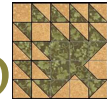




# WILLOW WOODS QUILT GUILD



Newsletter May 2020



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

## President – Judy Green

Tuesday, May the 4th...be with you.

Hi My Willow Woods Friends,

Just when we were launching our new dream guild, Corona struck. I can hardly wait until we get back to Clubs and having fun together. I miss you all so much! This month, I completed my Elephant Quilt top, and it is now in the talented hands of our own Melanie Hermanson for quilting. I'll send in a photo, since I probably will have gifted it by our next Show and Share. Now, I'm procrastinating over the matching pillow cases. I'm also in the throws of redoing my sewing room, slowly...very slowly.

### Some of my favorite memories of quilting and our quilt guild.

The very start was circa 2000, when my daughter, Jennifer, and I had the warm and cozy thought of making a quilt together. After we novices closed down several Joanns' stores, we ended up at Peacemakers where we spent a small fortune to make a log cabin quilt. I remember reading instructions while Jennifer sewed. Knowing nothing about batting nor quilting, we ended up with a king size, hand tied, heavy quilt which Jennifer kept and it will forever be called the beast. Really pretty though.

After that experience, I was hooked on quilting and when I retired, joined WWQG. My favorite memories of our quilt guild were, our wonderful guild members, our Quilt Shows which were small but

### Month at a Glance

Upcoming events for May and beyond:

- ????

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)

really great, our Retreats, and sewing together on various projects.

We started our Quilt Shows in Jan Chapman's Quilt Shop parking lot. Husbands and members strung ropes and we showed off our works. A special area was for our annual Challenge, where a prize was awarded to the winner. There was also a ribbon for the Best Quilt in Show. We had a food booth and a Designated Quilter Booth. There were also demonstrations of quilting in our work room at Jan's.

Our Retreats were twice a year, in the Spring and at Christmas. They were great. I remember so many ladies outdoing themselves with homemade gifts for all. Many of us spent the night and snuck in a little wine, just because we weren't allowed. At Christmas, amid the decorations, we played games, learned from each other, and exchanged gifts...we were a close group.

We met together to make quilts for the CHP, Sheriffs', and charity quilts. It was fun to do projects together.

My extra special memories were our Secret Sister years and Yolanda's and Jerri's years as President. I'll never forget the fun we had. I'm anxious to get back together and I, for one, will appreciate even more all those special times a quilt guild offers.

Love to all of you, stay distant and safe until then.

Love, Judy

PS: After assembly line mask-making for days, I guess I blocked the Masks. I want to acknowledge all those who made masks for the hospital, family, friends, and others. I felt better in doing my small part and I hope you did too. Your love and generosity make a

difference and you are appreciated by so many.



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 April meeting was cancelled.

### **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** – Trish Skalnik

**Newsletter** – Jen Lanak

**Facebook** – Jen Lanak

Clubs within the guild:

## Treasurer – Shelly Schliskey

Finances are great, checkbook is balanced.

Sherry Schliskey, Treasurer

### REIMBURSEMENT POLICY:

Please turn in your reimbursement requests to the treasurer during the meeting. The treasurer will either stay after the meeting to write checks or will mail the checks the following week. If the treasurer is absent, hand your request to Nancy Novak (1st Vice President), then Shelly Schliskey (Treasurer) will write the checks at her earliest convenience.

Please note: In order to help our Treasurer, keep the books accurate and up to date, ALL money collected must be turned in by Committee Chairs at the end of each meeting. Also, receipts will be issued to all payments. Thank you in advance for your patience and cooperation.

## Challenges – Jen Lanak

Our second quarterly challenge is underway:

**Flying Geese Quilt Block Challenge:** As with all our previous block-based challenges, the rules are pretty relaxed. The only real rule is that your project must feature the Flying Geese Block as a main focus. You can make your project any size, any color. Your flying geese can be any size, using any technique to make them. You can incorporate other blocks, as long as Flying Geese are the main feature. Go crazy!

I plan on making a quilt using a pattern I have used before. I've made two of these minis for other people and now I want one for myself, darn it!

If you are looking for inspiration, ages ago I created a Pinterest board with flying geese quilts. <https://www.pinterest.com/newbiejen/flying-geese-quilts/> Take a look and maybe something will jump out at you.

The end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter is June 30<sup>th</sup>. Hopefully, by then we will be meeting again and be able to show off our projects in person. I miss you ladies!

And now more about our yearly challenge:

**The UFO Challenge:** So many people are making progress on their UFOs! I'm so proud!!!!

May's number is #12.

I've already started working on mine! My #12 is the result of a class I took at least two years ago at QuiltCon. The class was about the fabric folding technique behind this lovely quilt by Tara Faughnan, called the Pine Burr Quilt.



Well, like so many projects begun in a class, I brought home my nearly complete mini and put it aside.





It is not very big – about 20 x 24 inches, but it is SO heavy! I think the only possible destiny for this project is to become a pillow.

“It will be easy”, I thought. All I really needed to do was trim it up, remind myself how to make a pillow and bind the thing. That last one caused some issues. See, I didn’t want to cut off too many of those folded points of fabric, so I thought binding the edge would let me have them hanging out over the bottom edge. The problem was that when I trimmed my quilt, I didn’t really leave myself with a whole lot of room there for the binding. I’ve sewn it on, but I know stitching down the opposite side of the binding is going to be a ~~biteh~~ difficult task.

As for my April UFO, I made quite a lot of progress. I started with just one section of my Union Jack flag, and I now have two sections connected and a third in progress (there are eight sections total). I usually start my weekdays by sitting with Olivia to make sure she starts her schoolwork and pays attention to the virtual classroom meeting in the morning. While I sit with her, I work on a few hexies. It is slow progress, but it is still progress!

I am also so close to finishing my March UFO, my Pink Swoon Quilt! The quilting is complete, the binding is sewn on, I just need to finish up the binding and label the sucker.



I am so happy that this one is essentially done. I had some issues with the quilting, but I like how it turned out. Done is better than perfect.

## **Share Section - What has everyone been doing? And Favorite Memories – various**

**Sherry Schliskey** – My memories of the WWQG:

When my husband and I retired to the mountains I began to look for something to do besides housework and cooking. I found the ad for WWQG in the Mountain News and called. Marty answered and she told me when and where to come for the meeting and how happy she was to have a new guild member. The first WWQG meeting I attended is so memorable to me. I walked into the sewing room and looked around. Sewing machines, quilts, and ladies everywhere. My first encounter with quilters was just fabulous. So many ladies laughing and talking, sharing food and stories, looking at each other's work. Such an assortment of personalities, sizes, wardrobe, and hairdos. I found it glorious! Of course, I was thrilled to see all the quilts. Making quilts seemed so complicated but I was curious enough to come back and find out how to do just that. That wasn't a problem as all the ladies were so helpful and supportive. I gave my membership dues to Pat and left the meeting feeling like I made friends and found something wonderful to keep me busy!

**Kelli Agner** – I do not have many WWQG memories yet! However, I will share a really special quilting memory. About six years ago, I took my mom to Road to California. At Christmas that year, I purchased the wrist bands and made hotel reservations. Then I wrapped these as Mom's Christmas gift. For weeks, she was so excited and planned our whole weekend. We walked the vender isles and contemplated each quilt from the exhibits. We pieced a quilt at night in the hotel with charm squares and my Featherweight. I am sure that housekeeping was perplexed by the multicolored threads. My mom was so happy when I found the WWQG on the mountain. This a very special quilting memory to recall this Mother's Day because my mom passed away a month ago, on Easter Sunday.

Warmly,

Kelli

**Kim Everhart** –

This month I cleaned my studio and am working on my Winter Goddess quilt that I started at the last retreat. We've been working on my new house a lot. My husband terraced our backyard at my new house for my garden and I am trying to keep my seedlings/plants healthy until we put them in raised beds on Mother's Day. I'm creating a mosaic for my woodstove surround with stones I mined and collected and installing a copper backsplash in my new kitchen.

My favorite guild memory is when we played a game at the retreat a few years ago. We all anonymously filled out forms about ourselves that included what our dream vacation would be. We read the forms out loud and people tried to guess who it was. I didn't have my glasses on and I thought the dream vacation said Alcatraz. The person couldn't correct me while we were trying to guess. I toured Alcatraz a few times, it was creepy but cool. Thought maybe they had a VIP vacation package with a ghost tour or something, an odd choice for a dream vacation but feasible and an interesting tidbit

to know about someone. Turns out it was Judy Green and I still don't know what her dream vacation is, it wasn't Alcatraz but the last time I visited San Francisco I got Judy an Alcatraz piggy bank and laughed my head off! Now I always think of Judy on an Alcatraz vacation when I visit SF.

I did not participate in the newsletter last month because it was a very difficult time for me. My beloved cat had cancer and died. With all the lock down stress it hit me very hard. Also, I was quarantined for possible exposure to CV. My husband is an essential worker and one of his colleague's wives is a liaison to the CDC for some of the local hospitals, she was turned away from work because she had a fever. The colleague reported it to HR and was sent home along with others in the office. Turns out she was negative for Covid-19 but we didn't know that for a week.  
Stay safe!

Love and Miss you all,  
Kimberly

**Melanie Hermanson** – I've made over 120 masks. Now, I'm long arming a fantastic elephant quilt made by Judy Green. It's hard to see the black thread when you're quilting! Here's a photo. Melanie





## Nancy Novak –

I've have had a bag of my daughter Megan's cross-country t-shirts since she graduated from high school 16 years ago. I finally made her t-shirt quilt.  
It's ready to mail to Oregon.

My favorite part of the quilt guild is show and share, so inspiring.

Nancy





## Yolanda Douglas - MASKS, MASKS, MASKS



Still making masks for family and friends and hospital. I've sort of lost track of the number but they are really appreciated.

MCH's Director of Community Development, Kim McGuire wrote to me "**We Love Willow Woods Quilt Guild**. Thanks for the masks!"

And Kim says that they can use more. If you have the time, please help support the hospital's efforts to keep us safe and healthy. Drop masks by my house or mail directly to the hospital, c/o Kim McGuire.

Hints: When I return home and take off my mask, I hang it on a cabinet knob next to my washing machine and throw it in every time I wash a load of laundry.

Hang the mask in a sunny window or outside.

If you are feeling claustrophobic, allergic, or steamy, put a couple of drops of your favorite essential oil on the inside of your mask. It helps!

### What Have I Been Working On

Sherry Schliskey's Hexie Ruler inspired me to try half-hexies. I used a Dresden plate ruler to cut half-hexies and made a table topper out of scraps and sent it off to live in Pismo Beach with my sister. And I also made a box full of bright half-hexies that will be assembled and live with me.



I think that I wrote in last issue that I was going to do a Mystery Block from Paper Panache.com (paper-piecing). This is the third of PP's Mysteries I have participated in and . . . although I love Pping (my first three quilts were made by this method), not sure where/why I went wrong. My block looked like a mirror image. I knew what it was supposed to say but why was it mirrored? I went back and read and re-read the direx. It had something to do with "look at WS" – West South? Window Scene? Duh, "Wong Side". I put my ripper into high gear, ripped and re sewed, and now have a little quilt to help us remember our current situation.





I have also made great progress on Jen's Flying Goose Challenge. Dozens of little geese assembled and in process of quilting. The quilt's name is "Not A Newspaper Nor An Embarrassed Zebra". Wouldn't it be great if we could do our FG Challenge reveal IN PERSON in JUNE?



And, I am working on the AQS-UFO Challenge. Next on my list is a Mystery Quilt that I started while a member of Dogwood. In 2005. I have some strip piecing finished. Two "star" blocks are complete. I think maybe 6 more to go . . . but I'm a long way from figuring out where I was and what I do next. My advice, don't let 15 years go by before trying to finish a project.

#### WHAT AM I WATCHING?

I am watching a lot of quilting videos, mostly on YouTube. Also, if you go to [TheQuiltShow.com](http://TheQuiltShow.com) and scroll down to "Alex's and Ricky's PlayList" you can access a variety of tutorials, concerts, and chat. Alex Anderson has covered pressing; piecing; straight line quilting; working with silk; working with colors, neutrals, textures; and is going through the construction of a sampler quilt.

Still trying to limit the news that I watch as it seems that everything makes me cry, especially the feel-good stories. I hope that some of the kind and thoughtful things that people are doing right now will carry over to what will surely be a new and different normal.

**Jen Lanak** – Ok, well most of my projects are already up in the UFO section.

I did make a few more toilet paper covers for Star Wars day.





When I made the first one as a joke, I certainly didn't expect to be designing a whole line of these things! I can admit to you ladies, because you won't tell my secret, but I was thinking of my nephew when I came up with the "Stay on Target" one. That will definitely be going in the guest bathroom for whenever he comes to visit again.

Speaking of Star Wars, I also received my swap package from a very talented quilter, Audrey. She made me this adorable mini of the BB8 character. I set up all the little goodies she sent me to take a picture, and it looks like I have a little shrine to Star Wars in my living room.



That was a fun swap! I'll be keeping my eyes open for another one.

Oh! And the bird quilt I made for the Quilters for Koalas swap is going to be a magazine! Make Modern is doing a feature on the swap and my quilt was one of the ones selected to be in the spread in their May 8<sup>th</sup> issue. Make Modern is an online magazine out of Australia. It's kind of neat to be asked. I'm very flattered.



I almost forgot to include my favorite quilting memory. There are so many good ones to choose from. I think my favorite guild one is of my first retreat. I had never been to a retreat before, so I really didn't know what to expect. Of course, I packed way too many projects, and not enough blankets for the night. A few of the ladies in my dorm were experiencing hot flashes, so they thought it was stifling inside. Meanwhile, this downlander was shivering under her little blanket and already wearing every sweater I brought. Kelly brought a couple of extra ones and I was the first to snatch one. --- That isn't my fond memory though! I remember how thoroughly I enjoyed our little downstairs group. We didn't do anything wild or crazy, but we talked non-stop about all kinds of things. I really got to know several of our members better and had so much fun in the process. I especially miss some of the ladies we don't see anymore – Pam Drummond, Colleen, Debbie, Janet. And of course, I miss our retreats.

Jen

**Pamela Abell** – I am sending this poem about aprons and much of it could apply to quilts too.

## **Grandmother's apron**

Submitted by: [hayseed](#)

The principal use of grandma's apron was to protect the dress underneath, but along with that, it served as a potholder for removing hot pans from the oven.

It was wonderful for drying children's tears, and on occasion was even used for cleaning out dirty ears.

From the chicken coop, the apron was used for carrying eggs, fussy chicks, and sometimes half-hatched eggs to be finished in the warming oven.

When company came, those aprons were ideal hiding places for shy kids.

And when the weather was cold, grandma wrapped it around her arms.

Those big old aprons wiped many a perspiring brow, bent over the hot wood-stove.

Chips and kindling wood were brought into the kitchen in that apron.

From the garden, it carried all sorts of vegetables. After the peas had been shelled, it carried out the hulls.

In the fall, the apron was used to bring in apples that had fallen from the trees.

When unexpected company drove up the road, it was surprising how much furniture that old apron could dust in a matter of seconds.

When dinner was ready, grandma walked out onto the porch, waved her apron, and the men knew it was time to come in from the fields to dinner.

It will be a long time before someone invents something that will replace that 'old-time apron' that served so many worthwhile purposes.

Remember:



grandma used to set her hot baked apple pies on the window sill to cool.

Her granddaughters set theirs on the window sill to thaw.

They would go crazy now trying to figure out how many germs were on that apron.

I don't think I ever caught anything from an apron--- except love.

*Author: unknown*

## **Free Pattern Suggestion – Yolanda Douglas**

WASH YOUR HANDS!

APQS has a great (FREE) pattern to remind us of one of the most important weapons in this COVID-19 battle. Make it for your kids, your grandkids, or even as a self-reminder. I may make one to give to my husband's care facility.



<https://www.apqs.com/apqs-video-tutorial-and-free-pattern/>

Or Go to APQS.com. Click on “Free Patterns” and the first pattern, with a free tutorial, is for a small raw-edge applique quilt to remind us to “WASH YOUR HANDS”.