherwise. Mark your calendars, and join in the fun!

Welcome New Members

Welcome to our new member **Sandra Kirste** and returning member **Sian Goh!** Both ladies joined us at the holiday party in December. We look forward to sharing our love of quilting with you.



Celebrating their birthdays in January are:

- 7 Karen Alonge
- 28 Leana McCutcheon
Judy Zeitler
- 29 Carol McKevitt
- 30 Cynthia Smith

Raffle Quilt Winner

Congratulations to our 2017 Raffle Quilt winner, Lisa Smith of Phillipsburg, NJ! The winning ticket was sold by Ann Marie Grunn.

Pet Beds and Supplies

Dixie Sutton presented information on our new charity this year, Father John's Animal House in Lafayette, NJ. We will be making pet beds at our Saturday workshop on January 13th at St John's UMC in Hope, NJ from 9 am to 3 pm. We have plenty of donated fabric for the pet beds, but if you have scraps of batting or fleece that you can supply, please bring it along. The beds for the cats only need to be 14 x 18, just a little larger than a placemat, so they should be relatively easy to create.

A list of supplies that can be donated instead of, or in addition to the beds, was handed out at the last guild meeting and includes: canned dog and cat foods, non-clumping litter, liquid dish detergent, liquid laundry detergent, bleach, paper towels, tall kitchen garbage bags, Clorox moist wipes (**Not** Lysol), cat toys (no feathers), and dog toys (hard rubber chew types).

Father John's is a non-profit organization that participated in a network of rescue programs that responded to calls of help to save animals in Texas and Florida during the recent hurricanes. They are also partnered with People for Animals to provide low cost medical procedures for animals in our area. Father John's hosts several annual fund-raising events, including Tails and Trails at Camp Neveda, as well as an annual beefsteak dinner, and they provide senior dogs and cats to loving homes in their Still a Best Friend Program. Please join us on Saturday, January 13th to create beds and blankets for our furry friends in need. Donated items will be collected at the January (by Cindy) and February (by Dixie) meetings.

Meals-on-Wheels Placemats

Approximately 80 holiday placemats were presented to Debbie Fox of the Visiting Homemaker Services to be given out to homebound folks living in the Warren County area who rely on the Meals-on-Wheels program to provide them with at least one hot meal daily. Thank you for making their days a little brighter! Our next collection will be in March for the Easter holiday (which is April 1st this year). Please continue to open your hearts and hands and make some Easter/spring placemats during these cold winter months. Your efforts will be rewarded by the smiles they bring to others.

January Round Robin Demos

Our January program will consist of four demonstrations given by the members who provided the demonstrations at our recent quilt show. Since most of us were busy with our own duties during the show, we missed these programs, all of which were well received by show attendees. We look forward to being wowed by our talented members! Join us for a fun night and a wee bit of quilt education.

Program Updates!

In January, we will enjoy a round-robin of the demonstrations, formerly presented to our Quilt Show attendees.

The program in February will be presented by the owner/designer of Bucklebee Bags Shop. Come for a fun lecture on the latest and coolest tools, and nifty handbags designed by Bucklebee's. The workshop connected to this lecture will be Saturday February 17. The fee for the workshop is \$40 and includes lunch, pattern, and necessary hardware for the handbag. Seating is limited to 20 people. Sign-up sheets and supply lists are available through Irene or Audrey.

The March meeting is open at this time. We are looking within the guild for a presenter.

New to our circuit, the *Victorian Stripper* will join us at the April 10th meeting. More to be revealed - you won't want to miss this!!

Plans are still in the works to possibly bring in another Quirky Quilter style event for the May meeting. Stay tuned.

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**Guild Officers
2017/2018 Guild Year**

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[Cynthia Smith](#)

Vice President

[Irene Compton](#)

Secretary

[Carol A. Smith](#)

Treasurer

[Dixie Sutton](#)

Bylaws/Historian

[Rich Danner](#)

WE'RE ON THE

WEB:

HTTP://

ESQG.COM/

Sankofa Stitchers is excited to be a Promotional Partner for the upcoming **Quilt Luminarium by Ricky Tims** being held at the Brower Student Center at The College of New Jersey in Ewing Township, NJ on Monday and Tuesday, May 7-8. We want to make sure that you all are aware of this educational, fun-filled event, and we encourage you to visit www.quiltluminarium.com to learn about the details. Join Ricky for a two-day comprehensive quilt symposium that demystifies seemingly complex concepts, teaches mastery of unique techniques, and harnesses the power of the ever-elusive muse of creativity. To register for the event, visit <https://www.rickytims.com/quilt-luminarium/online-registration> and click on REGISTER. If you need more details on the seminar, feel free to email heather@rickytims.com

New Jersey Makers' Day 2018

Solvai and Nancy are chairing this committee for our guild's participation in this state-wide event. New Jersey will celebrate crafters across the state on **Saturday, March 10**. If you are interested in helping with our display/demonstration/class, please contact Solvai and/or Nancy. Our location is at the Warren County Library in Belvidere, NJ. Please help us educate the public on the art of quilt making, which is the purpose of our guild!



Foundation Paper Piecing Hints

Finger pressing tool - A piece of wood from a wooden clothes pin makes a great pressing tool.

Copying a Paper Pieced Pattern with your Sewing Machine - Copy patterns using your sewing machine. Use this method when you want a large number of identical blocks. It works best for simpler blocks that do not contain a large number of tiny pieces: To copy the patterns, staple about 10 pieces of newsprint paper to the master pattern, using a couple of staples each on all four sides of the pattern to prevent shifting. Then use a size 14-16 denim needle and a fairly long stitch length to carefully sew through all the lines of the pattern. I like this method better than printing the patterns because the perforated pattern is visible on both sides of the paper.

Joining two units together for stitching - When joining two paper pieced units, hold them together with vinyl coated paper clips instead of pins. The pieces will line up better than if they are pinned. Remove the paper clips as you sew.