

Stitching Barefoot  
Cape Fear Chapter



President's Message:

Hello, 2022!

I am hesitant to say anything like "let's get back to normal now" or "glad that year is over" because that sure didn't turn out like we had hoped last year! So instead I will say let's see where this goes and take it a step at a time BUT let's make every effort to see one another and share in our love of sewing and creating!!

So what is ahead for us in 2022? Several things. Let's get started...

First things first...We need someone to take over the reins of president next year. The Guild has meant so much to all of us and it would be heart-breaking to see it not continue into 2023. If you have interest in the presidency please let me know as soon as possible so we can rest assured ASG Cape Fear is going to go on. In our last newsletter I laid out the duties of the president and how much time I spend on the tasks. It's not overwhelming and you will be strongly supported by the CAB and our

**2022 Board Members**

**Babs Fullerton-President**  
[barbarafullerton@mac.com](mailto:barbarafullerton@mac.com)  
201-240-8334

**Ginni Creamer- Secretary**  
& Day Group Leader  
[retired07nc@gmail.com](mailto:retired07nc@gmail.com)

**Ann Carbone- Treasurer**  
[carbone.ann@gmail.com](mailto:carbone.ann@gmail.com)

**Kendra Grove-Social Media**  
[kendra.grove@yahoo.com](mailto:kendra.grove@yahoo.com)

**Dillaine Risley- Membership**  
[djrisley@gmail.com](mailto:djrisley@gmail.com)

**Molly Bigelow- Publicity**  
[weezyb@att.net](mailto:weezyb@att.net)

**Claire Malczyn- Community Service**  
[quilt dancer@gmail.com](mailto:quilt dancer@gmail.com)

**Jean Werling- Fashionistas**  
[jsews@werling.us](mailto:jsews@werling.us)

**Jill Corwin- Newsletter**  
[jcorwin320@gmail.com](mailto:jcorwin320@gmail.com)

members. We are an incredible group of people and I have never felt like I was out there on a limb alone. We really do support each other well. So call me...please...201-240-8334.

For those of you that attended our Holiday Party you are also aware that Ginni will be stepping away from her leadership role of The Day Group. Penny Schmitt and Jill Corwin have offered to take over and they will be working with Ginni for the next few months. Ginni has been the leader of this group since its inception and we owe her our deepest gratitude for all the hard work she's put into it. I have met my closest friends in this group and have probably smiled or giggled or out right guffawed more here than any place else in Wilmington. Thanks, Ginni for all of the work and smiles!

Jean Werling and Ginni will be handing over the jobs of Retreat Coordinators at the end of 2022 so we will be looking for a team of 3-4 to take over those duties. Ginni and Jean have been putting together our fantastic retreats since they began and it's time for them to step back and let a new team take over. Some of you have reached out to them to offer your help and I hope more of you will. J & G have set up the retreats so well and we will just need to repeat their work. So many of us have enjoyed these events and maybe if several of us take on the task we can make it light work. Contact either Jean, Ginni or me if you want to help.

Which brings us to the subject of our cancelling of the 2022 Spring Retreat. The hotel has sadly dipped into a bit of a shabby, dirty mess and we had daily issues of bugs, lack of hot water and general unpleasantness so we have cancelled any future contracts with The Islander. If you have reservations with them they should have been canceled along with our contracts but you may want to call and check. Their phone number is: 252-354-3464.

We will be seeking another venue and will be expanding our search a bit. The goal will be to stay within a 2 hour drive but being at the beach will not be a priority. What we will be looking for will be local shops and restaurants of interest as we have found we all enjoy some time away from the sewing room and good food options a big plus. If you have any suggestions of places to explore let us know.

This year will be a bit of a challenge for ASG Cape Fear but we will see more of our in person meetings and finally see Pamela Leggett's class happen! We will be scheduling Sew together days again and making contributions to local charities....doing the good work and enjoying each others creative spirits. We are a terrific bunch. I can't say that enough! I love you, ladies!

As I told the folks that attended to Holiday Party we have bucked the trend that ASG National was bemoaning in their end of year meeting of losing members and in some cases whole chapters due to all the issues the pandemic threw at us. But we actually ended up with the same number of members as we started the pandemic with! I could argue we actually have more...well, ONE more but hey! We rock. We need to keep this going. I know we can. Let's go into 2022 hopeful and ready to grow.

Babs Fullerton

## 2022 Chapter Advisory Board

As elected on December 4, 2021, the CAB officers for 2022 will be:

President: Barbara Fullerton

Treasurer: Ann Carbone

Secretary: Ginni Creamer

## Wilmington Neighborhood Group

### 1<sup>ST</sup> Quarter 2022

For the beginning of 2022 (and throughout the year) the Wilmington NG will have demonstrations from members – one per month. Each member will demo an area of their expertise. We will also continue with show and tell as well as the question of the month. Timely sewing issues will also be discussed.

## 2022 ASG Fashionistas Calendar

Meetings are always on the 3rd Monday of each month (unless otherwise noted below) and are held at Coastal Sewing and Appliance on Kerr Ave. The meeting time is 10:30 am until 12:30 pm. Plan to come a few minutes early (the shop opens at 10:00) and bring your coffee, socialize, or browse our “free” table. Anyone may bring garment related fabrics, notions, patterns, etc. to giveaway. Jean Werling is the current meeting leader.

### January

Welcome to 2022! It's going to be a great sewing year! Please remember to wear a name tag so all can get to know you.

Ginni will be leading this meeting as I will be out of town. We made some great plans for this year at our November meeting, 2021, and fitting is top on our list; so we will work to make that happen. We will discuss some of the other topics we want to cover this year, one of them was a fun shirt that Ellen was wearing at the meeting that many agreed would be fun to make together (after we get some fitting advice). If you would like to join us, the pattern is called the Jules woven tunic and is from a company called Style Arc out of Australia. You can order their patterns on their website [www.stylearc.com](http://www.stylearc.com), Amazon, or Etsy (just search by the tunic name).

(edited)

### February

February will be all about fitting (as will our whole year) so that the garments we make will get worn and be comfortable! We will do some initial fitting at the meeting and then we will talk about other get-togethers during the month. We will learn from each other along the way.

We will start together on our Jules tunics as a group. (edited)

### March

Let's get the most out of some of our patterns. Once you make a pattern that fits you and that you like, make it again right away and change it up a

bit. We will continue our fitting discussions as well by discussing how to fit your neckline better. (edited)

## **April**

Let's check in on our progress with the Jules tunics. How is it coming? Bring yours in and get advice, fitting help, or show off the completed shirt! Is there a fitting issue we can fix for you? Bring in any other garments you have made in the past that don't work for you and let's work on making them fit you better. Let's talk about sleeve fitting this month.

## **May**

This will be a fun morning. We are taking a break from fitting and getting some education. Bring in your serger and get hands-on guidance to see what your serger can do from our very own Dellaine Risley! You must know how to thread your own machine before class. (edited)

## **June**

Summer is upon us and we need to create items that do not take a lot of time or energy. This month we will talk about projects you have made that are from your UFO pile (unfinished objects), items you have made but want to change up a bit to make them more wearable (Refashioning), or an item you purchased/thrifted and you have changed to make it wearable (Upcycling). (edited)

## **July**

July is again another time for quick sewing! What pattern do you like to make when you don't have much time or don't have too much fabric, but you know it looks good? (edited)

## **August**

One more time, use only items from your stash for both fabric and pattern and make something fun to end the summer. (edited)

## **September**

If we haven't tackled your particular fitting issue yet, let me know and we will work on it this month. We will also tackle zippers, both regular and

invisible and how to install them and where to use each type. This may be a hands-on meeting as well with machines. (edited)

## **October**

Let's talk about lingerie and bra making. I know you think this is a tough topic, but people who have tried it say it is easier than it looks. We will also discuss full bust and small bust adjustments you should make and how to easily do this. (edited)

## **November**

It's getting to be the holidays, let's talk loungewear. Leggings, sweatpants, sweatshirts, robes, comfy clothes. . .whatever that means to you. Knits are generally part of this category so we will discuss how to adjust knits, why the different stretch percentages matter, and how to get a nice fit. (edited)

## **December**

We generally do not have a meeting this month as our annual chapter holiday party is held and is a chance for all our members to share some fun, food, fellowship, and laughs. (edited)



**Holiday  
Party  
December  
2021**



Holiday  
Party  
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2021



## Two Good Reads About Sewing

by Penny Schmitt

Being the lucky holder of a raffle ticket for a book at the ASG Holiday party proved to be my ticket to a varied and fascinating exploration of stitchery from Medieval times onward. *Threads of Life*, by Clare Hunter, leads the reader through stories of a craft that proves to be as beautiful as fine art, as dramatic as an story of adventure or privation and suffering, as intricate as a panoramic history, as close to the barricades as a cadre of revolutionaries, as an instrument of power, as a technique of psychic survival.

The chapters in the book are each labeled with a title that might seem to have nothing to do with sewing, yet in each chapter I found something that resonated with my experiences with fabric and thread. ? Power? Captivity? Identity? Hunter explains how stitchers known and unknown left the world a record of their inner lives and public personas. Mary Queen of Scots, injured Veterans of World War I, unknown nuns of the 11th Century, strikers and woman fighting for the vote, Africans seeking to reestablish a sense of identity after the period of European domination, people grieving the losses of AIDS, all have found a way through sewing to leave a legacy - even if was a secret during their lives. The book is not in any way illustrated or illuminated with photos, yet I found it a compelling and exciting read.

For something much more visually exciting and interesting in a hole different way, try Kaffe Fassett's autobiography, *Dreaming in Color*. Through his lively and intelligent telling, the reader gets to experience along with him the arc of his development as an artist from right up to his careers in design for tapestry and knitwear as well as fabric and quilting (actually a 'late blooming' passion for the renowned fabric designer). Along the way, anyone who is an artist or a maker will recognize and delight in those moments when he discovers a new way of seeing, a new skill, a beautiful or inspiring theme for his work. The book is lavishly illustrated with photo collages that bring his earliest experiences and their most recent manifestations together in an exciting an beautiful way. It is impossible to read the book without being attacked by a cascade of great ideas for things to do, even while you are at a standstill of amazement at the vibrant colors



and designs. Learning that Fassett is the child of the couple who built the famous Nepenthe restaurant and gathering spot in Big Sur on Route 1 in California is just the first of many 'aha!' surprises you will find along the way. As Threads of Life is a panorama of human experiences, Dreaming in Color is the story of creative imagination shaping a single life.

## FALL SEWING RETREAT-OCTOBER 2021

The last week of October, seventeen (17) of our members gathered their sewing goodies and headed to Emerald Isle for five (5) days of fun, games, eating and, oh yes, sewing. All kinds of sewn items came forth – from quilts to dresses to backpacks to Christmas gifts to goodies for charity to many other amazing sewn treats! And as usual over two hundred items were finished! And as always, we are impressed by each other's skills! Each sewing retreat is a unique experience and this one was no different.



**FALL RETREAT** 2021  
4:30  
Roscoe Blouse  
405 stack o  
2 Box Tote blocks  
30 Pink Stars  
4 cosmetic bags  
Blouse  
36 Pink stars  
108 1/2 Square triangles  
LOG Cabin quilt top  
Pillowcases (5)  
Christmas Tree Runner  
Disappearing 9 P.  
3 pajama bottoms  
Candy jar Blocks  
Dress  
32 napkins  
Patriot apron  
Black cord  
10" x 2" □

Chickadee quilt  
Beach quilted throw  
2 port pillows  
Bunnings 5  
Quilt top  
Kid Backpack  
5 Hanging Gift Bags  
10 Mini Cable runner  
Quilted table runner  
Elephant Baby quilt  
QUILTS - 14  
Quilt top  
Pillowcase Dresses (18)  
4 Gift Bags  
30 Crayon Caddies  
Floral Lap quilt  
Hair scrunchies (56)  
Christmas stockings 3  
Bathrobe  
Schlepp Quilt top  
Pillowcase dress  
4 Swim Tote bags  
2 ornaments  
2 Quilt tops  
Christmas towels (16)

