

Columbus, Ohio Chapter

American
Sewing
Guild



Zig Zag Express



Volume VIII, Issue 3
July, Aug, Sept 2008

Upcoming Meetings:

September 14, 2008, 2-4pm: Special presentation from Lola Behrans who is a member of the James Stitching Sisters. This meeting to be held at Sew to Speak! Anita Bowman, the owner, is gracious enough to host this meeting. Sew to Speak, is located at 4610 N High Street, Columbus where you will be able to see all the great stuff Anita B has to offer.

October 12, 2008, 2-4pm: Annual Meeting, Election of Officers Demonstration provided by Stitching Post (885 Bethel Road – Rt. 315 & Bethel)

November 9, 2008, 2-4pm: Quick Holiday Gifts. This meeting is being hosted by Susan Hart at Sew-N-Save, 769 S. State St., Westerville.

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From the President

Wow! The summer has just flown by and it's time to get the kids ready to go back to school and start on our fall and Holiday sewing projects.

In July several of our members and I attended the National ASG Conference in Chicago. What an incredible learning experience. As President, I attended Leadership Day before the actual conference started. Presidents of the chapters from around the country get the chance to learn what ASG has planned for the organization and to learn how to build up our chapters and encourage the membership. ASG is growing and there were several new chapters who received their charter at the meeting.



It is now time to look to our annual meeting October 12 and the election of officers for 2009.

Your CAB and the Nominating Committee have been working to put together a list of candidates for the elected offices. The proxy ballot will be mailed to you around the first week of September. If you are unable to attend the October 12 meeting, please complete your paper ballot and mail it to the address indicated so your vote will count. As a member of ASG your active support of projects, activities and events is essential. Your elected officers have put a lot of work into developing programs and activities to help you develop your sewing skills.

Our most recent event was the Fold and Finish Workshop on the Cotton Theory of quilting, taught by Sharon Ramsay, an educator from Northeast Ohio. There were 8 members who participated in the workshop; one was a visiting member from the Vero Beach, Florida chapter. Everyone who attended had a great time learning the technique.

The September 14 meeting will be at Sew-to-Speak on North High street. Information and directions are posted on the ASG Columbus website. The owner will give a short presentation of what her business offers the sewing enthusiast and there will be a presentation by a member of the James Stitching Sisters, a charity quilting group that makes quilts for the James Hospital patients.

Our November 9 meeting will be at Sew-n-Save in Westerville. We will have several quick holiday gift ideas to demonstrate.

December 6 will be our Holiday Lunch at the Bistro in Nordstrom at Easton Shopping Center.

As you can see we have a lot planned for the rest of 2008. I look forward to seeing you at one of our upcoming meetings.

Happy Sewing
Donna Verstrate

Columbus Chapter Advisory Board Members

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IMPORTANT REMINDER:

If you are a member of the Advisory Board, part of your commitment is to **attend Board meetings**;
If you are unable to attend, contact Donna to give your report.

Call or email Donna or any Board member to confirm date or time, in case of a last minute cancellation.

All Guild members are invited to attend.

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### Newsletter Deadlines

|                                    |                            |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| April/May/June                     | March 15th                 |
| July/August/September Newsletter:  | June 15 <sup>th</sup>      |
| October/November/December:         | September 15 <sup>th</sup> |
| January/February/March Newsletter: | December 15 <sup>th</sup>  |

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Visit our website: www.asg.org

Chapter New Member Dues - \$40.00
Chapter nearest you (City, State): Columbus, Ohio
Chapter Renewal Member dues - \$35.00
Chapter: Columbus, Ohio
Late Renewal - \$40.00 (if received after expiration date)

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Please bill my MasterCard / VISA (circle)

Expiration Date

Account Number

Signature

NATIONAL NEWS:

As this newsletter is going out it is September - National Sewing Month. Check out the official web site <http://www.nationalsewingmonth.org/> Make sure to check out the information ASG national has to offer with your discounts and other information. If you don't remember the login to the member area, contact national directly or one of the Columbus Chapter CAB. National ASG is working on a new web site that is expected to unveil after the first of the year.

2009 National Community Service Project is creating pillow cases for Albuquerque's Ronald McDonald House. This is an opportunity to use some of the 100% cotton children print fabrics we might still have in stash from when our kids or grandkids were young.

The ASG 2008 Creativity contest deadline is May 2. You may have seen the contest winners in the Fall ASG Notions newsletter. From the Entry Form: "The American Sewing Guild's 2008 Creativity Contest is your invitation to a fabulous sewing journey. It begins with nine great patterns. Use just one pattern or mix them up to create a one-of-a-kind outfit. Adjust, adapt, embellish. Size them up or size them down. Sew for yourself or someone else. This year's pattern offerings include styles for women, teens, children, men, and boys." Go to www.asg.org/html/contests.html to find more information.



New Members

Emily Andrews	Jill Bennett
Susan Baum	Sandra Engleman
Renee Ward	Sarah Ward
Phyllis Wiley	

Renewing Members

Becky Ailshire	Vera Andrews		
Elizabeth Allemong	Betty Conlon	Colleen Cunningham	Mary Lou Ehrie
Ruth Hoenie	Ruth McMillan	Dawn Pearson	Cindy Peterson
Robyn Ramsay	Pat Riederer	Peggy Robson	Rachel Schuler
Joy Seeskin	Carol Seitz		

Important Your E-Mail Address Updates

If you are not currently receiving e-mail from us, we are requesting you send an e-mail to Cathy at: 2ndvicepresident@asgcolumbusoh.com

It is **important** that we have the correct information so that no one misses the meeting reminders and in-between-newsletter ASG news. We want to make sure we are not missing anyone.

Get involved in your local ASG chapter.

Our Columbus Chapter is only as good as what we put into it. Consider presenting a class, heading up a committee or filling one of the openings in the CAB so that we can continue to learn, serve, grow, and play.

Columbus Chapter News:

Check out our own Chapter Website at www.asgcolumbusoh.com! The web site has the most up to date information so visit often.

ASG Columbus teams with Columbus Blue Jackets Foundation

We are very excited to announce a new Charity service project for our Chapter. We were recently contacted by staff from the Columbus Blue Jackets Foundation to see if we would be interested in sewing some items for them to sell during the holidays to raise money for the charity. ASG Columbus CAB met with them and decided we would like to contribute our services to this worthy cause.

We will be converting players "socks" to holiday hats or stockings. This is already being done by the Phoenix Coyotes Charities and we requested samples in order to know what is needed. The samples are shown in the photo on our web site. We are excited to be involved in this local service project.

Upcoming meetings/events:

September 14, 2008, 2-4pm: Join us in welcoming a great new fashion resource to the Columbus sewing world, Sew to Speak! Anita Bowman, the owner, is gracious enough to host our September meeting. We will also have a special presentation from Lola Behrans who is a member of the James Stitching Sisters. In addition to learning a little more of what Sew to Speak and Stitching Sisters have to offer, Lola (Stitching Sisters) will briefly speak about current and potential aspirations for the Stitching Sisters as well as possible volunteer opportunities and resources that they provide. Meeting to be held at Sew to Speak, 4610 N High Street, Columbus (Just South of Morse Rd on the East side of High street) where you will be able to see all the great stuff Anita has to offer. So please join us to provide support for our local business resources! Learn more about Sew to Speak from their blog, <http://sewtospeak.blogspot.com/>

Future meetings:

October 12, 2008, 2-4pm: Annual Meeting, Election of Officers and a Demonstration provided by Stitching Post (885 Bethel Road – Rt. 315 & Bethel) Don't forget to bring sew-and-tells to the meeting. We love to see what our members are making.

November 9, 2008, 2-4pm: Quick Holiday Gifts. This meeting is being hosted by Susan Hart at Sew-N-Save, 769 S. State St., Westerville. Susan will share a little bit about her shop and the CAB will present some quick Holiday gift ideas just in time for making for the holidays. If you have a quick holiday gift idea please bring it to share.

December 6, 2008, 1pm-?: Holiday luncheon at Nordstrom's Bistro in the Easton town center. This is a casual event that allows us to visit and relax during the busy holiday season. Be sure to share some things you are making/have completed for the holidays as we would love to see what you are making. After lunch you can even get some shopping done.

Review: ASG National Convention, Chicago

The ASG National Convention was held in Chicago, Illinois July 10-14. This year several members of the Columbus Chapter of ASG attended the event. The Convention offers classes, workshops, and a vendor floor, with free demonstrations during the event. There was a fashion show (which you can see photos on the ASG.org site under conference) and each day there were presentations at lunch and/or breakfast. It was exciting to share our love with sewing with so many other women in Chicago.

Below are comments by our members about the show:

Robyn Ramsay wrote: This was my first National ASG Conference. I really wanted to attend this conference because it was close enough to easily get to and I wanted to take the Bra Making workshop offered by Ann StClair. I had heard it was really great and I didn't want to miss it so I signed up for the conference on the first day registration opened. I was not disappointed. The workshop was all that I expected - In the full day workshop I made a "muslin" bra from start to finish. Anne, her daughter and staff were patient and informative. I have since made 2 more bras from the experience I obtained in that class.

I filled my other two days at the conference with lectures from Nancy Nix-Rice about color choices and style choices for different body types. This was a real eye opener. A surface design class using Paintstiks - a technique I have wanted to try for quite some time. All of the classes were so great including the one from Pati Palmer titled "It's Easy to Make Great Fitting Clothing". Wow, does she have a wealth of information to share. And it all seemed so simple when she explained it.

The last two classes I took were also good. I took Linda Lee's "Great Style at any Age" where she highlighted the Sewing workshop patterns and her sense of style. The final class of the weekend for me was Marsha McClintock's "Make it for Travel". Even though I would not say that I travel a lot I still learned some really interesting ideas from her on reversible clothes and accessories.

The whole experience was very satisfying and I learned so much. I even stayed over to Monday to have lunch with my Grandmother-in-law and to visit Vogue fabrics. I will not fess up to how much fabric I came home with.... It was definitely worth the trip!

Donna Verstrate wrote: Attending the National ASG Conference in Chicago was the highlight of my summer. As your President I attended Leadership Day on Wednesday, an all day meeting of Presidents from around the country to learn from headquarters what their plans are for ASG and the chapters around the country. There are many new things coming including an updated look to the National website. Our focus is to encourage and develop programs that will encourage younger generations to explore the enjoyment of sewing. At the chapter level we need to find ways to work with the youth in our areas to help in developing these skills. Thursday was devoted to all-day and half-day classes taught by several nationally know sewing experts. I chose to take an all-day class with Peggy Sagers on blouse fitting. The techniques of good fit are so simple when you understand the professional tools and tricks of the trade. Thursday evening the vendor floor opened. What a wonderful shopping experience. So many vendors and so little time and money! On Friday I took a class on Creative Sweatshirt Jackets. It was truly amazing how elegant the common sweatshirt can become with some simple embellishments with fabrics, specialty yarns, beads and buttons. A few simple adjustments and seams take a boxy sweatshirt to a well tailored, elegant jacket.

Gretchen Weaver wrote: This was my first ASG conference and I thought it was well organized and I met some very nice fellow sewers at my breakfast and lunch tables.

Since I am a veteran of commercial sewing expos, I would say that the biggest advantage of the ASG

conference is opportunity. Specifically, I had the option to attend classes presented by instructors that are not on the commercial circuit. My favorite was Marla Kazell, who served as technical advisor for the book "Couture, The Art of Fine Sewing" by Roberta Carr. I planned my schedule around her 4 classes and was not disappointed. Marla teaches classes in Portland, Oregon so I don't often get in her area. She taught me new things about tailoring (and not just 1 new thing - many!!) and I already do a lot of tailoring. She is a great teacher in addition to her fabulous knowledge. She brought many garment examples with her and encouraged us to take pictures.

Eve Kovacs (ASG member of the Chicago chapter and continuous contest winner) and Christine Jonson (has her own pattern line and specializes in knits) were other highlights for me. Linda Lee was also excellent and inspiring. She is affiliated with Sewing Workshop patterns but has actually sold the Sewing Workshop in San Francisco. She has also written articles for Threads about mitering corners and has an article on knit edge finishes in the August/September Sew News magazine. I also took a Paintstik class from Laura Murray which was fun.

There were other classes that I wanted to take but conflicted on the schedule with my goal of attending each of Marla Kazell's classes. There were also excellent speakers such as Mary Ray, Tammy O'Connell, Lyla Messinger, Nancy Nix-Rice, Fred Bloebaum, Louise Cutting, Linda MacPhee, Peggy Sagers, Londa Roling, Emma Seabrooke and Linda McGehee that I have seen on the commercial circuit.

There's just sew little time!

Emily Andrews wrote:The ASG National Conference in Chicago was a wonderful experience for a new member to the guild.

It was exciting to be in the same place with so many friendly and creative ladies. It was much more than I had expected, as each meal and interaction with attendees always meant new sewing things to discuss. I felt that I was with "my people" all weekend!

My classes were excellent. My favorite was Linda Lee's "Great Style At Any Age". With a little thought to style principles we can continue to look good and be elegant even with our surprising body changes as we age. It was presented in an upbeat and encouraging manner. I am now in the middle of a clever shirt pattern from Linda; the Hibiscus Shirt. By seeing this shirt in real life, it inspired me to expand my comfort zone and try sewing something different.

The rest of my classes were also excellent, including "Building a Core Wardrobe" by LaFred, "20 Tips" from Patti Palmer, "Sew Like a Pro" with Connie Crawford and a very useful "Pressing Matters" from Lyla Messinger. I never knew that there are vacuum ironing boards!

Although the conference was not inexpensive, it was fun and well worth the cost because of the enormous variety of classes...there was truly something for every sewer.

Consider attending a ASG National Convention. I am sure you will not be disappointed. Next year's event will be in Albuquerque, New Mexico and in 2010 it will be in Atlanta, Georgia

Articles for the Newsletter are accepted from any member who would like to write them. They can be reviews of products, events or any other sewing related topic. We would even be interested in Essays. Please consider writing an article for our Newsletter. Contact Robyn Ramsay rramsay@columbus.rr.com with your ideas.

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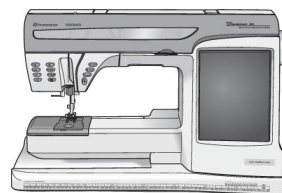
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