



Sierra Mountain Quilters Association Newsletter

September 4, 2025

Doors open at 5:30 P.M. Meeting begins at 6:00 pm.

Host Greeters: Bits and Pieces

Program: Self Defense with Dennis Ciccarelli

Friday Workshop: Padded folding chair Lynn G. and Joanie M.

President's Message Sue Johnson

You Made a Difference! 151 Comforts for LA Fire Victims

We couldn't be prouder of our guild! Together, we created and collected an incredible 53 quilts and 98 pillowcases for families impacted by the Los Angeles fires. That's 151 acts of love, skill, and generosity — each one carrying warmth, beauty, and the reminder that strangers care.

Your time, talent, and compassion have stitched more than fabric — you've stitched hope into the lives of people facing unimaginable loss. This achievement shows the true heart of our guild, and it's a reminder that when we work together, we can bring comfort and dignity to those who need it most.

Producing and collecting 151 quality items is no small task, and you should feel proud of the difference you've made. Thank you for showing, once again, that our guild is more than a group of quilters — we are a community of hearts and hands ready to help when it matters most.

September 4, 2025 General Meeting Agenda

Call to Order/Flag Salute

**Welcome - Thanks yous, Birthdays &
Anniversaries**

Reports:

President - Sue Johnson

Secretary - Janet Morita

1st Vice Presidents - Joan Earnest

2nd Vice President - Bev Gulley

Treasurer's Report - Lisa Kernaghan

**Membership / Fall Retreat - Ku'ulei
Arredondo**

Newsletter - Kathy Burrow

Webmaster - Sally Walker

Quilt Show - Maria Ciccarelli

**Cuddle Quilts - Tricia Lacey & Sharon
Sylvester**

**Monthly block raffle - Lissa Metzger & Sandy
Johnson**

Adjourn Meeting

Show and Tell

Snacks

Program:

Self Defense Class with Dennis Ciccarelli

Sierra Mountain Quilters Association General Meeting Minutes, August 7, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by president, Sue Johnson, at the Oakhurst Community Center followed by the flag salute. Sue recognized August birthdays and anniversaries. She also thanked those who donated quilts to L.A. Fire Relief. Sue announced she has secured a nominating committee comprised of Ku'ulei Arredondo, Rhonda Dewey and Janet Morita. All positions have been filled. Laura Gonzalez made a motion, Nancy Swanson seconded, to accept the July 10, 2025, general meeting minutes. The motion carried.

First Vice Presidents, Joan Earnest and Sally Walker, announced In September, Denis Ciccarelli will teach a self-defense class. Lynn Gray and Joanie Madaus will teach a padded folding chair class the following day. In October, Cindy Young will present a trunk show. The next day, Nani Johnson will teach a Retreat Bag class. In November, Kim Brownell will present a "Wacky Doodle Quilter" trunk show. Dec. 4 will be the Winter Luncheon at Bee's Bakery. Lynn Gray offered black and white fabric to the padded folding chair class members.

Second Vice President, Bev Gulley, reported on the summer sewing program. They had a great time making small quilts with 5" squares.

Treasurer, Lisa Kernaghan, announced the CD earned \$350.01 in one year. The treasurer's report will be filed for audit.

Membership, Ku'ulei Arredondo, announced we currently have 98 members. 4 guests and 46 members are attending tonight. Drawing winners were Lynn Gray, Margie Williams, and Sharon Sylvester.

Fall Retreat, Ku'ulei Arredondo, announced all 4-day spots are filled. There are a few one or 2-day spots open.

Newsletter, Kathy Burrow, nothing to report.

Webmaster, Sally Walker, nothing to report.

Cuddle Quilts, Tricia Lacey, announced all pillowcases and cuddle quilts are going to the fire victims. The next workday will be Aug. 20, from 9:00-1:00 at the library Community Room. Sue's son will deliver the fire quilts to L.A. next week.

Quilt Show, Maria Ciccarelli, reported the total 2025 Quilt Show profit was \$20,088.21. For the 2027 Quilt Show, there are openings for chairs for vendors, security, quilt scheduler (2 people), programs and ticket sales. Aug. 22 will be the first meeting at Bear Paw for the 2027 committee. Maria announced 2 classes coming up in August at Bear Paw: Wendy Holt - Foundation Paper Piecing, Aug. 15-16. Melanie Bradley - Sewing Basics, Aug. 30.

Monthly Block Raffle, Lissa Metzger, and Sandy Johnson held a drawing for the monthly blocks. The winner was Linda Miller. The next one is black, white, red called "The Dog Days of Summer". Nautical quilts were made by Sally Walker and Kathy Millhollon.

Laura Gonzalez reported on Penni Simily. She's open to phone calls.

Margie Williams announced Mary Wyly passed away.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:36 p.m. followed by a guest show and tell, show and tell, snacks, and a presentation by Janet Morita.

Respectfully submitted by Janet Morita, secretary.

1st Vice Presidents' Message

Joan Earnest

At our August meeting we got to see what a treasure we have in our Hidden Gem, Janet Morita. Her trunk show was amazing and the following day we had the best time ever learning how to ice dye in a slightly different manner. If you've never tried it, you really should! It is so much fun! Several of us have already ordered our own dyes and are ready to do it on our own. Our September meeting promises to be informative and interesting with a presentation by Denis Cicarrelli. We will be learning some self-defense techniques and it's been promised that we can actually kick Denis!! I think I'll wear some really good shoes. I think many of us are finding that we really enjoy having programs and workshops done by our own members. Less stress and more fun! Maybe you'll want to present something for our guild next year.



TREASURER'S REPORT

Lisa Kernaghan

TREASURER'S REPORT

July 31, 2025

CHECKING ACCOUNT

Balance 7/1/25 \$13,154.50

Credits in July \$515.04

Debits in July \$1,631.81

ENDING BALANCE \$12,037.73
(7/31/2025)

SAVINGS ACCOUNT

Balance 7/1/25 \$9,399.41

Credits in July \$0.80

ENDING BALANCE \$9,400.21
(7/31/2025)

CD ACCOUNT

Balance 8/15/25 \$10,350.01

Total Accrued Interest \$0.00

AVAILABLE BALANCE \$10,350.01
(8/15/25)

2025 Program Schedule

September 4 – Self Defense Presentation
Dennis Ciccarelli
September 5 – Workshop padded folding
chair Lynn G. and Joanie M.
October 2 (Daytime) Hidden Gems – Cindy
Young
October 3 Workshop Bag Class Nani Johnson
November 6 (Daytime) Kim Brownell
The Wacky-Doodle Quilter
December 4 (Daytime) Annual Winter Luncheon



CIRCLE INFORMATION

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.

OAKHURST MACHINE EMBROIDERY

Circle:

The Oakhurst Machine Embroidery Circle will be **changing** the date of this meeting to Monday September 29, 2025, with same time, same place. This is to not interfere with the Quilt Retreat the 4th Monday of Sep. Penni Simily will be showing how to put a zipper in the back of a pillow.

Mindful Stitchers

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 Thursdays from 10:30-12:30 at our local quilt shop, Yosemite Quilt Co. and Longarm, near our homes in Yosemite Lakes Park.

Ammenties

A thinking of you card was sent to Penny Simily. A sympathy card was also sent to the family of Mary Wyly

Membership

Our membership has continued to grow! We currently have 98 members. Our August meeting had 48 members attend the Wonder Hidden Gems presented by Janet Morita

Please review the website to verify all your information is updated and that an Emergency Contact has been added.

I would like to "Thank" The members that have donated wonderful door Prizes. It's fun to get a surprise gift

Ku'ulei Arredondo

Circle Hostesses and Greeters for 2025

| | |
|-----------|----------------------|
| September | Bits and Pieces |
| October | Anything with Fabric |
| November | Footloose |

Fall Retreat

September 22-25 Camp Echo

Wow! The Fall Retreat is coming soon. September 22nd through September 25th. I will be there at 8:00 am to set up. There are a couple of 1- or 2-day spots available. Please call me at 661-317-6514, if interested.

Assigned seating due to some members coming part time and room for the Sew EZY tables. Please let me know if there is someone you would like to sit with.

If you didn't include on the sign-up sheet, please advise of any food allergies.

Just a reminder, there is no ironing on the tables. Bear Paw is loaning us 4 ironing boards for the retreat.



| | |
|--------------------|-------|
| Marilyn Harvey | 09/08 |
| Ruth Conner | 09/09 |
| Sharon Sylvester | 09/11 |
| Donna McCall | 09/12 |
| Shirley Dunn | 09/13 |
| Mary Rohrig Gaston | 09/18 |
| Nancy Rand | 09/27 |

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](#).

September Refreshment Signups

Faith Moore
Joan Earnest
Jeanne Brisidine
Mary Piatz



Cuddle Quilt Corner

Sandy Johnson

Happy September fellow quilters. Did you know the word September comes from the Latin word "septem" which means seven. The month of September used to have the position as the seventh month in the Roman calendar. That's your bit of trivia for the month.

Our very busy sewers made enough that fire victim donations included 53 quilts, 98 pillowcases for a total of 151 donations. Now we need to rebuild our supply of cuddle quilts and pillowcases. Our workday will be September 17th in the library community room. Time is 9 to 1 pm. You can drop in anytime. We will be cutting out pillowcases to make kits. Hope to see many of you there.

Sandy Johnson

Finally, here: Padded Folding Chair Workshop!

The long-awaited Padded Folding Chair Workshop is full! However, one spot *may* open up. If you'd like to be added to the waiting list, please contact Joan E.

Led by Lynn G. and Joanie M., this special class honors the late Chris Hudson, who originally designed and planned it. Friday, Sept 5, 2025, 9 AM–3 PM Oakhurst Community Center Pavilion



Workshop: Rolled Up Retreat Bag

Click link to purchase pattern or to read more details - [Sewing Pattern by Harley B](#)

Instructor: Nani Johnson

Date: Friday, October 3, 2025

Time: 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM (Set-up begins at 8:30 AM)

Location: Oakhurst Community Center Pavilion

Join us for a fun and functional workshop where you'll create the Rolled Up Retreat Bag—a stylish and handy organizer perfect for travel or quilting retreats!

Note: There will be homework before the class so the bag can be completed in a day.

Class Fee:

- SMQA Members: \$35 (cash/check) | \$37 (credit card)
- Non-members: \$45 (cash/check) | \$47.50 (credit card)

Payment Options:

- Pay online here: [Sign Up & Pay Online](#)
- Credit card payments can be made in person at guild meetings or online using the link above.
- Mail checks to:
SMQA PO Box 1359 Oakhurst, CA 93644
- Bring payment to the next guild meeting. (Make checks payable to SMQA)

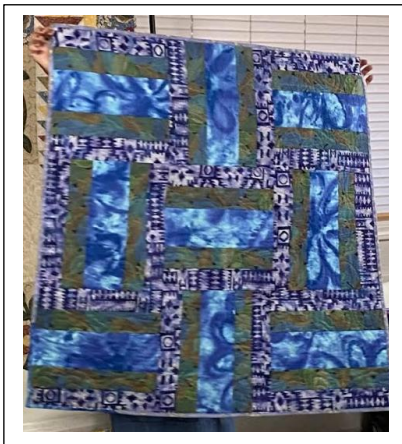
Upcoming Quilt Shows

Sep 6-7 Pumpkin Patch Quilt Show, 9:30-4 pm,
Ted Falasco Arts Center 1105 5th St, Los Banos, CA

Sept 19-20 Foothill Quilters Guild
41st Annual Quilt Show Friday 10-4, Saturday 10-3
Parkside Church, 3885 Richardson Dr Auburn, CA

Oct 4-5 Ladies of the Lake Quilt Guild
23rd Falling Leaves Quilt Show
Saturday 10-5, Sunday 10-4
Lewis Hall, 401 Martin St, Lake Port, CA

August Show and Tell



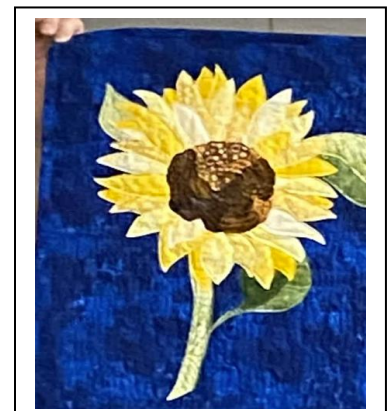
SUNBONNET SUE QUILT

My grandmother, Henry Payne, appliquéd and hand embroidered 32 Sunbonnet Sue blocks and around 1973 gave them to me to “someday” make into a quilt. I was told the appliqué pieces were taken from the play clothes my mother made for me when I was a child. Grandmother, an avid baker, had given my mother used flour sacks as an inexpensive way to learn to sew as she made her children’s play clothes. I was determined to be as authentic as possible to my grandmother. As a result, I collected as many flour sacks as I could find to make the star blocks in the quilt. Since flour sacks are limited and hard to find I had to supplement the stars with cotton fabric that looked as close as possible to the typical flour sack patterns. It took me many years to collect the fabrics, piece the blocks and finally put the quilt together. My grandmother also hand quilted her quilts so I was compelled to hand quilt the quilt. As a real novice, this was my first attempt to hand quilt. It took me over a year and a half to complete the hand quilting. It probably is not as well done as my grandmother would have done, but I am sure she would be proud of me for what I accomplished.

Since my grandmother gave me enough blocks to make two quilts, I have made one for each of my daughters so they both will have a keepsake from their Grangran, Magaw, and mother. The quilt process began by collecting fabric starting in 2005, then pieced, quilted and finally completed in 2025.

This quilt is for my daughter, Joy Beasley, given to her with all my love.

Charlotte Hickman Mariposa, CA July, 2025



Services from our Advertisers

BEAR PAW QUILTS & MORE

OPEN
MONDAY - SATURDAY
10AM - 5PM

FABRIC
NOTIONS
CLASSES

NEW FABRICS WEEKLY

LIKE US ON **facebook**

559-683-7397

40761 Highway 41—Suite 7, Oakhurst, CA

The advertisement is set against a colorful quilted background. It features a cartoon teddy bear on the left holding a blue banner that says 'NEW FABRICS WEEKLY'. A green starburst graphic on the right contains the text 'FABRIC NOTIONS CLASSES'. In the background, there is a photograph of a quilt shop interior with shelves of fabric and quilting supplies. At the bottom, the phone number '559-683-7397' is displayed in large green digits, and the address '40761 Highway 41—Suite 7, Oakhurst, CA' is written in black. A Facebook logo with the text 'LIKE US ON' and 'facebook' is also present.



Sierra Mountain Quilters Association

P.O. Box 1359
Oakhurst, C 93644

sierramountainquilters.org



facebook.com/SierraMountainQuiltersAssociation

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

BOARD MEMBERS

| | |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| President | Sue Johnson |
| 1 st Vice Presidents | Joan Earnest |
| 2 nd Vice Presidents | Bev Gulley |
| Treasurer | Lisa Kernaghan |
| 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

| | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| New Member Support | Ku'ulei Arredondo |
| Amenities | Linda Miller |
| Circles | Mel Peters |
| Cuddle Quilts | Tricia Lacey |
| Historian | Laura Donahue |
| Webmaster | Sally Walker |
| Parliamentarian | Rebecca Brannon |
| Membership | Ku'ulei Arredondo |
| Newsletter | Kathy Burrow |
| Quilt Show Chair | Maria Ciccarelli |