



# President's Highlights

Happy February everyone. I hope you are all off to a good start on your sewing goals and dreams for this year. One of my goals is to update my sewing room. As I sit here working on my plan, I'm reminded of the days when I didn't have a dedicated space. I'd have to haul out my machine, setting it up and tearing it down at the kitchen table between meals. And, cutting out fabric was a real challenge! Generally, I'd be on my knees on the floor. So glad those days are over!

**NEWS FLASH!!** - There is a last minute opening at the Retreat this year. The dates are Thursday February 6 through Sunday February 9 at the Sunset Quilt Retreat in Sunset Texas. The cost is \$275 for the four days and includes all of your meals. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Sharon Merlot at [slcarter617@gmail.com](mailto:slcarter617@gmail.com).

We have so many activities going on this spring. First of all, I hope everyone interested in Couture Sewing Techniques will mark their calendar for March 7th. The Special Events Committee has been developing an event you won't want to miss! They have invited Lynda Maynard to share her couture sewing techniques. If

you attended Kenneth King's workshop last year this will build on those techniques. Registration just opened, but there will be a limited number of participants. So [click here](#) and sign up! You won't regret it.

The 2020 Challenge is upon us - "The Red Hot Mess". Everyone who participates will receive two yards of red t-shirt knit, 60" wide and 10 tape measures. There are no limits to what can be made but at least half of the fabric must be used. OK, well there is a limit. We must be able to see the red fabric - so no tricks - don't use it for stuffing. Using the 10 tape measures is optional but bonus points will be given for their creative use. The deadline is some time in the Spring; to be determined. If you're interested in participating, please contact me and I'll get you a packet.

For those of you who don't yet know, the ASG National Conference will be in San Antonio this year. It is a wonderful sewing event with days of classes for gathering new ideas and learning new techniques, lots of shopping and also making new and seeing old friends. The San Antonio Chapter and National BOD is hard at work behind the scenes making it an event to remember. And, keep in mind that you can stay in a hotel with no meals to cook or cleaning to be done; what more could a sewer want? If you're thinking of attending, sign up now for a hotel room...they go fast at the ASG rate. Go to [asg.org website and click on conference](#). I'm looking forward to seeing many Plano Chapter members!

National ASG is introducing a Challenge to all Chapters...10% increase in membership. We have been at a steady number for over a year now. Debbie Bowles has been working to increase membership or retain more members, but the numbers haven't budged. Now I'm asking everyone to help with this initiative. If we can build a larger, more involved group then there is more opportunity all around - more Neighborhood groups (NG), more workshops, more socialization, etc. Please help me by inviting new members and sewing friends to your favorite NG. When at meetings look for new faces or wallflowers and introduce yourself. Engage them, finding out their sewing interests and making connections; if possible, see if they will volunteer for a regular "job". There are always openings on the CAB as well as NG Leaders or members who could use a helping hand or co-worker. People who are involved are more liking to stay active members. Another idea is to "Gift a Membership". When looking for a gift for a non ASG sewer, consider if they might enjoy being a member of our lovely organization. Gifting a membership give them the opportunity to join in the many activities and learn the benefits of our organization taking advantage of all we have to offer.

And, speaking of challenges, it's time to start thinking about entering the Texas State Fair competition. There are plenty of categories to chose from, such as Designer

Craftsman, Dolls, Needlework & Sewing, Holiday Corner. Our own Debbie Reid has won many times. And you could to! I urge you to take a look on the [bigtex.com website](http://bigtex.com). Click on "Get involved". You will be amazed at what is included in each category. Direct from Debbie Reid, "Wouldn't it be fun if Plano ASG members had more winning entries in 2020 than anyone else? Come join me and let's do it!"

Kelli Robertson is working to keep our Fabric Store Map information up-to-date. Please contact her with any openings or (sadly) closings at [robertsonkelli@hotmail.com](mailto:robertsonkelli@hotmail.com). She will update our website in a special sections she created under the Fabric Store Map.

In other news, the Austin Bullock Texas State History Museum is presenting an exhibit now titled "Fashion Forward" that runs through April 22. For those interested here is the link - [Fashion Forward | Bullock Texas State History Museum](#).

Happy creating,  
**Marie**

In this email: Chapter events | Member benefits | CAB information

### Let's Get Together at Our Chapter Events

Check out the [calendar](#) to get info on Neighborhood group meetings, Homegrown Workshops, Special Events and other sewing related events around town.

### What's New on Social Media?

In case you missed it, here are the a couple of our most popular posts from last month.



### ***A Podcast Suggestion***

If you have been looking for some ear candy ....

[Find out more about this recent Facebook post>>](#)



### ***A Plano ASG Tutorial Short***

Sometimes we just really need a tiny, narrow hem .....

[Watch the video on Instagram>>](#)

Click the buttons below to follow us on social media and keep up with the latest sewing community and chapter news.



[Plano ASG Facebook](#)



[Plano ASG Instagram](#)



[Plano ASG Website](#)

## **Monthly Neighborhood Group Highlight**

Every month our neighborhood groups host fun and educational meetings. Each month we will highlight one of them to help you get to know them better. If something peeks your interest, go visit and join the fun!

## *Meet the West Side Sew Group*



This group meets **at the Coppell Public Library** located at 177 N. Heatrz Road on the **4th Saturday of each odd month at 10:15 AM**. They focus on learning and sharing garment sewing techniques, meeting nearby friends for sewing advice and help with fitting and sharing ideas to inspire each other. Several members also have experience in the areas of hand-sewing/needlework and fiber arts. Recent topics have included tips for sewing with faux fur, a hands-on fitting workshop, making customized buttons, and mix-n-match wardrobe planning..

To join the mailing list and receive monthly emails about West Side Sew meetings, scroll to the **very bottom** of this email and click "Update Your Preferences" and check the box by the West Side Sew group.

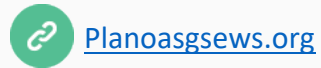
## Don't Forget Your Member Benefits!



- [Conversations](#): Member only discussion board
- [ASG Online! Videos & Projects](#) plus [Chapter tutorials](#)
- See our [website](#) for store discount details and exclusions.

## Your Chapter Advisory Board (& More)

- President: [Marie Barrese](#) (click on the name to email)
- Co-VP and Special Events Chair: [Karen Neal and Beverly Vance](#)
- Community Service Chair: [Carol Boyd](#) (volunteer!)
- Donations Manager: [Mary Anderson](#) (donate!)
- Homegrown Workshop Coordinator: [Terri Baker](#)
- Membership Co-Chairs: [Debby Bowles and Linda Davis](#)
- Retail Liaison: [Maggie Tinnin](#)
- Retreat Coordinator: [Sharon Carter-Merlo](#)
- Social Media/MailChimp Manager: [Sheryl Belson](#) (send me pictures!)
- Special Events Photographer: [Barbara Pena](#)
- Storage Unit Team: [Pam Walker](#), [Mary Anderson](#), and [Jane Dempsey](#)
- Treasurer: [Sandie Griego](#)
- Website Co-Chairs: [Kelli Robertson and Sheryl Belson](#)



*Copyright © 2020 Plano Chapter of the American Sewing Guild, All rights reserved.*  
You are receiving this email because you requested information from the Plano Chapter of the American Sewing Guild

**Our mailing address is:**

Plano Chapter of the American Sewing Guild  
4219 High Star Lane  
Dallas, TX 75287

[Add us to your address book](#)

Want to change how you receive these emails?  
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).



