



Sierra Mountain Quilters Association Newsletter

March 5, 2026
Doors open at 12:30 P.M Meeting begins at 1:00 P.M.
Host Greeters: A Gathering of Stitchers
Program: Cuddle Quilt Sew
(Bring your machine and stay the afternoon)

**SMQA GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING
 AGENDA**

March 5, 2026
 Call to Order
 Flag Salute
 Welcome
 Reports:

Secretary - Minutes from February 12, 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
 Spring Retreat - Laura Gonzales
 Fall Retreat - Ku'ulei Arredondo

New Business:

Vote on Newsletter Advertising Price reduction

Show and Tell
 Refreshments
 Program: Cuddle Quilt Sew

2026 Program Schedule

- 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 Hidden Gem Wendy Holg
- Aug 6 Workshop Janet Morita Ice Dying
- Sept 3 Darla Hall
- Sept 4 Workshop Free Motion Quilting
- 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



Sierra Mountain Quilters Association General Meeting Minutes, February 12, 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. Bits and Pieces presented a Community Quilt to Caring Veterans led by Commander Terry Cole. Wendy thanked Bits and Pieces for decorating the table and greeting and then recognized February birthdays and anniversaries.

Secretary Janet Morita Margie Williams made a motion, Rebecca Brannon seconded, to accept the January 8, 2025, general meeting minutes. The motion carried.

First Vice Presidents, Joan Earnest and Sue Johnson Joan announced in March, will be a Cuddle Quilt workday until 5:00 p.m.; In April, Doris Lantz will present "Art Quilts and Wall Hangings" followed by a Highland Cow collage class the next day; in May, Claudia Shearer will present "How Did I Get Here?" followed by an improv. quilting workshop the next day; June is the ice cream social. In July, Footloose will present a trunk show; in August, Janet Morita will teach a dye class; In October, Gwen Weedon will present "20 Years of a Quilting Journey" followed by an Ocean Art Quilt class the next day; November will be a veterans' program followed by a house shoes workshop the next day; and December will be the winter luncheon.

Second Vice President, Sue Walker, reported nothing to report.

Treasurer, Lisa Kernaghan for Dianna Conaway the treasurer's report will be filed for audit. Rebecca Brannon reported that the audit committee has certified the budget.

Membership, Lisa Kernaghan for Ku'ulei Arredondo, reported we have 60 paid members. There are 46 members and 6 guests present today. Drawing winners were Virginia Waters, Peter Gonzalez, and Tina Horn.

Newsletter, Kathy Burrow, reported nothing to report.

Webmaster, Sally Walker, announced nothing to report

Cuddle Quilts, Tricia Lacey, announced next month's meeting is a Cuddle Quilt workday. Bear Paw will be available on the following Friday for Cuddle Quilt sewing. Tricia needs cuddle quilts and children's cuddle quilts.

Quilt Show, Wendy Holt for Maria Ciccarelli, announced two circles have received materials for working on the Opportunity Quilt and there will be a workday on Tuesday, Feb. 17, at Bear Paw.

New business: A memorial for Diane Ward will be on Saturday at Our Lady of the Sierra Catholic Church.

Spring Retreat will be April 13-16. The cost is \$41 per day.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:27 p.m. followed by show and tell, snacks, and a trunk show by Bits and Pieces.

Respectfully submitted by Janet Morita, secretary.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Dianna Conaway
January 31, 2026

CHECKING ACCOUNT

Balance 1/1/2026 \$10,523.87
Credits in January \$601.17
Debits in January \$1,973.25
ENDING BALANCE \$9,151.79
(1/31/2026)

SAVINGS ACCOUNT

Balance 1/31/2026 \$9,433.80

CD ACCOUNT

BALANCE 1/31/2026 \$10,523.87

Membership

Ku'ulei Arredondo

Please join me in Welcoming our New Members. Victoria Summers, Roxy Burrow, Phebe Burrow, Adrienne Smith (Louis), Joyce Azevedo, Carolyn Honnette, Patricia Horn and Laurel Thompson.

I would like to say Thank You for all the members that have renewed their membership. Remember, 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.

As of February 15th, 2026, we have 76 active members.

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.

Ku'ulei

Circle Hostesses and Greeters for

March: A Gathering of Stitchers

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 hosing and décor duties for the year You've made my first job as second VP very easy.

Sue Walker

Spring Retreat dates April 13-16, 2026

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

There are a couple for more spots available for anyone wanting to spend the night.

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

Fall Retreat
Save the Date:
September 14th ~ 17th at ECCO



Wendy's Window

Well February was filled with surprises and extremes. With weather going from 70s to 20s to 70s and our first snow this winter. Dense fog clearing to find lush green meadows and snow-covered mountain peaks. I love Mother Nature and all her gifts. I see daffodils continuing to bloom and dance around the town and for the first time in 10 years my apricot tree has blossoms.

The February meeting began with the presentation to Caring Veterans of America of a Community quilt made by Bits and Pieces and quilted by Cindy Young. It was a special moment that Terry Cole and his fellow veterans appreciated. This quilt will help them raise the money needed to continue their work helping veterans and their families.

Bits and Piece gave us a fantastic program sharing their circle's history and creativity. Thank you for your wonderful, well-choreographed presentation.

The celebration of Diane Ward's life was moving and inspirational. Those who visit the Oakhurst Kaiser location have Diane to thank. Those who attend the Catholic Church in Oakhurst also have the Ward's to thank. Let's keep her work of service going as we come together and work to sew cuddle quilts after our March Business Meeting.

Cuddle Quilt sewing will begin after refreshments and continue until 5:00 p.m. Please bring your sewing machines, mats, rotary cutters, and friends to make quilts to support our mission.

Members who have not had the chance to participate in making the opportunity quilt, please reach out to me so we may coordinate our schedules to continue our work to complete the quilt and begin the raffling.

Let's wrap things up with some inspiration: "Anyone who works on a quilt, who devotes her time, energy, creativity, and passion to that art, learns to value the work of her hands. And as any quilter will tell you, a quilter's quilting friends are some of the dearest, most generous and most supportive people she knows." - Jennifer Chiaverini

Thank you all for your friendship and support.

Wendy

Congratulations are in Order

Wendy Holt received the distinguished status of becoming an Official Judy Niemeyer Instructor on February 4, 2026.

We want to applaud her success and look forward to learning from Wendy In the future.

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.



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

Hey all! Here's our chance to boost the Cuddle Quilt inventory & have a fun, "doing" meeting! The March meeting is a Cuddle Quilt sewing day. Bring your machines, or just yourself, and work on making quilts for our charity quilt program. If you don't bring a machine, you can team up with someone who did, and help her with cutting, pressing, etc. Tricia will bring all the materials you'll need ... kits, fabrics, batting, backing...the works! If a quilt is too big a project, grab a kit or two and make wheelchair bags or pillowcases. We have the building until 5 pm, so we'll have plenty of time to sew.

Omg! The Bits and Pieces trunk show was great! So much history of their circle, and so much talent! Not to mention all the fun & good times they've had over the years just being together. It goes to show, we really do have some "hidden gems" amongst us! Thank you, ladies, for such a well-organized, thoughtful presentation. All your effort is truly appreciated. Joan & Sue have been busy lining up programs for the year. We have secured some great speakers and fun workshops. We're excited to bring Doris Lantz in April... she'll speak on Art Quilts and Wall Hangings at the meeting, and the workshop the following day will be making an adorable Highland Cow collage! Can't wait! You can sign up online, or at the March meeting. I can guarantee it will be a fun day with the result being the absolute cutest cow!

Joan & Sue have been busy lining up programs for the year. We have secured some great speakers and fun workshops. We're excited to bring Doris Lantz in April... she'll speak on Art Quilts and Wall Hangings at the meeting, and the workshop the following day will be making an adorable Highland Cow collage! Can't wait! You can sign up online, or at the March meeting. I can guarantee it will be a fun day with the result being the absolute cutest cow!

*Birthdays
of the Month*



Carolyn Gaither	03/12
Sue Johnson	03/20
Kay Marshall	03/13
Elsa Murray	03/08
Patty Vincent	03/10

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](#).

March Refreshment Signups

Tricia Lacey
Laura Gonzalez
Ruthi Conner
Kathy Burrow



Cuddle Quilt Corner

Sandy Johnson and Tricia Lacey

March is the month God created to show people who don't drink what a hangover is
Garrison Keillor

The only donation this month were 6 wheelchair bags presented to Majestic Mountain. We are in serious need of Cuddle Quilts

March 5 is the meeting set aside to sew these quilts. Please bring your machine and be prepared to sew. Fabric and batting will be provided. There are also some new patterns for jelly rolls. The room has been reserved until 5:00 so we have lots of time to work. If you can't bring your machine, you can always iron or cut. Get a team together, 3 industrious women and challenge another group of three. Make it a fun and productive day.

There will be a workday to make kits later this spring.
Sandy Johnson

Amenities

Nothing was reported for the month of February

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.

A Gathering of 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



February Show and Tell





Bits and Pieces Hidden Gems





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

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 features a colorful quilt border with star patterns. In the center, there is a photograph of a quilt shop interior with shelves of fabric bolts and quilts. A green starburst graphic contains the text 'FABRIC NOTIONS CLASSES'. A blue banner with a white border says 'NEW FABRICS WEEKLY'. A cartoon teddy bear is on the left side. At the bottom, there is a Facebook logo and the text 'LIKE US ON facebook'. The phone number '559-683-7397' is in large green digits, and the address '40761 Highway 41—Suite 7, Oakhurst, CA' is in black text.



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/1FAIpQLScnoSYnlxac6AhB_J83nlgAPWRHPNOuxd8pm0Atk1T8tgtSBw/viewform



**Sierra Mountain
Quilters
Association**

P.O. Box 1359
Oakhurst, C 93644

sierramountainquilters.org



Visit us on
Facebook

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 Linda Miller
- Circles
- Cuddle Quilts Tricia Lacey
- Historian Peggy Myers
- Parliamentarian Rebecca Brannon
- Membership Ku'ulei Arredondo
- New Member Support Ku'ulei Arredondo
- Newsletter Kathy Burrow
- Quilt Show Chair Maria Ciccarelli
- Webmaster Sally Walker
- Spring Retreat Laura Gonzalez
- Fall Retreat Ku'ulei Arredondo