

June, 2008
Volume 10, Issue 10

Evening Star Gazette

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Evening Star Quilt Guild
Birmingham, Alabama

Next Meeting: June 5, 2008

June Program

Nancy Hinds from Covington, Louisiana will be joining us with a June Program entitled "Have Thread, Will Stitch ". Her bio can be found on her website: fiberartsstudio.com.

Some interesting things from her bio include:

- Traveling Instructor and Circuit Teacher for Gulf States Quilting Association
- Instructor at John C. Campbell Folk School in Brasstown, North Carolina
- Understudy for Ricky Tims, Quilt Instructor and Designer
- Designer for YLI Thread Company

Nancy will be bring some YLI thread for us to purchase. She will also show us how do Japanese Braiding (" Kumihimo".)

Please bring scissors (for paper cutting...not your Good fabric scissors) for the Japanese Braiding demo.

JUNE

REFRESHMENTS

- Salty:** Susan Rigby, Sandra Wood
- Sweet:** J. Smith
- Snacks:** Karen Relfe, Mary Lane
- Veggies:** Jimmie Lou
- Fruit:** Judi P
- Drinks:** Ella Thomas, Carol Harmon, Cindy DaCosta
- Ice:** Anne

STARTING TIME

Mingle with members at 6:30, meeting starts promptly at 7PM.. Visitors are always welcome.

June Library Volunteers

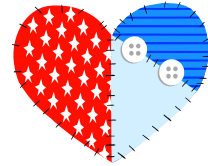
We need two volunteers for June.

Meeting Location: North Shelby County Library
5521 Cahaba Valley Rd - (Highway 119)
Birmingham, AL 35242-4901
(205) 439-5500

LOOKING AHEAD

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| June 5 | Guild Meeting
Fat Quarter Exchange - Plaids
Presentation of 2008/2009 Officer Candidates |
| June 17 | Board meeting (Tuesday) |
| June 12-14 | Alabama Quilt Symposium – Classes and Show |
| July 8 | <u>Tuesday</u> – July meeting moved from Thursday, July 10
<u>Location:</u> St. Peter's Catholic Church – Holy Family Room |
| July 9 | George Siciliano Workshop (flyers available) |
| June 25 – 29 | Red Rooster Retreat |
| July 16 – 20 | Red Rooster Retreat |

From the Prez



Stitches from My Heart to You

Section six (6) of our by-laws was suspended for our upcoming election of officers. This was voted on at our last Board Meeting held May 15, 2008, and is effective for this year only. This issue may only be of interest to our sister quilters who are interested in holding an office in the upcoming guild year; however, everyone in our guild should be aware of this section and the balance of our by-laws.

For your information, our by-laws are available to you on our web site as follows:

<http://www.esquilters.com/index.html>.

Have you read our by-laws? If not, this is a good opportunity for each of us to become informed. You never know when you will be asked to step up to the plate and assist in any of our many activities. These are the governing rules we operate under which have been updated since they were originally developed and written.

And after you have read ours, you may want to peruse the web and read the by-laws of other guilds. Compare them to ours, view the many differences there are, and feel more involved in our guild.

Until next time, keep your machines running!

Helen

Sunshine Corner
Happy Birthday to:



- Bell Woods on the 1st
- June Solomon on the 4th
- Ginny Stevens on the 10th
- Bunny Benson on the 11th
- Judy Goodwin on the 14th
- Carol Harmon on the 19th
- Karen Relfe on the 19th
- Connie Pettit on the 21st
- Beverly Williamson on the 22nd
- Judy Plexico on the 28th
- Becky Wammack on the 30th

Next Board Meeting



June 17, 2008 - Tuesday

Time: 5:30PM

**Location: St. Peter's Catholic Church
 Room 202**

**2061 Patton Chapel Road,
 Hoover**

All members are encouraged to attend the board meetings and learn how your guild is run. If you have an item that you would like to add to the agenda, contact Helen Tankersley by the morning of the meeting.

AQS Book Order

The next AQS order will be placed after the July meeting. If you want to order from the AQS catalog see Susan Rigby before or after the meeting. You can check out what is available at <http://www.americanquilter.com>. Our group order means that you can get the item for 30% off. Items ordered in July will be available at the August ESQG meeting.

Reminder: Please wear your name tag to the meetings so you can register for the name tag drawing when you sign in. Our numbers are growing and we want to meet each other!

ESOG Officers 2008 - 2009

The nominating committee will present the slate of officers at the June meeting. Officers will be voted on at the July meeting and installed at the August meeting.

Offices: President, Vice-President Programs, Vice-President Special Events, Secretary, Treasurer and Director.

Committee: Mary Guthrie, Frances Burch, Glenda Wagues

Embroidery Bee News



The Embroidery Bee continues to meet at 9:00 on the first Saturday of each month at the Helena United Methodist Church. Directions to the church are at:

<http://www.helenaumc.org/templates/System/details.asp?id=34648&PID=347428>

This is a great way to learn more about your embroidery machine, no matter what model you have. Last month, Susan Rigby, gave a great lesson on software and modifying designs. This month, we will explore paper piecing with your embroidery machine. If you need a block to try this technique, you can find a good free one at: <http://www.annthegran.com/FreeDesigns.aspx>

Scroll down past the quilt block and you will find a section of paper piecing blocks. You may want to download several as this promises to be fun.

Rumor has it that one of our own members, Brenda AlburI may have one of her own designs to share with us.

If you have not joined us yet, this would be a good time. If you are thinking about buying an embroidery machine, this is also a great way to determine which machine to buy. Come and watch and learn. If you would like to have your name on the distribution list for notices about the Bee, please e-mail Lura at: Luraquilts@bellsouth.net.

Library News

The library has a book waiting just for you! Learn a new technique or improve one that is a little difficult for you. Maybe you can't wait until a class is available. There are lots of examples and pictures available in the books to demonstrate how to do most quilting techniques.

If you have a book to donate to help a quilting sister, we will gladly place it in the library.

See you at the library table on Thursday night!

Frances



Red Rooster Retreat

Last chance to sign up for the June Retreat - See Glenda for details!!!

Red Rooster Retreat is located in Crane Hill, Alabama on beautiful Smith Lake. The facility features a large work area, view of Smith Lake, a pool, and hot tub. Meals and snacks are provided.

Red Rooster Retreat 2008 Dates are:

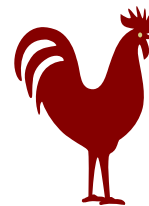
- Wednesday, June 25th through Sunday, June 29th
- Wednesday July 16th through Sunday July 20th

Glenda Waguespack will have sign up sheets available at the May guild meeting.

Wednesday thru Sunday.....	\$205 (includes 12 meals)
Thursday thru Sunday.....	\$175 (includes 9 meals)
Friday thru Sunday.....	\$145 (includes 6 meals)

Mark your calendars and bring your checkbooks to put down your deposit of \$50 to secure a spot.

If you would like more information about this retreat location please go to www.RedRoosterRetreat.com



2009 Quilt Retreat Tidbits!!

When? Jan 15-18, 2009

Where? Magnolia Park Retreat

We are excited to give you a peek into the plans for the 2009 ESQG Winter Retreat. Magnolia Park is a nice facility, located in Odenville (north of Moody). Please take a look at their web site, which includes some pictures of the workroom, dining, and guest rooms. www.MagnoliaParkRetreat.com

Magnolia Park is managed by the same folks who operate the Red Rooster Retreat. Same good food, same nice folks. The fee for three nights and 9 meals runs \$200. We will begin collecting payments at the Sept meeting, continuing till the December meeting. Start saving now :)

This is going to be a great place to hold our winter retreat!! Lots of work space, nice dining, and comfortable apartments for our lodging.

More info to come by your retreat committee: Sara Adlman, Lura Campbell and Patty Huys

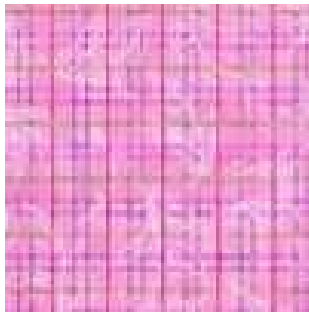


Fat Quarter Exchange!!

Build up your stash the easy way! Bring fat quarters for chances to win a stash. It just may be your lucky day!

Bring a fat quarter (18" X 22") each month and your name is entered to win a group of these fabrics. Each month is a different color or pattern. Please bring a good 100% cotton fabric.

Following is a list of colors for each month. Refer to it as your friendly reminder –



Fat Quarter Drawing

June- Plaids

July- Bugs/Critters
August- Cream/Tans

Cuddle Quilts

Cuddle Quilt Update:

You still have time!!

As requested at the last meeting, here are the Cuddle Quilt Requirements 2007-2008

- Quilts and blankets must be new, hand-made and washable.
- They must measure 36 inches x 36 inches or greater.
- Blankets with embellishments will not be accepted.



Quilts and blankets turned in from September 2007 – April 2008 will receive double points toward the drawing in August, as follows:

Small quilt (circumference under 200 inches); 2 points

Large quilt (circumference greater than 200 inches); 4 points

After the April 2008 meeting, all quilts turned in will receive single points as follows:

Small quilt; 1 point

Large quilt; 2 points

For Information:

Project Linus: www.projectlinus.com

You could be the winner of a Janome DC 3050 sewing machine donated by the Smocking Bird!!

Thanks so much!! Frances

July Workshop

Our Guild will welcome George Siciliano and his wife Virginia for a lecture and workshop in July. George will present his program, “This Guy Must be Nuts”, at our July meeting. **Please remember this meeting has been moved to Tuesday, July 8th, at the St. Peter’s Holy Family Room, 2061 Patton Chapel Road in Hoover.** Check the web site for directions: www.stpeterapostle.com

The next day, George will teach “Twirling Logs”. George teaches small and paper piecing. Although this looks complicated, it is not and a beginner can do just as well as an experienced quilter. This class will be held at St Francis Episcopal Church on Wednesday, July 9th, from 9:30 to 3:30. St Francis is at 3545 Cahaba Valley Road. Their web site for directions is: www.stfrancisindiansprings.org

The cost for the workshop is \$30.

This is not a miniature quilt block. (7”) The block is an original design with its origins in the ‘twisted log cabin’. George will show you how to draft this wonderful block and you do not have to be an engineer! (This design provides the quilter with what seems like an endless supply of design elements for future quilts. The emphasis is on speed and accuracy. You select the colors. Just a note, Both George & Virginia teach this class. They prove that “Quilting is Fun”.

There is also a workshop materials fee:

Each of the workshop kits both #1 and #2 include an eight page booklet,

a block schematic (an original block), foundations (enough to complete the class project), and a worksheet for his original design Catch the Glow.

Kit #1 - \$15.00 per student - student provides their own fabric.

OR

Kit #2 - \$45.00 per student - includes enough fabric to finish the top.

this kit includes- Two(2) complementary six step gradations (12 colors in all, 1/4 yard of each) and 1/2 yard of black) total of 3 1/2 yards of high quality 100% cotton fabric. These fabrics were specifically selected to maximize the beauty of this design. (students may choose from 18 different gradations encompassing the entire color wheel)

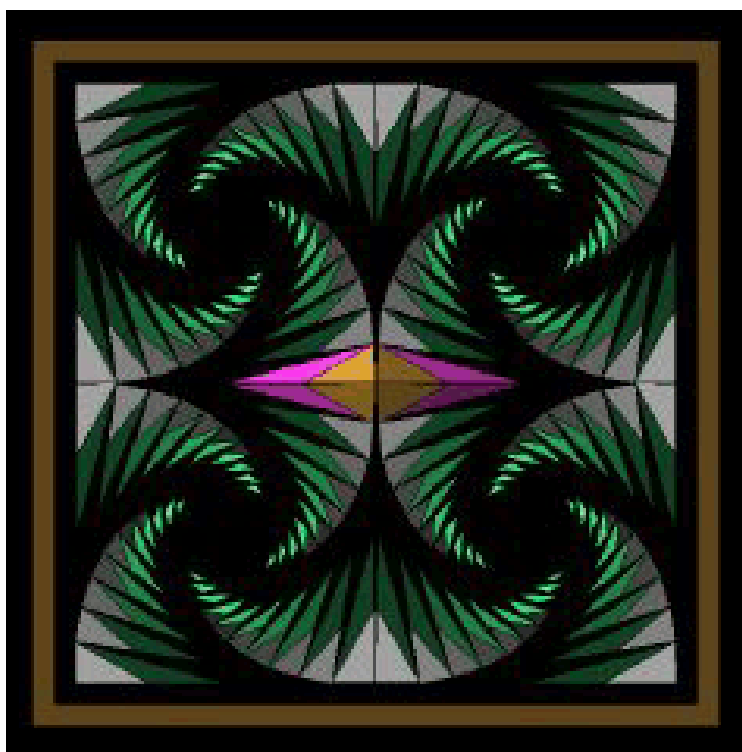
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Student Supply List

1. sewing machine (in good working order) with an open toe foot (quilters foot is a good one)
2. rotary cutter (nice and sharp) with a cutting mat and 6" or 12" ruler.
3. light gray or white thread in bobbin and spool
4. plus all of the other items you need to sew pieces together.

Fabric

Two complimentary colors in a 6 step gradation (total of 12 colors) from very light to very dark.(minimum, 1/4 yd each shade). Also a 1/2 yard of black. They must be solids or a very small prints that 'read' as solids. Please, no calicoes. He will also have a good supply [\(over 135 colors\) high quality gradated fabric available for sale if the need arises.](#)



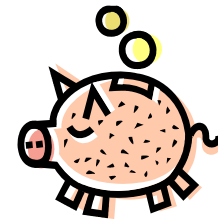
Treasurer's Report

Treasurer's Report

Beginning Balance.....7199.17

Income.....

Guild Library Fines..... 4.00
 Chinese Auction.....263.25
 Red Rooster Retreat.....430.00
 Shelby Library Donations..... 6.69
 P Barkle Workshop..... 60.00
 Total.....763.94



Expenses.....

Red Rooster Deposit.....400.00
 May program supplies..... 50.00
 Membership Badges..... 5.21
 Final Jan. '08 Retreat expenses..368.16
 Total.....823.77

Ending Balance.....7139.34

Sara Adlman, Treasurer

Quilts of Valor

I would like to share a letter that I received from a quilter that I have never met face to face. We did, however, meet through Quilts of Valor. Liz is a very new quilter who has focused her quilting on Quilts of Valor. Liz and her friend, Marsha, have supplied more than 20 quilts to the QOV closet at Fort Rucker. Liz's words show the impact that these quilts have on those who have been wounded in some way defending our country. If you are interested in becoming a part of QOV, the details can be found at: <http://www.qovf.org/>

Lura,

The quilts in the QOV closet at Fort Rucker are given to Soldiers who have fought in Iraq and/or Afghanistan and are either physically and/or psychologically wounded because of the war. Several months ago, Lyster Army Health Clinic opened a Warriors in Transition Unit (WTU). WTUs have been opened at all the Army Health Clinics throughout the United States. Soldiers who have been injured are sent to Lyster's WTU to be evaluated to see if they can be rehabilitated, or if not, released from the military. The WTUs were set up so Soldiers could be closer to home. So yes, most of the Soldiers in the WTU at Lyster are from Alabama, the panhandle of Florida, or Southern Georgia. When Leslie George (one of the Social Workers I work with) and I decided to open the QOV closet, we wanted to give quilts to Soldiers in the WTU, but we are finding that we have more and more Soldiers who are the walking wounded with deep, invisible scars (PTSD and MTBI - mild traumatic brain injury). Leslie and I both work in Family Advocacy and handle all abuse/neglect cases at Fort Rucker. We have seen an increase in our case load due to Soldiers who have been to war and haven't dealt with the PTSD issues they are now facing. We have two Units at Fort Rucker who have already served in Iraq once and are heading back next month for their second tour. We also have a Reserve Unit in Dothan and one somewhere near Montgomery who have just returned from Iraq. The VA takes care of the Reservists and Lyster Mental Health takes care of the active duty Soldiers.

The quilts are going to any Soldier that our Mental Health Psychologists, Physicians, and nurses nominate to receive a QOV. They all know the requirements (must have fought in Iraq or Afghanistan, and must be physically and/or psychologically wounded). Most of the people who are receiving the QOVs are Army Soldiers, but we do have Air Force people who have been nominated.

My husband left the VA Mental Health Center in Dothan a couple of months ago and now works in the Lyster Mental Health Division. One of his specialties is PTSD and he and one of the Social Workers do group work with Soldiers diagnosed with PTSD at Lyster. Lura, I wish you could see these men. Some of them are big, strapping men. Men you would never guess that they are hurting inside. Mac said that when they start talking about their buddies getting killed and dying in their arms, they break down and cry unabashedly. There are also very young men, like one of the Soldiers who was so troubled by what he saw in Iraq, he started cutting himself. I found it hard to understand cutting, but Dr. Funkhouser (head of the Mental Health Clinic) told me that this young Soldier cut himself to let the pain out. He was hospitalized and

Dr. Funkhouser made sure he was released from the military. His Unit (one of the ones going back to the war) wanted him dishonorably discharged and even tried to have him sent to a military prison. Dr. Funkhouser made sure that he was honorably discharged and that he will continue to receive treatment from the VA at home. That Soldier was all of 19-years-old and if you could have looked into his eyes, it would have broken your heart. We presented him with one of Marsha's quilts. I believe you were the long-armed on that quilt.

When Mac and I drove into work the other day, we couldn't find a parking place close to the Hospital, which ticked me off!! We had to park about a block away and as we walked across the street, both Mac and I saw the formation of all the Soldiers in the courtyard. This was the Unit who is deploying next month. I felt so ashamed that I was upset over having to walk a block to work while these young men and women were getting ready to go back and fight once again for my freedom. A lot of them are single parents, leaving their children with relatives. These young men and women will be gone 15 months. Most of them do this willingly. All of them are scared to death that they might not come home alive. I am so grateful for each one of them and pray for them daily. I hope they all make it home safely! It would be wonderful if we could give every single one of them a QOV!

The Girl Scout Troop in Enterprise has been working diligently on their QOV project. The first weekend, we all met at The Front Porch Quilt Shoppe in Ozark. They all picked out fabric and had a wonderful time. I was amazed at how they all have such great eyes for putting patterns and colors together. The second weekend, they learned about how quilts used to be made. I showed them hand sewn quilts from Mac's great-grandmother. I also showed them the old treadle sewing machine that I inherited from Mac's mother. They also learned that weekend how to thread the sewing machine and put the bobbin in. I also let each of them cut some strips of fabric with the rotary cutters. I kept my hand on top of their hand the whole time so they wouldn't cut themselves. I cut out all of their fabric for them and this weekend, we started sewing strips, learning how to sew a 1/4" seam. One of the girls, who has just learned to sew, chose the very basic pattern. She was so excited, she came back both days and finished her quilt. I wish you could have seen her face. I did take pictures, and I plan on sending you pictures of the girls whose quilts you will quilt for them. This little girl was so excited about her quilt top, she took it home with her so she could take it to school and show all her friends. Her mother is German, and was absolutely ecstatic over her daughter learning to quilt. This has been a wonderful experience for me. The Girl Scout leader, Belinda Jellison, is also a Social Worker at Lyster. She has caught the fever and is now going to do her own QOV. I truly wish you could see these girls. Their energy and enthusiasm is exciting and refreshing. I can't thank you enough for helping out with this project! I've already told the girls all about you. I haven't contacted Sandra yet to see if she could do one or two.

By the way, when all of the girls have finished their quilts, we are going to hold a special Quilts of Valor ceremony for them to present their quilts to a wounded Soldier. Mac is going to have one session with the girls to explain to them about PTSD and MTBI so the girls won't be shocked when they see the Soldier's crying. The ceremonies are very emotional and all of the adults want the girls to be prepared.

Liz

EVENING STAR QUILT GUILD MEETING

May 1, 2008

CALL TO ORDER - The meeting was called to order at 7PM by Guild President, Helen Tankersley.

MYSTERY QUILT - This month's Mystery Quilt clue was available along with the clue for April, on the front table.

MINUTES - A motion was made and passed to approve the minutes of the April Guild meeting as published in the newsletter.

TREASURER REPORT - A motion was made and passed to approve the Treasurer report April as published in the newsletter.

SUNSHINE - Brenda Alburl, Sunshine Committee Chairman, was not present. Those with an April birthday will receive their gift next month.

MEMBERSHIP - The Membership Chairman, Bell Woods, announced that there were 35 members and no visitors present. Helen Tankersley won the name tag drawing.

FAT QUARTER DRAWING - Four members won the drawing for the floral fat quarters.

CUDDLE QUILTS - Jimmie Lou Clements and Frances Burch reported that the ESQG turned in 207 quilts for the sewing machine drawing held by The Smocking Bird. The ESQG won the sewing machine. All members who turn in quilts by the guild's drawing to be held in either July or August will be eligible to win the sewing machine. There were six more cuddle quilts turned in tonight.

RED ROOSTER - The Evening Star Quilt Guild has two scheduled Red Rooster retreats for this summer on June 25-29 and July 16-20. Frances Burch told members that the Red Rooster was a fun experience. There are still spaces for guild members to attend.

ANNOUNCEMENT - Helen stated that Nancy Forshaw had sent quilt block patterns from the Collinsville Quilt walk. The patterns were on the front table.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT - Mary Guthrie had received a request for the guild to have a Quilt Pal/Buddy for new quilters. There was also a request for beginning quilt classes for new quilters. Sheryl Simpson said she still had material from when she taught beginning quilting.

GORDIAN KNOT IV CLASS - There was an announcement that Pre-class requirements and a sign-up sheet were at the library table for a Gordian Knot IV Class to be taught May 31, 2008. The Gordian Knot I instructions were available for those who needed it.

BEE - Jeanne Heinemann asked who would be interested in a general interest Bee. Those who are interested were asked to contact Jeanne.

SHOW AND TELL - Next on the agenda was show and tell where members showed off their quilts.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE - Mary Guthrie brought to the attention of guild members the fact that the By-Laws of the ESQG were restricting the number of members eligible to serve as an officer of the guild. The By-Laws state: All officers must be Guild members in good standing. Good standing is defined as: having membership dues paid, participating in Opportunity Quilt ticket sales, attending at least 90% of guild meetings, providing cuddle quilts to guild cuddle quilt collection, and having all library dues, if any, paid in full. It was pointed out that 90% attendance equals 10.8 meetings and that cuddle quilts was plural. Therefore a member must have attended 11 ESQG meetings from June 2007 through May 2008 and they must have made more than one cuddle quilt.

A suggestion was made to change the by-laws. Helen replied that there was not sufficient time due to the newsletter deadline of May 23rd, since the slated officers needed to be published in the June newsletter prior to their being voted on in July, and installed in August.

PROGRAM - The Chinese Auction was the program.

Minutes submitted by Susan Rigby, Secretary