



Los Alamos Piecemakers Quilt Guild

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

www.losalamos.com/lap

MARCH 2022

2022 Officers

President:

Linda Kolar 505-662-5768

kolars@newmexico.com

Vice Presidents:

Brenda Edeskuty

edeskutyb@gmail.com

Shelly Kuropatwinski

shelly_kuro@yahoo.com

Secretary:

Deb McLin, 505-672-9811

damclin@gmail.com

Treasurer:

Donna Smith, 575-829-3883

dnt@glenda.com

2022 Chairs

Community Service:

Flo Carr, 505-660-4980

ks_carr@msn.com

Library:

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Membership:

Clara Vigil

c.vigil0098@gmail.com

Newsletter:

Laura Erickson

rmlerickson@msn.com

Publicity:

Joan Williams

joanwilliams1a@earthlink.net

Webmaster:

Deborah Kubicek,

deborahkubicek@hotmail.com

2022 Quilt Market/Show:

LOS ALAMOS PIECEMAKERS

White Rock Presbyterian Church

Tuesday, March 22 at 7:00 p.m.

Piecemakers,

Spring is on its way. We may still have some breezy days and may even have a few more snow showers, but I have daffodils trying to raise their heads to the sun so I know Spring is on its way.

We had a great turn out at our February meeting and I want to thank Donna Smith for her program on "Threads." I seem to learn something new every time she gives it. I don't know about any of you, but I have been going through my thread stash and seeing which ones "pop" and which ones don't. First thing I noticed is I have as much of a thread stash as I do fabric.

We have several speakers and great programs planned for this year, so please mark your calendars and plan to attend each month.

So, until we meet, keep on quilting.

Yours in quilting,
Linda



OFFICER REPORTS

VICE PRESIDENT - Brenda

Our March Meeting will be at White Rock Presbyterian Church at 7pm on Tuesday, March 22nd. Our featured speaker is Shelly Kuropatwinski from Atomic City Quilts. She will be discussing precuts and what we can do with them. I'm looking forward to ideas for all those pretty precuts in my stash!

In April, the NM representative of Studio Art Quilt Associates (SAQA), Kay Sutt, will tell us about this international organization, and present a trunk show of 40 small art quilts.

TREASURER'S REPORT - Donna

The Enterprise Checking account balance on March 1, 2022 was \$8188.57 - Donna

UPCOMING EVENTS

Quilt Show at Fuller Lodge Art Center – April 8 – May 30 by members of an art quilt group called 4 Common Corners. They have members from New Mexico, Arizona, Colorado and Utah, including our own Nicole Dunn!

Fiber Arts Fiesta in Albuquerque April 14-16. Tons of fun exhibits and classes to do with everything fiber.

SAQA NM (Studio Art Quilt Associates) will have a show at the Capitol Rotunda in Santa Fe from September 16 – December 16. The title of the show is Weather or Not.



Los Alamos Piecemakers Quilt Guild
February 22, 2022
Secretary Report - Deb McLin

Linda K. called the meeting to order at 7:06.

Officers Reports

Vice President – Brenda announced that Jeni Kay Parks lecture and workshop has been rescheduled to the August guild meeting. Lecture on Aug. 23, and Workshop titled “Dangerous Curves” scheduled for Aug. 24 from 9-4.

Julia Goen, LAP guild member, will present a workshop on May 25 titled “Landscapes”. Both workshops are \$45.00 each for members and \$55.00 dollars for non- members. Sign up sheets are available at meetings or contact Brenda.

Secretary - Deb M. reports no changes or corrections.

Treasurer – Donna has no report and if info is needed please check newsletters.

Committee reports

Community Service - no report, check newsletter for information from CS coordinator.

Membership – Clara reminds everyone that dues are still \$25.00 and need to be paid for 2022 if you have not done so.

Newsletter – Laura thanked Joan for doing the newsletters in her absence.

Publicity – Joan reported that notice of the February meeting on media outlets was not possible and will keep trying for future meetings.

Webmaster - Deborah, no report

UFO's Challenge-no information yet. Linda will contact JoAnn to discuss if she is interested in continuing as coordinator.

Shelly introduced a new guest, Emma, who is a quilter and family friend.

Announcements- Lana brought a applique quilt of NM Mission Church blocks that will be used as a raffle quilt for Our Lady of the Assumption in Jemez Springs. The proceeds will be used to build a wheel chair ramp. Tickets can be purchased from Lana or at Atomic City Quilts or online.

The Jemez Springs Bear Paws will resume their annual quilt show at the Madonna Hall in Jemez Springs, July 22,23,24.

Show and Tell-Christy designed and sewed a top inspired by a tile pattern she saw on a bathroom floor in Spain. The quilt will be given to her grandson.

Donna showed a BOM from Bear Paws that was doubled in size from the original number of blocks and she added hand embroidered blocks to bring it up to size.

Program: Thread, Thread, Thread.

Donna Smith, Speaker. Donna says that there are certain facts regarding thread. First, today's thread is specialized for every use. Second, today threads are of better quality than in the past. Third, all thread today is made as Perl cotton except for polyester wrapped and monofilament which is shot out of a nozzle.

There are many good brands of thread but Donna's advice is to always purchase thread from a quilt store either in person or online.

Donna posed the question, "How do you know when good thread is too old to use for anything that is sewn on the machine?" She picks up a spool and draws about 18 " of thread and pulls it. If she can hear a pop when it breaks it is still good.

Thread should be stored out of the sun and dust in a covered box or drawer.

Thread is wound in two ways; stack wound and cross wound. This determines how you set your thread on your machine.

Thread weight; Donna jokes that there are 5 systems telling you what thread weight means but it doesn't dictate what you do with the thread. Starting with a 60 wt. which is the lightest you can use silk, an Aurifil thread or Bottom Line. The majority of 50 wt. thread is cotton and generally used for piecing. 40 wt. is still a medium weight thread and is 3-ply. An example that we are familiar with is King Tut. Polyester thread that is 19 wt. is not great for machine quilting. It is used for hand quilting and use on flannel but is not good for cotton or batik.

Razzle and Razzle Dazzle can be used for bobbin work or ornamental use. It is too big for machine needles.

Cotton thread is a great thread for most uses. Polyester thread can be used but is shiny as well as rayon thread but may not be the look you want. If using monofilament polyester thread be sure to use a netted sock to control the spool and she reminded us to reduce the top tension on the machine. Rayon thread does not hold up for quilting but is useful for embroidery machines. Silk thread is super strong and light weight but very expensive. Example; 220 yds. For \$6.00.

Donna enjoys hand quilting some of her quilts. She uses Gutterman's hand quilting thread. It is hard and waxy and reminded everyone to never use it in a machine. She recommends using Thread Magic or bee's wax if using any other brand of thread for hand quilting.

Donna had some fun decorative threads to show. She brought a Superior hologram thread that is not metallic but does sparkle.. She advises that when using metallic thread to use a top stitch needle or a metallic needle.

Donna had advice for machine needle types and machine tension. She suggests using a 80 or 90 size needle but finds 90 top stitch needle most useful for her because of the type of thread she uses. The needle has a larger eye and is designed to give her the best look. She changes the needle every 8 hours of working and if she hears a popping sound when the needle lifts from fabric she changes the needle regardless of the time on the machine.

In closing she had more advice. If you are experiencing thread breakage you can go to the Superior Threads website and find a flow chart for troubleshooting thread issues. She also suggests cleaning your machine daily. If you are experiencing skipped stitches try rethreading or change the needle. She finds "pokies" really annoying when free motion quilting and looks at her top tension as the culprit as it may be too tight.

Linda thanked Donna for once again bringing a very informative program and reminded everyone that the next meeting will be March 21 in White Rock.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45.

HAVE YOU SENT IN YOUR MEMBERSHIP FORM?
DUES ARE BEING COLLECTED FOR 2022

LOS ALAMOS PIECEMAKERS MEMBERSHIP

Membership Year _____

Please print all information clearly.

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City, State, & Zip Code _____

Telephone Number _____

E-Mail Address _____

Do you want to receive the LAP Newsletter via e-mail? Yes No (Circle one)

Do you need a ride to meetings? Yes No Can you drive someone to meetings? Yes No (Circle one)

Please volunteer for one or more of the following by placing a check mark next to items {s): Donation

Quilt ticket sales _____ Valentine's Day Luncheon _____

Quilt Show/Quilt Market _____ Serve as Officer _____

Payment - Make check for \$25 payable to: Los Alamos Piecemakers or LAP. Mail payment to LAP,
Attn: Membership Chair, P.O. Box 261, Los Alamos, N.M. 87544 or hand in at meeting.

LAP Use only: Payment ___ Entered in data base ___ Name tag ___ Packet ___ Membership card ___ Date _____