



Sierra Mountain Quilters Association Newsletter

JUNE 1, 2023

Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Meeting begins at 6:00 p.m.

Program: Ice Cream Social



Co-Presidents' Report

By the time you read this, our 2023 Quilt Show will be in the rear-view mirror. Congratulations and many thanks to Constance Peterson and to all the committee chairs and volunteers who made it happen. My husband Jim spent the morning helping me set up my Featured Quilter display, and commented more than once about the number of people and the level of cooperation in the main display area. And I had set-up volunteers to help me as well! This is our Guild at its very best. Once the show is over, each committee will update their binder and the cycle will begin again.

From the very beginning, when someone agrees to be the next chairperson, to the end as we tear down the display and store materials away for next time, we are entirely dependent on volunteers. When we start to prepare for 2025, please consider volunteering for an open position. I know it's hard to commit to an event 18 months or more in the future, but life is uncertain for all of us and we need to get started promptly. This is especially true for tasks related to the Opportunity Quilt. If you volunteer and then can't follow through for personal reasons, someone will volunteer to replace you!

Again, thanks to all!
Bev Gulley



Thanks, Constance Peterson, for all your hard work for the 2023 Quilt Show.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Joan Earnest
April 30, 2023

Checking Account

Balance 4/01/2023	\$8,091.37
Credits in April	\$3,284.13
Debits in April	\$5,263.44

Ending Balance 4/30/2023)

\$6,112.06

SAVINGS ACCOUNT BALANCE \$19,373.01

SMQA GENERAL BUSINESS**June 1, 2023****Call to Order**Flag Salute
Welcome**Reports****Secretary's Report** - Minutes from May 4 meeting**1st Vice Presidents** – Sally Walker & Lynn Gray**2nd Vice President** – Jeri Carney – Sarah McIntyre**Treasurer's Report** – Joan Ernest**Membership** - Sue Johnson**Newsletter** – Charlotte Hickman**Webmaster** – Sally Walker**Cuddle Quilts** – Tricia Lacey**Quilt Show** – Constance Peterson**New Business****Show and Tell****Ice Cream Social****2023 PROGRAM AND WORKSHOP SCHEDULE**June 1st Ice Cream SocialJuly 6th Sew Powerful Purse Project

July 7 Sew Powerful Purse workshop

Aug. 3rd Jeanette Walton "Inspiration" Trunk ShowAug. 4th Starbaby Quilt WorkshopSept. 7th Trunk Show with surprise guestOct. 5th Sandra Mollon Trunk ShowOct. 6th Thread Painting WorkshopNov. 2nd PJ Grant Veterans ProgramDec. 7th Annual Winter Dinner

and Installation of Officers

FIRST VICE PRESIDENTS' REPORT

So often in life we are inspired or challenged to participate in projects that benefit others. Whether it be the quilt guild, school, church, Scouts, 4-H, world relief - we gladly put in the time and effort to help one-another. How often do we know how those acts of kindness affect the recipients? Are their lives enhanced, improved, changed? Do they feel the love that our hands and our voices have put into our involvement?

Recently I noticed two young girls selling Girl Scout cookies as I entered the Oakhurst Grocery Outlet and made a mental note that I should buy a box on my way out. Do I need a box of cookies... no. Should I eat a box of cookies... no but, I loaded my bags into the car and walked on over to the cookie table. Wait, this girl is familiar, who is she? Ah hah! She was the pre-teen I mentored last year at the Oakhurst Library. I taught her how to make a pillowcase which she wanted to give her younger sister too young to join the program. The girls were excellent sales girls telling me all about the different flavors and which were their favorites. Having recognized me as well she asked "Guess what I got for Christmas"? Drum roll... a sewing machine! I can't tell you how my heart soared. It was music to my ears. And then she said "My sister got one too"! What an incredible feeling to know first-hand that just a few hours of my time had touched the lives of others in a positive way.

While I enjoyed the mentoring program last year, it was a day of teaching and learning but then it was done. Now, however, I feel like it's not done. These young girls will keep learning to sew. They could go on to make clothing or quilts but even if all they ever do is mending, they have the beginnings of a life skill.

The library is sponsoring another Mentoring Program June 27 - 29 and the guild has been invited to return and teach sewing to preteens. Sign up, if you can, to work with these young people. It's a rewarding experience for everyone. July 6th, SMQA is hosting the Sew Powerful Purse Project and on the 7th we will be making purses for girls in Zambia to carry their personal supplies. Won't you consider participating in these events? It just may change your life.

Reminder: The June guild meeting is an Ice Cream Social and thank you to all who volunteered their time to make the "Gateway to Yosemite" Quilt Show a success. Please be sure to bring along any family members or friends who volunteered to help at our Quilt Show. Ribbon recipients, we will have a special Show and Tell just for you. There will also be our normal Show and Tell.

Sally and Lynn

**Sierra Mountain Quilters Association
General Membership Meeting Minutes – May 5, 2023**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by president, Bev Gulley, at the Oakhurst Community Center followed by the flag salute. Bev discussed The Sew Powerful Purse Project and thanked the Fabric Collage Circle for decorating the refreshment table and greeting. She welcomed tonight's lecturer, Colleen Pelfrey, who will present "Life with a Border Around It". May birthdays and anniversaries were recognized.

Nancy Swanson made a motion, Laura Gonzalez seconded, to accept the April 6, 2023, minutes as printed in the newsletter. The motion carried.

The treasurer's report as published in the newsletter will be filed for audit.

Sally Walker, First Vice President, announced the June 1, meeting will be an ice cream social. Quilt show ribbon winners should bring their quilts for show and tell. At the July 6, meeting a representative from The Sew Powerful Purse Project will speak about the project benefitting girls in Zambia. In August, Jeanette Walton will present an "Inspiration" trunk show and teach a class on paper piecing. The year end party in December will be a luncheon.

Sue Johnson, membership, reported we now have 89 members. There were 48 members and 2 visitors in attendance tonight. The drawing winners were: Linda Hawksworth, Sally Walker, and Jeri Carney.

Jeri Carney, Second Vice President, introduced Sarah McIntyre from the Oakhurst Library who talked about the summer sewing project at the library. Middle school students will make a book bag to be tie-dyed later. The dates are June 27, 28, and 29 from 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm. She is also looking for volunteers to help with a cross stitch program for young children on July 19. Volunteers need to fill out a security check form and provide an ID.

Charlotte Hickman, Newsletter, announced two scholarship recipients, Natalie Meyer and Laura Holiday, from Yosemite High School were chosen to receive \$600 each.

Sally Walker, Webmaster, reported she has started a new section on the website, "In Memoriam". She asked members to contact her if she has omitted anyone.

Cuddle Quilts, Tricia Lacey, announced she and Rhonda Dewey went to Hinds Hospice in Fresno and Valley Children's Hospital to deliver cuddle quilts and wheelchair bags.

Laura Gonzalez reported the Spring Retreat was a great event.

Constance Peterson and Bev Gulley, Quilt Show chairs, reminded members to sign up for various jobs at the quilt show.

Maria, Ciccarelli, Publicity, asked members to please share her quilt show blasts on Facebook and Instagram.

Ku'ulei Arredondo and volunteers will sell Opportunity Quilt tickets at Ace Hardware and Tractor Supply this weekend.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:32 p.m. followed by show and tell and a presentation by Colleen Pelfrey.

Respectfully submitted by Janet Morita, secretary



OPPORTUNITY QUILT UPDATE

Kay Marshall
Quilt Ticket Chairman

We have sold \$6,107 worth of tickets on our Opportunity Quilt. A special thanks to Ku'u'lei Arredondo and her volunteers for taking the quilt in May to Tractor Supply and Ace Hardware to bring in \$355 for the weekend. Of course, we will be selling tickets at our Quilt Show on May 20th & 21st. So, we will have an even larger amount to report for our final sales. I believe the drawing for the featherweight sewing machine and Bear Paw gift certificate will be done at our last Quilt Show meeting on July 25th. Again, a BIG THANK YOU to all of our members who sold Opportunity Quilt Tickets. It took a quilt guild, Sierra Mountain Quilters Association.

Kay

Laurie Sengo's 3rd Annual RV Quilters Retreat in Lodi, Northern California.

This from Laura Donahue, an avid quilter/RV-er.

Laurie Sengo's 3rd Annual RV Quilters Retreat will be held in Lodi, Northern California, August 24-27. Come join Laurie for a fun 3 days of sewing. She will have an Optional project for you or you may work on your own projects. The cost is \$250 which includes your table in the rec room and your RV site for three days & nights. RV sites are 50' pull throughs with full hookups. There is a full kitchen in the rec room. There will be about 15 table spaces available.

Hosted by Laurie Sengo of fb groups: RV Quilters and RV Quilters Official Retreats

Payments to Laurie can be made by check or PayPal.
Laurie Sengo 530-219-2318

lauriesengo@yahoo.com

PO Box 956, Winters, CA 95694

Contact Laura Donahue for more information.

AMENITIES

Linda Miller

Diane Ward

Ginnie Westfall

Pat McDonald

Thinking of you

Birthday

Sympathy

If you know of a member who would appreciate receiving a card, please let Linda know.

UFO. WIP. OMG.

Don't remember this one.

Whatever you call your unfinished projects, we all have them. I was looking for a particular piece of fabric and found a box of finished blocks and additional cut fabric ready to be pieced into additional blocks. Imagine my surprise!

Are you ready to complete six of your unfinished projects this year? Are you willing to put up \$1.00 for each project as a promise to complete them? The promise money will go to prizes in a drawing for those who complete all their listed projects by the December meeting.

Our challenge for the remainder of 2023 is to complete six of those UFOs that you don't remember starting or you put away to finish later. Now is the time to complete them. You can even count those cuddle quilt materials you took home but haven't quite gotten to.

At the June meeting, you can pick up the form to join the challenge, pay your \$6.00, and get started. Call Betsy Anne at 559-536-6532 with any questions.



CUDDLE CORNER

Tricia Lacey

I hope everyone enjoyed the quilt show as much as I did.

We had 6 cuddle quilts, 24 pillowcases, 7 bibs, and 19 wheelchair bags turned in this month. Rhonda and I delivered 10 cuddle quilts, 15 wheelchair bags, and 30 pillowcases to Valley Children's hospital. We also delivered 15 cuddle quilts, 20 wheelchair bags, and 20 pillowcases to Hinds Hospice. They were all very grateful to receive them. We have more items to donate soon.

Thank you everyone for all your hard work. We are all out of pillowcases and only have a few wheelchair bags left, so we need your help cutting out more of them. The next cuddle quilt workday will be on June 14 9 am to 1 pm at my house. 39354 Highview Drive, Oakhurst. We would love to see you.

If you have any questions, call us.

Tricia Lacey (530) 680-3741

Rhonda Dewey (559) 760-3401

**Rhonda and
Tricia at Valley
Children's
Hospital**



**Sven Hamilton at
Hinds Hospice.**

Mentoring Workshop

Oakhurst Library Summer Program has asked SMQA to mentor a summer sewing program for 5th-8th graders as we did last year. The dates are June 27th, 28th, & 29th from 1pm-2:30pm. The library requires a form to be filled out PLUS a copy of a photo ID. These can be dropped off at the library or emailed to Sarah at the library at: Sarah.McIntyre@maderacountylibrary.org. This needs to be done ASAP because it takes a little time to get approval. I'll be following up with the signups just to make sure we get this part done.

Volunteers will need to bring their sewing machine and sewing accessories. Our project has not been chosen yet. The original plan was a drawstring backpack but Sarah just told me this is already being provided to the kids. So back to the idea of a book bag. I'm open to ideas. I can be contacted at 559-760-5125 or email athreadabove@gmail.com. We currently have 12 volunteers and there will be 15 kids. A few more volunteers would be best for everyone.

Thanks

Jeri Carney

CIRCLE NEWS



CIRCLE INFORMATION

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.

The Oakhurst Machine Embroidery Circle is welcoming new members. The group meets on the 4th Monday of each month at 10 am at Bear Paw. **If interested in joining the group contact Ruthi Connor for more information.**

Fabric Collage meets on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month at Bear Paw from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. **We welcome new members and will help anyone who wants to learn about fabric collage.** Contact Janet Morita at 559-760-5018 or at janet@rjmorita.com with any questions.

Circle Hostesses and Greeters for 2023

January	Peter and Laura Gonzalez
February	Material Girls
March	Oakhurst Machine Embroidery
April	Sew Thrilled
May	Fabric Collage
June	Open
July	Anything with Fabric
August	Open
September	Bits and Pieces
October	Open
November	Footloose



DISCARDING ROTARY CUTTER BLADES

We all know that rotary cutting blades dull with use. Even if you sharpen your rotary cutter blades, eventually, they will need replacing.

When you throw out a rotary cutter blade (which is essentially a round razor blade) make sure the blade is inside a container so that no one inadvertently cuts themselves on it. If you keep the plastic container the blades came in, when it is empty put the used blades inside it and securely close the lid. Use a Sharpie pen to write "used" across the top so you don't mistake the container for new blades. When the container is full of used blades, make sure the lid is closed tight and you can safely toss the container away. An empty plastic bottle or jar with a screw-on lid works well, too. You can even discard several blades into the container and then throw it out.

Chris Hudson Memorial Service

There will be an Open House Memorial Service for Chris Hudson on Saturday June 3rd. Stop by her sewing studio in Oakhurst between the hours of 12pm and 3pm to pay your respects and reminisce with her friends and family. Click [here](#) for her obituary.



Sew Powerful Purse Project

Sew Powerful Purse Project - Linking seamstresses from around the world to combat extreme poverty by providing reusable feminine hygiene supplies and health training to girls in Zambia. This enables them to attend school all month and improve their academic performance.

Sew Powerful Regional Manager Torey Elwell will speak Thursday, July 6 and lead a purse making Workshop Friday, July 7. Our goal is to have 100 purses to donate by the Annual Year End Party.

Click [here](#) for a 2-minute video explaining the Sew Powerful Purse Project.

Click [here](#) for the Beginner Purse Pattern, this link includes an instructional video.

Click [here](#) if you are interested in attending our July 7, 2023 Workshop.

Remaining Tentative Meeting Dates for 2023

Board Meetings	General Meetings
5/22	6/1
6/26	7/6
7/24	8/3
8/28	9/7
9/25	10/5
10/23	11/2
11/27	12/7
12/18	1/4/24



November 2023 Veterans Appreciation SMQA meeting and presentation of "Quilts of Valor"

Our meeting in November 2023 will be a special event for Veterans. The plan is to have homemade quilts to present to our Veterans. This can be done by the sewing groups, or individually. Some groups may already have quilts made just waiting for a recipient.

We will honor the Veterans by presenting them with a quilt. A story or a brief history of their time in the service would be helpful to inform the audience as to what sacrifices they gave while serving our country. There are hundreds of patterns that may be made into a patriotic lap quilt or larger size. You may choose to include a pillowcase for storage and to keep it safe for travel. "Quilts of Valor" has a list of their requirements, but we will not be limited by anything but our imagination! It is however, not considered proper to make rag or flag replica quilts. Panels are an option to use as a base and expand in size. In most cases you will know the person and be able to personalize it for them. Let's do what we can to help our men and women feel appreciated. They have given so much and need to know that the American people do care and are thankful to them. Please let me know when you decide to participate as our meeting time will dictate how many Veterans we can honor at the meeting.

Thank you,
PJ Grant
559-676-5433
pjgrant@sti.net

STEAM IRON RECALL NOTICE

If you don't get this from some other source:

A recall is in effect for Steamfast travel irons models 717, 720, and 727. Many of us have this kind of little iron for travel and classes. For detailed information, Google "steamfast iron recall". The problem is that the cord can be damaged where it comes out of the iron because the rubber protector around it is too short and flexible. I have decided to keep mine and watch it carefully. I will also avoid wrapping the cord around the handle, since that stresses the cord.

Bev Gulley bevgulley@yahoo.com



Jeri Carney	6/26
Betty Fisher	6/18
Wendy Holt	6/26
Marion Romero	6/29

***We wish you all a very
Happy Birthday!***



We are asking members to bring snacks on their birthday month and one other month of their choosing, and if they are not able to bring on their birthday month then choose a 2nd month that works. Sally Walker will send out monthly email reminders.

Quilt Sleeve Instructions

Kay Marshall

Recently I have had quite a few questions about sleeves for quilts. I realized that it has been a long time since the guild has given out the instructions for making sleeves for our larger quilts. I do not consider my quilts done until they have a label and a sleeve. Below find the instructions for making a 4-inch sleeve which was handed out to me probably over 15 years ago

The quilt sleeve can be made either with a matching backing fabric or muslin. Cut a piece of fabric 8 1/2" wide by the width of your quilt. To get the sleeve wide enough, it may have to be pieced. Piece with a 1/4" seam. This seam will face the inside of the sleeve (wrong side). At each end, turn under 1/4" and then turn over again 1/4" and top stitch. Fold lengthwise, wrong sides together. Make a 1/4" seam lengthwise. Press the seam open with the seam facing out and centered down the middle. Attach sleeve with the seam facing the backing of the quilt, just along the binding line. Stitch down with any type of stitch you prefer for hemming. Hem the bottom side to the quilt as you did on the top. Be careful that your stitches don't go through to the front of your quilt.

If you desire, but it is not necessary, the backside of the sleeve on each end could also be hemmed down. This is to prevent the rod from going into the wrong pocket.

Kay
559-683-4917

May Meeting Trunk Show Highlights

Colleen Pelfrey:
"Life with a Border
Around It"



Editor's Note: This is only a small sample of Colleen's amazing work. You should'a been there!



Workshop Highpoints



Spring! Retreat



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SMQA Members can show their membership card
to receive the 10% discount.



Sierra Mountain Quilters Association 2023 Membership Form

Your membership dues support the many functions of SMQA, including: meetings, speakers, workshops, newsletter, website, quilting free sews, Biennial Quilt Show, and fellowship.

Membership: *(Please circle one)*

Individual Membership: \$25

Family: \$35

Please Print Clearly

NAME: _____

Day of Birth: *(Month/Day)* _____

ADDRESS:

Street Address _____

Mailing Address *(if different from above):* _____

City _____

ZIP Code _____

PHONE: *(please ** preferred number)*

Home _____ Work _____

Mobile/Cell _____

☐

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Check box if this is a new email address or a corrected address (refer to our directory).

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 number _____ Amount: _____



Sierra Mountain Quilters Association

P.O. Box 1359
Oakhurst, CA 93644

sierramountainquilters.org



Visit us on
Facebook

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

BOARD MEMBERS

Co-Presidents	Betsy Blum and Bev Gulley
1st Vice Presidents	Sally Walker and Lynn Gray
2nd Vice President	Jeri Carney
Treasurer	Joan Earnest
Secretary	Janet Morita

*Board Meetings are held at 1:00 p.m. on the fourth
Monday of each month.*

Send Newsletter submissions to
cthickman@yahoo.com
Deadline is 20th of each month.

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

New Member Support	Rhonda Dewey
Amenities	Linda Miller
Circles	Mel Peters
Cuddle Quilts	Tricia Lacey
Historian	Open position
Webmaster	Sally Walker
Parliamentarian	Laura Donahue
Membership	Sue Johnson
Newsletter	Charlotte Hickman
Quilt Show Chair	Constance Peterson