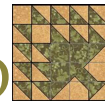




WILLOW WOODS QUILT GUILD



Newsletter February 2021



MEETS THE SECOND
SATURDAY OF EACH
MONTH
ELKS LODGE
26584 HIGHWAY 18
RIM FOREST, CA

Month at a Glance

Upcoming events for February
and beyond:

- ????
- Saturday, February 13th –
special ZOOM meeting (see
special announcement section
for more details.)

Special Items to Bring to the
next meeting:

- Dues - \$30
- Cup of Comfort Blocks
- Comfort Quilts

Also Don't Forget:

- Your name tag
- Refreshments (if it is your
turn)

President – Judy Green

Hi Fellow Quilters,

Well, I'm getting ready for the big storm on Thursday night. The shovelers are scheduled to come on Saturday...thank goodness. Would have had them sooner to shovel out the 2 1/2 feet, but another storm was on the way. How they are going to shovel out almost 4 feet of snow, I can't imagine. There goes the kids inheritance. Although the good side is, I have giant icicles out every window sparkling like diamonds and crystals in the sunlight. Now, that's a gift.

Has anyone else noticed the time change? In hearing from others, and me too, that the 5 o'clock somewhere has turned into 3 or 4 o'clock in the afternoon, and the start time of our day has turned from 7 o'clock in the morning until around 10ish. Getting dressed for the day is mostly a lost art.

The Corona quilt is completed, however the quilt that I told you I was going to start in the last Newsletter hasn't happened yet. The pattern and fabric are in my shed, outdoors, and I can hardly see the shed because of the snow. Soon, very soon.

So tickled to hear what all of you are doing. Lorraine is an interior decorator extraordinaire. Yolanda is an accomplisher for quilting so many darling creations. She knows all the websites and is learning so

much. Nancy has made so many, many darling quilts, Pam Abell should be our teacher, along with Yolanda and Jennifer, for she investigates all the colors and design specifications much better than I. Jennifer keeps us on track with inspiration and togetherness. She also could teach us a few things about mothering, farming, canning, bees, and those darling chickens. Kelli has some great ideas to bring back to us. Melanie is quilting so beautifully for so many of our quilts. Cheryl Wood, I know you are working away on so many things, including helping your granddaughter home school.

Haven't heard from Pat, but I hope you are well, and keeping yourself warm and happy, and our beautiful Kim, I'll just bet her new home that she has been working so hard, is coming along wonderfully. Jeanne, I miss you and can't wait for your input and words of wisdom. Cheryl Gallagher, I miss you too, and your wonderful quiet way of contributing so much to our Guild. Sherry, I miss you, your wonderful laugh, your great help to me and the guild, your terrific way of keeping our accounts on track, and your impeccable accounting records.

As you can tell, I miss and love you all so much. You have each been a wonderful gift to me, and I hope we will all be together again soon.

Love Judy

Our guild is dedicated to promoting the art of quilting through education, sharing and learning, and using our efforts to benefit the community through annual contributions and in time of need.

Secretary – Yolanda Douglas

There are no minutes as our meetings since last February have been cancelled.

Treasurer – Shelly Schliskey

There is no report at this time.

Special Announcement – Patricia Skalnik

Happy Valentine's Day, sister quilters!

We will be celebrating together by having a Zoom meeting for our

New Officers

President – Judy Green

Co- Vice President – Jeanne Folta

Co- Vice President – Jennifer Lanak

Secretary – Yolanda Douglas

Treasurer – Sherry Schliskey

Superstars

Hostess –Pat Montgomery

Membership –Kim Everhart

Community Liaison/Publicity
– Yolanda Douglas

Fat Quarter Drawing – Sherry Schliskey

Hospitality – Cheryl Wood

Sunshine/Shadows – Melanie Hermanson

Quilt Challenges – Jen Lanak

Web Site – Trisha Skalnik

Newsletter – Jen Lanak

Facebook – Jen Lanak

guild, scheduled at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, February 13th. Be sure to email Judy Green with your RSVP, confirming your email address and cellphone number. You can use your computer, iPad, or Smartphone. The computer is easier.

I will be using my university email account (pskalnik@apu.edu) and will send you an invitation via Zoom. Just click the link, and hopefully, things will work.

Bring a cup of coffee or tea, and we will be sharing.

Looking forward to seeing you!

Blessings, Trisha

Challenges – Jen Lanak

The UFO Challenge:

There is still time to join the new APQ UFO Challenge for 2021. You can download a new list here: [UFO challenge 2021](#) (If this link doesn't work, you can search APQ UFO challenge 2021 it should take you to the right place).

February's # is 2. On my list is my Land of Lincoln quilt. It is probably the oldest UFO I have. I started it years and years ago with the intention of it being an auction quilt for our Quilt Walk auction. While it is a lovely pattern, it is not my style at all, which is why it was easy for me to always put it aside to work on anything else. As with a fair number of the projects on my UFO list, this one got waylaid at the adding borders stage. I don't know what it is about adding borders, but many of my projects halt at this step. I think it is because I get frustrated with cutting those long sections and then sewing those long seams. For adding 4 pieces of fabric to a quilt, it seems to take forever and my brain revolts. It really is time for me to put on my big girl pants, dust off the dust, and get this done.

My January project got a little sidetracked. If you recall, I admitted that I needed to make progress on my Technicolor Galaxy quilt because I had piles of scraps segregated into all the colors of the rainbow lying around my quilting room. There is no way I could take on a different project until I got that mess cleaned up. Well.....I did pull scraps for my next round of blocks for the quilt, but then I got distracted by all the scraps that weren't organized by color (and I had A LOT!). So I started organizing those, and even managed to throw away the "crumbs" I realized I would never use. I got about halfway through the rainbow before the garden chores required priority. So, I guess I didn't really make much progress on my quilt, but I did start the process of cleaning up my area. Does that count?

Share Section - What has everyone been doing?

Yolanda Douglas -

HELLO 2021

I gratefully left 2020 behind and started out the new year, watching that big ball drop in Times Square (recorded, not in real time) and with great hopes for better times ahead. I felt like I had shed a heavy, dirty, uncomfortable coat.

I had decided to work on the UFO Challenge again in 2021 and with a little bit of arranging I knew that I would finish January's project on time (See Party Pantry below).

I was happily working on some project every day, watching YouTube tutorials and watching the news again now that things seemed to be getting a bit more positive.

On January 6, I was sewing and watching the counting of electoral votes (I can't believe that I have not done so in the past) when the most horrific, terror-filled thing that I have ever seen began. Protestors began storming the stairs and scaling the walls of our Nations' Capitol, ramming the doors, trampling those in the way. People were being beaten with fists, batons, flags, fire extinguishers, whatever the attackers could get ahold of. I will never forget the look and cries of terror of a Capitol policeman as he was being crushed between the doors of his workplace. Nor the fear on the faces of people trapped behind windowed doors as attempts were made to crash into their offices and chambers.

This is terrorism, not patriotism. No matter which side of the aisle these attackers' representatives sit, this was unforgiveable.

WHAT DOES THIS HAVE TO DO WITH QUILTING? I was unable to concentrate on my work for weeks. I know this newsletter is supposed to be about quilting. And my words are about quilting and what this attack did to my ability to enjoy and practice my art.

UFO CHALLENGE/ PARTY PANTRY

I did it! I finished the Party Pantry Quilt (except for the label) in time for the UFO Challenge and just before the pantry itself will be finished. I am very happy with it and I hope that she will be too. I used a pattern for only two blocks, the picnic basket and the Chinese take-out box. The other blocks I either designed myself or adapted from something else. I added some embellishments this weekend and FINI !



My project for this month is to continue to work on a Dear Jane project that I started many years ago with late Guild member Leann Benedict and group. I have some blocks finished and some prepped. Needless to say, mine will not be traditional fabrics and colors that Jane used, but it should be fun.

HEXIE SEW-ALONG

I am *sort of kind of* half way through the Hexie Sew-Along hosted by SpringDaisyStitchery. This week is Week 25 with only 25 weeks to go!

I have fallen behind sewing the hexies into flowers. While I enjoy the handwork and it is a relaxing break, it has been so cold that sometimes it is difficult to do the stitching.



The past month's themes have been Fancy, Gas, Liquid, and Solid. These hexies are in various stages of preparation from fabric-chosen to ready-to-sew.

Paper Panache: When the stars don't align

Several weeks ago I began a PaperPanache.com paper-pieced Mystery Block. I enjoy these mysteries and was off to a great start. I had all of the fabric sewn on the sections and was tackling the mystery of assembly; how do the pieces go together?



My sweet dog Jackson Browne must have decided that I needed help. For those of you who do paper-piecing, probably the least favorite part of the technique is tearing off the little bits of paper from the fabric. Well, Jack got my sections and chewed the paper off most of the work, taking away the information about what sections are sewn to each and directional signs – important clues. And he was not at all careful with all those bias edges. You'd think with all of the YouTube tutorials that he has listened to, he would have been more careful about assaulting those biases.

Anyway, I finally assembled it – something is off. The stars don't align! But I will add borders and make a small pillow that will remind me to keep my projects above puppy-level.

So, I still miss you all but I think that a lot of us will be seeing each other really soon, if only on a screen. I look forward.

Have a good February and Happy Valentine's Day.

Yolanda Douglas

Nancy Novak –

Before I retired, I taught 3rd grade in Anaheim and my school was about 2 miles from M&L Fabrics. On days that were stressful I would pop into M&L and look at fabric as a way to release stress. A few yards might have made their way into my car. On one of my visits, I bought YARDS of flannel Coke fabric. Yes, I'm talking about Coke the soda. I proceeded to start a quilt. Thank goodness it was never finished

and put into a box and forgotten about it. Well, I cleaned the closet this week and there was the box with the half-finished quilt. Not really wanting to toss it but not wanting to finish it either. I chose to finish the quilt and make a second one. These quilts will be gifted to my daughter Katie to be used around her fire pit.



Susan Wade -

I hope this finds all of you staying safe and well...in body and spirit. The January 6 Capital event has shaken most of us to the core, and compounded our hearts' collective longing to gather with those we love and care about.

I have missed all of you greatly.

This quilt has a story! When I was in Arcadia for 8 months of treatment, complications and surgeries, I had little, to no energy. At my request, Ray brought my portable machine, and scrap fabric I'd earlier set aside. I was able to cut strips and sew "jelly roll" strips end to end when I could muster the energy over time. The rolls sat here at home for almost a year before I could sew this cheery top together, only to realize that I had enough strips to make TWO of them! SO...I did!

This one will go to my now dear friend. She and her husband hosted us in their home for the entire 8 months...I had only met her one time prior to her invitation. I will keep the other as a reminder of them

and that time with them, but also of healing and health that was and is the joyful result. Quilts really DO tell stories!



This sweet quilt top came my way for quilting from a WONDERFUL maker and client. She wanted it simply finished...such a delight to do so!



These two pics are are a top pieced by the same maker. The entire quilt top is one large snowflake! I'm grateful for the opportunity to "get back in the saddle" after such a long hiatus from longarming. Feels good... 😊



Take care all! Susan Wade

Jen Lanak –

I am happy to report that while I didn't make an abundance of progress on any quilts last month, I did spend at least an hour a week in my quilting room. I've mostly been sorting scraps, but I also had the good idea to take my machine in for a tune up. It was time and I had been having some trouble with my feed dogs. Now my machine is in tip top shape for the adventures to come.

I've mostly been spending time out in the garden or inside prepping for gardening season. I've got seedlings growing under lights on a rack in an unused bathroom. I am trying to do a round of cool season crops before it gets too hot, but I already think I might be too late. I also started a bunch of flowers that prefer the cooler weather to start their lives – like Calendula, Black Eyed Susans, Echinacea, and Anise Hyssop (this is the first year I am trying it). I will probably start my tomatoes next week, followed by some warm weather flowers and vegetables. I bought a bunch of new varieties of tomatoes for this year that I am eager to try out. I plan to do more canning of the tomatoes this summer because I didn't even come close to "putting up" enough jars to meet our needs for the winter (we eat marinara sauce about once a week in this house in some recipe or other).

I convinced my husband to let me put in three new raised beds to expand my garden. These three will likely have tomatoes planted in them by the end of the month. I like to rotate the beds I use for tomatoes and since these are new, they will be next in the rotation. Here is an in-progress pic of their construction this week, with the girls helping out (not the kids, the chickens).



Speaking of the chickens, they have been enjoying “free-ranging” in the garden, under supervision. When we got the chickens, I knew I wanted to let them wander a bit, but we have a lot of predator pressure. There are coyotes, of course, in the area but the most danger comes from a pair of hawks that nested on my neighbor’s property last year. They would love to make a meal out of one of my girls! Last month we tried to construct a temporary aviary using netting and some posts that could be moved around the garden. While excellent in theory, our design proved to be very difficult in aspects of its execution. The netting available was awful and would tangle on a blade of grass. After a few days of cursing and moaning about how difficult it was to work with, we decide to let our girls out freely as long as one of us was working nearby. We realize that this system is not foolproof, but since surviving the loss of our first chicken (Rest in Peace, Nubs. (Long, emotional story)), we are willing to risk it to let them have the enjoyment of being out. Let me tell you – they love it! They go right to work eating the bugs and weeds that surround my gardening beds. I am especially interested to see what impact they have on the bug population. I usually have quite a problem with pillbugs and slugs eating my young plants. It has only been about 10 days since we’ve let the chickens roam and I haven’t seen many pillbugs and zero slugs or snails. It might just be a little early in the season to tell, but I’m hopeful that it is all because of the chickens.

Melanie Hermanson –

I am really excited because I sold my Simply Sixteen longarm and upgraded to a HandiQuilter AMARA! I am all caught up, so if any of you have quilt tops to be done, bring 'em on! Here are a few I just finished.

