

LOQG – Retreat Supply List And Helpful Hints

Sewing Machine and Accessories
Pins, Scissors, Seam Ripper
Cutting Mat, Rotary Cutter, Rulers
Extension cords

Iron and Ironing board or mat (not everyone needs to bring this, talk to your roommate and decide who will bring them). Too many irons plugged cause power loss and lots of frustration!

Projects and supplies
Design board or flannel tablecloth
Blue Painters Tape
Assortment of thread colors and neutrals
3 extra fat quarters (to play a game with, optional)
Hand sewing needles
Neutral hand quilting thread
Chalk, soap, or marking pencils
LOQG name badge
Also don't forget Wine and Chocolate!
Drink container with a lid

(Remember, there is no close-by shopping, so BRING EVERYTHING! But what's nice about a retreat; if you forget something, chances are someone will have just what you need.)

Even though this is not our first retreat, I'm still not sure how everything will work, but here is my version. All claims made herein are my personal opinions and not the official position of the Lake Oconee Quilt Guild or its Members. HA!

Loading your car:

I will probably load all my "room" stuff first. I have a rolling suitcase, my "blankie" (yes, it is a quilt), and my hugging pillow. You do not have to bring any of your own linens. The lodge furnishes all sheets and towels, just like a mote.. Then I load all my sewing stuff. This works because when you arrive, you will want to take all the sewing stuff to the ballroom, which is to the left of the check in desk... You don't have to set up right away, but you can. Then you can drive your car to your lodge room, which is to the right of the check-in area. I try to put as much as possible into wheeled bags. Everything is on one level, so there will be no stairs or elevator to deal with.

Stuff you can bring if you want to:

Personal comfort items, like your own pillow or sewing chair, are great to have and, if you have space, you can bring them.

Getting there:

Set your GPS for 80 Oak Trail, Helena, GA 31037. It takes about 2 hrs. and 15 min. to get there, depending on your speed. It is about 96 miles from Greensboro.

Sewing Room:

The sewing room is a big ballroom with lots of tables. The chairs are a typical ballroom upholstered chair. If you have a tablemate that has a difficult time confining her stuff to her designated space, I suggest blue painters tape to determine everyone's space. Blue painters tape has loads of uses, bring a roll... The purple tape is prettier but not sticky enough! We do need to attempt to keep the aisles clear for safe access. The sewing room is open from the first person to arrive in the morning to

the last person to leave, after which it is locked. On Wednesday evening, we will meet after dinner to play a game called Left, Right, Center. Instead of playing for money, the first game will be played with fat quarters, so you will need three to gamble with. Those of you who find the game so much fun and addicting, we can play more games for “skinny quarters”, so bring some of those too.

Design space:

Bring portable design walls or flannel-backed vinyl tablecloths (lots of choices at the dollar store). These can be taped to the walls with our blue painters tape.

Meals:

Our meals are served in the dining room of the lodge, and we will be sharing this space with other guests. We are kind, genteel and sophisticated ladies, try to remember this... (Giggle). Regular breakfast, lunch, and dinner are extra. There will be a buffet set up for each meal, but you can also order from the menu. Buffets are usually around \$10. McRae, GA is the nearest town and there are several fast food restaurants there for your enjoyment! You are not allowed to eat or drink anything in our sewing room unless it is purchased from the Lodge, but as far as I know there will be no snack, drink, or quilt police there. Bring a container with a lid to avoid spillage on our beautiful fabrics. You can bring any snacks and drinks you want to consume in your room. There are no microwaves or refrigerators in the rooms.

Sewing:

You may sew from the moment you wake until you can no longer stay awake. Or, you don't have to sew at all and just visit with friends and have a great time. The sewing room is available from 1 pm on Tuesday until 11:30 pm on Thursday. The last person to leave should unplug the iron, drape the cord over the board, and lock the doors. Your stuff can be left in the sewing room all the days of the retreat. Be sure to take items like wallets, cameras and phones. I know our sewing machines are valuable, but they are quite hard to slip into a pocket.

Rooms:

The rooms we occupy are very much like a hotel room. You will have daily housekeeping. Just as we are environmentally conscious, so, too, is the Lodge. To assist in their continued efforts to save resources, please take note of the sheet and towel information posted in the room. Amenities in your room include television, blow dryer, iron, ironing board, and phone. There is a \$10 charge per night for amenities like coffee, tea and bottled water in your room, free Wi-Fi, newspaper, cookies and water in the lobby, and \$5 State Park Pass. You get a 20% senior discount on your room, but you need to tell them this when you check in. I know none of us look like Seniors, so how would they know if we don't tell them! They also provide little hotel soaps, shampoo and lotion. In my experience, I always need extra lotion while on retreat. Maybe all the fabric draws the moisture out of the air or, as my husband says, I dehydrate because I never close my mouth --- isn't he a card!

Smoking:

The Lodge has adopted a smoke-free policy and no longer allows smoking in rooms. Smoking is allowed only in designated outdoor areas.

The last day:

You will need to pack and check out of your room by 11 am. We need to pack up our sewing room stuff on Thursday evening at the latest.

Kay Dejno