



PACIFIC PIECEMAKERS QUILT GUILD

Bits & Pieces

www.pacificpiecemakers.org

January 2022

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: JUDY RIDDLE



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We were very sorry we had to cancel our January meeting, mainly due to COVID concerns. We're all looking forward to monthly, in-person meetings soon and hoping to do just that on February 18.

At that meeting/workshop, which will be held at the Gualala Community Center, we'll be working together on microwave bowls and stuffed animals to be sold at Art in the Redwoods (August) and Winter Wonderland (November-December). Both items were BIG sellers at those events in 2021 and our inventory was pretty much wiped out (a good thing!) Check out funkyfriendsfactory.com for a teaser of the extremely cute animals we will be making. Our wonderful Sylvia Keller has kept us supplied with stuffed animals for our sales in recent years, but has now passed the baton to the rest of us to continue. She's a tough act to follow, but we'll try our best.

We ask that only vaccinated and boosted members attend the meeting. We'll be using the honor system regarding vaccinations. Therefore, masks will be your personal preference and optional. Workstations will be appropriately spaced and air purifiers used. Please don't attend if you don't feel well.

As a bonus, we'll preview an easy, fun "mystery" quilt that's a real stash-buster. Since January was supposed to be our comfort quilts/quilts of valor workshop, we will do that at our meeting on March 18. We also need to replenish our supply of those special comfort quilts, quilts of valor to be distributed to people in our community who are in need, and to the patients at the VA hospital in Palo Alto. The mystery quilt would be a good one to work on at our March meeting, or perhaps your own design for a comfort quilt or quilt of valor.

~Janice Batchelder, Guild President

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

2022

February 18 – Microwave Bowls & Stuffed Animals Workshop

February 28 – March 4 – Virtual Guild Retreat

March 18 – Comfort Quilt/Quilt of Valor Workshop

April 29 -- Turn in Quilt Challenge Entry form

May 11– Turn in your artwork for Quilt Challenge

May 13 – Quilt Challenge Reception

June 6 – Pick up your Quilt Challenge artwork

2022 RETREAT

With COVID complications, the 2022 Quilt Retreat will be Virtual. The dates will change slightly. I need a little more time to get ready for a virtual get together. Retreat will **begin on Monday, February 28 and continue For A Whole Week through Friday, March 4.**

After comments last year about not having prizes, I have been accumulating prizes throughout this past year for you all! I need some suggestions from you as to which games you would like to play. They need to be games we can play on-line. Any suggestions will be welcome.

We will again be making Quilt of Valor squares, something I know you all love to do, and that you all do so beautifully.

Please send me an email if you plan to attend this virtual retreat. Include your US mailing address in case I need to mail you something, which I probably will have to do. Although your address is in the guild directory, it would really help me if you could include your mailing address in your email.

Most importantly, is there anyone who is going to attend the retreat who can host our zoom get-togethers? Caroline will not be able to do it this year, so I need someone else to take over. Please let me know. I'm not sure we can really do much of a virtual retreat without a zoom coordinator.

I'm looking forward to another retreat with you all! Please call or email if you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions.

~ Jan Carter, Retreat Coordinator

FUNDRAISING FUN

2022 Fundraiser Turn in

Ready to make items for our Fundraiser sales?

Last year was an outstanding success. Buyers scooped up your beautiful items adding \$4924.50 to the Guild Treasury in Winter Wonderland sales alone.. (\$1662.00 for November sales and \$3262.50 for December sales). **Great job everyone!! And thank you so much for your great workmanship.**

We will follow the same procedure this year as we did last year.....with an added twist.

(1) A particular item will be requested each month. The proposed plan is listed below.

(2) Turn in your items at the Guild meeting. For months when there is no guild meeting, you will be notified of a designated time and location for turn-in.

(3) Your name will be put in a drawing that month for a \$20 gift certificate at the Loft. Thank you, Maryse, for the generous donation of gift certificates. We will draw the winning name at the end of the guild meeting. For months when there is no meeting, i.e. July or August. The name will be drawn and the recipient notified by email.

Get set February turn-in is **Pot Holders**

We need about 80 pot holders, preferably in sets of two. Some ideas: (1) try a block design or technique you've never done before. (2) sew some fabric strips together (3) sew 4-patch, 9-patch, 12-patch squares (4) try a paper pieced block (5) finish that unfinished applique? All make great pot holders. Those fabric panels with multiple squares of small themed blocks, i.e. owls, art items, flowers, forest animals, also make great potholders.

Size? Although 8" or 9" was the size most chose to make, we also had some that were 6" to 10". Be Creative....maybe something Heart shaped?! Remember that pot holders need one layer of "Insulbrite" sandwiched between a layer of batting, i.e. top, batting, insulbrite, batting, back. Hang loops are optional.

Since there are 14 table runners left from 2021, table runners will not be included in the list of items needed this year. We also will not be asking for pillowcases. We have several left from last year. Placemats with napkins sold better than Placemats without napkins, but it's your choice as to what you choose to make.

It would be best if you could concentrate on potholders, quilts, placemats, bags, coasters, aprons, and "new" items, in that order of priority, as well as microwave bowls and stuffed animals.

Again, we will probably be asking for Christmas items in the later months of the year, but you are welcome to start working on them now

Go!! The first turn-in will be at the February 18 Guild meeting.

February -- set of 2 potholders

March -- 4 placemats with or without matching napkins

April-- set of 4 coasters (not sets of 6 or 8 or 10) wrapped together with twine or ribbon

May-- Apron; Any "new" item of your choice

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

July -- 1 Origami Market bag or 1 tote bag

August -- To be announced after we evaluate our need.

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

October-- small Christmas Tree Ornament; Any item or your choice

November -- Any item of your choice

In addition to the items listed above, we will desperately need microwave bowls and stuffed animals. **You will receive a ticket for each bowl and stuffed animal turned in each month.**

Ready...Set...Go!!!

See you Friday, February 18, Guild meeting, at the Gualala Community Center!

Workshop 10:00 – 4:00; Guild meeting at 1:00

Let me know if you have any ideas for "new" items or any suggestions. Gift card holders were suggested. Possibly hand sanitizer holders?

~Judy Riddle

MEMBERSHIP

I would like to sincerely thank all those who have renewed their membership for 2022. We need everyone's continued support. If you have not yet submitted your dues for this year, please make haste to do so.

Mail a check for \$40 (Californians) or \$25 (out-of-state members), plus Angel Gift (if desired) made payable to PPQG to Gail Spencer, PO Box 1489, Gualala, CA, 95445. If everyone renews, we will have 79 members.

We have only 36 members who have paid their dues as of January 26. It is very disconcerting. Please don't wait until the end of the February 28 "grace period". Can we count on you?

~Gail Spencer, Membership Chair

COMFORT QUILTS

We were sincerely sorry to cancel the Comfort Quilt/Quilt of Valor Workshop in January. However, the leadership felt that it was necessary with the increase in COVID cases. The workshop, has been rescheduled for March 18, 10:00 – 4:00

As mentioned before, the workshop will be organized as a “Sewathon” with production line stations. Several “kits” have been organized with fabric and a pattern for those who wish to start sewing immediately. We will ask others to gather fabrics for a particular quilt design, others will cut the fabrics, and lastly we would ask some to assist the sewers by walking back and forth to the ironing board to press for them. Thus the idea is to have people doing different jobs, at different stations. We will have cutting stations, sewing stations, ironing runners and maybe even pinning stations for quilting! Using this method, we hope to get several quilt tops done in a day.

We will bring as much of the Fanny Basket as possible in order to prepare additional Comfort Quilts! Feel free to bring any quick, easy patterns you think might be useful.

The workshop will be at The Gualala Community Center following the COVID guidelines mentioned in the President’s message. Plan to bring your sewing machine, thread (white, cream, light gray and black), your rotary cutter, cutting mat, and your standard cutting rulers, (including “square-up” rulers) as well as the standard sewing supplies.

Hospitality will prepare a lovely lunch for all to enjoy. Plan to “spend the day” if possible. We hope to see you there!

~Marcia Luchini and the Monday Workers



QUILT CHALLENGE 2022

**“Fresh Beginnings:
Healing our Earth”**

In the realm of psychology, hope leads to healing. With that in mind, our 2022 Quilt Challenge theme is “Fresh Beginnings: Healing our Earth”. Your project will be a way of acknowledging the challenges we face as a people and to promote a collective healing through the art of quilting, with emphasis on healing. Inspiration can come from anywhere or anything affecting the delicate balance of our culture and environment. This past year we’ve enjoyed some great zoom presentations showcasing modern quilts, scrappy quilts and embellishing quilts using threads. We encourage quilters to use their imaginations, get out of their comfort zones by challenging themselves to do something they haven’t done before and perhaps experience some healing through the process. There are no material requirements; however, using natural, sustainable materials or upcycling items that are no longer wanted or needed into a project are recommended and encouraged. We hope you are finding inspiration all around you and are beginning the creative process for your 2022 Quilt Challenge project. We’re encouraging quilters to submit artist statements with their entries. We’ll talk more about artist’s statements in the coming months. Feel free to google “Quilters Artist Statements” and keep in mind what your process involves, like inspiration, fabric, pattern selection etc. Basically what is the story behind your quilt? Happy planning.

2022 Challenge Rules

- 1) Make a quilt of your own design and/or pattern/color choice
- 2) Natural Fibers are recommended but not required
- 3) Repurposing/upcycling items that are no longer wanted or needed into a quilt giving those materials new life is encouraged
- 4) No maximum or minimum sizes
- 5) Piecing techniques are the designers’ choice

Turn in Entry form by: April 29, 2022

Deliver Artwork: May 11, 2022

Opening Reception: May 13, 2022

Pick up Artwork: June 6, 2022

~Della Zita, Sylvia Evans, 2022 Quilt Challenge Committee

PROGRAM 2022

As no one has come forward to Chair the Program Committee, a group of interested members came together to split the tasks and developed a preliminary plan for a program of workshops and lectures for 2022. Although a plan was proposed, it is difficult to organize workshops and lecturers with changing COVID restrictions. As the plans are finalized, they will be published. For now only February and March are final. Please note these first two events and put them on your calendar.

February 18 – All day workshop making Microwave Bowls and Stuffed Animals. We need to produce at least 200(!!!) Microwave bowls and at least 50 stuffed animals! Bring your lunch.

Microwave bowls— Many of you are not thrilled with making microwave bowls, but maybe we can divide the jobs and conquer the task! Again we will set up workstations: those who want to cut fabric and batting, those who can sew X's, those who can mark the darts, those who can sew the darts, those who can sew the two parts together and those who can do the final closing.

To speed the process somewhat, feel free to bring squares of fabric cut in 10" squares. Note the fabrics must be cotton so they don't catch fire in the microwave. The guild will provide the appropriate batting which will also need to be cut.



Stuffed Animals— We will start with 4 easier animal patterns, separate into groups, select the fabrics, distribute the pattern pieces, and the production line process will begin: cutting, sewing, stuffing, finishing. Cotton fabrics will be best, fur is too difficult to work with, fleece is a slight maybe for this first time effort

Bring your sewing machine, threads, needles for hand sewing, any fabrics you think might be useful, and your sewing tools (scissors, marking tool, seam ripper, turning tools, i.e. skewers, stuffing tools, i.e. hemostats). Fiberfill will be available should we get that far.



March 18 – Comfort Quilt/Quilt of Valor Workshop
As mentioned before, bundles of coordinating fabrics along with a pattern have been prepared. A few kits have already been cut and are ready to sew. We hope to have Comfort quilts in different stages and work as a production line to get them finalized "in a day". There will be cutting stations, ironing stations, sewers, and possibly tops that can be sandwiched. Bring any UFOs you'd like to donate for finishing, any quick and easy pattern ideas. And don't forget the sewing machine, threads, standard sewing supplies, and cutting tools.

READY OR NOT



HERE WE COME !!!!!!!