

Starlight Express

Starlight Quilters Guild

www.starlightquilters.com

November 2013

President's Message—Donna Holloway

Dearest Quilters,

Recently, a group of friends were discussing the books they had read, and one mentioned [A Fine Balance](#) by Rohinton Mistry. She described it as a book set in 1970 India and how the caste system and current political upheaval impacted the lives of the main characters. I had never read a book set in India or didn't know much about Indian culture except from the few people I have worked with over the years. I did know that the country was huge, and that was about it. Intrigued, I went to the library and checked it out. It was about 600 pages and all I could think was "this better be a good read."



The story begins with an uncle and nephew, who are looking for work as tailors. Of course, this strikes a good note with me, as they are working with thread and needle. They obtain work from a widow who has set up a business in her apartment doing piecework for a local clothing manufacturer. To earn some extra money, she rents out a room to a local student, who is the son of her high school friend. The story revolves around these 4 characters and how they arrived together in this apartment and the day to day situations they face in the state of political corruption within India at that time. I am fascinated and equally shocked by the way people treat each other and how critical the caste system is within their culture. The 600 pages just flew by, and I really didn't want the story to end.

Now you may ask why I am bringing this up. What made this story even more interesting is that throughout the book, in a very subtle way, the author describes times when the widow is collecting the leftover scrapes from the garments her tailors are making (sound familiar?); and then spends her evenings cutting out shapes and arranging the scraps (sound familiar?); and then pieces them together in a artistic fashion (getting even more familiar?). The other 3 characters also step in now and then to help her arrange the pieces and make comments on the composition. This continues throughout the book and towards the end, it is noted that the project is almost done; there is only one corner that needs to be filled in. At this point, the author spends some time to really describe the quilt and how each patch of fabric is a reminder of specific events that has happened to each of the characters, as it was linked to a specific garment being made at the time of the event. It suddenly occurred to me that this was a true memory quilt that has been pieced throughout the story line.

I won't say much more, as I don't want to reveal any more spoilers. This was a book that I truly enjoyed and felt like I had gained a little insight on the Indian people's lives, which was my original goal. Note that this is not a light read; there are some disturbing and frankly graphic situations, but the human spirit and interactions in the face of adversary really keep one hooked to the story. Bonus was the great quilting tie-in that emerged.

Happy Quilting! Donna

NOVEMBER'S SPEAKER— MARY HONAS

We are very excited to have our own Mary Honas as our speaker this month. Her talk is about "Color Play: An exploration of how color, contrast, value and intensity play across the face of quilts"--traditional, scrap quilts and "modern."

Mary has been sewing since childhood. She began with doll clothes, then moved on to sewing her own garments. Mary's mother (guild member Joyce Verstraete), started her on the road to quilting in 1989. As a stay-at-home mother of five, Mary found that hand piecing and hand quilting fit into the bits and pieces of time available. Later, machine piecing made it possible for her to complete more quilts.

Mary began working at Harper's Fabrics and Quilts in 2001, and has been teaching Quilting 101 as well as many other beginner and advanced classes. Mary also has designed and written many of her own quilt patterns.

Starlight Quilters Guild is offering a workshop on Saturday, January 4, from 1 to 5 where Mary Honas will present "Color Play: an exploration of how color, contrast, value and intensity play across the face of quilts--traditional, scrap, and modern quilts." The workshop will be held at Harper's Fabrics and Quilts in downtown Overland Park. The fee for the workshop will be \$35 and a sign-up sheet will be available at the November meeting. After the November meeting, you can sign up at Harper's for a fee of \$40. A list of class supplies will be available at the time you pay. This will be an exciting way to begin the New Year!

Karen Edwards, Shirley Lewis



Suzy Scissorhands



Dear SQG Friends,

Last month we talked about embroidery threads and design transfer. Did any of you try the autumn leaf designs? This month I want to chat about transfer paper, stabilizer and crayons.

Transfer paper fits into both transferring the design and stabilizer. There is the kind of transfer paper that you run through your ink jet printer and then iron the design (in reverse) onto your fabric. Transfer-Eze is a commercial brand of transfer paper. You photocopy the design onto the paper using an ink jet printer. Remove the backing and stick the image onto the fabric. Embroider your design and then wash away the transfer paper with cold water.

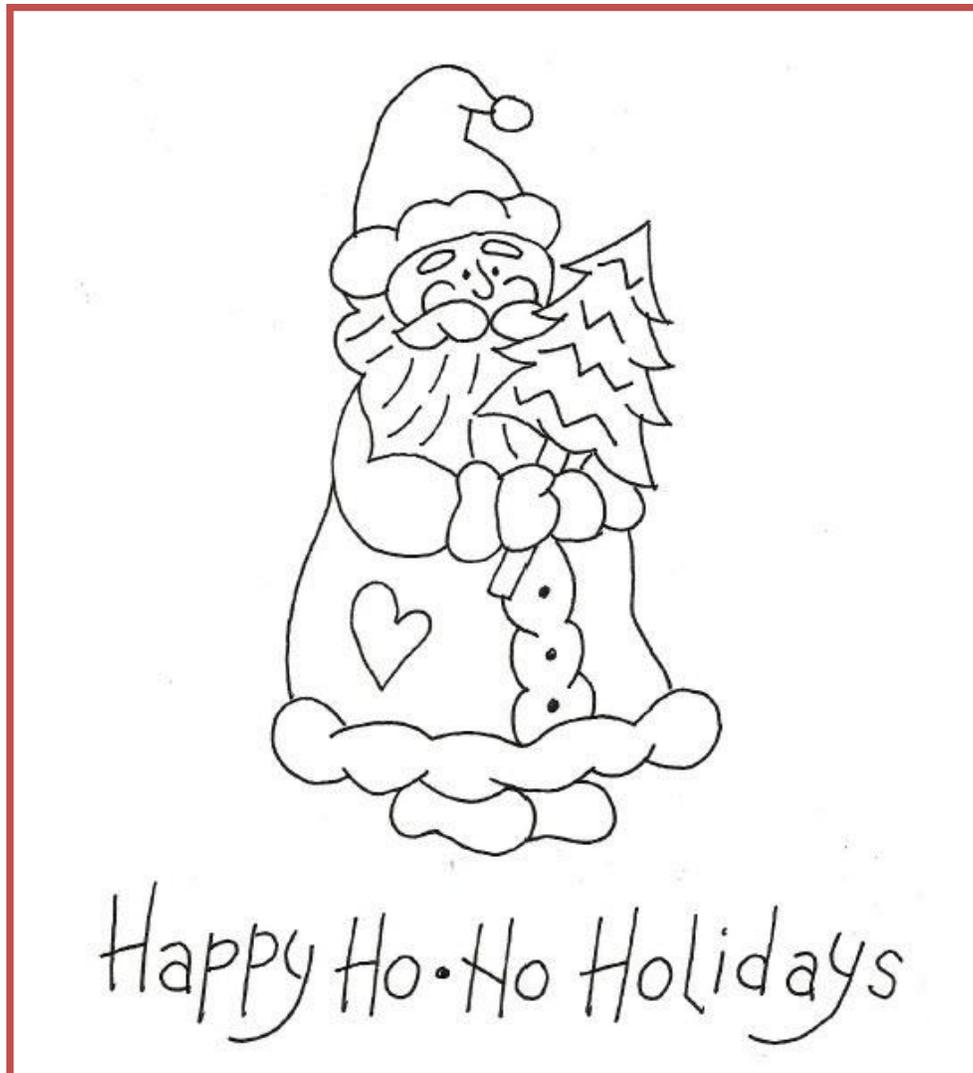
Stabilizer: stabilizers not only give you more substance to work with, but they hide knots and threads on the back of your work. I try not to carry my thread very far, but even a short thread can show through on light fabrics. My usual choice is lightweight fusible interfacing. First I transfer the design using a light box or sunny window. Then I fuse the interfacing to the back of the fabric. I've using both woven and nonwoven interfacing. The results are similar. Woven interfacing will sometimes cause puckering of the fabric. Nonwoven doesn't always adhere completely. In either case, I cut my interfacing the same size as my block (or whatever I'm working on) and sew it into the seams along with the main fabric. You can also baste a piece of muslin to the back of your work. This give you 2 layers to work with, hides the knots and threads and doesn't pucker. Again, use a piece the same size as your project and sew it as one piece. If you have other suggestions for stabilizers I loved to hear from you.

Crayons: coloring in your design before you embroider it can result in a soft, vintage look or a bright modern look. Always use Crayola brand crayons. I don't know why, but they must have more pigment or something because they really do work best. Wash your fabric to remove any surface treatment. When dry, press it nice and smooth. It's okay to use Best Press. Transfer your design to the fabric. There are 2 methods to use depending on the desired result. For that soft vintage look, go over each section with white Crayola first. Place a paper towel over your work and press it with a hot iron (no steam). Move the paper towel, press again, and let cool. Pressing the design sets the pigments; the paper towel absorbs the wax. Then go back and color each section with the appropriate color. For a brighter finish, skip the white crayon and just use the colored crayons. For subdued colors, color all in one direction; for more dense colors, color in both directions, laying down twice the amount of crayon. Attach fusible to the back and you are ready to outline and embellish the design with embroidery. How much fun is that?

Here is a holiday pattern by Robin Kingsley of Bird Brain Designs (www.birdbraindesigns.com) for you to embroider. Try it both with and without crayons.

Happy Quilting, Suzy

(See next page for pattern)



SQG Winter Coat Drive

Is your closet bulging with coats you no longer need or wear? Would you like to do something to make others feel warm on the outside and you feel warm on the inside? Then bring your new or gently used winter coats to the November 19 guild meeting.

The Johnson County Christmas Bureau is experiencing an extreme shortage of coats this year. The Bureau serves over 5,000 families in the Johnson County area throughout the year, but they have a special need for warm coats at this time of the year. They are seeking coats for all ages and all genders – men’s, women’s, boys, girls and infants. A monetary donation will also be accepted to help fill the needs of the Bureau.

For more information about the Bureau and other opportunities for giving, go to jccb.org. It’s a very fulfilling experience to volunteer during their shopping days in early December.

Remember – don’t leave home without an extra coat.

QUILTS OF VALOR

Quilts of Valor have been in the news lately. Because of that, the requests for QOV have risen. More quilts are needed. With some planning, we can coordinate our efforts to meet the need. Please print and respond to the survey on the next page. I will collect them at the next guild meeting or you can send the information to me at honasbdmj-7@juno.com Thanks!

Mary Honas

Quilting Tidbit

Wondering what happened once more with those quilting tidbits? Best plans in the world sometimes go astray. Susan Mercer will be giving the presentation on foundation piecing in January. Promise! As for November, I'll be doing a presentation on applying borders. Hope to see you there,

Janette Sheldon

2014 MEMBERSHIP DUES

RENEW your dues this month and that's one more thing you can check off the to-do list for 2014. Renewal fees to Starlight Quilt Guild are still only an amazing \$25. The Guild has a lot planned for the coming year. Stop by the membership table for a renewal form or use the one on the back of this page.

Pictures—To make our roster complete for next year, I'll need to take a picture of the following member. Please stop by the Membership table and I'll snap one.

Myrna Smith

Welcome New Members— David Hurd

October Attendance

Members	73
New Members	1
Guests	<u>3</u>
Total	77

Quilters Wisdom

There is no cure for quilting.

THANK YOU!

A big thank you to the following ladies who were greeters for 2013:

Carol Cleary, Jackie Stoaks, Sharon Lopez, Ruth Ann Bonin, Terri Oberle, Deborah Carnes, Karen Tanyi, Freda Smith, Cyndy O'Rourke, Renee Arnett, Dorothy VanBooven, Nancy Buzzell, Karen Huffman, Lisa Sousa, Becky Edson and Jackie Rudolph.

P.S. An extra BIG thank you to Cheryl Diebold and Ellen Kidd for always taking care of the food table. Thank you for volunteering.

Opal Yarnell, Hospitality Chairman

Survey for Interest in Quilts of Valor

This survey is for planning purposes only. Please include your name, and if desired, your preferred contact information below. There are many ways to be involved with Quilts of Valor. Please print and check your areas of interest. Bring to the next Starlight Guild meeting and give to Mary Honas.

_____ I would like to know more about local work days.

_____ I would prefer to work at home.

_____ I would like to be in a small group where the focus is QOV.

_____ I would like to organize a guild work day for QOV.

_____ Other:

I'm interested in helping with a part of a quilt (checked below)

_____ Piecing blocks or tops

_____ Quilting (long arm quilting is preferred.)

_____ Binding

_____ Labels

_____ Presentations cases (Pillow case)

_____ Not interested in participating in QOV projects.

Name:

Contact Information:

STARLIGHT QUILT GUILD

RENEWAL

_____ Date

_____ Check Number

Name: _____

Combined fee for another person? - List name:

Any changes to **email, address or phone**? List below

Starlight, Starbright - 2013 Starlight Quilt Guild Show Winners			
Judged	Theme	Rookie Quilt	1st Show Entry
	Donna Di Natale	Linda Hill	Laura Bogue
	Bright Stars	Cheery Pop Tart	Fall Tumble
Viewer's	1st choice	2nd Choice	3rd Choice
100	Mary Honas	Marilyn Carr	Ruth Ann Bonin
	Scrappy Bali Breifcase	Three Sheep Tote	Ruth Ann's Vest
200	Carol Cleary	Judy Williams	Christine Haubein
	Nebraska Travels	Tulips	Oak Leaf Medallion
300	Karen Edwards	Doris Gosney	Deb McCurnin
	Hot Flashes in August III	Plaza Lights Banner	Seeing Spots
400	Mary Honas -quilter (Patty	Cecelia Anissy	Carol Cleary
	Affairs of the Heart	Snowmen Under the	Bedtime in the Barn-
500	Karen Edwards	Laura Bogue	Janice Craig
	My Taupe Quilt	Fall Tumble	Batik Diamonds
600	Jean Turvey	Linda Hill	Yvette Kinney
	Home Sweet Home	Cheery Pop Tarts	Sampler Quilt
	Best of Show	Judy Williams	Aunt Millie's Garden

November Fat Quarter

Since our meeting is so close to Christmas and people have probably started their shopping by now, bring the prettiest Christmas fat quarter you can find. There are some beautiful new Christmas fabrics in the shops.

Joyce Verstraete



PROGRAM CALENDAR	
Nov 19, 2013	Mary Honas, Color Play
Jan 28, 2014	Lyn Hielman, Batting
Feb 25, 2014	Winged Designs Challenges, Swaps, Exchanges, Oh My
Mar 25, 2014	Carol Gilham Jones, Tile Quilts
Apr 22, 2014	Barb Eikmeier, It's all in the Sashin
May 27, 2014	Lori Lee Triplett, Turkey Red Trunk Show
Jun 24, 2014	Melissa Towne, Primitive Stitches: Wool Applique
Jul 22, 2014	Starlight Schoolhouse
Aug 26, 2014	** Betty New, What the Pro's Say
Sep 23, 2014	** 1st's, Favorites & Food pot luck dinner & show & tell
Oct 28, 2014	** Donna Lynn Thomas, Patchwork Palette
Nov 18, 2014	Kelly Ashton Quilting isn't a matter of life & death - It's more important than that
** \$5.00 fee for guests	

See Page 10 for more information about the July and September 2014 programs.



STARLIGHT STAR BRIGHT 2013 QUILT SHOW

By the numbers: 91 quilts, 11 vendors, 291 paid attendees and \$2675 in profits. I'd say the show was a big success. The venue was well lit, with plenty of room for our boutique, vendors, quilts, demos and even Project Linus. Janice and I would like to thank all who helped or entered quilts for making this year's show our best ever. Pictures have been posted on the website, so if you missed the show, or need a picture of your quilt, don't forget to make use of that resource. All good things must come to an end. Janice and I are stepping down as co-chairs of the quilt show. We are looking for others to take over the guild's largest single event. If you are interested in being Show Chairman, please contact Donna Holloway, Janette Sheldon, Janice Craig or Kim Cawthon.

WE NEED YOU



KANSAS CITY REGIONAL QUILT FESTIVAL

November 2013 Update

A lot has happened over the last couple of months. First and most impressive is our new web page, which can be found at Kansas City Regional Quilt Festival.com, or KCRQF.com. We've taken pictures of quilts from the individual guilds in interesting places around the Kansas City area. We've collected data from the participating guilds as well. The pictures and guild information will be changed throughout the coming months with updates as they occur. If you go to the site you will find a "follow" button. Registering on this will give you up-to-the-minute information on what's happening. Remember, your guild can update its information at any time by contacting our web master, Stephanie Dodson, at mail4dodson@yahoo.com.

Looks like the Festival will have a couple of impressive special exhibits. We are in the process of contracting for the 2015 Quilt Con winners as well as the Beatles special exhibit. The Kansas City Star will also have an exhibit.

We're also putting together a section for judged quilts in addition to those coming from our participating guilds. Decisions on entry fees and potential prizes are still in the works.

Securing sponsors and vendors, determining floor layout, finding appropriate pipe and drape - these are some of the tasks we're working on now. Your representatives are working diligently to pull this festival off. Each guild has been given a specific task. Remember, this is a joint effort by us all. Ask your representative if you can help.

Janette Sheldon

November Newsletter Library Corner

We have added the following books to our Guild Library – some are new and some are donations:

Children's quilts – Quick and Easy Quilts for Kids by Ewbank, Kids Quilts and Baby Quilts by Fons and Porter, 24 hour baby quilts by Leisure Arts;

Technique books – Rotary Cutting, Flawless Hand Quilting and Fast and Fun Machine quilting – all By Rodale;

Buttonhole Stitch appliqué by Wells;

Rag quilts – Cut, Sew, quilt as you go by Leisure Arts;

T-Shirt Quilts by Causee;

Quick classic quilts by McCloskey;

Pieced quilts -Pretty Little Presents by Van Arsdale, Paper pieced miniature quilts by Vosters;

Fiction books – Stitch of Courage, and Thimble of Soil by Hubalek.

COME CHECK US OUT!

July 2014 Schoolhouse Program

Calling all quilters! I'm looking for experienced quilters to teach at our July 2014 Schoolhouse evening. If you have a technique you particularly enjoy and would like to share, let me know. I've put together a list of techniques that might be of interest to our members, or let me know your special skill.. Remember, your demo needs to be about 10 minutes long and done in the fellowship hall, so you may need to be inventive to cover some aspect of your topic. Be on the lookout, as I'm not above re-implementing the draft! Some possible suggestions are:

Crazy Quilts	Fabric dyeing
Pattern / plaid matching	Quilt labels
Traditional hand quilting	Wool applique
Post cards	Threads and needles
EEK! I need a quilt, NOW	Embellishments

September 2014 - 1st, Favorite and Food Night.

A special note about our September program: 1st, Favorite and Food. This evening will be all about Show & Tell. Bring your first quilt, or any special quilts you may have. Maybe one your grandmother gave you when you were twelve. Also, show off your favorite recipes for our pot luck dinner and bring copies of that recipe to share. Starlight will provide the meat dish, and members will be divided into groups. Each group will be asked to bring a side dish, salad or desert. If you would like to assist with planning the evening, contact Kim Cawthon

November Raffle

First, let me thank each and every one of you who have contributed to SQG by participating in our monthly raffle. I must admit that I was a bit hesitant about doing it, but the response has been overwhelming. We've raised nearly as much money so far as we usually do on Bingo night – and you didn't even have to buy a single fat quarter! Our goal was \$800 and I'm hoping to surpass that figure with our November raffle.

We will have books and fabric and kits in November. We'll also have a surprise raffle for an amazing quilt kit that was donated by one of our members. The sampler quilt finishes at 52" x 68" and the kit is valued at over \$180. So start saving those \$1s, \$5s and \$10 now for the Big Bang Raffle at our November meeting.

Donna di Natale



Our sympathy goes out to Freda Smith at the loss of her mother. We're thinking of you, Freda.

Keep Cheryl Tomson in your thoughts and prayers as she faces heart surgery. We wish you a speedy and complete recovery, Cheryl.

Project Linus

During this holiday season, please remember Project Linus. You can donate clean cotton quilting fabric, soft flannel, batting, and fleece to us at every meeting. While you're at the meeting, pick up a kit to make when you need to de-stress during the holidays. It's a great feeling to make a quilt for someone else, isn't it? If you finish a blanket, or two, during December, turn it in at Harper's in downtown Overland Park. The sooner it gets turned in, the sooner it's comforting a child.

Have a good holiday season. Lea Robrahn & Mary Funk

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: Cassie Diebold, Bernadine Farrow, Kathy Hurley, Sharon Lopez, Janette



Luehring, Kristi Orr, Cheryl Reynolds, Jean Turvey, Pat Wineland, Beverly Zavadiil

December and January's birthdays are: Karen Berley, Laura Bogue, Ruthann Bonin, Gwen Brustad, Linda Clatterbuck, Carol Crouse, Arline Eberhart, Jackie Evans, Victoria Foley, Mary Funk, Chris Haubein, Karen Huffman, Pat LeBar, Lorna Larson, Sheila Lynch, Beverly McCreery, Jean Patchen, Beverly Renner, Sharon Slusher, Karen Tanyi, Sandy Teeple, Christy Underwood, and Judy Williams

Everyone looks forward to treats!

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. especialyquilts@att.net or 913-341-0525

Machine Quilting: longarm custom or overall quilting. Award winning quilter. 2 WEEK TURN AROUND TIME! Holidays are coming quick! Lindsay Lawing -The Protege Quilter 816-888-9964 ProtegeQuilter@gmail.com

[FIND US ON FACEBOOK](http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=106359079270)

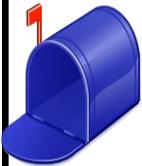
<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=106359079270>



Membership Information:

Membership, New or Renewal, \$25/year. 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.



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



Newsletter Deadline:

Articles are due the 9th of the month. E-mail your article to Sandy Fey sandy.fey93@gmail.com (913-432-0855).

NEXT SQG

MEETING! Tuesday, Nov 19, 2013 6:30 PM

6:30 PM— Quilting Tidbit

7:00 PM— **Mary Ho-**
nas—Color Play

Remember to bring:

- Nametag
- Show and Tell
- Library Books
- Goodies (if it is your Birthday)
- Fat Quarter
- Money for Raffles - this month is a very special one!

Starlight Quilters Guild

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