



**MARCH 2, 2023**  
 Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Meeting begins at 6:00 p.m.  
 Oakhurst Machine Embroidery Circle Greeters and Hostesses  
 Game Night



**Thoughts from Sally and Lynn**

Lynn and I are working behind the scenes on some fun projects and programs for you all. I know you are going to want to jump in and join in on the exciting things we have planned for you. Don't overthink it, just say "yes" to trying something new. I was recently reading the weekly e-newsletter I get from James Clear. This quote resonates with me; maybe it will with you as well:

"Finish something. Anything. Stop researching, planning, and preparing to do the work and just do the work. It doesn't matter how good or how bad it is. You don't need to set the world on fire with your first try. You just need to prove to yourself that you have what it takes to produce something. There are no artists, athletes, entrepreneurs, or scientists who became great by half-finished their work. Stop debating what you should make and just make something."

Though he is not addressing quilters, I think we can relate. Some of us are good at pinning wonderful quilt related ideas on Pinterest thinking that someday we aspire to make this or that (before Pinterest I had a binder full of ideas). I've wanted to get more involved in creating art quilts. There was that Sunday last fall when some of us met at Gallery 5 in Oakhurst to make art! I was so surprised that in 3 hours I'd made a decent looking mini landscape. It might even end up in the upcoming Quilt Show.

**Vacationing Musings from Bev**

I'm writing this from a hotel in Luxor Egypt although I'll be home by the time it's published. What an amazing trip this has been! It's hard to process that Egyptian people were weaving fine linen fabric 5000 years ago and that some of it survives to this day. Did they make quilts? Probably not, as we know them. But it's not absurd to imagine a thrifty Egyptian housewife sandwiching together several layers of cloth to keep her family warm at night. We met several local families who are living happily in much simpler circumstances than ourselves, and that encourages me to continue working in a frugal manner.

Am I bringing home fabric or hieroglyphic inspiration for my next quilt? No, but I have a photo of a mosaic Mariner's Compass that I hope to draft and piece - from an elevator in the Cairo Marriott! No way to predict what will inspire us on any given day.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**  
 Joan Earnest  
 January 31, 2023

<b>Checking Account</b>	
Balance 1/01/2023	\$7,154.89
Credits in January	\$2,108.90
Debits in January	\$570.27
<b>Ending Balance (1/31/2023)</b>	<b>\$8,693.52</b>
<b>SAVINGS ACCOUNT BALANCE</b>	<b>\$19,368.28</b>

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

Flag Salute

Welcome

Thanks to Hospitality and Greeters:  
Oakhurst Machine Embroidery Circle

**Reports****Secretary's Report** - Minutes from February 2 meeting**1<sup>st</sup> Vice Presidents** – Sally Walker & Lynn Gray**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President** – Jeri Carney**Treasurer's Report** – Joan Ernest**Membership** - Sue Johnson**Newsletter** – Charlotte Hickman**Webmaster** – Sally Walker**Cuddle Quilts** – Tricia Lacey**Spring Retreat** – Laura Gonzalez**Quilt Show** – Constance Peterson**New Business****Show and Tell****Game Night****2023 WORKSHOP SCHEDULE**March 2<sup>nd</sup> Game night with PRIZES

April 6<sup>th</sup> Karen Brow-Meier – The SMUGGLE Principles  
Seven design elements which make a quilt “sing”

April 7<sup>th</sup> Newly Hatched Baby Quilt WorkshopMay 4<sup>th</sup> Colleen Pelfrey "Life With A Border Around It"May 5<sup>th</sup> Taking Out the Dye WorkshopJune 1<sup>st</sup> Ice Cream SocialJuly 6<sup>th</sup> Sew Powerful Purse Project

July 7 Sew Powerful Purse workshop

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

and Installation of Officers

**FIRST VICE PRESIDENTS' REPORT**

We have some great opportunities coming up.

The March guild meeting will be a Game Night full of fellowship, with an icebreaker to get to know one another a little bit better, Quilto and **prizes!** April will bring Karen Brow-Meier lecturing on the Seven Elements Which Make Your Quilts "Sing" followed by the Newly Hatched wall hanging/small quilt workshop the next day where you can try your hand at appliqué. She teaches both needle turn and fusible, so if you haven't tried appliqué, now is a good time to try something new. Speaking of trying new things, how many of you have played with DeColourant? Colleen Pelfrey will be speaking on "Life With A Border Around It" in May followed the next day by a workshop, "Taking Out the Dye". We don't bring our machines, we just get to play with her different DeColorants and learn new techniques. What could be a better activity in our busy month of May? Paper Piecing and Thread Painting comes later in the year, but more about that later.

After the quilt show Betsy Anne is going to challenge us to finish up our UFOs. Let's aspire to finish what we've started AND jump in to try new things...who knows where this year might take us!

*Lynn Gray and Sally Walker*

*Co-1st VPs*

**Sierra Mountain Quilters Association  
General Membership Meeting Minutes – Feb. 2, 2022**

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by first vice president, Sally Walker, at the Oakhurst Community Center followed by the flag salute. Sally thanked Material Girls for hospitality and greeting. Birthdays and anniversaries were acknowledged. It was announced that home baked goods are once more acceptable on the refreshment table.

Laura Gonzalez made a motion, Nancy Swanson seconded, to accept the Dec.1, 2022, minutes as printed in the newsletter. The motion carried.

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

Margie Williams made a motion, Laura Gonzalez seconded, that we approve the budget as published in the newsletter. The motion carried

Sally thanked Wendy Holt and the audit team for successfully completing the audit.

Charlotte Hickman, Newsletter, apologized for accidentally sending out a black and white newsletter. Because February is a short month, the deadline for sending information to her for the newsletter is Feb.15.

Lynn Gray, first vice president, announced the calendar for 2023 is full. At the March meeting we will have a game night. In April, Karen Brow-Meier will present The SMUGGLE Principles, seven design elements which make a quilt "sing!" Sign-ups are available tonight or online for her class on the following Friday. In July, we will be sewing purses for girls in Zambia in support of the Sew Powerful nonprofit. Lynn also reported the final sale of Donna Henning's supplies will be at the March meeting.

Sue Johnson, Membership, announced we now have 47 members. Door prize winners were Virginia Waters, Kay Marshall, and Lynn Gray.

Tricia Lacey, Cuddle Quilts, has a new pattern for cuddle quilts. She discussed ways to get your card stamped and earn a spool of Aurifil thread or a rotary cutter blade.

Laura Gonzalez, Spring Retreat, reported the sign-up will be available thru March 15. The retreat will be April 12-15, and will be \$37 a day.

Constance Peterson, Quilt Show chair, announced April 7 is the last day to enter quilts in the quilt show. Forms are available on the website. Each member may enter 4 quilts - 1 mini quilt (up to 18"x18") and 3 others (either small, medium, or large). All quilts except minis must have a 4 inch sleeve. Rhonda Dewey needs 12 volunteers to help with setting up and retrieving quilts.

Old Business:

Betsy Anne Youngholm has volunteered to be the new mystery quilt coordinator.

The following question was discussed: Shall we move the winter party to daytime? No decision was made at this time.

**MINUTES CONT.**

The Membership Services position is still open. This person would welcome new members and help them get involved with our guild.

New business:

New circles are welcome.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:29 p.m. followed by Show and Tell and Cuddle Quilts.

Respectfully submitted by Janet Morita, secretary.



## OPPORTUNITY QUILT UPDATE

Kay Marshall  
Quilt Ticket Chairman

Our Opportunity Quilt has now earned \$4,296 from our ticket sales. If you see Susan Campbell, please thank her for donating the Featherweight Sewing Machine for the raffle prize for members who sell more than 100 tickets. Better yet why don't you phone Susan to thank her? I'm sure she'd like to hear from you. We currently have about 10 members who will get at least one chance of winning that machine. We have about 29 people who qualify for at least one chance of winning a gift certificate from Bear Paw. These people have sold at least 60 Opportunity Quilt tickets. Remember only 2 ½ months left to sell your tickets!! I have about 6 people who have not yet picked up their original 30 tickets. Please come to a meeting and pick them up. Or you can arrange to have a friend pick up your tickets at our monthly SMQA meeting. You may turn in your stubs with the accompanying money to Kay Marshall at our monthly meetings, or you may turn them in at Bear Paw.

## Quilt Show Update

Constance Peterson

It is not too early to get your quilts entered into our 2023 Quilt Show. Each member may enter as many as 4 quilts - **three** quilts in the wall hanging/small/medium/large category and **one** mini quilt 18 x 18 or smaller. Medium and Large Quilts will require a 4-inch sleeve on the back for hanging. Fill out an application for each entry. The online quilt entry form can be found on our SMQA [website](#) or by clicking [here](#). More details can be found on the form. Keep in mind that **April 7, 2023 is the last day for quilt entries**. A quilt does not need to be completely finished to enter it. However, Kay will need to know the finished size of your quilt when it is entered. Therefore, the finished quilt size is mandatory on all entry forms to be eligible for acceptance in the Quilt Show. **Finished quilts are due May 15 and 16 and are to be dropped off at the library from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm.** Please enter as soon as possible to help the committee process the information needed. We can't wait to see what you've been working on since our last Quilt Show.

## Best of The Valley Quilt Show

White glove volunteers are needed for the Best of the Valley Quilt Show April 14th and 15th 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. To sell raffle tickets for the Opportunity Quilt we need 10 white gloves ( who receive free admission) and members to sell raffle tickets. If you can help, please contact Constance Peterson at 559-676-0678



## CUDDLE CORNER

Tricia Lacey

Thank you to all those who helped sew cuddle quilts at the February guild meeting. We had about 18 people working on quilts and several people took a kit home to work on. Remember to finish your quilt and turn it in. We have had a few turned in already.

The next Cuddle Quilt workday will be on Wednesday, March 15, from 10 am to 2 pm at the library. We will be cutting out wheelchair bags. However, if you would like to sew a kit, I will have some pillowcase, wheelchair bags, heart pillows, and bib kits available. We have cutting mats, rotary cutters, and rulers. If you need anything else, please bring it and your lunch. Don't forget to have your rewards card stamped for your participation. If you have any question, please call us.

*Tricia Lacey*

*Rhonda Dewey*

### Quilt Collectors Needed

Twelve quilt collectors are needed for the quilt show. This really is the best job! Collectors will work in groups of two as the quilts are taken down, fold them neatly and take them to the stage. At the stage the quilts will be organized so they can be handed back to the owners at the end of the show. Please let Rhonda Dewey know if you can help with this fun and important job by emailing her at [rhondakdewey@gmail.com](mailto:rhondakdewey@gmail.com).

April 6 will be the last day for Donna Hennings' items to be sold. Items for sale include fabric, buttons, and miscellaneous sewing items. PLEASE BRING THE CORRECT CHANGE. The money we collect will be added to the Donna Hennings Memorial Scholarship Fund.



Spring cleaning time is just around the corner. Here are five tips on how to declutter your sewing room.

#### 1. Name What Matters

Before getting started take a bit of time to think about what you really love and want to keep. If you focus on what you love before you begin your decluttering process, it will be easier to make decisions about what to get rid of.

#### 2. Gather Supplies

Start by gathering a donate box or bag and a trash bag if needed. Without a donate box readily available it's easy to just shift things around and decide to keep everything (this has happened)!

#### 3. Use the "Container Principle"

Our boxes and bins, shelves, drawers, and even our houses are actually containers and can only hold so much. Once you realize this principle, it makes it easier to recognize that there might not be room to keep everything you currently have if you want any semblance of order.

#### 4. Decide Once

As you begin to sort through your fabrics and supplies you have only two decisions to make: keep or get rid of it. Don't allow yourself to have a "maybe" box. And only keep what you can reasonably store in the space you have available. Refer to tip #1 when in doubt—if you don't love it, you probably won't use it in a quilt in the near future.

#### 5. Donate

The best and easiest way to get rid of fabrics, sewing supplies, notions, unused patterns, books, and gadgets is to donate. While there might be some things you have that you might want to sell—it's often so time-consuming to sell that you end up never getting rid of it. There are lots of places to donate:

- Quilt guilds readily accept fabrics and notions for their projects and charitable sewing groups.
- Libraries may be willing to take quilting books.
- Reach out to local schools and senior centers.
- Donate to a local thrift store.
- Consider gifting fabrics to a [Quilts of Valor organization](#).





## 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 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month at 10 am at Bear Paw. If interested in joining the group contact Ruthi Connor for more information.

**Fabric Collage** is a new circle which meets the 2nd & 4th Fridays at Bear Paw, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. (2nd Fri. only in Feb. & Mar.) We are open & welcome new members. We will help anyone who wants to learn about fabric collage. Contact: Janet Morita, 559-760-5018, [janet@morita.com](mailto:janet@morita.com).

### 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

## MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

### We need your membership renewals!

We want to thank all those who have renewed their SMQA memberships for 2023. We still have a way to go, and want to remind those who haven't renewed yet to do so as soon as you can. Membership makes you eligible to attend our meetings & participate in our programs. And what a year of fun speakers and workshops! You can renew in person at the next meeting, or pay online at our [SMQA website](#). Thanks!

Welcome our new member Lupita Delk!



## Karen Brow-Meier: Workshop April 7th, 2023 Pieced and Appliquéd Wall Hanging

From workshop teacher, Karen Brow-Meier:

A workshop favorite, this mamma and baby turtle duo is both elegant and heart-warming. Students can fuse appliqué or turn edges and we'll cover techniques for both. Learn my methods for enchanting eyes and those tiny appliqué pieces. We'll cover how to balance warm and cool colors as well as small and larger scales of prints. The asymmetrical border adds a modern touch and the button embellishments bring a bit of sparkle. A perfect accent piece for any room in the house.

Click [here](#) for fabric selection ideas.

Click [here](#) for fabric requirements and supplies needed.

Click [here](#) to sign up and pay online, or contact Lynn G. or Sally W. to put your name on the list.



**April 7<sup>th</sup> Newly Hatched  
Baby Quilt Workshop.**  
Sign up now at [SMQA website](#)!

### Quilt Show Entry Pictures Lynn Gray

I will be taking photos of everyone entering a quilt in the quilt show. The photo will appear on the information sheet next to your quilt. I'll be at the March, April and May guild meetings – please find me.

Lynn Gray, Quilt Information & Photos

### Remaining Tentative Meeting Dates for 2023

Board Meetings	General Meetings
2/20	3/2
3/27	4/6
4/24	5/4
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

### AMENITIES

Linda Miller

Maria Ciccarelli	Sympathy
Chris Hudson	Birthday/Thinking of You
Patty Spinelli	Thinking of You
Jerry Thompson Family	Sympathy
Georgia Harvey	Thinking of You

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

### Sew Powerful Purse Project

On July 6<sup>th</sup> the **Sew Powerful Purse Project** will be the subject of the Guild Meeting. The Project links seamstresses from around the world to combat extreme poverty by providing re-usable feminine hygiene supplies and health training to girls in Zambia. This enables them to attend school all month and improve their academic performance.

Please mark your calendars and be sure to attend this informative meeting. And sign up now at [SMQA website](#) for the workshop on July 7<sup>th</sup> as well.



### Save The Date

Spring Retreat  
 April 12-15, 2023  
 9:00- 5:00 pm daily

Happy Valentine’s Day!! We still have a few spots left for the retreat April 12 - 15<sup>th</sup>. It’s \$37 a day!! We are booking a massage therapist to do chair massages!! Please sign up ASAP!! You can sign up for any or all days!!! You can sign up online or send a check to Laura Gonzalez 41464 Little Creek Rd Ahwahnee, CA. 93601 - checks should be made payable to SMQA.

Laura Donahue & Laura Gonzalez - AKA the two Laura’s



Patty Cramer	3/23
Carolyn Gaither	3/12
Nancy Hyde	3/16
Sue Johnson	3/20
Kay Marshall	3/13
Patty Vincent	3/10
Sharon Weaver	3/20

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



**The birthday ladies are requested to bring snacks to the meeting. Homemade treats are now acceptable along with individually wrapped treats.**

### 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



# February 2 Cuddle Quilt Sewing Marathon



Rhonda Dewey working on her strip cuddle quilt.



Francie helping mom Laura Gonzalez complete a quilt.

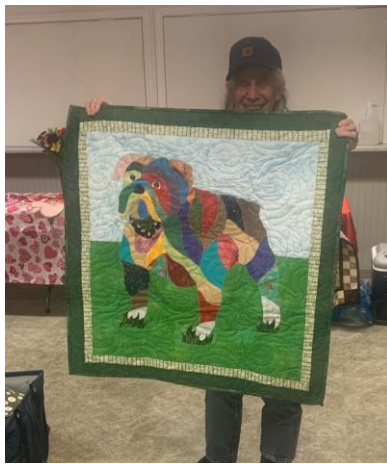
Teams working together



To complete their cuddle quilts



# FEBRUARY SHOW AND TELL





# Services from our Advertisers

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## 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](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

**Membership Chair Use Only:**

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



# Sierra Mountain Quilters Association

P.O. Box 1359  
Oakhurst, CA 93644

[sierramountainquilters.org](http://sierramountainquilters.org)



[facebook.com/SierraMountainQuiltersAssociation](https://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](mailto:cthickman@yahoo.com)  
**Deadline is 20th of each month.**

### COMMITTEE CHAIRS

New Member Support	Open position
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