



Sierra Mountain Quilters Association Newsletter

August 6, 2026

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

Host Greeters: Gonzalez Family

Program: Hidden Gem Wendy Holt

SMQA GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA

**Call to Order
Flag Salute**

Welcome: Birthdays amp; Anniversaries

Reports:

**Secretary - Minutes from July 2, 2026
meeting**

Treasurer - Dianna Conaway

**First Vice Presidents - Joan Earnest & Sue
Johnson**

Second Vice President - Sue Walker

**Membership - Dianna Conaway for Ku'ulei
Arredondo**

Newsletter -Kathy Burrow

Webmaster - Sally Walker

Cuddle Quilts - Tricia Lacey

Quilt Show - Maria Ciccarelli

Opportunity Quilt

**Spring Retreat - Joan Earnest & Sue
Johnson**

**Fall Retreat - Joan & Sue for Ku'ulei
Arredondo**

New Business:

**Show & Tell
Refreshments**

Program: Wendy Holt Trunk Show

2026 Program Schedule

August 5 Hidden Gem Wendy Holt

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

Amenities

**Get well cards were sent to Mel Peters,
Helen Brown, and Rhonda Lloyd. A
Thinking of you card was sent to Ku'ulei
Arrendondo**

Sierra Mountain Quilters Association General Meeting Minutes, July 2, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by first vice president, Sue Johnson, at the Oakhurst Community Center followed by the flag salute. Sue recognized June birthdays and anniversaries.

Secretary Janet Morita Diane Ward made a motion, Carolin Gaither seconded, to accept the June 4, 2026, general meeting minutes. The motion carried.

Treasurer, Dianna Conaway, the treasurer's report as published in the newsletter will be filed for audit.

First Vice Presidents, Joan Earnest and Sue Johnson: Joan announced on August 6, Wendy Holt will present a trunk show. Janet Morita will teach a fabric dye class the following day. On September 3, Darla Hall will present a trunk show. On September 4, she will teach a free motion quilting class. On Wednesday, Sept. 30, Gwen Weedon will teach an Ocean Art Quilt class and then on Thursday, October 1, she will present "20 Years of a Quilting Journey". November 5, will be a Veterans' program and then the following day, Joan Earnest will teach a house shoes workshop. December 3, will be the Winter Luncheon at 2:00 p.m.

Second Vice President, Sue Walker,

Membership, Sally Walker for Ku'ulei Arredondo, reported we have 94 paid members with 34 members and 1 visitor attending tonight. Drawing winners were Janet Morita, Diane Ward, Teri De La Torre, and Lynette Stanford.

Fall Retreat, Joan Earnest for Ku'ulei Arredondo, reported the dates are Sept 14-17. It will be daytime only. The cost is \$43/day and can be paid by check, cash or online. The sign-up has openings on Thursday. Spring Retreat, Joan Earnest and Sue Johnson Joan reported the dates are April 5-8.

Newsletter, Kathy Burrow,

Webmaster, Sally Walker,

Cuddle Quilts, Tricia Lacey, announced the next workday will be Aug. 25, (Tuesday). We will be cutting out pillowcases. 10 cuddle quilts and 8 wheelchair bags went to Valley Children's Hospital. They have requested we make fabric squares to put on children's leg braces. Tricia will make a pattern. There will be a workday in the fall to organize the storage unit.

Quilt Show, Maria Ciccarelli, reported the postcards are here. She will be organizing quilt scheduling. Tickets are available at Bear Paw. Junior quilters will be included in the quilt show.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m. followed by show and tell and a trunk show by Footloose.

Respectfully submitted by Janet Morita, secretary.

Wendy's Window

Happy August!

I'm back from our July coastal getaway. My husband is doing wonderfully after his surgery, and our dog is back to his old self, thriving with his Cambria pack. We had so many walks, filled with laughter and great conversations. The home-cooked meals in our VBRO on the ocean were just what we needed.

Time at the ocean really changed my perspective. The ocean smells, the coastal fog rolling in and disappearing, the cool wind, and those amazing sunsets over the water kept me focused and engaged, always on the lookout for that elusive green flash as the sun set. The cooler temperatures on the coast were a welcome change. Wearing sweaters and coats in July reminded me of living in Australia, where July is their winter. It was fascinating to learn how otters have a chest pouch to carry a rock to crack open their food. Watching them float on their backs and twirl in the water with their young was a sight of pure freedom and love. It was wonderful to see whales spouting and breaching again. Watching pelicans fly in formation so close to the waves made me think they were surfing, in their own unique way.

I've always thought the ocean was my happy place. Now, as an older adult who's lived in both ocean and mountain foothills areas, I know both have a special place for me. The ocean clears out all the chaos in my mind and body, while the foothills and mountains feed my soul. I need the stillness I find in Oakhurst and Yosemite. I also need the ocean smells, sounds, mist, and energy.

May you find joy wherever you are and grow where you are planted. Maybe you'll reconnect with a friend you haven't seen in a while or celebrate a circle member's birthday by chance.

Miracles and wonders are all around us, happening every day.

Cheers!

Wendy

Summer Sewing Program: Sue Walker

The Summer Sewing program at the Oakhurst Library was a success! A big thank you to all the volunteer teachers and to the members who donated 5" squares. The students made lap quilts, and they all did a great job. We were impressed with their color selections and how quickly they jumped in and learned new skills. I think we might have new guild members in the future!

Thank Sue



SMQA TREASURER'S REPORT RECAP

Dianna Conaway
6/30/2026

Checking Account

Beginning Balance 6/1	\$9,410.01
Credits	\$437.83
Debits	-\$304.87
Ending Balance 6/30	\$9,542.97

Savings Account

Beginning Balance 6/1	\$9,468.07
Credits	\$8.64
Debits	\$0.00
Ending Balance 6/30	\$9,476.71

CD Account

Beginning Balance 6/1	\$10,532.04
Credits	\$0.00
Ending Balance 6/30	\$10,532.04

Fall Retreat

Fall Retreat September 14th - 17th

Opening for Thursday

Check with Joan Earnest or Sue Johnson
for more information.

**Circle Hostesses and Greeters for**

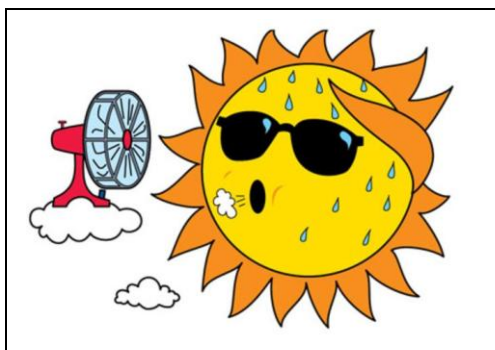
August: Gonzalez Family

September: Bits and Pieces

October: Anything with Fabric

November: A Gathering of Stitches

December: Guild Board Members

**New Member
Janice Wison****New Member: Meg
Yearton**

Membership

Ku'ulei Arredondo

We have 94 current members. Welcome to our newest member to join this month was Janise Wilson.

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.

CIRCLE INFORMATION**ANYTHING WITH FABRIC**

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

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

Bits and Pieces: Closed

Footloose: Closed

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](#).



July Refreshments

**Lynn Gray
Caroline Gaither
Dianna Conoway
Teri DeLaTorre**

Kathy Burrow	August 10
Roxy Burrow	August 3
Maria Ciccarelli	August 26
Sandy Giersch	August 8
Peter Gonzalez	August 10
Carolyn Honetta	August 0
Peggy Meyers	August 30

Cuddle Quilt Corner

Sandy Johnson and Tricia Lacey



Did you know: The flower for the month of August is the gladiolus or poppy, meaning beauty, strength of character, love, marriage and family. This month SMQA donated 5 cuddle quilts to Terry's House

.Next workday is August 25 at the Oakhurst Library. We will be cutting out pillowcase kits. Please come join us.

If you know of an organization that would benefit from our handiwork, please contact Tricia Lacey. We have cuddle quilts, wheelchair bags and pillowcases.

Thank you to our members for the beautiful donations so far this year.

Sandy Johnson

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

I've got to say, we have some really talented people in our guild! The July Hidden Gems program put on by the Footloose sewing circle certainly proved that! They gave a great presentation: informative, beautiful & entertaining....Thank you so much, ladies, for sharing your work and your stories with us. So enjoyable!

And the show keeps on going....next month (August 6) we get the privilege of snooping into Wendy's quilt stash! I'm really curious to see what she's made over the course of her quilting history. I'm sure there are more than a few Niemeyer's in there, along with some machine embroidery gems and who knows what else! Should be a good one! The following day we have Janet Morita teaching us how to ice dye. She's taught it before and we all went home with some of the most fabulous fabrics! Can't wait! And don't forget to bring rubber gloves and a big bucket to drive your sloshing, dye filled wastebaskets home in.

Then we have Darla Hall on September 3, doing a trunk show at the meeting and a free motion quilting workshop the next day. On October 1, Gwen Weedon will speak on "20 Years of a Quilting Journey." Remember, due to a scheduling conflict, instead of a workshop on Friday, it's going to be flipped to Wednesday, September 30. We'll be making an Ocean Art Quilt.

Next is the Veteran's Day Program on November 5. See Wendy Holt if you have questions about participation, etc. On November 6 there is a workshop on how to make House Shoes, taught by Joan Earnest. Then the winter luncheon on December 3.

Lots of fun stuff ahead! Don't forget to sign up!



Quilt Show Update Maria Ciccarelli

Exciting news—our Opportunity Quilt is starting to make the rounds! We are lining up several wonderful places to share the quilt, sell tickets, and celebrate the beautiful work our guild has created together.

Where the Opportunity Quilt Will Be Shown

- ☐ Heart of the Valley Shop Hop, September 10–12, at Bear Paw
- ☐ Woodcarvers Rendezvous, April 14
- ☐ Bear Paw at the Pines Quilt Retreat, March 3–7
- ☐ Ace Hardware and Bee's Bakery dates coming soon
- ☐ Road to California date still pending

How Members Can Help

- ☐ Please volunteer to sit with the quilt and help sell tickets. Sign-up sheets will be passed around at the next few meetings.
 - ☐ If you have not picked up your tickets yet, please get them at the next meeting or at Bear Paw.
 - ☐ Our cheerful goal is to have all members' tickets sold before the end of the year—thank you for helping make that happen!
- A Little Scheduling Help Would Be Wonderful I am still looking for someone to help with scheduling the Opportunity Quilt. Much of the legwork is already underway, and I will gladly continue to support whoever is able to step in. It is a great way to be part of sharing our quilt with the community!
- Thank you for helping make this a successful and joyful year for the Opportunity Quilt!

— Maria Ciccarelli

Member Patty Weins sewing room sale Friday morning. August 7th 10:00 AM

Her husband Norm would like to open up Patty's sewing room and supplies to SMQA Members and her friends for a sale of her sewing and craft supplies. Friday morning. August 7th 10:00 AM She had several nice machines and other products in her home. Norm would like to sell her stuff to her friends that she quilted with.

Machines:

Brother Innovis XV8550D Dream Machine 2 with Koala table \$5,000

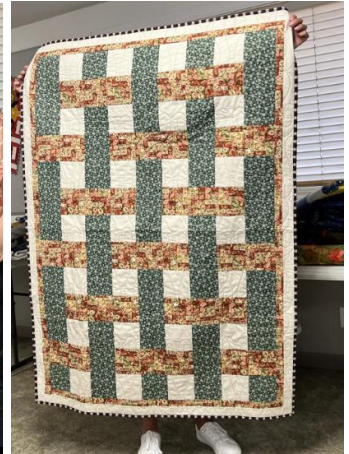
Brother Quatro 6000D with case and accessories \$3,600.

Baby Lock Tiarra Quilting Machine Model #BLTR16 with Accessories \$2,000

Brother Scan and Cut DX Model #DX225 with case and Accessoris \$300.

Question call Norm Weins: 559-903-6818

July Show and Tell





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 or see form listed on following page. Please

A colorful advertisement for Bear Paw Quilts & More. The background is a quilted pattern. The text reads: "BEAR PAW QUILTS & MORE" in large red letters, "OPEN TUESDAY - SATURDAY 10AM - 5PM" in yellow letters, "FABRIC NOTIONS CLASSES" in a green starburst, "MACHINE REPAIR" in a blue banner, "LIKE US ON facebook" with a Facebook logo, "559-683-7397" in large green letters, and "40761 Highway 41—Suite 7, Oakhurst, CA" in black letters. There is also a small illustration of a brown teddy bear.



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 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