



Sierra Mountain Quilters Association Newsletter

JULY 6, 2023

Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Meeting begins at 6:00 p.m.

Anything With Fabric Greeters and Hostesses

Program: Sew Powerful Purse Project



Co-Presidents' Report

Many hands make light work and we are grateful for all who lent a hand for our Quilt Show. It took everyone from set up and take down volunteers, to white gloves, to those who served as committee chairs and more; we couldn't have succeeded without you. Thank you for making our Quilt Show a success. Additionally, the quilts were fantastic, the fun Trash to Treasures display, the generous raffle baskets, and the lovely ribbons! What a beautiful display of our members handiwork. And not least, our bank account is a lot healthier too. Can we do this again in 2025? I hope so.

Our hands and hearts continue to give back to our community, with Cuddle Quilts, Community Quilt donation, and in November recognition of our local veterans with special patriotic quilts. Plus, this month we will be sewing purses for young women overseas. Our members will also be helping local youngsters learn to sew through a public library program with the assistance of Jeri Carney. I hope you will be lending a hand.

I look forward to seeing you at our summer meetings but please be sure to go out and enjoy some summer fun.

Betsy

Quilting ideas can come from many sources! I almost always choose from traditional quilting patterns to create a project. However, I recently spent several hours with Sarah, my granddaughter-in-law, drawing and coloring ribbon-like geometric patterns on graph paper. She is in the midst of a series of paintings using these fascinating twisting patterns. After a few errors – mostly corrected with an art gum eraser - I have a couple of versions to try to piece successfully. I don't think this will qualify for the UFO Challenge since it's so new, but it's an interesting challenge. As a bonus, this may give me an excuse to buy additional fabric!

Bev

TREASURER'S REPORT

Joan Earnest

May 31, 2023

Checking Account

Balance 5/1/2023	\$6,112.06
Credits in May	8,388.76
Debits in May	4,888.13

Ending Balance	\$9,612.69
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SAVINGS ACCOUNT BALANCE	\$19,374.66
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SMQA GENERAL BUSINESS**July 6, 2023****Call to Order**

Flag Salute

Welcome

Reports**Secretary's Report** - Minutes from June 1 meeting**1st Vice Presidents** – Sally Walker & Lynn Gray**2nd Vice President** – Jeri Carney**Treasurer's Report** – Joan Ernest**Membership** - Sue Johnson**Newsletter** – Charlotte Hickman**Webmaster** – Sally Walker**Cuddle Quilts** – Tricia Lacey**Quilt Show** – Constance Peterson**New Business****Show and Tell****2023 PROGRAM AND WORKSHOP SCHEDULE**July 6th Sew Powerful Purse Project

July 7 Sew Powerful Purse workshop

Aug. 3rd Jeanette Walton "Inspiration" Trunk ShowAug. 4th Starbaby Quilt WorkshopSept. 7th Trunk Show with surprise guestOct. 5th Sandra Mollon Trunk ShowOct. 6th Thread Painting WorkshopNov. 2nd PJ Grant Veterans ProgramDec. 7th Annual Winter Dinner

and Installation of Officers

Program: Sew Powerful Purse Project**1st Vice Presidents Message**

A funny thing happened to me earlier this month. My twin sons paid a visit from out of town to attend my twin granddaughters' high school graduation. One son traveled from Austin, TX, while the other came from Las Vegas, NV. My son from Las Vegas, who is also the father of the twin granddaughters (although this detail is unrelated to the story), happened to spot my blank UFO 2023 Challenge Sheet. He quipped, "Mom, what have you gotten yourself into now? Are you and your friends keeping track of UFO sightings?" We shared a good laugh when I explained that in the quilting community, UFOs refer to Unfinished Objects, of which we all seem to have plenty. I bet most of us have these forgotten projects lurking in our sewing spaces. It's time to either donate them in their unfinished state or complete them!

We are excited to have Torey Elwell as our lecturer for our upcoming guild meeting on July 6th. She is the Regional Manager for the Sew Powerful Purse Project. Torey has been actively involved with Sew Powerful since 2015 and had the incredible opportunity to travel to Zambia with the Sew Powerful team in 2016. In addition to Sew Powerful, Torey leads a child-sponsorship program in Ethiopia, benefiting more than 700 students. Through this program, she fulfills her passion for educating girls in the Developing World. Don't miss the chance to hear from Torey at our meeting!

We have rented the Main Hall of the Community Center for the following day, where we will spend the day sewing purses! We will be asking those who attend to be prepared to make a small donation of \$5-10 to cover the cost of the hall. Purse kits will be available. Our sewing skills can be utilized to bless others, and being part of an organization that coordinates such projects makes it effortless to give back to those in need, whose circumstances we can hardly imagine. Looking forward to seeing you there. In the meantime, you'll find me in my sewing room with my UFOs, not outside staring at the night sky

Sally and Lynn

**Sierra Mountain Quilters Association
General Membership Meeting Minutes, June 1, 2023**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by presidents, Bev Gulley and Betsy Blum, at the Oakhurst Community Center followed by the flag salute. Bev thanked everyone for a great quilt show and she also welcomed the helpers. Birthdays and anniversaries were acknowledged. Bev also thanked the guild for selecting her as the featured quilter.

Constance Peterson, Quilt Show Chair, announced the quilt show was a success. She thanked everyone who helped with the show. A drawing was held for a Featherweight. The winner was Joanie Madaus.

Laura Gonzalez made a motion, Nancy Swanson seconded, to accept the May 4, 2023, minutes as printed in the newsletter. The motion carried.

Joan Earnest, Treasurer, reported the quilt show made a profit of close to \$9,000. The treasurer's report as published in the newsletter will be filed for audit.

Sally Walker and Lynn Gray, First Vice Presidents, asked members to bring refreshments to meetings twice a year. They announced Sew Powerful Purse kits will be cut out at the library on Monday, June 12, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The workshop for the Sew Powerful Purse Project, July 7, will be held in the Main Hall. There will be a donation box to help cover the cost of the Main Hall. (Suggested \$5 to \$10.) On Aug. 3, Jeanette Walton will present an "Inspiration" trunk show. The following day she will teach a paper pieced Star Baby quilt workshop. Patterns can be purchased online from Etsy and on Friday, June 30, (Noon to 1:00 p.m.) she will offer a Zoom pre-class to demonstrate how to cut out the papers and choose fabrics. The pattern link can be found on the Programs page on the SMQA website.

Jeri Carney, Second Vice President, reported kits for the children's book bags will be precut. Volunteers need to bring sewing machines and sewing supplies to the library on June 27, 28, 29. She has enough volunteers.

Sue Johnson, Membership, announced we have two new members for a total of 91 members. There were seven guests present. Ku'ulei Arredondo, Francie Gonzalez, and Kay Marshall won the drawing for gift cards to Bear Paw.

Betsy Anne Youngholm, UFO Challenge and Trash to Treasures, announced the winners of Trash to Treasures were Janet Morita and Maria Ciccarelli. It was a People's Choice vote at the quilt show. She asked those interested to sign up for the UFO challenge. The reveal will occur at the December general meeting.

Charlotte Hickman, Newsletter, wants to know if you are not receiving the newsletter.

Sally Walker, Webmaster, reported nothing new.

Rhonda Dewey, Cuddle Quilts, announced, in June, they will take wheel chair bags and cuddle quilts to Hinds Hospice in Madera. We received a thank you note from Valley Childrens' Hospital.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:26 followed by show and tell of ribbon winners and others.

Respectfully submitted by Janet Morita, secretary.

UFO Challenge 2023

A reminder for our members:

There is still time to join the Challenge and get six of those unfinished quilting projects completed this year. The form is on the [SMQA website](#) or you can pick one up at the July meeting. Betsy Anne will be there to take your \$6.00 promise entry fee. You may think you don't have six UFOs, but open a box or cupboard or drawer and I bet you'll find at least six projects in a less than completed state. The promise fee will be used for prizes awarded by drawing names from the pool of people who have completed the Challenge.

Laurie Sengo's 3rd Annual RV Quilters Retreat in Lodi, Northern California.

This from Laura Donahue, an avid quilter/RV-er.

Laurie Sengo's 3rd Annual RV Quilters Retreat will be held in Lodi, Northern California, August 24-27. Come join Laurie for a fun 3 days of sewing. She will have an Optional project for you or you may work on your own projects. The cost is \$250 which includes your table in the rec room and your RV site for three days & nights. RV sites are 50' pull throughs with full hookups. There is a full kitchen in the rec room. There will be about 15 table spaces available.

Hosted by Laurie Sengo of fb groups: RV Quilters and RV Quilters Official Retreats

Payments to Laurie can be made by check or PayPal.

Laurie Sengo 530-219-2318

lauriesengo@yahoo.com

PO Box 956, Winters, CA 95694

Contact Laura Donahue for more information.

YES, THE FALL RETREAT IS HAPPENING!



September 11th – 14th, 2023

8:30 am - 5:00 pm

ECCO – Episcopal Conference Center
Oakhurst, 43803 CA-41, Oakhurst, CA
93644

Cost \$37 per day includes lunch.

2 days \$74; 3 days \$111; 4 days \$148.00

Sign-ups will be at the July and August meeting, online, or call/text Ku'ulei Arredondo 661-317-6514.

We need 15 members each day to include lunch.

If unable to get 15 members, the price will be reduced and lunch will not be included



CUDDLE CORNER

Tricia Lacey

I hope all of you have had a great month. I've been camping in Joshua Tree National Park and Rhonda has been traveling as well.

We cut out 82 pillowcases at our last cuddle quilt workday. Thank you, ladies, for your hard work. **The next workday will be on July 27 from 9 am to noon.** We will be meeting at Bear Paw because of a conflict with the library's summer programs. Bring your sewing machines. We will be sewing cuddle quilts and other things. We hope to see you there.

If you have questions, please call us.

Tricia Lacey (530) 680-3741

Rhonda Dewey (559) 760-3401



Opportunity Quilt By Kay Marshall

We sold \$648 worth of tickets at our Quilt Show in May. This gave us a grand total of \$6,755 in ticket sales for the opportunity quilt. At our ice cream social/meeting on May 4th Joanie Madaus won the Singer Featherweight Sewing Machine. Be sure to thank Constance Peterson for not only being our Quilt Show chair but for selling the most opportunity quilt tickets: 928. Those members who sold at least one bundle of 30 beyond 100 tickets (130 tickets) to get their name in the drawing for the sewing machine were Ku'ulei Arredondo, Maria Ciccarelli, Laura Donahue, Joan Earnest, Caroline Gaither, Laura Gonzalez, P.J. Grant, Lynn Gray, Bev Gulley, Tara Locks, Joanie Madaus, Kay Marshall, Mel Peters, Constance Peterson, Sally Walker, and Betsy Anne Youngholm. Also, special thanks go to Susan Campbell for donating the Featherweight Sewing Machine.

Kay

Scholarship Thank You Notes

Dear Sierra Mountain Quilters Association,
I'm writing to express my gratitude for the generous \$600 Donna Henning Memorial Scholarship. I'm very honored and excited to learn I was chosen to receive your scholarship! I love to sew and crochet and I plan on opening a shop to sell my art! This scholarship will be so helpful for paying for college and all the supplies needed. Thank you so much for providing me with your scholarship! Your generosity will make pursuing further education much easier. Your kindness to the community is very appreciated.
Natalie Meyer

Dear SMQA Scholarship Committee,
Thank you for your part in this year's Yosemite High School Community Awards. Over \$118,000 was given to the Class of 2023 thanks to people like you! We are proud to live in a community that cares about its youth and appreciate your part in showing it to our students.
I know Natalie Meyer and Lora Holliday appreciate your generosity. On their behalf, and on behalf of all the students and staff of Yosemite High School, thank you!

Sincerely,
Larisa Durr, Community Awards Coordinator

CIRCLE NEWS



CIRCLE INFORMATION

Anything With Fabric meets 9:00 am to 1:00 pm at the Oakhurst Public Library every Monday. **All are welcome.** Contact: Sue Johnson or Joan Ernest.

The Oakhurst Machine Embroidery Circle is welcoming new members. The group meets on the 4th Monday of each month at 10 am at Bear Paw. **If interested in joining the group contact Ruthi Connor for more information.**

Fabric Collage meets on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month at Bear Paw from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. **We welcome new members and will help anyone who wants to learn about fabric collage.** Contact Janet Morita at 559-760-5018 or at janet@rjmorita.com with any questions.

Circle Hostesses and Greeters for 2023

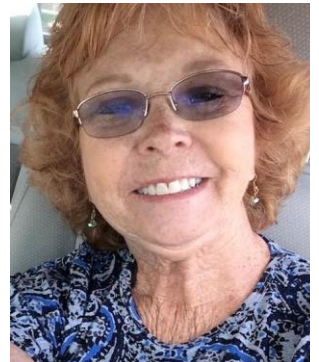
January	Peter and Laura Gonzalez
February	Material Girls
March	Oakhurst Machine Embroidery
April	Sew Thrilled
May	Fabric Collage
June	Open
July	Anything with Fabric
August	Open
September	Bits and Pieces
October	Open
November	Footloose

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Welcome our new members!



Elyse Cook



Sandy Johnson

BIG Thank You!

I want to thank our 2023 Quilt Show Committee. Everyone did a magnificent job making this Quilt Show a huge success! I would like to send a big thank you to Susan Campbell for her generous donation of the Featherweight sewing machine. I am sure the whole guild also appreciates her generosity. I was amazed how much help my committee and I received at the Quilt show from Guild members and their husbands. Thank you all!

Since this is my last message as the 2023 Committee Chair, I wanted you to know I really enjoy being the chair for 2023 quilt show working with so many members. Thank you, Penni, for giving me this opportunity to be the chair. I will miss not being involved. However, my studio is so excited that I will be back creating.

Constance

Sew Powerful Purse Project

Sew Powerful Purse Project - Linking seamstresses from around the world to combat extreme poverty by providing reusable feminine hygiene supplies and health training to girls in Zambia. This enables girls to attend school all month and improve their academic performance. Sew Powerful Regional Manager Torey Elwell will speak Thursday, July 6 and lead a purse making Workshop Friday, July 7. We will be asking for a voluntary donation of \$5-10 to cover the cost of the Main Hall on Friday July 7th.

Click [here](#) if you are interested in attending our July 7, 2023 Workshop.

Click [here](#) for a less than 2 minute video explaining the Sew Powerful Purse Project.

Click [here](#) for the Beginner Purse Pattern, this link includes an instructional video.

Click [here](#) for Tips and Suggestions from Sue Johnson. Our goal is to have 100 purses to donate by the end of the year. Thanks to Sue we are at least 25% of the way there!

Remaining Tentative Meeting Dates for 2023

Board Meetings	General Meetings
6/26	7/6
7/24	8/3
8/28	9/7
9/25	10/5
10/23	11/2
11/27	12/7
12/18	1/4/24



November 2023 Veterans Appreciation SMQA meeting and presentation of "Quilts of Valor"

Our meeting in November 2023 will be a special event for Veterans. The plan is to have homemade quilts to present to our Veterans. This can be done by the sewing groups, or individually. Some groups may already have quilts made just waiting for a recipient.

We will honor the Veterans by presenting them with a quilt. A story or a brief history of their time in the service would be helpful to inform the audience as to what sacrifices they gave while serving our country. There are hundreds of patterns that may be made into a patriotic lap quilt or larger size. You may choose to include a pillowcase for storage and to keep it safe for travel. "Quilts of Valor" has a list of their requirements, but we will not be limited by anything but our imagination! It is however, not considered proper to make rag or flag replica quilts. Panels are an option to use as a base and expand in size. In most cases you will know the person and be able to personalize it for them. Let's do what we can to help our men and women feel appreciated. They have given so much and need to know that the American people do care and are thankful to them. Please let me know when you decide to participate as our meeting time will dictate how many Veterans we can honor at the meeting.

Thank you,
PJ Grant
559-676-5433
pjgrant@sti.net

Star Baby Workshop - August 4, 2023

Jeanette Walton - Paper Pieced Star Baby Quilt Workshop

The 40" x 40" Starbaby quilt is just the right size for a baby quilt or wall hanging. It includes foundation papers to make two small lone stars. It is a perfect introductory pattern for learning basic paper piecing techniques. Click [here](#) to purchase the pattern from Jeanette at a guild discount of 15% plus free first class shipping. Click [here](#) to sign up and pay for the workshop online.

Jeanette will hold a Zoom Pre-class meeting. She will demonstrate how to cut out papers and discuss fabric. Anyone interested can attend. Friday, June 30th Noon - 1pm. The meeting will be recorded.

[Zoom meeting link](#)



Sandy Johnson	7/1
Lois Deisher	7/2
Jaydene Johnson	7/19
Tricia Lacey	7/7
Virginia Waters	7/11
Sue Graham	7/16
Beverly Williams	7/16
Barbara Graas	7/19
Sue Collins	7/20
Lisa Kernaghan	7/22
Nancy Swanson	7/26
Beverly Gulley	7/29



We are asking members to bring snacks on their birthday month and one other month of their choosing, and if they are not able to bring on their birthday month then choose a 2nd month that works. Sally Walker will send out monthly email reminders.

AMENITIES

Linda Miller

If you know of a member who would appreciate receiving a card, please let Linda know.

Major Quilt Shows

Are you thinking about attending a really big quilt show? Here are a few to consider:

Long Beach International Quilt Festival - July 6-8, 2023 (Long Beach, CA)

Pennsylvania National Quilt Extravaganza - Sept 14-17, 2023 (Oaks, PA)

Pacific International Quilt Festival - Oct 12-15, 2023 (Santa Clara, CA)

Houston International Quilt Festival - Nov 2-5, 2023 (Houston, TX)

Mid-Atlantic Quilt Festival - Feb 29-Mar 3, 2024 (Hampton, VA)

Quiltfest Greenville - April 18-20, 2024 (Greenville, SC)

AQS QuiltWeek - April 24-27, 2024 (Paducah, KY)

You can get further information, and info about additional shows, by Googling some approximation of the name and location.

2023 Quilt Show Ribbon Winners

Best Machine Embroidery:

Margie Williams – About Trout

Best Hand Embroidery:

Kay Marshall – Grandma's Chocolate
Brownie Bridges

Best Original Pattern:

Lynn Gray – Spanish Peaks Colorado

Best Hand Appliqué:

P.J. Grant – Zen Elephant

Best Domestic Quilting:

Sally Walker – Silver Shores

Best Long Arm Quilting:

Jeri Carney on Linda Pennington's
Star Sampler

Best Hand Quilting:

Tricia Lacey - Links

WALL HANGING:

1st – P.J. Grant – Zen Elephant
2nd – Joan Earnest – Split Blade Dresden Color
Wheel
3rd – Bev Gully – Iris

MINI:

1st - Lynn Gray – Spanish Peaks Colorado
2nd – Margie Williams – Yosemite Falls
3rd - Sue Johnson – Spotted Towhee

SMALL:

1st – Margie Williams – About Trout
2nd – Sally Walker – Silver Shores
3rd – Mel Peters – Southwest Memories

MEDIUM:

1st – Betsy Blum – Morning Chatter
2nd – Tricia Lacey – Sunrise Stag
3rd – Patty Vincent – Fiddlesticks and Fancies

LARGE:

1st – Linda Pennington – Star Sampler
2nd – Ku'ulei Arrendondo – Orange Star Burst
3rd – Betsy Blum – Wheelhouse Medallion

BEST OF SHOW: Ku'ulei Arrendondo - Orange Star Burst

BEST MINI: Lynn Gray – Fly Fly Butterfly

BEST WALL HANGING: Joan Earnest – Split Dresden

BEST SMALL QUILT: Sally Walker – Silver Shores

BEST MEDIUM QUILT: Kay Marshall – Grandma's Chocolate Brownie Bridges

BEST LARGE QUILT: Carolyn Gaither- Quilt from Hell

Quilt Show Highpoints



Thanks to our hard-working quilt show committee.



Lots of quilts neatly folded, ready to display at the Show.

Tricia Lacey and Rhonda Dewey delivering the Opportunity Quilt to the winner, Enrique Saragoza, in Merced.



Francie so proud of her first quilt in the Show.



And the winner is... Joanie, happy owner of the Featherweight sewing machine donated by Susan Campbell.



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SMQA Members can show their membership card
to receive the 10% discount.



Sierra Mountain Quilters Association 2023 Membership Form

Your membership dues support the many functions of SMQA, including: meetings, speakers, workshops, newsletter, website, quilting free sews, Biennial Quilt Show, and fellowship.

Membership: *(Please circle one)*

Individual Membership: \$25

Family: \$35

Please Print Clearly

NAME: _____

Day of Birth: *(Month/Day)* _____

ADDRESS:

Street Address _____

Mailing Address *(if different from above):* _____

City _____

ZIP Code _____

PHONE: *(please ** preferred number)*

Home _____ Work _____

Mobile/Cell _____

☐

⇒Email _____

Check box if this is a new email address or a corrected address (refer to our directory).

Email: Newsletters are delivered via email. If you don't have an email address and can't access our website at www.sierramountainquilters.org to view the newsletter and you are unable to have a friend print a copy for you, it can be mailed to you.

Note: Please mail your check to SMQA, P.O. Box 1359, Oakhurst, CA 93644

Membership Chair Use Only:

Date Paid: _____ Check number _____ Amount: _____



Sierra Mountain Quilters Association

P.O. Box 1359
Oakhurst, CA 93644

sierramountainquilters.org



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Facebook

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***REMEMBER TO WEAR YOUR NAME
BADGE AT THE NEXT MEETING!***

BOARD MEMBERS

Co-Presidents	Betsy Blum and Bev Gulley
1st Vice Presidents	Sally Walker and Lynn Gray
2nd Vice President	Jeri Carney
Treasurer	Joan Earnest
Secretary	Janet Morita

*Board Meetings are held at 1:00 p.m. on the fourth
Monday of each month.*

Send Newsletter submissions to
cthickman@yahoo.com
Deadline is 20th of each month.

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

New Member Support	Rhonda Dewey
Amenities	Linda Miller
Circles	Mel Peters
Cuddle Quilts	Tricia Lacey
Historian	Open position
Webmaster	Sally Walker
Parliamentarian	Laura Donahue
Membership	Sue Johnson
Newsletter	Charlotte Hickman
Quilt Show Chair	Constance Peterson