

Julia's Gems

I can't count the number of times a new visitor or member has come up to me after an ASG event and said "I've been living and sewing in Wichita for years and just heard about ASG." (Often, this is said in an almost accusing tone, as if I personally have been keeping ASG a huge secret! Shame on me!) Last summer, when the CAB discussed ways to market ASG, we agreed that a big part of our problem was spreading the word about our existence, perhaps even more than convincing people who know about ASG to join us. So, it's a pleasure to tell you about one of our schemes to get the word out to a wider audience while having a little fun and friendly competition at the same time.

Our chapter is sponsoring a Creative Fashion T-Shirt contest at the Kansas State Fair! To enter, make a tee...any fabric, any pattern, any style. Our only requirement is sleeves. The prize is \$25 plus an ASG membership. Our hope is that two things will happen. First, we want our current members to have some

fun showing off what we can do with that most practical of blank slates, the fashion tee. And second, we want all the other sewists out there in Kansas-land to be intrigued enough by the contest to learn more about ASG.



So what do you, a member, need to do? Make a tee! The program at our June meeting will be about tees, including fit, construction, and "kicking it up a notch." Then, you have all summer to get sewing. Once we learn more about the deadlines and procedures for entering, we'll spread the word and set up a delegation to ferry all our entries to Hutchinson on entry day. There will definitely be an Eat & Shop day at the fair so we can see the whole exhibit, show off our ASG bling...and eat funnel cake. Let's do what we can to make sure that contest exhibit is filled with a huge array of interesting, fashionable tees that proclaim that sewing is alive and well and that ASG is right at the heart of it.

(Continued on page 3)

ASG on the Web

- Wichita ASG Facebook page: www.facebook.com/asgwichita
- Wichita ASG email: asgwichita@yahoo.com
- National ASG site: www.asg.org
- National ASG Facebook page: American Sewing Guild



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Julia Langel 733-4780

julialangel@cox.net

Vice President/Newsletter

Vicky Is liefson 529-1565

intimedesign@yahoo.com

Vice President/ Fabric FUNd

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penr1208@cox.net

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MKJohn@cox.net

Community Service

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corle1@cox.net

Special Events

Nancy Boewe 681-0000

njboewe@hotmail.com

Librarian

Ginny Perott 316-377-9407

ginnyperott@cox.net

Beryl Silkey 682-0017

bchrysalis@sbcglobal.net

Publicity/Retail Liaison

Michele Brakewood 630-0858

Sewfun350@aol.com

Education

Julia Waterbury 722-0734

jwkl31@sbcglobal.net

Hospitality

Wilma Wine 832-1202

dawine@sbcgloabal.net

Neighborhood Group Coordinator

Valarie Fisher 684-6050

valarie_f@hotmail.com

Special Projects

Shirley Binder 687-7257

scraplvr@att.net

Membership Renewal

The National office will send you a renewal notice about 2 months before your membership expires. If you don't receive a renewal notice, contact the membership chairwoman, or go to the National website, asg.org, where you can renew online.

Address Change

If your address, phone number or email changes, please report the changes to both the local membership chair and to the National office (you can use the website at asg.org.) **If you are not getting email from ASG, then use the "Change Email or Address" link in the Members Only section.**

A Note About Photos

As you have probably noticed, we love photos! If you take photos at an ASG event, please consider posting them to Facebook or emailing them to the newsletter editor.



If you would rather not have your photo appear on Facebook or in the newsletter, please tell the newsletter editor. If you don't see yourself here, then pose and smile whenever you see a camera, especially if you are sewing or shopping.

Advertising Rates

This newsletter is published 6 times per year. We only accept sewing-related ads.

Our rates are:

- 1/8 page—\$60/yr;
- 1/4 page—\$120/yr;
- 1/2 page—\$210/yr;
- 1 page—\$300/yr.

ASG members may place classified ads for 10 cents per word.



Julia's Gems (continued)

Of course, we have lots of other things going on over the next few months. Theresa has scheduled a charity sewing day in July, so you can do something on the second Tuesday even though we don't have a general meeting. And the neighborhood

groups continue to offer a staggering array of interesting programs throughout each month. We're even going to Emporia to see a fashion show of garments made from hand-woven fabric.

I'll see you sewing!

-Julia

Rumour Has It...

- You can still wear or bring your Spring Challenge garment for the ASG Anyone Can Win Contest to the June Meeting if you want Vicky to take your picture and submit your entry.
- MEOW Neighborhood group is looking for a new leader. Irene has done a great job since the inception of this group but she is ready to “retire”. She will be absent for the June meeting, but meetings have been planned through August.
- The Extension Center and the local Sheriff’s department are holding a **Bears for Badges** event on June 28, 8 am to Midnight (come and go). They need experienced cutters and stitchers, stuffers and finishers, as well as fleece, ribbon and stuffing (or cash). Call 660-0127 (Mon – Wed) to let them know you can help. Bring materials to the Extension Center.
- Nancy Boewe is already starting to think about next year’s special seminar and is looking for ideas. Email suggestions to: njboewe@hotmail.com
- Valarie Fisher, our Neighborhood Groups coordinator, is back in action and has been seen at several ASG events in the last several weeks. Welcome back, Val.



Margie Marks



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Special Events Report

Our hands-on sewing event this year took place on April 11 – 13 and featured Linda Lee of The Sewing Workshop. On Thursday evening, Linda gave a trunk show with many beautiful garments made from her patterns. A few of our members even got to act as models. She also had her patterns, fabrics (including silks) and some notions for sale. Several of us dropped a few bucks that night, but she was also generous with discounts and donations to the library. We had about 50 people in attendance, at least 10 of them guests.

Friday morning started with 14 participants trying on versions of the Ikina jacket to determine the correct size. Linda's fashions are loose fitting, so it was beneficial to see how the sizes looked when worn. Most of us found we preferred a smaller size than the pattern measurements indicated. A few of us were also able to work out some fitting issues, including balancing shoulders, full bust and tight sleeve adjustments. Linda then gave us a presentation on sewing with silks; including pre-treating the fabric, appropriate cutting, sewing and pressing tools and thread. We learned how to find the straight-of-grain and how to cut slippery fabrics. Then there were some special pressing techniques and seam finishes.



On Saturday, we got down to the business of cutting and sewing. Many participants brought their own fabric, including hand woven, denim, rayon, floral, and other stash treasures. There was plenty of individual design work, including piecing, piping, bias-cutting and adding or eliminating trim pieces. Linda gave a few more demonstrations on mitering corners, underlining, stay stitching and clipping a curved neckline. Several participants got close enough to finishing their jackets to foreshadow a very interesting fashion show at our June general meeting. (Nancy has asked everyone who made a

jacket to wear it that day.)

Nancy would like to thank all who participated in this event. We would also like to thank Jan Adams for preparing lunch for us on Friday and Saturday, Penny Ruddle for running the sales table and promoting ASG to the stray shoppers who dropped in on Saturday morning, Wilma Wine for preparing coffee and cold drinks, and all those who brought snacks.

Linda had some comments about us, as well. She was impressed that we had a member cater the lunches, as it saved time and minimized any interruption to the sewing. She was also particularly impressed with how Nancy had organized the event, saying it was the most well run seminar she could remember! Way to go, Nanz!



June Events

General Meeting – June 4

Fashion T-shirts

- By Vicki Mork, Suzanne Mason and Julia Langel
- 1:30 pm and 7 pm, Extension Center
- Julia Langel 733-4780

MEOW Neighborhood Group

–June 13

Digitizing

- By Dawna O'Connor
- 2 pm, A-1 Singer, 1012 S. Oliver (Parklane Shopping Center)
- Irene Armstrong 263-9361

Sew Inspired Neighborhood Group – June 17

Angelina Fibers

- By Judy Troyer
- 1 pm, 23 Chisholm Creek, Wichita, KS.
- Shirley Binder 687-7257

East Side Neighborhood Group – June 18

Bead Necklace

- By Pat Hernandez
- 7 pm, Needle Nook Fabrics
- Theresa Corle 689-6702

Field Trip – June 21

Weavers' Conference in Emporia, KS

- Carpool from Eastgate mall in front of Hancock's, 1 pm
- Exhibit hall and vendors
- Shop at Prairie Pieces Quilt Shop
- Fashion Show at 7 pm
- Julia Langel 733-4780



Serger Neighborhood Group – June 24

T-shirts

- Work on techniques learned at the general meeting
- 1208 N. Emporia, Wichita, KS
- Julia Waterbury 722-0734

CAB Meeting – June 25

- 1:30, Ingle Room, Extension Center
- Julia Langel 733-4780

Eat and Shop – June 26

Hatman Jack's, Material Girls, Twist, Carla's Fashions

- Eat at The Monarch, 579 W Douglas Ave, Wichita, 11:30 am
- Nancy Boewe, 681-0000

Derby Neighborhood Group – June 27

"Hello Serger, Remember Me?"

- By Penny Ruddle
- Woodlawn United Methodist Church, 431 South Woodlawn Boulevard, Derby, KS
- Marsha Volz 789-9193



July Events

NO General Meeting in July

Julia Langel 733-4780

Charity Sew- July 2

Bereavement Gowns, Blankets, Bears

- Needle Nook Fabrics, 10 am
- Break for lunch at noon
- Theresa Corle, 689-6702

MEOW Neighborhood Group - July 10

Embroidery on Silk

- By Sunflower Quilts
- Meet at Sunflower Quilts in Derby, 2 pm
- Irene Armstrong 263-9361

Sew Inspired Neighborhood Group - July 15

Foiling on Fabric

- By Vicky Islielson
- 1 pm, 23 Chisholm Creek, Wichita, KS.
- Shirley Binder 687-7257

East Side Neighborhood Group - July 16

Hands-On Decorated Coupon Wallet

- By Vicky Islielson
- 7 pm, Needle Nook Fabrics
- Theresa Corle 689-6702

Eat and Shop - July 18

New Store in Mulvane, Sunflower Quilts, Vanya

- 10 am, address TBA
- Lunch at Olive Garden in Derby (Rock Road)
- Nancy Boewe, 681-0000

Serger Neighborhood Group - July 22

Origami Bags

- By Penny Ruddle
- 1208 N. Emporia, Wichita, KS
- Julia Waterbury 722-0734

CAB Meeting - July 23

- 1:30, Ingle Room, Extension Center
- Julia Langel 733-4780

Derby Neighborhood Group - July 25

Two Fabric Table Runner

- By Phyllis Calvert
- Woodlawn United Methodist Church, 431 South Woodlawn Boulevard, Derby, KS
- Marsha Volz 789-9193

5th Tuesday & Wed. - July 30 & 31

Work on those T-Shirts?

- 9 am - 4:30 pm
- Meadolark Room, Sedgwick County Extension Center
- Julia Langel 733-4780

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On-Going Fundraisers

We now **need new fabric**. There are still some drapery samples. These are being sold at 2 for 50 cents. Most fabric is sold a \$1 per yard, but there is some high quality quilt cottons priced a little higher.

Now sold from the Fabric Fund tables: Patterns and magazines that have been donated by members are for sale for 25 cents each or 5 for a dollar. Funds raised go to buy items for the library.

The Fabric Fund needs donations, but please do NOT donate fabric that has been stored with moth balls. The smell is impossible to remove and transfers to other items.

Tables open before and after the meeting and during refreshment break.

In the Library

Items in our library include books, videos, DVDs, magazines and patterns. These items may be checked out for one month at a time. DVDs and videos must be returned the following month and may not be renewed until the end of the meeting so that others have a chance to check them out.

There is a charge of \$1 **per item per month** for items returned late. Any item not returned within 6 months will be considered lost and the member will be responsible for replacing it. A complete listing of library holdings is available at the library table during our monthly meetings.

New Items in the Library:

- The Sewing Workshop: Learn to Sew by Linda Lee, Sixth & Spring books, 2012 (donated by Linda Lee) (see new book review on page 11)
- Sewing Edges & Corners by Linda Lee, Taunton Press, 2000 (donated by Linda Lee)
- A New Dress A Day by Marisa Lynch, Ballantine, 2012 (Donated by Julia Langel)
- "Quilting Arts" (magazine) April-May 2013, Issue 62

We are also happy to receive your donations of sewing related magazines that we then sell to other members. However, we request that you limit your donations to no more than two years worth at one time, so that our librarian can handle the volume



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Community Service Report

A charity sewing event is planned for July 2 at Needle Nook Fabrics, 10 am.. We will make bereavement gowns and blankets. Please continue to turn in your hours to Theresa Corle for any sewing related charity work you do, even if you are working with other groups.. In addition to your hours, she would like to know what you made and where it was donated (if not through ASG). You can now use the form at the bottom of this page to keep track of your hours.



Mary Ann Esch

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Return this form to Theresa Corle at any general meeting or mail to her at 721 S Volutsia, Wichita, KS, 67211. You may make additional copies if needed.



Membership Challenge

Hey ladies -- here's your chance to have the local guild pay your membership dues. In 2013, if you bring in 5 new members (junior members included) we will pay for your 2014 dues! And, just to get your enthusiasm up, for the first new member you bring in, you'll get a set of Shirley Adams sewing books. We know this challenge is ambitious, but hey, you've got a whole year. The ASG National Share the Love-Get a Member Contest is on until July 15. See the details in the Members Only area at asg.org. Let's keep on sharing our love of sewing. Thanks, M John.



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New Book Review

The Sewing Workshop: Learn to Sew with 30+ Easy, Pattern-Free Projects by Linda Lee, Sixth & Spring books, 2012, 128 p.

This fully illustrated book is written for the beginner, but is also useful to anyone who wants to hone their skills in the techniques Linda includes. The first third of the book covers the basics, including fabric preparation, measuring and marking, layout and cutting, sewing by machine and by hand, seams and finishes, hems, and pressing. Also included is the construction of some special elements such as fabric tubes for straps and drawstrings, pockets, knotted buttons and a ribbon button loop she calls a prairie point.

The remainder of the book is dedicated to projects in three categories: "Home Accents", "Bags & Totes", and "Wear It". "Home Accents" includes a placemat, napkin, table runner, pillows, quilted throw, journal cover, and drawstring and zippered bags. Each project, though simple, contains a unique technique or added element that makes it special. "Bags & Totes" has ten different styles of bags, each with a different type of handle along with some pockets and fastening methods. A few embellishment ideas are also included.

"Wear It" shows how to make and decorate several scarves for both fashion and warmth, along with a belt decorated with buttons (really another scarf worn as a belt), a fringed flower brooch, an asymmetrical wrap skirt and a wearable pouch for carrying a tablet. I won't mention the tube top.

There is an index at the end if you want to quickly find a technique or project.

As the title suggests, most of the projects are pattern-free, although some require enlarging a shaped element using the grid method (explained in the Measuring & Marking section). I also found that there were a few mistakes in the given measurements, including an impossible seam allowance on the fabric tube, an unnecessary bottom seam in the lingerie bag, and mysterious lining pieces on the laundry bag. These are not critical errors, but I recommend reading through the entire project before cutting and adjust your cutting or sewing as necessary.

There are some interesting projects in the book and you are sure to find several to interest you. Thanks to Linda Lee for donating this book, along with two others, to our library.

-Vicky Is liefson

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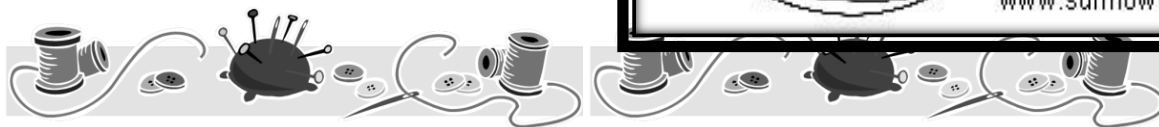
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