



July 2020

2020 AQG OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

President: Elaine R.
 1st VP Programs: Kathy S. & Janice S.
 2nd VP Membership: Diana P
 3rd VP Communications: Shivani V.
 4th VP Community Service: Dot F.
 5th VP Ways & Means: Laurie T.
 Secretary: Tana B.
 Treasurer: Alice G.
 Newsletter & Email Coordinator:
 Lorraine M.
 Website: Shivani V.
 Retreats: Maridale M.
 TAQG Representative: Shelly V.
 Raffle Quilt Promotion: Brenda B.
 Mini Quilt Auction: Janice S.
 Christmas Party: Sheri B. & Ellen W.
 Door Prizes & Birthdays: Nancy W.

In September we will hopefully have a list ready for you of “What To Bring To the Meeting” because we will actually be able to have our meeting. Until then,

- Share your quilting skills with others. They may need a new hobby!
- Contribute the special items we usually collect at our meeting to a nonprofit of your choice.
- Thank you for all you are doing for your family, friends and community. Stay safe.

Letter from the President



It’s July...can you believe it? AND it’s hot and humid and we’re still fighting COVID-19...Ugh! I hope you had a wonderful 4th of July. We had a fantastic fireworks show here in our community of Trinity Falls. I enjoyed watching it with my grandkids and new member of the family, Lucy.

Things have been really busy around our house. My daughter, Sarah, was diagnosed with pre-cancerous nodules on her thyroid. She had surgery on July 14th to remove her thyroid. My oldest grandson and his wife came to stay and help out. Sarah’s Sunday School Class started a meal train so we have been way blessed with extra help and food. We also added a new member to the family. Meet Lucy, our new golden doodle. She’s a really sweet puppy but a puppy that poops & pees way too much!

My health is the same with my liver enzymes on a weekly roller coaster. I’ve changed doctors and will have surgery in late August or early September. Just ready to get everybody healthy!



Our Guild is still on hold until September. If the virus keeps spreading then we’ll do what’s healthy for all of us...wait until it’s safe. Until then, we’ll keep sending our Newsletter out to keep you up-to-date on what’s happening. Due to the flurry of activity at my house, I have not gotten with Dot to set a date for our “Drive by & Delivery” of our kits. Hopefully that will happen in August. Be sure and contact Dot if you need any kits. See Community Service segment and other information continued on page 2.

Elaine R., President

Letter from the President continued

Upcoming Events...

Nomination of 2021 Board Members – please think about serving on our board. We'll have several positions open for next year. I'll post them in the August newsletter.

Need volunteers to serve on **Quilt of Valor Committee** – will coordinate and plan reception for November guild meeting. Let me know if you are interested.

President's Challenge – Let's get those QOV/Patriotic quilts completed. Nomination forms will be available in September to name someone special you want to present your quilt to at ceremony in November.

Meals on Wheels – They have requested that we make masks and adult bibs for them. Dot has bib kits ready to go. I have masks kits ready. Just request them if needed.

For this newsletter, our board will be sharing some of our favorite recipes. I hope you try out some of the recipes. I'm sharing a favorite of mine that we make on a weekly basis. It's that good and the kids even like it. It's one of those 30 minute recipes!

Mozzarella Chicken in Homemade Tomato Sauce

Ingredients

4 small chicken breasts
1 tbsp olive oil & minced garlic
½ C chopped onions
1- 14oz can crushed tomatoes
½ tsp Italian Seasoning & red pepper flakes
¼ tsp dried basil
1 tbsp sun dried tomato pesto
4 slices mozzarella cheese (or 1 cup shredded)
12 ozs Pasta of your choice
Crusty bread of your choice



Directions

Salt & pepper chicken on both sides. Brown chicken in olive oil (3-5 minutes per side) and remove to plate. Saute' onion in same pan for 3-5 minutes. Add garlic and let cook for 30 seconds. Add tomatoes, seasonings and pesto and stir to combine. Add ¼ cup water and let simmer for 10-12 minutes to thicken. Season with salt & pepper to taste.

Assemble

Place the cooked chicken breast in the sauce and cover with sauce. Top each breast with a slice of cheese. Cover to let cheese melt.

Serve

Serve with pasta, crusty bread & a salad. Yummy!

June 2020 Allen Quilters' Guild Treasurer's Report

There was no activity in June. The Beginning and Ending balances remain at \$10,412.71

Alice G., Treasurer 7-14-20

From our Ways and Means VP, Laurie T.

Tidbit section-

Do you subscribe to Superior Threads? I recommend this email, because Bob always ends with a good joke.

Retreat News:

I received some questions about the Retreat from Home I attended. Our hostess Ebony Love from Love Bug Studios recently sent us an email letting us know that there will be another Retreat from home in September and December!!! Future instructors were not disclosed yet. If you are interested, I suggest sending an email to Love Bug Studios Ebony Love. I think it will fill up fast.

Ebony was very organized. We received emails but also a welcome packet in the postal mail before the retreat with a nametag! We had an agenda. Lunch break & dinner break was listed. I informed my husband when my dinner break would be if he wanted to have dinner ready (LOL!). When we weren't attending a session with our instructor there were open sessions. Lots of them. Example: hand applique, RVers, the red hat ladies, Quiet room, Friends of Nan, Friends of Jackie K, etc. You could click on any session you wanted to attend. You could park there or keep checking other groups. You could also make your own group, example "Allen Quilters". Once in a session, it was up to you if you wanted your camera and audio on.

Food/Recipes/Take-out

It is so hot, it's hard to think of what to cook. If you live in Allen, we have ordered from Joe's Italian on Bethany/Greenville. I love the Joe's Salad and his house dressing. I think their Tiramisu is the best ever!

Our garden is bountiful right now which brings me to my favorite summer recipe.

Chop up lots of red tomatoes from garden,

Chop up fresh basil from the garden,

Finely chop fresh red onion from the garden.

Chop up fresh mozzarella cheese from the grocery store (my favorite is at Costco)

I cook up "fresh" angel hair pasta (from Market Street)

Olive oil, balsamic vinegar, and garlic salt.

I make a big bowl and my husband and son want to eat this for breakfast, lunch & dinner.

Tid Bits

Here are a couple of tips that I have used the last week or so that you may like.

- Use a ruler to transport a bunch of small pieces from the cutting board to your sewing machine area. The ruler won't bend so not a piece will be dropped.
- Take a color copy of a piece of fabric for an appliqué. This works great if your amount of fabric is limited. It is easier and cheaper to use the copy than the real fabric when you are making your decisions.
- Use fusible interfacing the wrong way if you don't have any steam-a-seam. Place the fusible interfacing bumpy side to the right side of the fabric and sew around the shape. Cut around the edge leaving a small allowance. Snip the interfacing just enough so you can turn the piece right side out. Finger press. You have a shape with a finished edge. Place your shape on the background fabric and press lightly. It will adhere enough for you to sew around the edge

Lorraine M.



Happy Birthday!

Wishing a Happy Birthday to our July (Firecracker) ladies.

Maridale M., Shivani V. and Ellen R..

Membership

Nothing new to report from membership. So how about a recipe. It's one I like to have for lunch now that it's hot.

Diana P., Membership VP

Grape Pecan Chicken Salad

4 cups chicken (cooked and shredded)
3 ribs Celery
1/2 cups pecans
1 cup mayo
2 T. Whipped cream cheese
1/8 t. Salt
1/8 t. Pepper
1/8 t. Garlic powder

Mix all ingredients together until well combined. Enjoy on crackers, bread or as a wrap.

From the website <https://www.thediaryofarealhousewife.com/>

A new retreat venue for small groups...

Quilting Friends,

I would like to extend a personal invitation to visit a new retreat center for your small group! My husband and I opened the Retreat at Lake Cypress Springs earlier this month. This retreat is a dream I've had for a while, and I'm excited for the opportunity to welcome you for a visit!

Located just 100 miles East of Dallas, in the Piney woods of East Texas, the Retreat at Lake Cypress Springs is a quick walk (150 feet) through Mary King Park to look at the lake, enjoy picnics, and beautiful sunsets!

The retreat was designed specifically with quilters in mind, amenities include:

- Sewing room with separate workstations and LED lighting
- Six 22" x 48" stations complete with comfortable chairs and power strips
- 2 large 8'x8' design wall spaces
- Adjustable height cutting centers and pressing stations
- 2,700 square foot one story house
- 3 bedrooms, 2 full bathrooms - sleeps 6 comfortably with 6 twin size XL beds with pillow top mattresses
- Fully equipped kitchen
- Separate living/dining quarters
- Large outdoor area with seating to relax
- Paved parking
- Free wifi

Check us out on [Facebook](#) or visit [our site](#) for booking information.

If you have any questions, please give me a call. We look forward to seeing what you'll create here!

All the best,

Denise Givney

903-285-8661

<https://www.lakecypressretreat.com/>

From our TAQG representative (when there was TAQG), Shelly V.

I'm starting to see the floor in my sewing room. How did that happen? As I look at the carpet peeking through the fabric scraps, thread snippets, boxes of random BOM kits and bags of half completed projects, an idea starts to blossom. How long would it take for my room to be just like those beautiful design studios I see in the magazines and internet blogs? I only have a few projects to finish I'm sure.

During this pandemic, I have sewed a few masks for family and friends. I've made a few simple patriotic tops and backs, toiletry bags, kid quilts from UFOs that have been calling my name for months (ok years but really doesn't everybody have those). Those of you who know me well recognize I'm the Queen of Procrastination as well as the Princess of Starting new things- (ooohhh Pretty). I always think something is going to take me no time at all to complete; I forget that I'm a slow sewer despite the fact that I love doing it.

So I thought it might be a great idea to make a list of my UFOs. I quickly listed those that I could see- a Bonnie Hunter, 2 overdue baby quilts and my Alaska Quilt. Then I peeked under those- oh No! A basket of projects. I looked at my closet-more. Everywhere I looked in my room there is another project- How did this happen? I'm still working on my list but I'm not ready to count them yet. Then last night, I saw a post with the following acronyms. It made me laugh. I'm going to use them to help categorize my list. I look forward to sharing with you in September. Be well and Stay Safe my friends. I miss you all!!



Quilter's Code:



WIP: Work in Progress

UFO: Unfinished Object

PHD: Projects Half Done

PIG: Projects in Grocery Bags

WOMBAT: Waste of Money, Batting
and Time

NESTY: Not Even Started Yet

PFC: Professional Fabric Collector

STABLE: Stash Accumulation Beyond
Life Expectancy

WITHWIT: What in the Heck was I
Thinking?

TIH: There is Hope

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2020 – 2021

So many events are up in the air at this time. If you hear of shows etc. actually going forward, please contact Lorraine M. so I can include the information in our newsletter.

✓ Mark your calendars for the AQG meetings beginning in September.

From our Secretary, Tana B.

Easter weekend my husband and I drove to Celeste, TX to drop in at Quilt Mercantile...they were closed. This last weekend I decided we should try again so...I called first and they were open! We took a pretty drive from Anna to Celeste (about 30 minutes).

I had not read any details about Quilt Mercantile on their website so when I walked in I was surprised at how big it was. There is 5400 square feet of fabric and a large classroom. They have a wall of sewing “notions” and then fun things scattered throughout. 3000 bolts of fabric with coordinating fat quarters lure you thru the entire store. They have fabric designers you will recognize but what caught my attention were the options they had for patriotic prints, western, polka dots, etc...

Prepare for this road trip. Bring your own picnic or beverage! There are not any restaurants, Sonic, McDonalds...nothing in Celeste! Enjoy the drive and Celeste has some cute older homes.

Garlic, Rosemary and Lemon-Oven Fries

These hot, crispy fries have a lovely Italian influence. Rosemary, garlic and lemon zest add a refreshing flavor to this tasty side dish. You can cut the potatoes ahead to make weeknight preparation even faster. Make sure to use a rimmed baking sheet to avoid getting fries on the floor!

2 pounds (about 5 medium) Yukon gold potatoes
1 T. olive oil
2 tsp. minced garlic
1 tsp. minced lemon zest
½ tsp. salt
½ tsp. black pepper
1 T. minced fresh rosemary (leaves only)
Cooking spray

Preheat oven to 425°F. Line a large rimmed baking sheet with a silicone backing sheet or parchment paper. Cut potatoes into ½” thick slices, but the slices into ½” sticks (you should have about 60 fries). Spread fries on prepared baking pan making sure fries don’t overlap or touch. Coat with cooking spray. Bake for 40 minutes, turning every 10 minutes.

Meanwhile, in a small bowl, combine oil, rosemary, garlic, lemon zest, salt and pepper.

After fries have baked for 40 minutes, remove from oven and sprinkle with oil mixture, toss well. Bake until aromatic and browned, about 5 minutes. Transfer pan to a wire rack and cool for a few minutes; sprinkle with any remaining herb mixture on the pan before serving.

From Weight Watchers Reimagined

**Allen Quilters' Guild
Membership Application**

Name: _____

Spouse's First Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Home Phone: _____ **Cell Phone:** _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Are you a NEW member? _____ **If not, what year did you join AQG?** _____

If you are a returning member, would you like a new name badge? _____

Would you like a copy of the AQG Bylaws? _____

Birthday (month and day only): _____

Small group you belong to: _____ **Meeting time:** _____

If you do not presently belong to a small group, are you interested in joining a daytime small group? Y N or a nighttime small group? Y N

Please circle your preferred method for receiving the Allen Quilters' Guild Newsletter:

- A) Printed copy mailed via the U. S. Postal Service
- B) Via e-mail
- C) You download directly from our website (www.allenquilters.org)

When complete, please mail this form with a check made out to AQG to:

**Allen Quilters' Guild
P. O. Box 526
Allen, TX 75013-0010**

OR you may give your form and payment directly to Diana P.

Membership dues are \$25.00 for adults and \$15 for juniors (children 10 to 17 accompanied by an adult member) and paid annually in January.

Yahoo Group _____ New _____ Name Tag _____ Bylaws _____

Birthday _____ Small Group _____ Newsletter _____ Check# _____

Allen Quilters' Guild Newsletter
P. O. Box 526
Allen, TX 75013-0010