



Los Alamos Piecemakers Quilt Guild

P.O. Box 261, Los Alamos, NM 87544

www.losalamos.com/lap

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2020/2021 Officers

President:

Linda Kolar 505-662-5768

kolars@newmexico.com

Vice Presidents:

Clara Vigil, 505-672-0098

c.vigil0098@gmail.com

Melodie Gustavsen

505-500-6051

melodie.gustavsen@gmail.com

Secretary:

Deb McLin, 505-672-9811

damclin@gmail.com

Treasurer:

Donna Smith, 575-829-3883

dnt@glenda.com

2020/2021 Chairs

Community Service:

Flo Carr, 505-660-4980

ks_carr@msn.com

Library:

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Membership:

Brenda Edeskuty

edeskutyb@gmail.com

Newsletter:

Joan Williams

joanwilliams@earthlink.net

Publicity:

Michelle DeBardeleben

mdebard@gmail.com

Webmaster:

Deborah Kubicek,

deborahkubicek@hotmail.com

2021 Quilt Market:

Brenda Edeskuty

edeskutyb@gmail.com

LOS ALAMOS PIECEMAKERS

Hello Piecemakers,

Summer is upon us and I feel like it has hit us with a great wallop – great excuse to stay indoors and quilt.

I did a happy dance when the governor said the state would fully open on July 1. That means we should be able to meet in person (hopefully) in August. I do want everyone to feel safe and we will try to honor everyone's concerns. I personally have a family member that is immune compromised and we still wear mask when with people we do not know.

I want to thank Melodie for managing the star block exchange this year. She has had a daunting task and has done a superb job.

Enjoy the summer break and see you in August. We will have so much to catch up on and people to see it will be a great family reunion.

Yours in quilting,
Linda

In my
dream
world,
fabric is
free and
quilting
makes you
thin!



facebook.com/QuiltingSewingCreating

OFFICER REPORTS

VICE PRESIDENTS –

From Clara Vigil

Hello Ladies! Are we really looking at another summer without a guild meeting?! Maybe not. United Church told me that they probably won't open to groups until after Labor Day but why not have a meeting in a park? Stay tuned for more information as we work things out.

Lazy days of summer have been my problem as of late. It's been so hot! Although during this past year and half I have done more quilting than I have at any other time. Thanks to some very dear friends who have kept me grounded and inspired. We Zoomed, had Covid safe porch parties (when we could), exchanged patterns, fabric, and ideas. We even simultaneously made a "Chile" wall hanging. I couldn't have survived without them!!

Once sports opened up at the High School my world got so much busier. I have grandchildren that are involved in every sport imaginable. I remember crying as I drove through Overlook Park last summer looking at all the empty fields where my children and grandchildren had once played. When sports started I found my eyes watering while dust got in them during windy soccer games or thinking I've never been so cold at a football game or so hot at a baseball game. I did not allow weather to be a deterrent. I'll take watching my grandchildren play sports over the weather anytime. We were given a gift.

The month of May kept my daughter and I busy planning a graduation celebration on my "Pandemic" new patio. And celebrate we did! After anticipating that the end of the school year would end the way it began, we were thrilled when we were told that there was going to be a physical graduation ceremony. I was able to see two grandsons cross the stage to receive their diplomas. I am so proud of them! The pandemic definitely presented its challenges but it also made me focus on the importance of family, friends, and resilience. I am blessed!

From Melodie Gustavsen

We had two members respond with updates on how they've spent the last pandemic year. We'd enjoy hearing from others of you. Email Joan Williams (joanwilliams1a@earthlink.net) with any comments you have by the third week of July.

From Zena Thomas

It was so nice to read what some of the guild members have been doing during COVID. I too reconnected with my sewing machine during this time. With Donna Smith's help I was able to finish quite a lot of UFO's, baby quilts, (two new, beautiful additions to our family during COVID), three queen sized or larger quilts and many, many bowl cozies as Christmas gifts. I have learned during the last year that slowing down is not so bad. Also, I learned that my husband and I can stand to be with each other 24/7. ☺. Still, it was (is?) a scary time and pray that the worst is over. I hope we start our in person meetings soon. It's always nice to see each other. In the meantime I'm enjoying the latest addition to our family. I'm loving being a Gigi.

"Dear reader, radiate light outward today. Be the little ray of sunshine in someone's world. Have empathy. All we have is each other. What greater miracles are there?"
Albert Thakur

From Judi Miller – What LAP has meant to me

Two years ago my daughter, teenage grandkids and I moved from the Sacramento area to White Rock. My daughter had recently gotten her Ph.D. in epidemiology from U.C. Davis and gotten a job at the labs. Little did we know that a pandemic was just around the corner that would change all our lives for a very long time.

Since I am an avid reader, the White Rock Library was one of the first places I visited once we got settled. When I applied for a library card, the librarian noticed my email address, quilting.judimiller@gmail.com and asked me if I was a quilter. She told me that quilters met every Tuesday morning in the conference room. I couldn't wait until the next Tuesday! That day I met the ladies of White Rock cluster and rarely missed a cluster from then on. Quilting has been an important part of my life for many years, but little did I know how much more important it was going to be for me in the coming year.

After a few months of learning my way around Santa Fe and Albuquerque, COVID reared its ugly head. You know the rest: lockdown, fear, and feeling isolated. I had done one thing before COVID and that was buy a new sewing machine. I attacked quilting with a motivation I had not felt since I had first learned to quilt.

During this trying time, I found the friendship of Clara Vigil and Melodie Gustavsen. They have become my dearest friends, and we have gone from mask making, to bootie making; from zoom porch parties to socially distanced porch parties, to vaccinated porch parties. The most amazing experience was being able to make a trip to Albuquerque in one car, instead of three, have lunch in a restaurant and go to our favorite quilt shops! We even made a chili pepper wall hanging simultaneously.

As I write this, we are preparing to move again. My daughter has gotten a position at UCLA which will begin in July. I am going back to Sacramento. As I break down my sewing room, I have reflected on the past two years. I would have liked to have gotten to know the guild and cluster members better, but I didn't get a chance to do that.

I am truly grateful for the friendship and love from Melodie and Clara. I don't know what I would have done through this difficult COVID period without them. They have given me inspiration, motivation, humor, good books to read, and my fabric stash has never been so fantastic. And, thank you to LAP. I couldn't have done it without you.

Love to all. Judi Miller
quilting.judimiller@gmail.com

COMMUNITY SERVICE

In the past few months, we've been able to give donation quilts to 3 different families going through a very difficult time in their lives. Fortunately we had several smaller quilts suitable for children. Special thanks to Charlene McHale for rushing to finish her baby quilts on very short notice!! Thanks again!

We currently have 9 quilts in the community service treasure chest.

I also have a disappearing 4 patch kit from 2019 that was turned in by someone who wants to pass it on to someone who might have more time to work on it. If anyone is interested, please let me know.

On a personal note, I finally finished my two problem projects. Woo hoo!

Hope everyone is still hanging in and hanging on!

Thanks, Flo