

Starlight Express

Starlight Quilters Guild

www.starlightquilters.com

July 2014

President's Message— Janette Sheldon

Starlight Quilt Guild Officers and Committees:

- President: Janette Sheldon
- Vice-President: Jackie Rudolph
- Secretary: Christy Underwood
- Treasurer: Ruthann Bonin
- Membership: Marilyn Carr
- Historian: Susan Wagner
- Newsletter: Sandy Fey
- Website: Bernadine Farrow
- Hospitality: Opal Yarnell
- Door Prizes: Mary Honas
- Quilting Tidbits: Janette Sheldon
- Librarian: Linda Clatterbuck/Kristi Orr/Cheryl Tomson
- Fundraising/Raffle: Carol Cleary/Sandy Ralston
- Humor Presentation: Mary Funk
- Show and Tell Ribbons: Mary Funk
- Program Chair 2014: Kim Cawthon
- Program Chair 2015: Jackie Stoaks
- Workshops: Donna di Natale/Amy Senatore
- Opportunity Quilt: Janette Sheldon/Freda Smith
- Opportunity Quilt Tickets: Connie Passaro/Debra Carnes
- Guild Project: Jackie Stoaks
- Quilt Show Chair: Laura Carr
- Quilt Show Boutique: Peggy Skaith
- Quilt Show Vendors: Donna di Natale
- Quilt Show Publicity: Jackie Evans/Lauren Way
- Retreats: Donna Holloway
- Linus Quilts: Lea Robrahn
- Quilts of Valor: Mary Honas
- 2015 Greater Kansas City Quilt Show: Janette Sheldon
- Past-President: Donna Holloway

It's funny how time has a way of moving right along, even when you're aren't looking. Can you believe the Kansas City Regional Quilt Festival is less than one year away? Set to take place June 19-21, 2015, this event will be held at the Overland Park Convention Center. In the past few months a lot of progress has been made. Excuse me while I set my president's hat aside for a moment and speak to you all as the co-chair of this event.



We started out reserving space upstairs in the convention center for the hanging of guild quilts, vendors, special exhibits, and demonstrations. Well, that space was no longer large enough to hold the entire event. I've now rented five of the courtyard rooms located downstairs. These five rooms will be used for classes and demonstrations as well as special exhibits. We will have one room full of Bernina sewing machines for hands on classes, and we will have another room with 10 Innova log arm machines also for hands on classes. Two other rooms will be used for lectures and demonstrations. Classes will be held June 18th through the 20th. The fifth room will house our special exhibits provided by Kansas City Star, Modern Guild's Quilt Con 2015 winners, as well as the special exhibit of the Beetles collection. Jacquie Ger- ing, Angela Walters and Karen Stone plus about a dozen others will be lecturing and teaching. These presenters are from all over the country.

We also have over 70 vendors who are coming from California to Maine. Our space for vendors is nearly full. In addition to vendors, we have Bernina, Kansas City Star and Missouri Sewing Machine as major sponsors. Also sponsoring are Mistyfuse, Prairie Point, Sew Very Smooth, Superior Threads and others.

Hotels reserving blocks of rooms for the event include the Sheraton, Chase Suites, Courtyard Marriott as well as the Marriott.

There are 18 local guilds working on the festival. Each guild has been given a specific assignment. Most of the guilds have been

working on their assignment over the past few months. A few of the guilds, however, have been assigned tasks that will take place at the time of the event. For instance, Town and Country will be taking care of hospitality for the vendors on the set up day. They will provide refreshments and assist with set up. This is an example of a job that will take place next year.

So. Have you started wondering what Starlight's job is? Our job is to provide a guild support team who will oversee the setting up of booths for each guild. These booths will not be on the convention floor, but will be outside in the large hallway coming into the event. Our job is to assign spaces, make sure each guild knows where they are located, and make sure each space has appropriate chairs and tables. These spaces will all have pipe and drape just like the vendors on the convention floor. We will need to oversee each booth to make sure nothing is attached to the drape. The festival committee will be coming up with guidelines for what we would not like to see in the booths. For instance, no food items can be sold (contract specific with the convention center) and we do not want items sold that will be in direct competition with the vendors. For instance, with some vendors selling fabric, we do not want guilds selling fabric. Most of the guilds have expressed the intention to sell tickets for their opportunity quilts. Some may put together hand-made boutique items. We're hoping guilds who do that will be thinking quality.

Starlight has some work to do. We need to come up with a committee in charge of overseeing our task at the festival. This does not have to be done today, but it's something to be thinking about. In addition, and probably more important, we need to figure out what we want to put in our booth. We will need at least one person, if not more, to take charge of that. And the third thing we need to be doing - we need to figure out our own guidelines for Starlight quilts which will be hung to represent us. I'll be talking about this more and more in the months to come. There will be a deadline in early 2015 to submit entries from our guild. There is a committee working on the floor lay out that will be completed shortly. After that, each guild will be designated linear feet within which to hang quilts. I know there are lots of really good quilters in our guild. It's going to be tough figuring out which quilts will be included in our display. Keep in mind if you have a quilt that is not chosen, you can always enter your quilt in the judged section. More to come on all of this. Meantime be aware things are happening and we are going to want to be a part of it.

Janette Sheldon

JULY'S SPEAKER—MELISSA TOWNE



Melissa Towne – Primitive Stitches: Wool Applique

Look closely at the project top and center in Primitive Stitches' booth from last year's quilt show. I fell in love with that bowl of geraniums. I had to have it. Have I ever done wool applique before – nope, but not to worry. I promptly scheduled Melissa to speak at our guild.

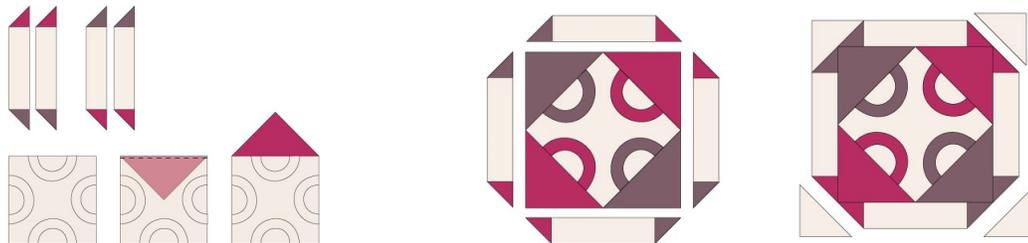
For the past 10 years, Melissa has been the owner of Primitive Stitches in Warrensburg. She loves all things antique, vintage and primitive. Visit Melissa's blog at <http://primitivestitchesmo.blogspot.nl/>

I'd Rather be Stitchin" - Donna Di Natale

The Fruit Basket

It is still a little early for local fruit, but before you know it, farmer's markets, and perhaps your own back yard, will be overflowing with peaches, plums, cherries and other summer fruits. One very easy way to use these bountiful fruits is to preserve them using brandy. There's no need to heat up the kitchen with a big canner full of boiling water. This recipe makes 4 pints that can be sterilized in the dishwasher (use extra heat for the wash cycle and heat dry rather than air dry) or by immersing in boiling water for just a few minutes. The alcohol in the brandy does the preserving as well as preventing bacterial growth.

The Fruit Basket block is simple to make using squares, rectangles and half-square triangles. Be creative with handle to make this block your own.



Branded Cherries

2 pounds sweet cherries with or without stems and pits (I prefer without, but that's more work)

1/2 cup sugar

3 cups brandy (don't buy the expensive kind – any brandy will do)

Pack cherries into 4 sterilized pint jars, layering with sugar, to within 1" of the top of the jar. Add the brandy, covering the cherries by 1/2" or more. Seal and store in a cool, dark place for at least 3 months before using. During the first week of storage, shake the jars occasionally to dissolve the sugar.

To use, strain the cherries and serve over ice cream and/or cake or with mascarpone cheese or use in muffins or tea breads. Don't toss out the brandy. It is delicious to drink or use in a sauce for pork or ham.

Project Linus—Lea Robrahn

Project Linus needs blankets! Starlight has turned in around 120 blankets and Project Linus needs more. It's tough to sew in the summer months. During the hottest months, when you just can't stand the heat, make a blanket. When it's raining and storming, and you can't work outside, make a blanket. There are several easy blankets to make. One of the easiest is Simple Gifts. Made with just 9 strips of 6" WOF (width of fabric) strips, it's quick and easy. If you want a lighter weight blanket, back it with flannel and leave the batting out. Easy!

The best sizes of quilts to make 36 x 40 and 40 x 60. Please, if you make a blanket, make it AT LEAST 36" x 36". Any smaller than that and it is just not useful blanket. Be sure to look at the Project Linus website for many different quilt patterns—<http://projectlinus.org/patterns/>.

2014 MEMBERSHIP —Marilyn Carr

April Attendance

Members	64
New members	2
Guest	<u>2</u>
Total	68

Welcome:

Jackie Johnson
Ann Schriver

Quilters Wisdom

He grills. I quilt.

Quilt Show "Look What We Made" Nov 14-15 at the Abdallah Shrine

2014 Quilt Show

The "Flights of Fancy" challenge piece needs to be completed by our October meeting. Start thinking about what quilts you would like to enter in this year's categories for the quilt show. Here are the categories:

Appliqued, Embroidered, Hand Quilted, Machine Quilted, Modern Quilt, Baby or Juvenile, Wall Hanging, Toppers/Runners, Miniatures, and Apparel/Handbags/Miscellaneous

Our next quilt show meeting is August 12th at 6:30 pm at the central library in the Nancy Pickard room. Hope you can make it. Laura Carr [972-835-2697](tel:972-835-2697)

Quilt Show Boutique

For those of you who like to use the internet, there are a lot of resources or free instructions as well as patterns to purchase. I recently came across a new website or two (or three) that offer a number of patterns along with free tutorials. One of them is Dog Under My Desk.com. She offers PDF patterns, some really helpful general tips about using interfacing and adding zippers to bags, and several well written tutorials for small projects. Another is StudioKat Designs, specializing in purses and bags. StudioKat has an offering of more complex purse patterns in addition to more free tutorials for simple bags. For yarn crafts try Mooglyblog.com. Again, the offering is a mix of free instructions and patterns to purchase. Of course all of the yarn companies offer free patterns so that you'll buy their yarns. Here is where to look: Dogundermydesk.com, StudioKatdesigns.com, Mooglyblog.com, redheart.com, yarnspirations.com, Ravelry.com and Lionbrand yarn.com.

Update on Opportunity Quilt

So far, 30 members of Starlight Guild have purchased, sold or checked out tickets to sell for our 2014 opportunity quilt. That's a healthy 33% participation. If you haven't already, please purchase or pick up your tickets at our July meeting. Let's aim for 100% participation. Everyone is encouraged to sell or purchase \$10 worth of tickets (that's 12 tickets). If that doesn't work for you, consider purchasing even a single ticket. It would be great to have everyone on board!

Janette Sheldon displayed the quilt at the Blue Valley Guild on July 1st and Carol Clearly took it to the Olathe Guild on July 8th. Next the quilt will travel to Overland Park Mazda and be on display from July 14th to July 31st.

We desperately need volunteers to travel to local quilt shops, set the quilt up for display and drop off the envelope with the ticket for the shops to sell. Partner up with a friend to deliver and set up the quilt, plus enjoy some fabric shopping and maybe lunch together! Contact Connie Passaro cpfromkc@gmail.com to get more details. The shops we need help with and approximate dates are as follows:

Rustic Yearnings, Independence August 1-15

Sarah's, Lawrence October 11-22

Quilter's Station, Lee's Summit August 16-29

Quilting Bits & Pieces October 23-31

Peddler's Wagon, Parkville Nov. 1-12

We do have volunteers for Harper's, Quilted Memories and Prairie Point. Thank you, thank you to Mary Honas, Deborah Carnes and Liz DiSilvestro who have volunteered to help.

Starlight Quilters' Guild



Upcoming Programs

July 22, 2014

Melissa Towne,

Primitive Stitches: Wool Applique

Aug 26, 2014

**Betty New, What the Pros Say

Sep 23, 2014

**Donna Lynn Thomas, Patchwork Palette

Oct 28, 2014

**1st's, Favorites and Food

Pot luck dinner and first quilt

Nov 13-14, 2014

***Quilt Show—Look What I Made

Nov 18, 2014

Kelly Ashton

Quilting isn't a matter of life & death—It's more important than that

**\$5.00 fee for guests

Guild meetings held at

Countryside Christian Church

6101 Nall, Mission, KS

6:30-9:00pm

<http://starlightquilters.com>

****Abdallah Shrine Temple

5300 Metcalf Ave, Overland Park

Starlight Quilters Guild Fall Retreat

Mark your calendars; the Fall Retreat will be at Unity Village on Oct 31/Nov 1- 2, 2014. We will have a large conference room for our workspace and hotel rooms (2Q beds/room) all on the same ground floor level. There is a great bookstore across the parking lot that has a Starbucks, as well as fresh sandwiches, drinks and salads and other snacks; which will be useful if you want to stay later on Sunday. Plus, we will be minutes away from a few great quilt shops. I have reserved enough rooms to accommodate 20 quilters, but this will be easy to expand to more, if needed. Cost will be \$190 (double) or \$275 (single); and includes a great workspace, 2 nights sleeping accommodations, and meals (Friday dinner; Continental Breakfast/ Lunch/Dinner on Saturday, and full hot breakfast on Sunday). We will also have access to the grounds within Unity Village to take walks and otherwise enjoy this peaceful setting. Any questions, please contact Donna Holloway ([913 402 7559](tel:9134027559)); or DONNALHOLLOWAY@YAHOO.COM

Library Corner

Cheryl Tomson, Linda Clatterbuck & Kristi Orr

Now that we've had the opportunity to learn some new techniques in our schoolhouse last month, you may want to follow up with some of them. We have a wide variety of books to increase your overall skills, including the Quilter's Academy series and a number of applique techniques. "Quilted Postcards" will give you more ideas if you'd like to try this. There are also several books on fabric dying, making crazy quilts, and sewing clothing or gifts.

Quilts of Valor

Remember that first Mondays of the month are sewing times at Prairie Point for Quilts of Valor. They already have 108 quilts but need 140 to be delivered to Fort Leavenworth by September and it would be great if we could help with a few more. The times are 10:00—4:00. Bring your lunch or try one of many eating places near by. If you have questions e-mail me at susan_mercer3@yahoo.com.



Advertisements

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

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

Do you have a birthday this month?

Enjoy your day! Please bring a snack or dessert for the Hospitality Table to share.

July's birthdays are: Lois Bozarth, Rosie Brinker, Jeanette Byczek, Janice Craig, Donna Di Natale, Connie Dunlap, Doris Gosney, Conni Mai, Breeanna McSpadden, Diane Ostermeier, Donna Simpson, Lori Triplett, Dorothy VanBooven, Kay Van Durme, and Joyce Verstraete,



August birthdays are: Johnna Boswell-Duncan, Jan Fortney, Deborah McCurnin, Susan Mercer, Niki Page, Sandy Ralston, Janette Sheldon, Esther Stafford, and Susan Wagner

Everyone looks forward to treats!

If we have your wrong birthday month, let me know at sandy.fey93@gmail.com

Greeters for 2014

Your greeters this month are Karen Huffman and Myrna Smith. If you are unable to attend your month, please exchange with another person or call Opal Yarnell at 913-384-1585. Thank you for volunteering!

Tidbits

There will not be a Tidbits presentation this month. If you have any suggestions for a topic or better still, if you are willing to present, please contact Janette Sheldon.



Membership Information:

Membership, New or Renewal, \$12.50/ half-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 Dead-
line:**

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! Tues-
day, May 27, 2014**

6:30 PM—Tidbits

**7:00 PM— Melissa
Towne, Primitive Stit-
ches: Wool Applique**

Remember to bring:

- Nametag
- Show and Tell
- Library Books
- Goodies (if it is your Birth-
day or even if it's not!)
- Money for Raffles
- Things for the Share Table
- Linus Quilts

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