

## WOW Quilt Guild Meeting - February 24, 2020

Social Hour – 6:30-7:00 pm

Meeting—7:00-9:00 pm

### Speaker

Sara Hardwig shared that her mom introduced her to quilting. Her mom had a gift shop in Bemidji and Sara sewed many of the samples for the shop. Sara enjoyed sewing embroidery and cross stitch. Sara enjoys drawing. She later learned to sew with a sewing machine.

Sara's first pattern designed was an embroidery pattern for six small ornaments. She has designed 104 patterns and some are discontinued now. Sara found that quilters like embroidery patterns with good directions.

In 2007, Sara and her mom were both designing patterns and approached by a distributor and they picked up their patterns.

When wool became popular Sara's mom carried wool and wool applique patterns. Sara's mom taught her to applique with wool and Sara designed pattern #18. Sara showed the pattern and sample.

Sara showed more examples of her pattern and samples in a **trunk show** that included:

- Best seller: Trim a tee with snowmen and buttons
- Worst: Kites in Clouds – Sara learned she should have set the pattern design aside and come back to it later, rather she than continuing to design it and published the result.
- Sara's patterns often include options: Patchwork forest with applique or embroidery with options to finish it.
- Dish towel patterns (Sara likes these because no finishing needed). An embroidery floss skein has 6 threads and the use of two threads of two colors provides more depth.
- Batting with lightweight loft is placed behind stitches and will hide the stitches too. The use of fusible shape flex SF101 can be fused on and then trace on the pattern.
- Snow birds, sewn mostly with two strands, Sara likes to use different stiches on the same projects.
- Hoop embroidery with buttons, with a saying "We love to stitch..." Consider an oval rather than round hoop.

Embroidery Stitches: Sara described that embroidery stitches she likes are:

- Outline stitch called stem stitch to overlap the stitches
- Backstitch to meet up the stitches for small stitches (Sara likes this stitch)

Floss: Sara suggests using DMC floss because it is easy to get the colors and it is less expensive. Other brands provide variegated colors, e.g., Weeks Dye Works, but it may not be color fast.

Background fabric: Sara likes background fabric from Moda, called "Primitive muslin"

Needle: Sara like size 8 need from Peace Makers brand.

Sara starts with drawing and then stitches "through my window" and provides large finish edges.

Templates: Copy templates with light box:

- Trace with water based marker, dab or spray
- If iron the template, it is hard to get off or use a pigma pen

Sara shared patterns and kits.

### **Meeting Updates and Activities**

- **Secret Quilter** – Cindy Stinson encouraged members to sign up with the Secret Quilter form and it will start in two weeks.
- **Show and Share** – Sixteen individuals shared items completed, block of the month, embroidery quilts, microwave bowls, table runners, small quilts, and UFOs.
- **Treasurer's Report** – Alice Barrera
  - Alice shared the current WOW asset value as of December 31, 2019 started on \$11,872.21, income of \$1,454.70 and expenses of \$823.86, for an ending balance of \$12,503.05
- **Community Service** – Mary H. shared the survey results about Community Service projects and the top activities are:
  - Lap quilts for nursing home with a need (low income or low visited)
  - Walker bags – Walker bags for Methodist Hospital will be part of the March 30 Quilt In. The Quilt In is schedule for the Church from 9 am – 4 pm. Carol Henderson will provide the pattern and held coordinate for the Rehab Center.
  - Home teen center, Youth Link
  - Placemats for Meals on Wheels
  - Student with Disabilities, Wayzata High School. Mary shared additional information on the small quilt project and provided examples for an event that could be scheduled on a Saturday at the High School.
- **Small Groups** – Carol shared that WOW members can join and/or lead Small Groups sessions and could be expanded for:
  - Community Service activities
  - Jen Kingwell quilts (fabric and designs)
  - Embroidery
  - Wool Applique
- **Social Media** – Kevin shared the results on the use of Social Media – Facebook, Instagram, Linked-In.
- **Fabric Favorites** – Kevin shared the results on the survey about favorite fabrics and Batik was the top fabric, and included other favorites of Kaffe Fassett, Tula Pink, Alex Henry, etc.
- **Mentoring** – The mentoring activity will be shared in the next newsletter.
- **Community Service** – Quilts donated can be directed to where you choose.
- **Membership Report** – Kevin shared that 60 people attended the meeting, including 8 new members and 4 guests.
- **Birthday Club** - Generated \$55
- **Quilts Valor** – Terri Good shared that 2-3 quilts are distributed each month and many quilts will be needed for Veterans Day. Individuals can make quilts or take kits and sew the blocks.
- **Prizes** - A few prizes were awarded at the end of the meeting.