

Alaska Sewlutions

Proud Member of the
American Sewing Guild

Eagle River Chapter of the American Sewing Guild

<https://alaskasewlutions.org/>

Use this link to check the Guild calendar and upcoming events. (Email us for the members' password)

ASG <https://www.asg.org/>

(You will need your ASG password for the members only area. Lots of great sewing info there)

Join us on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/AlaskaSewlutions>

Email the Sewing Guild

info@alaskasewlutions.org

Thoughts from our President, Rae Longbrake

This past **Saturday, July 8**, we had our first promotional booth at the Palmer Midsummer Garden and Art Faire. Thanks again to all who participated. The event was well attended, and we spoke to many folks about their interests in sewing, including frequent questions about local alterations, custom commissions, and sewing lessons. As a guild, we're challenged to balance the interests of our members and the overall ASG goal of advancing sewing as an art and life skill, so this event gave us lots to consider as far as future programming, retreats, education, and youth engagement.

Answering questions about the guild also made me reflect on why I joined over 20 years ago. I was working, had two little kids, and sewed for fun and personal use. My participation in the guild had tight time constraints, so it was always a special treat to attend meetings and retreats. I was neighborhood group leader for three of us from Eagle River until moving to Palmer but kept my involvement low key. Flash forward to retirement: even with grown kids, there are just as many obligations requiring my time. Now the epiphany: I'd guess that every member of this guild also has a limited amount of "me time" to participate in Alaska Sewlutions. So, I will endeavor to nourish the needs of our current membership with fellowship, mentorship, and advancing the sewing arts. Each of us in the guild are different puzzle pieces, but together we make a beautiful picture (pardon the cliché)!



Rae and Emily at the Alaska Sewlutions Booth for the Garden and Art Faire

Featured Member: Linda Homan, ASDP

Linda is the founding member of our Alaska chapter of ASG! She was teaching children sewing lessons from her studio (Linda's Sewing Studio) in the Parkway Building in Eagle River when she spotted an article in Threads Magazine on how to start a chapter. Through connections with the owner Marla, of 3 Sisters Fabric Shop, and word of mouth, the Eagle River Chapter of ASG was born a little over 25 years ago! For many years the all-guild members met at the Presbyterian Church in Eagle River until membership grew and the current "neighborhoods" evolved. Her business evolved into custom garment sewing and then to teaching fitting and couture sewing classes.

What do you love best about the guild?

It is just fun to be around like-minded, creative people who share the same interests and speak the same language!

What are your earliest memories of sewing?

7th grade Home Economics was my first introduction to sewing. We had a sewing machine at home, but I think I broke it. Anyway, being a bit of a nerd at that time, I read the pattern guide word for word, filled the supply list exactly and even cut out the paper pattern ahead in prep for the first class. A little over the top but I still can remember the fabrics for the blouse and jumper I made! I was hooked for life!!

What project are you working on currently?

Right now, it is a project for a competition in Threads Magazine. For the 2023 Threads/Association of Sewing and Design Professionals (ASDP), I'm tasked with designing an outerwear garment inspired by art!



Upcoming Neighborhood Meetings

Alaska Sewlutions neighborhood group meetings include a short educational talk to enrich your sewing knowledge as well as show-and-help. Bring a project to share with the group or get help with a tricky sewing problem. Pictures and resources to share with other members are always welcome.

Valley: September 16, 12-2pm

Northern Light Chapel, 7550 E Palmer-Wasilla Hwy

For questions, contact Julie Gleason, [907-244-9610](tel:907-244-9610), ladyjulia75@gmail.com

Anchorage: September 16, 1-3pm,

Joann Fabric, 3801 Old Seward Hwy

For questions, contact Ada, [907-244-9614](tel:907-244-9614), adaknik@alaskan.com

UPCOMING EVENTS! PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW

- Aug. 4-5: Alaska State Fair sewing entries due (& all non-perishables) Trouble finding Exhibitor Guide?: alaskastatefair.org, click on ENTER, click on FAIR (at top of page), click on menu, then scroll down to Hoskins etc. Volunteer opportunities abound: clean-up, entry intake, runners for judging, sit-n-sew, and entry pick-up assist. Just contact Alice Stevens by text or phone: [907-863-1662](tel:907-863-1662)
- Aug. 18-Sept. 4: Alaska State Fair
- Sept. 16: Anchorage & Valley Neighborhood Meetings: agendas will include preparing for the October committee sew.
- Oct. 7: Community Service all Guild Sew day: We will be meeting at the Holy Episcopal Church in Eagle River from 10AM-4PM. Tessie & Rena have an organization & project proposal in the works. We will notify everyone of the specifics this fall.
- Oct. 24-29: Fall Retreat at Pioneer Ridge B&B Janai & Megan will alert all members when the sign-up is available!
- Oct. 28: All Chapter Meeting at 10:00AM at Pioneer Ridge, followed by CAB meeting
- Nov. 11 Valley Neighborhood Meeting: will notify everyone to confirm this date
- Nov. 18 Anchorage Neighborhood Meeting: will notify everyone to confirm this date
- Dec. 2: Holiday Party & Annual Meeting: Location TBA The gift exchange is an item hand-crafted for the "Kitchen"

National American Sewing Guild Headquarters Event

Mark your Calendar: our next National Neighborhood Group Zoom will be on **Friday, August 11th** at 1:00 PM CDT with Cecily Habimana and Trisha Thorne of Sew Creative Lounge. Virtual National Neighborhood Group meetings, and another great Fall Virtual Conference. Dates for these events will be announced later this summer. We hope that you will encourage your chapter members to get the most out of their ASG membership by participating in some or all of these special events.

WANTED:

Scrap booker to finalize the guild photo album.

Some project or person to utilize the 10# of polyfill in the storage room!

Ideas for one day education workshops for 8-15 attendees

Contact: Rae Longbrake [907-863-0800](tel:907-863-0800)

Start your engines and get something finished for the Fair! (It doesn't even have to fit, no one will know. Finish a UFO that you abandoned because of gaining covid pounds)

Happy Sewing!