



Sierra Mountain Quilters Newsletter



Next meeting **March 3, 2016**
 Pavilion Oakhurst Community Center
Doors open at 5:30
 Business meeting at 6:00
 Greeters: Rhonda Dewey and Constance Peterson
 Program: **Quilto Game & Celebrate National Quilt Month**

March Meeting

March 3, 2016

Quilto and celebrate **National Quilt Month**.

We'll be playing the Quilto game (similar to Bingo using quilting terms).

National Quilt Day is observed on March 19, 2016. It celebrates quilts and those who make them annually on the third Saturday in March. The National Quilting Association started National Quilting Day in 1991. Their members passed a resolution in Lincoln, Nebraska, on June 1991.

A quilt is a type of bed cover, traditionally composed of three layers of fiber: a woven cloth top, a layer of batting or wadding and a woven back, combined using the technique of quilting. A quilt is distinguishable from other types of blankets because it is pieced together with several pieces of cloth. "Quilting" refers to the technique of joining at least two fabric layers by stitches or ties.

Looking Ahead...

April 7 & 8: Kevin Kosbab from Stockton, CA
Lecture: "Appliqué Is Not a Four-Letter Word"
 Appliqué has unjustly earned a reputation as "the 'A' word," a fussy, time-consuming technique that many quilters avoid like a plague. There's a lot to love about appliqué, and it really

isn't scary! The lecture takes the intimidation out of appliqué and shows the wonderful possibilities it adds to quilt making. You'll find an appliqué method to suit your own quilting personality, along with tips for avoiding some of the pitfalls that give appliqué such a bad name.



Section of "Bird Crossing Quilt"

Workshop: Learn machine appliqué techniques while working on this cute, popular design that lends itself to many styles of fabric. Practice a number of different techniques in class, including starch-turned preparation with invisible machine appliqué and fusible raw-edge appliqué for the smaller details. Quilt measures 36½" x 45½", or a runner can be made from 4 blocks.

www.feddog.net

May 5:

Meet the Circles: Footloose Circle presentation.



Sierra Mountain Quilters Association

General Meeting, February 4, 2016

President Chris Hudson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. at the Oakhurst Community Center. Chris welcomed everyone and led the flag salute. Chris thanked the greeters Mel Peters and Nancy Swanson, and she noted there is a sign-up sheet for greeters for the rest of the year. Chris wished a Happy Birthday to those who have a February birthday and thanked them for bringing refreshments for the meeting.

New Business:

Linda Pennington introduced Gene Pennington, San Joaquin Fine Woodworkers Association. Gene thanked the Guild for its support of their toy program (donation of mattresses, pillows and blankets for the cradles and seats for the strollers) and he advised that they donated over 3,000 toys last year to 35 organizations. He presented the guild with a donation of a majestic stone and log birdhouse and a doll lounge chair.

The General Meeting Minutes for January 7, 2016 were approved as written in the newsletter by motion of Mel Peters and seconded by Nancy Swanson.

The Treasurer's reports for yearend 2015, submitted by Helen Ramsey, and for January 2016, submitted by Sharon Cox, were approved as printed in the newsletter and filed for audit.

Chris Hudson provided an update on the 2017 Opportunity Quilt: she is trying to find out why we were declined to show at the Road to California in January. The tickets were printed, sent out to be cut and perforated and were done incorrectly, so they are being reprinted and will be ready shortly.

Betsy Blum/1st Vice President reviewed the 2016 program: tonight/cuddle quilt sewing session; April/Kevin Kosbab "Appliqué isn't a Four Letter Word" – starch turn appliqué; June/Charlotte Rogers "Color Theory"; and August/Lisa McKissick "Tool Time Girl." Betsy thanked Barbara Graas for helping with hospitality duties (refreshment setup) for this meeting and she asked for volunteers for future meetings. Betsy requested a substitute photographer for the March and April meetings. Laura Fisher presented information and samples for the postcard challenge. The theme is "green" for the March swap.

Trudy Kinsel/2nd Vice President announced the new challenges for 2016. The monthly mini quilts need to be less than 36 inches. Information will be printed in the newsletter. March is paper piecing.

Sally Walker/Webmaster provided an update on the new website and the 2016 Mystery Quilt.

Jullie Vasquez/Membership mentioned the new badges for new members, visitors and guests. She noted there are 49 members present, two guests and one new member. She provided an update on the 2016 Membership Directory. The raffle ticket/door prize drawing was held.

Member Items:

- Mel Peters announced the Mountain Community Women's Antique and Collectible Appraisal Event is scheduled for February 13th at the Community Center.
- Georgia Harvey provided information on the Spring Retreat at ECCO for March 3 – 6, 2016. Signups are being taken now.
- Donna Baxter presented a quilt donated by the Sew Thrilled Circle. Kathy Millhollon and Patty Spinelli for the La Sierra Guild announced that the quilt is for the Valley Children's Hospital fundraiser – information will be placed in the newsletter on raffle tickets.

Show and Tell:

Donna Baxter presented a video of SMQA 2015 activities and quilts.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Betsy Anne Youngholm led the Cuddle Quilt Sewing Session.

The next meeting is March 3, 2016.

Respectfully submitted by Margie Williams, Secretary

New Members

CUMMINGS, Rosita
 87 Tammi Court
 Clovis, CA 93611
 Home: 559-323-0662
 Cell: 559-911-6790
 Rosita87@Mac.com
 DOB: 8/2

DAHLIN, Joyce
 P.O. Box 927 / 32278 Meadow Ridge Road
 Oakhurst, CA 93644
 Home: 559-658-2354
 Cell: 559-260-4789
 DOB: 6/20

Please make these new members feel welcome at the upcoming meetings.



SMQA Meeting Dates

- Mar 3** Quilto and Celebrate National Quilt Month
- Apr 7** Kevin Kosbab: "Applique is Not a Four Letter Word"
- May 5** Meet the Circles: Footloose
- Jun 2** Charlotte Rodgers, Color Joen Wolfran Guide



March Birthdays

- Vincent, Patty 3/10
- Gaither, Carolin 3/12
- Marshall, Kay 3/13
- Powell, Nina 3/14
- Stillman, Eldine 3/15
- Hyde, Nancy 3/16
- Weaver, Sharon 3/20
- Cramer, Patty 3/23
- Kinsel, Trudy 3/27

Please bring birthday snacks to our March 3 meeting
We wish you all a very Happy Birthday!

March Holidays

- Mar 2 Read Across America Day
- Mar 4 Employee Appreciation Day
- Mar 17 St. Patrick's Day
- Mar 20 Palm Sunday
- Mar 25 Good Friday
- Mar 27 Easter Sunday
- Mar 31 Cesar Chavez Day

Amenities

Cards were sent to:

- Ken Bower (Pat's husband)
- Myra Algots
- Mary Roseling
- Robin Sjostrand
- Nancy Mason

Contact **Linda Miller** if you know a member who would appreciate us thinking of them. 683-6007

Quilting Circles**March 2016****by Marian Romero**

Bits & Pieces will meet Wed., March 2, 11:30 a.m. at Colette's home. Bring salad toppings (bread-Mel, dessert-Linda.) Remember: 33 each 6-1/2" green squares. Usual agenda; if any changes you'll receive an email. Carpoolers meet at Payless Shoes at 11 a.m.

Footloose meets on Mondays, March 7 and March 21, 4-6 p.m. at Chris's studio. We're continuing our quest to finish projects. Remember to send Betsy pictures taken at Footloose meetings or events.

Material Girls will meet on Tuesday March 8th at 1:00 p.m. at Bear Paw. Please bring show and tell and ideas for our next shared project.

Sew Thrilled members will meet Wednesday, March 9th at Jean's home and March 23rd at Linda's home. Contact Linda Pennington for information.

Thursday Thimbles will meet at Donna McCall's home on March 17th at 9:30 a.m. Bring your lunch.

Tuesday Strippers will meet on March 8th at Diane Browder's home.

Wildflowers will meet March 9th at the YLP Clubhouse. Several of us are working on the WW Mystery Quilt provided by Lissa. Others are doing cuddle quilts or bringing your own project. Come any time after 9:30 and bring your lunch or eat in the Blue Heron for \$8.00. Sandy 683-6309.



YoYo's are looking forward to Spring, but also want more rain. Celebrating having fun on March 28th at Nancy Hyde's home.

March Birth Flower

March's birth flower is the **daffodil**, which means unequalled love; the sun is always shining whenever your significant other is around. The other March flower is the **jonquil**, which signifies desire for affection returned. It also is used to convey sympathy.

**Treasurer's Report**

by Sharon Cox

February, 2016

(Checking Account)

Balance Forward (1/25/16)	\$9,640.46
Deposits	\$4,327.90
Expenses	\$ 954.54
Bank Balance (2/22/16)	\$13,013.82
CD:	\$18,127.43
Savings:	\$16,865.94



Variable Toile Stars

Vivian Helena Aumond-Capone's quilt "Variable Toile Stars" has been selected to be displayed with the Pieced Perfection: selections from the book 500 Traditional Quilts exhibit at the International Quilt Festival/Chicago April 2016. This quilt has also been displayed at International Quilt Festival. Houston 2014, at Quilt! Knit! Stitch! and 2015 Portland, Oregon. It has been seen by thousands of Quilt lovers from around the world.

"I am delighted that my quilt has been enjoyed by so many. But will also be happy to have it home after 2 years of touring"



Is this how you prepare to sew?

Submitted by Diane Martin

Advice from a Singer Sewing Machine Manual from 1949

Prepare yourself mentally for sewing. Think about what you are going to do. Never approach sewing with a sigh or lackadaisically. Good results are difficult when indifference dominates. Never try to sew with a sink full of dirty dishes or beds unmade.

When there are urgent housekeeping chores, do these first so that your mind is free to enjoy your sewing. When you sew, make yourself as attractive as possible. Put on a clean dress. Keep a little bag of French chalk near your sewing machine to dust your fingers at intervals. Have your hair in order, powder and lipstick put on. If you are constantly fearful that a visitor might drop in or your husband will come home, and you will not look neatly put together, you will not enjoy your sewing.



Monthly Mini-Quilt Challenge

Trudy Kinsel

A random drawing will be held each month for quilts brought in.

March- Paper Piecing (technique)

April- Flower Fantasy

May- Applique (technique)

June- Make a Splash

July- Red, White and Blue

August- Curves

September- Animals

October- Trees

November- Table Runner (No longer than 36")

December- Have a Holly Jolly Christmas

The mini-quilt should be no larger than 36" on any side.

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Cuddle Corner

Thanks to all of you who participated in the February Guild meeting cuddle quilt program and to those of you who brought completed quilts. We got a good start to the year, with a dozen cuddle quilts ready to be delivered to Valley Children's Hospital.

Our first cuddle quilt "sew together" at Bear Paw on February 16th focused on cutting squares and strips to round out our cuddle quilt packets. Bring your machine and regular sewing items (thread, scissors, etc.) and join us there on March 15 and April 19th from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm.

And don't forget we have patterns and kits for totes and wheelchair bags. These will be available at our monthly guild meetings along with the kits for cuddle quilts.

Any questions?

Call Betsy Anne at 559-536-6532.

Opportunity Quilt

A great big THANK YOU and shout out to the following people who gave of their time and talent to help put the Opportunity



Quilt together:
Helen Ramsey,
Sharon Cox, Mel
Peters, Diane
Ward and Penni

Simily. Also, a big THANK YOU goes out to Mel Peters and Donna Henning for doing the appliqué on this beautiful quilt.

I couldn't ask for a more corporative and helpful group of people. Please take the time to give a personal thank you to these people yourself.

Thanks, my friends.

Virginia Corriea
Opportunity Quilt Chairman

Call for Bib Overall Tops

Great and easy pattern for wheelchair bags:



Simply cut a few inches below the first set of pockets, sew across the bottom, and you are done! Straps and buckles provide the handles. The pockets are already there or you can add one to the bib.

Opportunity Quilt Tickets

Due to work I will not be at the March meeting. I have left 500 tickets with Donna at Bear Paw in case anyone needs them before the April meeting. Please call me at 658-5011 if more are needed.

Thanks,
Laura Ashley-Spencer

SMQA Website Update

Member's Photos have been posted in the password protected area of the SMQA website. If your photo is not posted, or if you do not like the photo that is posted, please contact Sally Walker at Sallyjwalker@gmail.com or 559-683-5316

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Chris's Comments...

Happy National Quilt Month!! Spring Retreat kicks it off this month (March 3 thru March 6). You may want to drop by and say hello to those attending. Never been to a retreat? Always wondered what they are all about? Here's a great opportunity to check it out.

Many thanks to those of you who stayed for our February Cuddle Quilt Program. Not able to stay? Hopefully you took home a kit or two that Betsy Anne and the Wednesday Wildflowers put together. Remember you can always pick up a kit or make a cuddle quilt from your stash at home to donate to our cuddle quilt efforts.

A few reminders for our March meeting:

- Your Birthday month? Please remember to bring something for the refreshment table.
- Hopefully you are participating in Trudy's monthly challenge (this month paper piecing) be sure to bring your finished item.
- Post card(s) for Laura's swap (this month's theme is green).
- Bring buttons, pennies or dry beans as markers for QUILT-O cards. You'll want to play...Betsy purchased some great gifts!
- Don't forget to sign up for the upcoming workshops. There's still time and available spots!

Hope to see you at the meeting!



Fabric Postcards (FPC)

A new activity with SMQA will begin at the March 3, 2016 meeting. It's totally voluntary.

Share your FPC's and ideas with other Swappers. Try a new technique on a small object.

General Description:

Swap a FPC: for each FPC a member brings to the Guild Meeting, she picks up one from someone else.

FPCs are to be

--approximately 4"x6" to 5"x7"

--Have 3 layers: decorative, stiffening, label

---Decorative layer: made from fabric and embellishments not more than 1/8" thick, glued to...

---Stiffening layer: can be a stiff Pelon or hard paper, glued to ...

---Label layer: can be fabric or paper with markings similar to a commercial postcard, put any message you wish on the left side

--Stitched to keep the layers of fabric stuck to the stiffening layer

--Edges sealed with an over lock stitch. Fray check may be used on the edge but does not substitute for the over lock stitching

--Follow the theme of the month

Questions? Call Laura Fisher

559-799-9230

THEME FOR MARCH; GREEN- the color green- for St Patrick's Day- for new life- for spring growth- for recycling or however you think up that applies to green



Editor's Note: SMQA Beginnings will resume in the April issue.

Appreciation Gifts Presented to SMQA

At the February meeting, Gene Pennington, representing San Joaquin Fine Woodworkers Association (SJFWA), presented a wooden lounge and bird house to SMQA. This was a thank you for making cradle quilts, mattresses and pillows last year.

Gene explained that SJFWA has slabs of wood donated to their organization. These slabs are then turned into toys that are given to less fortunate children at Christmas. These all wood toys consist of crayon trucks, airplanes, racers, trucks, pull toys, etc. The lounge is one of those toys.



Each year SJFWA has a contest to design and build bird houses which are then donated to the Animal Compassion Team. Last year they were auctioned and earned \$900 for that non-profit organization. The bird house presented to SMQA was designed and construction by their president, David Dunlap.

Last year SMQA provided over 60 quilts, pillows and mattress sets. This year SJFWA has an abundance of cradle quilts. They are in need of pillow and mattress sets and stroller seats. Instructions are printed below.

Gene requested that we continue our generous quilting efforts during 2016 to produce mattress and pillow sets as well as stroller seats. Please bring your finished items to our monthly meetings. Linda Pennington will collect the completed sets and pass them on the SJFWA.

San Joaquin Fine Woodworkers Association

2016 Request: Cradle Mattresses & Pillows and Stroller Seats

All fabrics must be washable:

Cradle Pillow: Finished 4" x 5-1/2".... (Cut 4-1/2" x 6")

Cradle Mattress: Finished 5-1/2" x 16".... (Cut 6" x 16-1/2")

Stroller Seat: Finished: 6-1/2" x 23" (about 1/4 yard)

Stroller Seat Instructions:

- **Cut:** 1 each rectangle 8" x 23"
- **Side Hems:** Turn under 1/4", then 1/2"; edge stitch close to inner fold.
- **Bottom Hem:** Turn under 1/2", then 3/4"; edge stitch close to inner fold. (This makes the casing pocket for the dowel rod to hold the seat.)
- **Top Hem:** Turn under 1/4", then 1/2"; edge stitch close to inner fold.
- **Ties:** Cut 2 strips 2" x 18". Press wrong sides together lengthwise. Open, and then turn both long sides into the center fold and press. (Ties should be 1/2" wide.) Stitch close to fold. Mark center of tie. Attach center of tie on the wrong side of the top close to each side. Stitch tie down using backstitching over previous stitching on the top.

February Show & Tell





Sierra Mountain Quilters Association

P.O. Box 1359
Oakhurst, CA 93644

sierramountainquilters.org



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

BOARD MEMBERS

President	Chris Hudson
First Vice President	Betsy Blum
Second Vice President	Trudy Kinsel
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	Donna Pike-Baxter
Circles	Marian Romero
Cuddle Quilts	Betsy Anne Youngholm
Historian	Donna Pike-Baxter
Hospitality	
Librarian	Jean Richter
Membership	Jullie Vasquez & Amy Blodgett
Newsletter	Linda Pennington
Parliamentarian	
Quilt Show Chair	Becky Smith & Constance Peterson
Webmaster	Sally Walker