

# MUDSOCK MESSENGER

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## From the President's Pen

*"The first time you decide to leave your sewing machine up or your work out, you have started your studio."* Jean Ray Laury, Quilters Newsletter Magazine, April 1994

I love this quote. When I first started quilting I realized that I had to find a place to sew where I could leave my machine up with the project pieces ready. Over the years my machine spent time in every room in my house except the bathroom. When the sewing gear was in the dining room or on the kitchen island it interfered with making and eating dinner. When I moved it all to my bedroom I had trouble sleeping with my projects so close at hand. Finally I was able to carve out a sewing space in the basement in one house and upstairs family room in the next. I never thought of my space as a studio. It was my sewing room usually sharing space with other family leisure activities.

Here I am lucky enough to have a room dedicated solely to my sewing activities. I was even lucky enough to choose cabinets and counter tops to optimize the storage and work space. I might even think about calling it my studio.

Every time I established a dedicated sewing space I would sew when time allowed and not worry about picking it all up. I remember some of those times when I was so obsessed that I would move right on to the next project. Before long my sewing room looked like a bomb had gone off in it. Everything was a jumble and I couldn't find a spot to work. It was not long before I realized that clean up was a necessary part of the process.

What I also learned is that for me it is the culmination of the creative process. As I cleaned up I put all the pattern pieces in an envelope, label them and file them away in my project drawer. I get a chance to touch all the fabrics again, remembering the ones I felt sure were the right selections and noting the ones that I had been hesitant about. Sometimes I got a surprise about how well these choices worked out, other time not so well. Occasionally a view of the finished piece would expose a mistake—a dark where a light should be or an upside down block segment. Bummer—but it is okay.

Next quilt I'll spend more time studying the arrangement or remember to layout the whole piece before starting to sew. It is all part of learning, it's practice on the way to perfect.

I am sure once again in clean up mode for my sewing room/studio. The rush to finish Christmas sewing has my space in an uproar. There is fabric piled on the chair in the corner, most of the rulers are spread out across the cutting counter and there is a pile of patterns and magazines that need to be sorted. At this time every year I begin the clean up process once again, I like to reflect on my quilting life for 2011 and start a plan for 2012. In 2011, I joined Mudsock Quilters and met new quilting friends. I made two I Spy quilts for my granddaughters. In 2012 I hope to start two quilts for my guest room, I've been collecting batiks—all I need is to decide on a design. Oh, I don't want to forget the zipper bags for crayons that never got made for Christmas—I need to add them to the list. I wonder, will this be the year I commit to finishing a UFO before I start anything new. We'll new.

*Marion Newell*

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## Block of the Month Swap

Jan 2012 begins the BOM swap. Rosie Antonides will do the first month—You will be given the pattern, fabric, already cut -ready to sew and see a series of sample at the January 9th meeting and kits will be ready to go home with you!





**NEWS FROM THE "SEW-IN "**  
**AS TOLD BY ~ 20065**



**JANUARY 19**—Hey, what's going on—I hear you will be coming to visit me **"on the first and third Thursdays "** starting Jan 19th 2012!! I can hardly wait to see what everyone will be working on—hopefully everyone got their Christmas presents finished and given away—2012 is **"LEAP YEAR"** so you will have an extra day, will go fast and soon be time to 2012 **CHRISTMAS!!** Did everyone get some new sewing helpers - I can just hear the **"buzz going around the barn"** Remember to bring with you what you will need to work on your projects with—i.e. sewing machine, iron, ironing board, etc. There will be plenty of space for everyone to work—

Cell phone number for the barn 317-691-0282 if you are lost or have questions!

**MEETING SCHEDULES FOR 2012— JANUARY 9 2012 9:30 A.M.**

**"Share Our Skills"** is the program for the January meeting. There will be four stations to visit and learn about –Machine ,Hand Appliqué, Quilt Patties and the Nifty Knitter.

Some activities will be hands on and others will be a demonstration format. *For the hands on activities you will need your PSK-personal sewing kit which should contain scissors, a few straight pins, needle, neutral thread and a thimble if you use one!*

**FEBRUARY 13,2012 QUESTIONS & ANSWERS**—we will be answering some of your questions on your index cards returned to the Jan meeting. We need 4 or 5 experienced quilters to be the panel to answer these questions. Each quilter should be prepared to answer three questions at the Feb. meeting. Each panel member will choose the questions she wants to answer. Some answers may require a demo or props. Please see Marion Newell to volunteer. This should be a fun meeting.

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**Dear Susie Snowflake** —We have an urgent request—Mudsock Quilters' Guild needs a **Vice President**— You make the world such a beautiful place when you sprinkle your magic glitter. **Vice Pres.** is an awesome job you get to help plan the programs (some plans are underway), get a chance to work with some of the most helpful people this side of the Mississippi—will be in the know on what's happening with the Mudsock Quilt Guild. I've even hear a rumor that you will be paid twice what the last Vice President was paid! Please sprinkle some of *the magic sparkle you use on your beautiful snowflakes on a members of Mudsock Quilters*

**PSK -**  
**Scissors, Straight**  
**Pins. Thread, Needle**  
**Thimble. Something**  
**to take notes with!**



Kathy Jensen reports you all are A+ Members for your donations of hats and items for the food pantry— Let's keep her smiling with Donations!



**2013 QUILT SHOW CHAIRMAN** (see her picture on the right)—She's looking for people to sign up for a lot of fun things to do for the 2013 Quilt Show—*Don't wait until all the good jobs are taken—be first in line!* Susie has awesome plans — she needs willing hands to help her make this the best yet!



Susie Cook