



Starlight Express

Starlight Quilters Guild

April 2018

On the web at www.starlightquilters.com

Starlight Quilt Guild Officers and Committees:

President: Margaret Welch

Vice-President: Janette Sheldon

Past President: Rosie Brinker

Secretary: Janet Wikle

Treasurer: Sue Howard/ Asst: Chris Haubein

Membership: Michele Fix

Historian: Susan Wagner

Newsletter: Michelle Cour

Website: TBD

Hospitality: Opal Yarnell

Door Prizes: Cyndy O'Rourke

Humor Presentation: Mary Funk/Shirley Lewis

Show and Tell Ribbons: Mary Funk

Librarians: Cheryl Tomson/Connie Passaro

Fundraising/Raffle: Deb McCurnin

and Beverly Renner

Guild Challenge: Shirley Lewis/Karen Edwards

Guild Project: TBD

Program Chair: Donna DiNatale/Sandy Fey

Workshops: Donna di Natale

Opportunity Quilt: Karen Edwards/Peggy Skaith

Opportunity Quilt Tickets: Victoria Foley

KCRQF Representative: Kim Cawthon

Retreats: Donna Holloway

Community Services Projects:

Project Linus: Lea Robrahn/Mary Honas

Project Warm Embrace: Donna DiNatale/Renee Arnett

Quilt Show Chair: TBD

Quilt Show Boutique: TBD

Quilt Show Vendors: TBD

President's Message By Margaret Welch



Inspiration- the process of being mentally stimulated to do or feel something, especially to do something creative.

I must admit that I needed inspiration to write my President's message. Over the past several days a group of friends and I completed the Ad Astra Adventures Quilt Shop Hop. It has become an annual tradition for this group to check out the shops on the shop hop each spring. Not that any of us need more fabric, notions, or tools. Seeing the quilts displayed in the shops, as well as, the new fabrics, notions and maybe tools, has inspired all of us to seek a new project or to complete one that we have been stalled on completing.

It did help that we had sunshine (not clouds and snow) for our journey. One day was warm, the next cool. But getting out to see the quilt shops and the work they have done inspired us to come home and be more creative. The shop hop also provided my inspiration to write this message.

What inspires you to start/complete a project, or volunteer to help an organization? I hope as the weather becomes more spring like, that you are inspired to do something creative.

Happy Quilting!

Margaret Welch



Project Warm Embrace

Co-Chairs, Renee Arnett and Donna di Natale

Fifty years ago Mr. Rogers made famous a song that sang, "It's a beautiful day in this neighborhood....A beautiful day for a neighbor....Would you be mine?...Could you be mine?..." Starlight Quilters have become such wonderful neighbors to the Project Warm Embrace initiative. After hosting a very successful inaugural Project Warm Embrace Sew Day on Saturday, March 31, we also made our first delivery to Project Warm Embrace this month. We delivered 27 quilts (45x60 and larger) and 36 Dream Bags! Wow....Starlight Quilters are awesome!!!!

Thank you to all who donated your time, sewing/quilting talent, and fabric to make these treasured keepsakes. They are certain to make many Kansas foster children very happy!!! Donna has compiled a binder full of easy quilt patterns for your inspiration. You're welcome to 'check out' these quilt patterns at guild meetings to use and return. To help you delve into your fabric stash and make a child or teen friendly quilt for Project Warm Embrace, here are some "Bust That Stash" tips from the Eagle Creek Quilt Shop Newsletter, Shakopee MN.

- * Piece your backing using quilt top leftovers. If you have extra blocks or fat quarters, piece them into the backing. How about using a quilt top (that you don't necessarily want to quilt separately) as a backing.
- * Repeat a single block using your stash fabrics. This is a great way to reduce/use your stash and single block quilts are very popular right now. Think of a sawtooth star block and make each block using a different fabric from your stash. Scrap quilts are so much fun.
- * It's OK to buy background, border or backing fabric to help you complete or start a stash quilt. You're still using your stash, right? Renee will bring some donations for show-n-tell as examples of quilts made using these tips.

Project Warm Embrace is a statewide partnership (established in 2008) between the Kansas Department for Children & Families (DCF) partners and community quilters. Handmade quilts benefit the foster children in Johnson County and the surrounding Northeast Kansas counties of Atchison, Douglas, Leavenworth, and Wyandotte. Project Warm Embrace requests quilts be 45" x 60" or larger. The greatest need is for larger quilts appropriate for older youth/teenagers – boys as well as girls.

Reminders: * Project Warm Embrace Sew Day on Saturday May 19 from 9:30am – 4:30pm at the Johnson County Library – Lackman Branch. 15245 W 87th St Parkway, Lenexa. * Check the Project Warm Embrace page on the guild's website for more details about child safety requirements for quilts, donation receipt, and Dream Bags pattern. Thank you for your consideration to support Project Warm Embrace and for making today "a beautiful day in our neighborhood!" **All children need to know they are loved. What a blessing that we can use our talents and love of quilting to do just that.**



April Program

Diane Harris

“Make Extraordinary Scrap Quilts”



Diane Harris, Stash Bandit, will present her program at our April Meeting.

Diane is a quilter, speaker, teacher, and designer of scrap quilts made from your stash. After 11 years as an editor for Quiltmaker magazine, Diane started Stash Bandit in order to share her enthusiasm with quilt groups around the country. She's been making quilts, teaching quilters, and writing about the patchwork life for more than 30 years. Diane is President of Friends of the International Quilt Study Center & Museum (IQSCM) in Lincoln, and she lives on a working farm near Bladen, Nebraska.

Don't forget to bring your pincushion donations for IQSCM. Let's impress Diane with how we can use our stash to not only make quilts, but to make great pincushions and support the museum.



Fat Quarter Exchange

We had piles and piles of green at the last guild meeting. Sophia Mendus, our youngest member (13) won 8.5 yards of green fabric. Luckily she says she likes green.

For April, our fat quarters will be neutrals. That doesn't mean white, and it doesn't mean brown. Neutral. And remember, for each fat quarter you bring, your name goes in the doggy bowl and you could win them all.

Janette Sheldon

The Bucket Babes have Big Fun this Month!

April showers bring May flowers, but do you know what else it brings.....BUCKETS! No, not buckets for that hole in your roof. Buckets for fun! We have got some of the best buckets ever. All of them will make you say "Please Babes, call my number". And call it we will ,if you are one of the lucky quilters this month. So, hopefully that Easter bunny didn't take all you cash, and left you a little for a chance to win.



You don't need much, because \$1.00 will get you a ticket and \$5.00 will get you six tickets (buy before the meeting and it is worth so much more).

Come back and see the babes, talk quilts, talk buckets, talk gadgets....heck, just come back and talk (we get very lonely in the corner). A big, big thank you for last month's bucket donations and ticket purchases, it broke the record for 2018!!! Starlight Quilters are the best, most generous, most fun, and without a doubt, the most WOKE Quilters ever (new word I just learned from a 21 year old employee). Stay WOKE and see you at the buckets on the 24th.

Treasurer's Report



SQG Treasurer's Report
 March 31, 2018
 (Reflects Feb and Mar)
 Submitted by Sue Howard

| | | | |
|-----------------|------------------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| | Checkbook Balance 2/28/18 | \$ 18,265.86 | |
| | Petty Cash | 60.00 | |
| | Certificate of Deposit | 6,079.53 | |
| | Cash Balance | | \$ 24,405.39 |
| Income | Bucket Babes | 342.25 | |
| | Hospitality | 1.26 | |
| | Membership | 50.00 | |
| | Retreats | 1563.00 | |
| | Welcome Table | 8.16 | |
| | Total Income | | \$ 1,964.67 |
| Expenses | Door Prizes | 133.53 | |
| | Heartland Dues | 40.00 | |
| | Library | 49.50 | |
| | Meeting Chair Set-up | 80.00 | |
| | Opportunity Quilt | 121.08 | |
| | Postage | 50.00 | |
| | Rent | 225.00 | |
| | Speakers | 605.24 | |
| | Total Expenses | | \$ 1,304.35 |
| | Checkbook Balance 2/28/18 | \$18,926.18 | |
| | Petty Cash | 60.00 | |
| | Certificate of Deposit | 6,079.53 | |
| | Cash Balance 03/31/18 | | \$ 25,065.71 |

Hospitality Committee

Thank you to Mary Funk and Sue Tuttle who volunteered to be your greeters this month.

The following members have a birthday in April, so you know what that means! You guessed it. Everyone celebrating a birthday this month is asked to please bring a sweet or savory dish of your choice for the hospitality table to share with all. Thank you in advance.

Arlis Wickstrum

Carol Heffernon

Janet Wikle

Judy McGowan

Karen Boyd

Kathryn Fix

Luella Roemer

Marsha Reeves

Sharon Kreiling

Wendy Sime

The Library Corner

"Scrap Bandit" is the title of this month's presentation, and our library has an extensive collection of books for scrap quilting. We all have scraps and they seem to multiply like rabbits.

Look over titles such as "Scrap Frenzy", "Scrap-O-Lator Quilts & More", "Scrappy Duos", "Scrap Republic", "The Big Book of Scrappy Quilts", "Scrap Quilts fit for a Queen" and "No Scrap Left Behind".

Maybe you're converting your scraps into precut pieces; if so, check out our great selection of books for precuts. Let's use up those scraps to make room for a little SEX (that's a Stash Enhancement Excursion).

Your Librarians—Cheryl Tomson & Connie Passaro



Project Linus



Opal Yarnell
Mary Honas
Lea Robrahn

Since 1997, Starlight Quilters have donated blankets to Project Linus for local hospitals and other organizations that help children in traumatic situations.

A BIG thank you to Kathy Kosednar, Marsha Reeves, and Rosemary Watrak. They turned in 13 quilts a piece in the last 3 months.

17 quilts were turned in at the March meeting.



Bring Best Choice labels, the Price Chopper store brand. This activity helps to supply the Project Linus labels for blankets.

Harper's next work night is May 1st from 6-8 pm.
Call 913-648-2739 to register.

For additional patterns see the Project Linus:
Kansas City Chapter: <http://www.projectlinuskc.org/>
National Organization: <http://projectlinus.org/>



Rosie says "Thanks"

Outgoing Starlight Quilters Guild president Rosie Brinker would like to everyone to know how grateful she is for all the beautiful batik and jewel toned blocks members made for her to honor her special year of service. She says when she's up and moving around well again, she looks forward to combining them into a quilt top as a lasting memento of her year as president, and the wonderful people she got to work with in the guild.

Reminder on Membership

If you didn't pick up your envelope from Membership Chairman Michele Fix at the last meeting, please be sure to see her this month at the membership table. Our membership year runs April 1st through March 31st, so it's time for all members to renew their Starlight Quilt Guild membership.

**The next guild meeting is Tuesday, April 24th
Overland Park Lutheran Church at 7 PM.**

Something Completely Different 2018 Quilt on a Stick Challenge!

The challenge is to make a little gem of a quilt, and put it on a stick. Fun, huh? The rules are thus:

- Size - No larger than 8" x 9"
- Theme - Your choice - make anything you want.
- Requirements - 2" of the stick must extend from the bottom.
- There must be a vertical sleeve on the back to hold the stick.
- The craft sticks will be provided.
- You may decorate the sticks if you want.
- Feel free to embellish the quilt as much as you want, or not at all.
- Due Date - September guild meeting. This gives you lots of time to get those creative juices flowing.

Here are a few more of the ribbon winning entries from the Minnesota State Fair to give you more ideas.

Make it funky, inspirational, humorous, sentimental or any other vibe you'd like to give your entry.

We can't wait to see what you all come up with!



Sew Day Workshop – String Piecing

String piecing is experiencing a revival as people are discovering this fun way to use your stash and make beautiful projects. On **Thursday, April 26, from 1:00-4:00 pm** we will gather at [Lackman Library](#) to learn three methods of string piecing – paper foundation, fabric foundation and no foundation.

Each person will make at least one 10" block using each method. You will need to cut fabric strips of varying widths prior to the workshop. Strips can be any length, and should be between 1" and 2" wide. A variety of widths, prints and colors will make your blocks more exciting.

Yes, I realize this is a week day afternoon. I thought I would try something different this time to see how many would prefer to meet on a weekday instead of on a Saturday. And yes, I realize that some of you work during the week and won't be able to attend.

If you are interested in learning about string piecing, but are unable to attend during the week, please let me know. If there is enough interest we will have a Saturday workshop later on this year.

Donna di Natale
Workshop Chair
dinatale@att.net

You CAN make a difference!

Renee Arnett recently posted a picture of the Dream Bags she made for Project Warm Embrace on a local quilt guild's Facebook page. Here's a reply received from a quilter.

Candace wrote:

"This is absolutely wonderful! I have a son adopted from foster care and when he came to our house 3 years ago he had a stained shirt, a pair of pants (that were too big) and a portable DVD player that his school gave him (he was picked up from class). This truly means the world to these kids, their workers, and the foster parents.

Thank you to the Starlight Quilters making Dream Bags for Kansas foster children! Your acts of kindness WILL make a difference for these children!"

Stop by the Project Warm Embrace table at the April guild meeting for more information. A limited number of Dream Bag kits are available.



Dream Bags – SQG 2018 Group Project

Thank you to everyone who donated a Dream Bag this past month. In just one month, Starlight quilters made 36 Dream Bags for children going into foster care. Most of the bags were made during our Sew Day on March 31st. The bags have been delivered to the Kansas Department for Children and Families and will soon be distributed to the social workers involved with foster care.

The need is great, so please keep sewing. Our next Dream Bag sew day is Saturday, May 19, from 9:30 – 4:00 at Lackman Library in Lenexa. The Dream Bag pattern is available on the SQG website.



Starlight Quilters Guild
P.O. Box 9362
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www.starlightquilters.com

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