



Sierra Mountain Quilters Association Newsletter

February 12, 2026

Doors open at 12:30 P.M Meeting begins at 1:00 P.M.

Host Greeters: Bits and Pieces

Program: Hidden Gems Bits and Pieces

(Please note date change for meeting this month only)

SMQA GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA

February 12, 2026

Call to Order

Flag Salute

Welcome

Present Community Quilt to Terry Cole,
Caring Veterans of America

Reports:

Secretary - Janet Morita - Minutes from
January 8, 2026, meeting

Treasurer - Dianna Conaway.

First Vice Presidents - Joan Earnest & Sue Johnson

Second Vice President - Sue Walker
Membership - Ku'ulei Arredondo

Newsletter -Kathy Burrow

Webmaster - Sally Walker

Cuddle Quilts - Tricia Lacey

Quilt Show - Maria Ciccarelli

Opportunity Quilt - Wendy Holt

New Business: Any new business?

Show and Tell

Program: Hidden Treasures - Bits and Pieces

Wendy's Window

Let's kick things off with a bit of fun! Picture this: two sewing machines are hanging out at a bar. One of them turns to the other and says, "Hey, aren't you a Singer?" The other one replies, "Why, Ja-no-me"? And then the bartender chuckles, "Oh, Brother."

What a fantastic way to start 2026 with our Game Night Bunco game!

In February, we're having a special program where our Bits and Pieces will share their hidden treasures with us. They've created a community quilt that will be presented to Caring Veterans of America to help them in their important work. Commander Terry Cole will be there to accept the quilt. There might even be news coverage of this gift, highlighting the Guild's efforts to support our community.

In March, it's time for Cuddle Quilt sewing after the business meeting until 5:00 p.m. Please bring your sewing machines, mats, rotary cutters, and your friends to make quilts to support our mission.

I'm really looking forward to seeing all of you who can make it on Thursday, February 12, 2026. The meeting starts at 1:00 p.m., with the doors opening at 12:30 p.m.

Let's wrap things up with some inspiration: "Quilting is a journey of the heart: it teaches us patience, perseverance, and the joy of creation." - Natalia Bonner

Wendy

Sierra Mountain Quilters Association General Meeting Minutes, January 8, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 1:01 p.m. by president, Wendy Holt, at the Oakhurst Community Center followed by the flag salute. Wendy introduced herself. She thanked Laura Gonzalez for decorating the table and then recognized January birthdays and anniversaries. She announced that if members have something to sell, they should do it before or after the meeting.

Secretary Janet Morita Dianna Conaway made a motion, Patty Huff seconded, to accept the December 4, 2025, general meeting minutes. The motion carried.

First Vice Presidents, Joan Earnest and Sue Johnson Joan announced she will pass a snack clip board around for members to sign up. The program today is Bunco. In February, Bits and Pieces will present a trunk show. In March, it will be a Cuddle Quilt workday. June is the ice cream social. November will be a veterans' program followed by a house shoes workshop the next day. And December will be the winter luncheon. The remaining months are pending.

Second Vice President, Sue Walker, reported she wants to update current circles: Anything with Fabric - open Bits and Pieces - full Footloose - full A Gathering of Stitchers in YLP - open

Treasurer, Dianna Conaway, Lisa Kernaghan announced officers need to sign new cards at the bank. The current scholarship winner, Owen Ogilvie, has received his money. The treasurer's report will be filed for audit.

Membership, Lynn Gray for Ku'ulei Arredondo, reported 2025 ended with 100 members. She encouraged everyone to pay their dues. There will be a quilt show in Folsom, Feb. 6-8. Drawing winners were Laura Gonzalez and Bev Gulley

Webmaster, Sally Walker, announced she is updating the website.

Cuddle Quilts, Tricia Lacey, announced Kay Marshall won the cuddle quilt prize for submitting the most cuddle quilts, 31. Shirley MacNeil made 9 and Kathy Millhollon made 8. The next Cuddle Quilt workday will be at the March meeting. All the cuddle quilts have been given away. Patterns are on the website.

Mystery Quilt, Sinta Borland, reported 32 members have signed up. She showed examples of the first block. Information is posted on the web site.

Quilt Show, Wendy Holt for Maria Ciccarelli, announced we have 16 more months until the quilt show. Wendy asked each member to work on the opportunity quilt.

New business

Laura Gonzalez announced the Spring Retreat is coming up in April. A sign-up will be available next month. Overnight stays are available.

Sally Walker reported Kathy Hilton is having a big sale in Fresno on Saturday, Jan. 10, from 9:00 - 2:00. 1034 E. Everett

The meeting was adjourned at 1:38 p.m. followed by show and tell, snacks, and Bunco.

Respectfully submitted by Janet Morita, secretary.

2026 Program Schedule

- February 12 - Bits and Pieces Hidden Gems
- March 5 - Cuddle Quilt Workday
- April 2 Doris Lantz Art Quilts and Wall-hangings
- Apr 3 Workshop; Highland Cow Art Quilt
- May 7 Claudia Shearer How did I get here
- May 8 Improv Workshop TBD
- June 4 - Ice Cream Social
- July 2 TBD
- August 5 TDB
- Aug 6 Workshop Janet Morita Ice Dying
- Sept 3 TBD
- October 1 Gwen Weedon 20 Years of a Quilting Journey
- Oct 2 Workshop Ocean Art Quilt
- November 5 Veteran's Day Program
- November 6 Workshop: Joan Earnest House Shoes
- December - Winter Luncheon

Circle Hostesses and Greeters for

- January: Laura Gonzales
- February: Bits and Pieces
- March: A Gathering of Stitches
- April: Footloose
- May: Anything with Fabric
- June: SMQA Board
- July: Footloose
- August: Gonzalez Family
- September: Bits and Pieces
- October: Anything with Fabric
- November: A Gathering of Stitches
- December: Guild Board Members

Thanks to all the circles for stepping up and filling our hosting and décor duties for the year. You've made my first job as second VP very easy.

Sue Walker

TREASURER'S REPORT

Lisa Kernaghan

December 31, 2025

CHECKING ACCOUNT

Balance 12/1/25 \$10,866.86

Credits in December \$1,121.15

Debits in December \$1,464.14

ENDING BALANCE \$10,523.87

(12/31/2025)

SAVINGS ACCOUNT

Balance 12/1/25 \$9,415.83

Credits in December \$8.88

ENDING BALANCE \$9,424.71

(12/31/2025)

CD ACCOUNT

Balance 12/1/25 \$10,350.01

ENDING BALANCE \$10,350.01

(12/31/2025)

In Memory

Diane Ward passed away peacefully at home with family. A memorial service will be held on February 14, 2026.

Thank you for keeping her loved ones in your thoughts.



**1st Vice President's Message
Joan Earnest & Sue Johnson**

Well, Bunco was a lot of fun! We really got to mix up the pot and talk to people we barely know as well as being with our good buddies! Thanks for being such a fun group!

For our February meeting (remember, it won't be until February 12) we have a trunk show from one of our circles, Bits & Pieces! It will be great to see what they've been up to and to admire their work!

We love the idea of sharing our quilting and to get to know the circles better. We'd like to put a call out to other circles that might want to do the same thing. Think about it and let us know!

March will be the Cuddle Quilt sewing day. Great way to jumpstart our year, as we've depleted the reserve of cuddle quilts with all the donations we made in 2025. Instead of the meeting ending at around 3, we've secured the building until 5 pm. So stay as long or as short of a time as you want to, and help crank out some more of our amazing quilts!

Membership
Ku'ulei Arredondo

Calling all members... we had 34 members renew their membership in January. You can renew your membership Online, at the meeting, or by mail. The membership form has been revised to simplify if there are no changes to your personal information.

In 2025 We are 100 members strong, and I hope we can continue to grow in 2026.

Our Mission

Promote the preservation of traditional needlework and quilting techniques, while encouraging experimentation in contemporary application of these techniques.

Educate the public in general about the value of artistic, handcrafted quilted items.

Encourage cooperation, fellowship, creativity, and quality craftsmanship.

Fall Retreat

Mark your calendar, the dates for the Fall Retreat are Monday, September 14th ~ 17th at ECCO

**Spring Retreat dates April 13-16, 2026**

The spring retreat is just around the corner. April 13 - 16, 2026

Registration will open at the February meeting. We have 27 spots available- 15 overnight and 12 daytime. Fees must be paid to guarantee your spot!! Overnight required \$100 deposit with balance due by March 15th.

Daytime plus lunch \$45 per day

Single room \$555

Double room \$460

Quad (3 to 4) \$380

Overnight includes 3 meals per day, daytime lunch only

For more information call or text
Laura Gonzalez 559 676-0205

Birthdays of the Month



Loretta Pesetski	02/09
Teri De La Torre	02/10
Kathy Hogue	02/15
Jean Richter	02/22
Brenda Lilly Willoughby	02/22
Carol Westberg	02/28

Members are asked to bring snacks to guild meetings twice a year—once for their birthday month and once in another month of their choice. If you're unable to bring snacks on your birthday month, please select a different month instead. To sign up see Joan E. at our next meeting or click [here](#).

February Refreshment Signups

Bev Williams
Kristen Millhollen
Kathy
Joan Earnest
Janet Morita



Cuddle Quilt Corner

Sandy Johnson and Tricia Lacey

I hope everyone is ready to start sewing cuddle quilts! We need quilts for our local charities! Start thinking about our March 5 Guild meeting.

We will be sewing cuddle quilts. I will be bringing jelly rolls, charm packs, backing, batting, and other fabrics for making quilts. If you have a cuddle quilt you haven't finished, bring that to work on. There will be prizes given out throughout the afternoon. So, plan on bringing your sewing machine and join the fun.

Tricia Lacey



Amenities

A get-well card was sent to Patty Vincent who is recovering from surgery
 A sympathy card was also sent to Diane Wards family.

QUILT SHOW 2027 – UPDATE

We are still looking to fill in a couple of committee chairs for the 2027 Quilt Show.

The positions are Opportunity Quilt Scheduling and Vendors. Talk to a friend and volunteer together. I can also help with sharing the load.

This is a great opportunity to get to know some of the members better. If you are on the fence, come to our next Quilt Show Committee meeting on Friday,

February 6, at 2pm, at Bear Paw. Don't miss out on the fun!

Thank you – Maria Ciccarelli

CIRCLE INFORMATION

Bits and Pieces: Closed

Footloose: Closed

ANYTHING WITH FABRIC

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.

Mindful Stitchers

Open to New Members

The Mindful Stitchers focus on letting go of daily distractions, focus on our stitching, taking time to enjoy each step of our quilting journey as we share and learn with each other. We meet the second & fourth Thursdays of each month from 10:30- 12:30 at various locations. Please call Rebecca Brannon 760-415-7212 for meeting information

December Show and Tell





Welcome to our Newest Member
Victoria Summers.



Services from our Advertisers

If you are interested in advertising your Long Arm Skills, certified class skills or other services and would be interested in Advertising in the Newsletter please contact Kathy Burrow at katsmountain@gmail.com

BEAR PAW QUILTS & MORE

Up Coming Classes...

WEDDING STAR **FRIDAY & SATURDAY, JANUARY 16 & 17**
TEACHER: WENDY HOLT

CRISSCROSS APRON **SATURDAY, JANUARY 24**
TEACHER: LINDA HAWKSWORTH

FEATHERWEIGHT MAINTENANCE **SATURDAY, JANUARY 31**
TEACHER: JOE YEATTS

MELODY MEMORY BEAR **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7**
TEACHER: BRENDA WILLOUGHBY

Call us for More Information on Classes

 **559-683-7397**

40761 Highway 41 - Suite 7, Oakhurst, CA 93644

   



Sierra Mountain Quilters Association 2026 Membership Form

Your membership dues support the many functions
SMQA including meetings, speakers, workshops,
newsletter, website, quilting retreats, circles, biennial Quilt Show and fellowship.

Membership: (Circle one) Individual: \$35; Family: \$50; Half Year: \$17.50

Date: _____

Please Print Clearly

NAME(S): _____

Date(s) of Birth: (Month/Day) _____

Fill out the section below, only if you have updates from last year's information.

ADDRESS:

Street Address _____

Mailing Address (If different from above) _____

City _____ Zip Code _____

PHONE: (Please put ** after preferred number)

Cell _____ Home _____ Work _____

Emergency Contact Name: _____

Contact Phone: _____ Relationship: _____

YOUR 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 #: _____ Credit Card (Online): _____

Square Terminal: _____ Cash: _____ Amount: _____

To pay online please follow link:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScnoSYnIxac6AhBJ83nlgAPWRHPNOuxd8pm0Atk1T8tgtSBw/viewform>



Celebration for World Relief

Quilt Show

Friday, April 10, 2026, 4-9 pm

Special Events Center (Gym) at Fresno Pacific University

1717 S. Chestnut Ave. Fresno, CA 93702

Free admission and parking.

Here's a special invitation to area quilters and friends to preview and celebrate the **180 new and vintage quilts** that will be live-auctioned on Saturday, April 11th.

All proceeds from this event go to support the Mennonite Central Committee (mcc.org) which is a world-wide relief organization of the Mennonite, Mennonite Brethren and other collaborating churches in Canada and the U.S.

Scan here to see quilts from the 2025 auction:



SCAN ME

 **SWAG bags** will be given to the first 150 people.

Friday, April 10, 4-9 pm

- ❖ **Come for supper!** Ethnic foods (German sausage, tri-tip, hot fresh zwiebach, burritos, portzelky (raisin fritters), bierocks, pies, etc.)
- ❖ There are tables of about **100 quilts/comforters, table runners, etc. that can be purchased.** Come early for the best selection!
- ❖ The Country Store, Vintage Shop, and Fair Trade Store will be open.
- ❖ **Two online auctions** will already be active.
- ❖ **At 7 pm - there will be a bed-turning presentation by Mary Ann Bloom "If Quilts Could Talk, What would They Say?"** sharing her collection of antique quilts and how they reflect families' and women's histories.

Saturday, April 11, 10 am – 3 pm

- ❖ **10 am – 3 pm - Live Quilt Auction** and other novel items!
- ❖ Country Store, Vintage Shop, Fair Trade Store and food booths are open.



E-mail info@westcoastmccsale.org for more information.





Sierra Mountain Quilters Association

P.O. Box 1359
Oakhurst, CA 93644

sierramountainquilters.org



facebook.com/SierraMountainQuiltersAssociation

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

BOARD MEMBERS

President Wendy Holt

First VP Joan Earnest & Sue Johnson

Second VP Sue Walker

Treasurer Dianna Conaway

Secretary Janet Morita

Board meetings are held at 1:00 pm on the fourth Monday of each month. Send Newsletter submissions to:

katsmountain@gmail.com

Deadline for submissions is the 20th of each month

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Amenities

Circles

Cuddle Quilts

Historian

Parliamentarian

Membership

New Member Support

Newsletter

Quilt Show Chair

Webmaster

Spring Retreat

Fall Retreat

Linda Miller

Tricia Lacey

Peggy Myers

Rebecca Brannon

Ku'ulei Arredondo

Ku'ulei Arredondo

Kathy Burrow

Maria Ciccarelli

Sally Walker

Laura Gonzalez

Ku'ulei Arredondo