



Sierra Mountain Quilters Newsletter

Next meeting **September 7, 2017**
 Oakhurst Community Center Pavilion
 Greeters: Donna McCall & Betty Fish
 Doors open at 5:30; Business meeting at 6:00
 Program: **Lyn Mann**



September Meeting

Lyn Mann will be our guest speaker in September. She will have a workshop "No Such Thing as an Ugly Fabric" on September 8. The workshop cost is \$35.00. Be sure you get the supply list on the website. Lots of 6" squares are required. I am sure you will enjoy her class.

Upcoming Events:

In October, we will meet the "Sew Creative" circle, and they will show some of their beautiful quilting.

A Salute to a Veteran is the program for November.

Christmas Dinner will be in December. This will be a catered event, and tickets will be available soon. We will also have the installation of officers.

Please be open to taking a part in our guild. We need you all.
 Penni Simily

CUDDLE CORNER



The usual cuddle quilt sewing at Bear Paw conflicts with the Fall Retreat; so we will not meet in September. The next regularly scheduled Bear Paw cuddle quilt sewing is scheduled for Tuesday, October 17th, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. We will check on the status of the shop move before determining if the room is available. Remember to pick up a kit or a panel at the September SMQA meeting.

Thank you for supporting SMQA's community service.
Betsy Anne Youngholm

Free Sew Day

On Friday, October 6 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm come sew with your SMQA friends at the Pavilion.

- Bring any project - no rules, just sew.
- Take advantage of having large tables to spread out your quilt for basting.
- Irons and ironing mats will be provided.
- Bring your sewing supplies,.Have fun!

If you have questions, contact Betsy Blum or Barbara Graas

Sierra Mountain Quilters Association

General Meeting, August 3, 2017

President Chris Hudson called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. at the Oakhurst Community Center, and led in the flag salute, and reminded everyone to silence their cell phones. Barbara Graas volunteered to be Sergeant-at-Arms. She thanked Margie Williams and Toni Morton for being greeters and thanked the August birthday ladies for refreshments. Members with August anniversaries were recognized.

By motion of Nancy Swanson, seconded by Toni Morton, the July 6, 2017, General Meeting minutes were approved. The Treasurer's report was approved as printed in the newsletter, and the report was filed for audit.

Reports:

Penni Simily/1st Vice President announced that Patsy Carpenter is doing the trunk show this evening and the paper piecing workshop on Friday. The workshop in September will be "No Such Thing as Ugly Fabric" by Lyn Mann. The trunk show in October will be by Mary Platz and the Sew Creative circle. The November meeting will be a salute to veterans. The December meeting will be a dinner.

Patty Wiens for Sandy Johnson/2nd Vice President held the drawing for the jar squares. The September challenge for the squares will be fall colors.

Betsy Anne Youngholm/Cuddle Quilts noted that she has cuddle quilt and wheel chair bag kits available. She advised of a thank you letter received from Mariposa Mountain Crisis Center for the cuddle quilts. Cuddle Quilt sewing is scheduled to be held at Bear Paw on August 15th between 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Over 100 cuddle quilts have been distributed this year. Signups are being taken for the retreat to be held at ECCO on September 18-21, 2017.

Jullie Vasquez/Membership advised that 62 members were present. The door prize drawing was held.

Chris Hudson for Donna Baxter and Constance Peterson/Quilt Show Co-Chairs asked for volunteers to chair/co-chair our next Quilt Show. Chris advised that Sinta Borland volunteered for the opportunity quilt for the next Show. She will bring patterns for the guild to vote on at the next meeting.

Betsy Blum announced a free sew day will be held on October 6, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Sally Walker/Mystery Quilt project handed out the next clue.

Chris Hudson advised that the Nominating Committee is Helen Ramsey, Nancy Swanson, and Jullie Vasquez. She asked members to give them any suggestions for filling the offices of President, Treasurer, and Secretary.

Other Business:

Chris Hudson advised that Sheila Hotovec has shirts with the logos and patches.

Chris reminded everyone that Trisha Ham's husband, Steve, will be having a Celebration of Life for Trisha, to be held on Saturday, August 5, between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. at their home in Oakhurst.

Steph Risinger announced the availability of a software program.

Chris Hudson asked if anyone is interested in working on a Quilt of Valor for the November program and stated she will work on one. She noted there are specific requirements. Betsy Anne Youngholm volunteered to work on one with Helen Ramsey and Caroline Gaither. Sharon Cox provided a reminder to save receipts so the Guild can reimburse the costs.

Chris Hudson advised that the Board agreed to provide a Community Quilt to the American Legion Auxiliary, Oakhurst Post 110, and she is looking for a volunteer(s) to make this quilt.

Chris Hudson provided a reminder that the Mariposa Fair deadline for entry forms is Saturday, August 5, Entry forms are on the table along with information on other shows and events.

Rhonda Lloyd provided an update on Donna Henning, who is still in San Leandro.

Penni Simily noted that Patsy Carpenter has patterns available for 50 % off.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:33 p.m. with the next General Meeting to be held on September 7, 2017. Show and tell was held.

Penni Simily introduced Patsy Carpenter, a certified instructor for Judy Niemeyer Quilting, and her husband, Randy; and Jeremy Swain of Thimble Towne and his son, Nathan. Patsy, with the assistance of Jeremy, Randy, and Nathan, presented the trunk show on foundation paper pieced quilts. Penni noted that there is an available spot for the Friday workshop that has been paid and to see her this evening if interested.

Respectfully submitted by Margie Williams, Secretary

September Birthdays

Harkless, Miriam	9/1
Harvey, Marilyn	9/8
Ashley-Spencer, Laura	9/10
McCall, Donna	9/12
Hoyt, Marge	9/13
Pfankuchen, Patsy	9/18
Steskal, Joan	9/27
Whitley, Mary	9/27
Cochran, Peggy	9/28

***Please bring a snack to our September meeting.
We wish you all a very Happy Birthday!***

August New Members

There were no new members in August.

Please welcome our new and returning members.

*Personal information is on our website,
sierramountainquilters.org under Members.*

September Holidays

Sep 4	Labor Day
Sep 9	California Admission Day
Sep 10	National Grandparents Day
Sep 11	Patriot Day
Sep 14	Nat'l POW/MIA Recognition Day
Sep 18	Constitution & Citizenship Day
Sep 22	September Equinox

Please note: Due to privacy issues, this newsletter will no longer publish members' personal information, i.e. address or phone numbers.

Amenities

Cards were sent to:

Donna Henning – Thinking of You
Pat MacDonald - Get Well

Contact **Linda Miller** if you know a member who would appreciate us thinking of them.

Treasurer's Report

by Sharon Cox

July, 2017

(Checking Account)

Balance Forward (7/1/17)	\$16,461.92
Deposits	\$ 593.50
Expenses	\$ 1,485.52
Bank Balance (7/31/17)	\$15,569.90
CD:	\$16,886.63
Savings:	\$18,141.78



Quilting Circles

September 2017

by Marian Romero



Anything with Fabric meets the third Thursday of the month from 9:00 a.m. to 11:50 a.m. at Oakhurst Library community center. We have a few openings. Contact Rhonda Dewey.

Bits & Pieces meet Wednesday September 6, 11:00 a.m. at Linda Miller's home. Bring show and tell and hand work. Carpoolers meet at Payless shoes at 10:45 a.m. Questions, call Linda.

Footloose meets 4-6 p.m. at Chris's studio on Monday, September 11, to sew and plan our outing to Alden Lane Nursery Quilting in the Garden. We meet again on Monday September 25 to sew and share the fun we had at Alden Lane.

Material Girls will meet on Tuesday, September 12, at 1:00 p.m. at the Bear Paw. Bring your show and tell, finished Cuddle Quilts, and material for Rhonda's project. See you all there.

Sew Crafty Quilters had a fun trip to Reedley to the Mennonite Quilt Center to see the antique quilt display, shop for fabric, and have lunch at Main Street Cafe. We'll be making wreaths at our next meeting and are planning a sampler quilt; so the newbies can learn some new techniques. We meet the 2nd and 4th Thursdays in the clubhouse at Oak Creek Park.

Sew Thrilled members meet the second and fourth Wednesdays. Contact Linda Pennington for information.

Thursday Thimbles will be meeting at Donna McCall's home on September 28, at 9:30 a.m.

Yoyo's will be at Nancy's on the 18th, getting close to our trip to the beach and planning our food and fun. Nancy is making a kite. I, Vivian, will be looking for dates that we can have a dye group gathering. I have a few Yoyos on an interest list but also want to get the others to help me. I am waiting for cooler weather. Meals at Nancy's are always a wonderful delicious surprise.

Fabrics from Natural Fibers

Silk Fabric

Silk is a natural [protein fiber](#), some forms of which can be [woven](#) into [textiles](#). The protein fiber of silk is composed mainly of [fibroin](#) and is produced by certain insect larvae to form cocoons. The best-known silk is obtained from the [cocoons](#) of the [larvae](#) of the [mulberry silkworm](#) *Bombyx mori* reared in captivity ([sericulture](#)). The shimmering appearance of silk is due to the triangular [prism](#)-like structure of the silk fiber, which allows silk cloth to refract incoming light at different [angles](#), thus producing different colors.

Silk is produced by several insects, but generally only the silk of moth caterpillars has been used for textile manufacturing. There has been some research into other types of silk, which differ at the molecular level.

Silk fabric was first developed in ancient China. The earliest example of silk fabric is from 3630 B.C. Silks were originally reserved for the Emperors of China for their own use and gifts to others, but spread gradually through [Chinese culture](#) and trade both geographically and socially, and then to many regions of [Asia](#). Because of its texture and luster, silk rapidly became a popular luxury fabric in the many areas accessible to Chinese merchants. Silk was in great demand, and became a staple of pre-[industrial](#) international [trade](#).

Silk has a smooth, soft texture that is not slippery, unlike many [synthetic fibers](#). Silk is one of the strongest natural fibers, but it loses up to 20% of its strength when wet. It has a good [moisture regain](#) of 11%. Its [elasticity](#) is moderate to poor: if elongated even a small amount, it remains stretched. It can be weakened if exposed to too much sunlight. It may also be attacked by insects, especially if left dirty.

Silk is a poor conductor of [electricity](#) and thus susceptible to [static cling](#).

Unwashed silk chiffon may [shrink](#) up to 8% due to a relaxation of the fiber macrostructure, so silk should either be washed prior to garment construction, or [dry cleaned](#). Dry cleaning may still shrink the chiffon up to 4%. Occasionally, this shrinkage can be reversed by a gentle steaming with a press cloth. There is almost no gradual shrinkage nor shrinkage due to molecular-level deformation.



Chris's Comments...

Well, we're already in September, which means Fall is just around the corner!!!

Speaking of Fall, I understand there are still a few spots left at our upcoming Fall Retreat! If you are interested, or have questions about the Retreat, please contact Betsy Anne Youngholm. This retreat is "days only", and there is no need to sign up for all 4 days. You can sign up for just one. If you aren't sure and want to know what to expect for the Spring Retreat or next year's Fall Retreat, drop by ECCO on any of the days we are there (9/18 - 9/21), and see what it is all about. Basically, it is a time to sew on what you like, walk away at the end of the day, leaving your machines and projects at your station, and return the next day for more sewing and fun!

If any of you are interested in volunteering to fill one of the positions on our Board for 2018, please get in touch with one of our Nominating Committee members, Helen Ramsey, Nancy Swanson, or Jullie Vasquez. Please consider one of the positions. You'll be more involved in the guild and its 'inner workings' and get better acquainted with our members. If you want to influence change, jump in and give it a try! I think you'll be glad you did.

Don't forget, at our September General Meeting, we will be voting for the pattern that will be used to create our 2019 Opportunity Quilt. Since this is the quilt we expect each of our members to buy and/or sell at least 30 tickets for, you may want to have a vote on the pattern. As I announced at our August meeting, Sinta Borland has agreed to be Committee Chair for this effort. The Opportunity Quilt, is our largest fund raiser for SMQA, and the winning ticket will be drawn at our Quilt Show in 2019.

As of this writing, no one has stepped forward to chair/co-chair our 2019 Quilt Show. We have many people who can tell you what is involved. In fact, we have detailed binders available for the chair/co-chair's positions and for each committee chair involved in putting our Quilt Show together.

Remember, you only need to ask! Asking is not a commitment that you will volunteer; however if you don't ask, you won't know what is involved. Everyone, who has held one of these positions, would be more than happy to tell you what there is to do. In fact, when you do volunteer, and throughout the next year and a half, those people will be more than happy to assist however they can. We all want our Quilt Show to be a success, and we will answer any questions you may have. So, please, let me know if you think you may have a desire to chair/co-chair our next show!

We also need someone to volunteer to head up the creation of our Community Quilt, which the Board decided will be for the American Legion Auxiliary. All that is necessary is that you get some ladies together and make the quilt. The guild pays for the fabric, batting, and backing. Let me know if you are interested!

Lastly, if you haven't already signed up for our September Workshop "No Such Thing as Ugly Fabric", please give Penni Simily a call. I believe there are still spaces available. It sounds as if it will be lots of fun.

Have a GREAT September!!!




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Thank you Oakhurst Giftworks for the lovely flowers provided for the snack table at our meetings.

Block of the Month

Each month a different block will be presented at the SMQA meeting along with instructions. You can participate each month or just occasionally. Bring your completed block(s) to the next meeting, and you will get a raffle ticket for each block you turn in. When all are turned in, there will be a drawing, and the winner gets ALL the blocks. You could get 10 or 20 or maybe even 40! The blocks are yours to do with as you choose. Just remember to bring back your completed project; so, we can see what you did with them.

Block for October Meeting: Fall Colors Block

Background (light tan/ecru/ivory/cream)

2" x 12½" (2)

2" x 9½" (2)

4 - 2½" squares

1 - 1½" square

2 - 2½" x 4¼" rectangles

"Stem"

1 - 2½" x 2" rectangle

"Pumpkin"

8½" x 10½" rectangle of muslin

Various oranges 8½" x 2" (or smaller) strips



Take the rectangle of thin muslin and lay one of your strips on top of the muslin right side up on top vertically. You can also just strip piece the "pumpkin" strips without the muslin. Lay another piece of orange fabric on top of the previous fabric, right sides together. Sew with a ¼" seam. Flip over and press well. Keep adding strips until the entire rectangle of muslin is covered or the piece is big enough to cut out a 7 ½" x 9 ½" piece. Take the 2½" squares of background (light tan/ecru/cream/ivory) and draw a diagonal line on the back of each one. Lay the squares in the corners of the "pumpkin" piece and sew on the line. Flip the fabric to the right side and press. Cut away the "pumpkin", leaving only the corner piece. Use the same technique for the "stem" piece and the 1½" square. Press and add the two side pieces that are 2½" x 4¼" to the "stem". Add to the "pumpkin" piece. Next, add the 9½" x 2" pieces to the sides of the "pumpkin". Press towards the outside. Add the final 12½" x 2" pieces

and press towards the outside. Add your favorite green leaf on one side of the stem. I hope to see lots of pumpkin blocks at our October meeting.



We still have a couple of seats available for the fall retreat at ECCO from Monday, September 18 through Thursday, September 21. Sewing time will be from 7:30 am to 5:00 pm. Cost is \$26 per day which includes lunch.

Please let Betsy Anne Youngholm know if you are interested in attending.

If you are a new member or are unfamiliar with our retreats, we encourage you to drop by on one of those days to see what we are all doing.

Betsy Anne Youngholm



August Meeting Show & Tell





Sierra Mountain Quilters Association

P.O. Box 1359
Oakhurst, CA 93644

sierramountainquilters.org



Visit us on
Facebook

facebook.com/SierraMountainQuiltersAssociation

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

BOARD MEMBERS

President	Chris Hudson
First Vice President	Penni Simily
Second Vice President	Sandy Johnson
Treasurer	Sharon Cox
Secretary	Margie Williams

*Board Meetings are held at 1:00 p.m. on the fourth
Monday of each month at Yosemite Bank Community
Conference Room.*

Send Newsletter submissions to lpenni@sti.net
Deadline is 20th of each month.

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Amenities	Linda Miller
Big/Little Sisters	Chris Hudson
Circles	Marian Romero
Cuddle Quilts	Betsy Anne Youngholm
Historian	Donna Pike-Baxter
Hospitality	Sharon Weaver
Librarian	Patty Wiens
Membership	Jullie Vasquez & Helen Brown
Newsletter	Linda Pennington
Parliamentarian	Linda Pennington
Quilt Show Chair	Constance Peterson & Donna Baxter
Webmaster	Sally Walker