



PACIFIC PIECEMAKERS QUILT GUILD

# Bits & Pieces

[www.pacificpiecemakers.org](http://www.pacificpiecemakers.org)

February, 2025

*Newsletter Editor: Barbara Fast*

**Editor's Note:** I experienced my first PPQG retreat this month. It was fun exchanging ideas with a great group of women. The retreat was so well organized due to Jan's planning. (See her article about the retreat below.)

*Barbara Fast, Editor*



## President's Message February, 2025

Greetings! Atmospheric rivers, "brr" cold temperatures, unseasonable warmth, our weather this month is certainly keeping us on our toes.

I want to give a huge shout out to Jan Carter, who did an outstanding job of arranging our Retreat during the first week of February. We had a spacious, well-lit room to work in. Our rooms were lovely. The companionship was wonderful. A bonus was having some members we hadn't seen since our last retreat in 2020 in attendance. Joyce Gaudet, Trudy Armer, and Sylvia Edwards were all there. We had a moment of remembrance for those who had been at the last one, but are no longer with us, Monica Zarkowski, Jeri Taylor, Laura Hamilton, and Renata Lopez. For those who were unable to attend for whatever reason, I hope that you will do your best to reserve the dates for our retreat next year. It truly is a bonding experience. The comradery was heartwarming, and friendly input on projects is invaluable.

As we move into March it's time to get serious about our entries for the Challenge. Entry forms are due toward the end of April and it will be hung in early May.

I'm happy to say that we have a candidate for president. Kathy Mayda has stepped up to the office. She and I will be co-presidents for her first year. Kim Madson has also offered to take over the office of Treasurer when Janice steps down. It would be nice to have someone volunteer for Vice President! It is very important for members to get involved in the various offices and committees so that a few are not in charge of everything, and they don't get burned out. Please give it some thought.

Keep on Quilting!!

*Francis Angwin, President*

## Fundraising Fun 2025

First off, I want to welcome Mary Banach to our fundraising team! Thanks for volunteering, Mary! Only one member, Bonnie Coffey-Smith, turned in some fundraising items, so she won the \$25 gift certificate to The Loft. Congratulations Bonnie! Did you notice our prize amount increased this year? I realize everyone is busy with their challenge quilts, but if you can find a bit of time to make a needed item or two listed below, it would be much appreciated. We also rescheduled our popcorn bag and seatbelt cover workshop to next month's Thursday Sew-In on March 13, so join us then and you'll be entered into March's fundraising raffle. Here's the list of needed items to focus on: potholders, coasters, microwave bowls (medium and large), aprons, placemats, Funky Friends stuffed animals, baby quilts, chicken pin cushions, eye soothers (masks), and crinkle toys for babies. Happy sewing!

*Kim Madson, Fundraising Chairman*

## Membership

Membership: PPQG now has fewer than sixty (60) paid members. I can't tell you how important paying dues and participating in fundraisers, through making items for sale or supporting "with your checkbook", can be. Those who add Angel Gifts are truly Angels themselves. Our guild also needs more members to step up and accept a position of service in the guild. As the saying goes, "Many hands make light work". Thank you.

We are pleased to welcome new member:

Susanne Scholz  
PO Box 2037  
Clearlake, CA 95422  
707-350-1817  
birthday 3-March  
[susann.scholz@att.net](mailto:susann.scholz@att.net)

Susan said that she is interested in our great programs and classes!

Other news:

PPQG member Charlene Younker will have a booth (#830-831) at the Sacramento Quilt, Craft and Sewing Festival at Cal Expo March 20-22, 2025. Many of us have visited her shop called *Rainbow Resource* when she lived in Albion. Charlene tells me she will have some new ice-dyed fabrics at the quilt show in Sacramento.

*Gail Spencer, Membership Chairman*

## Mark Your Calendars Program 2025

### March 13: MONTHLY SEW-IN

For a fun day, plan on joining us for our monthly Get-Together-and-Sew event Thursday, March 13, 11-3, upstairs at Gualala Arts Center. We will work on microwave popcorn bags to be sold at Art in the Redwoods and Festival of Trees. This is a fun and easy project and sure to be a

best seller. (Just put 1/2 cup of unpopped corning inside; microwave for a few minutes; and then serve in the same attractive bag which can be laundered.) OR, work on your own project if you like. We'll set up an ironing board, but bring your own sewing machine, other supplies, and a snack for lunch.

Please let me know if you will attend so we can have the right number of tables set up.

[Janice Batchelder \[janicebatch1@gmail.com\]\(mailto:janicebatch1@gmail.com\)](mailto:Janice Batchelder janicebatch1@gmail.com)

#### **Thursday, March 20 & Thursday, April 17**

##### **Rice Bag Workshop by Bonnie Coffey-Smith:**

Cost: Free for PPQG members and friends

Registration: Sign up on February 21 or email to [coffeysmithb@gmail.com](mailto:coffeysmithb@gmail.com)

What is a Japanese Rice Bag? Komebukuro, a patchwork drawstring bag used in Japan to carry rice or beans to temples or shrines during festivals as an offering. Japanese Rice Bags were often made of repurposed indigo fabric with sashiko or boro hand stitching. Today, Rice bags are often used as purses, totes, or storage for art and craft projects. There are many on-line examples and patterns.



Description: Two-day workshop for making a square lined fabric bag. There are four pieced panels and one bottom for the outside of the bag. There are five squares for the lining. Bags may vary in size, but each finished panel should be the same size. Example: 9"X9", 10"x10" depending on how large you want to make your bag. The month between the two workshop dates, participants will have time to embellish their panels with decorative stitching, lace, buttons, photos or other notions. No purchased pattern is required.

Day One, **Thursday, March 20**, we will be piecing the four outside panels.

Day Two, **Thursday, April 17**, we will be constructing the lining and the bag.

**March 21:** Friday, PPQG meeting. Social 12:30. Business meeting 1 PM.

**April 18:** Friday, PPQG meeting. Social 12:30. Business meeting 1 PM.



**May 14 & 15: Wednesday and Thursday, 9:30-4**, Lorraine Woodruff-Long will teach a two day "Improv Mosaic

**May 16: PPQG meeting; Social 12:30; Business meeting 1 PM** followed by a lecture and Trunk Show by Lorraine.

**Saturday, May 17.** Lorraine will go with those who are interested on a shopping trip to PayNTake Clothing. She will give us tips on selecting used clothing for a quilt project she has created. Stay tuned for more details...

[Sylvia Evans, Program Chairman](#)

## February Comfort Quilt News

All your hard work making comfort quilts the past few years really counted this month! We were able to send between twenty-five to thirty comfort quilts to the Los Angeles fire victims. Cheryl Faconti and I packed them up and sent them out so quickly that we forgot to count them. They were shipped to The Quilt Emporium in Woodland Hills, California, through a contact that Jeri Kennedy connected us with. She will let us know all the important details soon, but it certainly sounds like they are very appreciated! Thank you for all your selfless contributions.

### Report from Jeri Kennedy: Pacific Piecemakers Send Comfort Quilts to Fire Victims

Last week, The Quilt Emporium of Woodland Hills, CA, received PPQG's gift of several beautiful comfort quilts. Lisa Hanson, shop owner, agreed to coordinate these donations on behalf of the quilt guild. Lisa explained that the quilts are picked up weekly by a volunteer working with FEMA. This single FEMA volunteer contacts the quilt shop, a designated church, and other charitable organizations around Southern California to fulfill "orders" of needed items. She transports the items to locations in Santa Monica and Pasadena where FEMA and the County of Los Angeles have set up support centers. There, identified fire victims come to get assistance in completing paperwork, and to receive their essentials. They are also offered quilts and other things that will help set up their new (temporary) home.

In thanking PPQG, Lisa wrote: "Oh my goodness!! Thank you soooo much for the wonderful quilts from the Pacific Piecemakers! I'm very excited to get these into new homes. The woman in charge reports that when she tells fire victims there will be a quilt for them, their faces just soften." Makes my heart so happy!" I hope that your heart is happy too!

*Marcia Luchini, Comfort Quilt Chairman*

## Retreat 2025

Retreat 2025 is now just a good memory for all those who attended. It was extremely sad that two people had to drop out at the last minute, but seventeen people went to Oxford Suites Hotel in Rohnert Park for February 3-6. The work room was a large, beautiful ballroom/event space and the hotel rooms were very nice. There was a lot of merriment and laughter, and a lot of quilting was accomplished.

It was fun to reconnect with some old friends who live distantly now, and great to make a couple of new friends. Two rousing, cut-throat games of Left-Right-Center were played on the last night where noise levels may have been exceeded!



Everyone contributed two blocks to a Quilt of Valor, which will be sewn together when all of the blocks are finally received. Here is a picture of some of the blocks.



### Challenge 2025

The Pacific Piecemakers Quilt Guild is set to present our Annual Quilt Challenge, “Inspiration is: Our Local Quilt Shop.” This year’s creative endeavor challenges participants to incorporate a featured fabric from the Loft, a cherished local fabric store in downtown Gualala. The exhibit will commence with an opening reception on Friday, May 9, from 4 -6 pm, and will be on display through June 8, 2025, in the Gualala Arts Jacob Foyer and Burnett Gallery. This showcase celebrates local quilters’ artistry and craftsmanship and reinforces the bond between the arts and local businesses.

- Rules:
1. Any design, any size quilt.
  2. Use one or more of the four fabrics chosen for this challenge. The challenge fabric(s) must be purchased at the Loft. The fabrics chosen are for their simplicity and versatility. The fabric line is “Thatch” in the colorways: Plum, Turquoise, Royal, Heather.
  3. Purchase one or more featured fabrics in a minimum ½ yard cut.
  4. Use as much of the featured challenge fabric as you like but at least one of the challenge fabrics must be recognizable within your challenge quilt top.
  5. Print your name on your challenge-fabric purchase receipt. It must be from the Loft. **Save it.**
  6. Turn in a fabric purchase receipt with each of your finished quilt(s) on the Challenge “turn-in” date 5/7/2025. **One receipt per person per quilt.** Do not attach your receipt to your registration form. Your receipt will be placed into a drawing for a “Tula Pink mini-Oliso Iron” or an “Accuquilt Go! Me” fabric cutter with a 5” finished square die. Note: A Guild member donated the prizes for our Challenge.
  7. The 2025 Challenge will also include the opportunity for the community to vote for a “Viewer’s Choice.” The quilt chosen as the Viewer’s Choice will receive a ribbon and its maker will receive a gift certificate from the Loft.
  8. All Artists exhibiting their artwork at Gualala Arts must be current Gualala Arts members.

#### Important Dates to Remember:

Exhibit Opens: 5/9/2025

Exhibit Closes: 6/8/2025

Call to Artist Deadline (registration): 4/25/2025

Turn in Entry for Exhibit 5/7/2025

Hang & Prep Exhibit: 5/8/2025

Opening Reception: 5/9/2024

Take Down: 6/9/2025

*Sandy Hughes, Challenge Chairman*

## Quilt Inspirations

Mary Banach will continue to ask members to explain what inspired them to make particular quilts. She will be focusing on entries for this year's Challenge, so be prepared to tell her about your piece.

*Barbara Fast, Editor*

## February Show and Tell



Sandy Hughes Popcorn bag



Bonnie Coffey-Smith  
Winner \$25 gift certificate



March Birthdays: March 7, Paul Cupich; March 23, Sue Arnold; March 26, Kathy Mayda

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