



# Sierra Mountain Quilters Association Newsletter

## MARCH 7, 2024 DAYTIME MEETING

Doors open at 12:30 pm. Meeting begins at 1:00 pm.

Host Greeters: Oakhurst Machine Embroidery

Program: Cuddle Quilt Program



### President's Message

I began writing this in the midst of the "atmospheric river," with pouring rain and threats of flooding. Next thing I know, we're being buried in snow! But aren't we the sturdy stock!? We've seen much worse than this and probably will again. In foul weather, how does the mind of a quilter work? More time for sewing! We can't possibly do any outside work right now! We have got to stay indoors. We've got the fire going, it's cozy inside and our sewing machines beckon us to spend the entire day knee deep in patterns, yardage, scraps and covered with ends of thread. There is that pesky housework to address, but "nah." Soon it will be spring, with the warm sunshine, daffodils, yard work and spring cleaning....but right now, it's a mess out there and I'm staying in my jammies!

Sue



### SMQA GENERAL BUSINESS AGENDA

#### SMQA GENERAL BUSINESS

March 7, 2024

#### Call to Order

Flag Salute

Welcome

#### Reports

**Secretary** - Minutes from Feb. 1 meeting

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice Presidents** – Sally Walker & Lynn Gray

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Presidents** – Joan Earnest & Bev Gulley

**Treasurer's Report** – Lisa Kernaghan

**Membership** – Janet Morita

**Newsletter** – Charlotte Hickman

**Webmaster** –Sally Walker

**Cuddle Quilts** – Joan Earnest

**Quilt Show** – Maria Ciccarelli

**Spring Retreat** – Laura Gonzales

**Fall retreat** - Ku'ulei Arredondo

**Mystery Quilt** - Sinta Borland

#### New Business

**Monthly block raffle** – Sandy Johnson and Lissa Metzger

**Sara McEntire, Oakhurst Library** – Summer

Sewing for Kids

**Show and Tell**

**Program:**

**Cuddle Quilt Program**

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Lisa Kernaghan

January 31, 2024

**CHECKING ACCOUNT**

Balance 1/1/24 \$13,137.44

Credits in January \$333.93

Debits in January \$149.22

**ENDING BALANCE** \$13,322.15

(1/31/2024)

**SAVINGS ACCOUNT**

Balance 1/1/24 \$9,385.34

Credits in January \$0.79

**ENDING BALANCE** \$9,386.13

(1/31/2024)

**Daytime Meeting March 2024**

**News Flash #1** - The March Guild Meeting is daytime 1 - 5 pm. It's our annual Cuddle Quilt sewing meeting. Be a designer, a cutter, a sewer or a presser and have fun with friends and work with new friends.

**News Flash #2** - The March workshop is Saturday, March 9th with our own Bev Gulley teaching Celtic Knot: 9 am - 3 pm at the Raleys Gathering Room, back of the store near the pharmacy.

**2024 Program Schedule**

- **March 7** - Cuddle Quilt Program - 1pm - 5pm. Please note daytime hours.
- **March 9** - Workshop - Bev Gulley teaching Celtic Knot 9am-3pm
- **April 4** - Pat Robertson's Trunk Show. She was the 2023 Kings River Quilt Festival featured artist.
- **April 10-13** - Spring Retreat
- **May 2** - How to... stations hosted by guild members.
- **June 6** - Julia McLeod. Lecture: Everything But Cotton
- **June 7** - Workshop: Starting with Silk
- **July 11** - Ice Cream Social
- **August 1** - Susan Nash. Lecture: Learn to Collage Quilt the Laura Heine Way
- **August 2** - Workshop: A Laura Heine Collage, design TBD
- **September 5** - Scarlett Rose. Lecture: A View from Both Sides
- **September 6** - Wendy Holt Stool Workshop
- **September 9-13** - Fall Retreat
- **October 3** - Jane Haworth. Lecture: Journey as a Quilt Artist
- **October 4** - Workshop: Cats & Dogs Fabric Collage Workshop
- **November 7** - Claire Marks' Trunk Show
- **November 8** - Workshop - Foundation Pieced Table Topper
- **December 5** - Annual Winter Year End Luncheon

**Take the Meeting Survey**

Daytime meetings, Saturday Workshops... why the changes? The **NCQC article on page 4** does a good job explaining why guilds (including ours) are experimenting with different meeting times. **We would like to know your opinions regarding daytime vs evening meetings.** Thanks to those of you who have responded to our Daytime vs Evening guild meeting survey. We've only heard from about 15% of our members so far. Please read the article and then **take the survey or jot down your thoughts and drop them in the suggestion box we will provide at the next meeting.** You can still fill out the survey online by clicking [here](#), or by printing and filling out a paper form that can be accessed on our website [homepage](#) under "quick links" or by filling out a form that can be provided to you at the next guild meeting. Your feedback is invaluable as we continue to grow and evolve as a guild. Thank you for taking time to let us know your thoughts.

## Sierra Mountain Quilters Association General Meeting Minutes, February 1, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 P.M. by President Sue Johnson. We had a flag salute followed by Sue thanking the snack providers, the opportunity quilt display and congratulating the members with January birthdays and anniversaries.

### Reports:

The **Secretary's** minutes from the general meeting on January 4, 2024 were approved after a motion from Nancy Swanson and second by Laura Gonzalez.

Lynn Gray gave the report of the **1st Vice Presidents**. On Thursday, March 7<sup>th</sup> from 1-5 P.M. our program will be Cuddle Quilts. Please bring your sewing machines. The Saturday Workshop on 3-9-24, Celtic Knot by Bev Gulley, will cost \$35 and be held at Raley's Gathering Room. More teachers are needed for the stations to be held at the May 2<sup>nd</sup> general meeting. Don't forget to sign up to bring refreshments on one additional month (besides bringing refreshments on your birthday month). Please do the **Survey** which can be found on line or on a paper copy on Lynn's table. Tonight, we have two speakers. Sally Moreno, Madera Co. District Attorney, will discuss cyber security. Dr. Hannah Kaplan, Physical Therapist, will talk about our posture when sewing and projects which benefit the needy.

The **2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Presidents'** report was given by Joan Earnest. The Girl Scouts have requested help to teach a small group of girls to sew. Sarah from Oakhurst Library will talk to us in March about the summer sewing program.

Lisa Kernaghan gave the **Treasurer's** Report. The report was filed away for audit.

The **Membership** report by Janet Morita stated that we had 33 members and 3 guests in attendance tonight. 56 people have paid dues so far. Three people, Marilyn Harvey, Mary Ziebarth, and Linda Miller each received a gift certificate from the drawing.

Charlotte Hickman had nothing to report for the **Newsletter**.

Our **Webmaster**, Sally Walker was sick and not in attendance.

Joan Earnest reported that the **Cuddle Quilts** had had a very productive work day in January. The next workday will be on February 14<sup>th</sup>.

Maria Ciccarelli was absent so, could not report on the **Quilt Show** in person. She gave a written report to Sue Johnson who read that we had made \$855 so far on Opportunity Quilt ticket sales. If you need more tickets or have money/stubs to turn in, go to Bear Paw. The Opportunity Quilt will be going to Best of the Valley in Lindsay on April 12-13. At least 15 volunteers are needed to white glove and/or sell tickets in Lindsay. Sally Walker is in charge of scheduling for our Opportunity Quilt.

**The Spring Retreat**, reported Laura Gonzalez, has 15 people signed up for overnight. There are 1-2 opening for day time sewing at the retreat. Laura will work on changing the dates of the Spring Retreat in 2025 because of the date conflicts with the Best of the Valley Show in Lindsay. Ku'ulei Arredondo was not present to report on the **Fall Retreat**.

The next clue for the **Mystery Quilt** is on a handout on the table reported Sinta Borland.

At 6:20 **Show and Tell** began, followed by **snacks**, and our **speakers**: Sally Moreno and Dr. Hannah Kaplan.

Respectfully submitted, Kay Marshall, secretary

**From NCQC Newsletter 2023 Volume 19  
by Colleen Voet**

Two NCQC-member guilds in the greater Sacramento area, Pioneer (Rocklin) and Foothill (Auburn) have changed their meeting times from evening to daytime beginning in early 2023. In response to requests from members, both guilds independently did a survey of members and found overwhelming interest in daytime meetings. Before Covid, both had memberships of around 160-180 members. When they began meeting in person in 2022, each had maintained a membership of about 100-120. Members began commenting on their reluctance to drive to evening meetings, especially in the winter when weather could also be a factor. Subsequent surveys, culminating in votes, resulted in Pioneer electing to meet in the morning and Foothill meeting in the early afternoon. Nevertheless, it was a difficult decision for the guilds' boards. Each had a handful of members who were still working and could not attend a daytime meeting. "It felt like we were kicking them out of the guild," said more than one board member. "Although we need younger members," said another, "the reality is that we just don't have them." In both guilds, most members are in their 70s, with the youngest being one or two in their 50s. There is also concern about the ability of older members to do the work required to put on a quilt show, take Opportunity Quilts to other guilds, maintain a guild's storage unit, and sometimes move chairs or tables for an activity. It has required guilds to reconsider their fundraising efforts and recognize that they may need to find – or hire – other people to do some of the physical work. In the meantime, however, most current members are happy that they didn't have to quit the guild because of night driving, and that their concerns were heard. Some former members are returning. Both guilds are getting new members, many of whom cite daytime meetings as a significant factor. There is no doubt that this has become an important issue for many organizations, not just quilters guilds. **And there are no easy answers.**

**QUILT SHOW 2025  
Maria Ciccarelli, Chairperson**

Our Opportunity Quilt, *Solstice Swirl*, is selling tickets like hot cakes!!! If you need more tickets to sell (or buy), please pick some up at our next SMQA meeting or at Bear Paw. Just a reminder, for the tickets sold (or bought), please return sold tickets stubs, together with the money.



We have a great opportunity to sell more tickets at the *Best of the Valley Quilt Show*. We need volunteers. Please let Sally Walker know if you are interested in helping. The dates are April 12 & 13. It is a fun show that is close to home compared to others.

Our next Quilt Show board meeting has been moved from the original February date to Friday, March 8<sup>th</sup> – 1pm at Bear Paw. Emails to chairs have been sent.


For the March SMQA General meeting, we will be going over Show quilts criteria and category definitions. I was supposed to do this in February, but I had to miss that meeting.

*Maria*

## 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President's Message

Did you enjoy the February lineup? Have you practiced DA Sally Moreno's cyber protection tips? Have you tried Dr. Hannah's exercises? Since I knew I wouldn't remember everything, I took notes. DA Moreno shared these tips:

- Seniors are too nice when answering spam calls. Do not give them information. Do not say 'yes' not even to verify your name as it could be recorded and used against you. You can say 'that's me'. Ask for their phone number and call them back. If they are a legitimate contact they will be happy to give it to you.
- It's ok to hang up. It's your phone line, you paid for it.
- If the caller claims to be someone you know, ask them a question only they would know the answer to or, set up a family/friend code only they would know.
- None of your business connections will ask for a birth date or social security number. Ask them what info they have and verify if it's correct or not.
- Not sure if an email is from a legitimate company? Hover over the name of the email sender. You should recognize the personal or business name. A business email should not come from a public domain such as @gmail.com. Never open a link in a suspicious email. If you do, immediately close the link and shut down your computer.
- Never send money - "Grandma please send money" or "Edith said you would send \$\_\_". Call a relative or friend to verify you were asked for money.
- The caller will try to rush you so you get confused and give them information. Remind yourself to get a call-back number and use it. Listen to your intuition. If you doubt whether you should answer questions, don't do it.

Dr. Hannah shared a stack of handouts with tips for sewers and exercises for stiff, sore, overused muscles. Pick one up at the March meeting. She is active with the Dress a Girl Around the World and The Shoe Box project. Links with patterns for Dress a Girl, more details about these projects, and how you can participate are included in the column to the right. 

As quilters, we can share our love of sewing and helping others through these projects.

Lynn

## Program Speakers

DA Sally Moreno and Dr. Hannah Kaplan



Here are the links from Dr Hannah that she shared at the February Guild Meeting:

Operation Christmas Child through Samaritan's Purse <https://www.samaritanaspurse.org/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/>

People can make/fill their own shoe boxes or make dresses or purses for others to put in their boxes. Anyone can contact Dr. Kaplan at [hkaplanocc@gmail.com](mailto:hkaplanocc@gmail.com) with any questions.



Dr. Kaplan also spoke about Dress a Girl Around the World:

<https://www.dressagirlaroundtheworld.com/>  
The website with patterns and videos is:  
<https://www.dressagirlaroundtheworld.com/projects-8>  
<https://www.dressagirlaroundtheworld.com/projects-8-1>

The local group gets together once a month. They usually get together the third Friday morning of each month from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. You can contact Claudia Wahlberg at: [dressagirlfresno@gmail.com](mailto:dressagirlfresno@gmail.com) with any questions.



## CUDDLE CORNER

Sandy Eigenman

Our March Cuddle Quilt workday will follow the monthly guild meeting on March 7th, 1:00pm to 5:00pm.

Work with a group, finish a project you have in progress or grab a kit and stitch. Drawings will be held throughout the day for some great prizes!

Quilt kits will be available as well as 5" precut squares, jelly rolls and jelly roll patterns. Solid fabrics, backing and batting will be available to mix with the precuts.

What should I bring? Sewing machine, thread and notions. Cutting boards, rotary cutters, rulers and irons will be available.

There will not be a cuddle quilt workshop in March.

Questions? Contact Tricia Lacey  
530-680-3741



## Celtic Knot Appliqué Workshop



9am-3pm **Saturday** March 9th, 2024  
To be held in the Gathering Room at Raleys in Oakhurst.

Celtic Knot Appliqué Workshop taught by our own Bev Guley. She is an award-winning quilter, our past Co-President and featured quilter for the SMQA 2023 Quilt Show.

### CLASS DESCRIPTION

Beautiful Celtic Knot designs have been used in many ways over the centuries to adorn sacred documents, tapestries, and even stonework. They also make a lovely and intricate design for embroidery or appliqué. In this class, we will mark the background, explore 2 easy ways to make neat and consistent bias strips, pin, and then baste the strips in place as we weave them over and under to form the knot pattern. We should have plenty of time to start stitching them in place using an ordinary hand-appliqué stitch. I'll give you instructions to finish your project like the sample, but of course you are free to proceed as you prefer!

I hope that you will enjoy stitching the pattern in place by hand, but we will also review how the strips could be sewn down by machine.

*Bev*

Click [here](#) to sign up and pay online.  
Click [here](#) for supply list download.



### 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.

**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](mailto:janet@rjmorita.com) with any questions.

**OAKHURST MACHINE EMBROIDERY & SCAN-N-CUT GROUP** is **welcoming new members.** The group meets on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month at 10 am at Bear Paw. We alternate months between the Oakhurst Machine Embroidery and the Scan-N-Cut groups. Please let Maria Ciccarelli know if you would like to join either group. The more the merrier! Since most people are in both groups, emails will be sent to everyone in the groups.

### Circle Hostesses and Greeters for 2024

January	Laura and Pieter Gonzalez
February	Material Girls
March	Oakhurst Machine Embroidery
April	Sew Thrilled
May	Anything with Fabric
June	Bits and Pieces
July	SMQA Board
August	Fabric Collage
September	Bits and Pieces
October	Anything with Fabric
November	Footloose

### Bev's Star Class Revisited

If you missed Bev Gulley's String Star class in 2022, she will be offering it at Bear Paw on April 19. Check with the quilt shop for further details.

### Membership Application and Dues

It's that time again, a new year and a new membership application! **Be sure to renew your dues by the March general meeting so your name will be included in the roster.** Here are some of the ways to join or renew your SMQA membership:

- 1) Copy and print the form in this newsletter then bring it to the next meeting or put it in the mail along with your payment.
- 2) Fill out a form provided for you at the next meeting, then pay in cash, check or with a credit card. If you pay by check, make it out to SMQA.
- 3) Click [here](#) to fill out the form and pay online.



**SMQA Spring Quilt Retreat  
April 10-13, 2024  
Episcopal Conference Center Oakhurst  
(ECCO)  
43803 Highway 41 Oakhurst**

Good news! The Spring Retreat is full with some overnight quilters and daytime quilters all looking forward to having some days to just sew and have fun with other quilters. Everyone has made their \$100 deposits and will be hearing from Laura soon about the balance that is due. Please make checks payable to SMQA. For more information contact Laura Gonzalez at 559.676.0205 or [lauragonzalez42090@yahoo.com](mailto:lauragonzalez42090@yahoo.com)



**2024 Refreshment sign-ups**

We are asking each member to bring refreshments twice per year. In the past we only requested that a member bring snacks on their birthday month, but our refreshments were sparse, to say the least. Last year we asked members to sign up for a second month as well. Since then, our refreshment table has been laden with wonderful snacks. Please indicate which two months you plan to bring refreshments by clicking [this link](#). If your birthday month is not convenient, no worries; please select a different month. Thanks for your participation!  
*Sally*



Patty Vincent	3/10
Carolyn Gaither	3/12
Kay Marshall	3/13
Nancy Hyde	3/16
Elyse Cook	3/18
Sue Johnson	3/20
Sharon Weaver	3/20
Patty Cramer	3/23

**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.**

The following people signed up for refreshments for the March meeting.

- Betsy Youngholm
- Joanie Madaus
- Laura Gonzalez

**AMENITIES**

Linda Miller

Lin Crow	Thinking of You
Diane Ward	Thinking of You

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



# February Show and Tell



Thanks to our Material Girl hostesses for a lovely Valentine's Day refreshment table.



# Services from our Advertisers

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## Sierra Mountain Quilters Association 2024 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:** (*Circle one*) Individual: \$25; Family: \$35; Half Year: \$12.50

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

*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 \_\_\_\_\_

**Emergency Contact:** \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

⇒ **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 \_\_\_\_\_ Credit Card: \_\_\_\_\_ Cash \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \_\_\_\_\_



# Sierra Mountain Quilters Association

P.O. Box 1359  
Oakhurst, CA 93644

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



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

### BOARD MEMBERS

President	Sue Johnson
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice Presidents	Sally Walker and Lynn Gray
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Presidents	Joan Earnest and Bev Gulley
Treasurer	Lisa Kernaghan
Secretaries	Betsy Blum and Kay Marshall

*Board meetings are held at 1:00 pm on the fourth Monday of each month. Send Newsletter submissions to:*

[cthickman@yahoo.com](mailto:cthickman@yahoo.com)

**Deadline for submissions is the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month**

### COMMITTEE CHAIRS

New Member Support	Ku'ulei Arredondo
Amenities	Linda Miller
Circles	Mel Peters
Cuddle Quilts	Tricia Lacey
Historian	Laura Gonzales
Webmaster	Sally Walker
Parliamentarian	Laura Donahue
Membership	Janet Morita
Newsletter	Charlotte Hickman
Quilt Show Chair	Maria Ciccarelli