

Threads That Bind

Will Wonders Never Cease?

As you know, my husband and I have been married for thirty years. (Wow, that's more than half of my life!!) We met in Sausalito as I was walking to a charming quilt shop. During three decades of marriage, we have had many memorable experiences together. Many of our fondest memories were centered around creative projects that we enjoyed doing together, but quilting was never one of them.

In our first home we avidly gardened until our yards resembled well-manicured parks. We established two private practices in a shared office: his as a Family Physician, mine as a Learning Disabilities Specialist. We enjoyed cooking together and entertaining friends. We creatively planned wonderful anniversary vacations, one of which was the trip to the Amish community in Pennsylvania that I described in a previous newsletter, where we stayed in various pre-selected bed and breakfast inns. Another creative endeavor involved taking owner-builder home construction courses

where we learned that we were definitely NOT going to choose to build our own home, but we did design every inch of the Victorian farmhouse in which we still reside. Our most rewarding, long-term creative project, which has required every ounce of our creativity, has been rearing two adorable little boys into fine young men. Our most recent creative project was the two-year construction of an automobile—a stunning royal blue West Coast Cobra. As you can see, we have enjoyed a wide variety of creative projects together, but quilting has always been my solo area of creativity.....until two weeks ago.

Two weeks ago I volunteered to take our Opportunity Quilt to Oakdale, where Quilters Cabin had graciously agreed to display it for a few weeks and to sell tickets for us. My husband offered to keep me company, so we decided to drive to Oakdale in the Cobra. (Yes, we built it and it is road worthy.) Of course when you are in a quilt shop, it

(continued on page 6)



*Happy Stitches/
Ornament Workshop
9/18*

Guild meeting 9/20

Board meeting 9/27

*Quilters' Embrace
Sew Day 10/9*



Meetings

When:

Third Monday of each month (unless otherwise noted)

Where:

Public Health Auditorium
260 E. 15th St., Merced

Time:

Setup - 6:30
Meeting starts - 6:45
Call to Order - 7:00

Come early for library tickets, membership items, chatting, etc.



Officers

President

Karen Mous

President Elect

Michelle George

Secretary

Judith Dake

Treasurer

Janetta Gibson

Membership

Diane Swenson

Programs

Susan Hammon

Information Services

Carol Berry

Quilt Show Chairman

Priscilla Hise

Opportunity Quilt Chairman

Virginia Wagner



Christmas in September? *by Michelle George*

The weather today is gorgeous, the temperature is in the low 80's and the wind is picking up. Leaves are blowing across my lawn, reminding me of Friday night football games and fall leaves. I went into my sewing room, put on my favorites tunes, and chopped up a bunch of fall-colored fabric. It felt so great—no deadlines, no rules and lots of my favorite colors for creating.

The quest for ornaments continues with a second sew day scheduled for Saturday, September 18th, from 10 AM until 4 PM. We will be joining the Happy Stitchers at the Merced County Public Health Department building. Bring a dish to share with friends. I will provide the drinks and plastic/paper ware for our lunch. Bring your sewing machines and regular sewing supplies. If you want to get rid of a holiday fabric stash, bring that too. I will bring patterns, fabric and other items to decorate the ornaments. We will also be making the garland that day too. If you volunteered to glue fabric on thread spools, please contact me to make arrangements for us to get your spools. You can call me at 385-3525 or 586-4630. If you are going to sew with us on September 18th, you can bring them with you then. The ornaments have been coming in steadily and I know this will be a great tree.

Remember, if you bring 6 completed tree ornaments to the September Guild meeting, I will trade you for fabric & pattern for a fun holiday table runner top.

See you all on the 18th, Michelle

Quilters Embrace Sew Day

Please help us finish and/or sew quilts for Quilters Embrace.

Join us for a couple of hours or for the day.

(Fabric/Quilt kits will be provided)

Date: Saturday, October 9, 2010

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Location: Education Annex (Mercy Hospital)

On the corner of Canal and 26th St.

(Located beside the 'old' hospital on M St)

Please bring: sewing machine (extension cords/plug-in strips), rotary cutters, mats, rulers, scissors, thread, etc. (please label your mats, cutters, etc.)

Snacks, beverages and lunch provided.

Any questions, please call Kimberly Sterry-Farnham at 947-0060.

Future dates for 2011: Pending (also to be held in Merced)

Upcoming Guild Programs *by Susan Hammon*

It is hard to believe that school is already in session and that summer is winding down. I am looking forward to finishing some projects in the next couple of months now that summer and, hopefully, the hot weather has come to an end. We have some wonderful programs coming up. In September, Collette from Quilter's Paradise in Clovis will do a trunk show and bring a few items to sell. Then in October, Yvonne Porcella will be here for a lecture and workshop.

If you have the opportunity, look at her website online...she does lots of fun things.

We combine the November and December meetings, so we will hold our meeting on December 6 at 6:00 P.M. I am trying to arrange to have our Christmas meeting at the Merced Courthouse Museum. I hope someone in our group is a Docent at the Museum (or has a really good friend that will help us) because it will make everything a lot easier. Please email or call me if you know a Docent. *Happy Quilting, Susan Hammon*

"Will Massage for Quilts" Incentive Program for Quilters Embrace

For August the winner of a free massage goes to Nahomi Rodriguez. Congratulations, Nahomi!

As a reminder, to be eligible for each drawing, you must be an active participant for the current month or since January 2010. Active participation will include any of the following: donation of a finished quilt, quilt top, fabric, completion of a kit, or participation in a sew day. A ticket will be given for each donation.

To be fair, the winner will be different each month. You will only be eligible to win once in a 12-month period, thus your ticket will remain for future drawings. The winner may also choose to give the massage to a family member/friend if desired. To assist in my scheduling, the massage certificate must be redeemed within 30 days and a signed disclaimer will be required by the Guild.

Thank you. Kimberly Farnham

Upcoming Shows and Festivals

September 18 & 19, 2010

Sierra Quilt Guild *Quilts and Threads Show*
Saturday 10 to 5 p.m.; Sunday 10 to 4 p.m.
Mother Lode Fairgrounds, Stockton Rd.
Sonora, CA

September 25 & 26, 2010

South Valley Quilt Association
2010 Harvest Quilt and Fiber Arts Show
Saturday 10 to 5 p.m.; Sunday 10 - 4:30 p.m.
Morgan Hill Community and Cultural Center
17000 Monterey Road, Morgan Hill, CA

September 25 & 26, 2010

Quilting in the Garden at Alden Lane Nursery
981 Alden Lane, Livermore, CA
www.aldenlane.com

October 2, 2010

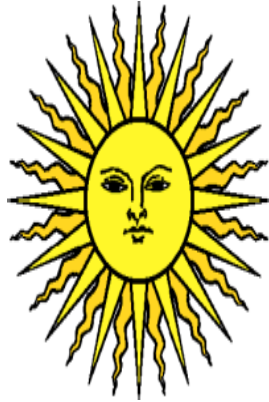
Arts Merced Festival - Downtown Merced
www.artsmered.org

October 2 & 3, 2010

Pacheco Pass Quilters *Pumpkin Patchwork of Quilts 2010*
Saturday 10 to 4:30 p.m.; Sunday 10:30 to 4 p.m.
Ted Falasco Art Center, 5th and K Streets, Los Banos, CA

Let the Sunshine In

If you know a guild member who could use a note of cheer, a get well wish, or has an occasion to celebrate, contact Jeanne Kimball, our Sunshine Chairman, at 358-4250, and she will send a card with our good wishes.



Quilt Sizes for Charity Quilts

Standard sizes for quilt tops we receive to quilt:

Small Quilts: 40" x 50"

Larger Lap Quilts: 56" x 70"

All donations are greatly appreciated. Finished quilts of all sizes will continue to be accepted.

\$\$\$ Money Matters \$\$\$

It is always good to pay your bills on time. Likewise, it's nice to be reimbursed for out-of-pocket expenditures in a timely manner. As your treasurer, I try to be as accommodating as possible. Sometimes this means being distracted from the meeting or missing out on announcements and one-time opportunities. For example, by the time I finished writing checks, accepting monies and giving explanations, the guests speaker was all packed up to leave and there was no time to view or purchase any of her goodies (I just treated myself to more of Karen's chocolates).

Sooo...the board has made a few suggestions and I'm asking for your help:

1. If you have an urgent need for reimbursement on a meeting night, please contact me in advance so we can make that happen before the call to order.
2. Turn in any monies in a sealed envelope identified with amount, source and your name.
3. Turn in your receipts attached to a completed voucher. Be specific about the expense and what it is to be used for.
4. If arrangements aren't made for payment the night of the guild meeting (see #1 above), reimbursement will be made to you as expeditiously as is possible.

I will not be able to attend the September meeting but will return to Merced October 7. Karen will have the checkbook for any emergency. She will also collect and hold any monies and vouchers.

Thank you for your cooperation.

A bientot, Janetta

2011 Quilt Show — Phyllis Boyle

Before you know it the 2011 Quilt Show will be in full swing. There has been a great response to fill the committee chair positions. Not only is the Quilt Show the Guild's main fundraiser, but a great way to get to know and visit with each other. If you have not worked on the Friday set up,, it is truly amazing to watch an empty building become full of life.

We do have a few vacant spots. They are:

Entrance Area – this chair will be responsible to set up the entrance to greet our visitors and to accept tickets and have a membership table.

Treasure Hunt – this chair will coordinate the treasure hunt, which provides children an opportunity to locate specific patterns, fabrics, colors, etc., found on items in the show.

Quilt Check-In – this chair will be responsible to receive the quilts for the show on Friday morning.

Hoffman or Keepsake Quilting Challenge – this chair will be responsible to make contact with Hoffman Fabric or Keepsake Quilting and to set up receiving and returning the quilts.

The areas that have been filled with chairperson(s) are:

Boutique – Karen Mous, Jeanne Kimball and Char Frederick

Docents – Sara Martindale

Quilt Hanging – Susan Hammon

Kitchen – Kathy Terry

Opportunity Tickets – Virginia Wagner and Diana McGinnis

Publicity – Lori Nelson

Friday Snacks – Etta Jean Costa

Programs - Janetta Gibson

Treasurer – Janetta Gibson

Vendors – Judith Dake

Quilt Pick-up – Margaret Freed and Jane Matthews

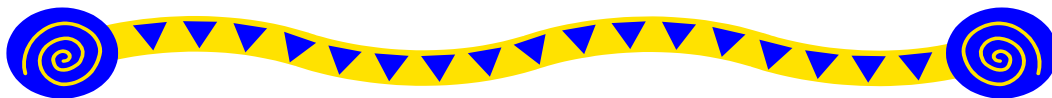
Vignettes – Lora Wheeler

Demonstrations – Mary Brown and Kimberly Farnham

Scheduler - Dorothy Kielty

Friday Lunch - Etta Jean Costa

If you wish to be on any of the committees, contact the chair person. If you have any questions, changes, or suggestions, give Priscilla or Phyllis a call.



Library Corner

A list of the guild's library books can be found at:

<http://books.google.com/books?hl=en&uid=1199847027286182703>

NEWSLETTER

Send articles for the newsletter to Carol Berry at cberry@elite.net. They should be received no later than the weekend following the board meeting.

Will Wonders Never Cease? (continued from page 1)

would be rude to just drop the quilt and run, so we “had to” peruse the lovely fabric, and out of the blue my husband proclaimed, “Someday I am going to make a black and white quilt!” (My little inner voice said, “Yeah, sure!”) As we rounded the last section of fabric on the right, we came face to face with the book section and right there at eye level was a book of patterns for black and white quilts. I laughed out loud and called his attention to it, joking that someone must have heard what he said about wanting to make a quilt. As he flipped through the book, I continued to sample the eye-candy on the left side of the store and found a few fabrics from which I could fussy-cut sandals, beach balls and ships to embellish my Cirque seascape quilt. When my purchases were being rung up, what to my wondering eyes did appear beneath my stack of fabric but a book on black and white quilts. I wish I could have captured his sheepish grin with my camera at that precise moment. Of course we seasoned quilters know that it’s one thing to ooh and aah over quilt patterns and another thing to actually make a quilt, so home we drove with my fabric and his book.



A few days later, while Dirk was checking the e-mail, he told me that Fields of Fabric in Ceres was celebrating their second year in business with a big sale and that maybe it would give us a good reason to take another spin in the Cobra. I’m always ready to go when there is a quilt shop involved so, on Saturday, we found ourselves in Ceres with Dirk’s book tucked under his arm. Before I knew it, we were stacking bolts of black fabric on the table and I was explaining words like “value,” “scale” and “contrast.” Being a quick learner, Dirk took off and somehow our respective quilt shop behaviors were magically reversed. There he was running excitedly from one set of shelves to the next, pulling out fabric bolts while I stationed myself on a stool nearby, affirming his thirty-six choices. (I have photos if you don’t believe me.) Fortunately, before we had entered the shop, Dirk had won a 35% off coupon so we will still be able to buy groceries this month.

It’s always fulfilling to mentor a new quilter and it has been especially delightful to walk through the steps of pre-washing and ironing with Dirk. I had to chuckle when he asked, “Do you always go to this much trouble every time you make a quilt?” and I was compelled to truthfully answer, “Usually.” Last night he got one-third of his fabric ironed and in a few days I will tutor him on using a rotary cutter instead of a scalpel. This is truly one of the most unexpected creative challenges upon which we have ever embarked. I told him that if he finished it by next September, he could enter it in the Quilt Show and he said, “Now that would be an honor!” I will keep you posted on his progress. Please say a prayer for me as I will soon be teaching my husband how to use a sewing machine. If all goes well, maybe Dirk and Dale Wagner can sit together at the guild meetings.

Your quilting friend, Karen Mous

www.gatewayquiltersguild.org update ~ Dorothy Kielty

We are slowly making some changes on the Gateway Quilters’ Guild website. Please check it out and let us know what you think. Right now you not only get the current newsletter online, but we have the archive newsletters going back to January of 2010. You can also get the newsletter from the home page as well as from the news page link. We are also adding some of the forms that we need. First ones are the payment voucher if you have receipts for our treasurer, and the membership form. (Thank you, Janetta, for forwarding these to me!)

We are getting some bugs out and have lots of ideas for improving the website, but need to know what our members want! Please send an email to webmaster@gatewayquiltersguild.org with requests and ideas or call Dorothy Kielty or Carol Berry with your ideas. Remember, this is your website.

Interest Groups—open to all members

Happy Stitchers:

Make room on your calendar to join Happy Stitchers on Saturday, September 18, from 10 AM to 7 PM. Look forward to seeing you there!

Sandy Coelho 559-662-1056

Handquilting:

Contact Janetta Gibson if you are interested in participating in this group.

Quilters Embrace Update for September 2010

CORRECTION to the July QE Update:

Donations to Quilters Embrace from January 2010 through June 2010 also include: Mary Brown and Claudia Kalmin. Apologies, ladies, for leaving you both off.

Please mark your calendars: our next Quilters Embrace sew day is scheduled for Saturday, October 9, 2010. Thank you to all who participate in such a worthy cause.

Virginia Wagner and Kimberly Farnham

Opportunity Quilt News

The Opportunity Quilt was at Cloth and Quilts August 7th for their "First Saturday" Program. We sold \$68 worth of raffle tickets during the day. A BIG Thank You to Cloth and Quilts for allowing us this time, space and opportunity. They were very nice and accommodating. As of August 11th, the quilt is at Quilters Cabin in Oakdale. It will be there for 3 or so weeks. A Thank You goes to Karen Mous for making this arrangement and taking the quilt there. Members, please remember you can borrow the quilt for a particular business meeting or other event where you might want to sell tickets. Plus, I am willing to help you if you want. We need to sell lots of extra tickets beyond the minimum \$30 requirement for members in order to meet our goal. So, happy selling.

Sincerely, Virginia Wagner, Chairman



October Birthdays

Gladys Dove	October 4
Sandy Coelho	October 12
Megan Anderson	October 13
Karen Mous	October 22
Dudie Arzamendi	October 23
Jane Matthews	October 27

Gateway Quilters' Guild



P.O. Box 3793

E-mail: newsletter@gatewayquiltersguild.org

Classifieds



701 W Olive Ave.
Merced, CA 95348

Dorothy Kieley,
S.R.E.S., ePro, R.C.C.
Short Sale and Foreclosure Resource Certification

REALTOR®

Phone: 209-489-0621
www.DorothySellsMerced.com
E-mail: DKieley@GonellaRealty.com

Good Moves Start Here

Merry Quilters
your quilt is our passion

Mary Ann Dailey
owner/operator

1512 Lynn Ave
Modesto CA
209 576-7151
quilterkat@sbcglobal.net



I'll Be In Touch...with you
Where the mature adult can feel vibrant again...

Kimberly Sterry-Farnham
Certified Massage Therapist

1190 W Olive Ave. Ste. F
Merced, CA 95348
(209) 723-1400
Cell (209)947-0060

Bearly Quilting, Sonora
"Customer Appreciation Sale"
&
Fat Quarter Frenzy
25% off everything (excl. Discount items)
September 10th, 11th & 12th

Spend over \$100 and be entered into a drawing to win a Babylock sewing machine!