



PACIFIC PIECEMAKERS QUILT GUILD

Bits & Pieces

www.pacificpiecemakers.org

March, 2023

Newsletter Editor: Barbara Fast

Editor's Note:

I welcome new articles for the newsletter. Again, this month I will feature a member, our outgoing President, Janice Batchelder. I will also share some information about the history of the guild. Do you realize that PPQG is probably the largest group of "volunteer" members in Mendonoma? In addition, Andrea Polk has contributed an article about Amish quilting. Do you have an interest in another style of quilting that you would like to share? Let me know.

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President's Message:

I now have the privilege of serving as your president. We all owe a huge debt of gratitude to our immediate past presidents, Sandy Hughes and Janice Batchelder, to Carolyn Ogg who organized Zoom meetings and to Jan Carter who ran two virtual retreats all of whom kept PPQG viable during the pandemic. Many thanks to those who have now stepped up to take an office or head a committee. We do still need someone to fill the vice president's slot. Think about it.



Because we didn't have a program for our March meeting, the teacher in me said, "How about an activity?" After forming four groups I posed the three following questions to the groups who then came up with some thoughtful responses. Before you look at the group responses, I hope you will give each one of these questions some thought, maybe even write down a response or two. If you come up with something that isn't mentioned in the group results, it would be great if you could email them to me so I can add them to the list.

(The questions and group responses follow)

Why did you join the guild?

Learn more about quilting
Meet people
Opportunity for a great lecturer
Support for new quilters
Motivation
Camaraderie and friendship
Opportunity for retreats
Community service

What do you bring to the Guild?

Contribution of time
Humility
Willing to be doers
Responsibility
Enthusiasm
Loyalty
Experience with writing and photography
Creative thinking
Expertise and experience in quilting
Scrap fabric willingly shared
Curiosity and desire for growth
Sharing history, snark and brilliance

Is there a particular direction you would like to see the Guild go?

Making the public more aware of us - Publicity
More collaborative quilting - Group quilts
Atmosphere of encouragement to improve skills
Inclusiveness at every level
More fun/Field trips/Going to events as a group
Mentorship
Bringing in younger members - Diversity
Reducing emphasis on fundraising

Meanwhile, I hope to see more of you at meetings. We have some good classes and programs coming up. Take care and keep on quilting!

*Francie Angwin, fangwin@mcn.org
President, PPQG*

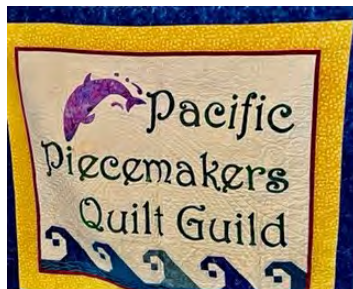
History of Pacific Piecemakers Quilt Guild

The history of the Pacific Piecemakers Quilt Guild is very interesting. It began about a quarter century ago when Anita Kaplan and Gayle Stewart negotiated to bring together small groups of quilters in Sea Ranch and elsewhere. Anita had been a “sewer” for many years, but she had not quilted before she moved to Sea Ranch. She was inspired to take a class in beginning quilting from Gayle who had been teaching in the area for some time. Anita and Gayle became close friends. After Anita attended a guild meeting while visiting her mother in Florida, she returned with enthusiasm for creating a local guild. Initially there was resistance from the small groups, so Anita and Gayle convinced Naida Mauthe to become the first President of the guild. Naida, who lived in Anchor Bay, was respected and liked by all the quilters who knew her. The first meeting of 10-15 people met under the auspices of Gualala Arts which at the time was located on the ridge near the airport. After the new Gualala Arts building was completed guild meetings moved there. The guild grew significantly to as many as 130 members at one time. The name, “Pacific Peacemakers Quilt Guild” was suggested by Anita but subsequently chosen from a list of names that were considered.

Many great lecturers were recruited for monthly meetings because quilters liked to visit Mendonoma where they usually stayed at the homes of guild members. Polly Dakin remembers a class taught by Carol Metcalf, *How to Finish a Quilt*. Many attendees of that class joined the guild. From the beginning the guild made Comfort Quilts. Joyce Gaudet participated in an early project offered to repair family and community quilts, one of which now hangs at the Point Arena Light Station. Other projects included making red, white, and blue quilts for the children of parents who were lost in the 911 tragedy. From the beginning PPQG held a yearly show, usually with a specific theme, at the Gualala Arts Center. Receptions for those shows have always been popular because most quilters are also good cooks!

Today the guild remains active, with approximately 70 members. Community projects continue to be an important function of the guild. In addition to Comfort Quilts members make Quilts of Valor which are given to deserving veterans. Fabrics from the “Fanny Basket” have been used to make gift bags, and proceeds from fundraising projects have provided scholarships, and also helped to pay for the elevator at Gualala Arts which makes use of the second floor for meetings and workshops possible.

I enjoyed speaking with both Anita and Gayle. Anita moved to Portland 11 years ago to be closer to a daughter. There she had an active studio and she became recognized as an “art quilter.” Two of her pieces are included in the book, *500 Art Quilts*. Anita moved to Santa Barbara a year ago for a milder climate. Because of the move she is not actively quilting, but she will get back to quilting when her new studio is built. Gayle moved to Costa Rica in 2001, but after ten years there she moved back to the US for health reasons seven years ago. She now lives in Petaluma but she visits her daughter who lives in Point Arena. She said that she would love to attend a guild meeting some time when she is here. I have also spoken with Joyce Gaudet, Polly Dakin, Lynn Atkins and Kathye Hitt, all of whom were original or early members. Lynn was President of the guild in its tenth year. She and Kathye organized the challenge show that year. All of the Presidents’ quilts as well as many other quilts which reflected the “10” theme filled Gualala Arts Center. The celebration included dinner with dancing to follow. That’s a hard act to follow! - [Barbara Fast, Editor](#)



Original quilt



Original members

Fundraising Fun

March's fundraising item was placemat sets with matching napkins. Thank you to those who contributed six beautiful sets. March's raffle winner was Andrea Polk. Congratulations! As a reminder, if you have a fundraising item to turn in, but can't make it to the meeting, please email me at kimmadson61@gmail.com with a picture of your item(s), if possible, to let me know so that I can add them to our inventory list and enter you into our monthly raffle.



Large microwave bowls (12") and tortilla warmers are our fundraising items to turn in at our April 21 guild meeting. On Tuesday, April 4th at 9:30 AM, we will hold a microwave bowl and tortilla warmer workshop at Cheryl and Kalynn's studio (above the Discovery Gallery in the Trinks shopping center.) Join us for some fun in learning how to make these items and help to add to our inventory. Please RSVP to Cheryl Faconti (cher1053@yahoo.com) so we know how many chairs to set up.

April - 12" microwave bowls and tortilla warmers or "I Spy" quilts

May - apron or any "new" item of your choice

June - 1 quilt, crib size or larger (earns 5 tickets)

July - set of 4 coasters wrapped together with twine or ribbon

August - to be announced after we evaluate our need.

September - 1 quilt, crib size or larger (earns 5 tickets). Christmas quilts needed!

October - small Christmas tree ornament or any item or your choice

November - any item of your choice.

Let me know if you have any ideas for "new" items or other suggestions.

~Kim Madson, Fundraising Chairman

Mark Your Calendars Program 2023

Program Committee: Sylvia Evans/Kalynn Olson

April 4 - 9:30 miniworkshop to create microwave bowls and tortilla warmers (see above)

April 13 – 11-4PM Upstairs GAC

Be sure to join us Thursday, April 13 for our monthly sewing get-together. Bring your machine and/or some hand work and take this opportunity to get to know your fellow PPQG members better. Enjoy some good conversation, and HAVE FUN! If you need to sandwich a quilt, we will have available the larger, taller tables.

April 21 – Guild meeting - GAC 12:30 social, 1PM meeting. Lecture by Karen Bolan:

Engineer your Quilts. Free yourself from the need to use someone else's pattern, and appoint yourself head of your own design empire. View a gallery of original quilts and learn how to apply the engineering design process to your quilts. Learn to find and use sources of inspiration, and harness nifty software.

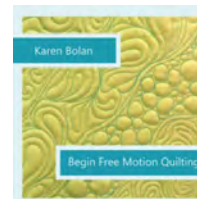
May 19 – Guild meeting – GAC 12:30 social, 1 PM meeting, Lecture by Sandra Bruce:

Material Matrix and the Paths Taken (See also Workshops)

December 15 – Holiday Luncheon (to be announced)

Workshops:

April 20 – *Beginner's Free Motion Quilting* workshop taught by Karen Bolan. Details and supply list on GAC web page under "Workshops"
[Begin Free Motion Quilting](#)



May 17-18 – *Matrix* workshop led by Sandra Bruce on how to use small blocks of fabric to create an image inspired by a photo. Details regarding entry and supply list will be available on Gualala Arts web page.



My technique, "Material Matrix", is inspired by the painter, Chuck Close. It involves using a gridded photograph and interpreting each 2-inch square into fabric, using piecing to achieve the effect.

June 22 – Jeri Kennedy will facilitate a workshop for those who need additional help on their Double Wedding Ring quilts. Contact her for information: Jeri (818) 429-2005

June 24-25 – The Fort Bragg Quilt Walk will take place at Dana Gray Elementary School in Fort Bragg. PPQG may want to submit an entry.
[Submission Form](#)

2023 Quilt Challenge "Don't Be a Goose"

"Don't Be a Goose!" This year's challenge is almost here. Any size quilt will be accepted, as long as it contains a goose of some sort, a pieced goose, appliquéd goose, goose print fabric, flying geese blocks, etc. Details and entry form are available on the Gualala Arts web page or pick up in person. Entry form due by April 28 and quilts should be delivered to GAC on May 10. Reception: May 12, 5-7 PM. The theme for next year's challenge will be "Twenty-four Squares in '24." Plan ahead!
2023 Quilt Guild Challenge Committee: Jan Carter and Melissa Finley



PPQG T-shirts:

Cheryl Faconti reports that long or short-sleeved t-shirts with the Guild logo are now available for ordering on-line. Orders must be received before the end of April. There is an option to have your shirt sent to Cheryl and she will distribute, or you can have your shirt shipped to your location but you will pay the shipping. Link to store - <https://gogearup.io/ppqg-store23>

Membership

Dues: The new version of the roster is done. Make sure that your contact is correct. Please send any changes to Gail Spencer (88gbs88@gmail.com or PO Box 1489, Gualala 95445). Thanks to Bonnie Toy and Gail for performing this difficult task for so many years. [Roster](#)

Featured Member: Janice Batchelder is the Immediate Past President of the guild. We owe her thanks for leading the guild through difficult times.



"I grew up in a sewing family. My mother made many of my school and dress-up clothes. She taught me the basics for which I will be eternally grateful. Once I was on my own, I made what I wore in college and to work. After I had kids, of course, I made Halloween costumes and lots of little elastic-waist pants because those kids were so skinny and it was hard to find clothes for them in stores.

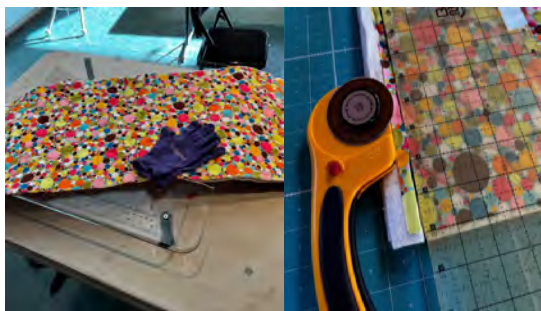
Like so many of us, when I became an empty-nester with time on my hands, I needed a new hobby. On a whim, I enrolled in a beginning hand quilting class at the Senior Center in Thousand Oaks where we lived before moving north. I subsequently joined the Conejo Valley Quilters, a big group that had evening meetings in large auditoriums. It wasn't easy to get acquainted, but I did join a neighborhood "mini group."

Quilting is continuing education for all of us. There's always something new to learn and try. I am inspired by our Guild members and their creativity. During my term as President we all had to navigate Covid and "make do" as best we could. I'm grateful to the members who stayed active, showed up, and thought of inventive workarounds to deal with pandemic rules. What a great group you are."

Janice Batchelder, Immediate Past President PPQG

Continuing Education

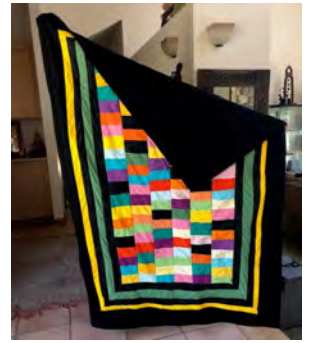
Potholder Making Method:



I was the first person to think of this, but when I was at GAC two weeks ago I brought an already-quilted potholder. It was long and narrow, and then I sub-cut it into squares. Some people there thought it was a really good idea. I'd share it with you. This could also be done with a rotary cutter. I have a few pieced blocks that I intend to sandwich together in a line, then quilt them all together. I think this is quilting very small pieces.

Quilting Classes: Judy Riddle continues to teach quilting classes at the library in Point Arena. A beginner's class is held Tuesday mornings from 10-1; she assists intermediate students with their projects in the afternoon from 2-5, and in the evening from 6-9. Anyone interested in participating in these classes should contact Judy ahead of time. (707) 684-6470

Amish Quilting: Although Amish quilting is arguably the most distinct and recognizable of American designs, it didn't come into existence until about 1870. Before that time, insular Amish and Mennonite communities centered in Pennsylvania, Ohio and Indiana were still using German feather beds for bedcovers. Early quilts were constructed from pieces of fabric left over from family members' garments. The earliest quilts (called whole cloth quilts) were typically made of only one somber color. Since Amish men wore black, many early quilts are distinguished and rendered unusually modern by the inclusion of black, dark purple, rust and green, enlivened by splashes of bright vivid colors.



Prototypical Amish quilts display bold solid colors, with abstract geometrical designs. The single center design (rather than repeating patterns) is prominent. The most characteristic are bar quilts, "diamond in the square", and "sunshine and shadows" designs. Also typical are double borders employing extraordinary quilting designs outside the basic pattern. Later quilts used the double wedding ring, log cabin, and Star of Bethlehem variations as well as appliqué.

Amish themed quilts by Andrea Polk

Amish women don't see these quilts as an art form- that would be considered egotism. Their bishop is the arbitrator of what is suitable. Quilting continues to be an important means of self-expression for Amish

women, telling stories about their beliefs and emotions. Amish quilts were originally made completely by hand, with little or no influence from the outside world. Today, although sewing machines powered by foot or non-electric power sources are permitted for piecing the top, the final quilting is always done by hand. A unique and impressive art form, a typical quilt may have forty or fifty thousand stitches, all done by only one quilter to maintain uniformity. Today, young girls are still taught to make beautifully crafted quilts to place in their hope chests. This craft has become a source of economic growth for the Amish and has increased interest in quilting both nationally and internationally

Andrea Polk

Quilts of Valor Update

Jan Carter proposed a **collaborative Quilt of Valor** to be made using a "block-in-a-block" design. She asked all members to make two 6 ½' square blocks using only red, white and blue fabric. A central square (2 ½" or 3 ½") should be surrounded by one of the colors to create a 6 ½' square. Enough squares have been made that Jan will now complete that quilt.

-Sandy Lockhart, Quilts of Valor Chairman

Sandy Hughes reports that there are labels available for both Comfort Quilts and Quilts of Valor. They are in the PPQG mailbox at the Gualala Arts Center. Please take only as many as you have finished quilts.

Comfort Quilt News

In March Pacific Piecemakers were gifted with an amazing donation of fabric and quilting materials from Jeri Taylor. Her son, Andrew, helped to bring the supplies to Gualala. Francie Angwin, Sandy Hughes and I organized the material and members donated checks to the guild for some of the special items. There may be more coming from Jeri's stash in April.

I recently learned from Cheryl Faconti that the original purpose of the “Fanny Basket” was to repurpose and recycle fabric. The idea was to bring a piece of fabric and take a piece of fabric to create something that might come back to the guild like microwave bowls, tortilla warmers or comfort quilts. How exciting to know, just like our ancestor quilters, we have been recycling for twenty some years.

We gave out one comfort quilt this month. Please remember that every quilt we give out is held in confidence to protect the members of our community. I am involved with family health issues right now. If you need help, please contact Cheryl Faconti.

-Marcia Luchini, Comfort Quilt Chairman



April birthdays: Jan Saufferer, April 8; Judy Riddle, April 10; Linda Warnock, April 15; Kelly Colburn, April 16; Jan Carter, April 26

March 2023 Show and Tell



Sandy Lockhart
Quilts of Valor
Wall hanging



Jan Carter: Jan saw a hundred
day challenge on Pinterest. She
sewed a button on a square every
day for 100 days.

Officers and Committee Chairs:

- President – Francis Angwin
- First Past President – Janice Batchelder
- Comfort Quilt & Fanny Basket
– Marcia Luchini/Della Zita
- Quilts of Valor – Sandy Lockhart
- Challenge 2023 – Melissa Finley/Jan Carter
- Hospitality – Kathy Mayda/Kim Madson
- Library - Iris Lorenz-Fife
- Listserves – Bonnie Toy/Gail Spencer

- Photographer – Andrea Polk
- Newsletter – Barbara Fast
- GAC Scholarship – Sandy Hughes/Francis Angwin
- AIR Quilt – Sandy Hughes/ Marcia Lucini/Della Zita
- Art in the Redwoods – Kim Madsen/Cheryl Faconti
- Festival of the Trees – Kim Madsen/Cheryl Faconti
- Community Outreach – Cheryl Faconti
- July Picnic – Jan Carter
- December Luncheon – Sylvia Evans
- Retreat – Jan Carter
- Website – Lynn Bailey