

# DREAMS and SEAMS



Vol. 2 No. 2

American Sewing Guild -- Wichita, Kansas Chapter

April/May 2000

## Words of Wisdom

### *Sew it is Spring!*

*By Denise Dias, Chapter President*

Have you started your spring wardrobe yet? With Easter just around the corner, it is time to think about making a new outfit for Spring. I have enjoyed seeing some of the new fabrics and colors out this spring. Patterns and colors that I remember being popular just a few years ago are back in fashion. It just goes to show that what goes around comes around. Especially with fashion!

I am also excited about our bus trip to McCall's. I know the bus is full, but I am sure we will probably be taking more wonderful trips in the future. I only hope that I do not fill up my fabric bins at home too full from the fabric swap, so that I can squeeze some more fabric in them from our bus trip in April!

Our next sewing challenge is to bring a brown paper bag of *something* you think is a sewing disaster. You will trade it for someone else's bag, then the challenge is to turn that disaster into something new and useful to you. Your sewing disaster could be fabric or an unfinished project. Whatever you choose to put in your brown paper

*(Continued to page 4)*

## Next Meetings:

### MAY

**Tuesday, May 2**  
**"Table Toppers"**

Presented by Denise Dias,  
FACS Agent and Guild President

### JUNE

**Tuesday, June 6**  
**"Sewing Machine Embroidery"**  
Presented by Martha Flannigan  
FACS Agent from Cherokee Co.

Meetings at 1:30 & 7:00 P.M.  
at Sedgwick Co. Ext. Center  
7001 W. 21st St. North



## Featured in January, February, & March

### *Sew-In, Interfacing and "Specialty Feet"*

The Guild got the year started off with a Sew-In on January 4. It was a wonderful day even though the weather wasn't all that cooperative. Friends, food and fun were the highlights of this event with sewing at the heart of it all. *(See the article and recipe on pages 2 and 3 for complete details.)*

February 7th brought **Bev Seyfert** from The Sewing Center, 2101 W. 21st St. North, to talk about

"Upgrades in Interfacing for Quality Garments." Bev brought samples of all the latest interfacing and showed us their applications. Her tailored jackets using these new techniques are beautiful, and according to her the new interfacing have really cut the time it takes to make these classic garments.

Unfortunately, our guest speaker for March, **Martha Flannigan**, had to cancel her presentation at the last

minute due to her husband's heart surgery. The good news is that her husband is doing great, and Martha has rescheduled her visit with us for June to enlighten us on "Machine Embroidery." After "Show & Share," we watched a wonderful video on using specialty feet for your sewing machine. This and other videos, books, patterns, and magazines are available for check out from our Chapter's Library.



## Getting To Know You. . .

Becky Wondra, Education Chairman (Interviewed by Chapter Secretary Sondra Schmittgens): Becky Wondra has served the Board as our Education Chairman since the beginning. She is responsible for getting all of our monthly programs arranged. *Way to go Becky!!*

Becky was born in Great Bend, Kansas, and raised on a farm in Rozel, Kansas (*I'll let you find it on the map yourselves.*). She is married and has two boys in college.

She started sewing in 4-H at age seven using a treadle machine. She sewed hems and embroidery but her first "real" project was making a gingham apron. It was a success!

Her biggest sewing challenge was making a white formal for 4-H. During construction she sewed through her finger, the needle broke off inside, and she bled on the gown. With real mid-west stoicism, her worry was how to get the blood out of the fabric rather than the needle out of her finger! A true sewing fanatic. Becky also made a complete ensemble for the style review which included a coat, dress, and a hat dyed to match.

Becky sewed for profit when her boys were growing up (*anything and everything*). She says her real motivation for continuing to sew was because she was so tall and thin that she had to sew. (*She told me to underline thin.*)

And now for the five questions: Q: Do you prefer Vogue or Butterick? *A: Oh! Vogue.* Q: Do you prefer linen or perma-press? *A: Oh! Linen.* Q: Would you prefer to sew or eat chocolate? *A: Sew -- I don't like chocolate.* Q: Do you always backstitch a seam? *A: ALWAYS -- in 4-H everything had to be perfect.* Q: What is your favorite sewing notion? *A: My Wiss thread snippers!* (Sondra's note: *"After spending an afternoon with Becky and wrapping her in duct tape, I can witness to the fact that she is even nice under duress -- worth getting to know and wrapping in duct tape!"*)

### You Have To Try This One:

## Black Bean Soup

- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 4 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 Tbsp. Ground cumin
- 1 tsp. crushed red pepper flakes
- 2 Tbsp. Oil
- 3 (16 oz.) cans of black beans
- 1 1/2 c. chicken broth
- 1 (12 oz.) jar salsa
- 1 can Mexican style tomatoes
- 2 Tbsp. lime juice



In a 4-quart saucepan over medium heat, cook onion, garlic, cumin, and pepper flakes in oil until onion is tender. In a blender, puree 2 cans beans with the chicken broth and add to saucepan. Stir in remaining beans, salsa, tomatoes and lime juice. Reduce heat to low and simmer at least 30 minutes. Top with sour cream and serve with crackers. **EXCELLENT!!!**

## ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS:

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**CONGRATULATIONS  
AND  
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TO ALL THE  
GRADUATES  
OF 2000!**

## ADVERTISING RATES

Ad rates for our bimonthly ASG Newsletter will be as follows:

Inserts (one sheet-8 1/2" x 11"). . \$30  
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are priced by weight.*

Full Page . . . . . \$50  
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The Deadline for the June/July issue will be April 25. Send or give your info. in writing by that date to:

Marcia Davis, 1020 N. Pinecrest  
Wichita, KS 67208  
or E-mail: Gbmhh@aol.com



✓ **Mark Your Calendar NOW****PROGRAM SCHEDULE  
UPDATE**

Thanks to **Becky Wondra**, our Guild's Education Chairman, we have some wonderful programs scheduled for future meetings. All meetings will be held at the Sedgwick County Extension Education Center, 7001 W. 21st Street North at 1:30 and 7:00 P.M. (Except for the July & August meetings. The August 1 meeting will ONLY be held at 7:00 P.M., because it is a Trunk Showing. Watch the your next newsletter for more information about the July meeting!) You won't want to miss any of them... Check out the following:

**May 2****"Table Toppers"**

Presented by Denise Dias,  
FACS Agent and Guild President

**June 6****"Sewing Machine Embroidery"**

Presented by Martha Flannigan  
FACS Agent from Cherokee Co.

**July****"Community Service Sew-In"**

More information to follow

**August 2**

(7:00 P.M. only)

**"Trunk Show"**

Presented by Joyce Livingston  
Noted Author and Lecturer

**GUESS WHAT?????**

On August 3<sup>rd</sup> there will be an All-Day, Hands-On Workshop presented by **Joyce Livingston** and our Guild's Chapter on making a jacket from a T-shirt. Please watch your upcoming newsletters for more information and a registration form for this wonderful opportunity.

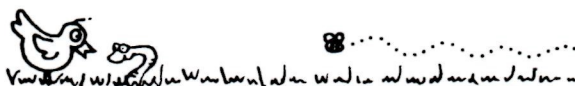
**Friends and Fun Rate High  
at January's Sew-In**

by Shirley Binder, Chapter Vice President

Food, fun and fantastic companionship were the highlights of our all-day, Sew-In held on January 4. Starting at 9:00 A.M., we began arriving with sewing machines, sergers, needles, threads -- all of our gadgets for machine and hand sewing. We even had a spinning wheel.

The projects we worked on included lingerie, kids' clothes, pattern alterations, remaking ready-to-wear, quilt blocks and corded pillows. As we learned from each others' projects and mistakes (*Yes--seam rippers were present and used*), we munched on "death-by chocolate" cookies, and wonderful cheese. We broke for a covered dish lunch and again for supper. This Sew-In was a great way to get better acquainted with other Guild members. Plan now to attend the all-day Sew-In to be held in conjunction with our July meeting.

*Editor's Note: If you missed the Sew-In, then you missed the fantastic Black Bean soup!!! (See the recipe on page 2.)*

**What Happens to the Leftovers?**

Ever wonder what happens to all the donated fabric from the Fabric Swap? Several ladies decided they didn't want to take any of their leftover fabric home. Therefore, we finished the Fabric Swap with LOTS & LOTS of leftover fabric. After selling some to miscellaneous people who were interested and reserving yardages for our charity projects, the question arose -- "What will we do with the REST?" Our prayers were answered when **Bimla Chauhan**, one of the custodians at the Extension Office, volunteered to take our extra fabric to India in December when she returns home for a visit. She says her people will be most grateful. So Bimla helped us, and we helped her. WONDERFUL!!! Our Guild really is making a difference here at home and around the world.

**Welcome to Our New Members and Renewals**

A very special "WELCOME" to all the members of the Hutchinson Chapter of the ASG who are now members of this Chapter.

We all look forward to getting to know one another better.

**NEW MEMBERS:**

Wilson, Donna	264-5720	550 Nims St./Apt. 404	Wichita, KS 67203
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**RENEWALS:**

Barnes, Luana	838-6504	5759 Sullivan	Wichita, KS 67204
Bever, Lynn	722-3842	3009 S. Edwards	Wichita, KS 67217
Logbeck, Marilyn	776-0711	1102 N. Morris	Rose Hill, KS 67133
Mikels, Nora	663-4276	810 C Old Farm Estates Rd	Hutchinson, KS 67502
Neal, Margaret	442-3428	1310 N. C	Arkansas City, KS 67005
Singleton, Lea	687-3262	1302 Willow Ln.	Wichita, KS 67208
Young, Debra	636-5802	2726 N. 127th E.	Wichita, KS 67226



## VIDEO VAULT

### Les Petites Dames de Mode

(The Little Ladies of Fashion)

*Reviewed by Librarian/Historian Aurelia Lobban*

This video dealt with fashion history from 1850 to 1910. John Burbidge, who designed wedding gowns for Priscilla's of Boston for forty years began creating his own historically inspired designs by in-depth research as an antidote to job burnout. He had seen a collection of mannequins put together by Parisian designers at the end of World War II at the Louvre following his military duty in France. (*They were featured in a Threads Magazine several years ago.*)

Heirloom sewers should really enjoy the detail of the decorations. Mr. Burbidge said all the decorations were hand appliqued -- they were amazing. I just wish that I could have seen more, or seen them longer.

The designs are based on the fashions worn by the very wealthy. One of the last examples was based on a dress that cost \$5,000.00 in 1905 (when the average industrial worker made \$503.00 a year). The beadwork and lacework were very interesting and could be used today as interesting decorations on jackets or lingerie. The detail work involved on the back of the fashions was a good reminder to me to consider putting "some little something" for balance on the back of a garment.

Some of the styles such as the bolero jacket with its curving decorations is so classic and beautiful that you can easily understand why it keeps coming back into fashion. I wish there had been more close-ups of the details, but I thoroughly enjoyed the art they represented.

There was an interesting and important quote from Worth, probably the most famous designer of the period, "I am an artist. I compose and a toilette is as good as a picture." (*Toilette referred to the whole outfit.*)

**Check this and other videos out from our Chapter's Library!!!**



## ATTENTION GUILD MEMBER MODELS

Our chapter of the American Sewing Guild was recently asked to provide an informal fashion show for the FCE (Foods & Consumer Educators) Spring Tea held on Saturday, April 14th, in 4-H Hall at the Sedgwick County Extension Education Center. This was an excellent opportunity to promote the Sewing Guild to a group of people who may have been unaware that we existed or know the benefits of our organization.

Thank you to all those who took time from their busy schedules to participate in this event and advertise the Guild. We hope to have more information about this fashion show in our next newsletter. Thanks, also, to **Shirley Binder**, Chapter Vice President, for coordinating this event and to **Anne St. Clair**, Co-Retail Coordinator, for sending the e-mail notices due to the problems with publishing this newsletter.



## OUR CHAPTER LIBRARY

The Library cart is working out great! If you have not taken time to check out some of the items on it, do so at our next meeting. The cart is available at both day and evening meetings.

Items checked out at one month's meeting are due back at the next month's meeting. If you do not return the items in this one month period, you will be fined \$1.00 on magazines and \$5.00 on videos and hard cover books. A list of all the items currently in the Library will be updated periodically.

### REMEMBER:

If you have sewing books, videos, patterns, magazines, unusual sewing notions or accessories, etc. that you would like to get rid of? Please donate them to our Chapter's Library. That way, all our members will be able to benefit from your generosity.



**Happy Mother's Day!!!**

## Words of Wisdom...

(Continued from page 1)

bag is up to you. We will exchange these bags in **MAY** and **JUNE**. Then in September, during "Show and Share," we can show our new creations. If you have questions, we can discuss them at our next meeting.

Sew... until next time, sew some spring!

*Denise*



# ANNUAL FABRIC SWAP & SALE GROWS TO TWO DAYS

by Sue Carpenter, Special Events Chairman

Our second annual Fabric Swap & Sale, which was held March 10 & 11, was again a GREAT success. Evaluation sheets that were returned by the participants indicated that an overwhelming majority were well-pleased and thought that we should do it again next year. We had several suggestions that we do it in the Fall also. Even though Friday afternoon provided us with a March blizzard for a few hours, it could do nothing to dampen the spirits of our eager shoppers. Bags and bags and more bags of fabric, patterns, and sewing notions were carried to waiting cars as even more eager shoppers hurried in to check out remaining treasures. We saw some of the same faces return

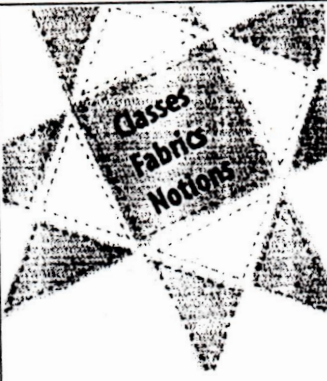
on Saturday... just to see what was left.

Our scissors sharpener was kept busy with 62 pairs of scissors the first day and more on the second day. Lunch was provided on Friday by the Classy Lassies FCE group and received lots of compliments from those who ate there. Our Sewing Guild raised over \$500 to help with our community service projects.

A big thanks goes out to all who helped in some way... either setting up tables, helping participants carry in boxes and sacks, or helping to clean up—as well as those who kept the show running smoothly. We couldn't have done it without you. Thank you so much!

## Don't Let Their Support Go Unnoticed!!!

Don't forget to patronize those advertisers who support our ASG Chapter and remember to show your membership card at the cutting table when purchasing fabric or at the cash register before purchases are rang up.



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