

DISPATCHER

ESSAY BY MORGAN OWEN GUILD'S YOUNGEST MEMBER

I think that the best place to be is in my grandma's sewing room. I love this room because I get to explore, work with all the equipment, and escape. When I am in my grandma's sewing room I feel free to be creative, be the me no-one knows, speak my mind, and say what I couldn't say somewhere else.

The reason I love my grandma's sewing room is because I get to explore. I explore all the fabrics, quilts, and machines, which once you learn to love can be fascinating. Fabric can come in all types. My grandma has fabric from all over the world! I get lost in all the amazing fabrics and their prints. The machines are like people, different types, brands, and come in all shapes and sizes. Quilts can be very thoughtful. A great activity to do in her sewing room is to just sit and observe a quilt. There is that expression, "a picture can speak a thousand words". Well, a quilt can speak a million. I can sit for hours and study a quilt, looking at the stitching, blocks, how it is pieced together, learning what the quilter was trying to tell me, just like a piece of art.

Working with all the equipment can be nerve racking! There are rotary cutters, scissors, and many more tools I could write about. There are so many tools that are the same but different sizes. For example, there are rulers, tape measures, and many different types of scissors. Rotary cutters are so sharp that they can cut off a finger, so watch out when I am using one. I love that there are so many different things for me to work with.

Another reason I like my grandma's room is because I get to escape. My Grandma's room gives me an escape from my siblings, my mind and the stress of school that I



12 year old Morgan Owen reads her essay, soon to be published in Machine Quilter's Magazine, at a recent Guild meeting.

have to live with. The reason I want to escape from my sinister siblings is because I never get anything done with them around. However, in my grandma's sewing room I can run away from them and be alone with my grandmother. The sewing room is a bed for my mind, somewhere that I can go to rest. I can get so involved I forget about everything except for sewing. Escaping from school can be hard, but not for me, I can escape easily.

Every kids needs someplace that they can got to disappear. My place that is safe, sane, and fun is my Grandmother's sewing room. During any season I can retreat there and figure out new things about sewing and myself, and get a good cup of hot cocoa!

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Needed



Joy Agnew shows off her beautiful batik leaves "box quilt" made by the Material Girls



Charlotte Ketcheside is thinking of the beach with this bright quilt..



Corinne Baker completed her Royal Cross from Sharyn Craig's workshop.



Corinne Baker combined log cabin blocks and animal themes in this wall quilt.



Laura Greene pieced this scrappy beauty for her 18 year old son.



Mel Bunge chose a scrappy bear's paw patter for her Material Girls "box quilt".



Antoinette Todd's red gift boxes.



Snazzy snowmen by Marlene Bowman.



Alice Smith made these pastel stars.



Alice Smith's nature-themed quilt.



Christy Close finally got to quilt a quilt of her own!

QUARTERLY RAFFLE

Jackie Weddle has volunteered to be our "Raffle Queen". Starting at our February meeting Jackie will collect any items that you would like to donate. Think fabric, extra unused rulers, quilt books, a pattern you decided not to use, holiday items, maybe a donation from our favorite quilt shop, with credit given to that shop, of course.

Every three months Jackie will raffle the items off, tickets to be sold at 3/1\$. Proceeds to help with speakers and other general needs of the guild.

CHRISTMAS QUILT RAFFLE

At the general meeting interest was expressed in making a Christmas quilt that would be raffled off at the 2009 December meeting. The Board has approved money to help with the cost of the quilt. Now we need a committee to decide on the pattern, pass out the design to guild members, and construct the quilt as blocks are made.

Each member who works on the committee or makes a block or helps put the quilt together will receive a raffle ticket at the December meeting. In addition, each member in good standing (dues paid) attending the December meeting will receive a raffle ticket AND tickets may also be purchased for \$5 each. A great bargain for a beautiful quilt!

The more people who participate, the bigger the quilt. We're hoping for a queen sized quilt. Sign up for the committee at February's meeting.

MEMBERSHIP DUES DUE DUETTES

Your annual fee of \$20 is right now, in order to continue your newsletter delivery uninterrupted. Please see Kathy Mekemson or Carol Poisal at the front door when you come in to the February meeting. And unless you are in the Witness Protection Program, please let Carolyn take your photo for the Board approved photo Membership Directory. She will be seeing you as progress is made through the alphabet in future weeks.

UFO CHALLENGE

Most of us have a number of UFOs (unfinished fabric objects) stashed in our sewing rooms. You may have a stack of swap-a-block sitting around or a half-finished class project or just quilts you started but set aside. This year, the guild is sponsoring a challenge: Finish your UFOs and you could win a prize for

- most projects completed overall**
- greatest % of projects completed**
- the oldest UFO to be finished**
- the largest UFO completed**

In order to qualify for this challenge, submit a list of your unfinished projects at the March guild meeting. The projects can be in any stage of incompleteness from just cut out to only needing a binding and label. You will have until October 2009 to complete your projects. Sign up sheets will be available at the February meeting.

WISH LIST FOR THE SB COUNTY FAIR

Kathy Lee Smith is asking for donations of large brown paper bags and light-colored sheets or tablecloths for use as dust covers in the fabric department of the fair this year. She wants to protect those precious entries. Entry applications are due **Sat. March 28th**. Actual entries are to be submitted **April 17th** from 2-7 and on **April 18th** 10-4, at the fair grounds in Victorville.

The fair is May 9th through May 17th, but you have to apply on the March date to get your quilts in it.

FEBRUARY HOSTESSES

Sonia Beam
 Charlotte Ketcheside
 Shelley Hanson
 Joanne Tschantre
 Antoinette Todd

Door Prize

Charlotte Ketcheside

BEST HOME TOUR STORY:

One of the committee people was remarking how on how many quilts were in one home and how bare it looks when they're all taken down. (There were from 28 to 65 quilts per house!) Another guild member spoke up and said that was why she had started quilting. Her home had been on the tour one year, and she had loved having all those quilts on her walls. So she decided to join the guild and learn to quilt! Can you guess who?

DEBBIE STEFAN

Next Meeting:
February 10, 2009 6:30

Board Meeting:
February 17, 2009, 6:30
Undisclosed location

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We're on the web!
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January meeting features QUILTO



Elisa Gurley concentrates on winning, while across from her, Debbie Stefan, Carol Poisal and Marion Hall expect a winning card, for more fat quarters.



Icky Orr finds "I Sew" with ease on several of her Quilt-O cards.