

KENTUCKY

MASTER

CLOTHING

VOLUNTEER

PROGRAM



*"extending clothing
knowledge and skills"*

April
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Newsletter

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CLOTHING & TEXTILES PROGRAM

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Bobbin' along with Marjorie

Spring has gotten off to a busy start. I just returned from teaching at and attending the *It's Sew Fine: Sewing Expo for Home and Family* at General Butler State Resort Park. In May I'm off to Bowling Green to do a learning session with Linda Heaton for Kentucky Extension Homemaker Association's state meeting.

The MCV Steering Committee welcomed Nell Jordan, CMCV, and Mary Averbeck, Extension agent for 4-H Youth Development to their spring meeting held the first part of March. Plans are underway for the mid-rotation training in October; please mark your calendars for October 12 – 14, 2011. Plan now to attend. We will be offering some tried and true classes for the newer folks and a new one here and there for the more experienced. Notice I did not say "old folks". We are all young as we keep learning more and more.

I continue to be impressed with the skill sets of our ladies in the MCV program. I have been busy checking samples from the new class. With that said, I have picked up a trick or two from them that I can't wait for them to share with everyone.

If you were unable to attend the *It's Sew Fine: Sewing Expo*, you missed the opportunity to meet Pam Damour, the Decorating Diva. She was refreshing and full of sewing tips for home decor projects that could also be applied to clothing construction. I encourage you to check out www.sewontv.com where you can watch videos of her techniques. I highly recommend her video on *Magic Miters, Hems and More*. There are many *Sewing with Nancy* serger and sewing technique videos on demand at this website, as well.

Finally, I want to invite everyone to join a T-Shirt Challenge. See details later in the newsletter.

Marjorie M. Baker

Marjorie M. Baker, M.S.
Extension Associate for Clothing and Textiles



SPOTLIGHT



Elaine Kohler

CMV Kenton County Class of 2002

Elaine was first introduced to sewing as a freshman in high school and “fell in love with it.” She found creating something out of a piece of fabric was very satisfying. Elaine spent 4 years in high school home economics and aspired to be a home economics teacher, but her father didn’t believe in further education for a girl.

Elaine enjoys teaching kids and finds a great deal of satisfaction in seeing their progress. (Maybe this fulfills her dream of being a home economics teacher!) She also looks forward to her time at Jabez and being part of the camaraderie of the Master Clothing Volunteers. Elaine’s grandchildren have been part of the 4-H program and have created pajamas, shorts, western shirts, tailored suits, and wearable art with her help. They continue to sew for themselves; Moriah made her own dorm curtains.

Elaine lives with her husband, Bob and 2 Yorkies in Piner, Kentucky. Between them they have 5 boys and 1 girl with a total of 12 grandchildren. Elaine has sewn for all of the grandkids: Easter and Christmas outfits, prom formals, and even a teddy bear for the youngest. The most unusual item Elaine has ever made is a leather tractor seat for her husband. Elaine is a gifted seamstress making her own bedspreads, curtains, and tailored

outfits. She has made one quilt which she said “would be her first and last!” She much prefers spending her sewing time creating clothing and home decoration items.

In addition to sewing, Elaine has helped with 4-H cake decorating projects. She also enjoys working with FCS extension programs through membership in the Independence Homemaker club.



Nancy Rodgers

CMV Kenton County Class of 2002

Nancy remembers playing on her Mom’s old treadle machine with scraps of fabric when she was about 8 years old. Her love of sewing has never waned. Her first 4-H project was a table cloth and 4 napkins that she stitched by hand. She was embarrassed by her red ribbon, but did not give up. She continued in 4-H until high school and then sewed in home economics. She had dedicated 4-H leaders and home economics teachers and wanted to give back what she had been given. This led her to volunteering in 4-H as a sewing mentor and then to the Master Clothing Volunteer program. She is so glad she joined the program. She “found out how much she had to learn.” Nancy resides in Edgewood with her husband, Bob. They will be married 50 years in April. They reared two daughters and one son. The children learned to sew and made t-shirts in the ‘Stretch and Sew’ days, even Rob. Becky, her daughter, used to bring home her home economics projects to see if the teacher

was teaching it correctly! Becky, 46, recently lost a battle with lung cancer. Nancy enjoys handwork because it is so relaxing. When her granddaughter was born she learned to smock. She is hoping to have a great-granddaughter to smock for soon. Nancy is currently working on piecing a Grandmother's Garden quilt by hand. She intends to quilt it by hand, also. Nancy had an unusual business for several years. She designed, sewed, and sold custom neck wear. Her ties graced the necks of CEO's, bank presidents, and an air force general when he was out of uniform, as well as, family members who looked forward to their Christmas gift of ties each year! Her ties always won blue ribbons at the Ohio State Fair.



◦DOROTHY DO RIGHT◦

Bobbin Thread Got You All Wound Up?

submitted by Pat Douglas

We all know there are many different types and brands of thread, but did you know that they vary greatly with each brand. Not all brands work the best for your machine. You must be the judge.

After purchasing bobbin thread for my embroidery machine on the Internet I didn't give it another thought. A few weeks later I sat down to embroider. I was excited to get sewing, but my machine was not cooperating. It was a disaster. The bobbin thread kept pulling to the top. The tension was awful.

Not to worry, I changed the needle and rethreaded the machine, still no luck. Cleaned in the bobbin area and put in a smaller needle, still no luck. I was really frustrated as my time to sew was wasted. As my machine was still under warranty, I took it back to the dealer to fix the tension. When I picked it up I couldn't wait to sew. You guessed it, the bobbin tension was still a mess.

So now I thought long and hard over what had happened that was different. It worked perfectly the last time I sewed. Then I remembered the new bobbin thread. Purchasing new thread at the quilt shop did the trick. It worked beautifully. I breathed a sigh of relief.

Having this large spool of bobbin thread, I let a friend use it, and it worked fine in her machine. Go figure.

I could see a real difference in the new bobbin thread. It was very thin with no hairy fibers showing. After this revelation I took a magnifying glass to check out all my threads. You would be surprised to see the differences. Being choosy about the thread you use can prevent expensive repairs to your sewing and embroidery machines.

My research after this bad experience led me to reread an article from *Threads* magazine "How thread is made and how it affects your sewing" volume 144 pages 30-35. I recommend you read it, also.



Seminole Patchwork

Seminole patchwork dates back to the late 1800s when the hand crank sewing machine was introduced to the Seminole Indians of Florida. Seminole patchwork is believed to be the first developed form of strip piecing.

Three or more long strips of fabric are cut and sewn together. These strips are then sub-cut into narrow crosswise strips that are offset and sewn back together. The patchwork is typically made from bright colors that held symbolic meaning. The designs were also symbolic. Motifs include representations of fire, lightning, waves, rattlesnakes, crossed logs, and the Milky Way. The Seminole women were creative and thrifty in using small pieces of colored cloth from discarded clothing. They also used their talents to create items for sale, thus contributing to the tourist trade in Florida. These colorful designs were worn by men, women, and children.

Today, the creative sewer uses the designs from the past as well as creates her own by varying the colors, widths of strips, and the angle of the sub-cuts. Seminole patchwork is found in borders of quilts, on towels, along garment hemlines, cuffs, collars, and countless other hand crafted items.

Tips for successful Seminole patchwork:

Use the rotary cutter, mat, and ruler to accurately cut fabric strips.

Reduce sewing machine stitch length to 2 mm, backstitching is not necessary.

As with other types of patchwork, sewing an accurate ¼-inch seam is important, use the ¼-inch presser foot or adjust your needle position on the sewing machine when using the regular presser foot edge as a guide.

Seams can be pressed open or in one direction, use your best judgement and select the method that will give the flattest end result after pressing.

Use spray sizing or spray starch alternative when pressing seams.

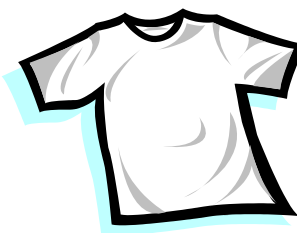


T-Shirt Challenge!

Restyling, recycling, reusing, whatever you want to call it, this challenge is for you!

Here's the challenge: over the summer, take a knit T-shirt, it can be one you made from scratch or a purchased one that needs new life. But before you start, take a picture of the original shirt. Then cut it up, dye it, add embellishment to it, do whatever you want to redesign it. Bring it to the training in October, we will post the before pictures and display the redesigned shirts. The fun part will be to match the before and after.

If you need ideas for redesigning, Google this: "7 ways to restyle a T-shirt with Cal Patch" or "Tea Rose Home T-shirts."



Judges Needed

Any MCVs interested in judging 4-H sewing or needlework projects and/or helping with the 4-H Sewing Skillathon at the Kentucky State Fair, please contact Marjorie at marjorie.baker@uky.edu



Calendar of Events



July 26 – MCV Steering Committee Meeting, location and time TBA

August 15, 16 – Kentucky State Fair
Cloverville judging, Louisville

August 27 – State 4-H Sewing Skillathon,
Cloverville, State Fair, Louisville

September 10 – Bobbi Bullard Trunk Show
and Seminar, Sam Swope Scout Center,
12001 Sycamore Place, Louisville

October 12 to 14 – 2011 MCV Mid-rotation
training, Lake Cumberland 4-H Educational
Center, Jabez

Louisville, Kentucky Chapter
of the American Sewing Guild
presents:

Innovations & Inspirations

with Bobbi Bullard



Trunk Show and Seminar, Saturday, September 10

Sam Swope Scout Center, 12001 Sycamore Station Pl., Louisville

Hands-On Workshop, Sunday September 11

Austin's Sewing Center, 5644 Bardstown Rd., Louisville

9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. each day

Award-winning Bobbi Bullard has been entertaining and amazing sewing enthusiasts for years, teaching around the country, and inspiring people wherever she goes. She has been a leader in the embellishment and machine embroidery world since 1996. Saturday's trunk show demonstrates how to add pizzazz to your projects. Techniques using embroidery, dyeing, stamping, stenciling, foiling, and more are shown with emphasis on design placement, color, and rhythm. Bobbi's specialty is wearable art for real women. In addition, she will take you on a tour of incredibly embellished projects that make great gifts.

Sunday's program is a hands-on workshop using embellishment media. Bobbi will lead you through a series of exercises exploring the concepts of good design to develop your own style. You'll learn to work with a variety of embellishment media and design your own rayon scarf or cotton fabric.

Join us for one day or both days! Discount with early registration until July 10! Registration ends August 10!

Cost:	Saturday only		Sunday only		Both Days	
	After July 10		After July 10		After July 10	
ASG Member	\$ 45	\$55	\$70	\$80	\$100	\$110
Non-Member	\$ 60	\$70	\$85	\$95	\$115	\$125

Price includes Lunch
both days & Kit Fee

If you have questions, email Gail at sewnutty2@fewpb.net or 502-330-4529
Visit us on the web at www.asglouisville.org

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Email: (Confirmation will be sent by email): _____

ASG Member? _____ Membership # _____ **NO REFUNDS AFTER AUGUST 10**

Make checks payable to: Louisville Chapter ASG

Mail completed form and check to: Nancy Glisson, PO Box 266, Bloomfield, KY 40008

I am registering for Saturday _____ Sunday _____ Both Days _____

Vegetarian? _____ Special dietary needs? _____

Seminole Patchwork Bookmark

Fabric requirements:

Cut 2 (dark) 1 3/4 inches by 11 inches

Cut 1 (light) 1 inch by 11 inches

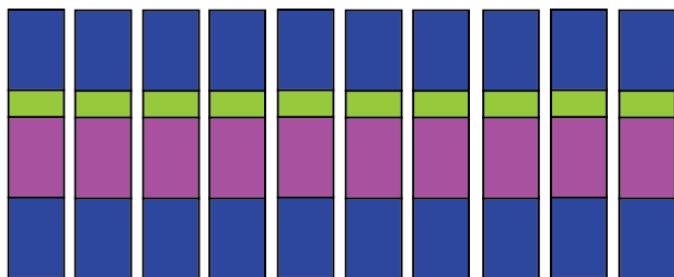
Cut 1 (medium) 1 1/2 inches by 11 inches

Cut 2 (light side borders) 1 inch wide and desired length

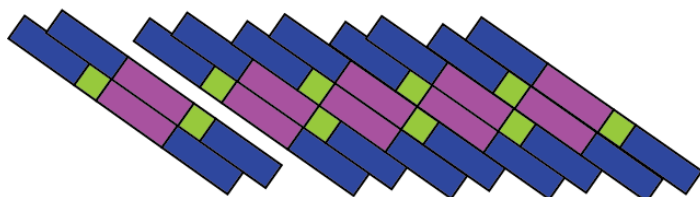
Cut 1 (medium backing) 1 1/2 inches longer and the same width as patchwork section.

Sewing instructions:

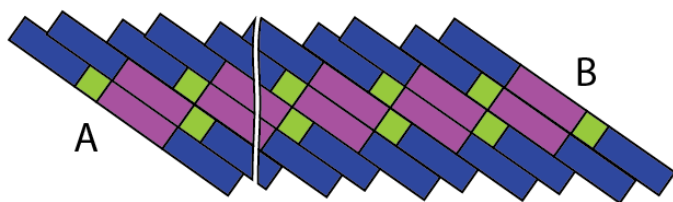
1. All seams are 1/4-inch wide. Strip piece the four 11-inch long strips with the 2 matching colored strips on each side of the other two. Press seams open.



2. Sub-cut into (10) 1-inch wide sections.



3. Join two strips together offsetting 1/2 inch. Repeat for remaining strips. Join the two-strip sections together by offsetting 1 inch.

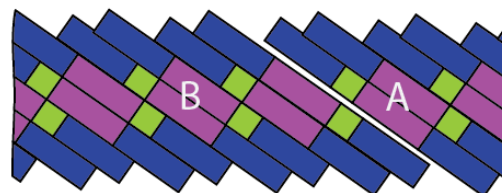


4. Cut patchwork apart as illustrated.

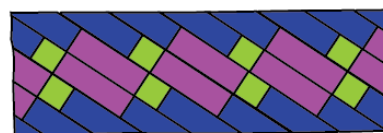
Marjorie M. Baker, M.S.

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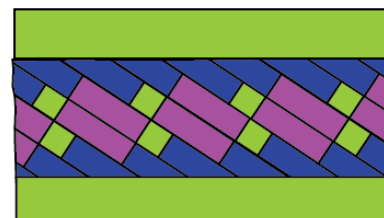
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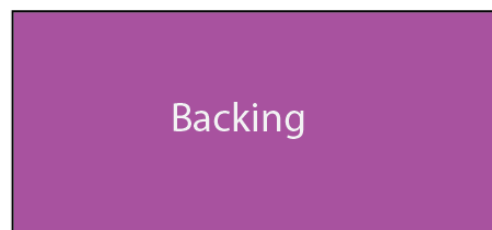
5. Move section A to opposite end of section B. Sew together, offsetting ends by 1 inch.



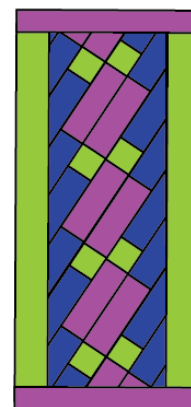
6. Trim patchwork to desired length and width.



7. Add 1-inch border strips along each side.



8. With right sides together, sew backing to patchwork at each end using 1/4 inch seam. Press seam away from patchwork. Center patchwork over backing, keeping patchwork flat at ends. Sew sides leaving an opening to turn. Turn right side out and hand stitch opening closed.



Completed bookmark

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