

TOMORROW...TOMORROW...Our Christmas Party is TOMORROW -- December 13!!!!
The party starts at 11 am and we should finish around 2 pm. Bring a buffet dish and an unwrapped handmade Christmas ornament. This will be an extra special party with all the trimmings...thanks to Elisabeth Chism, Lynn Harris, and Janice Malone! We are setting up the room today. If you are able to help, please stop by the Parkway Presbyterian Church after 10 am and before 4 pm. Lynn Harris has lots of wonderful items for the live auction and buckets, but there is always room for one more. If you have something, please bring it by the Church today. Friends are welcome, but also need to bring an ornament. Reindeer will be selling tickets for the buckets and raffle tickets for Maggie's Cafe au Lait quilt.

Also, Ida Hansen will have nuts for sale at the end of the event -- pecan pieces, walnuts, almonds and assorted flavor pecans. She is donating 10% of the sales to the chapter.

I will have Stash Bash tickets for you to pick up. The Stash Bash is our January workshop.

In 2012, interesting programs are planned for the Tuesday, Saturday and Thursday groups. 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). 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 or 991-2546.

Other Announcements:

- Our Stash Bash will be the workshop for our January Tuesday meeting. So, start looking through your sewing room for items (fabric, notions, patterns, etc) that you would like to sell. Each item needs a "sale ticket" with your name and a price. Fabric also needs to be marked with the width, length and fabric content. I can email these "sale tickets" to you or you can pick them up at the December meeting.
- 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
- 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 and click on the conference.

See you tomorrow!... Jean