



# Needle News

Serving our Neighborhood Groups throughout Manatee and Sarasota Counties

February, March & April 2024

Volume 29, Number 1

## 2024 Chapter Advisory Board

**President:** Lorraine Potter, (941) 773-6198, [lorraine@sgcasg.org](mailto:lorraine@sgcasg.org)

**1st VP:** Lou Burns, (941) 377-4157, [lou@sgcasg.org](mailto:lou@sgcasg.org)

**2nd VP:** Carol Deitzer; (941) 557-9715; [carol@sgcasg.org](mailto:carol@sgcasg.org)

**Secretary:** Jackie Pettit, (941) 224-6014, [jackie@sgcasg.org](mailto:jackie@sgcasg.org)

**Treasurer:** Kathleen Heinicke, (941) 725-7299, [kathleen@sgcasg.org](mailto:kathleen@sgcasg.org)

## CAB Volunteers

**Editor:** Crystal Allred, (941) 685-7108, [news@sgcasg.org](mailto:news@sgcasg.org)

**Program Manager:** Carol Deitzer; (941) 557-9715; [carol@sgcasg.org](mailto:carol@sgcasg.org)

**Events Chair & Ticket Sales:** Carol Deitzer; (941) 557-9715; [carol@sgcasg.org](mailto:carol@sgcasg.org)

**Membership:** Lou Burns, (941) 377-4157, [lou@sgcasg.org](mailto:lou@sgcasg.org)

**Social Media/Marketing/Publicity:** Vacant

**Retail Liaison-N, Storage Unit:** Kathy Pell, (941) 351-4533

**Sunshine Volunteer:** Kimmie Bynum, (912) 617-0148, [sunshine@sgcasg.org](mailto:sunshine@sgcasg.org)

**WEBSITE/Tech Support:** Sandi Dickenson, (941) 371-1465, [sandi@sgcasg.org](mailto:sandi@sgcasg.org)



*ASG Mission:*

*"Advancing Sewing as an Art and Life Skill"*

*Sarasota/Gulf Coast Chapter of ASG*



## Chapter-Wide December Party — Huge Success!



## Upcoming Events

- ♦ 2024 Sewing Retreat. Information — See Page 3.
- ♦ March 14th Bus Trip to The Original Sewing & Quilting Expo. Information & Registration Form — See Page 10.
- ♦ Details on the April 6, 2024 Spring Fling to Be Announced.

## From Your President

Happy 2024. It's hard for me to get my mind around that number, but we all made it this far and we have much farther to go! We have so many exciting sewing events to look forward to this year. Our own neighborhood groups afford us the opportunity to learn new skills, create wonderful projects and spend time in fellowship with our sewist friends. Please try to attend other neighborhood groups this year to experience what they have to offer you.

We will be having our retreat at Day Springs located conveniently off the freeway in Parish from February 12th to 15th. We have had a great response and many of our members and members from other ASG chapters will be joining us for the retreat. We also have a bus trip planned for March 14th to the Original Sewing and Quilting Expo in Lakeland, which is a great event to see the latest fabrics, notions, and techniques used in sewing. I hope many of you plan to ride along.

We never know what the future will bring but our friendship and our sewing helps us to navigate the seas of change. My best to all of you and Happy New Year.

Happy Sewing.

**Lorraine**

Chapter President



### Looking to Buy or Sell Sewing Items?

In case you are looking to sell or purchase sewing related items, items for sale can be listed on our website. Be sure to scroll to the bottom of the page. Contact [Sandi@sgcasg.org](mailto:Sandi@sgcasg.org) if you want to list something for sale. Judy H's Bernina 710 is still available. See our homepage, [Sarasota Gulf Coast Chapter of ASG](#), for details."



### Chapter Advisory Board (CAB)

Each ASG Chapter has a Chapter Advisory Board (CAB) which is composed of elected members and volunteers (i.e., editor, program manager, etc.). Your chapter's CAB is charged with planning and conducting business – all for the benefit of chapter members. CAB meetings are held periodically throughout the year on Zoom and are open to Chapter members.

### Help Us Stay in Contact With You!

Your ASG membership card lists your renewal date. If your name, phone, home address and/or email changes, please go online at [asg.org](http://asg.org) and update your information or notify ASG Headquarters.

Jennifer Kelley at (713) 729-3000, ext. 110  
American Sewing Guild, Inc.  
9660 Hillcroft, Suite 510  
Houston, TX 77096

If you have a new email address, or phone number or mailing address, please update your information. This is how we contact you. Remember, only **YOU** can change your information.

Quilting  
Diane Smith

Phone: 941-228-3849  
4324 Maygog Rd.  
Sarasota, FL 34233  
[mutfmama4324@outlook.com](mailto:mutfmama4324@outlook.com)





*Sarasota Gulf Coast Chapter of the  
American Sewing Guild  
2024 Sewing Retreat*

**February 12—15, 2024**  
**Day Springs Conference Center**  
**8411 25th Street East Parrish, FL**  
**Phone No. 941-776-1018**

Join us for four days of sewing, visiting, dining, or enjoy a walk around the grounds of the DaySpring Episcopal Conference Center in East Parrish at Sarasota Gulf Coast Chapter's Second Annual Sewing Retreat. Please note, this is a retreat, not a conference.

**Costs:**

***Non-Refundable Reservation\*:***

ASG Members — \$75

Non-ASG Members — \$100

***Cabins:***

Private Rooms: \$140.00 Per Night

Semi-Private Per Night Per Person \$110.00 Per Night

***Day-Participants not Staying Overnight:***

Breakfast \$10 per meal

Lunch/Dinner \$15 per meal

**NOTE:**

*All registrations must be received by November 30, 2023.*

*Final payment for total cost of cabins or meals are due January 22, 2024.*

Limited to 65 participants; first come first serve basis.

For additional information, contact Paulette Braga at 941-807-0915 or [paulettebraga@gmail.com](mailto:paulettebraga@gmail.com).



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925 10th St E., Palmetto, FL 34221  
941-729-0511

Follow Us on Facebook @ Quilters Haven LLC.

## Upcoming Quilt Shows

**Quilting by the Gulf XX — Venice Area Quilters Guild**  
**Venice, Florida**

March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9AM to 5 PM

March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 9 AM to 4:00PM

Venice Community Center  
326 Nokomis Ave S  
Venice, Florida



**Gathering of Quilts 2024**

February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 9 AM to 4 PM

February 24<sup>th</sup>, 9 AM to 4 PM

Charlotte Harbor Event &  
Conference Center  
75 Taylor Street  
Punta Gorda, Florida



**2024 Southwest Florida Quilters Guild Show**

March 8th — March  
9th, 2024

Charlotte Harbor Event  
& Conference Center  
75 Taylor Street  
Punta Gorda, Florida



*A new study shows that buying fabric  
and sewing supplies prolongs your  
life.*

*Looks like I'm going to be immortal.*

## Chapter Meetings

Events & Contact Info	Location	Date & Time	Programs
<b>CAB Meetings</b>	Zoom	2 <sup>nd</sup> Friday, each month, beginning at 9:30 AM unless otherwise noted	♦ Chapter business
<b>Neighborhood Meetings</b>			
<b>Anything Sews</b> Lou Burns, (941)-377-4157; lou@sgcasg.org & Valerie Cattley (908) 910-4594, valerie@sgcasg.org	The Modern Sewist, 2264 Gulf Gate Dr, Sarasota Note: Date Changes	4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday, each month, beginning at 10:30 AM, unless otherwise noted	♦ Friday February 2 <sup>nd</sup> — Sew Barbados Bag & continued Wild Card Brown Bag Challenge ♦ Friday, March 26 <sup>th</sup> — Changing necklines on tee shirts with Susi Olson ♦ Tuesday, April 23 <sup>rd</sup> — Brown Bag Challenge Reveal
<b>Creative Sassy Sewers</b> Kathleen Heinicke, (941)-725-7299, kathleen@sgcasg.org & Paulette Braga, (941) 807-0915, paulette@sgcasg.org	South Manatee Branch Library, 6081 26th St W, Bradenton	2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday each month, beginning at 10AM	♦ February 10 <sup>th</sup> — Clothing Alteration Tips & Tricks with Kathleen Heinicke ♦ March 9 <sup>th</sup> — Jewelry Travel Bag ♦ April 13 <sup>th</sup> — Fabric Needle Book with Lorraine Potter & Marsha Semrinec
<b>Pins &amp; Needles</b> Lorraine Potter, (941) 773-6198, lorraine@sgcasg.org	Manatee Central Library, 1301 Barcarrota Blvd W, Bradenton	1st Saturday each month, beginning at 10:00 AM	♦ February 6 <sup>th</sup> — Foldable purse tote bag with Rochelle Cirigliano ♦ March 4 <sup>th</sup> — Tea bag carrier & visit to Bradenton's Bits and Pieces quilt shop ♦ April 6 <sup>th</sup> — A New Way to Quilt as You Go with Dee Miller
<b>Sew Chic</b> Evelyn LeVassuer, (941) 624-6237, evelyn@sgcasg.org	Shannon Staub Public Library, 4675 Career Lane, North Port	4th Monday each month beginning at 11:30 AM unless noted. Bring your lunch & stay awhile.	♦ February 26 <sup>th</sup> — Sew a house dress with Beth Black ♦ March 25 <sup>th</sup> — Carnation Flower Pins with Evelyn LeVasseur ♦ April 22 <sup>nd</sup> — TBD
<b>Sew Social</b> Carolyn Robinette (407) 484-1529, carolyn@sgcasg.org & Jan Yeh, (978) 621-4723, jan.yeh@comcast.net	William H. Jervey, Jr. Venice Library, SILL Conf. Room, 300 Nokomis Avenue south, Venice	1st Tuesday of each Month, beginning at 12:30 PM	♦ February 6 <sup>th</sup> — TBD ♦ March 5 <sup>th</sup> — TBD ♦ April 2 <sup>nd</sup> — TBD
<b>Zoom Group</b> Julie Blood; (941) 661-1324, julie@sgcasg.org & Jann Silverton, (773) 301-9820, jann@sgcasg.org	Zoom	3rd Wed each month from 10-11:30 am	♦ February 21 <sup>st</sup> — Printing on Fabric with Jann Silverton ♦ March 20 <sup>th</sup> — Doll Presentation with Helaine Eckstein ♦ April 17 <sup>th</sup> — Creative Challenge Reveal
<b>Special Interest Groups</b>			
<b>Sew Wearable</b> — Self-motivated group that inspires each other by sharing finished projects. Terry Petti, terry@sgcasg.org	Zoom	3rd Thursday each month at 1:30pm, unless otherwise noted.	♦ February 15 <sup>th</sup> — TBD ♦ March 21 <sup>st</sup> — TBD ♦ April 18 <sup>th</sup> — TBD
<b>Machine Embroidery</b> — Machine embroidery enthusiasts; Crystal Allred (941) 685-7108, crystal@sgcasg.org & Jackie Pettit (941) 224-6014, jackie@sgcasg.org	Zoom & Braden River Library, 4915 53rd Avenue E, Bradenton	1st Friday each month at 2:00 PM, unless otherwise noted	♦ February 2 <sup>nd</sup> — Show & Tell and Embroidery Things Swap ♦ March 1 <sup>st</sup> — Embroidering on Clothes ♦ April 5 <sup>th</sup> — TBD
<b>Chapter Events</b>			
<b>Sewing Retreat</b>	Day Springs Retreat, East Parish	February 12 — 15, 2024	Open Sew
<b>Charter Bus to Lakeland</b>	RP Funding Center, Lakeland	March 14, 2024	Original Sewing & Quilt Expo
<b>Spring Fling</b>	Peridia Country Club, Bradenton	April 6, 2024	Details to follow
<b>REMINDER:</b> If you need assistance to get on Zoom, Jackie Pettit or Sandi Dickenson can assist you in getting set up and running. Don't miss the opportunity to participate.			



# Group Happenings

## Anything Sews

We began 2024 with a Wild Card Brown Bag Challenge. Members brought 3 fat quarters of coordinated fabrics and 1 fat quarter that is a Wild Card. For those who did not bring their fat quarters to the January meeting, we will be continuing the fat quarter exchange at our February meeting. The final reveal of the Wild Card Brown Bag Challenge will be at our April meeting.

## Pins & Needles



Lorraine Potter with Hope Family Services representatives accepting the over 100 bags filled for adults and children.

Our members spend much of their effort in making, filling and delivering ditty bags to Hope Family Services who serve victims of domestic abuse.

## Creative Sassy Sewers

In November, Barbara VanBuren showed us how to make Folded Star hot pads. In December, we joined Pins and Needles for a Christmas Party.

## Sew Chic

Susi Olson lead us in making a Button bracelet in October, and in November, we made party favors for the Xmas party.

## Zoom Group

Congratulations to Jann Silverton who is our Co-Leader of Zoom WW. 2024 promises to be a fun and interesting year, as we interact over the internet with our own Chapter members and ASG members from all over the U.S. We'll sharpen our sewing skills and expand our experiences.

In October, Rochelle Cirigliano taught us how to make the Bindle Bag – a reversible bag with a long handle made by threading it through a grommet.

In November, Glenna Walker from a Texas ASG chapter

challenged us with her PowerPoint presentation on a Capsule Wardrobe, the concept of creating interchangeable outfits with minimal pieces. Color is a big key to this concept.



## SIG-ME — Machine Embroidery

We were unable to meet in November but made up for it at our December meeting which was devoted to Show and Tell. We had a great turnout and it was amazing to see all the really wonderful gifts that were sewn and embroidered. Who could forget the Autumn Fairy made by Mickie McElroy, or the embroidered indigenous scenes by Ellyn Ingalls. These were just



a few of the impressive embroidered pieces shared at the meeting and via Zoom. We began the new year exploring Tile Scenes. While a few of us had actually done



(Continued on page 6)



(Continued from page 5)

any, we were all very much interested in tackling this type of multi-panel machine embroidery.

### SIG – Sew Wearable

Our group is comprised of participating ASG members from Florida, Texas, South Carolina, Nevada and California. We enjoy brainstorming sewing problems, sewing machines and try to help each other with decisions and problem solving.

Each month, we show a short video or two for inspiration and learning. In January, we viewed a sewn jacket and coat, a woven top, children's clothing and more. We discussed a notebook of samples that we created involving a technique that will be used often. The group is comprised of Florida residents, with Texas, South Carolina, Nevada and California participating. We enjoy brainstorming sewing problems, sewing machines and try to help each other with decisions and problem solving.

### *Jay's Fabric Center is Closing!*

*801 Pasadena Avenue South,  
St. Petersburg, Florida*

Jay is retiring and the fabric store is closing at the end of May.

## Maggie Dillion Collage Quilts – Class



For those who attended the Chapter's 2022 Annual meeting, you may remember Maggie's presentation and trunk show of collage quilts. Here is an opportunity to take a class from Maggie.

Tuesday, April 16, 2024, 9:00 AM until 4:00 PM  
Saturday, April 20, 2024, 9:00 AM until 4:00 PM  
Sarasota Community Church  
Registration required

For more information, contact:

Friendship Knot Quilters' Guild, Inc.  
1-941-724-0667  
<https://www.friendshipknotquilters.com>



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# Membership News

By Lou Burns, Jackie Pettit & Jann Silverton

## Thanks to the Following Members for Renewing

Judy Bennett  
Beth Black  
Valerie Breyton  
Linda Bynum  
Irene Ferguson  
Betty Hamilton  
Judy Hasch  
Rosemary (Posy) Havens

Kathleen Heinicke  
Lydia Iddings  
Victoria Kaiser  
Mary Kennedy  
Rita Klimas  
Floy (Nikki) McWilliams  
Pamela O'Keefe  
Susan Olson

Connie Peterson  
Jackie Pettit  
Diana Pickens  
Marie Putnam  
Paula Rockstroh  
Barbara Schermer  
Diane Smith

# Welcome

Karen Bullen  
Judy Wood

## Meet our New Members — Judy Wood & Karen Bullen

**Karen Bullen** is a snow-bird, and goes to their cabin in Colorado for the summer. Before moving to Venice almost four years ago, she lived in Las Vegas and Southern California. She taught beginning sewing at the middle school and the community college. She is willing to teach anything she knows.

Karen has sewn much of her my life — starting young making her clothes. Recently, she has been making bags and small projects. She has also been working on appliqué and making quilts. She loves a challenge and would like to refresh and refine her skills - especially in quilting.

**Judy Wood** lives in Bradenton. She moved to Florida from Wisconsin to help take care of her grandsons. A job transfer brought her son, his wife and one-year-old to Florida. Shortly thereafter, they were expecting twins. What better purpose in retirement than to get to know and help care for 3 grandsons, she thought.

In Madison, she belonged to an RSVP group that met every week to sew for community needs, such as quilts, school bags, walker bags, pillowcases, baby blankets, hats, etc. Judy says her skill level is probably moderate and has have much to learn. She would love to learn new techniques, such quilt-as-you-go and making leather handbags.

Judy would like to continue charity sewing and quilting. An important topic for her is making reusable grocery and shopping bags, and convincing people to use them rather than polluting our waterways with plastic bags.



## ASG MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime phone number \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about ASG? \_\_\_\_\_

**Return to:** American Sewing Guild  
9660 Hillcroft, Suite 510, Houston, TX 77096

☐ New Member ..... \$60

☐ Junior Member (New and Renewal)  
to age 17, or age 22 with student ID ..... \$35

Chapter **Sarasota/Gulf Coast**

☐ ASG Member at Large ..... \$60

☐ Renewal Member ..... \$55  
(if received before membership expiration date)

☐ Late Renewal. .... \$60

Chapter **Sarasota/Gulf Coast**

### Payment

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Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



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[www.penniefabrics.com](http://www.penniefabrics.com)



## March 14<sup>th</sup> Bus Trip to The Original Sewing & Quilting Expo

Tickets are \$45.

Send Check made out to "SCGASG" to:

Kathleen Heinicke  
4212 18<sup>th</sup> Street West  
Bradenton, FL 34205

For more information, contact Kathleen Heinicke.

Cell phone 941-725-7299  
email: Kheinick@tampabay.rr.com

### **BUS STOPS and Pick Up Times**

#### **Venice Bus Stop**

Lowe's Parking Lot, 1745 S. Tamiami Trail, Venice  
Be there at 6:15 am  
Bus departs at 6:30 am

#### **Sarasota Bus Stop**

Parking Lot between McDonalds & Burlington Store,  
Corner of Bee Ridge and Cattleman, Sarasota  
Be there at 7:15 am  
Bus departs at 7:30 am

#### **Bradenton Bus Stop**

Lowe's's Parking lot behind Starbucks, Creekwood Crossing  
SR70, Bradenton  
Be there at 7:45am  
Bus departs at 8 am

### **Bus Return RP Funding**

6:15 pm, ending at the Venice Bus Stop around 8:15pm.

***Only 55 seats available, so register early before  
February 29, 2024***

### ***Registration Form Bus Trip to The Original Sewing & Quilting Expo***

RP Funding, Lakeland, FL  
Thursday, March 14, 2024

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Bus Stop *Circle one*

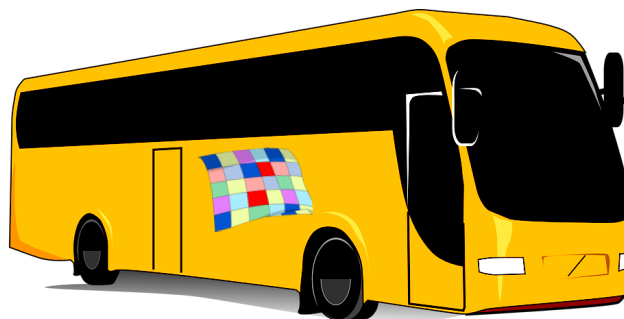
Venice      Sarasota      Bradenton

Tickets are \$45.

Make check Payable to "SGCASG"

Mail check to:

Kathleen Heinicke  
4212 18<sup>th</sup> Street West  
Bradenton, FL 34205



### ***Wanted: Newsletter Submissions***

Have you learned a new sewing tip or technique or found some favorite fabric sources? Have you taken an interesting class (in-person or online) or have a favorite sewing book or video? Let the rest of us know. Just write up a short article (preferably 500 words or less). Accompanying photos are very welcome.

Send your submissions to [news@sgcasg.org](mailto:news@sgcasg.org). The deadline for our next issue is April 1, 2024. We edit for content, clarity and length, and will put in as many submissions as will fit. This is your chapter newsletter and can only be done with your help.



# FIRE SAFETY IN THE HOME

Modified from an article in the Nov/Dec/Jan 2018-2019 Edition of the Needle News, by Sandi Dickenson

## Fire Hazards in The Sewing Room

For those of you who do not subscribe to Groupworks, there was a very important video posted on October 23, 2018. It was about making sure we do not overload electrical circuits by plugging more devices than the circuits can handle safely.

We don't think about electrical hazards — well, unless you live with an electrician or a firefighter. We plug things into our sewing room wall outlet, and then we add an extension strip and plug in more devices without considering the maximum safe AMP limits of the circuit. One tip given was to consider each breaker as an envelope of AMPS or electrical money. You do not want to spend (use) more AMP cash than you have or you could get in big trouble.

We should **ALL** make sure we are sewing in safety. Don't wait until something goes wrong. Go on Groupworks and watch this video for a basic explanation of important sewing safety information.

## Sandi's Tech Tip

Surge protectors/power strips do not last forever, and failed circuits can lead to the destruction of items they are designed to protect. Read the package insert. Most are rated for 15 amps which is the load for your home's circuit breaker, if up to code. When you plug in irons, hair dryers, vacuums and appliances into the same home circuit, it may overload your circuit. If your surge protector is also on this same circuit it should, hopefully, shut down.

Do not attempt to reset it with the same load. Unplug any heavy use item from the surge protector or use the surge protector on another outlet that is tied to a different electric panel circuit. To protect your sewing machine investment it is a good idea to replace your surge protector when it's manufacturer warranty expires. Savvy users also tend to replace them after a serious home power surge or after using it for 5 years.



For additional sewing room safety tips, visit the following websites:

- [Sewing Room Safety: 14 Tips | Yesterday's Thimble \(yesterdaysthimble.com\)](https://yesterdaysthimble.com/sewing-room-safety-14-tips/)
- [Sewing Room Safety: Needles and Pins and Blades - Oh My! - Sew4Home](https://sew4home.com/sewing-room-safety-needles-and-pins-and-blades-oh-my/)



So often we hear, "but I thought you knew about..." The truth is, we don't always find out what's going on in everyone's lives, so we depend on you to let us know. It's what keeps us connected — special anniversaries, births, illnesses, tragedies and recoveries.

**Do you know someone** with a special occasion, major celebration, concern, health issue or loss of a loved one? **Please let** Kimmie Bynum know by calling her at (912) 617-0148 or email her at [sunshine@sgcasg.org](mailto:sunshine@sgcasg.org), so she can send a bit of sunshine their way.

## SEEKING A TUTOR

I recently bought a 20-year-old Bernina Artista 640 and may need occasional help, maybe by phone.

Please contact me if you also own that machine, know of any tutorials or have an Artista project workbook for sale.

*Beth Black*  
941-889-8956

## ASG Discounts

Show your ASG card **before purchase** and **receive a 10% discount**. Our Retailers appreciate it when you thank them for supporting ASG.

**Donna's Beads:** 941-444-7457, 2717 Beneva Road (excludes Books, DVDs, CDs, Magazines, Classes) OPEN Mon-Fri 10 to 5; Sat 11 to 5.

**Pennie Fabrics:** 941-484-0600, 8854 S. Tamiami Trail (Fabrics) **ALSO OFFERS 15% on the first Tues of every month;** OPEN Tues-Fri 10 to 6; Sat 10 to 4.

## Annual Advertising Rates\*

Size	Rate
Full Page	\$100
Half Page	\$60
Quarter Page	\$30
Business Card	\$20

(4 Issues)

ASG Member-owned businesses: 10% off



5305 36th Ave Circle W  
Bradenton, FL 34209

**TO ADDRESSEE OR CURRENT RESIDENT**

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**Wanted:** Articles and photos from Members in the *Needle News*. How about book recommendations, new product reviews, Craftsby class reviews, sewing tips and patterns you like. Neighborhood group leaders and members, please send in photos and descriptions of your group activities. Let's get the word out! We all enjoy seeing members of other neighborhood groups at our meetings. Plan to visit other groups to see what they are sewing. Please submit your articles and photos to [news@sgcasg.org](mailto:news@sgcasg.org). Deadlines are Jan 1st, April 1st, July 1st and Oct 1st. Remember to include names of faces in your photos and what they are about.

**WANTED**

The American Sewing Guild (ASG) is a nonprofit organization of home sewers. Its purpose is to provide information, education and programs for its Members and the Community. Membership is open to the Public. Membership is \$60 and \$35 for Youth Members (through age 17 and extending up to 22 for registered college students).

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

### **Sensitivity Statement**

The American Sewing Guild (ASG) is committed to equal access and opportunity for all. No person shall on the basis of age, race, color, religious creed, national origin or ancestry, sex, sexual orientation, disability or handicap be subject to discrimination whether in employment or any program or activity within ASG.

To foster the spirit of community within ASG and between ASG and the community at large, we will demonstrate respect and sensitivity toward one another through word and deed. In any way representing ASG or participating in an ASG activity, we will not promote or endorse divisiveness regarding any of the above or any other area that may fall into the category of sensitive subject matter.

***What does this statement mean?*** It means that as a nonsectarian, nonprofit organization, we, even more so, are behooved to be kind and considerate of others. We have members of our organization as well as our communities who have different cultural backgrounds, different religious beliefs, and different abilities. It is so easy to offend without intention; we will lessen the opportunity for that by insuring that nothing we do under the auspices of ASG can be in any way interpreted as exhibiting or endorsing any personal beliefs or prejudices.