

LICK SKILLET QUILT GUILD NEWSLETTER

Volume 1, Issue 6

July 2013



HAPPY 4TH OF JULY

July Calendar

- 4th Independence Day
- 8th Guild Meeting
- 10th Sew Day

July Birthdays



- 12th Shannon Howard
- 18th Deb Saska
- 18th Molly Steenberg
- 18th Jane Wilson

If we've missed your birthday, please email Sarah at sadiewhat@gmail.com to update the roster.

2013 Sew Days Friendship Community Center

- July 10th (Wednesday)
- September 9th (Monday)
- October 19th (Saturday)

Times and any other additional information will be announced at the meeting prior to the scheduled sew day for that month.

A Word From Our President!

As we are entering the second half of the year, we can take the optimistic view and consider that we still have 6 months ahead to work on our UFO's, our projects to sell at the Lick Skillet Mercantile store at our 2014 quilt show, as well as to gather those things that we no longer want to keep to sell at the quilt show Flea Market.

As we approach the "real" summertime here in the South, look around you to gain some inspiration for new projects. Think about watermelon and barbecues...going to the beach and sand in your shoes...the lushness of our lawns, flower beds and vegetable gardens...fireflies and fireworks. We are so fortunate to be in Alabama where we can just look around to jump-start our creativity. Speaking of creativity, don't forget to work on those "ugly" quilts when you want to enjoy the indoors and staying cool.

Just a reminder to each of you to let Shawnee or any of the Quilt Show committee members know where you would like to volunteer to help get ready for the show. We will need everyone!

Happy 4th of July to each of you! Express your appreciation to any veteran, current service member, and their families for the sacrifices they have made to keep our country free. Freedom is a wonderful but expensive gift we have. With the many problems we face in our nation, it is still the greatest place in the world to live! Remember to pray for guidance for our nation's leaders. See you at the July meeting!

Carolyn

You have to love a nation that celebrates its independence every July 4, not with a parade of guns, tanks, and soldiers who file by the White House in a show of strength and muscle, but with family picnics where kids throw Frisbees, the potato salad gets iffy, and the flies die from happiness. You may think you have overeaten, but it is patriotism. ~
Erma Bombeck

Embellishments for August Meeting!!!

Don't forget to begin gathering your embellishments to bring to the August meeting! We are having a surprise program that night! Embellishments that will be useful for this will be items such as medium or large buttons, rickrack, lace, and ribbon and strips of fabric for ruching!



July Program: Crazy Girl (or Boy) Quilt Pins

The July program will be given by Carol Bentley and Anita Fountain. You will be shown how to make cute little crazy girl and John pins that are a cute addition to your guild nametag! As part of the program, we will all be making a pin to fit our personalities and/or dispositions. (This should be interesting!) Each member will need to bring a pair of scissors, a needle and thread to the meeting. The fabric, beads and string used on the pins will be provided.

July Refreshments:

The refreshments for the July meeting will be provided by Sue Mitchell, Linda Lackey and Sarah Gunter.

Thanks to Carol Bentley, Jannette Lackey, Sue Gardner and Peggy Williams for the refreshments for our June meeting. They were delicious!

****If you haven't signed up for refreshments this year, please remember to do so!**

July Drawing:

Theme: Farmer's Market

Our July drawing will be fat quarters with fruit and/or vegetables. Bring whatever kind or color you wish! Again, we will have tickets for each item entered and will draw from those tickets.

Congratulations to Pam Goff who won oodles of thread in our drawing at the June meeting!

Thanks to – Ginger McNeal, our member from Monroe, Louisiana for giving us a program on how to chenille. Ginger gave us ideas on the best fabric to use so your finished project would “bloom” nicely, showed some tools that are available to chenille and also brought several items that she has completed, including a vest, a stocking and a bath mat. She explained the techniques and provided several handouts with very good information to follow when you try your hand at chenille. Also thanks to Carol Bentley, Jo Lipham and Margaret McNaron for bringing your chenille projects to show other members. This was a great presentation and hope you will want to do your own chenille project. We look forward to seeing some of them at show and tell in upcoming meetings! We really enjoyed having Ginger at our meeting and wish she could be with us more often!

2013 UFO Challenge Update

The UFO challenge is continuing to be a success and our show and tell has increased significantly as a result. Also as new members join the number of folks participating is growing as well. We have had about 20 UFOs completed! This is really good news since the survey taken earlier this year indicated that many of you were interested in more participation in show and tell. We have seen so many new techniques and projects shared from quilts to hot pads to table toppers! Keep bringing those UFOs and as well as other projects so we can see what you have been working on! This is a great way for others to get ideas of things they may be interested in doing!

Guild Cookout

As we mentioned at our last meeting, we have been tossing around the idea of having a guild cookout in September. Since the summer and fall weekends fill up quickly on the community center calendar, they have penciled us in for Saturday, September 21st. Look at your calendars and see if you would be available that weekend or if you are even interested having a cookout. We will be taking a vote at this month's meeting to see if there is enough interest. A few other things to consider are: Do we want to have a sew day and cookout, some kind of program/class and cookout or just a cookout; do we want to move our September meeting to the day of the cookout; do we want to sew or have a program and invite spouses to come later in the day for a cookout? Also, do we to plan for everyone to bring a dish or pay a set amount and have the sides, dessert, etc. catered?

Thumbs Up to our National Teacher, Debby Kratovil! The classes taught in June by Debbie Kratovil were nothing less than fantastic! Those who attended any or all of the classes were fortunate to learn three of her techniques. The first day her Cookie Cutter workshop offered her techniques on raw edge applique followed by her Magic Stax Sugarloaf quilt where she taught the technique of stacking, cutting and shuffling fabric to make six blocks at a time. On day two, Debby shared her paper piecing techniques using her Katie's Garden pattern, teaching how to easily piece curved spikes. She shared her techniques in a way that made her patterns easy and enjoyable! She is definitely a great teacher and communicator! Everyone who attended the classes had very positive comments about Debby's techniques, her teaching style and the classroom at the Oxford Civic Center.

Below are photos taken during the workshops. Additional photos can be seen on the Lick Skillet Quilt Guild page.



Member Highlight! ***Each month a guild member is highlighted in the newsletter so we can get to know our members better.*

Meet John Goff - John is the only "guy" member of our guild! John lives in Ohatchee with his wife, Pam (also a member), two dogs, Sammy and Misty and three cats, Amico, Buddy and April. He was born in Germany, and moved around as an Army brat, eventually settling in Saks where he graduated. John joined the Navy, retiring after 30 years of service. He has been quilting for about 10 years, learning from Pam and says he started after attending one too many quilt shows with her. His favorite quilting technique is piecing. In addition to his quilting hobby, John enjoys woodworking, stained glass, gardening and fishing.

Favorite Color: Orange

Favorite TV Programs: NCIS and Person of Interest

Movie: Princess Bride

Actor/Actress: Tom Hanks and Jodie Foster

Favorite Books: Adventure or Technical (If he can stay awake to read)

Favorite Music: Bluegrass

Favorite Food: Etouffee or Penne ala Vodka

Favorite Vacation Spots: Florence, Italy and Alaska

If I could travel any one place: Dubrovnik, Croatia

One word you feel describes you: Trustworthy

Best attribute: Honesty

Likes to do for others: Anything someone needs help with that he can do.

Quotes to live by: "Indecision is the cause of all accidents."
"Only boring people are boring."

Upcoming Quilt Shows & Events

August

2-3 Quilts in the Boro 2013
Sponsored by The Quilting Bees
221 E College Street
Murfreesboro, TN

15-17 Georgia Quilt Council SEWFEST
Retreat and Convention
Charlie Elliot Wildlife Preserve
543 Elliot Trail
Mansfield, GA
www.georgiaquiltcouncil.org

September

6-7 The Down South Quilt Show
Sponsored by Busy Needles Quilt Guild
McDonough Presbyterian Church
427 McGarity Road
McDonough, GA

6-8 Greater Jackson Quilt Celebration
Sponsor by 5 Local Quilt Guilds
950 Rice Road
Ridgeland, MS

Email any quilt shows/events you would like posted in the newsletter to Anita at alfount@yahoo.com.

June Show and Tell



Brenda Mayfield's Starry, Starry Night quilt



Bev Schewanick's UFO Lizzy McGuire donation quilt



Bev Schewanick's UFO Attic Windows donation quilt



Bev Schewanick's UFO Fly Fishing donation quilt



Joan Hayden's UFO Joann Fabrics Block of the Month

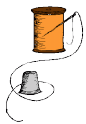


Anita Fountain's UFO Pat Speth Texas Two Step



Anita Fountain's Peach Festival Challenge Table for Four

**These are photos of quilts and projects shown at the June meeting. There are times when some of the projects aren't photographed because they are displayed too quickly! Be sure yours "get their pictures taken" because they are all special!



Did you know?
July 25th is
Thread the Needle Day

You can be certain that it will be a great day.....if you sew!

Don't you just love random holidays? Well if you do, you can celebrate Thread the Needle Day by pursuing your sewing hobbies because it is certainly a day for those who sew.

It also has a second meaning. The term "thread the needle" is also a saying. It means to either walk a fine and difficult line between two things or issues, or to do something difficult. For example, suppose two of your friends are on opposite sides of an issue. You may have to "thread the needle" on that issue, as you attempt to retain both of them as your friend.

The creator of Thread the Needle Day did not document this day.

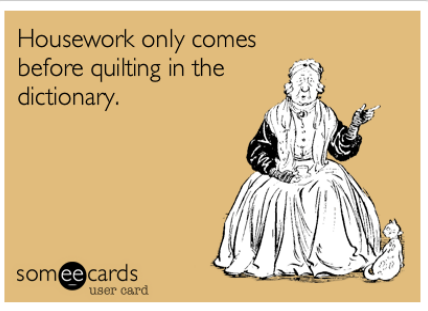
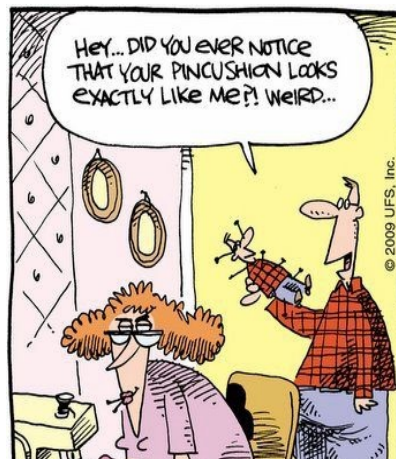
So, until we find him or her, you can celebrate by either sewing or threading the needle on issues, the choice is yours!

Ugly Quilt Challenge – Just a recap for those participating in the challenge. Remember, we made some changes to the rules at the May meeting. The quilt size is 30x40 maximum size and must contain at least 50% of the ugly fabric you received! Your quilt must be completed and brought to the September meeting to show to the group!

Also, if you need backing fabric and don't want to purchase any or use any of what you have, Anita has a bolt of muslin available. You can have a cut for your backing. Just let her know!

We have several members who are participating in this challenge! We look forward to seeing the results!

Quilt Humor



Lick Skillet Recipe Corner

Southwest Chicken Salad

- 2 c. shredded chicken
- 1 green bell pepper, diced
- 1 can black beans, rinsed
- 1 can sweet yellow corn (1 c. frozen, thawed)
- 2 roma tomatoes, diced
- 4 green onions, sliced
- 1 head iceberg lettuce, washed and chopped
- ¼ c. cilantro, chopped
- 2 ripe avocados, diced
- 1 c. crushed tortilla chips

Dressing:

- ½ c. mayonnaise
- 2/3 c. Greek yogurt
- 1 Tbsp ranch seasoning
- 1 Tbsp taco seasoning

Combine all salad ingredients together, except chips. In a small bowl stir all dressing ingredients together. Pour dressing over salad, starting with about half of dressing. Toss to combine. Gradually add more dressing until it is dressed to your liking. Top with tortilla chips. Enjoy!

Submitted by Shannon Howard

Quilter's Tips

When paper piecing, use a size 14 needle in your sewing machine to create larger wholes making it easier to remove the paper.

When the bobbin thread knots or wads up while sewing it is usually caused by the top threading of the machine or the needle.



Quilt Trivia

Can you name this vintage quilt pattern?

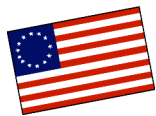
Answer on page 7

This Month's Quilter's Tip -- Controlling Lint in Your Machine

Lint is an accumulation of fluffy fibers that result from friction (or rubbing) against thread. We know lint is in clothes dryers, clothing, and unfortunately, our sewing machines. The lint in our machines is mostly from threads, fabric, and batting. Cotton produces more lint than spun polyester. Think of how many contact points the top thread touches during the threading process thread guides, tension discs, levers, and the needle. Each contact point causes friction, resulting in lint coming off the thread. A little lint is to be expected but excess lint can be bad for your machine causing your stitches to be misaligned, feed dog operation malfunctions, fabric puckering, and thread breakage.

From the outside, your machine may not show signs of excess lint buildup, but that doesn't mean that it is clean on the inside. The picture below is an actual photo of. A machine may look fine from the outside and the needle plate and surrounding areas do not show signs of lint build up from the outside. Suddenly the machine may not work properly and when the cover is removed, the problem is found, and what a problem it is!

Regular cleaning and maintenance is recommended for all sewing, serger, and longarm machines. Most machines come with a lint brush to remove lint from the bobbin case area, thread guides, and the needle area. Always refer to your machine manual for proper care procedures. A good practice is to set a schedule that is easy for you to remember for thoroughly cleaning the lint from your machine. It could be each time you change your bobbin or after a set number of hours of sewing. Unless you are tired of your machine and looking for a reason to get a new one, give it regular TLC and it will continue to be work with you to you make beautiful things that show your quilting talents!



Betsy Ross and the American Flag

In May 1776, Betsy Ross was called upon, in her home, to sew the first flag by three members of a secret committee from the Continental Congress. They were George Washington, head of the Continental Army, Robert Morris, an owner of vast amounts of land and perhaps the wealthiest citizen in the Colonies, and Colonel George Ross, a respected Philadelphian and the uncle of her late husband, John Ross.

Betsy knew George Ross as she had married his nephew. She was also acquainted with General Washington, as they not only both worshipped at Christ Church in Philadelphia, but her pew was next to George and Martha Washington's pew. She was previously well acquainted with Washington, and he had often been in her house on friendly as well as business visits. She had embroidered ruffles for his shirt bosoms and cuffs, and it was partly owing to his friendship for her that she was chosen to make the flag.

In June 1776, Betsy was a widow struggling to run her own upholstery business. Upholsterers in colonial America did all manners of sewing work, which often included making flags. According to Betsy, General Washington showed her a rough design of the flag that included a six-point star. She recommended a 5-point star and when the committee protested that it was too difficult to make, she being a standout with scissors, took a piece of paper, folded it deftly, and with a single snip of her scissors, produced a symmetrical five-point star. Impressed by this seeming feat of magic her audience agreed to her suggestion and entrusted Betsy with making our first flag. She finished the flag in May or June 1776.

In July, the Declaration of Independence was read aloud for the first time at Independence Hall and amid celebration, bells throughout the city tolled, heralding the birth of a new nation. Much suffering and loss of life resulted before the United States completely severed ties with Britain. Betsy Ross herself lost two husbands to the Revolutionary War. During the conflict the British appropriated her house to lodge soldiers. Through it all she managed to run her own upholstery business and after the soldiers left, she wove cloth pouches used to hold gunpowder for the Continentals.

On June 14, 1777, the Continental Congress, "Resolved: that the flag of the United States be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new constellation."

2013 Opportunity Quilt

The 1,000 tickets that were initially printed to sell on the opportunity quilt have all been issued to members and over 650 have actually been sold. An additional 500 tickets are being printed. If you haven't gotten your ten (10) tickets, which is the minimum number each member has been asked to sell, please plan to do so at the meeting. Every ticket sale counts and proceeds will help us cover the costs of our community service projects as well as the costs of fabric and quilting for the opportunity quilt for our 2014 quilt show!

Remember, photo cards are available for those of you who want to show the quilt when selling your tickets.

Tickets will be sold at OxfordFest on October 5, 2013 until the close of the festival, at which time the drawing will be held.

Community Service Project Update -- Mary Simmons, our community service chairperson, reported that as of the June meeting, 25 chemo caps had been completed and given to the Cancer Care Center. Twenty (20) wraps have been made and are ready to be delivered to chemo treatment patients. We do not presently have a set number of caps or wraps that need to be made, however, at least 50 of each would be a good start. If each member would make at least one cap and one wrap we could easily reach 75 of each. Unfortunately, this will not skim the surface of how many are needed. As mentioned in the last newsletter, if anyone has any items they are working on at home, please bring them to the meeting if they are finished. We need to complete this project as soon as we can.

Mary mentioned, at the last meeting, that an easier pattern for the caps was available. It came from the Hancock Fabrics site. The pattern is on the Lick Skillet Facebook page or a copy will be given out at the July meeting. Copies will also be available at the meeting for the wraps.

2014 Quilt Show Update –

At the June meeting Shawnee Weigt, our quilt show chairperson, gave an update on the 2014 Lick Skillet Quilt Show, “Quilts by the Lake”. The show date has been set for September 11-13, 2014 at the Oxford Civic Center. Set up will be the 11th and the show will run the 12th and 13th.

Shawnee discussed the different areas and duties in those areas for the planning stages and working at actual show. She shared which members had been asked to be chairpersons for each of those areas and asked for volunteers for the areas not yet filled. Additionally, at the meeting, members were asked to volunteer and were assigned to the area where they felt they would be most beneficial. Shawnee will be providing a list of each of the areas and the member assignments to everyone soon. If you were not at the June meeting and/or haven’t volunteered, please begin thinking about what committee you feel you would like to be on or where you would be most useful! Again, this is YOUR show and it will take all of us doing our parts for it to be successful!

*** Quilt Trivia answer – This biscuit quilt (also called a puff quilt) was made with individually stuffed squares sewn together to make up a whole quilt of dozens of squarish puff-balls. These were popular in the 19th century especially during the Victorian era with the earliest known dating back to the 1880s. They were generally made with satin and velvet and were filled with cotton or wool. These quilts were more decoration than useful as they were heavy and not very comfortable.

Lick Skillet Quilt Guild -- Our Mission: To promote an appreciation of the art of quilting; to share knowledge about quilts and quilting, and to perform community service projects.

The Guild is a non-profit organization open to anyone interested in quilts or quilting. Monthly meetings are 6 p.m. on the second Monday of each month at the Friendship Community Center, 2930 Friendship Road, Oxford, Alabama 36203. Guests are welcome. Annual dues are \$25, renewable in January of each year. Find us online at www.facebook.com/#!/groups/455735277826951 or Lickskilletquiltguild.blogspot.com

Member address changes contact: Sarah Whatley, 256-831-3356

Contributions to Newsletter are welcome. Articles and ads are due no later than the third Monday of each month. The name and phone number of the author must accompany all contributions. To submit an article, send an email message to Anita Fountain at alfount@yahoo.com. Text files or hard copy are accepted.

Executive Board

President	Carolyn Davis
Vice-President	Anita Fountain
Secretary	Joan Hayden
Treasurer	Becky Everett
Members at Large	Peggy McLeod
	Deb Saska



If the Friendship Community Center is closed for inclement weather, the Guild will not have its scheduled meeting or sew day for that day. If a meeting or sew day is rescheduled for another day, you will be notified by phone or email! Our member’s safety is very important to us!

Committees/Chairperson

Hospitality	Karen Burnham
Membership	Sarah Whatley
Community Service	Mary Simmons
Opportunity Quilt	Julie Wells
Publicity and Historian	Molly Steenberg
Quilt Show	Shawnee Weigt