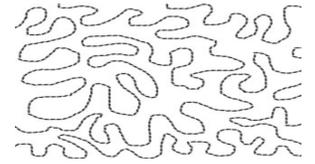


EVENING STAR QUILTERS' GUILD - THE STITCH LINE



A Note From the ESQG Vice-President

JANUARY, 2020 - VOLUME 1

It's January! It's a new month! It's a new year! It's a new decade! Oh, I'm feeling old...

This is my year to turn 60. How did that happen? Funny enough, growing up I always heard people say that age is just mind over matter... if you don't mind, it doesn't matter. Now I hear my husband tell me that it's not the age, it's the mileage. Some days, I think "60 isn't that old," but at the end of the day, I feel like I've been trampled by the marathon runners trying to cut their time. So, yes, some days are better than others.

We are at the age of bone density scans, more frequent mammograms, and that awful "c" word testing. We have skin that sags in places we never thought it could. Wrinkles appear out of nowhere, and whiskers curl and twist in our eyebrows and under our chins.

On the bright side, with age comes experience. With age, comes beauty and knowledge. How many of us have said, "I would do it over again if I knew then what I know now?" We have respect in our community and family for having wisdom. We have perfected our crafting, our cooking, our baking, our quilting. Our ideas for projects probably outnumber our life expectancy, but we do not stop trying new things, new techniques, new projects. We don't stop buying more fabric, the latest books, the latest tools. We get up every morning with something to do, and look forward to finishing the latest project. We build on our experiences, and share our knowledge with our younger counterparts.

Over Christmas break, my oldest daughter visited with us. She does Cross-Fit at home to keep in shape, so I made arrangements with a friend to use the Ninja Warrior gym in Newton... just for fun. We laughed and giggled, and just played together. We enjoyed life. We enjoyed each other. For one special day, we got up and put one foot in front of the other and carried on with life!

Enjoy your age, whatever it may be. Bring quilting and friendship into each and every day. Age: it's just mind over matter. If you don't mind, it doesn't matter!

Be well and I hope to see you on Tuesday!

Cynthia A Smith

VP, ESQG

908.362.8598

908.310.2466

numbers3.cs@gmail.com

REMEMBER

THINGS TO BRING TO THE JANUARY MEETING:

QOV Ohio Star Blocks
Red & White Star Blocks
Quilt show yard signs
Show & Tell
Hospitality
Smiles and helping hands!

Border Beauties for Show & Tell

Since our topic this month is Bordering on Beauty, what have you made that has an unusual border? Brighten up our lives with your pieced borders, scalloped borders, or prairie points! We want to hear your stories on why you tried something different and what you might do differently or would encourage others to try. We're on the "edge" of our seats!

Christmas Wrapped Up

It was a dark and stormy night...so, unfortunately, the Wednesday evening wrapping event was poorly attended due to the snow squalls passing through the area from 2:30 pm until 8 pm. Random snow storms made for a dangerous commute for several of our members who made valid attempts to join Judy Zeitler at the Children's Home of Easton. Members who lived more locally to the children's home were able to attend and several members also made the trek on Friday afternoon. Nine members overall helped Santa wrap gifts this year! The elves enjoyed themselves and decided to create some magic again next year, so we are signed up and ready to try again in December 2020. Thank you to everyone who helped, and who tried to help. It was a worthy and fun event!

Saturday Stitches in Hope - Marble Maze Quilts

One of our charity projects this year will be creating marble maze quilts. These quilts are approximately 8" x 10", made of minky fabric or soft polar fleece, and include a flat marble. Similar to the fidget quilts, an autistic child or Alzheimer's patient can fiddle with the quilt to keep their minds active. Judy Zeitler will be hosting the workshop in January to complete these quilts and find homes for these little guys. Please plan to attend on **Saturday, January 18** in Hope, NJ!

Red and White Quilt Block Exchange

Sharon Rehrig showed us the finished block for the Red and White Block exchange to be held in February. If you are participating, you paid \$5 per block and you will receive your money back in return for your completed block at the February meeting. You may turn in your blocks in January OR February, but no later than February for the refund. 40 blocks were handed out. If everyone completes and returns their block, we will have enough for two quilt tops and will select two winners. Names will be entered one per block completed. Winners will also receive the leftover fabrics to assist them in completing the top. Good luck to everyone participating!!

***Mystery Quilt Workshop is February 8th***

Members participating in this year's mystery quilt project should now have fabric/cutting directions, and three assembly steps completed. The mystery will be solved on Saturday, February 8 between 9 am and 3 pm at St. John's United Methodist Church in Hope, NJ. It's not too late to sign up. This fun and excitement can be yours for a mere \$20 fee! Join us! Lunch will be provided! See Marlene Marlowe or Leana McCutcheon for details.

Quilts of Valor Blocks

Please continue to make the Ohio Star 12" blocks in red/white and blue/white between now and March 2020. Theresa Schoonover will be collecting the blocks at each meeting, so feel free to make several at once, or one each month; whatever suits your life. In March, Theresa will coordinate the Stitches in Hope workshop and members will be assembling the tops. Theresa decided to change things up a bit, and has a new idea for the setting. The guild received patriotic fabrics from former member, Trudy Frey, that will be used to set the blocks. If you need a pattern for the Ohio Star block, please see Theresa at any meeting. This is the same pattern that was used last year.

Ugly Fabric Challenge Underway!

Okay folks! What were you thinking?? Some of that fabric was truly UGLY! That's the idea after all, and we are so excited that 19 members joined in the fun! Now let's turn them into something beautiful!! IF you received more than one fabric, you only have to use one. Do not make yourself crazy because someone decided to clean house. One yard, one fabric, one finished item. Your finished project can be an apron, a purse/handbag, a quilt (no smaller than 36" square), virtually anything you think might work. The "ugly" fabric must be a prominent part of your project. The completed projects are due back at the June, 2020 meeting. Good luck and get to work!

Bordering on Beauty

The topic of discussion at our January meeting will be *Bordering on Beauty*, presented by Cindy Smith. Cindy has been quilting for nearly 30 years and is an active member of ESQG for the past 23 years. Cindy will be presenting a trunk show of border ideas demonstrating the use of leftover fabrics, leftover blocks, combinations of patterns, and ideas generated from the book *Setting Solutions* by Sharyn Craig. Heralded as the "Queen of Borders" by Sharon Kubich, look for an evening of ideas and thought provoking projects, as Cindy redirects your design ideas and extends them into the borders of your quilts.

Socks for the Veterans

Thank you to everyone who donated socks for the veterans! What a haul we had! Thank you again to Audrey Planer for collecting the socks and distributing them to our local homeless veteran shelters. We all wish we could do more for those who have given up so much for our country and our freedom. Let us hope this at least helps keep them a little bit warmer during these chilling months of winter.

Ten Lords A-Leaping!

Sharon Kubich brought on whoops and hollers with her rendition of the Twelve Days of Christmas at our December holiday party! Who knew it would be such an active choral event? A big thank you to Audrey Planer and Irene Compton for organizing a fun evening for all our members which included dinner, dessert, and such fine entertainment! Also, thank you to Lorraine Hare for leading us in our handmade ornament of the night, a lovely lollipop for our own trees at home; and also a big shout-out to the ESQG Choral group who led us all in rousing verses of various Christmas carols. We hope everyone enjoyed an evening of socializing with fellow guild members.



A wonderful spread was provided for all to enjoy at the Holiday Guild meeting. And a few of the ladies led everyone in singing some carols.



2019 Raffle Quilt Winner
 Our 2019 raffle quilt winner was a senior couple in Washington, NJ. Sharon Kubich was able to present them with their quilt within a few days of our meeting. The couple was overjoyed with their new quilt! They bought their ticket at the Warren County Fair. Congratulations to our 2019 Raffle Quilt winners!

Sunshine Needed

Please keep Pat Howlin and her family in your hearts and prayers as she recently lost her son Michael in a car accident Monday. Services are planned for Thursday and Friday in Hauppauge and Smithtown, NY. Pat has endured several tragedies in the past year including the loss of her husband, and a devastating fire at her residence where she lived with her son Michael. Please pray for strength and comfort during this difficult time.



Not Your Ordinary Bed Cover

Our March program will feature guest speaker Nancy Weston who will share her program, "Not Your Ordinary Bed Cover: Quilts of Protest." This should be an interesting topic and may generate some discussion among the members. Nancy comes to us from the Colonial Quilters' Guild in Bethlehem, PA and is an experienced quilter and instructor. Since March is Women's History Month, you can look forward to an intriguing presentation from Nancy!

NJ Makers Day Slated for March 21st!

Mark Stutzman from the Warren County Library program is seeking organizations and helpers for this year's NJ Makers Day on March 21, 2020. This all-day event allows crafters across the state of New Jersey to demonstrate their crafts through hands-on sessions with local children, teens and adults. The Evening Star Quilters have provided hand-quilting demonstrations in the past at the main branch of the Warren County Library in Belvidere. NJ Makers Day started six years ago, to celebrate all crafters within the State of New Jersey. It is an opportunity to learn knitting, crochet, painting, light technology, quilting, and some rather unusual crafts. On March 21st, events will be held all over the state in various libraries, schools, and churches; so even if you do not want to demonstrate for the guild, you may want to look into events being held in your area.

More information can be found at njmakersday.org. If anyone is interested in participating in this Saturday event on behalf of the guild, please contact Cindy Smith and she will put you in contact with Mark.

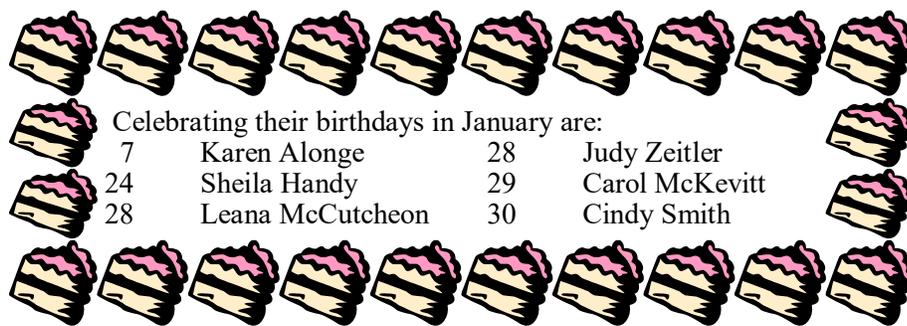
Thanks for your consideration!

Board Meetings Slated

Upcoming board meeting dates:

- February 4 - at Cindy Smith's home
- April 7 - at Sue DeCamp's home
- June 2 - at Sharon Kubich's home

All members are welcome to attend. Committee Chairpersons are encouraged to attend. Please mark your calendars.



Celebrating their birthdays in January are:

- | | | | |
|----|------------------|----|----------------|
| 7 | Karen Alonge | 28 | Judy Zeitler |
| 24 | Sheila Handy | 29 | Carol McKevitt |
| 28 | Leana McCutcheon | 30 | Cindy Smith |

Guild Officers

2019/2020 Guild Year

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| President
Sharon Kubich | Treasurer
Sue DeCamp |
| Vice President
Cynthia Smith | Bylaws/Historian
Vacant |
| Secretary
Carol A. Smith | |

**WE'RE ON THE
WEB:
HTTP://
ESQG.COM/**

Email:
president@esqg.com

PO Box 253
Belvidere, NJ 07823-0253