

ASG Gold Country Chapter
Placerville—126 Members Strong
April—May
2024 Newsletter

- 2 President's Message
- 3 Board 2023
- 4 Neighborhood Groups
- 5 Spring Event
- 6 El Dorado Rose
- 7 Parking Lot Sale
- 8 April/May Program Sew Scrappy/CFF
- 9 Knitters, Garment Makers and Weavers Competition
- 10/11 Info on Sewing Machine Needles & ASG Coupons
- 12 2024 Events – Save the Dates – Education
- 13 Welcome New Members/Message from National
- 14 [Google how to info, from Lydia](#)
- 15 See What's Happening in Our Chapter
- 16 Library Cases
- 17 Classes-Thank You-Events-Newsletter Deadline-ASG
- 18 Membership Application

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE 2024

Have you seen it? The plants are flush with new growth and some are even flowering! I was outdoors these past few days art-dyeing cotton shirts and enjoying the beautiful weather. I won't know if my methods created beautiful results or monstrosities until I can unwrap them tomorrow after 3 days of waiting/setting the dye. Because dyeing can create such a mess, I've had to wait for good conditions to be outside.

If you are interested in attending sewing related classes or events in person or on Zoom, be sure to check our Facebook page often! We have been posting information shared with our Chapter from other ASG chapters, local quilt guilds, and commercial entities. Please feel free to add a post about an activity, museum, gallery, or another sewing group that you would like to share with our members.

Of course, announcements from our Neighborhood Group Leaders are also posted on Facebook so everyone knows what specific activities are coming up. Remember, you can attend ALL of our Neighborhood Groups so gather up your courage and pop in for a peek.

Let's shout out a big THANK YOU to Callie Neville for leading us through the process of preparing an inventory of contents and clearing out our storage unit to save us from an extreme rise in the rent expenditure. She found volunteers to provide new storage space, organized the Chapter's physical assets (mostly charity fabric) and then guided us into an efficient exit. Many thanks to ALL of the volunteers including the husbands who showed up to provide "manpower". We're outta there!

Enjoy this spring weather! Open the windows of your sewing room and sew to the songs of our local birds (barking dogs, hedge trimmers, etc.).

sew Onward, Terry

2024 BOARD

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rox090522@aol.com
(408)-315-8925

Social Media Chairperson - Open

Publicity Chairperson—Open

Looking For 2 Talented Members to Join the Board

Publicity In addition to writing blurbs for local papers, you will be asked to drop a card to our members who need cheering up.

Social Media Chairperson Occasionally send out emails, Coordinate the photos and jpegs from members and manage the Facebook page.

Gold Country ASG Neighborhood Groups 2024

The Art of the Stitch - Using the Concepts of Art and Techniques in Your Work

4th Monday 9:30 a.m., meets virtually

Bobbi Bullard 530-903-0843

bobbibullard@gmail.com

Clothes Fit Fun - Clothing Construction and Fit

1st Thursday 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Light of the Hills Church, Cameron Park

Teri Prouty sewist4fun@gmail.com

Patty Garcia nursepattyg@yahoo.com

Knotty Knitters – All Levels of Knitting and Crocheting

1st Friday 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., Betsy Kerr's home, Placerville

Betsy Kerr 530-295-1922

d.bkerr@sbcglobal.net

Sew Scrappy – Quilting and Small Pieced Projects

3rd Wednesday 9:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Light of the Hills Church, Cameron Park

Liz Harris 530-363-0981

harris5296@yahoo.com

Anne Mintmier 530-644-2739

amintmier@gmail.com

Sew Elegant - General Sewing

3rd Monday 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Light of the Hills Church, Cameron Park

Karen Starkel 916-817-1524

tstarkel2000@yahoo.com

Sew Threads of Love - Charitable Projects for the Community

1st Wednesday 1:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m., Placerville Senior Center

Trish McCrum 530-622-5505

biltrish@comcast.net

Cathy Kinzel 530-303-3568

randckinzel@gmail.com

Sew Threads of Love Too – Charitable Projects for the Community

2nd Friday 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., Rollingwood Clubhouse, Jackson, Amador County

Grace Nolan

gracenolan@comcast.net

Sew-n-Sews Reno - All Things Sewing Related

Reno, Nevada

Verla Jackson

verlamj@gmail.com



**Clubhouse in Diamond Springs Mobile Home Park
3550 China Garden Road, Placerville, CA**

Saturday May 18th, 2024

9:30am- 2pm

Free Admission

RSVP by 5/15/24



- **Show & Tell.**
- **Table Setting Contest: Bring and Showcase a plate setting to Dine in Style, and you may win prizes.**
- **Raffle - One of a kind Gallery ready Landscape Quilt by Fabric Artist Marjan Kluepfel.**
- **Pot luck luncheon- Bring your favorite dish to share, last name:**

A-H : Appetizers & salads, I-P: Main dishes, Q-Z: Desserts

For planning purpose, please RSVP by sending email or text to
Huong Doan, 916-425-9551, hdoan54@yahoo.com ,or
Louise Mast, 909-493-0350, lbmast@yahoo.com.
We look forward to seeing you at the event.

Gail Butler

El Dorado Rose

I decided, as a 5th generation El Dorado County resident (on BOTH sides) that I'd like to honor my family's history and represent the County at the same time. I'm a fan of playing dress up, going to parties, talking and I know a 'bit' about our county – perfect fit! And what a perfect fit for ASG to sponsor me, I will be making my own costumes and it will give me a perfect platform to bring awareness of our amazing chapter to a large audience.

Who is the El Dorado Rose? In 1976 the El Dorado County Fair Special Events Committee discussed the need for a program or event that would honor mature women and their contributions to our community.

Dottie Ingram came up with the idea of a contest to be held. Thus the El Dorado Rose program was introduced and is now sponsored by the El Dorado County Fair. One of the exciting duties of the El Dorado Rose is for her and her court, Miss El Dorado and other dignitaries to “turn on” the lights on the Placerville Christmas tree. Other events include Halloween, chamber of commerce mixers and ribbon cuttings, 4th of July Parade in Pollock Pines, and the Placerville Christmas Parade. The El Dorado Rose is the official hostess for the county with many interesting and fun events to attend throughout the year. The Rose serves as an ambassador representing El Dorado County's storied past.



HIGH SIERRA QUILTERS

Parking Lot Sale

April 20, 2024

(9:30 am – 1:00 pm)

Our Chapter will have two tables at this event. You will find cotton fabrics selling for \$2 - \$3 a yard plus an assortment of fabrics, quilting notions, scrap bags, yarns, buttons, handmade items, and patterns. Cash or checks only.

This is where we need your help. We need items to sell. If you have any items you would like to donate for this sale, please contact: Julia Johnson at: me@sew-vintage.org

Roxann Harris at: rox090522@aol.com Callie Neville at: imabrfan@gmail.com Louise Mast at: lbmast@yahoo.com

High Sierra Quilters is located at: 1263 Broadway, Placerville

*Please do not donate magazines

ALERT: If you would like to do a personal table please contact High Sierra Shop direct.

Oscar will also be having a yard sale: Call for information



Neighborhood Group Activates for April/May

Sew Elegant

In February we started helping each other to make bags made from several free downloadable patterns. The patterns are the Heidi Foldover Clutch by Swoon, the Ramona Mini Hipster also by Swoon, The Tower Crossbody Bag by Sew Sweetness, and the Sunshine Crossbody Pouch by Bagstock Designs. We will continue working on these in March.

In April we will start a new project making Magic Circle Squares. This technique will take squares, turn them into circles and then back into squares that are quilt as you go. Then you join the squares together that can make a variety of projects.

Clothes Fit Fun

CFF is moving right along with the Melody Dolman Blouse by Love Notions. Most everyone is correctly fitted and ready to begin/complete their blouse. We have discussed a lot of techniques from selecting interfacing to this month's demonstration of Baby Hems by Karen Starkle.

Our next "project" will be a knit top. There are several free T patterns available as well as some TNT's (tried and true) that we will discuss.

Also, on April 25, we are planning on taking a field trip to High Fashion and Fabricland stores in Sacramento. If interested, Please contact Teri at sewist4fun@gmail.com or Patti at nursepattyg@yahoo.com

Making it from Wool

The California State Make it With Wool competition is scheduled for October 5-6, 2024 at the Lambtown Festival in Dixon, California, near Davis. Garments must be created from fabric or yarn that is a minimum of 60% wool, and created after January 1, 2024. Fabric swatches are mailed in for testing. There are several categories: Pre-teens (12 and under), Juniors (13-16), Seniors (17-24), Fashion/Apparel Design (for fashion/apparel students only), Adults (25+), Wearable Accessory, and Made for Others. Juniors, Seniors, Adults and Made for Others may enter a one-piece garment; a two-piece garment; or an ensemble consisting of three or more garments worn together at the same time. All contestants must model their own garments, or if you enter the Made for Others category, the intended wearer must model the garments. Please see the Competition Guidelines at the National Website: Makeitwithwool.com. There is a separate entry form for Fashion/Apparel Design entries that are original designs created using flat pattern, draping or CAD methods.

For more information about entering contact: www.lambtown.org. Entry Deadline: September 5, 2024 State Fees: \$15.00 Event Site: Lambtown Festival Dixon. Contest Date: October 5, 2024 Fashion Show Time: 2:00 pm



Sewing Machine Needle Education

System Number 99% of all household sewing machines can take the exact same needle. You can successfully use the same needle on the Bernina 770, Janome MC6700, Brother NS80e, and Baby Lock Joy. Why? Because all of these machines are designed to take a needle of the same "part number" or "system number." On every pack of needles, the needle's system number should be labeled clearly. The confusing part is that the system number can be different depending on the company that manufactures the needle. The most common designations for home sewing machine needles are 130/705H, HA1, HAx1, 15x1. This designation refers to the overall dimensions of the needle: its length, shank diameter, and, in this case for home sewing machines, a flat on the needle shank for easy positioning.

Needle Size Within each system, there are different thicknesses of needles and different needle designs for optimum performance depending on the various fabric and specialty threads with which you are using to sew. Size examples are 80/12, 90/14/100/16 etc... with the largest or thickest size being 110/18. The first number is a European designation (80) and the second (12) is a U.S. designation. As the size of the needle increases, so does the thickness (girth) of the needle, as well as the size of the needle eye (e.g. a size 18 needle has a larger eye than a 12). The manufacturers assume that you will be using a larger thread with a larger needle.

Needle Type The last variation is the needlepoint design. There are dozens of variations in needle points. The most common and most widely used is a "Universal" needle. This needle can be used on all fabrics and should perform well for most applications. It is also the least expensive and therefore should be considered first. If you are getting acceptable results with this needle, then there is no need to pay more for a specialty needle. Specialty needles usually have the fabric type or sewing technique added to the labeling and cost about 50-80% more than a Universal needle. Words you will see on the package are Quilting, Denim, Embroidery, Leather, Knit, Top Stitch, and Microtex. You will also still see words like "Sharp" or "Ball-point." Compare the sizes of the holes in needles. The thing to remember is that Quilting, Denim, and Microtex needles are all sharp-point needles, while Knit or Stretch needles are ball-point. So, if you have a Quilting needle in your sewing kit, feel free to use it on Denim, and vice versa.

General Needle Guidelines

1. Use a high-quality brand of needles. We recommend Schmetz needles. Schmetz is a German Manufacturer and is considered by most experts to be the best needle available.
2. Try your standard Universal needle first before moving on to specialty needles. I generally recommend you don't preemptively use a specialty needle until you encounter issues. However, I have started recommending Topstitch needles to people who have trouble threading their needle, whether they are using their needle threader or threading by hand. Topstitch needles have a larger eye, which makes it easier to thread.
3. If you are not sure what size needle to use, try an 80/12 Universal. It is a great all-around needle for a variety of fabrics and thicknesses. This is what we use in our service department at The Sewing Machine Shop.
4. If you are getting skipped stitches on stretch/knit fabric, use a ballpoint or stretch-designated needle. This will reduce what we call flagging and aid in stitch formation and fewer skipped stitches.
5. If you are getting a slightly zig-zaggy straight stitch on wovens, try a Sharp, Denim, Microtex, or Quilt needle. The sharp point will break the fabric strand during penetration instead of deflecting to one side or the other of the fiber strand to create a better-looking straighter stitch.



Needle System circled in red. Needle Size circled in green. Needle Type circled in yellow.

Continued on the next page.

6. If you are getting shredding or unusually high thread breakage, try a Topstitch or Embroidery needle. These needles have a larger eye (for example: an 80/12 may have the eye of a 110/18 allowing thread to flow through the eye more easily).

Common Misuses I see with Needles: 1. Too large a needle size is being used. A needle is not a nail. Try using a 12 instead of a 16 or 18 on thick fabric. It is easier for a pin to go through something thick than it is for a nail. Large-diameter needles can lead to many problems. 2. Too small a needle size is being used. Any size under an 11 should be extremely rare. Very few threads flow smoothly through the small eyes of 10 or below. Also, the small hole created with these needles is rarely large enough to provide a space for the thread knot to tuck into. Needle threaders rarely work and are often bent with needles smaller than an 11 or 12. 3. Expensive specialty needles are being used when not needed. Why pay more? 4. Dull or bent needles in your machine create a popping sound and poor stitch quality. 5. Needle not fully inserted or inserted backwards creating skipped stitches and thread breakage. When you insert the needle, the flat side of the needle should face the back of the machine. "Flat to the back" is the rule on the vast majority of home swing machines.

A Few Other Notes on Needles • I've seen manufacturers, such as Janome, state in a machine's instruction manual that the machine can only take Janome-branded needles. This is not true. I really wish Janome, who I love, would stop doing this. • Many modern machines are designed with a sweet automatic needle threader. However, the needle threader is prone to breaking if you use a needle size smaller than 80/12. I wrote about this in great detail in my two previous articles on needle threaders: **Needle Threaders Part 1 - Needle Threaders Part 2** • If I had to guess, I would say I troubleshoot *at minimum* 5 machines every day at The Sewing Machine Shop. I am going to start keeping a tally of the different issues I see and come back to you with the results after a month or so of data. My bet is that using a bent needle is the leading culprit of skipped stitches and poor stitch quality. That is all to say, if you suddenly encounter skipped stitches or poor stitch quality, change your needle and re-thread your machine. I wrote about why bent needles are a problem in a previous article called **Bent Needles & Skipped Stitches**. Subscribe here for more free, weekly, educational articles, like this one, by Cale. Reprinted with permission by Cale Schoenberg.

This article was published in the Fort Collins, CO ASG newsletter.

Want Sewing Discounts?

Remember to check the members-only section of the ASG website for the special offers and discounts available through your ASG membership. Our industry supporters need to see orders to know you appreciate their



2024 Events and Save the Date

Spring event: May 18, 2024 9am-2pm.

Sewing Camp 2024: Is postponed until further notice

Summer event: Last in-person Conference: June 27-July 1, 2024 San Francisco

Sewing in the Woods Fall Retreat

September 29 – October 5, 2024

NOTE camp is back to 5 days.

Registration will open May 1 and close May 31.

EDUCATION WORKSHOPS

! “Educational Workshops are a big part of ASG – we inspire to learn and share our skills – **SEW what tickles your fancy** – come forth and tell us what you would like to learn or share with others. Let Education Chair Julia know at “me@sew-vintage.org”



In-Person Conference

San Francisco, CA

June 27 - July 1, 2024

Plan on joining us in 2024 in San Francisco.

If interested in joining Terry and several other call Terry and let her know.



Have you moved? Or changed your email address or phone number?

Please let ASG National know by going to the www.asg.org/members section and updating your information. Your chapter does not maintain the membership address list. If you have any questions or need help, contact me.

New Member: Sarah Huey, Placerville

Roxann Harris—Membership Chair

Rox090522@aol.com — 408-315-8925

From: Sue Langley- Raleigh—-ASG National

Date: Sun, 17 Dec 2023 05:08:28 PST

Good Morning All! I want to share with you that the board would like to offer an article each quarter to be included in your newsletter. It will be some update from national of interest for your membership. I realize that every chapter does their updated newsletter at different times but I hope it will be timely for everyone. If your newsletter editor is not on Groups.io then please pass it on. The first one is...

You might not have heard, so I want to inform you, that the conference this year in San Francisco will be our last in-person conference for a while. The board of directors looked at the past attendance and we realized that only a small percentage of our members attend the conferences.

So we want to make this one very special and hope you can attend! June 27 – July 1. Be on the lookout for other opportunities for education, shopping and fellowship!

--

Sue Langley

National Liaison

Past President

Raleigh Chapter, NC ASG

HOW TO ACCESS GOOGLE TO STORE YOUR INFORMATION FOR THE NEWSLETTER AND SHARE WITH OTHERS

Just wanted to review what may help 'organize' stuff that is in storage and which is of interest to various groups or CAB members.

We could create a google folder within which are various documents or spreadsheets (preferable as it can be made to be similar across multiple users). The group would identify the their file by name. The folder would be public as would all files within it.

Here's the link to the folder: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1hdvGXirYLSwdBt0aCXo6Tdpns2ENHqUJ?usp=sharing>, inside of which is a spreadsheet that I created based on Callie's listing of items found in the storage unit. This is just an example of items to identify and the various qualifiers for each item (box, bag, bolt, bin), how many, and contents. The file I created was: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1pq_kwN9ra8Gq8Zdnpt3eORE7qrjLh6RyQV0bW2T14s/edit?usp=drive_link

The file itself should be accessible as it is inside of a 'public' folder. I've added a screen shot of the file contents.

—Lydia

Thank you Lydia

Here's a quick rundown of features that Google offers. This is really an overview of navigation but may help to better understand what you can do with a Google account. I happen to access 4 google accounts all the time, so knowing 'which' one you're in is easily found (upper right corner). I do mention about uploading files (that's what the "New +" icon is for) - you can upload or create folders or files.

Here's the link to the file I just wrote up: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1DNT2_8XVw8GY7vW2QWvZ6r0OwvXOf_xo7QdidOE1FQk/edit?usp=sharing

SEE WHAT OUR CHAPTER IS DOING ??????



I see your work on FB but no one sent it to the Newsletter

Hello All,

If you're ready to try sewing men and women's casual garments, then we're the group for you. Specialty Garment Techniques meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month at Raley's, O-N-E Market, 3935 Park, El Dorado. For more information please contact:

Julia Johnson: me@sew-vintage.org

Roxann Harris: rox090522@aol.com

LOOKING FOR NEWS



Check out what National has to offer. -----



Your NG news could be here.

In Today's ASG Blog

I've Been Framed!
handbag frames



American Sewing Guild
ASG.org

Library Display Cases

El Dorado Hills and Placerville

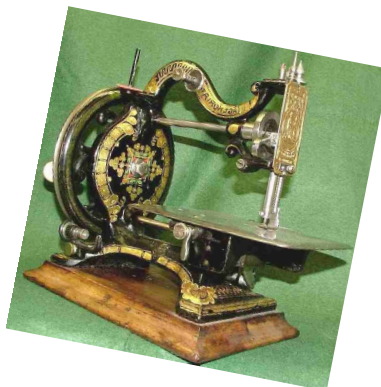
Time For Us To Show Off What We Do

Our ASG group has reserved the display cases at the library for the month of September. What we plan to display what we do for the communities of Eldorado and Amador, our garment groups, general sewing, knitting etc. Below are just 3 of the cases that will be available to us.



Keep those fingers going and sewing machines humming. Knit Knit,

Stich Stich



Classes – Classes - Classes

Gold Country Chapter of ASG offers Classes

“Be sure and check the Education page and see what Julia has to offer our Chapter”

Facebook –you can keep in touch: [Gold Country Chapter](#)
Gold Country’s website: www.goldcountryasg.org

Check out some of what National ASG has to offer:

A blog with many new and old ways of doing things – a good resource

Over a 150 videos and online classes

Contact with members from around the globe

Many ideas from other chapters

Storage of Bobbins, Humble Seam Ripper, Drape and Shape 1 hour Vest, Beautiful Button Holes.

www.asg.org

Online sewing classes and events through ASG website.

Go to the member’s page and read the Newsletters from everywhere there is a chapter – fun and inspiring.

ASG conference coming up in San Francisco

June 27—July 1 Join us

Remember to shop local:
Debbie and her staff at High
Sierra Quilt Shop –
Placerville and Oscar and
his staff at Brothers Sew
and Vac – Cameron Park

Lydia has set GCASG up with an easy way to send information out to the group and there is a place called **PHOTOS** please post all pictures there and I will pull them from there for the Newsletter.

“A note from the Newsletter editor: If you have information for the Newsletter Flyers, printed info please send to me at slwagner2015@gmail.com by the **15th of the month**. Regarding photos Lydia has set up a Google Group Page for ASG and there is a place to post all pictures PLEASE post them there, and then send me an email that they are there. The newsletter is being published 6 times a year but I will gather the information as you send it. **PLEASE DO NOT SEND INFO FOR THE NL AS A PDF.** The next Newsletter will be published June 1. Thank you, Sandy”

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 Placerville-Gold Country, CA

- ASG Member at Large \$60
- Renewal Member \$55
(if received before membership expiration date)
- Late Renewal \$60

Chapter _____

Payment

- Check payable to "American Sewing Guild"
- MasterCard | Visa | AmEx | Discover

Account#: _____

Expiration Date: _____ CVV# _____

Signature: _____

Join ASG today!
Go to www.ASG.org or fill out the
application form below.