



Material Issues



Volume 4, Issue 2

Plano, Texas Chapter
www.planoasg.org

April-May-June 2008

President's Message

One day it is cold, the next day it is warm. One day there is snow and then there is rain – big time! Well now, hopefully the snow and cold is gone for the next few seasons and we can expect warmth with rain here and there – when we need it. Does that sound like Camelot?

We have just spent a few days with Emma Seabrooke and, oh my, does she have gorgeous knits. She also showed us how to make clothes out of slinky that doesn't travel - down our bodies, I mean. Several of us made an origami top, a princess tee and a pair of one-seam pants – or at least we got them fitted. When I finish making some clothes for my daughter-in-law I plan to make up a casual wardrobe for me out of knits, they are sooo forgiving and easy to sew.

Enough about me – and more about Plano Chapter's doings. The Board has approved Becky Bieri for the position of Special Events Chair. I would like to thank Tricia Kemp for her help in planning and organizing the Emma Seabrooke Workshop.

Our meeting on April 19 will be about fit issues. Becky Bieri will be leading the program. As some of us have presented her with our garment problems, she has corrected them. We will have a before and after part of the program. But most of all this program is for you. If you have a fit issue and want help, bring it on! If you want to know some how to's relating to pattern alterations, this program is for you also. The meeting will be at the Davis Library on Independence Rd. north of Legacy at 1 p.m.

Our Community Services sew-in on May 17 is scheduled from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. at the Carpenter Recreation Center on Coit Rd. between Spring Creek and Legacy. We will be making anti-ouch pouches for the National Conference Charity project the year. (Each year the Chapters make something for a charity that is selected by the host Chapter. This year it is Chicago).

If you had a chance to read the latest *Sew News* you might have read about this pouch and how and why it was created. I can't think of a more appropriate item to make as a group of women who either had breast cancer or has a close friend or family member who is undergoing treatment. One of our Neighborhood Group Leaders, Janet Butler is dealing with this currently. She has a blog that you might be interested in following:
<http://janetkickscancer.blogspot.com> What an amazing

woman! I hope you will join us at the sew-in. As always when the time draws near a supply list will be sent to you. For this project we will be looking for donated fabric. If you have a nice piece of fabric that you are willing to part with please bring it with you. If you are unable to attend the sew-in but wish to donate fabric or a few dollars for Donna Simpson to purchase fabric please let her know at Papadgks@aol.com.

Jami Roux has agreed to present hand sewing techniques *a la* Cynthia Guffey, at our June 21 meeting. For those of you who don't know Jami let me just say that she has a great way of making a seemingly difficult technique appear simple. More details to follow.

Well, enough writing and on to creating – a garment of course! My wish for you is to have a healthy and productive spring.

Sew have fun,

Jane Johnson

2008 AMERICAN SEWING GUILD REGIONAL MEETING

The Dallas and Plano chapters are hosting this year's regional meeting. Regional meetings are business and training meetings for chapter advisory board members, although any chapter member may attend.

The meeting will be held at the Courtyard by Marriott Plano Legacy Park. It is at 6840 N. Dallas Parkway, Plano, 75024. We will be going to Perth Street for a little fabric shopping on Friday during the day.

The meeting will be held all day on Saturday, April 26th. Our regional representative, Pat Fritze, will share information from the national organization regarding policy changes, goals, tips, etc. There is also quite a bit of sharing and learning from the other chapters.

If you'd like to attend all or part of the meetings, please contact Jane Johnson.

Plano Chapter Advisory Board

The Plano Chapter Advisory Board ("CAB") meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Maggie Tinnin. All Neighborhood Group Leaders and other members are encouraged to attend to stay current on CAB decisions. E-mail or call Maggie Tinnin for more information.

President - Jane Johnson
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972-618-7632 debramseyer@yahoo.com

Program Chair - Becky Bieri
972-625-6684 mbieri@tieless.net

Region 6 Representative - Pat Fritze
405-366-8296 skippat@cox.net

ASG National Conference 2008

**Watch your mailbox for the registration brochure and class information...coming soon!
Enroll online as early as April 1st**

**Take classes, meeting other sewing enthusiasts, go on tours, and shop!
What could be better?**

July 10-14, 2008
Hyatt Regency O'Hare
9300 W Bryn Mawr Ave
Rosemont IL
800-233-1234

Group Information:
Group Code: ASG
Group Rate: \$129.00 Sgl/Dble/Trpl/Quad

Upcoming Events:

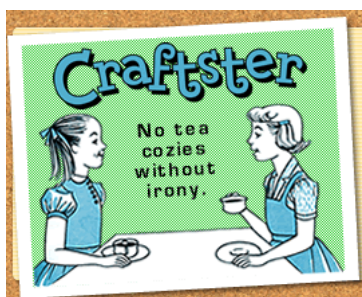
Date/Time	Location	Program	Presenter
April 19, 2008 1:00 p.m.	Davis Library Independence 1/2 mile north of Legacy	Fitting Issues	Becky Bieri
May 17, 2008 10 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Carpenter Park Rec Center Coit Road between Spring Creek and Legacy	Community Service Sew-In Anti-ouch pouches	N/A
June 21, 2008 1:00 p.m.	TBD	Hand Sewing Techniques	Jami Roux

Neighborhood Group Meetings

In addition to regular chapter meetings, smaller Neighborhood Groups meet monthly to offer you even more sewing and learning opportunities:

When We Meet	Group Name	Where We Meet	Contact Information
Second Monday of each Month 10:00 a.m.	Material Girls	Plano Sewing Center Custer Road & Spring Creek	Terry Jerden (469) 952-2049 terrysews@tx.rr.com
Third Wednesday of each month 7:00 p.m.	Stitchin' Bs	Home of Maggie Tinnin Call 972-424-5447 for directions	Maggie Tinnin mtinnin@verizon.net Jane Johnson janemjo@gmail.com
First Thursday of each month at 11:00 a.m.	Toujour! Couture	Fabrique Fashion Fabrics between Custer and Alma on Geo Bush Service Road	Janet Butler janetmbutler@tx.rr.com

Any ASG member may attend any or all of the Neighborhood Group meetings at any chapter across the country! If you are interested in forming a new Neighborhood Group, please contact Maggie Tinnin.



Inspiration Without Limits

If you've never checked out www.craftster.org, you're missing a real treat and some amazing hidden talent. The Craftster website was created by Leah Kramer in 2003. There are thousands of members and more ideas than you can imagine. From sewing to cooking to knitting and crochet, members contribute ideas, pictures and tutorials of their work.

The creations of the Craftster.org members are edgy, punky, and sometimes downright weird. Their motto, "No tea cozies without irony," sort of sums up what the site is all about. No tea towels or aprons for Craftster people. Skulls and Pop-tab belts are more their style, although some traditional items do appear. There is an entire category for Clothing, including completed projects (that may or may not involve sewing), clothing made from reconstructed material (think turning an old pillowcase into a skirt), clothing for "curvaceous" women, clothing for kids, etc. There are pattern reviews and challenges. Every material under the sun is utilized from paint to plastic bags.

Some of the shoe transformations will have you wondering if you ever need to visit DSW again. Check out these finished products (the original shoes were plain black).



Posted pictures are numerous and fun. These gals love showing off their talents and are generous with instructions on how they made their items. A lot of these young ladies draft their apparel with no idea of how to use a pattern. They just "do what comes naturally" and their ingeniousness will astound you. You don't need to be a member to peruse the site; only if you want to post. Enjoy browsing through Craftster and be inspired in ways you never dreamed possible!

Sewing is the new knitting

Thanks in part to 'Project Runway,' sewing has regained its stylish cachet.

Jean Patteson | Orlando Sentinel Staff Writer
March 6, 2008

Knitting was the new-again craze five years ago. Everyone was clicking needles, from young professionals in bars and cafes to superstars such as Gwyneth Paltrow and Julia Roberts.

Now sewing is back in vogue.

"Sewing is the new knitting," says Amber Eden, editor of *Threads*, a magazine for sewing enthusiasts.

Older women who learned to sew in home-economics class are returning to the craft now that their children are grown or they are retired and have the time for a hobby. But young women -- and even some young men -- are discovering the lure of sewing their own clothing and home-decor items, says Eden. As a result, *Threads* recently launched *Sew Stylish*, a magazine aimed at younger, first-time sewing enthusiasts.

The reason for the sewing resurgence can be summed up in two words: Project Runway.

"Without a doubt, Project Runway has been a shot in the arm. The audience watches the contestants sewing, and suddenly everyone wants to sew," says Louise Cutting of Winter Park, owner of the Cutting Line Designs pattern company.

She and Linda Lee, owner of The Sewing Workshop pattern collection, recently hosted a "sewing retreat" at the Mt. Vernon Motor Lodge in Winter Park. For three days, 27 women from a dozen different states labored from dawn until dusk in a conference room equipped with cutting tables and sewing machines. Most ate lunch amid drifts of patterns and mountains of fabric. Some returned after dinner to stitch into the wee hours of the morning.

The trend back to sewing has led to a boom in such retreats, says Cutting. Some are held at resorts or on cruise ships; others include trips to European fashion centers such as Paris and Milan.

More sewing devotees made the trip to Puyallup, Wash., for that town's annual Sewing and Stitchery Expo in February. Usually drawing about 30,000 enthusiasts from across the country, the expo this year attracted an additional 1,000 attendees, says spokeswoman Rita Farro.

"I noticed a lot more young people this time. Simplicity [Patterns] and the Brother sewing machine company have licensing agreements with Project Runway. They run ads in magazines like *Seventeen*. That gets the kids excited," says Farro.

"What I want to see now is Hannah Montana using a sewing machine on her show."

Sewing newbies often begin "with deconstruction and reconstruction -- taking the sleeves off a jacket and turning it into a vest, or taking jeans apart and turning them into a purse or a pillow," says Janet Pray, president of the Houston-based **American Sewing Guild**. "It's an easy place to start -- no patterns, no rules.

"We hope they will move on to traditional sewing. We're starting to add new programs and younger teachers, and we're reaching out to Web sites to attract younger members," she says.

Among those inspired by the popular Bravo show is 17-year-old Chelsea McHugh of Orlando, who signed up last year for lessons at The Sewing Studio in [Maitland](#).

"I'm creative artistically and wanted to put that into something I can wear," says Chelsea, an aspiring fashion designer at Boone High School. "But Project Runway makes me want to learn to sew even more."

When her friends discovered she was taking sewing lessons, "They thought it was, like, an old-lady thing. They laughed about it," she says.

"Then they saw the tunic I made. Now they want me to make them things."

Jean Patteson can be reached at 407-420-5158 or jpatteson@orlandosentinel.com.

The Quilter's Workshop Sponsors Sewing Cruise

Join us Sept 11-15, 2008 - we leave from Galveston for three days and four nights of sewing mania at sea, plus a stop at one of our most favorite places, Cozumel!

For more information, click on:
<http://www.thequiltersworkshop.net/>



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Book Review

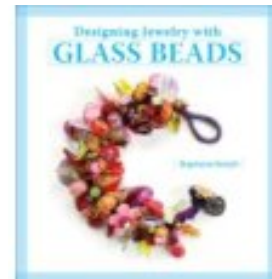
Inspiring Book by Jami Roux

Have you ever found a book that inspires so many ideas that you can't sleep at night? I have, it's "**Designing Jewelry with Glass Beads**" by Stephanie Sersich.

This is a book full of projects with beautiful photos and clear instructions. The projects range from simple to complex and are for any skill level.

My favorite projects are the macramé bracelets and necklaces fastened with wonderful buttons. I have now completed two of the macramé items, a necklace and a bracelet using buttons. There are also other inspiring projects using ribbons and beads I can't wait to try.

If you like beads, buttons, ribbons and thread you will love this book.



Material Issues is published quarterly by the American Sewing Guild, Plano Chapter, 3144 Glory Lane, Plano, TX 75025. **Submissions and ideas from members are always welcome.**

Send submissions to:

Debbie Ramseyer, Editor
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972-618-7632

Deadlines for submissions:

3 /9 /07 - Spring 2007
6 /8 /07 - Summer 2007
9 /9 /07 - Fall 2007
12 /7 /07 - Winter 2008

Advertising Rates:

	Per Issue
Full Page	\$50.00
Half Page	30.00
Quarter Page	15.00
Business Card	10.00

Classified Ads: Members: Free (up to 25 words) Non-Members: \$5.00

All advertising must be camera ready or in electronic format (.jpg, .gif, or .doc)

For more information about advertising, contact Debbie Ramseyer, 972-618-7632

One additional ad free of same size when 4 consecutive ads are purchased.

Visit our website for the latest news and upcoming events....

www.planoasg.org

The American Sewing Guild is a national nonprofit organization dedicated to people who believe sewing is a rewarding and creative activity. Its mission is "advancing sewing as an art and life skill." Membership in the Guild is open to the public. For information, contact Maggie Tinnin.

**American Sewing Guild
Membership Application**

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: _____ Date: _____

E-mail: _____

Return to: American Sewing Guild
Association Headquarters
9660 Hillcroft, Suite 510,
Houston, TX 77096
Fax: (713) 721-9230

- New Member or Late Renewal - \$40.00
Chapter nearest you: **Plano, TX**
- Renewal \$35.00 (if received before expiration date)
- I would like to make a tax-deductible donation to ASG for \$_____. A receipt will be mailed to you.
- Check enclosed, payable to American Sewing Guild
- Please bill my Master Card Visa

Account number: _____

Expiration date: _____

Signature: _____

HANCOCK DISCOUNTS

Many ASG members across the country have experienced problems with receiving the 10% discount on sale items. Margo Martin, Executive Director of ASG, is awaiting clarification from Hancock Fabrics regarding their discount policy. Although they are still in bankruptcy, the proceedings are going well. Hancock's has plans for remodeling most of their remaining stores over the next two years and are committed to primarily focusing on fashion fabrics. More information will follow.

Member Discounts

Participating Local Retailers

Please present your ASG membership card at retail stores and thank them for participating in the ASG discount program. Other stores in the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex also offer discounts to ASG members. Just ask!

Benno's Buttons & Trimmings 5611 W. Lovers Lane Dallas, TX 75202	214-352-0534	15% discount on all non-sale items <i>Specializes in unique buttons, ribbons and lace</i>
Bernina of Plano 2400 Avenue K at Park, Plano 75074 Bernina of Dallas 12801 Midway at LBJ, Ste. 410 Dallas 75244	972-578-9227 972-247-5103	10% discount on all non-sale items (be sure to present ASG card before sale is rung up) <i>Fabrics, Bernina sewing machines, Classes, Embroidery Supplies, Quilting, Smocking supplies</i>
CompuSew 3237 Independence Pkwy., Plano	972-769-2626	10% discount on all non-sale items
Fabric Affair 339 Dal-Rich Village (SW corner Beltline & Coit), Richardson, TX	972-234-1937	10% discount 1st Friday of the month (not including sewing machines, classes, repairs or gift certificates) <i>Authorized Pfaff dealer</i>
Fabrique! G. Bush at Alma	972-234-4800	20% discount
Hancock Fabrics - ALL LOCATIONS		10% discount on total purchase
JoAnn's Fabrics & Crafts - ALL LOCATIONS		10% discount on total purchase
Kay Fabric Center 518 W. Arapaho Road #113, Richardson	972-234-5111	10% discount on all items
Plano Sewing Center 2070 W. Spring Creek, Suite 326, Plano	972- 527-7400	15% discount on non-sale items <i>Machine sales & repairs, quilt workshops, classes</i>
Richard Brooks Couture Fabrics 6131 Luther Lane, Suite 200, Dallas	214-739-2772	10% discount on non-sale items
Spectrum Thread by D.S. Access 3035 S. Shiloh Road, #175, Garland	972-926-0030	5% discount on non-sale items <i>Embroidery supplies</i>
Thread & More 1980 Nantucket Drive Richardson, TX 75080	800-705-0027	10% discount on total purchase
Viking Sewing Gallery (inside JoAnn's) 810 Preston Forest Shopping Center, Dallas 700 Alma Drive, <u>Plano</u> 1515 N. Town East Blvd. <u>Mesquite</u> 2930 Preston Road, <u>Frisco</u> 2325 S. Stemmons, <u>Lewisville</u> 1250 William D. Tate Avenue <u>Grapevine</u> 229 East FM 1382, Ste 150 <u>Cedar Hill</u>	214-962-1600 972-423-3685 972-686-2522 972-712-7288 214-488-5188 817-329-3266 972-291-9774	10% discount on total purchase; 15% discount on all items on third Saturday of each month. Discounts do not apply to sewing machines. <i>Husqvarna/Viking Sewing Machines</i>
Nancy's Notions www.nancysnotions.com	1-800-833-0690	Discount Codes: 089411-5222 January-March 089411-5223 April-June 089411-5224 July-September 089411-5225 October-December

Plano, Texas Chapter

600 Butler Circle

Wylie, TX 75098

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Time Dated Material



Remember!

When you move be sure to send your address change to the National Headquarters office. Returned newsletters are charged to the Guild at first class mail rates. They are not forwarded to you.

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