



Sierra Mountain Quilters Association Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 7, 2023

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

Greeters and Hostesses: Bits and Pieces Circle

Program: Betsy Blum Trunk Show



Co-Presidents' Report

Fall is coming! It's hard to believe when it's been so hot, but it will be September before we know it. I have been working on assembling a quilt to be given to a veteran at our November meeting - a cooperative effort with a number of my AWF friends. It's exciting to see it coming together! Perhaps some of you have been working on similar projects. Maybe you are making purses, or bibs, or cuddle quilts, or any of the other community service projects we do. It might also be a time for you to consider taking on a Guild office, committee leadership, or one of the Quilt Show responsibilities still open. Many hands make light work! You don't have to wait for someone to call you.

I know about 20 of you took the recent Star Baby workshop - we are fortunate to have access to great speakers and teachers here in the mountains. If you are hoping to attend a major show this fall or winter, I suggest you also consider taking a class from a teacher we can't afford to bring all the way to Oakhurst. Pacific International (Sunnyvale), International Quilt Festival (Houston), or even Road to California (Ontario) all offer classes by internationally known instructors. I've been fortunate enough to attend all of these shows in the

past and to have taken classes that have literally changed my quilting trajectory. Perhaps the same thing could be true for you.

Happy quilting!

Bev

2023 PROGRAM AND WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

Sept. 7th Betsy Blum Trunk Show
 Oct. 5th Sandra Mollon Trunk Show
 Oct. 6th Thread Painting Workshop
 Nov. 2nd PJ Grant Veterans Program
 Dec. 7th Annual Winter Dinner
 and Installation of Officers

TREASURER'S REPORT

Joan Earnest

July 31, 2023

Checking Account

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Balance 7/01.2023 | \$10,545.28 |
| Credits in July | 362.65 |
| Debits in July | 882.03 |

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| ENDING BALANCE (July 31, 2023) | \$10,025.90 |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| SAVINGS ACCOUNT BALANCE | \$19,377.90 |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|

SMQA GENERAL BUSINESS**September 7, 2023****Call to Order**

Flag Salute

Welcome

Reports**Secretary's Report** - Minutes from Aug. 3 meeting**1st Vice Presidents** – Sally Walker & Lynn Gray**2nd Vice President** – Jeri Carney**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****Program:** Betsy Blum Trunk Show**Get involved with SMQA**

As SMQA looks forward to 2024 we need members to volunteer to fill several vacating board positions. The process is for a nominating committee to solicit names of interested members. The names are submitted to the entire guild in October, election in November and installation in December.

Open positions are President, 2nd Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. There are several board approved positions that are also open for 2024. Presently Cuddle Quilts is looking for an apprentice who will ultimately take on the position and Newsletter is looking for a replacement, too.

Being on the Board or any position is fun and interesting especially when you share a job as Bev and I have done. Get involved, get to know more of the women in the guild and create those forever friendships. Contact Bev, myself or any Board member about your desire to be on our nominating committee or to be a board member.

*Betsy B***1st Vice Presidents Message**

The lazy days of summer... can you relate or is it the crazy days of summer?

Maybe you, like me, have been handed a crazy, busy year. When I filled out the UFO form, I knew it would be tough to complete 6 projects. Can you believe I haven't even started working on those UFOs? For a moment I was stressing about it but then I took a breath and realized that any time I spend sewing is a win. Should I have signed up for the last 2 workshops adding 2 more UFOs to the stack? Yes! I learned so much and had such fun with my quilty friends. Sewing is good therapy and good for the soul. The projects we love will get done. If we don't love them, pass them on.

How are you doing on your UFOs? I applaud all you sewists that have finished 3 (or more?) of your UFOs. For those who haven't I say, it's about the journey not the destination. Just sit down and sew. Find a half hour whenever you can. Those half hours add up and make a difference. This is a challenge after all and any progress is good. In the craziness of life, just focus on one small thing each day that brings you peace and joy.

Coming up we've got Betsy Blum's Trunk Show in September, Sandra Mollon's Trunk Show and Thread Painting Workshop in October and PJ Grant's Veterans Program in November. The programs will be inspiring and there's only 1 more workshop this year. I hope you join in the fun. Keep calm and carry on.

Lynn and Sally

**Sierra Mountain Quilters Association
General Membership Meeting Minutes, August 3, 2023**

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by president, Betsy Blum, at the Oakhurst Community Center followed by the flag salute. Betsy welcomed the speaker, Jeanette Walton and thanked the greeters and those who brought birthday treats. She then recognized August birthdays and anniversaries. Nancy Swanson made a motion, Margie Williams seconded, to accept the July 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.

First vice presidents, Sally Walker and Lynn Gray, welcomed Jeanette Walton. Sally read a thank you note from the kids in the summer sewing program at the library. She announced the Star Baby class on Friday is full. In September, Betsy Blum will present a SMQA history lesson and trunk show of her beautiful quilts. Also in September, participants in the UFO Challenge should bring their signup sheets and three finished items. In October thread painting artist, Sandra Mollon, will present a trunk show and teach a thread painting workshop. Signups are available now. In November, P.J. Grant will present a Veterans' Recognition program. Our annual winter party will be a luncheon on Dec. 7. It will include installation of officers, a wrap-up of the UFO Challenge, and show and tell. Next year, we can look forward to a presentation and workshop using silks. So, save those old silk ties and prom dresses. Also, there will be a Laura Heine collage program and workshop. Sally reported scholarships for classes are available to members. Applications must be approved by the board and recipients are required to either give a lecture or teach a workshop.

Membership, Teri De La Torre, announced we have 93 members with 41 in attendance tonight. Door prize winners are Margie Williams, Carolin Gaither, and Tricia Lacey.

Newsletter, Charlotte Hickman, asked If you are not receiving the newsletter to let her know.

Webmaster, Sally Walker, announced the monthly newsletter has been moved to the password protected area of the website for the privacy of our members.

Margie Williams reported Piece Makers will have their show at the Mariposa Fair on Labor Day weekend. She invited SMQA members to enter their quilts in the show.

Cuddle Quilts, Trisha Lacey, announced the next workday is August 23, at the library from 9:00-1:00. Bring your sewing machine.

Fall Retreat, Ku'ulei Arredondo, reported we need more signups. It will be Sept. 11-14, from 8:30-5:00 each day. The cost is \$37/day which includes lunch.

Quilt Show, Maria Ciccarelli, announced she needs volunteers for raffle baskets and signs. The first quilt show meeting will be in late August before the next general meeting. She will focus on getting the opportunity quilt going soon.

New Business:

Kathy Millhollon made a motion, seconded by Nancy Swanson, to give Kay Marshall \$500 so her husband can build new quilt racks. The motion passed unanimously.

MINUTES CONT.

Old Business:

Betsy needs one more volunteer to help solicit nominees for president, secretary, treasurer and newsletter editor. These positions will be presented to the membership in October. She is also looking for a trainee to eventually take over the Cuddle Quilts program.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m. followed by Show and Tell and a presentation by Jeanette Walton.

Respectfully submitted by Janet Morita, secretary.

UFO Challenge 2023 Reminder

A reminder to [UFO challenge](#) participants to bring your completed projects to the September meeting for Show and Tell. Some of us may be a little behind the proposed schedule, but bring whatever you have finished. Please also bring your list of projects so we can check off your progress. Remember, you want to have six projects done by the December meeting in order to be included in a drawing for prizes.

Any questions? Contact Betsy Anne.

Thread Painting Workshop Friday October 6th, 2023

[Sandra Mollon](#)
Textile Artist,
Instructor,
Author, Designer



In this one-day class, students learn some easy ways to make fused art quilts, with a short introduction to media. Students will use one of Sandra's images. To see some of the image options, log on to our [Program Page](#). Click [here](#) to sign up and pay online. The cost is \$45.00 plus 3% service fee if paying by credit card. Click [here](#) for class description and supply list.

LAST CALL FOR THE FALL RETREAT!



September 11th – 14th, 2023

8:30 am - 5:00 pm

ECCO – Episcopal Conference Center Oakhurst,
43803 CA-41, Oakhurst, CA 93644

Cost \$37 per day includes lunch.

2 days \$74; 3 days \$111; 4 days \$148.00

Sign-ups will be at the August meeting, online,
or call/text Ku'ulei Arredondo 661-317-6514.

We need 15 members each day to include lunch.

If unable to get 15 members, the price will be reduced and lunch will not be included.



CUDDLE CORNER

Tricia Lacey

Rhonda and I took 6 Cuddle Quilts and 14 Bibs to Helping Hands this month. They told us they were absolutely thrilled to receive the items, especially the bibs!



**Jill Althizer and
Lorella Potter
from Helping
Hands**

We will have some new cuddle quilts available at the next guild meeting and very soon at Bear Paw. There are also pillowcase and wheelchair bags kits available. Pick up a cuddle quilt and practice your machine quilting on it, a new pattern or one you just want to practice.

The next cuddle quilt workday is Wednesday, September 20, from 9 to 1 at the library. You don't have to be there at 9am, drop in anytime. We will be sewing cuddle quilts and more. Bring your sewing machines and tools. If you have a cuddle quilt you are already working on, bring it. Otherwise, I will have kits for you to pick from. We'd love to see you.

If you have any questions, please call us.

Tricia Lacey (530) 680-3741

Rhonda Dewey (559) 760-3401

Remaining Tentative Meeting Dates for 2023

| Board Meetings | General Meetings |
|----------------|------------------|
| 9/25 | 10/5 |
| 10/23 | 11/2 |
| 11/27 | 12/7 |
| 12/18 | 1/4/24 |

For Sale: Dream Frame Quilting Machine by the Grace Company



Contact Laura
Gonzalez, 559-
676-0205, for
more information.

QUILT SHOW 2025 – UPDATE

Maria Ciccarelli, Chairperson

I hope everyone had a great time at our last Quilt Show. Constance did an amazing job! Now we begin again!

First, I want to thank all the volunteers that have stepped up to chair a position and everyone eager to help them. We have a great group for the new Quilt Show Committee. Our first committee meeting was held on August 25th, so I will have an update at the September meeting. Budget is done and we are ready to roll.

Second, we only have one chair spot left open!! We need a chairperson for Signs. Come be part of our team and help us put on a beautiful show. Remember the Quilt Show is a big part of how we keep this guild going. Many hands make the load lighter!

Maria

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@rijmorita.com with any questions.

ScanNCut Circle: There has been an interest expressed in forming a ScanNCut circle. If interested contact Penni Simily.



Last month **Bits and Pieces Circle** visited Mel's cabin in Wilsonia and enjoyed the cooler temperatures of Kings Canyon. In September they plan to visit the new quilt shop in Clovis.

Featured Circle: Yo-yo's

The Yo-yo's sewing circle was formed in 2003. The original members were Peggy Cochrane, Vivian Capone, Polly Sagesser, Cathy Reynolds, Nancy Hyde, Myra Algots, Janet Houts and Kathy Millhollon who joined the group in 2005.

The Yo-yo's gathered monthly at the various members' homes for challenges, fabric dyeing, quilting, trips and of course food. We had our annual Christmas luncheons at different restaurants and of course we went shopping. For ten years we looked forward to our annual trip to Cayucos for 3 - 4 days in October to a beach house where we went out to lunch daily, visited surrounding towns, visited quilt and yarn shops, went to museums, strolled on the beach and went kite flying, and in the evenings, we watched movies and ate popcorn.

When COVID hit we started meeting on zoom. During the last twenty years several of our members have passed away, several moved, and some no longer drive but we still meet every Monday morning at 9:30 on zoom to stay together. To celebrate our twenty years together, our challenge this year was to make original wall hangings using a focus fabric. Nancy made a lovely kite and Kathy made a flower pot with 20 yo-yos. I can't wait to see what Peggy, Cathy and Vivian come up with!

Kathy Millhollon

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 |



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

Our meeting for November is set to honor and present quilts to past and present men and women Veterans of the United States armed forces. Several individuals and the sewing circles have been making patriotic, quilts lap size and larger for them. For those making quilts please consider making a pillow case. This will protect the quilt and perhaps be used as a pillowcase!

For our recipients this will be a show of appreciation for the time, commitment and sacrifices they endured while supporting and defending our great country. It's possible that we will honor those from World War II to the present day. It is never too late to say "Thank you for your service"

During September, I will be asking for a final count of quilts. If there are quilts not specifically dedicated to someone, those additional quilts will go to Veterans recommended by the Oakhurst Marine Corp Unit. It's not too late to make a quilt and or nominate someone you know!

Thank you for your participation. Please call me if you have questions or comments.

PJ Grant

559-676-5433

AMENITIES

Linda Miller

Kay Marshall

Get Well

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

Monthly Refreshments



The following people
signed up for
refreshments for
the September Meeting.

Betsy Anne Youngholm
Carolyn Gaither
Helen Ramsey
Joanie Madaus
Sue Johnson
Nancy Swanson
Ruthie Conner
Marilyn Harvey
Kathy Millhollon



| | |
|----------------------|------|
| Laura Ashley-Spencer | 9/12 |
| Peggy Cochran | 9/28 |
| Ruth Connor | 9/9 |
| Shirley Dunn | 9/13 |
| Marilyn Harvey | 9/08 |
| Donna McCall | 9/12 |
| Sharon Sylvester | 9/11 |

We wish you all a very



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.

August Meeting Show and Tell



Baby Star Workshop



*Jeanette Walton
Inspiration Trunk
Show*



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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 _____

☐

⇒Email _____

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

facebook.com/SierraMountainQuiltersAssociation

***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 |