



# Starlight Express

## Starlight Quilters Guild

www.starlightquilters.com

March 2011

### Presidents Message

By Lue Anne Christensen



Dear Starlight Quilting Friends,  
My, how time does fly! It seems there is so little time and so many pieces of fabric to sew into something new and beautiful. Hopefully, the winter blizzards are behind us, but wasn't it nice to have a good excuse to stay home and sew! I can sew just as well with the distraction of the sun out my window though. The inspiration of the sun, the prospect of spring flowers, and the sweet sounds of the birds (I saw a cardinal this morning in my yard) makes me want to create a bright cheerful quilt with all the spring colors I see outside my windows. Of course, right now I am sitting in a windowless office in the basement of my house typing up this president's letter. It just may be a very short one so I can get to my spring project: the Starlight Quilt Guild Mystery quilt. I am very excited about working on this quilt because of the happy fabrics I chose and because the pattern looks so much easier than the last mystery quilt I finished. (Thanks, Shirley) Some of you may remember the first mystery quilt which I showed at guild as the quilt composed of mistakes but with beautiful blue and white fabrics. Funny thing, I like that quilt of mistakes because it is so beautiful despite my mistakes in assembling it. Hopefully, it will last many decades and keep future family members warm and cozy as well as aware that mistakes happen but love is still there wrapped up in a quilt.

I am looking forward to our National Quilt Day, March 19th, at the Rosewood senior apartments from 9 to 4. I hope many of you have planned for that event. It sounds like we will have plenty of space to create, chat, and enjoy seeing each other that day. I hope to see many of you there with your machines buzzing.

I am thinking that we should all take some time this month to sew a Linus quilt to bring joy to a little one who isn't at home in his/her own bed; to sew a placemat for a senior to brighten his table; or to sew a small wall hanging to cheer the kitchen or dining room of a shut-in. I heard several members say at the last meeting that they planned on completing one of our projects each month. I am going to challenge myself to do the same. Just think if we each do any one of these projects, we might have a collective smile so big in Johnson County that people will wonder what is going on here in northeastern Kansas!

Happy Sewing,

### March Program Quilting for Charity

When the program selection committee met last year to plan the 2011 programs, Mary Honas introduced an idea that intrigued us all –service organizations that are connected to quilting. Some we were familiar with, but we knew there were other organizations out there, too. Who are they? What can they use? Who do they serve?

Mary has invited representatives from three local organizations to give us a brief presentation on the services they provide and how donations of fabric and/or quilts fit into those services. We will hear from Nikki Johnston McDonald, Quilts of Valor Coordinator for the Blue Valley Quilt Guild; Patty Gregory, Greater Kansas City Chapter Coordinator for Project Linus; and Betsy Phillips, of the Inner City Sewing Circle.

Attend the March Starlight Quilters Guild program to learn how you can contribute to these local organizations. Nikki, Patty and Betsy will bring examples of items made from your donations.

### National Quilting Day

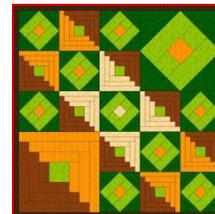
March 19, 2011

RoseWood Place Senior Apartments  
Community Room  
8500 Pflumm Road  
Lenexa, Kansas  
9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Join your fellow guild members for an entire day of sewing and friendship. There will be plenty of room to meet all of your cutting, layering and sewing needs, plus a design wall, cutting mats, irons and ironing pads. Bring your own sewing machine and supplies – or whatever you wish to do. No rules on this day of celebrating quilting and quilters.

There is no cost for this open sew day. However, there will be a sign-up sheet at the February meeting so we can know how many people to plan for.

For information contact Donna di Natale: [dina-tale@att.net](mailto:dina-tale@att.net), or 913-541-0283.



## Suzy Scissorhands

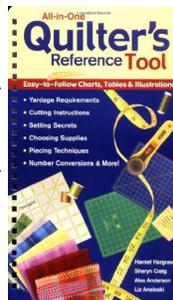


Dear SQG Friends,  
The other day the gray and gloomy weather was making me feel down and dumpy. Ever happen to you? Well, when I'm down, I go down – to my sewing room, that is. A few minutes working on a quilt or just sewing patches together always seems to pick me up.

I'd been working on some 4-patch blocks and decided to teach myself how to turn a quilt on point. That meant figuring out how to cut setting triangles and corner triangles. Math makes my head hurt so I turned to my handy **All-in-One Quilter's Reference Tool**, and tadah! Suzy Scissorhands had her own tip of the month right in hand.

The **All-in-One Quilter's Reference Tool** is written by Harriet Hargrave, Sharyn Craig, Alex Anderson and Liz Aneloski and is published by C&T Publishing. The list price is \$16.95, and worth every penny. Want to know how many 3 1/2" triangles you can get from 1/4 yard of fabric? It's on page 27. What size square should you cut for 9" quarter-square triangles? See page 37. And those setting and corner triangles for your diagonal-set blocks? The handy chart on page 21 does the math for you. This reference will also tell you how much fabric you need for backing, binding, sashing, mitered corner borders, etc. Pretty much anything you need to know. And, it has an easy to follow guide for cutting the ends of your binding so you don't come up short, or long. If you don't already own this book – buy it. Keep it next to your cutting table so it will always be handy. It will save you a lot of time and frustration – which is exactly what a good tool should do.

Happy Quilting  
Suzy



## Boutique

Peggy Skaith

Thank you so much to those who have already brought some items for the boutique! Mary Funk made some really cute little birdhouses that she individually hand painted, adorable! I'll be at the sew day on March 19 and will have some more fabric to hand out along with project instructions for those who would like to contribute a little time and talent. I've noticed that the JoAnn's flyers are now including a \$5.00 coupon toward any purchase. You could buy a really nice skein of yarn for just pennies using that coupon! If you don't knit or crochet and you aren't going to use your coupon, buy us a skein of cotton yarn, bring it to the meeting, and we'll hand it off to someone to make dishcloths, coasters or some other cute small project! We can also use local college T-shirts in good condition. Thanks so much!

## Project Linus --

Hugs, Karen and Mary



What a generous group we have !! our total so far this year is already 178 blankets. WOW ! If you do not know this already we have some ladies who meet at Harper's Fabric and Quilt Co in Overland Park on the first Tuesday of each month to make Linus Blankets . There is no charge to anyone and Elaine lets us use her machines (there are limited machines so bring yours if you can )and tables and such and we have lots of donated supplies (it is also where lots of the kits are made up by Lisa, Lea and Mary H). At our last meeting 45 quilts were turned in by members - the other ladies made the total probably reach 60 or so - I am sad that I failed to count them all but will try to bring those totals to you as well in the future. I place my confidence in our guild to make our goal again this year. ... Please call to sign up so we will know how many to expect.  
Thanks as always,

## Membership-

Marilyn Carr

### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Penny Skelton  
Kathleen Wall

### February Attendance

Members	88
New members	2
Guest	5
Total	95

### Membership Cards and Rosters

I still have some 2011 Membership cards and rosters to be picked up. They will be on the table at the back of the room.

## February Fat Quarter Drawing

Tone on tone (any color)

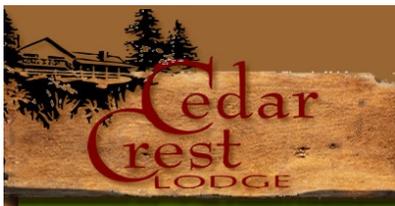


## SPRING FLING RETREAT -

May 13-15 2011

Donna Holloway

The Spring Fling retreat still has openings available. It will be held at the beautiful Cedar Crest Lodge in Pleasanton, KS on the weekend of May 13-15, 2011 (<http://www.cedarcrestlodge.com>). Yes, that is only a few months away! Cost is \$179/person (2 per room: 1Q and 1T) or \$119/person (3/room- note, 2 will share a Q bed and then one in a T bed) and includes all meals, snacks, and a very bright and sunny sewing space. We will need at least a \$50 deposit by the March Guild meeting, with full payment due by April 30th. Contact either Ellen (913 897 5343) or Donna (913 402 7559) for full details.



## SQG Challenge 2011

Mary Funk

Create small decorative panels for shut-ins and home bound.

Panels can be pieced, appliqué, quilted by machine or by hand or quick stitch. The panel will need a sleeve for hanging (Mary will furnish dowel sticks).

Sizes: 8 inches to 10 inches wide  
15 inches to 18 inches long

\*Please not holidays!

Suggestions- fruits, postage stamp, cats/dogs, birds, flowers, sports, scenic, rainbows, etc.

## From the Spider on the Web-

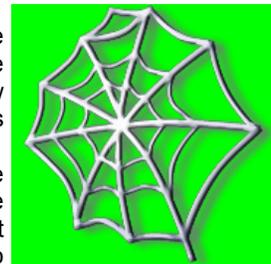
Bernadine Farrow

Hope you are enjoying the background changes on the web site. It's fun to try new things. That goes for quilting as well.

There is a lot coming up in the month of March. Check out the web site frequently so you won't forget to participate. I'll try to

remind you about the open quilting day on Sat., March 19th -National Quilting Day- shop hop coming up at the end of the month, local quilt shows, etc. So if you know of something that would be of interest, let me know. Try out some of the favorite web sites show and let me know what ones you like and they can be featured, too. This is our spot on the web so let's fill it with lots of "stuff".

Happy Surfing.



## Do you have a Birthday This Month?

Well, Happy Birthday! Please bring a snack or dessert for the Hospitality Table to share. Fellow SQG members will be deliriously happy to share your goodies! No doubt someone will beg for your recipe. This month's birthdays are;

Nancy Buzzell  
Charlya Cooley  
Julia Day  
Pam Eckel  
Kris Harrison  
Becky Larma  
Amy McCarthy  
Julie Moyer  
Pat Pennington  
Sherry Snare  
Becky Wackerman  
Rosemary Watrak  
Margaret Welch



## Rake Before You Sweep

Use a child's plastic rake to clean your sewing room. All of those little scraps of fabrics that get under your cutting board table come right out where you can reach them. Then sort those pieces into your stash. Anything too small to get caught with the rake gets vacuumed and the sewing room is ready for the next project.



## Cross-Stitch Anyone?

Renee Arnett has shared the following information about a cross-stitch shop in Topeka, Kansas-

"The Sunflower Seed" cross-stitch shop has been in business for 11 years. The owner, Anita Boatright, has cross-stitch supplies, patterns, etc. in her shop. The address is 4004 Huntoon. The shop is being featured in the spring issue of the [Topeka Magazine](#). To view the current issue of the [Topeka Magazine](#) go to [www.sunflowerpub.com/magazines/](http://www.sunflowerpub.com/magazines/). Click on "TOPEKA MAGAZINE"

SPRING 2011. Enjoy!

## KVQG QUILT SHOW

1861---2011: 150 Years of Kansas Quilting

April 30 - May 1, 2011

10 a.m. - 5 p.m., both days

Douglas County Fairgrounds Bldg. 21

Lawrence, Kansas

Admission: \$5 adults, kids 12 & under free

## What a Mystery?!

Alex Thompson

If you haven't started Shirley's Mystery Quilt project, give it a whirl.

It is satisfying some of my New Year's resolutions: a) try something new and b) have fun in the guild. I have never joined in on a mystery quilt sleuth and had no idea what it would be like. I can tell you one thing already. It is fun!

First - an excuse (and who really needs one?) to go fabric shopping. So Terri Oberle and I joined forces and off we went on a grand lunch & shop adventure. I learned a lot more about picking fabric as we each mixed and matched. Then we set a date for a cutting party. We kept each other laughing and guessing as we cut strips and squares and rectangles and triangles. Our next event will be a sewing date to piece the first block.

I definitely recommend finding a partner or a group that you can share this mystery with. The project is relatively small; so the expense is not high...unless you are distracted at the quilt store by other goodies....or gourmet lunches! Have your own snack & sew dates. It is so much fun and very encouraging to have someone else on your magical mystery tour.

Thank you, Shirley!

I can't wait to sew some more.

## Prayer Quilts And Fabric Needed

Donna DiNatale

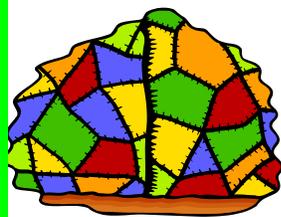


Janis Grace has started a Prayer Quilt group at Country-side Christian Church. They are in need of prayer quilts and/or fabric for the quilts. Prayer quilts are lap quilts (approx. 40" square to 60" square) that are bound but not quilted. Instead, the quilts are prayed over and then tied by supporters and caretakers of the recipient.

If you would like to contribute to this worthy cause you may bring your fabric/quilts to the guild meeting and give them to Donna di Natale, or you may drop them off at the church office and Nancy will make sure Janis and her group receives them.

## Quilters Wisdom

If I stitch fast enough, does it count as aerobic exercise?



### A Quilter

By Larry Howland, Elsie, Michigan

A quilter brings us comfort  
On the chilliest of nights.  
With unseen hands she tucks us in  
And softly dims the lights.

What many other s throw away,  
She knows that she can use.  
She brings together every square,  
Arranging varied hues.

With simple needle and mere thread,  
And batts without a form  
She sews each piece with tender love  
To keep us snug and warm.

The Lord has helped her understand  
The value of things old,  
She swaddles us in memories,  
Each precious to behold



## 2011 Events Calendar

March 22---*Quilting for Charity, Several community service organizations will explain how SQG can assist in helping their organization serve people in need.*

April 26---*Edie McGinnis, Kansas City Star Quilts trunk show*

May 24---*Tony Munoz, The Five W's of Mystery Quilts: Who, What, When, Where, Why*

June 28---*Linda Mooney, Doll quilts and miniatures*

July 26--- *Joanna Figuero of Fig Tree Designs, TBA*

August 23---*Fat Quarter Bingo*

September 27----*Sewing Bee*

September 16-18— Retreat –The Barn

October 25---It's A Mystery, Author event

November 15---*Ada Niedenthal, Timeless Textiles*

## Communications-

Let us know of any concerns, deaths, triumphs, or if someone needs help with something. This way we know what is going on with our fellow members and can send cards, etc. Contact one of these members:

- Rosie Brinker---913-268-8819 or [rosie474@aol.com](mailto:rosie474@aol.com)
- Shirley Lewis---913-722-5486 or [sll849@aol.com](mailto:sll849@aol.com)
- Barbara DeMack---913-485-3966 or [barbstoys4u@hotmail.com](mailto:barbstoys4u@hotmail.com)



## Blog-

For those of you who are interested in quilts, especially old quilts, Donna DiNatale has started a new blog that will talk about some of her quilts. She will include information about collecting and caring for quilts, old and new. She'd love to have you follow along and provide comments. Here is the link: <http://heartlandquilts.blogspot.com/>



## 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.

**Pieces in Plaid Quilting** – Owner / Operator  
Lynne Zeh, a full service long arm quilter with 8 years experience. Located in Lenexa, KS.

**Machine Quilting by Karen** - Let me help you with your quilting! 913-638-4625 Karen Huffman. Quilts up to 52 inches in width.

**Machine Quilting.** Custom Quilting by Peggy Skaith. I am offering a winter special. Bring your quilt top in February and I will piece your backing OR add a single border at no charge. [especialquilts@aol.net](mailto:especialquilts@aol.net) or 913-341-0525

**Machine Quilting by Julia Day.** Is your piecing ready to transform? Call for your consultation today.



## Starlight E-site—the Yahoo Group

--Lea Robrahn  
Starlight E-Site is an online club where Starlight members get together to share photos, links, documents or files, and have a message board to post items of interest.

It sounds more complicated than it is. You can elect to read all information on the E-Site, which leaves your inbox less cluttered.

To join:

1. Send an email message to Lea Robrahn (remove spaces) [leannieq@hotmail.com](mailto:leannieq@hotmail.com)
2. You'll than be sent an invitation from Starlight E-Site
3. Join.

**"FIND US ON FACEBOOK"** <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=106359079270>



### Membership Information:

2010 Membership, New or Renewal, \$25.00. Your annual dues bring the newsletter chocked 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!

### Newsletter Deadline:

Articles are due the 5<sup>th</sup> of the month. E-mail your article to Margaret Welch at [mwelch5@kc.rr.com](mailto:mwelch5@kc.rr.com) (913-432-4515) .



### NEXT SQG MEETING!

**Tuesday, March 22, 2011 6:30 PM**—Meet friends, gobble some goodies, bring some boutique items or tickets, sign up to volunteer!

**7:00 PM— *Quilting for Charity, Several community service organizations will explain how SQG can assist in helping their organization serve people in need.***

### Meeting Date and Time:

Monthly guild meetings are held 6:30-9:00 PM every 4<sup>th</sup> 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.

### Meeting Cancellation:

SQG meetings will be canceled if the Shawnee Mission School District cancels classes. Monitor announcements on TV and radio when bad weather threatens.



Remember to bring:

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



**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 mail them to Starlight Quilters Guild, PO Box 9362, Shawnee Mission, KS 66201

Starlight Quilters Guild  
P.O. Box 9362  
Shawnee Mission, KS 66201-2062  
[www.starlightquilters.com](http://www.starlightquilters.com)