

Starlight Express

Starlight Quilters Guild

February 2013

President's Message

Dearest Quilters, It's been so nice to have a few warm days here and there, and seeing the sun rise a bit earlier and set a bit later. For me, it means that Spring is just around the corner. My girls (daughter and Norwegian exchange student) have been busy shopping for their high school Sweetheart Dance and I am loving the new dress colors for this season - seeing a lot of green and deep pinks, which are probably my favorites.

This month our program is a presentation by Deb Rowden. She is a master of repurposing thrift shop finds and has a passion for keepsaking memories. When reading through her blog, it brought back one of my special memories related to one of the very first quilts I was involved with.

My friend Pat was raised just outside of Lancaster County in a fundamentalist Christian household. Her mother was extremely thrifty and fastidiously organized in all that she did. During her final years, she sat for hours working on two quilts for her two grandsons, Robbie and Donovan, who were Pat's two sons. She carefully traced 3.5" squares using a cardboard template and hand cut the squares out with shears. No rotary cutter or mat for her. All the fabric came from remnants left over after creating the family's shirts and dresses, as well as curtains and aprons. Next step was to hand piece all these squares together in a pleasing scrappy pattern. Given all the odd 1950's and 1960's fabrics with crazy patterns and colors, it was amazing how well they all suited each other in the final quilt top.

Robbie was the eldest and when his grandmother passed, his quilt top was about 80% complete. It was placed in a large shoe box with the remaining squares that still needed to be sewn into the top. Donovan's quilt wasn't nearly as far along; his shoe box contained fabric swatches, a good number of squares cut out, the cardboard template, pencil, shears, and needle and thread. Both boxes were placed in a closet, and then subsequently moved to California when my friend relocated out of Pennsylvania.

Ten years later, I was visiting Pat and noticed the shoeboxes labeled "Robbie's Quilt" and "Donovan's Quilt" sitting on a high shelf in her closet. I had just discovered quilting, so these boxes peaked my interest. She pulled them down and we began to go through the contents. I immediately felt like these quilts couldn't stay in their current state and begged Pat to allow me to complete them. She was so thrilled with my offer. I then took a closer look at Robbie's quilt and realized that my quilting/piecing skills would never match her mother's skills. Everything was so precise and there was barely a stray thread on the back; nothing like the mess I know I can cover up once I sandwich that top with batting and a back. I decided to honor her mother's workmanship by adding a small strip of fabric to signify where her handwork left off, and where my machine work began. I added the final seven rows of blocks, sent it to a long arm quilter and bound it.

Next I tackled Donovan's box. That required a bit of creative input, as there were many blocks to cut out, and a pleasing scrappy arrangement needed to be sorted out before I could piece them together. The 3.5" square cardboard template was kept handy, but only as inspiration. My rotary cutter was my best friend that weekend, and my machine made quick work of the piecing. Off to the long arm quilter and Donovan's quilt was also done.

I presented both quilts to my friend and the most memorable moment was the look on her face and her words of gratitude. She couldn't wait to give them to her sons. She closely studied all the fabric, talking about all the different fabrics and their original purpose (kitchen curtains, aprons, Dad's shirt, her Sunday dress). I was so glad to be part of maintaining these memories for her family. Her boys were absolutely thrilled to have

something from their Grandmother; I know Donovan still keeps his quilt on his bed, almost 15 years later.

I am not sure if the Cotton industry meant for their logo "it's the fabric of your life" to relate to memory making quilts, but in my mind, it does.

Wishing everyone lots of memory making moments!

Donna Holloway

February Speaker



Debra Gehlbach Rowden was raised in Lawrence and Shawnee, Kansas. Growing up, she liked to play with paper dolls, read, and sew. In high school, she dreamed of becoming an artist. In college, she studied to become a journalist. Ever since, she's worked with words and fabric. She earned a BS from Kansas State University in Clothing & Textiles/Mass Communications in 1977. She took her first quilt class the following year and hasn't stopped quilting since. She confesses to starting more quilts than she finishes. Deb collects improvisational quilts and meets weekly with a small, but raucous quilt group in Lawrence, Kansas, where she lives with her husband, two daughters, two dogs and Oreo the cat. She considers Lawrence to be the hotbed of quilting and quite possibly the center of the universe.

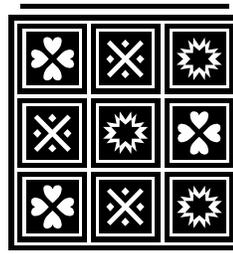
She wrote "Quilting a Poem: Designs Inspired by America's Poets" with Francis Kite, and "Quilter's Stories: Collecting History from the Heart of America" for Kansas City Star Books. She has edited a number of other quilt books and considers this to be her dream job. She enjoys speaking to local groups about collecting one's own history.

Deb has made frequent appearances at Starlight, and we are always lucky and happy to have her. Her program in February is titled, "**Flea Market Quilts - Improv, Gees Bend, & a Pile of Wild Quilts**".

As a tie-in to her program, I am encouraging members to bring 1 or 2 favorite flea market/garage sale/estate sale quilt finds for Show & Tell.

Should be fun!

Shirley Lewis



2013 Guild Challenge

You are probably finishing up your circle/round quilt for the Guild group project due at the end of February (sure you are, aren't you?) And undoubtedly, you were totally stymied about what to do next. Well, here you go. The topic for the next guild challenge.

I am calling it **"Toys in the Attic"**. So, go to your memory banks and remember what you played with as a kid or what your kids played with that is in your attic or what your grand kids or your pets played with or your grandmother or ... Or maybe toys in the attic have some other meaning to you, like going into the attic to play dress up or to read or to hide amidst the stuff in the attic. And if you never had an attic, imagine what you would have done or found there.

The quilts are due at our **August** meeting. They will be displayed and favorites voted on during the break. The top 3 winners will get ribbons and maybe something extra. Who knows? The acclaim of your fellow quilters awaits. Sorry, no red carpets.

I look forward to seeing your efforts!

Alex Thompson



About a year ago, I presented a quilt at our show and tell that had ladies' hankies folded in the shape of a butterfly. A member of the guild asked to borrow my pattern book (I think the name of the book is Antique Quilts Recreated). I don't remember who I lent my book to. If you happen to be that person, please bring it to the next guild meeting and leave it at the Project Linus table.

Thank you.

Carol Cleary



2013 Quilt Show Starlight, Starbright

Setup: October 17

Show Dates: October 18 & 19

Location: Abdallah Shrine Temple, 5300 Metcalf, Overland Park KS

Next Planning Meeting: March 12, 6:00 PM at the Johnson County Central Resource Library

Please come to the planning meeting if you would like to have input. All Starlight Guild members are welcome. We are currently seeking volunteers to provide one 10-15 minute mini-lesson either day during the show.

Watch the Starlight Quilt Guild Web site for details as they become available.

Fat quarter list

February - Amethyst - purple shades

March - Aquamarine - blue or blue green

April - Diamond - black print or pale yellow

May - Emerald - bright greens

June - Pearl - pale pinks

July - Ruby - patriotic reds

August - Peridot - yellow green

Sept - Sapphire - cornflower to midnight blue

October - Opal - teal

November - Topaz - gold

No meeting in December.

These can be prints or solids

Quilts of Valor

The mission of quilts of Valor is to cover all combat service members and veterans touched by war with comforting and healing Quilts of Valor. Nikki McDonald spoke to the Starlight Guild last spring about Quilts of Valor. At the quilt show last fall, as a guild, we made signature blocks to collect donations to pay for the backings and battings for the tops we made. And now, work days are sprouting up all over!

Interested in attending one? Here's a short list and there may be more! Bring all your own sewing machines, equipment, projects and a sack lunch. Be sure to be in touch with the contact person. There may be changes due to illness, weather or events at the shops.

- Tallgrass Creek Retirement Community, located south of 135th St on Metcalf Ave, on the 4th Saturday of the month in the Arts & Crafts Room from 9-4. Bring your lunch or bring cash to eat in the cafe. Contact Nikki McDonald, nkiblueeyes@me.com
- Prairie Point, located at 7341 Quivira Rd., on the 1st Wednesday of the month in the classroom from 10-4. The contact person is Mindy Peterson, 5acresdesigns@gmail.com
- Harper's Fabrics & Quilts, located at 7918 Santa Fe Drive, on the 1st Thursday of the month in the classroom from 10-5. The contact person is Mary Honas, honasbdmj-7@juno.com
- Quilter's Haven, located at 116 N. Clairbourne, on the 2nd Tuesday of the month in the classroom from 9:30-5. The contact person is Mindy Peterson, 5acresdesigns@gmail.com

While I will try to post information about QOV work days in the newsletter, you might like to receive more inspiration on line or on Facebook. The local group is called Kansas City Area QOV Bee. Here's contact information for the local group.

email address: qovkca@gmail.com

web address (under construction): <http://www.QoVKCa.org/>

blog address: <http://www.qovkca.blogspot.com/>

The website for the national group is www.qovf.org. There you will find the basic requirements for Quilts of Valor and free patterns! Mary Honas

My son is retiring from the Marines after serving his country for 20 years (of course I was 6 when I had him-hahaha). I would like to do a card party for him. If you would like to send him a card, you can do one of the following:

1. Bring it to me at the February or March meeting
2. Send a card to me at: 5842 Meadowlark Dr., Shawnee, KS 66226
3. Send a card to Tim: Timothy Mercer; 6601 California St., Camp Lejeune, NC 28547

Thank you, Susan Mercer

Overview of the QOV Process

	Do	DO Not
Fabric	Use high quality 100% cotton quilting weight fabric appropriate for an adult.	Use sheets, thin, stiff, or scratchy fabric.
Pattern	Many free patterns are available on our website and on the web.	Make rag quilts. Make a wholecloth QOV unless you are a professional quality quilter.
Size	Top: Width 55" to 72" by length 65" to 90" Backing 3 to 4 inches larger on all four sides.	Make quilt top less than minimum or more than maximum.
Binding	Use straight cut or bias double fold binding; join binding pieces with diagonal seams. Apply neatly by hand or machine.	Fold over backing and use as binding or zig-zag binding in place.
Quilting	Machine or hand quilting in an appropriate design. (free hand, pantograph, or computer guided patriotic or generic designs) Balanced stitches of uniform size. (5 - 7 stitches per inch if quilted by hand; 8 -12 stitches per inch if by machine) Low-loft quality batting. (Cotton, 80/20, or poly from Pellon, Warm Company; Quilter's Dream; Hobbs)	Tie Do only stitch in the ditch on a domestic machine or use giant meander Use high-loft batting
Label	Must include Quilt of Valor; blank for name of recipient. Should include names of piecer and quilter.	Do not include more than your first name and state. Include advertising, political or religious messages.
Journal	Write a note to the recipient.	Do not include more than your first name, and state Include advertising, political or religious messages.
Washing	Wash your quilt after it is quilted and bound. Use a Color Catcher in the machine	Use scented laundry products. Send a quilt covered in pet hair.
Presentation Case	Make a coordinating pillowcase or bag in which to place your QOV.	Send your quilt without a presentation case.

Bare Bones Table of Requirements

Starlight Quilt Guild 2013 Board Members

ROLE	Name	Phone	Email
President	Donna Holloway	913-402-7559	donnaLholloway@yahoo.com
Vice President	Janette Sheldon	913-586-5024	granola@earthlink.net
Secretary	Alex Thompson	913-888-7718	drtuay@aol.com
Treasurer	Sandy Ralston	913-722-1328	Sandy.qlt4fun@gmail.com
Assistant Treasurer	Ruthann Bonin	913 271 5144	ruthannbonin@ymail.com
Past President	Kim Cawthon	913-449-3914	cawthonk@compassminerals.com
Door prizes	Sandy Ralston	913-722-1328	Sandy.qlt4fun@gmail.com
Fat quarter drawing	Joyce Verstraete	913-441-3556	rverstraete@kc.rr.com
Group project	Jackie Stoaks	913 362 3244	stoaks77j@yahoo.com
Guild Challenge	Alex Thomson	913 888 7718	drtuay@aol.com
Historians	Susan Wagner Toni Caro	913-268-9874 913-963-0138	norwegianchick@aol.com scrappystuff@gmail.com
Hospitality	Opal Yarnell	913-384-1585	
Library	Cheryl Tomson Kristi Orr Linda Clatterbuck	913-438-4716 913 602 9461 913 649 7236	cheryltomson@gmail.com clatterbucklrf@gmail.com
Membership	Marilyn Carr	913-432-4386	mjcarr12@yahoo.com
Newsletter	Sandy Fey Margaret Welch	913-432-0855 913-432-4515	sandyfey@kc.rr.com mwelch5@kc.rr.com
Opportunity Quilt	Shirley Lewis	913-722-5486	SlI849@aol.com
Opportunity Quilt Tickets	Ruthann Bonin	913 271 5144	ruthannbonin@ymail.com
Programs 2013	Karen Edwards Shirley Lewis	913-722-4255 913 722 5486	Casey0301@gmail.com SlI849@aol.com
Programs 2014	Kim Cawthon Janette Sheldon	913 449 3914 913 586 5024	cawthonk@compassminerals.com granola@earthlink.net

Board Members Continued

Workshops	Donna Di Natale Mary Honas	913-541-0283 913 262 7104	dinatale@att.net Honasbdmj- 7@juno.com
Project Linus	Lea Robrahn Mary Funk	913-226-8408 913-262-8455	leannieq@hotmail.com
Quilt Show Planning	Janice Craig Kim Cawthon	913-831-4629 913 449 3914	maidmerri- am@sbcglobal.net caw- thon@compassminera ls.com
Quilt Show Boutique-Small Quilts	Peggy Skaith	913-341-0525	espe- ciallyquilts@att.net
Quilt Show Vendors	Donna Di Natale	913-541-0283	dinatale@att.net
Quilt Show Publicity	Jackie Evans Laurene Way	816-590-0763	jevans@wycokck.org
Web Site	Bernadine Farrow	913-631-5416	bernief@kc.rr.com
Greater KC Quilt show Ombuds- man	Janette Sheldon	913-586-5024	granola@earthlink.net
Bus trips	Kim Cawthon	913-449-3914	caw- thon@compassminera ls.com
Fund Raising Committee	Donna DiNatale	913 541 0283	dinatale@att.net
Quilts of Valor	Mary Honas	913-262-7104	Honasbdmj- 7@juno.com
Show and Tell- Ribbons	Mary Funk	913 262 8455	
Retreats	Donna Holloway	913 402 7559	donnalhol- loway@yahoo.com
Quilting Tidbits	Janette Sheldon	913 586 5024	granola@earthlink.net

Spring Fling Retreat

May 3-5, 2013. We have reserved 16 spots for our third annual Spring Fling Retreat at the beautiful Cedar Crest Lodge in Pleasanton, KS on the weekend of May 3-5, 2013. (<http://www.cedarcrestlodge.com>). Cost will be \$179/person (2 per room: 1Q and 1T). Please check with me if you'd like a single room; we may be able to accommodate this. The cost includes room on Friday and Saturday night, six meals (Friday dinner through Sunday lunch), and your own personal sewing spot. Cedar Crest lets us arrive early on Friday (9AM), and leave mid afternoon on Sunday, so you can squeeze in almost 3 full days of quilting! We will begin accepting signups and deposits at the Guild meeting. Full payment is due by the April guild meeting. Contact Donna Holloway (913 402 7559; DONNALHOL-LOWAY@yahoo.com) if you have any questions!

Guild Project February

I hope that you are all finishing up your "Round Things" quilts. They are due at our February meeting.

Please have a Label: Quilt Name & Name of Quilt Maker

We will have ribbons for 1st, 2nd and 3rd Place.

I am looking forward to seeing all of your wonderful quilts. If you have any questions contact me at 913-362-3244.

Jackie Stoaks

Do you have a birthday this

month? Enjoy your day! Please bring a snack or dessert for the Hospitality Table to share. This month's birthdays are:

Luanne Christensen Carol Cleary Ellen Kidd

Paula Quade Terri Richmond Peggy Selig

Cheryl Tomson

March Birthdays:

Nancy Buzzell Charlya Cooley Julia Day

Pam Eckel Kris Harrison Amy McCarthy

Julie Moyer Pat Pennington Sherry Snare

Carolyn Spohn Celesta Tiner Brigita Wade

Rosemary Watrak Margaret Welch

Project Linus

We made 591 blankets in 2012. Terrific! For 2013, let's keep that pace going. These kids depend on us.

We always have kits available at Starlight meetings and Harper's work nights. The quickest and easiest blankets can be made with a single layer of fleece with fringed and knotted edges to give it a finished look. The best size for fleece is 40" by 60" and should be at least 36" wide by 45" long.

The minimum size for any blanket is 36 inches by 36 inches.

Baby Blanket 36" by 36"
Child and teen 40" by 60"

Please check for pins and threads. These blankets often to go medically-fragile children. If you wash the blankets, do so in unscented laundry detergent and do not use any fabric softener in the dryer.

Lea Robrahn
Mary Funk

Quilt Show Boutique

Hello quilters! I was just looking at some pictures from last years' boutique items and small quilts. We had some amazing small quilts, which included table toppers, table runners and wall hangings, and we got really good prices for them. In addition to those items, we realized that BABY QUILTS would be a popular category. We had lots of people looking for "quilty" and handmade Christmas gifts; several were also asking for baby quilts. You know what to do! We have had some really nice donations already, including a little bag made from men's ties. Repurposing things is very popular, so get creative. Bring us your items, and your IDEAS! Thanks for all you do.

Peggy Skaith

Suzy Scissorhands

Dear SQG Friends,



If you are like me and sit at a computer most of the day, you need to look away from your work now and then. So why not look at something pretty; something 'quilty' even. Recently I was surfing the net and found a quilt shop website that offers some very fun photos that you can easily download as wallpaper for your computer. The photo I downloaded is a pile of quilts from the 30s that makes me smile and say "aaaahhhh."

To get your wallpaper, go to <http://quiltwithus.connectingthreads.com>. From the menu bar at the top, click on *Freebies*. Before you get distracted by all the other goodies on this page, click on *Desktop Wallpapers*. Click on your favorite picture to get to the larger version of the image. Then, right click on the image and choose *Set as Background*, *Use Image as Desktop Wallpaper*, or whatever term your computer offers for downloading wallpaper. Then sit back and enjoy the view before you go back to work.

Who knows? The image might even inspire you to make a new quilt to hang on the wall.

Happy Quilting, Suzy

UPDATE ON THE 2015 REGIONAL QUILT SHOW

At the last planning meeting it was determined the 2015 regional quilt show will be held at the Overland Park Convention Center in June 2015. Incorporation as a non-profit corporation is in the works. Nancy Wakefield will act as president, Sarah Rathjen will be the secretary, and the treasurer will be announced in March. Judy Masur will establish a website in 2014. Co-chairs for the show are Lynn Droege and yes, you're reading this correctly, yours truly, Janette Sheldon. Kristin Smith has volunteered to head up vendor participation.

It looks like the regional show is a definite go. Our guild will have to make a decision by June as to whether we are in or out. Currently there are 25 potential entities who are being asked to participate. Most of these groups are formal guilds. Others are not. Sponsors are being sought to defray the cost of the show. It is unknown at this point whether each participant will be asked to donate to support the show. I suspect if we are successful in obtaining sponsors, our donation will be in terms of volunteers as it's going to take a whole lot of warm bodies to pull the show off.

This is going to be a really exciting event for our quilting community. If you have concerns or suggestions, please feel free to contact me. Our next meeting will

Advertisements

FREE! Post your AD HERE!

If you are a guild member in good standing and would like to run your **FREE** ad, send your information to the newsletter editor. See back page for details.

Machine Quilting - Machine Quilting by Karen - Let me help you finish all those tops! Low pricing, full Longarm services - all over designs or custom quilting [913-638-4625](tel:913-638-4625) Karen Huffman or email me at karen7315@gmail.com

Machine Quilting. Custom Quilting by Peggy Skaith. especiallyquilts@att.net or 913-341-0525

Machine Quilting: longarm custom or overall quilting. Award winning quilter. 2 WEEK TURN AROUND TIME!

Lindsay Lawing -The Protege Quilter 816-888-9964 ProtegeQuilter@gmail.com



Membership Information:

Membership, New or Renewal, \$25.00. Your annual dues bring the newsletter chock-full of information and news of upcoming events to your e-mail or home; provide a lending library of quilting books available to members; and other benefits too numerous to mention!

Meeting Date and Time:

Monthly guild meetings are held 6:30-9:00 PM every 4th Tuesday, January-October at **Countryside Christian Church, 6101 Nall, Mission, KS**. The November meeting date is determined each year based on the Thanksgiving holiday. There is no December meeting.



Changes: If you have moved, changed your name, e-mail address or telephone numbers (home, work, or cell), please bring them with you to the next guild meeting or email them to Sandy Fey at sandyfey@kc.rr.com.



Newsletter Deadline:

Articles are due the 9th of the month. E-mail your article to Sandy Fey sandyfey@kc.rr.com (913-432-0855).

NEXT SQG

MEETING! Tuesday,

Feb 26, 2013 6:30

PM—Meet friends, gobble some goodies, bring some boutique items or tickets, sign up to volunteer!

7:00 PM— Feb speaker - Debra Gehlbach Rowden presenting "Flea Market Quilts - Improv, Gees Bend, & a Pile of Wild Quilts".

Remember to bring:

- Nametag
- Show and Tell
- Library Books
- Goodies (if it is your Birthday)

Starlight Quilters Guild

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