



# Zig Zag Express

The American Sewing Guild, Columbus, Ohio Chapter



## From the President

It has been a whirlwind summer for myself and my family. A vacation to Eastern West Virginia and Washington, DC, vacation bible school for the girls, conference for my husband, 4th of July, National conference in Albuquerque, long weekend at Cumberland Falls state park in KY, and Girl Scout Camp for the girls. Phew, makes me tired just listing it all; but it has been fun and I am so happy to get back into the groove as school starts.

I learned so much at the ASG National conference. It was my first leadership day and that was interesting. I would like to use some of what I learned to the benefit of our chapter. I am looking forward to sharing some of what I learned in other classes also. I took classes from Sandra Betzina (what a treat that was; trunk show and tips), Mary Ray (design details), Anne StClair (changing t-shirt necklines), Rami Kim (free motion embroidery), Julianne Bramson (bias garments), Londa Rohlfing (creative embellishment), Susan Lazear (organizing), and Shirly Adams (no pattern sewing). If any of these topics are ones you want me to be sure to share, please let me know. I also enjoyed meeting and getting to know other ASG members from around the country. It was a real joy.

The 2010 ASG national conference will be Aug 3-8 in Atlanta, GA. I highly recommend that you try to attend this event. You will not be disappointed. It would be great if we could get a strong contingent to go and we can carpool or fly down. Just announced is the location of 2011 ASG national conference; Los Angeles. So the opportunity of Atlanta is really one of our best in the next two years.

**In this newsletter find details on the 2010 charity project. I'm excited because it is a good cause and easy to do.** For the pillowcase project, we made over 135 pillowcases that will be donated to our local Ronald McDonald house. The ABQ house received over 5000 pillowcases from chapters all over the country not to mention all the pillowcases donated locally by chapters all over the country. It is exciting what we can do when we all do just a little bit.

Currently we are organizing a group to attend the American Sewing Expo in Novi, MI ([www.americansewingexpo.com](http://www.americansewingexpo.com)). This is one of the largest sewing events in the country; taking place Sept 24-27. It only takes 3.5 hours to drive and the cost is very reasonable. We will be getting several rooms and carpooling to the event. If you would like to attend, contact me ASAP.

The CAB has been trying to come up with ideas to improve attendance and participation in the Columbus Chapter. Coming up we will be sending out some electronic surveys. Please spend a few moments to reply to these surveys so that we can use the feedback to make your Columbus ASG Chapter stronger. If you have questions or comments please feel free to contact me [president@asgcolumbusoh.com](mailto:president@asgcolumbusoh.com)

Go Sew!  
Robyn

Volume IX, Issue 3

July, Aug, Sept 2009

Upcoming meetings:

- *September: ASG class overview*
- *October: Annual Meeting and Silhouette patterns trunk show*
- *November: Stitching Sisters tour*

Inside this issue:

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## Web Site Review—[www.patternreview.com](http://www.patternreview.com)

By *Gretchen Weaver*

I start every morning with Pattern Review. While I eat my breakfast, I get their daily email with all the new reviews that have been submitted by sewers in the last 24 hours. They are primarily garment reviews of patterns, but there are also tips, web & store reviews and classifieds.

I like to see what real people look like in the patterns that they have chosen. Most all of the reviews have a picture accompanying the review.

I am a member of [patternreview.com](http://patternreview.com). This costs \$24.95 per year. I chose to be a member for a few of the added benefits. However, you can sign into the website for free and look at the reviews too.

The added benefits of membership for me are:

- Deal corner - this is like the deals that ASG prints on their website. Changing vendors and offers. One internet fabric seller had previously given 20% off purchases for members of [patternreview.com](http://patternreview.com). This paid for my membership easily.
- Ability to read old reviews is exclusive for members. I can request all reviews for a specific pattern number. Their archiving works well. If you are not a member, you can only read the last 6 months. I usually have a gap between my sewing imagination and actual garment construction - so this works great. I have gotten so many useful tips and fabric or embellishment ideas from those that have already tried the pattern.
- Daily newsletter of new reviews - again only for members. You can get this same information by logging in each day. This just delivers it to my email.

I have taken 2 online classes from [patternreview.com](http://patternreview.com) (both from Kenneth King) and they are great. There are chat sessions, transcripts of chat sessions, pdf handouts, etc. Members get a class discount.

There are other great benefits of membership - go to the website and read about them. I don't take complete advantage of them - not enough hours in the day and some of those hours should be spent sewing instead of reading about sewing!

## Book Review—Alabama Stitch

By *Robyn Ramsay*

### **Alabama Stitch Book: Projects and Stories Celebrating Hand-Sewing, Quilting and Embroidery for Contemporary Sustainable Style**

Author: Natalie Chanin and Stacie Stukin

I heard about this book from a web site review and decided to check it out myself. I reserved it from my local library and a few days later picked it up. I ended up reading it cover to cover.

The author is the designer for Alabama Chanin and she tells about the history of Alabama's cotton and textile industry and how she wanted to start her company in the area to give stitchers in the area a new start.

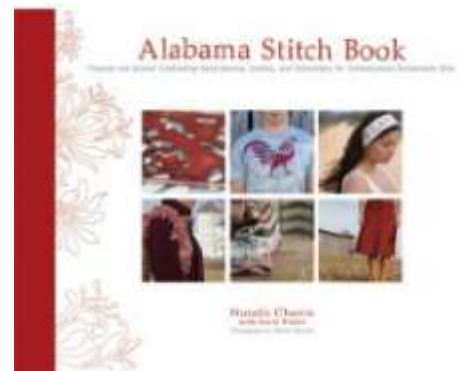
The concept of Alabama Chanin is to make accessories, clothing, and other household items from old t-shirts and sometimes from knit yardage. There are many projects in the book that I found

interesting.

Natalie uses a combination of stenciling, reverse appliqué, hand stitching and beading to enhance the simple projects. I love that she is really willing to share her techniques to make the items in the book. She tells you step by step how to make many projects. She even includes patterns. A quick project I will start with is a head band that has stenciling and reverse appliqué. I would love to make some t-shirts, also, adapting her techniques to my tastes.

One of the things that appeals to me about this book is the fact that all the sewing is done by hand. I realize that is a bit of a shock to many sewing enthusiasts; but, for me, I could easily see some of these as travel projects. And even if I was not willing to sew a whole garment by hand the hand embellishing would be a good project to take along where ever I go.

The projects in this book range from easy



to medium and the ideas would especially appeal to a teen or twenty-something that is interested in sewing some fun projects. But I still found things I will make even though I am well past twenty-something.

The only problem with having read this book is that not only will I be saving jeans to recycle in my sewing; now I will be saving old t-shirts.





# Chapter News

Local Charity Project with Girls Scouts  
Currently Robin Devin has plans in the works for working with area Girl Scout troops to make hats and scarves for the needy. We will need several volunteers for the two events we are planning. They will be held at the Broad and Sawmill locations of Quilt Beginnings. Dates have not been confirmed. More details will be coming but if you know you would like to help with this project contact Robin at robindevine@yahoo.com

Christmas luncheon

We are planning something a little different for the holiday luncheon this

year. We would like your opinion on if you would be willing to travel 30 min to Marysville for the luncheon. We will **organize car pooling.** Doc Henderson's restaurant features American-bistro cuisine in a 19th century mansion. You can learn more about the restaurant at www. Dochendersonsrestaurant.com. Contact Mary Alice to let the CAB know your thoughts at secretary@asgcolumbusoh.com

Keep updated by checking our website:  
[www.asgcolumbusoh.com](http://www.asgcolumbusoh.com)

# National News

*(The following is an excerpt from a National ASG press release.)*

ASG announces the recipient for the 2010 Community Service Project

The American Sewing Guild is proud to announce the selection of the U.S. Troops Drawstring Bag as our 2010 national community service project. A project of Operation Care Package, a non-profit organization that receives, fills and mails the drawstring bags to deployed service men and women from all branches of the armed forces. You can learn more about them at [www.operationcarepackages.org](http://www.operationcarepackages.org).

[www.asg.org](http://www.asg.org)

A drawstring bag pattern (created for this project) has been designed by Laura Martell of The Creative Thimble and you can access it from a link on the Community Service page of the ASG website or at: <http://www.thecreativethimble.com/FreePatterns/US%20Troop%20Bag.pdf>.

For more information go to the Community Service area of [www.asg.org](http://www.asg.org)

Take Note: **The JoAnn's 10% discount card** was mailed in the Summer issue of Notions. Please remember to replace your old card with the new one.

# New and Renewing Members

**Thank you!** to our Renewing Members

- Elizabeth Allemong
- Susan Baum
- Robin Devine
- Carol Seitz
- Tina Watkins

**Welcome!** to our New Members  
Marilyn Debelius

**We'll Miss you!** to our transferring members  
Fran Buchmueller (to SC)

CHAPTER ADVISORY BOARD	
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<b>ASG REGION REPRESENTATIVE</b> Carol Asman ..... <i>casman@asg.org</i>	
HOW YOU CAN HELP	
Our Columbus Chapter is only as good as what we put into it. Consider presenting a class, heading up a committee or running for the CAB so we can continue to learn, serve, grow, and play.	
We could use help in any of the following positions: Librarian, Education, Special Events, Publicity, Newsletter or Retail Liaison. Many of these positions would require a small time commitment or would be short term.	
Please contact a CAB member if you would be interested in helping our Chapter.	
<p>Important Reminder to CAB</p> <p>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 the President to give your report.</p> <p><i>All Guild members are invited to attend CAB meetings</i></p>	



## Classifieds

Currently there are no classified ads. Contact the newsletter editor if you are interested in placing one.



## Regional Happenings

Upcoming events in our region of ASG. These are events that would be close enough to travel to if you would like to participate:

Fort Wayne Chapter: Connie Crawford **workshops: "Sew like a Pro," Sept 18th; "Fit like a Pro," Sept 19.** Contact [asgftw.president@gmail.com](mailto:asgftw.president@gmail.com)

Pittsburgh Chapter: Make it take it and member teach member program October 17th. Find more information at [www.sewpittsburgh.org](http://www.sewpittsburgh.org) or contact [carsews@comcast.net](mailto:carsews@comcast.net)

Niles Chapter: Judy Fenton on Saturday, October 31, 2009 in Warren, OH. 9:00 to noon "Wear your Quilts" lecture and trunk show; Noon to 1:00 lunch; 1:00 to 4:00 Purses & Pocket-books Galore" lecture and trunk

show. Cost is \$35.00 for ASG members and \$40.00 for non-members (includes lunch). Judy is known nationally for her books and her "As You Wish" pattern series. Call 330-847-7386 for further details.

Detroit Chapter annual meeting on Oct 17, 2009 at Schoolcraft college in Livonia, MI. Member's fashion show as well as a "Take 5 Challenge" where members are encouraged to sew 5 coordinating pieces that are interchangeable. And a presentation from Tricia Geftos who designs and owns a swimwear company in the Downriver Detroit area. One of her clients is Paris Hilton. She will model her garments and have a PowerPoint presentation for us. Contact: [balogh.marianne@gmail.com](mailto:balogh.marianne@gmail.com).

## September is National Sewing Month

The theme this year for national sewing month is **"Reuse, remake, restyle."** You can learn more about it at [www.nationalsewingmonth.org](http://www.nationalsewingmonth.org)

They are having a Reuse, remake, restyle challenge in celebration of National sewing month. This could be

your chance to showcase your talent in this contest. The deadline for contest entries is September 30. All the details are on the above web site listed above.

Share your passions with others during National Sewing Month.

### Advertising Rates: (non-member)

Business Card	\$20/issue \$60/year	(4 issues)
<b>¼ Page (5" x 4")</b>		
vertical/horizontal	\$35/issue \$105/year	(4 issues)
<b>½ Page (5" x 8")</b>	\$50/issue \$150/year	(4 issues)
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Member Classified Ads: 5 lines - Free

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Non-Member Classified: 5 lines - \$7.50

See our web site for complete advertisement rates and policies: [www.asgcolumbus.oh.com](http://www.asgcolumbus.oh.com)

### Each One Teach One

*Keep sewing alive  
share your love of sewing*

### Neighborhood Groups Canal Winchester?

Currently Columbus ASG does not have any neighborhood groups. We had an inquiry to find out if we have one in the Canal Winchester area. If you live in the Canal Winchester area and would like to meet with your fellow ASG members locally please contact Robyn at [president@asgcolumbusoh.com](mailto:president@asgcolumbusoh.com).

**If you live in another area and can't** make it to the Columbus meetings, we are open to forming other neighborhood groups. Again, contact Robyn if interested.

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. Contact the newsletter editor with your ideas.

[newsletter@asgcolumbusoh.com](mailto:newsletter@asgcolumbusoh.com)

#### Newsletter Deadlines

Jan/Feb/Mar	Dec 15th
Apr/May/June	May 15th
July/Aug/Sept	June 15th
Oct/Nov/Dec	Sept 15th





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*We are on the web! [www.asgcolumbusoh.com](http://www.asgcolumbusoh.com)*

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website: [www.asg.org](http://www.asg.org)



Chapter New Member Dues - \$40.00  
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Chapter Renewal Member dues - \$35.00  
Chapter: Columbus, Ohio

Late Renewal - \$40.00 (if received **after** expiration date)

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