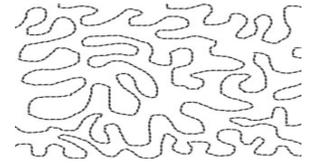


EVENING STAR QUILTERS' GUILD - THE STITCH LINE



FEBRUARY, 2020 - VOLUME 2

A Note From the ESQG Vice-President

Recent weekend events bring to mind the phrase “too much of a good thing.” The phrase is considered proverbial and has been a part of human conversation since the late 15th century. Evidence of it arrives in Shakespeare's writings when he wrote, “Can we desire too much of a good thing?”

The famous actress and comedian from vaudeville days, Mae West, coined the phrase “too much of a good thing can be wonderful!” But Mae West was a sex goddess with a great wit and was also controversial with some of the spins she could put on a phrase. But is she correct? Perhaps.

Winning a lifetime supply of hamburgers would seem like a good thing, until you are stuck eating them 24/7. There is a song at Christmas that wishes for “Christmas every day of the year.” It's a nice idea, but that too would become a burden to many and is obviously unrealistic. Too much of a good thing when you “partake” definitely has its drawbacks; the benefit of the initial activity can be harmful in excess.

The thesaurus offers similar phrases: to binge, to drown, having your fair share; none of which sound very friendly. Many of us binge-watch old series on Netflix, but that's not healthy if you do it all day long either. And what about the phrase “using a sledgehammer to crack a nut?” Now there’s something visual! Yes, that would be an excessive act.

So if the quality of something is relative to the quantity, is having a large fabric stash a good thing or a bad thing? Is it possible for quilters to sew too much, or to make too many quilts? After spending four days just sewing, I want to sew more. After completing a quilt, I want to make more. Even if I get to the point of not making large quilts, I will still want to sew and I will probably make smaller ones. I believe I agree with Mae West on this one. As a quilter, too much of a good thing is *wonderful!*

Be well and I hope to see you on Tuesday!

Cynthia A Smith
VP, ESQG
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REMEMBER

THINGS TO BRING TO THE FEBRUARY MEETING:

Red & White Quilt Blocks
QOV Ohio Star Blocks
Scrappy Show & Tell
Valentine Goodies to Share
Quilt Show Yard Signs
Water, coffee, or soda for yourself
Smiles & helping hands!

Show & Tell: Scrappy Makes Me Happy

Are you a scrap quilter? Bring in your favorite scrappy quilt for Show & Tell at the February meeting. Mix up our night with your tales of satisfaction in “using it up” and making every little bit count. Let's see what your pieces tell us about you!

Mystery Quilt Reveal!

The Mystery Quilt workshop is **Saturday, February 8**, at St. John's United Methodist Church in Hope, NJ. The workshop begins at 9 am and will continue till about 3 pm. Marlene Marlowe completed her quilt and will have it on hand to reveal the mystery, once someone reaches that stage of construction on Saturday. Steps 4 & 5 were handed out at the January meeting to those that signed up for the event. Get your machines ready. Get your piecing ready. Get set. GO! See you Saturday in Hope! Lunch will be provided by the guild.

Scrap Stashtic Quilts

Janellea Macbeth is our speaker for the guild meeting on **Tuesday, February 11**. She comes to us from Saylorsburg, PA and will be presenting a lecture entitled "*Scrap Stashtic Quilts, Organizing Your Scrap Fabric Stash and Actually Using It.*" The Scrap Stashtic system is designed to function as a cohesive, stand-alone unit, or to interact with other patterns, systems, and rulers. If you are not already a scrap quilter, this system will make it easy to fall in love with and use your stash. If you are already a scrap quilter, this system will support your hobby and give you structure to soar to greater heights!

Bring a friend! Grab a cup of joe, sit back, relax and enjoy Janellea's presentation on Tuesday night. Janellea's Amazon best selling book, *Scrap Stashtic Quilts*, will be available for sale following her presentation. Please join us!

Red & White Blocks to be Awarded

It's time! The drawing for the winner of the red and white blocks will be held **Tuesday, February 11**, at our monthly guild meeting. If you paid \$5 to get your fabric and pattern, be sure to create your block and turn it in at the February meeting. Refunds will only be issued for blocks timely submitted. If all the blocks are completed and returned, there will be enough for two quilt tops and two winners! Also, if you have leftover scraps from your block, please return them as well. The leftover fabric will be divided between the two winners for them to complete their quilts. Thank you to Sharon Rehrig for organizing this fun and gorgeous project! Thank you and good luck to all participants!! Don't forget to turn in your block(s)!

***Marble Maze Days***

Once again, we were snowed out of our community project! The snow storm came in sooner than expected, so the day was cancelled to keep everyone safe. Judy Zeitler will have packets available at the February meeting so that members may sew the Marble Maze quilts and the Port Pillows at home. The Marble Maze quilts are due back at the guild meeting on **Tuesday, March 10**, but the Port Pillows can be made anytime during the year. Please plan to take a packet or two and give comfort to those less fortunate. Be sure to fill out a ticket from Judy for items you complete for community service projects.

Quilts of Valor Blocks

Theresa Schoonover has collected numerous Ohio Star blocks in red and white and blue and white. If you made more, bring 'em on down! We will begin assembling the blocks into quilt tops at the Saturday workshop in March. Plan to bring your machine and basic sewing supplies to help with this project on **Saturday, March 14, from 9 am - 3 pm**, at St. John's United Methodist Church in Hope, NJ!

Color Play in April

Laura Lyman will be returning to our guild on **Tuesday, April 14**, to present a lecture on Color Play, with a workshop to follow on Saturday, April 18, on the same topic. Her lecture includes a hands-on experience in color concepts to help quilters choose color combinations for their quilts. The workshop will expand on this concept and allow the participants to work together to create dynamic combinations in a simple 9-patch quilt. There will be no charge for the workshop, but please sign up with Cindy Smith as soon as possible. Lunch will be provided.

Ugly Ducklings turning into Beautiful Swans

The Ugly Fabric challenge is underway! We are starting to get sneak peaks at a few of those *ugly ducklings* and let me tell you, we are seeing some *beautiful swans* emerging from those fabrics. Keep working on those quilts and other items using your "ugly" fabric. Remember your project can be a quilt (no smaller than 36" square), a purse, an apron, or other item deemed appropriate for your fabric. It must be completed. The ugly fabric must be an integral part of your project and recognizable in the finished item. You must supply a 5" square of the ugly fabric to be displayed with your challenge. Beauty is in the eye of the beholder... and keep an eye on that ugly duckling, for it will be a beautiful swan by June!

ESQG Face-to-Facebook

The Evening Star Quilters are active again on Facebook! Nancy Geiger has graciously accepted the position of Facebook administrator for our page. Nancy promises to weed out the grifters and make sure that people requesting access are true quilters at heart and not just advertisers or troublemakers. If you are on Facebook, please *Like* our page and connect to some interesting news! Thank you, Nancy, for putting a “face” to our name once again!

Luke Haynes: A New Paradigm



“The reason I’ve been a quilter for so long is that the first one I made wasn’t very good, and I felt driven to make it better.” Luke Haynes began his quilting career as a fluke in North Carolina, and it has grown into a love of the “what else” factor to keep doing better. Luke is an artist, but believes a quilt should have a top, batting, and backing and be 90" square so it fits his bed. He moved to Kansas City, MO because Los Angeles was too complicated... and he’s coming to New Jersey in May to present a trunk show for the Evening Star Quilters! Be ready ladies! His quilts are amazing! Just keep my motto in mind: “Look, but don’t touch.” Stay tuned!

Hospitality Houdinis

A big thank you to those of you who brought goodies to the January meeting! Since we have a paid speaker in February, please consider bringing in some Valentine themed delectables to share. What will you whip up in red, pink, and white?



Crossroads to Confusion Raffle Quilt

The blue and yellow “simple” Crossroads quilt that was started last year, has finally been redirected and the top is completed for this year’s raffle quilt. The quilt, in all its glory, has been handed off to the machine quilter, the raffle license applications were submitted, and we are back in the game. Stay tuned for updates!



The State of New Jersey is celebrating its crafters for the sixth year during Makers Day on **Saturday, March 21.**

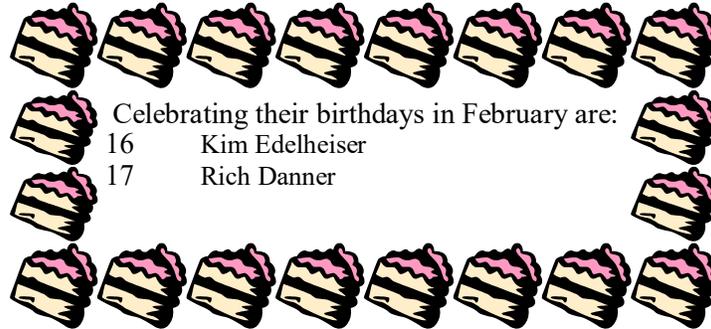
Events will be held in various libraries, schools, and churches throughout the state as NJ honors those who create with their hands. ESQG has participated in this event at the main branch of the Warren County Library (Route 519, Belvidere, NJ) for the past two years, assisting young people with hand sewing skills and hand quilting skills.

Part of our mission as a guild is to educate the public on the art of quilting. If you have an idea for a simple demonstration or hands-on project suitable for various age levels (children to adult), and are willing to present it on behalf of the guild, please contact Cindy Smith and she will connect you with the people in charge of our venue. Makers Day is an all day event on Saturday, **March 21, 9 am - 4 pm.** Lunch is provided.

More information can be found at njmakersday.org.

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!



Board Meetings Slated

Upcoming board meeting dates:

- 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.



Hello! **The Berry Basket Quilters** of Medford, NJ, invite you to join us at our quilt show, *A Splash of Color*, this October.

In addition to showcasing our member's best work and the results of our challenges and block-of-the-month programs, we feature a cafeteria full of vendors, a large boutique of handcrafted items, a stunning raffle quilt, and an extensive silent auction. If you print a copy of the coupon below and bring it along, it's good for \$1 off admission price!

For more information and directions to the quilt show venue, please visit our website.

<http://berrybasketquilters.com/quilt-show>



The Colonial Quilters Guild of Bethlehem, PA will be hosting their "QuiltFest 2020" Quilt Show at the Charles Chrin Community Center, 4100 Green Pond Rd., Palmer Township, PA 18045 on **Saturday, May 2, 10 am - 4pm**, and on **Sunday, May 3, 10 am - 3 pm**. Admission to the show is \$8. This year a donation from the proceeds will be made to Lehigh Valley Military Affairs Council - Blue Star Moms. Also, please note that a program titled "American Pride" will be presented on **Saturday, May 2 at 1 pm**. The program will be presented by Arlan and Pat Christ. If you have any questions, please email colonialquilters@gmail.com



**Guild Officers
2019/2020 Guild Year**

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

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