

Happy New Year and best wishes for a terrific 2012! Hopefully you will enjoy the upcoming programs and invite a friend to join you. In my last email, I forgot to mention that the raffle for the Cafe au lait quilt donated by Maggie Wachtel raised \$630 for the Chapter activities and the lucky winner was Polly Laux! Congratulations Polly and thank you Maggie for your generosity. I have received a few recipes from our Christmas buffet, but need more. Please send me your recipe (either email or regular mail) and Ledell will put them on the website. By the way...check out our new amazing website -- [www.asg-corporuschristi.com](http://www.asg-corporuschristi.com) Ledell has been adding more pictures and more information! Our website has information on upcoming meetings as well as pictures of past meetings.

**2012 is starting out with lots of activities** -- special speaker (Feb), fitting retreat (Jan), Floriani seminar at Singer (Feb), Thread seminar at the Rio Grande Chapter (Jan), Peggy Sagers conference (Feb), and our wonderful group meetings. There are also some **location changes** -- in 2012 the Saturday group will meet at the Ronald McDonald House on 3402 Fort Worth and the Port Aransas Style group will meet at the JELM center, which is behind the Community Presbyterian Church. Many thanks to Marcia Curtis at the Stitch Witch and Donna at Donna's Alterations for letting us meet in their facilities.

**Sharon Davis, our Program Coordinator, needs your help** .... One of the programs we want to do is on cutting implements. If you have someone who is knowledgeable on the subject and would be willing to present a program at our March meeting, please contact Sharon ([jdavis17@stx.rr.com](mailto:jdavis17@stx.rr.com) or 299-5157). We would like the program to include how to correctly use specialty scissors, which size rotary cutter is right for the project, how to care for and maintain your cutting arsenal, and other information to get great results in all your sewing projects that require fabric cutting. She would also appreciate any ideas on other topics.

**The January group meetings are:**

**NO January 3** Community Service sewing at the Stitch Witch -- Nancy Beyer, our Community Service leader, is out of town. So the third Tuesday at Singer will kick off our Community Service sewing.

**NEXT TUESDAY...January 10** -- Tuesday group at the Parkway Presbyterian -- Printing to Fabric is the program; Stash Bash is our afternoon activity. For the Stash Bash, you bring items (fabric, notions, patterns) that no longer inspire you, "ticket" them with your name, price, yardage, etc, and then everyone shops at the Stash Bash. The Stash Bash tickets are on the website and I can send them to you via email.

**January 17** -- Community Service sewing at Singer

**January 19** -- Port Aransas Style Group at the JELM Center

**January 24** -- Odem Group at Public Library -- Anti-ouch pouches

**January 28** -- Saturday group at Ronald McDonald House -- Body Mapping with Elisabeth Chism

**In addition, two special events are scheduled for January and February.** We will only have one special speaker next year, which is Pamela Leggett in February. The CAB felt that the members wanted time to practice what we learned this year, rather than have more speakers.

- A **Fitting Retreat with Marilyn has been booked for Jan 26-29** (Thursday-Sunday morning) at Camp Zephyr in Sandia ([www.campzephyr.org](http://www.campzephyr.org)). At the retreat Marilyn will work with anyone on any pattern, even if you didn't attend the earlier classes. This is the only event for Marilyn Elliott in 2012. If you are interested, please let me know since we need a minimum of 10 people to hold the event (max of 20). Your room/meal is \$164 for the 3 nights/9 meals in a semi-private room. Private rooms are available at \$209. Marilyn's fee is \$90 for the three days. We also have a day camper option at \$5/day and \$7/meal, plus Marilyn's fee (which is \$35 for one day and \$70 for 2 days). This retreat is only for fitting with Marilyn, not general sewing. Call (563-3336) or email me if you are interested, need more information, or want to register. Like our other retreats, you need to pre-pay. Marilyn's \$90 fee is due at registration and the room/meal fee is due by January 10th (our Tuesday meeting). These amounts are non-refundable unless someone takes your place.
- **Pamela Leggett is our special speaker for next year. She will be here on February 22-24 (Wed-Fri).** The lecture on Feb 22 will be on serger techniques in the morning and sewing knit fabrics in the afternoon. On February 23 and 24, she will teach us her techniques to make bias and pencil skirts with a comfortable elastic waist. She will teach both skirts and you select which one you want to make. The same class (20 ladies max each day) will be given on both days. The lecture includes a box lunch from Jason's and is \$25 for members (\$35 for non-members). The skirt class is \$25 for members (\$35 for non-members), plus the pattern, and you bring your own lunch. Betty Surprenant is coordinating this event. If you are interested in signing up for the class, contact Betty at [betty\\_surprenant@sbcglobal.net](mailto:betty_surprenant@sbcglobal.net) or 991-2546.

### Other Announcements:

- The Rio Grande Chapter will have Suzy Seed, a national Sulky Thread Educator, on Saturday Jan 28 from 9-4 pm. The program is called Thread Play and the price is \$25 for ASG members plus a \$30 kit fee. Non-members are welcome at \$40 for a ticket, plus the kit fee. They are limited to 25 participants. If you are interested, contact Diane Parry at [bparry@rgv.rr.com](mailto:bparry@rgv.rr.com)
- Floriani Seminar at the Singer Sewing Center on February 3,4. The 3-hour seminar is \$30 and space is limited, so contact Susan at 991-5151 to register. The same seminar is given both days. Each attendee will receive a

free package of Floriani items. Susan also has the Frixion pens (that erase with heat) in a variety of colors.

- Peggy Sagers' Education for the Textile Arts (ETA) Conference is on February 11-12 in Dallas at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. The platinum package is \$149 which includes 2 nights at the hotel, 2 class days, and access to the vendor hall. It is possible to take 11 classes in this 2 day period. For more information, go to Peggy's website [www.silhouettepatterns.com](http://www.silhouettepatterns.com) and click on the conference.

All the best... Jean