



Sierra Mountain Quilters Association Newsletter

NOVEMBER 2, 2023
 Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Meeting begins at 6:00 p.m.
 Greeters and Hostesses: Footloose
 Program: PJ Grant Veterans Program



Co-Presidents' Report

I just returned from a beautiful hike in the Sierra National Forest and in my email was a sweet reminder from Charlotte to send in my president's message asap but all I want to think about is how thankful I am for this beautiful day. Thankful for where I live, thankful for my health and my family. As the world is in turmoil, I recognize that our way of life and the things for which many of us feel thankful exist because of the service and sacrifices made by many, including the Veterans we will be honoring at our November meeting and those who are presently serving.

Betsy

Hi, fellow stitchers! Last week I was delighted to partner with Tammy Civillo to deliver 64 sets of scent hearts to Valley Children's Hospital, along with batches of cuddle quilts and belly bands. It was wonderful to see the enthusiasm of the NICU nurses when they saw the little hearts! Something so simple and quick may help a tiny baby bond with Mom and Dad while confined to an isolette almost full time. I've never had a chance to visit before, so it was great to see how our donations are used. If you haven't already turned in your hearts, or if you want to make some more, it's not too late! There are often more than 60 tiny babies being treated in

the NICU. And don't forget about the belly bands and isolette covers – they are always needed.

Bev

2023 PROGRAM AND WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

Nov. 2nd PJ Grant Veterans Program
 Dec. 7th Annual Winter Luncheon
 and Installation of Officers

Remaining Tentative Meeting Dates for 2023

Board Meetings	General Meetings
10/23	11/2
11/27	12/7
12/18	1/4/24

TREASURER'S REPORT
 Joan Earnest
 September 30, 2023

CHECKING ACCOUNT	
Balance 9/01/2023	\$8,817.09
Credits in September	2,497.39
Debits in September	3,327.99
Ending Balance (9/30/2023)	\$7,986.49
SAVINGS ACCOUNT BALANCE	\$19,381.14

SMQA GENERAL BUSINESS**November 2, 2023****Call to Order**

Flag Salute
Welcome

Reports**Secretary's Report** - Minutes from Oct. 5 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** – Maria Ciccarelli**New Business****Show and Tell****Program:** PJ Grant Veterans Program**Welcome 2024 SMQA Board Candidates**

We appreciate the following members who volunteered (or were gently persuaded) to be candidates to serve on our board. The election will be held during our November meeting and induction to office will be held during our December Luncheon. As you can see there is still an opportunity for you to fill a position and get involved. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Kay Marshall or Lisa Kernaghan of the nominating committee.

President - Sue Johnson

1st VP - Sally Walker and Lynn Gray

2nd VP - Joan Earnest and Bev Gulley

Secretary- Kay Marshall and Betsy Blum

Treasurer-Lisa Kernaghan

Membership - Janet Morita

Newsletter – **PLEASE VOLUNTEER!**

Cuddle Quilts - Tricia is offering an Apprenticeship

Historian - Laura Gonzalez

Parliamentarian - ?

1st Vice Presidents' Message

Fall is upon us, and for some, the season of extra projects, decorating, gift making, baking and entertaining. Others of us may approach the holidays with a quieter season ahead, with no big plans to entertain or travel, so memories of past gatherings fill our minds and hearts.

If you find yourself with time on your hands, there are plenty of productive and creative opportunities. Stop by Bear Paw and pick up a Cuddle Quilt project or pick one up at our next guild meeting. Though not an SMQA sanctioned project, Bonnie Hunter, the self-proclaimed Scrapaholic has launched the [Star Hope Sew-Along](#). What a wonderful way to show solidarity with our Jewish friends. If compelled by compassion, this would be a good project to get behind. She will also be introducing her next mystery quilt that will start soon and take us through the new year. Then our own Sinta will be starting our SMQA 2024 mystery quilt in January.

So, whether you're entering the busiest season of all, with catching up on UFOs along with all the added stresses this time of year can bring, or the calendar for your next several months looks a little quieter than years past, we hope you have time to do what you love best. Take time to create, dream, stitch a little (or a lot), do what it takes to calm your heart and feed your soul.

Your Co-1st VPs, Sally and Lynn

PS - Two reminders regarding next year: in April we will have Susan Nash here to teach Collage the Laura Heine way. Please do not buy a pattern now, as we will be choosing from brand new yet-to-be-released patterns. Also, a reminder to save your silks for a small quilt project in June, taught by Julia McLeod.

**Sierra Mountain Quilters Association
General Membership Meeting Minutes, October 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 thanked quilt show volunteers and members who volunteered to be officers next year. Bev also thanked members who made little scent hearts. Tricia passed out heart pillows for members to finish during the meeting. Bev thanked the greeters, Lissa Metzger and Sandy Johnson, for decorating the treat table and those who brought treats. She then recognized October birthdays and anniversaries. Wendy Holt made a motion, Laura Gonzalez seconded, to accept the September 7, 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, reported the winter luncheon is \$25. There will be a purse sewing day on Oct. 30, at the library from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Second Vice President, Jeri Carney, reported Betsy Anne Youngholm is looking into a sewing program for tweens at Bee's Bakery. She sent around a clip board for those who are interested to sign up.

Penni Simily invited everyone to the CHP Chips and Salsa on Oct.14 from 4:00-7:00 p.m. at the Mountain Christian Center.

Mel Peters announced the Kings River Quilt Show will be on Oct 14-15.

P.J. Grant, Veterans' Quilt Program, announced the November meeting is a Veterans Appreciation program. She has 16 quilts to gift.

Membership, Sue Johnson, reported there are 48 people here tonight. We have two new members for a total of 98 members. The drawing winners were Lissa Metzger, Sue Johnson, Maria Ciccarelli, and Jaydene Johnson.

Newsletter, Charlotte Hickman, hopes everyone is receiving the newsletter. Email her if you are not receiving it.

Webmaster, Sally Walker, added a table of contents to the website.

Cuddle Quilts, Tricia Lacey, announced heart pillows will go to Terry's House in Fresno. She has bib kits available.

Fall Retreat, Ku'ulei Arredondo, will do it again next year.

Spring Retreat, Laura Gonzalez, would like to make it possible for members to spend the night at ECCO during the retreat. ECCO requires a minimum of 15 people to spend the night. So, Laura would like to invite members of the Heart of California Quilt Guild in Madera as well. This topic will be put on the board agenda.

Quilt Show, Maria Ciccarelli, reminded everyone we only have 19 more months until the quilt show. She reviewed the criteria for judging. There are a total of 85 points. Best of show will be voted on by the viewers. Judging will be blind with no names on the quilts. At the January meeting she will discuss quilt categories.

Joan Earnest, Treasurer, discussed the budget.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:36 p.m. followed by show and tell and a presentation by Sandra Mollon.

Respectfully submitted by Janet Morita, secretary

Current Quilt Show Committee Chairs

Chairperson:	Maria Ciccarelli
Entrance Table:	Lissa Metzger, Sandy Johnson
Feature Quilter:	Mel Peters
Food Coordinator:	Janet Morita
Opportunity Quilter:	Wendy Holt, Cindy Young
Scheduling:	Sally Walker
Programs:	Maria Ciccarelli
Publicity:	Betsy Blum
Quilt Analyst:	Linda Pennington
Quilt Collector:	Rhonda Dewey, Tricia Lacey
Quilt Hanger:	Helen Brown
Quilt Info & Photos:	Lynn Gray
Raffle Baskets:	Sinta Borland
Security:	Betty Fisher
Signs:	Ku'ulei Arredondo
Ticket Sales:	Maria Ciccarelli, Sally Walker
Treasurer:	Joan Earnest
Vendors:	Penni Simily, Margie Williams
Voting/Ribbons	Helen Brown
White Gloves:	Wendy Holt

Annual Year End Luncheon

On December 7th we will gather together for our Annual Winter Meeting, and for the first time it will be a daytime luncheon. We will have the installation of our 2024 SMQA officers, regular show and tell, UFO show and tell, raffle prizes, a slide show and several other surprises. It will be held in the Main Hall of the Oakhurst Community Center. Bee's Bakery will be catering our meal which will include quiche, fresh fruit, green salad, pastries, iced tea and coffee.

To reserve your spot, add guests and pay online, click [here](#). You can also sign up in person at our November meeting. The cost is \$25 if paying by check or cash, \$26.50 if paying online or with the square terminal at a guild meeting.

Please sign up by November 30th. Thank you!
Sally

QUILT SHOW 2025 – UPDATE

Maria Ciccarelli, Chairperson

QUILT SHOW 2025

At the September Guild Meeting, we went over how judging will work. Here are some points that were covered:

JUDGING

- Criteria:
 - Visual Impact** - "Wow" Factor 1-15 points
 - Effectiveness of Color** 1-10 points
 - Overall Design** 1-10 points
 - Precision of Work** 1-20 points
 - Quality of Quilting** 1-20 points
(Still in Review)
 - Binding & Edges** 1-10 points

Points will be entered on a spreadsheet – highest points get the ribbons

Best of Show – Will be Viewers' Choice

- 3 Groups of 3 Judges (Anonymous Guild Members)
- Blind Voting

We will go over Quilt Categories at the January 2024 SMQA Meeting.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

For Sale: Dream Frame Quilting Machine by the Grace Company



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



CUDDLE CORNER

Tricia Lacey

Thank you to all the ladies who came and helped with the storage unit and my craft room cleanouts. A lot of people made the work go faster and more fun. We will be scheduling a day to move all the fabric containers from my house to the storage unit at a later date.

Due to having a workday on November 15th and a Sew Powerful Purse project sewing day, I know some of us are feeling overwhelmed with all the volunteering. I also know that everyone will be busy getting ready for the holidays. So, we are not having any cuddle quilt workdays in December. However, I hope many of you will be able to come help on November 15th at my house, 39354 Highview Dr., Oakhurst, 9 am to 1 pm.

This month Bev Gulley took 15 cuddle quilts, 21 wheelchair bags, 43 belly bands and 64 pairs of scent hearts to Valley Children's Hospital. Thank you to everyone who contributed to making the items. I have heart pillows and other things to donate to several organizations soon.

If you have any questions, please call us.

Tricia Lacey (530) 680-3741

Rhonda Dewey (559) 760-3401



Community Sewing

Quite a while ago, before Covid, we talked about getting together to provide sewing lessons to tweens and teens (and maybe adults) as part of our community service. We have some leads on an awesome venue for this and need once again to assess interest from and availability of SMQA members to get involved. This is one way to get youth involved in fiber arts and to start to build up a group of applicants for our scholarships. Right now, we envision gathering once a month. More details to follow. Please contact Betsy Anne or sign up at the November meeting.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Welcome our new members!



Linda Fazendin



Sheila Boyd



Jeanne Brisendine



Bobbi Sloan

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.

OAKHURST MACHINE EMBROIDERY & SCAN-N-CUT GROUP At our last meeting, we decided to alternate months between the Oakhurst Machine Embroidery & the Scan-N-Cut Groups. Since most people are in both groups, emails will be sent to everyone in the groups. Our last meeting was for SCAN-N-CUT. We make bookmarks & pumpkins. We hope to be working with fabric next. Our next meeting is for the Machine Embroidery Group. It will be Monday, November 27th at 10am, in the Bear Paw Classroom. We will be making lace sachets. Please let Maria Ciccarelli know if you would like to join either group. The more the merrier.

What is an SMQA sewing circle?

Mel Peters

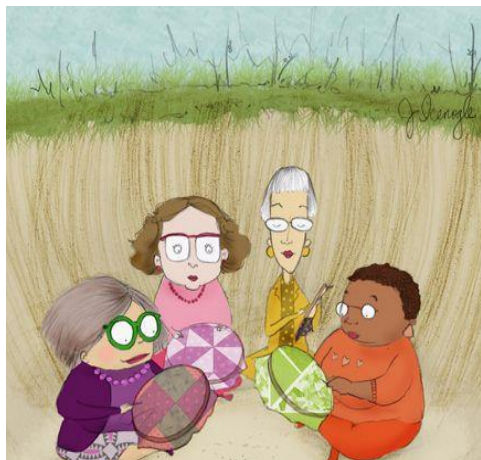
Our sewing circles are small groups of SMQA members - usually 6 to 15 ladies – who meet to exchange ideas, work on their own or a group project. Some circles meet weekly, others meet twice a month, some meet monthly. Some circles meet in members’ homes, others meet in public locations, i.e., library, Bear Paw, public meeting rooms. Currently 4 circles are open to accepting new members.

If the circles that are open aren’t of interest to you, call new members and start a new circle. (That was my experience 20 years ago. We are still together!)

Volunteering to assist the Cuddle Quilts group is a great way to meet other SMQA members and, perhaps, form a new circle. Give it a try!

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



Stitch in the Ditch Quilting Circle

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

The Veteran Appreciation Event will take place on November 2nd at our SMQA meeting. The presentation of quilts will be right after voting for the 2024 board members. We will reserve the front two rows for the Veterans and their guests.

The presentation of quilts will be by Colonel Jerry Bosworth, Retired USMC. There are ten quilt recipients nominated by the Oakhurst Marine Corp League in addition to the six from within our guild. Please join us on welcoming and honoring our guests. These Veterans have given so much by serving and defending our country.

A special thanks to all members who helped make these lovely quilts. They are a gift of love and gratitude.

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

PJ Grant
559-676-5433

AMENITIES

Linda Miller

Lin Crow	Thinking of You
Georgia Harvey	Thinking of You
Elyse Cook	Thinking of You
Peggy Myers	Thinking of You

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



Sandy E...	11/3
Susan Campbell	11/7
Tammi Civello	11/8
Kathy Williams	11/8
Charlotte Hickman	11/11
Kate Mackey	11/11
Tina Horn	11/18
Linda Hawksworth	11/20
Becky Smith	11/21
Liz Carney	11/27

Monthly Refreshments



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

Joanie Madaus
Barbara Graas
Sinta Borland
Charlotte Hickman
Bev Gulley
Wendy Holt
Lisa Kernaghan
Marilyn Harvey
Janet Morita



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.

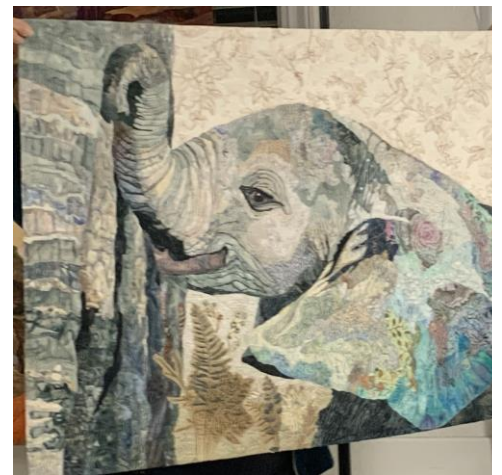
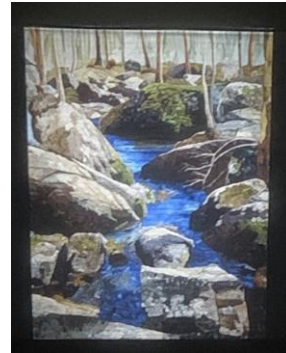
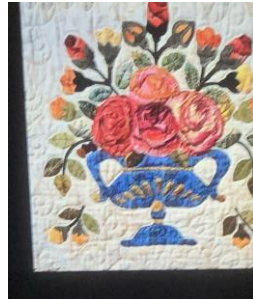
SMQA 2024 PROPOSED BUDGET

INCOME	2023 Budget	2023 Actuals	Proposed 2024
Balance in Checkbook	\$11,105.00	about \$8000.00	\$8,635.00
Advertising	\$185.00	\$364.80	\$365.00
Membership	\$2,500.00	\$2,239.04	\$2,500.00
Quilt Show	\$5,000.00	\$10,386.87	\$3,000.00
Workshops	\$5,600.00	\$2,720.90	\$4,500.00
Holiday Luncheon - Self-sustaining	\$0.00	\$132.50	\$750.00
Retreats & Trips	\$0.00	\$5,289.32	\$5,500.00
Name Badges - Self-Sustaining	\$0.00	\$24.00	\$50.00
Scholarship	\$0.00	\$1,092.07	\$4,000.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$24,390.00	\$22,249.50	\$29,300.00
EXPENSES			
President	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
First Vice President			
Hospitality	\$100.00	\$30.50	\$100.00
Programs (rent set up/down, speaker, hotel, mileage,	\$6,600.00	\$4,599.46	\$6,000.00
Holiday Luncheon - self-sustaining	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$750.00
Publicity	\$175.00	\$100.00	\$150.00
Workshops (Rent, Set-up/down, Teacher, Lunch	\$5,600.00	\$3,125.18	\$4,500.00
Second Vice President			
Sunshine Chair	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$50.00
Cuddle Quilts	\$2,000.00	\$1,289.90	\$2,000.00
Community Service (other than Cuddle Quilts)	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Historian	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$50.00
Treasurer			
Square Terminal	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Insurance	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$600.00
Miscellaneous Fees	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$50.00
Northern California Quilt Council (due in 2025)	\$40.00	\$40.00	\$0.00
P.O.Box Rental	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
Scholarships, Youth & Adult Outreach	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00
Office Supplies	\$100.00	\$81.64	\$100.00
Storage Units	\$2,000.00	\$1,714.80	\$2,500.00
Tax Preparation	\$175.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
Membership (Roster Book, Raffle, Cards, Supplies	\$1,000.00	\$547.24	\$1,000.00
Name Badges - Self-Sustaining	\$0.00	\$16.18	\$50.00
Newsletter	\$500.00	\$149.93	\$500.00
Quilt Show (quilt supplies, raffle tickets)	\$3,000.00	\$4,245.14	\$3,000.00
Website	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
Retreats & Trips	\$300.00	\$5,433.97	\$5,500.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$24,390.00	\$23,273.94	\$29,300.00

October Meeting Show and Tell



Sandra Mollon Trunk Show



Sandra Mollon Thread Painting Workshop



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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



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	Laura Gonzalez
Webmaster	Sally Walker
Parliamentarian	Laura Donahue
Membership	Sue Johnson
Newsletter	Charlotte Hickman
Quilt Show Chair	Maria Ciccarelli