



# Sierra Mountain Quilters Newsletter

Next meeting **December 6, 2018**

Oakhurst Community Center

Greeters: Sharon Cox & Virginia Corriea

Doors open at 5:30

Program: **Annual Holiday Dinner**

## December Meeting

Hope you had a wonderful Thanksgiving.

My second term has come to an end. I will be the member with the big smile! It has been a great experience and kept me on my toes. I want to thank everyone that has helped me. I can't thank you individually because there are so many. Hopefully I have done this at a personal level.

We have 92 members signed up for the Christmas Party. Wild Fig is ready to serve us. We will have a great time. Remember your mystery quilt and row quilt for show and tell. New officers will be installed. Our annual DVD presentation will be shown

January will be cuddle quilts and February is Jenny Lyons with free motion quilting.

See you at the party! Please remember to bring your donation for Toys for Tots.

*Penni Simily*

## The Tradition of Mistletoe at Christmas

Mistletoe is a plant that grows on range of trees including willow, apple and oak trees. The tradition of hanging it in the house goes back to the times of the ancient Druids. It is supposed to

possess mystical powers which bring good luck to the household and wards off evil spirits. It was also used as a sign of love and friendship in Norse mythology and that's where the custom of kissing under mistletoe comes from.



When the first Christians came to Western Europe, some tried to ban the use of mistletoe as a decoration in Churches, but many continued to use it! York Minster Church in the UK used to hold a special Mistletoe Service in the winter, where wrong doers in the city of York could come and be pardoned.

The custom of kissing under mistletoe comes from England. The original custom was that a berry was picked from the sprig of mistletoe before the person could be kissed and when all the berries had gone, there could be no more kissing!

The name mistletoe comes from two Anglo Saxon words 'Mistel' (which means dung) and 'tan' (which means twig or stick)! So, you could translate mistletoe as 'poo on a stick'!!! Not exactly romantic is it!

Mistletoe was also hung on the old English decoration the [Kissing Bough](#).

## Sierra Mountain Quilters Association

November 1, 2018

### General Meeting Minutes

President Rhonda Lloyd called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and led the flag salute. She expressed appreciation for this evening's greeters Margie Williams and Chris Hudson and recognized Sharon Weaver for the refreshment table set up. She thanked the November birthday ladies for the refreshments and reminded the June and July birthday ladies to bring cookies to the December meeting.

First Vice-President Penni Simily introduced Dennis, Toys for Tots coordinator for Eastern Madera County, who explained the history of the program. He emphasized how important our participation is and reminded us that all contributions stay in the mountain area. A toy collection box will be available at the December meeting. New unwrapped toys or monetary donations are accepted.

Nancy Swanson made a motion to accept the October General Meeting Minutes as published in the newsletter and Sharon Weaver seconded the motion. Minutes for October were approved by the membership. There were no questions or corrections to the Treasurer's report as printed in the November newsletter. The Treasurer's report was therefore filed for audit as submitted. The 2019 budget was accepted by the membership as proposed and as published in the November newsletter.

President Rhonda Lloyd announced that the November Board Meeting will be held on Monday, November 19<sup>th</sup> and that the incoming 2019 Board Members are invited to attend this meeting.

Members were reminded to get their packet of Opportunity Quilt raffle tickets from Laura Ashley-Spencer.

Helen Brown reported for Membership, noting that 71 members and two guests were present, and Door Prize drawing was held. Helen also announced that the 2019 application for membership along with annual dues will be due by January 1. Membership payment checks will be held until after January 1.

Betsy Anne Youngholm described the current Cuddle Quilt distribution and announced that Cuddle Quilt Sewing will be held as usual at Bear Paw on Tuesday, November 20<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m. She thanked members for their contributions of quilts and monetary donations to the Redding Quilters Sew-ciety; twelve quilts and two quilt tops as well as some afghans were sent. Betsy Anne announced that the Guild will be renting a storage unit in Oakhurst to replace the small unit currently rented in Ahwahnee. This change will make it easier to access Cuddle Quilt and program supplies, as well as stored SMQA records.

Betsy Anne also noted that the January meeting will be Cuddle Quilt sewing and she will be requesting members to bring their machines to that meeting.

First Vice President Penni Simily reminded members that tickets for the dinner on December 6<sup>th</sup> are available tonight for \$15. Please pay by check or exact cash. She announced the upcoming 2019 programs of quilting in February and Grand Conversion in March.

For Second Vice President Sandy Johnson, Lissa Metzger introduced the last row of blocks for the Row Quilt pattern and reminded members that the patterns and directions are on the SMQA website. Lissa showed a completed quilt from the patterns. Members who have completed their tops should bring them to the December meeting.

Sally Walker reminded members to bring their completed Mystery Quilt tops to the December meeting.

For the Nominating Committee Betsy Blum presented the slate for 2019 officers. Nancy Swanson moved to accept the slate as presented and Sandy Johnson seconded the motion. Slate was approved unanimously and the 2019 SMQA Board members will be

President	Patty Spinelli
First Vice President	Laura Fisher and Betsy Anne Youngholm
Second Vice President	Joanie Madaus and Deb Austin
Treasurer	Kay Marshall
Secretary	Laura Gonzalez

For the Quilt Show committee, Rhonda Lloyd announced that the Opportunity Quilt will be in Oakhurst at Bear Paw during the Shop Hop on November 9 and at the Christ Church Boutique (Masonic Hall) on November 10. The Opportunity Quilt has been accepted for one day at Road to California (between January 24 and January 27, exact date to be announced). Members were requested to sign up to sell raffle tickets at these events and to white glove at Road to California.

The business portion of the meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m. and was followed by show-and-tell, refreshments, and the evening's presentation by Claire Witherspoon who will also provide a "Scrap Strategies" workshop on Friday.

The next SMQA General Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Betsy Anne Youngholm, Secretary

### December Birthdays

Flynn, Shirley A.	12/4
Lloyd, Rhonda	12/4
Martin, Diane	12/13
Austin, Deborah	12/15
Brown, Helen	12/18
Ward, Diane	12/18
Simily, Penni	12/19
Reynolds, Cathy	12/20
Geringer, Susan	12/23

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

The **June** and **July** birthday ladies and the **December** birthday ladies are requested to bring snacks to share for our December meeting.



### Spring Retreat

Betty and I are indeed coordinating the spring retreat this year. Save the dates of **March 7-10, 2019**.

Fees for the retreat are:

Double: \$339

Quad: \$279

Day use with meals is \$32 per day.

We will start collecting money at the January meeting but feel free to let me know if you are planning on attending and I will reserve your spot.

Thanks so much and have a very Happy Thanksgiving. We will see you all at the December Meeting.

Georgia and Betty

### Amenities

*Cards were sent to:*

Carolyn Gaither	Sympathy
Virginia Corriea	Sympathy

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



### November Holidays

Dec 7	Pearl Harbor Remembrance
Dec 13	National Guard Birthday
Dec 17	Pan American Aviation Day
Dec 21	December Solstice
Dec 24	Christmas Eve
Dec 25	Christmas Day
Dec 26	Kwanzaa
Dec 31	New Year's Eve

### Treasurer's Report

by Kay Marshall

October 2018

(Checking Account)

Balance Forward (10/1/18)	\$ 4,230.57
Deposits	\$ 812.00
Expenses	\$ 216.65
Bank Balance (9/31/18)	\$ 4,825.92
CD:	\$16,903.52
Savings:	\$18,194.30

**Quilting Circles***December 2018*by **Marian Romero**

**Anything with Fabric** No report

**Bits & Pieces** Christmas gathering will be at the home of Patty Spinelli. Bring show and tell and placemat. Oakhurst carpoolers meet at Payless Shoes at 10:30 a.m.

**Footloose** meets on Monday, December 10<sup>th</sup>. That's the only meeting this month. Merry Christmas everyone!

**Material Girls** will meet on Tuesday December 11<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. for a Christmas Lunch with a \$10:00 or less Christmas gift game. More info via e-mail.

**Sew Crafty Quilters.** No meeting this month

**Sew Thrilled** will meet Friday December 14<sup>th</sup> at Kay's home for a Christmas celebration. Any questions call Linda Pennington.

**Thursday Thimbles.** will be getting together for lunch/gift exchange in December.

**YoYo's.** December 10<sup>th</sup> is Yoyo Christmas luncheon. And we will be deciding our New Years' schedule then. See everyone at the Christmas celebration. Thanks for doing this job. Vivian, Yoyo's

**CUDDLE CORNER**

We have distributed an astounding and amazing 175 cuddle quilts this year. Additionally, we have delivered many wheelchair bags and afghans for individuals at several of our recipient agencies. Applause, applause for the SMQA members!



The last of the scheduled 2018 cuddle quilt sewing get togethers at Bear Paw will be held on Tuesday, December 18<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m.

Remember that the January General Meeting program will be cuddle quilt sewing. We will be asking members to bring sewing machines to the meeting, so don't be surprised when you get a call.

**NEW STORAGE UNIT**

We have exchanged the small storage unit in Ahwahnee for a larger unit in Oakhurst. The new unit is on Winding Way, close to Bear Paw. This change will allow more ready access to cuddle quilt and program supplies. Remember, 2019 is still looking for a cuddle quilt coordinator.

*Betsy Anne Youngholm*



## Rhonda's Ramblings

Wow, I can't believe the holidays are just around the corner! I'm sure everyone will be busy with projects and time with family and friends. Thank you all for making my year as President a fun and challenging experience. Many things were accomplished due to the support of the 2018 Board and our Sierra Mountain Quilters' members. Many wonderful guest speakers and workshops were scheduled thanks to Penni Simily, Sandy Johnson and her helpers offered us a great row block challenge, and Sally Walker did another outstanding job with our Mystery Quilt. Sinta and her group accepted the challenge to create our Opportunity Quilt, one of the best yet, and our Quilt Committee is gearing up for the 2019 Quilt Show.

I want to personally thank the members who have accepted the responsibility as the 2019 Board. 2019 promises to be a busy year with several guest speakers and workshops already scheduled. The next few months we'll be busy getting ready for our Quilt Show in May. We encourage you as SMQA members to make yourself available to help in any way you can. Member involvement means "Success" for our guild.

Thank you for your support and Happy Quilting!

Rhonda Lloyd  
SMQA President  
noneesplace@sti.net



# MISTLETOE

## DID YOU KNOW?

- Mistletoe is normally spread on trees through bird poo and is actually a parasite! The plant attaches itself to the host tissue (a tree) and grows out of the branch.
- Mistletoe was a symbol of love and friendship in Norse mythology, which is where the practice of kissing under Mistletoe comes from.
- The name mistletoe derives from two Anglo Saxon words 'Mistel' (meaning dung) and 'tan' (meaning twig or stick). So you might say mistletoe is 'poo on a stick' - not quite so romantic now, is it?
- Mistletoe promotes wildlife! Although it's poisonous to us, it provides a great source of food for many animals. Birds rely on the plant and butterflies lay their eggs on it and use the nectar. Bees also get important pollen from mistletoe.
- During the Medieval period, people believed mistletoe possessed mystical powers which could bring good luck to a family during December and ward off evil spirits and the devil. It was often used in ceremonies and burnt once Christmas was over.

[www.redshed.co.uk](http://www.redshed.co.uk)

**November Show & Tell**





## Sierra Mountain Quilters Association 2019 Membership Form

Your membership dues support the many functions of SMQA including: meetings, speakers, workshops, newsletter, website, quilting retreats, circles, 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)*

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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](http://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. *Your payment will be deposited in January 2019.*

***Treasurer's Use Only***

Date Paid: \_\_\_\_\_ Check number \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

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**GUILD DAY SECOND SATURDAY**

December 11  
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**REMEMBER TO WEAR YOUR NAME  
BADGE AT THE NEXT MEETING!**

**BOARD MEMBERS**

President	Rhonda Lloyd
First Vice President	Penni Simily
Second Vice President	Sandy Johnson
Treasurer	Kay Marshall
Secretary	Betsy Anne Youngholm

*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](mailto:lpenni@sti.net)  
Deadline is 20th of each month.

**COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

Amenities	Linda Miller
Member Services	Chris Hudson
Circles	Marian Romero
Cuddle Quilts	Betsy Anne Youngholm
Historian	Donna Pike-Baxter
Hospitality	Sharon Weaver
Librarian	Patty Wiens
Membership	Helen Brown
Newsletter	Linda Pennington
Parliamentarian	Sandy Johnson
Quilt Show Chair	Sinta Borland & Jeri Carney
Webmaster	Sally Walker