



STITCH 'N TIMES

Santa Rosa Quilt Guild

P.O. Box 9251, Santa Rosa, CA 95405

November/December 2022 • Vol. 46 • No. 10

President's Message

HOT OR COLD?

Warm. Cool.

While getting ready for bed last night, and then lying down and trying to settle my thoughts, I was thinking that I needed to get my President's message ready for Jim to publish in the November newsletter. And since my feet were cold, it got me to thinking about hot vs. cold. Of course, I did wonder if I should then get up and start typing my message while I was thinking about it, but I did drift off to a nice night of sleep.

Let's think about hot vs. cold and the differences we all have in finding things to be just right to suit our needs, and I don't mean just the temperature of a room because that is just nearly impossible to please everyone when there are multiple people in a room. When I worked, I always kept a sweater at work because I run cold, and the place was never quite comfortable for me unless I happened to be working alone and could adjust the thermostat to suit myself. My siblings and I always knew my parents liked their house thermostat to be set at 77 degrees the year round. I am pretty comfortable with that temp, but the other family members were way too warm.

It is interesting how many things are related to the temperature terms. For instance, we have all heard terms such as a "heated discussion," or a "cool reception," or a "warm greeting." Not everyone is familiar with using the terms warm and cool when it comes to colors. As quilters, sewists, and crafters, we definitely have heard and used these terms. In a previous career as a cosmetologist and studying hair color, it was drilled into us to learn warm and cool and all about the color wheel.

We are heading into the cooler months of the year. I prefer the warmer months. I love to wake up to a sunny morning (warm) which starts my day off much better than when I wake up to a foggy and gray (cool) morning. I don't know if it is real or not, but it seems my body and mind just feel better when the sun is shining. I do love to wake up to a gray morning only if



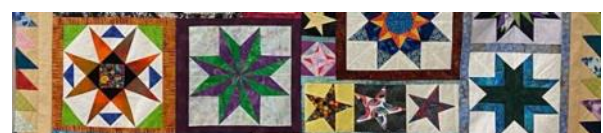
it means there is rain! At least that tells me we are getting something in return for having those gray and cloudy skies over our heads. Now the fog we have here in Sonoma County is from the coastal influence, and usually drifts away as the days goes by. I grew up in Fresno County, and there the fog is thick, thick, thick. The tule fog is different and it was not unusual for the fog to hang around for days or even weeks. But let's face it, gray skies in the cooler months mean it's going to be colder in the mornings and the sunny skies won't show up until later in the day.

Sometimes situations don't always start out as warm and welcoming. It can make a difference is how we proceed. If we get a first impression of someone or a situation that strikes us as being warm, chances are we will feel like being more open, involved, and more pleased than if we get a cool response. What are some other ways that temperature terms relate to our day-to-day lives? There are warm-blooded and cold-blooded animals. I can recall a situation in which I was so embarrassed in an adult Spanish class I was taking. I was asked to say "I am warm today," but I actually said "I am in heat today." My teacher, who is a dear friend, was laughing at the mix-up but I was humiliated.

Today I am leaving for a vacation and the big mystery is how much to pack, so I have the correct clothing for the weather while on vacation. I hope my rambling about hot and cold made a bit of sense to you. I expect to have a warm welcome by everyone we are spending time with while on vacation, and will try to overlook any cool receptions and blame that on a miscommunication. (I never did advance far in my Spanish class).

Happy November to you all!

Diana Coddling



November Program

November 17, 2022

“Meet Our Sister Guild”

Moonlight Quilters of Sonoma County

Join us on November 17 for a special “Meet Our Sister Guild” meeting. Moonlight Quilters of Sonoma County will be sending five of their members to share five quilts in what we are calling “5 x 5.” Get to know other quilters and see their work.

We'll be returning the favor sometime in 2023 by sending five members of our guild to meet their guild. So please let me know if you are interested in going to one of their meetings. The date for our visit with them is to be determined, but I'm taking names now!

There is no workshop scheduled for November 18 since it is so close to Thanksgiving.

Elaine Ramires

Membership

November is here and that means it's time to begin the process of Membership renewal for 2023. We will begin collecting dues at the live meeting on November 3 and continue at the meetings on November 17 and December 1. Please make checks out to SRQG in the amount of \$40.00. They may also be mailed to:

SRQG
P.O. Box 9251
Santa Rosa, CA 95405

In order to make life easier, and, since many of us no longer carry our checkbooks with us, I suggest preparing a check in advance and putting it with your SRQG name tag. We accept cash, but prefer checks.

Also, this is a good time to check your listing in the Membership Roster for additions and/or corrections. A copy has been mailed to everyone via Sharon Fry, but if you've misplaced it you can contact me for a new copy.

Thank you so much for paying early, and let's have a great 2023!

Jan Andrews

Note: Pictures on Page 1 are sections of Diana Codding's Friendship Block quilt.

2023 Programs and Workshops

Do you need incentive to get a friend to join the Santa Rosa Quilt Guild? How about informing him/her of ONE of the great benefits – great speakers and workshops? Members get the first opportunity to sign up for workshops at lower costs than the general public. Only if the workshop is not filled with our members by a specific date will we open up sign-ups for non-members.

As a member, if you are interested in any of these classes, please send an email to SRQGPrograms@gmail.com and request which workshop you would like. You will be required to pay for the workshop approximately 90 days in advance of the workshop (this is to assure SRQG meets our contractual commitments.)

To reserve a space, sign up and submit a non-refundable payment for your chosen workshop.

Here is the lineup for 2023

January - Brita Nelson

1/19 - Every Last Crumb - Zoom program
1/20 - Crumbs to Quilts - Zoom workshop

February - MJ Kinman

2/16 - Smithsonian Series - Zoom program
2/17 - Dames to Diamonds - Zoom workshop

March - Bridget O'Flaherty

3/16 - What Does Sustainability look like in Quilting - Zoom program
3/17 - Easy Peasy Thread Painting by Numbers - Zoom workshop

April - Material Girlfriends

4/20 - A Quilter is Pieced - In-person program
4/21 - TBD, one of Material Girlfriends patterns -- In-person workshop

May - Karen Bolan

5/18 - Collaboration - In Person program
5/19 - Piece Curves with Transparency - In-person program

June - Jacquie Gerring

6/15 - Walk and So Much More - Zoom program
6/16 - Quilting Rotational Designs - Zoom workshop

July - Jane Sassaman

7/20 - Under the Influence - Zoom program
7/21 - Suns and Moons - Zoom workshop

August - Sheila Collins

8/17 - Creative Exploration - In-person program
8/18 - Brash Beauties - Day 1 In-person workshop and Day 2 Zoom workshop

Trina Jahnsen

January 2023 Programs and Workshops

January 19, 2023

Brita Nelson

Program: "Every Last Crumb"
(Zoom Program)

January 20, 2023

Brita Nelson

Workshop: "Crumbs to Quilts"
(Zoom Workshop)

January 19, 2023 - Program (Zoom)

Every Last Crumb, An Adventure in Scrap Quilting.



This is a fun, informative, and inspirational trek to find the best way to handle a mountain of left-over fabric. I had over 30 years' worth of accumulated scraps which threatened to take over my sewing room and consume me. I had to do something. Some of you may have the same problem. Here is how I managed to save myself and actually make some

room in my fabric closet. With over two dozen quilts and projects, I will demonstrate some great ways to use that secret treasure hiding in your house. I will also cover basic color and contrast principles to make your scrap beauties really shine.

January 20, 2023 - Workshop (Zoom)

Crumbs to Quilts, is a six hour workshop on how to turn the tiniest scraps into a beautiful quilt.

Have you ever thought about making your own fabric? In this class we will discuss tint, tone, shade, value, and scale to take your tiniest scraps and turn them into one-of-a-kind textiles.

My simple, organized method for assembling your curated crumbs results in fabric that is part planned and part free-formed, and totally fun!



We will use this new fabric to make a simple tulip block, but once you master this technique, there is no limit to what you can create.



[The Questioning Quilter](#)

Trina Jahnsen

February 2023 Programs and Workshops

February 16, 2023

MJ Kinman

Program: "Smithsonian Series"
(Zoom Program)

February 17, 2023

MJ Kinman

Workshop: "Dames & Diamonds"
(Zoom Workshop)

February 16, 2023 - Program (Zoom)

Smithsonian Series

MJ's *Smithsonian Series* slide lecture and trunk show introduces you to the artwork inspired by the most beautiful gems in the world. Learn about the gems and their amazing stories, including the amazing people who were caught up in their orbits.

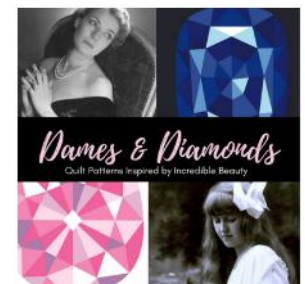


February 17, 2023 - Workshop (Zoom)

MJ's *Dames & Diamonds* workshop introduces students to the technique used to create all her gem patterns: traditional piecing using freezer paper as a template. MJ designed three patterns inspired by some of the world's most beautiful gems, all of which are made available to class participants. Patterns are available as PDF downloads.

Participants will choose one of the fully-charted gem patterns to make during class. During class, we'll not only create a quilt block of the patterns, but I'll share all kinds of gossip about the gems and their outrageous, eccentric, and intriguing owners.

[MJ Kinman](#)



Trina Jahnsen

March 2023 Programs and Workshops

March 16, 2023

Bridget O'Flaherty

Program: "What Does Sustainability Look Like in Quilting, Fiber and Textile Arts?"
(Zoom Program)

March 17, 2023

Bridget O'Flaherty

Workshop: "Easy Peasy Thread Painting by Numbers for Beginners"
(Zoom Workshop)

March 16, 2023 - Program (Zoom)

Are you interested in knowing more about sustainability in the quilt world and looking for green options when you shop? What does sustainability mean and how is it being addressed in the quilting industry? Join Bridget for an in-depth look at the complicated story of the environmental impacts of the products we use. Get to know what your options are and discuss the costs of being green. From organic or recycled fabric, threads, natural fibers, and dyes, there are a lot of choices. Find out where to find them and what to look for when searching for sustainable products. Find out how to reduce your environmental impact as an artist, crafter, or a business owner. Explore how you can do your part to help save the planet, one stitch at a time.

March 17, 2023 - Workshop (Zoom)



Have you always wanted to try thread painting but didn't think you were skilled enough at sewing or artistic? This class gives you easy step-by-step instructions on how to tackle the basics. You will also get a chance to create patterns through thread painting by numbers, a simple easy to read pattern that takes the guesswork out of color theory and shading.

[The Sustainable Quilter Bridget O'Flaherty](#)

Trina Jahnsen

November Block-of-the-Month

The **Sunshine Block Variation** is our November 2022 Block-of-the-Month. Please use a white or off-white background fabric, and two or more colors to construct this 12-1/2" block.

The drawing for this block will be held at our first meeting on January 5, 2023.

The November BOM consists of squares, rectangles and half square triangles (HSTs) using the "eight-at-a-time method." I learned this eight-at-a-time method this year, and it's saved me both time and fabric when making half-square triangles. Remember to use a consistent quarter-inch seam and to square up every block you make before sewing it to another block.. Now please enjoy sewing, sewing, sewing your November Blocks-of-the-Month.



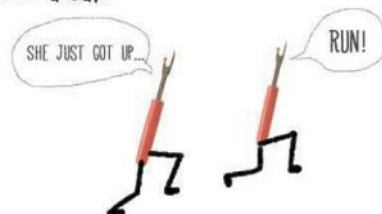
Please write your name on the back side of each block you submit in order to enter the monthly drawings to win blocks. Bring your blocks to our meetings, or to Village Sewing Center. You can also mail them to Rena or Kay, or contact us to arrange for pick-up.

Instructions for constructing every block of the month are posted on our website at: [Block of the Month at the Santa Rosa Quilt Guild](#)

Rena Ferrero and Kay Hartman

SEWING TRUTHS:

"You need 27 seam rippers because they migrate in pairs to the other end of the universe when you look away."



[HTTP://GREENEPIECE.WORDPRESS.COM](http://greenepiece.wordpress.com)

Notes from the Board ...

Volunteers needed ...

The New Year Is Near!

Oh my! The holidays and then the new year are coming our way. I bet you all have a good idea of what your plans are for the holidays. There are usually events we look forward to regarding our holiday traditions, and the visits from family and friends are special around the holidays, too.

But did you realize that as the new year comes around, the opportunity for our guild members to contribute by way of volunteering for a committee arrives? All organizations need their members to be involved in many capacities. You might think you don't have the time or the inclination to take on a role, but it actually works the other way – when you give, it comes back around to you in ways you never expected. You know all the little details do not take care of themselves, but with many, the little details get done in no time at all.

Please consider sharing your approach and abilities in any way or working on one of the following committees:

Technique Sharing Workshops

Fair Liaison

Opportunity Quilt – Sales and/or Shows

If there is a committee you are interested in that is not listed, please let me know as there is always room for you to help out.

When there is no one to take on these roles, these particular portions and programs are not active, and our guild loses out on opportunities and outreach. Please reach out to me to chat about these positions. Or you may chat with anyone on the SRQG Board.

Placemat Program

The placemats that our guild have made this year will be taken to *Food for Thought*. This is a non-profit that our member Jim Jensen volunteers with. *Food For Thought* provides healing nutrition and compassion to people living with serious medical conditions and other issues which make them experience food insecurity in Sonoma County.

In previous years, the guild has donated placemats to *Meals on Wheels*, but they have what they need

Notes from the Board continued

and do not care to have more placed into their inventory.

This program has been chaired by my Barbara Cortelyou, and she has put in her retirement notice. Her efforts with this program are appreciated very much. As always, we need to give a shout out to Barbara for her efforts in chairing this program.

It seems the need for placemats in our community has been met, and the Board has agreed that we will be discontinuing the placemat program.

Tri-Guild Luncheon

Replacing The Tri-Guild Luncheon

SRQG, the Petaluma Quilt Guild, and the Moonlighter's Quilt Guild participated in an annual luncheon for many years, with rotating the hosting of this event between the three guilds. When Covid came along and changed so many things, the Tri-Guild Luncheon was put on hold. The Petaluma Guild had a gathering this past spring, but excluded the lunch, and called it the "Tri-Guild Non-Luncheon." I was not able to go to the event, but I know a handful of our members did go.

Late last year I was handed pink binders, files, and whatnot to prepare for my role as President of SRQG. As it is my way, I started going through the files and archives and tried to learn as much as I could. I knew it was not our year to host this event in 2022, and Jim Jensen told me this when he handed me the binders. I didn't delve into the files from the previous Tri-Guild Luncheons that our guild hosted until summertime. As it is my way, I asked questions. (I do this a lot.) For instance, I wanted to know if it was our year in 2023 to host, who, how, etc., and one question and answer then led to another. So, with my curiosity not quenched, I put this on the agenda for the August Board Meeting.

At the August board Meeting, we discussed this event coming from a few different perspectives. It was originally put together so members of each guild could mingle and get to know one another, but it seemed like the friends from each guild kept to their own circle and there has not been quite the mingling anticipated. Also, we spoke of the expense of this event - it is not really a money-maker. And then there is that so common and age-old battle of getting volunteers for the many tasks. In other words, an awful lot of planning, hard work, and an expense.

Notes from the Board continued →

Notes from the Board continued page 6 →

Notes from the Board continued from page 5

As the Board, we voted to not continue with this event. Rather our wonderful Workshop and Programs Chair, Elaine Ramires, had explored and came up with a lovely idea of having a meeting in which we invite five or six members from one of our sister guilds to come to one of our meetings for a Show-and-Tell of their work. It is a way that we can learn the names, faces, and the creations from this group. And then we would return that with a small group from our guild to go to the other guild's meeting and do the same thing.

Our expenses continue to rise, and the income flow is not keeping up with the expenses. This is one way we can still participate with our sister guilds without spending extra money, and not having to try and rally the group of volunteers needed for an event of this scale.

I hope when we have the guests from our sister guilds that you take the time to talk with them and make them feel right at home.

Diana Coddling

I Think I Might Know You ...

I don't know about others, but it takes me a while to remember which names go with which face. Sure, it is easy to call another guild member by name when they have their name tag on, and that does help. One of the best ways I have of remembering names is when I have some personal interaction, and maybe more than once with a person.

Since we don't have but a couple of men in our guild, I have those names down pat. But with the other 200+ members, it is taking me some time. I am going to share with you one of the ways I have "studied" the names of our guild members.

I go onto the SRQG website, and I go to *Show and Tell*. And I scroll down to the very bottom of the page.

There I see the [View the Archives](#) and I click on this link.

On the next page I can enter a person's name to try to remember the face that matches that name. Or I just keep going by clicking on the bottom of that page to [Next 15 Quilts](#). This gives me an opportunity to not only see the names and faces of the member, but also the creations they have shared with us. This can also be an opportunity for inspiration for a conversation with a member, to catch them at a meeting and ask them about a specific quilt.

Why don't you give it a try and see who you can find?

Diana Coddling

Opportunity Quilt

We are grateful to Village Sewing Center for displaying our current opportunity quilt, Puzzled, and helping us by selling tickets.

We can't depend solely on quilt stores to sell the tickets. The only way we will sell enough tickets is if every member does their part by buying and/or selling tickets.

I challenged membership at our October 6 Quilathon to take tickets home to sell to friends, family, and neighbors. Thank you to those of you who did take some.

And now I am challenging everyone again. Every little bit helps. Several people have taken tickets to sell at retreats and gatherings with quilter friends. If you are willing to take the quilt and tickets to a guild meeting in the area or anywhere else, please let me know and I will see that you get what you need.

If you are unable to come to meetings, please let someone know and we will get tickets to you. My contact information is in the member roster.

Thank you,

Candi Delgado



Sunshine

Happy Autumn!

Here is a way to bring some Sunshine to our Quilt Guild.

If you hear of a member who would benefit from receiving a SRQG Sunshine card, whether due to illness, family concerns, or just in need of a smile, please let me know.

If you send me an actual size ".jpg" of your favorite quilt, I will use the photo to make a Sunshine card to share.

Contact me by email or just look for the person at the meeting wearing the yellow flower – that will be me.

Stay well and keep sewing,

Janice Juul



Welcome Committee

Did You Know that Santa Rosa Quilt Guild is one of the happiest places on Earth? The inspiration and encouragement for all things quilt related leaves one wishing for another lifetime to do it all. I need four lifetimes now for the projects I have on-deck, in drawers, in my inventory, in my mind, and of course, the desires of my heart. There is so much love in the house. When we gather together, the room is aglow.

When one joins SRQG there are three immediate contacts. Contact one: when the check clears, our Membership maven, Jan Andrews emails you the Guild Roster directly to your inbox. SRQG is a larg-ish group, the roster is 12 pages long at this time. It is for guild use **only**. Instead of printing, it can be downloaded to your desktop for easy access. If you do want a hard copy, request one from Jan Andrews and pick it up at the next meeting you attend.

Contact two via phone: Sharon "the Librarian" Fry emails all new members explaining the group email system. This is a great way to receive information about meetings, members, special sales, quilt shows, etc. Sharon, a long-time member, is happy to assist in answering questions via email.

Finally, contact three: Welcome Committee. When I receive the updated roster from Jan, I write to let you know everything possible there is to know about the guild. If I don't have an answer, I will connect you with the right person. WC has guild members one can be paired with during meetings. I want guests and new members to feel like they are the most important person in the room. We are here to share and care.

Here is a shout-out to our newest SRQG member, Karen Derrick from Moonlight Quilters of Sonoma County. Hey Girl!

Questions, concerns, please feel free to contact me at any point. I am in the Roster,

Yours,

Rhonda Denny



Elizabeth Anderson

Star Baby Workshop



Janet Chosa

Treasurer

But we have lots of money....

The board has voted to increase the yearly dues to \$40. I know that there is a general feeling that the guild has lots of money.

However, since we moved to the Vets Building and need to rent storage space, our expenses have increased. In that time our accounts have decreased by \$13,000. The \$5 increase will help to offset the increased spending and lower income. If we do not take this step, in a few years we would have fewer speakers and workshops, and limited storage space.

I am happy to answer any questions you may have.

Janet Tonkin

Treasurer

Volunteer!

We have opportunities everywhere, and it's a great way to make new friends, and help our guild!



Home again ...

Vacation Is Over, But Memories Made

My husband and I took a long-awaited vacation in October. We went to Como, Italy, for three days, and then on to a Viking River Cruise on the Rhine River for eight days. Prior to our trip, we worried there would not be enough water in the river as Europe is having a drought just like we are. The water levels were fine, and we even had a few days of light rain, but it was quite welcomed as we know they need the rain.

We had an initial group of 24, including ourselves, that started the trip together at Como. We introduced ourselves to each other over the first three days, and we ate meals together, and went on excursions with one another. What a fun diverse group of people from all over the United States! I hope to maintain contact with them as I took all their contact information so we can share photos.

One of the excursions we took was into Strasbourg, France. We tasted several regional specialties including cheese, chocolates, pastries, and more. There is a unique fabric from this region called

Kelsch. It is plaid and used for tablecloths and table linens. Some of the fabric has a coating that makes it more durable, and some does not. By sheer chance, I found a little shop that sold it, and it was an experience trying to get the shop keeper who did not speak English, and myself who can't speak any language other than English, to understand one another. Thank goodness a customer came in who spoke many languages, and was actually a language professor at the university who interpreted for us. Now when my suitcase arrives one of these days, I will be able to look at it and figure out what exactly I will do with it. Whatever I create will always bring me memories of that day.



Kelsch

On this same excursion, our tour guide was Vivianne. An America, she married a Frenchman years ago and raised her family in France. She still has strong connections to the states and in particular, Boston. She is the Vice President in charge of Strasbourg-Boston sister city relations. She sat with me at our lunch and shared with me her current project – a quilt block exchange between the Modern Quilters in Boston and the traditional Quilters in Alsace. The Amish first appeared in Alsace in the 17th

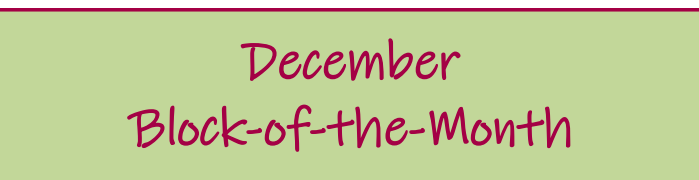
Home again continued →

Home again continued

century and there is still a presence in Alsace. See [The birth of the Amish community in Alsace - Musée protestant \(museeprotestant.org\)](http://museeprotestant.org) These quilters do everything by hand, so it will be an interesting mix of quilt blocks when the exchange comes together. If I remember correctly, these two cities are sister cities. I had to check to see if Santa Rosa has a sister city, and we sure do. It is Jeju, a South Korean Island and the sister city of Santa Rosa. I was thinking - and I wonder if we could do something similar and make contact with quilters in Jeju and share quilt blocks with one another? If you are interested, let's have a conversation and see what we can come up with.

With this year fast coming to an end, who knows what next year will bring. I look forward to the future and to what projects we all create, the memories we make, and the friendships we build.

Diana Codding



The **Woven Star** Block-of-the-Month for December might be interesting or fun to make in Christmas prints of similar tone. Possibly, even make three or four as a table runner or a decorative Christmas pillow. This block isn't difficult and there aren't any half-square triangles (almost)! A little care is important when putting the colors in the correct sequence to make the "woven" pattern.



Make a few blocks for the drawing to be held in January 2023, and one or two for yourself. Be sure to put your name on a back seam. We will collect the blocks at our monthly meetings, or you can drop them off at Village Sewing. If that's not possible, Rena or Kay can pick them up. Have fun!!

Instructions for constructing every Block-of-the-Month are posted on our website at: [Block of the Month at the Santa Rosa Quilt Guild](http://www.srgg.org)

Rena Ferrero and Kay Hartman



Blocks-of-the-Month

PIQF Bus Trip

Before dawn on October 13, a group of quilters began to gather in the Park and Ride parking lot. They were bundled up against the cold. By ones and twos they arrived and chatted. Then came the first surprise: Lynette Whitman, who was in charge of the trip, had arranged for an Airport Shuttle.

This big bus has comfortable seats, leg room, and a bathroom. Before we boarded, each passenger handed in a sealed envelope with emergency information such as the name of her doctor. These were handed back, still sealed, at the end of the outing. The bus hummed with cheerful conversation. Since it's a long way to Santa Clara, Lynette and her assistants, Mary Slack and Debbie Buse, handed out bottles of drinking water. There was a paper and pencil game involved with finding pictures of sewing notions. About the time we reached San Francisco, Lynette and Debbie handed out pretty tulle bags filled with candy and bundles of fabric. We reached Santa Clara about the time the show opened.



Happy bus riders
to PIQF

And what a show it was! A few old faces were not there this year, like the people with the knitted finger puppets from Peru, and the family with the silk screens. But quite a few vendors had made the transition. The dealer with antique sewing notions was there. So were the people who do such amazing overdyes on black and white prints. On the whole, the show resembled that of the householder who brought out treasures, both old

and new. The quilts and quilted garments were a mix of traditional and innovative. There were more geometric quilts than I remember in other years. There were astonishing pictorials. And who would have imagined a wedding dress made up entirely of yoyo's?

Slightly before the show closed for the night we gathered at our bus, tired but happy, full of ideas and inspira-

tion. As we rode home Lynette and her helpers again passed out drinking water. Full of inspiration both as to aesthetics and technique, a band of happy quilters came home from a well-planned event.

Jackie Pitts

November/December 2022

Mystery Quilt

Sooo...there is going to be a Mystery Quilt Show-and-Tell!

At the November 3 guild meeting all those who have participated in the 2022 Mystery Quilt will have an opportunity to share their quilt in whatever state it's in.

I must admit mine is still not quilted ... any volunteers? (lol)

It will be so fun to see them all together! I have had a few sneak peaks and they turned out amazing!

Shelley Bowers



Letters to the Editor ~~

Hi Jim,

I loved your tribute (September 2022 ~ Ed.) to your amazing mom (and dad) in the newsletter. Thank you for sharing. Now I see where you got your multi-talents from!

Your piece reminded me of my mom and of one of my paternal aunts who were also very creative seamstresses and inspired my early sewing projects.

The ladies from that generation certainly shaped our way of thinking in a very positive way, and ingrained in us the "don't waste: instead repair/repair/recycle/create" concept. Every little bit was used up and they found creative ways to use whatever was handy. I smiled when I read that your mom's pincushion was stuffed with straw. I remember pin cushions stuffed with sawdust and I inherited dining chairs that had seats stuffed with "horse hair." I remember my aunts recycling printed feed sacks and adding scraps of fabric from curtains, shirts, dresses etc. to make comforters for our chilly Canadian winters (that's how old I am, ha, ha, ha).

Anyway, just wanted to say thanks for the great newsletters you put together and for everything else you do for your "sewing sisters."

Take care and have a good evening,

Michelle Marcotte

www.srgg.org

Little Bits with Jackie Pitts

One way to give thanks is to give somebody else a reason to be thankful. For instance, if you have had a lot of fun with books, you might consider teaching someone else to read. The alphabet is one of my most useful tools, and also my favorite toy. I'm always on the lookout for alphabet prints and use them in many ways.

For example, I have a growing collection of little banners with letters in many styles which I've used to spell out everything from "Welcome Home" to "I Believe." Sometimes these little banners hang on a tree branch on my front porch, and sometimes they hang inside on a long piece of dotted ribbon. At intervals on the ribbon (measured by the dots) there are vintage buttons; these are used to button on each banner by the two button loops at the top of the banner. This is also how I taught my now adult grandson how to sew on a button. There are banners for Easter and Halloween, and new ones added all the time. A lot of the alphabets I use for this purpose were designed as "cheater quilts."



But that isn't all you can use them for. I like to use tiny alphabets as borders on my small quilts and also sometimes to spell things out. There's a wonderful paper pieced alphabet in "THE CAT'S MEOW" in our guild library. I've used it in a small

size and it is very straightforward. But my dear son asked me wistfully to make something with way more letters in it than I feel like paper piecing, so at PIQF this year my search for alphabets took on a new intensity. I found treasures at PIQF, but no alphabet prints suitable for my projects.

Where to find alphabet prints? I decided to check the Spoonflower website. Results: 4,716 results – 57 pages of results. I was amazed. I've done business with Spoonflower before. After two engagements that lasted ten years apiece, my son finally and suddenly did get married ... in New Orleans ... disguised as a pirate. There was no time to make a quilt. I sent the newlyweds a sheet set with a William Morris print (which I knew that he liked) in greens (which I knew that she liked). Spoonflower is easy and pleasant to do business with. I was fascinated with the variety of alphabets offered. Besides English and American Sign Language in great variety, there were many prints with the Greek alphabet, several very nice ones in Hebrew, and

Little Bits continued →

Little Bits continued

others in Gallic, Cyrillic, Korean, Hangul, Hiragana, Arabic, Esperanto, Romanian, Swedish, Latin, and Chinese. There were several kinds of runes. You could get a tea towel with an alphabet of Scottish foods. No thank you. I think that's why my ancestors left there (except for shortbread of course.)

Many of the prints were designed with little children in mind, as is to be expected. Primarily for them there are "wooden" blocks and letters formed with cats and topiary trees. One of these has big (about 4") letters formed of animals. The A is formed by two alligators leaning into each other. I can probably use that in some way for the New Orleans branch of the family where Santa Claus' raft is pulled by eight alligators. Maybe an animal Merry Christmas banner? The nineteenth century nursery rhyme blocks are charming. But the real treasures are the alphabets suitable for adults.

There is a William Morris alphabet set up as a cheater quilt, but amenable to other uses such as capitals in quilts with writing, or as banners. It comes in black and white, as well as in pink and blue. One company, [Raw-bone Studio](#), has a metal letterpress type alphabet which is very 3D and very cool. They also have a vintage rubber stamp alphabet. These are reversed so that you can read them. They also have an alphabet of twigs. There are several versions of old school typewriter keys with circles up to about 4". These could be cut out and appliqued to a project spelling out what you want to say. This is likelier to be finished in my lifetime than a project that size in which all the letters are paper pieced.

My plan now is to gather a variety of styles of lettering in black and white, and some grayscale, and work from those. My son was the only child I've ever known whose favorite color was gray. I may introduce some teal, but mostly gray. I have to have the rubber stamp alphabet and the bunting in Morse Code. Nowadays you can get a Ham Radio License without Morse Code. But this has not always been so. And Morse Code might prove very useful in a number of emergencies. Besides, children delight in "secret codes" and it's good to teach them one that could be used to call for help in an emergency. Spoonflower also has a lot of beautiful fabric for Christmas and for Hanukkah.

Project Gutenberg makes available, online, the books and ideas of other times, so that we can see with binocular vision our own times – one eye being our own time and one eye the past. Not that the books of the future wouldn't work as well for comparison, but we can't get them yet. I read recently in a 19th century girls needlework book how to make a number of Christmas presents out of a yard of fabric. Remember: this referred to a yard of 36" fabric. Some of these presents

Little Bits continued page 11 →

Little Bits continued from page 10

are things we don't use much anymore, such as pen wipers. And there are things we use now that they never heard of, such as cell phone holders. But in the spirit of using what you've got to make something nice for others, here's a short list of nice little presents which can be made with very little fabric:

- Years ago a table hostess at a Quilt Guild event made us all little pocket tissue holders. I don't think I ever got a chance to thank her. It is so pretty and simple and helpful.
- I saw on line a pad for under the pedal of your sewing machine. If you know somebody whose pedal tends to slide, how hard could it be to make a big footprint (trace around a man's shoe) backed with part of an old towel?
- People always need card wallets, and key fobs, and potholders, and coin purses.
- Little gift tags and big luggage tags are handy and can be pretty. I used to use a leather patchwork suitcase from Mexico that didn't look like anybody else's, and was easy to spot even at Heathrow. Now I usually use one with wheels, but it is mass produced and, therefore, needs an easy-to-spot marker of some sort on the handle.
- Fashionistas need shoe bags and garment bags, scrunchies, headbands, and makeup capes.
- Anyone in the kitchen could use coasters and placemats and cloth napkins. Even if you eat alone and very simply, a pretty cloth napkin is better than a wad of paper towels (unless you are eating something very messy or with toddlers which is much the same thing).
- Try wrapping a pretty napkin around a jar of marmalade or a bowl of chicken soup you take to somebody.
- Microwave bowls are a lifesaver.
- Mug cozies and tea cozies keep your drink warm.
- Oven mitts and pan handle covers keep your fingers cool.
- A cotton bag such as the traditional frog beanbag can be filled with buckwheat, or dried corn (NOT popcorn!) and heated in the microwave or cooled in the frig for soothing various aches and pains.
- Circular pouches are quick and easy: tiny ones for ear buds and big ones as playmats for babies. You remove the baby to a place of safety, and then pull up the drawstring and all the toys are contained.



Little Bits continued →

November/December 2022

Little Bits continued

- Glasses cases and scissors holders are always needed, as are pincushions large and small. [ann wood handmade](#) has an especially nice one on her website.
- It takes only a tiny bit of fabric or ribbon to dress up a binder clip or a paper clip to use in journaling, or as a bookmark. And speaking of bookmarks the kind that slips over the corner of a page is quick to make and uses only interfacing and thread.
- There's a tutorial at, [How to make quick and easy Fabric Bookmarks with scraps of fabric \(quilterscandy.com\)](#).
- Try wrapping your Christmas presents in beautiful fabric tied artfully as the Japanese do, or simply bundled softly. Some make drawstring bags or pillowcases or just hem the fabric and call it a day.

There are ways to enjoy beauty which leave more beauty behind you. Merry Christmas. Happy Hanukkah. Joyous and creative New Year.

Jackie Pitts

Baby Closet

Good People, as 2022 comes to a close, I am happy to report that the Baby Closet is helping families all over the County. The outreach has been phenomenal. Needs are being met with good cheer and grateful hearts.

Because we are near the winter holiday season, I am asking for toasty, soft, winter gear - long sleeves, fat socks, cozy blankets, and clothing - sizes: newborn to 18-24 months. If one is feeling festive, a stuffed animal and/or book would be great for the giving season.

To date this year, 441 items have been donated to the Lombardi Baby Closet. Thank you for helping those in need in our community (with a side benefit that their families get to fall in love with fabric arts).

With gratitude, sincerely yours,

Rhonda Denny

Star Baby Workshop

Kathy Carrick



www.srgg.org

Sew Organized

by Debbie Faris-Cole

I invited my friend, who laughed at the idea that I would write articles about decluttering and cleaning up my sewing room, to see the final reveal, as they say. She was astounded and said she could never have done something like this and asked how long it had taken. The cleaning up of my sewing room took more than ten months. I shared with her my strategy of “What is bugging me the most about the clutter?” and taking baby steps each month just to move a little closer. Writing the article kept me motivated.

This last month I tackled drawers. I have them labeled as embroidery, sashiko, applique, English paper piecing, embellishments, and long arm supplies. My embellishment drawer is really a junk drawer but



I hope to fix that. The first four drawers are all about hand sewing. People who like hand sewing, or “slow stitching” as it is now called, like their projects to be portable. So do I. I like to work on hand sewing in the evening when we are watching

television or on car trips. However, I have a lot of supplies. There are loads of embroidery threads, paper piecing templates and guides, different kinds of needles and applique tools such as Appliquick rods, Perfect Circles by Karen Kay Buckley, and Rainbow Unicorn scissors, thimbles, and fabric fusions. The only containers I purchased for this project were drawer organizers, and I am so glad I did. I had resisted them for so long as unnecessary, but I loved how my drawer organization turned out.

The solution is to have a stash of supplies in the labeled drawers, then I can pull out what I need to put in a different container that is portable. This is working pretty well. I used to keep everything together and now I see how cumbersome that really is. What I have found that works for the portable container is a STASHER Bag. They are silicone sandwich bags. They come in bright colors and scissors and needles can't poke through. It is water-



Sew Organized continued →

Sew Organized continued

proof, so if something is spilled in the car your project is protected.

These are mostly long-term projects, and one of the main ways I keep myself motivated is to always prepare the next pieces I will be using before I stop. That way whenever I come back to the project, I can start sewing. I even thread my needle so I will be ready to go. For English paper piecing, I always prepare the pieces ahead of time and put the ones ready to sew in my STASHER bag. For applique, I prepare the basted pieces ahead of time so that I am ready to sew and I don't have to look for fabric or supplies and I can just jump right in and start. I do the same for embroidery. I always prepare the next stitches marking where I will be sewing and thread my embroidery needle so it is a joy to start. I start out with the mindless (stress reducing) part of the project first, and leave the planning until I am well into the project again.



I am happily enjoying my sewing room. I firmly believed in creative chaos as my go-to style, but no longer. I love the fact that I can find items easily and am not embarrassed to have friends see my special sewing room. This will be the last article of this series. I hope that one or two of the ideas helped you along the way. Now I have to tidy my room and put away all the fabric and supplies I bought at PIQF (Pacific International Quilt Festival).

Debbie Faris-Cole

My thanks to Debbie for sharing her organizing adventure with us this year. If only it would rub off on me!

Do you have lots of tips and tricks up your sleeve?

Is your writing muse looking for a new outlet?

Please consider becoming a contributor to *Stitch'n Times*.

Let me know what kind of column you would like to offer. I'm always open to new contributors.

Jim Jensen

Technique Sharing Workshops

There will not be a TSW after the November 3 meeting, as we don't want to compete with the craft sale. We will have to wait for the New Year to see Toni Anderson's Power Point presentation on using our iPads to create custom quilt blocks and unique patterns. If you want to get a head start on using these apps before her presentation, they can be downloaded. They are Unsplash (free) Amaziograph (\$.99) and Vector Q (free).

We have had some very informative TSWs this year, and I thank all the presenters, as they did a great job of being flexible during this trying year. We look forward to next year and more interesting TSWs in 2023.

Georgiann Morrissey

Sew-a-Row

We are concluding the Sew-a-Row projects for the year. All Sew-a-Rows are due on November 3, 2022, in preparation for the give-away on December 1, 2022. The Sew-a-Rows will be displayed and the four or five people who worked on each quilt top will be announced. A die will be thrown coming up with a number from 1 to 5. The person's name who coordinates with the number will be determined to be the winner for each of the 21 quilt tops. Good luck to everyone who worked on the Sew-a-Rows. The response was amazing and the quilt tops are really special.

We have already begun to gather medallions or rows for next year's Sew-a-Row program. If you have something to offer, please bring it to any of the upcoming meetings through the end of January 2023. Everyone is invited to contribute a starter row or block. Some unique starters were given to us this year and they really sparked a lot of creativity. If you are new to the guild, please feel welcome to join in.

Debbie Faris-Cole and Jeanne Parent



'Twas the night before CHRISTMAS ...

... And the quilts were not made.



The threads were all tangled,
the cookies delayed.

The stockings weren't hung,
the pantry was bare.

The poor weary Quilter, was
pulling her hair.

Stacks of fat quarters, tipped
over in streams.

Visions of Log Cabins, had
turned into dreams.

When what to her wondering eyes should appear,
But a bus full of quilters with all of their gear.

They went straight to work with just a few mutters,
Sorting and stitching and brandishing cutters.

The patterns emerged from all of the clutter,
Like magic the fabrics arranged in a flutter.

Log Cabins, Lone Stars, Flying Geese, and Bear
Tracks

Each quilt was a beauty – even the backs.

Her house how it twinkled! Her quilts how they
glowed!

The cookies were baking, the stockings were sewed.

Their work was all done, so they folded their frames,
And packed up their needles, without giving their
names.

They boarded the bus, and checked the next ad-
dress.

More quilts to be made, another quilter in distress.

She heard one voice echo, as they drove out of
sight,

Happy quilting to all and to all a good night!

~ Author Unknown



Quiltathon

Here we are near the close of another year. Thanks to all of you, Community Quilts has had plenty of quilts to share with those in our greater Community. We will have a nice, long break between our last meeting of 2022 on December 1, and our first meeting of 2023 on January 5. We hope you all have the opportunity to visit with family and friends during this five-week break. If you are wondering how to keep busy during this time, Community Quilts can help you out.

We have NICU size quilts that are ready to be quilted. We have kits to make NICU tops. We will have both of these available during our December 1 meeting. We can provide backing and batting for those tops you have made and are ready to quilt for Community Quilts. Please contact Laura Barrett or Janet Tonkin for backing and/or batting and we will arrange a pick up for you.

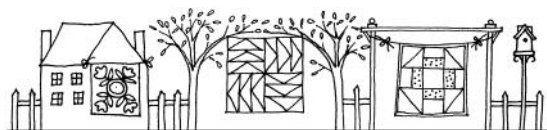


We have a new sign for Community Quilts that will help you locate us at the meetings at the Vets Building. Please look for it attached to the red wagon (where you can leave finished tops and quilts) or attached to a table. We made the sign with the Accuquilt dies and cutter that the Guild lends out.

We need Doll Quilts. The places where we donate Doll Quilts are now accepting donations for the 2022 holiday season. What is a doll quilt? It is variable in size from 10"x14" to 14"x20". The top is made from fun fabrics that a child would like. The back is one piece preferably flannel. There is NO batting. It is lightly quilted. Think of something that would be flexible enough to wrap around a doll. It is a great way to use orphan blocks, and smaller pieces of fabric. Please bring your doll quilts to the next three meetings. Any questions, please contact Marlene Sullivan.

Thanks again to everyone who participates in making quilts to enrich our Community.

Janet Tonkin and Laura Barrett



COMMUNITY QUILT SIZES

If you are making donation quilts on your own, these are the approximate sizes most needed.

32" x 40" Baby Quilts	For Sutter, Kaiser, and Memorial NICUs, Public Health nursing, and teen moms. We provide kits for making the tops, or you may use your own fabrics.
40" x 60"	For Valley of the Moon and other organizations serving children in need. Please use bright colors for young children or fabrics that will appeal to teenagers.
50" x 65"	For 18 year olds aging out of the Foster Care system, and for women residing at the YWCA Safe House.
40" x 60"	Lap quilts for adults to be handed out by Secret Santa, women being served by Verity, seniors in local convalescent hospitals, and others.
Doll Quilts	For little girls and boys. We collect them throughout the year and donate during the holidays.

Thank you ...

To Laura, Janet, and the members who helped with the Quiltathon:



Janet Tonkin

I was so impressed with the organization and all the work it must take to make the Quiltathons such successes. Just walking into our meeting room with stations ready for working, tables labeled with what needed to be done, and members of the guild ready to start their specific job was amazing.

For us "labelers," quilts were folded and on our table along with labels ready to be sewn on the quilt. All I had to do was put my butt in the chair; reach into my bag for thread, needle, and scissors; unfold and admire the beautiful quilt before me that required one more touch.

Thanks to everyone who made this day fun, productive, and another SRQG experience to remember.

Anni Donahue

P.S. And as usual, I just had to get in my chats with other guild members, meet and talk to Mary who was sitting next to me, check out the auction table (included promising Joy I would pay for my items from auction table at the next meeting), canvas the library, and pester Margo Pitter!

Anni Donahue

2022 Elected Board and Committee Chairs

2022 ELECTED BOARD

President	Diana Codding
Vice President	Candi Delgado
Treasurer	Janet Tonkin
Secretary	Lynette Whitman
Program Chair	Elaine Ramires
Program Chair Elect	Trina Jahnsen
Parliamentarian	Sharon Fry
Members-at-Large	Jeanne Parent Linda Hooper Kay Hartman Carole Behlke Joy Wakefield Jan Andrews

2022 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Block-of-the-Month*	Rena Ferrero
Boutique *	Betty Upchurch
Budget	Janet Tonkin
Challenge Quilt	Rhonda Denny
Community Quilts *	Laura Barrett
Corresponding Secretary	Janice Juul
Crafts Fair	Bonnie Butler-Sibbald
Email Coordinator	Sharon Fry
Fair Liaison	Pam McVey

Field Trip	Lynette Whitman
Friendship Blocks *	Vicki David
Historian *	Sharon Fry
Hospitality *	Carolle LeMonnier
Library *	Sharon Fry
Membership *	Jan Andrews
Mystery Quilt	Shelley Bowers
Newsletter Editor	Jim Jensen
Newsletter Proofreader	Sharon Fry
Nominating Committee	Sharon Fry
Opportunity Quilt Ticket Sales *	Debbie Faris-Cole
Sew-a-Row *	
Sewing Room Sale	
Social Media	Linda Ralleca
Sunshine *	Janice Juul
Technique Sharing Workshop *	Georgiann Morrissey
UFO Challenge	Elizabeth McDonnell
Videographer *	Linda Hooper
Website*	Linda Hooper
Welcoming Committee	Rhonda Denny
Zoom Committee*	Elaine Ramires
Past President	Genelle Voorhees
* Standing Committee	

SRQG 2022 Calendar

NOVEMBER

- 3** **General Meeting - VB and Zoom**
 Craft Sale
 Voting 2023 Board Members
 Present 2023 Budget
 Sew-a-Row: Final Row Due
- 17** **Program - VB and Zoom**
 Meet Our Sister Guild -
 Moonlight Quilters of
 Sonoma County



Never ask a quilter
to dress the turkey.

Happy Thanksgiving!

(No Board Meeting this month!)

DECEMBER

- 1** **General Meeting - VB and Zoom**
 Holiday Pot Luck
 Sew-a-Row Show/Lottery
 Voting 2023 Budget
- 6** **Joint Board Meeting - Zoom**



Elaine Tucker

Santa Rosa Quilt Guild Affiliates

BAY QUILTS

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5327 Jacuzzi St. #3-C
Richmond, CA 94804
(510) 558-0218

<http://bay-quilts.shoplightspeed.com/>

sfbayquilts@gmail.com

daveysally49@gmail.co

Monday - Friday 10:00 - 6:00

Saturday - Sunday 12:00 - 5:00

BOLT FABRIC AND HOME

Kate Barrett
219 N. Cloverdale Blvd.
Cloverdale 95425
894-2658

Tues. - Sat. 10:00 - 6:00

Sunday 11:00 - 4:00

<http://www.boltcloverdale.com/>

info@boltcloverdale.com

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Cloverdale, CA 95425
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<https://www.cloverdalequilting.com/>

cloverdalequilting@gmail.com

Hours by Appointment

MEISSNER SEWING AND VACUUM CENTER

James Meissner, Owner
Authorized Baby Lock, Brother, Bernina,
Janome and Gammill Dealer
1455 Santa Rosa Ave.
Santa Rosa, CA 95404
707-575-5259

<http://www.meissnersewing.com/>

Mon - Fri: 10:00 to 6:00

Saturday: 9:00 - 5:00

MARIAN'S MAGIC NEEDLE QUILTING

Custom Machine Quilting
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Ukiah, CA 95482
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cuddletimequilts@me.com

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Barbara Meikle
200 G Street
Petaluma, CA 94954
707-763-0945

Seven days a week
11:00 - 4:00

<http://quiltedangel.com/>

QUILTERS STUDIO SONOMA

Kathy Lanza
5721 Brigadoon Way
Santa Rosa, ca 95409
707-787-7982

Tuesday - Saturday 10 am to 4 pm

In person by appointment

Quilters Studio Sonoma

quiltersstudiosonoma@gmail.com

SEW KRAZEE LONGARM QUILTING

Mary Slack
3910 Shadowhill Dr.
Santa Rosa, CA 95404
707-480-0199

10 am to 5 pm, seven days a week

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Mary@sewkrazee.biz

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506 Lewis Rd.
Santa Rosa, CA 95404
707-544-7529

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Saturday 10 am to 5 pm

<https://villagesewing.com/>

john@villagesewing.com

Many of our supporting Affiliate members are really struggling right now, like everyone else. They have been tireless supporters of SRQG. As they ease into reopening, please consider contacting them for your quilting needs, and keep it local.

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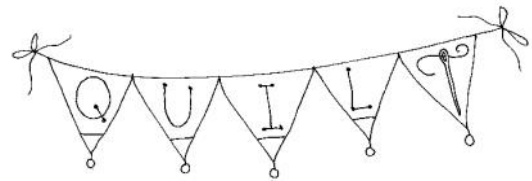


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Local Quilt Guilds

- | | | |
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| <p>NORTHERN CALIFORNIA QUILT COUNCIL
http://www.ncqc.net/</p> <p>Carquinez Straight Stitchers (Benicia)
http://www.cssquilter.org/</p> <p>Diablo Valley Quilters (Danville)
http://www.diablovalleyquilters.com/</p> <p>East Bay Heritage Quilters (Albany)
http://ebhq.org/</p> <p>Guild of Quilters of Contra Costa County
http://www.gqccc.org/</p> <p>Ladies of the Lake Quilt Guild (Kelseyville)
http://www.llqg.org/</p> <p>Mendocino Quilt Artists Guild (Ukiah)
http://mendocinoquiltartists.blogspot.com/</p> <p>Monterey Peninsula Quilters Guild
http://www.mpqg.org/</p> | <p>Moonlight Quilters of Sonoma County
http://www.mqsc.org/</p> <p>Mt. Tam Quilt Guild (Marin County)
http://www.mtqg.org/</p> <p>Napa Valley Quilters Guild
http://www.napavalleyquilters.org/</p> <p>North Wind Quilters Guild (Fairfield)
http://www.northwindquiltersguild.com/</p> <p>Pacific Piecemakers Quilt Guild (Gualala)
http://www.pacificpiecemakers.org/</p> <p>Pajaro Valley Quilt Association (Aptos)
pvqa.org</p> <p>Peninsula Quilters Guild (Redwood City)
https://www.peninsulaquilters.org/</p> | <p>Petaluma Quilt Guild
http://www.petalumaquiltguild.org/</p> <p>Piecemakers Quilt Guild of So. Alameda Co. (Fremont)
http://www.piecemakersguild.org/</p> <p>San Francisco Quilters Guild
http://www.sfquiltersguild.org/</p> <p>Santa Clara Valley Quilt Association (Campbell)
http://www.scvqa.org/</p> <p>Sonoma Quilters United in Loose Threads
http://sonomaquilt.webs.com/</p> <p>Vallejo Piecemakers (Vallejo)
http://vallejopiecemakers.org/</p> |
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Santa Rosa Quilt Guild

www.santarosaquiltguild.org



PRESIDENT

Diana Coddling
president@santarosaquiltguild.org

VICE PRESIDENT

Candi Delgado

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Jim Jensen

MEMBERSHIP

Jan Andrews

PROGRAMS

Elaine Ramirez

MEETINGS AND MEMBERSHIP

When we are able to gather in-person, the Santa Rosa Quilt Guild meets on the first and third Thursdays of each month (in December only one meeting is held on the first Thursday) at 10:00 a.m. at the Veterans Memorial Building, 1351 Maple Avenue, Santa Rosa, California, across Highway 12 from the Fairgrounds.

Check the calendar in this newsletter and on the website to verify whether we are meeting in-person or not.

As of January 2023, membership dues are \$40 per year. The calendar year is January to December; new members' dues are prorated. Regular meetings, special programs, use of the extensive library, and special discounts from some affiliates are just a few of the many benefits of membership.



Santa Rosa Quilt Guild
P.O. Box 9251
Santa Rosa, CA 95405

November/December 2022 Newsletter