



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello SRQG,

One thing you should know about me as your Guild President: I'm still learning — and I intend to keep it that way.

Every guild has its own rhythm. Some traditions are written down. Others are quietly passed along. And much of the magic lives in how we work together. During my time as President, my goal hasn't been to change what makes this Guild special, but to understand it deeply enough to help it thrive.

**Listening. Learning. Adjusting.** Running meetings, collaborating with the Board and Committee Chairs, and finding the right communication balance is an ongoing process. What feels clear, rushed, or like too much information — and what arrives just in time?

Your feedback helps answer those questions.

- The conversations during breaks.
- The thoughtful emails.
- The “Have you considered...?” comments.
- They all matter. They shape how we show up for one another and how we continue growing as a Guild.

You may notice information coming to you in several ways: *Stitch'n Times* (our newsletter), the website, Guild Meetings, broadcasted emails through eBlasts, and the Weekly Digest. Each serves a different purpose — and like everything else, each is evolving.

About a year ago, I introduced the Weekly Digest as a simple, friendly reminder to keep upcoming activities and deadlines visible. It's not meant to replace anything — only to support what we're already doing. Recently, a member emailed me beginning with, “Linda, forgive me for being BOLD...” and then shared thoughtful suggestions for improving it.

That kind of boldness is welcome. That's how we refine, improve, and stay relevant. It is what also spurred the topic for my President's Message.

### **This Guild Belongs to All of Us**

When I sit near you at a Workshop or Guild activity — especially alongside our newer Members — I may ask what's working, what feels confusing, or what ideas you have. That's intentional.

Feedback isn't about pointing out flaws. It's about shaping a Guild we're excited to belong to. One where meetings feel purposeful, Volunteers feel supported, communication feels helpful rather than overwhelming, new Members feel welcomed, and long-time Members feel valued.

The more we share what's working and what could be better, the stronger and more welcoming we become. Please keep sharing your thoughts, ideas, and observations. I'm grateful for your patience, your kindness, and your willingness to help refine how we work together.

We're building this Guild one stitch at a time — and I'm thankful to be stitching alongside you.

Warmly,  
Linda Ralleca

# Programs and Workshops

## March 2026

Program - March 19, 2026, at 10 a.m.

In-Person, ZOOM

Kitty Oliver:

Quilt Judging: You Be the Judge



Kitty has been quilting for over 35 years. She has been an active quilt judge for over 10 years, training with the West Coast Quilt Judging Academy in 2012 and then acting as a judging instructor in 2013. Aside from multiple years as co-chair of her guild's judging committee she has mentored numerous

new judges. Kitty states "I am a teacher at heart and the quilting expertise I have gained is best shared with other quilters by being a judge." Kitty loves the opportunity to encourage and challenge quilters at all levels, through meaningful and thoughtful comments.

*Chris Rogers*

## May 2026

Program - May 21, 2026, at 10 a.m.

ZOOM

David Owen Hastings:

Indigo Dyeing in Japan

David Owen Hastings is a modern quilter, speaker, and teacher. He lives and works in the Pacific Northwest, west of Seattle, Washington, on the Olympic Peninsula. David creates richly layered contemporary art pieces and modern quilt and textile designs. He gives lectures and workshops on modern quilting, fine art and textile techniques.



May 2026 continued →

## April 2026

Program - April 16, 2026, at 10 a.m.

In-person, ZOOM

Mac McNamara:

Trunk Show

Mac McNamara lives in San Francisco and is a frequent speaker at quilting associations around the state, and at Handicraft and Art Fairs. Mac is known for quilt designs which seem haphazard, disconnected, and random. But they keep you looking, searching for a structure, a deeper meaning,



and that is Mac's intention. There is always a deeper meaning below what is readily apparent in his quilts. In describing his quilt making process, Mac says that he essentially sews in curves and if done correctly, the quilt will lie flat. Mac loves to have his quilts hanging next to quilts made by children because "children have a certain freedom to do what they want without the limitations that we adults have learned over the years."

*Chris Rogers*

May 2026 continued

Workshop - Friday, May 22, 2026

9 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

ZOOM

Scruptastic Quilted Cards

\$45 for SRQG Members

Using just a few pieces of fabric pulled from your scrap bin, we will machine sew a mini series of modern art cards. We will explore color, scale of print, value, and texture... and maybe come up with some surprising combinations!

*Chris Rogers*



## Cloverdale Citrus Fair WINNERS!

**Pam Brown**

First Place and SRQG Best Workmanship Rosette

**Lynette Chandler**

First Place and Best of Show

**Candy Delgado**

Three First Places

**Mary Ann Hayre**

Three First Places

**Carolle LeMonnier**

Second Place

**Georgiann Morrissey**

Second Place

**Gina Stateler-Calhoun**

First Place and Second Place

**Debbie Ward**

Three First Places and one Second Place

**Lynette Whitman**

First Place and Second Place

## March Block-of-the-Month

There's something magical about watching a butterfly drift from flower to flower. Around the world, there are approximately 17,500 to 20,000 known species of butterflies. Their wingspans range from a tiny half inch to nearly 12 inches – and they appear in every color of the rainbow, often with the most intricate and beautiful patterns.



This month, let your creativity take flight as you choose the colors and fabrics for your Butterfly block. Make it bold, soft, vibrant, or delicate – just like nature intended!

Blocks should be 12 ½" square. Please be sure to

## April Mini-Retreat

**Friday thru Sunday, April 10, 11, 12, 2026**

**Three Day Mini Quilting Retreat**

**Luther Burbank Art & Garden Center (LBAGC)**

**9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. each day**

**Member Cost is \$30 for all three days**

This will be three days of quilting with your friends. At the end of each day we can safely leave our machines and notions overnight at the LBAGC, return home for the evening, and return the next morning to continue quilting.

Bring your lunch or go out to lunch with your friends!

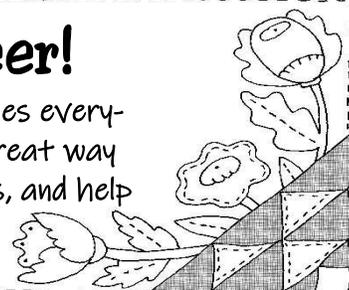
**Chris Rogers**

## STASH ORGANIZATION IDEA



## Volunteer!

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





## PET PROJECTS

### Heart Pillows

Welcome to our fourth year of creating Heart Pillows for patients undergoing Breast Cancer Surgery.

Our Heart Pillow Volunteers make and distribute Heart Pillows for the Kaiser Care Team right here in Santa Rosa.

I would be so happy to have a few Members join me in this *very low key, zero stress, and highly rewarding* task.

All it takes is two pre-washed cotton 15½” by 15½” fabric squares. I will supply the pattern. All you will need to do is cut out the fabric, sew it together, and turn it right side out. Maybe add a touch of the iron. I will take care of the pillow stuffing and closure.

If this sounds interesting to you, please contact me -- Janice Juul -- I'm in the Membership Roster. I will be happy to email you the patterns and instructions, or you can pick them up from me at an in-person meeting.

Please let me know if you are interested and I'll take care of the rest.

**Janice Juul**

### Days for Girls

The Days for Girls Team will meet on March 25 for their regular Fourth Wednesday Sew Day at Village Sewing from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

If you are interested in this project or just want to know more about it contact Brenda Kobrin by email: [centralsantarosaca@daysforgirls.org](mailto:centralsantarosaca@daysforgirls.org) or by phone. My number is in the Membership Roster.

**Brenda Kobrin**

**Change of Information?**  
**Don't forget to notify the Membership Crew**  
**Thank you!**

### Opportunity Quilt

The Bali Wedding Star our 2025-26 Opportunity Quilt has won a blue ribbon and a Best of Division ribbon at the Cloverdale Citrus Fair. The fair visitors were very impressed with the colors and intricacy of the quilt and there were lots of “ooohs” and “ahhhs,” as well as many “that's so beautiful” comments. And most especially, *thank you* to the fair Volunteers who sit with the quilt and sell Opportunity Quilt tickets! I think it's actually fun to sit with another Guild Member and talk to the visitors. The quilt was made with a pattern created by Judy Niemeyer for Quiltworx. The pattern and strip sets were donated by Jan Nilsen, and foundation paperpieced by Elaine Ramires. The backing fabric was donated by Bolt Fabric in Cloverdale, and machine quilted by Rena Ferrero. Since the sun was shining, Friday and Saturday Opportunity Quilt ticket sales were very good, and the quilt really sells itself. However, with the rain, the crowds were much smaller and on Sunday and Monday the fair closed early. Karin Wesner reports that total sales were \$522.00.



On March 3 Sharon Oman has graciously offered to take the quilt to the meeting of the Petaluma Quilt Guild and on March 14 Anni Donohue and I are taking the quilt to the Napa Quilt Guild.

The drawing for the winning Opportunity Quilt ticket will be April 2, so there's still time to buy a few more tickets at the March and April 2 meetings!

**Rena Ferrero**

### Sew-a-Row

The year has started off with a bang for Sew-a-Rows.

We have such a creative selection of starter rows. I am really looking forward to seeing the wondrous things we make. There will be Sew-a-Rows available at the next meetings, and this round will all be due back at the meeting on April 2.

Happy Sewing!

**Eileen McAlister**

# Community Quilts

## Thank You!

We received a generous donation of \$250 towards the purchase of batting from Thrivent Financial (a non-profit Financial Services Organization of the Lutheran Church). Dorothy Murray, SRQG Member, secured this donation for Community Quilts and has been doing it for many years. Hats off to Dorothy and Thrivent for making it possible for us to enrich so many members of our community with bright and warm quilts.

### Recap of quilts donated in 2025

Sutter Hospital Neonatal ICU	60
SR Memorial Hospital NICU	40
Kaiser NICU	80
Public Health Visiting Nurses and Teen Parents	50
Valley of the Moon Children's Home	121
Let's Read Outside	20
Local Veterans	300
Secret Santa	40
Doll Quilts	300
Emancipated Foster Youth	10
Children's Museum	9
TLC-Foster Care	34
Raffle	9
Special	1
 Total Quilts	 1074

### **Other Items**

Pillow Cases Emancipated Youth	10
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### **Community Quilts continued**

Thank you to every member who donated a top, a quilt of any size, worked at a Quiltathon to finish up quilts, and donated fabric to Community Quilts. You all make SRQG shine with these generous donations.

## **Upcoming Events:**

### Community Quilts Sew Day:

We are going to try something new and have a Community Quilts Sew Day on March 20, 2026. The goal of the day is to finish 15-20 lap size tops. This is NOT a Quiltathon. There will not be any handwork.

We will provide pre-cut kits and instructions to make these tops. Our expectations are that you will bring your sewing machine and be ready to make a lap size top from a kit provided. We have room for 20-24 sewing machines. To make the piecing go smoothly, we will also have 8-10 people who will press the blocks, do pinning, and any trimming necessary. We will use our 'teamwork' to get the tops finished.

Our expectations are that if you don't finish the lap size top, you will take it home and finish it and return it by the April 16 meeting.

We received a couple of donations of beautiful fabric and thought this might be a good way to use it. Barbara Southard and Liz McDonnell are choosing the patterns and making the kits for the tops.

This work day is for you if you like a 'fast paced' day of sewing and making a top from a kit we provide. It is not a day to bring your own project.

The Community Quilts Sew Day is at the Luther Burbank Art & Garden Center, 2050 Yulupa Ave. Set up is at 8:30am and the day ends at 3:30pm.

Sign up by March 4 with Laura Barrett.

### Valley of the Moon Quilt Parade:

We will have our annual Parade of 100 quilts at our April 2 meeting. What an explosion of color we will have as we take our quilts for a spin around the room before donating them to Valley of the Moon Children's Home. Don't miss it!

**Community Quilts continued →**

**Janet Tonkin and Laura Barrett**

## Friendship Blocks

Yes, this time I'm going to request my own blocks, inspired by a quilt, "A Day in Bodega," and mine will be all about Sonoma, my hometown. Everything about Sonoma and things you would see there: chickens, a chicken coop, sheep, sunflowers, gardens, a greenhouse, poppies, mustard fields, grape stomps, the Vintage Festival, farmers markets, barns, raccoons, hot air balloons, Clo the dairy cow that's on the billboards with those funny sayings, Sears Point Raceway, and historic buildings like the Sebastiani Theater, town hall, and The Mission. The duck pond on the plaza, grapes, vineyards, the strawberry patch/stand on Watmaugh Rd., horses, goats, the Bear Flag, the I.T. newspaper, quail, beehives/bees, 95476, etc. And if one of you who did the houses would like to take a stab at it—my house! I'd really like that. So many things to think about, and I can't wait to see them. I am so looking forward to having a quilt made by my friends. The blocks can be any size from 6 ½" to 12 ½" unfinished, and don't forget to sign your block on the front.



Please sign up with Lisa Gamble.

*Lisa Gamble*

## Sewing Room Sale

### Sewing Room Sale June 4

If, after finishing your holiday projects and reorganizing your sewing room, you have found you have multiple notions like rulers, markers, scissors, or trims you no longer use/need or even a UFO or fabrics, sell them at this event. Reserve your table (30" x 100"), price your items, and make change like a garage sale.

You will find sign up forms at the Guild's website under Resources and Forms or pick them up at a Guild Meeting. See Joy McGoran at the Library.

*Joy McGoran*

March / April 2026

## Welcome Committee

Hello Santa Rosa Quilt Guild! Quilt Buddies unite! Madam President has invited a guest she met at the Citrus Fair in Cloverdale. We can increase our membership when we invite guests to meetings and quilting events. Linda R. is a great example. Follow her lead. This is where we introduce Quilt Buddies to chaperone guests and new Members around the room, especially when we have a guest speaker. Please, consider volunteering to be a Quilt Buddy so you can help visitors get more comfortable more quickly.

I have seatback seat covers to reserve seats for guests and new Members. Some are in the front row and others are sprinkled about the room. Are you a Committee Chair that requires designated seating such as the Zoom team or Community Quilts? The seatback covers can be used to reserve your seats, too.

Meetings are held at the Veterans Building; 1351 Maple St. Doors open at 9:30 a.m. on the EAST side of the facility and the meeting closes around noon. We meet the first and third Thursdays of the month. Don't forget to sign in at the Membership Table when you arrive, if you are wearing your name tag you could win a fat quarter at the end of the meeting. Who doesn't love fat quarters?

*Rhonda Denny*

## Sunshine

Help our Santa Rosa Quilt Guild bring Sunshine to our Members – we are one big family.

The Sunshine Committee sends cards to our Members who may need a smile to brighten their day. It could be illness, family concerns, or someone who just needs to know they are being thought of within our Guild. There are different ways to bring names to my attention: email, phone call, text (my contact information is on the Membership Roster), or just come up to me at one of our in-person meetings.



And, if you would like one of your favorite quilts to be used as a Sunshine Card here is your chance. Send me a jpeg of your quilt – actual size. My stationery cards hold a 4x6 photo. Your name will be noted on the card each time your quilt photo is used.

Here is one way to bring a bit of joy to our Members. I look forward to hearing from you.

*Janice Juul*

## Pattie Klimek Workshop

Pattie Klimek's workshop, "Big Stitch Quilting," held on February 20, was enjoyed by all of the attendees, and we are happy to report that we are now "Rockers," as in we are now rocking our stitches.

Some of us (me, especially) were skeptical about the thimbles, but I think Pattie won us over. Pattie was so generous with all of us, supplying both a pre-marked top and a piece of her favorite batting for big stitch quilting. She was also most generous in loaning out needles and thimbles to those who did not bring the right type.

Chris Rogers was an excellent hostess, bringing some delicious homemade sourdough rye bread with cream cheese for breakfast, as well as some fabulous cookies. Barbara Southard made gluten-free brownies that would fool anyone.



Pattie also shared some of her vintage crayon-colored pieces, and she worked with attendees who brought tops for quilting advice.

If you haven't taken a workshop in a while, it is easy to forget how much fun they are. Thanks to Pattie and Chris for making our day a great learning experience.

**Jan Andrews**

## Mystery Quilt

It's almost time for the 2026 SRQG Mystery Quilt!

The first installment, which is the yardage requirements and cutting instructions, will be sent via email on March 1.

If you would like a printed copy, let me know and it will be available for you at the meeting on March 5.

Come and join the fun!!

**Jan Andrews**

March / April 2026



## Technique Sharing Workshop (TSW)

On April 2, 2026, Vicki David will present a TSW on binding your quilt. This demonstration will show how to bind your quilt so that you will have perfect square corners on your quilt.

Vicki will also show you an easy way to join the ends of the binding so that you will have just the right amount of binding to "close the gap."



**Brenda Kobrin**

## TSW Calendar

March 5	Janet Tonkin	Regular*
	Making perfect circles to applique	
April 2	Vicki David	Regular*
	Hand binding techniques	
June 4	Toni Anderson	Regular*
	How to expand a quilt backing and save fabric	
June 17	Debbie Valentine	Super **
	Purse Making Workshop	
July 2	Judy Dengler	Regular*
	Demonstration of using PatternJam.com	
August 6	Barbara Southard	Regular*
	Basting quilts using pool noodles	
Sept. 3	Mary Wood	Regular*
	Machine binding on quilts	

\*Regular TSWs are held a few minutes after the meeting closes and typically last 15 –20 minutes.

\*\*Super-Sized TSWs are held at Luther Burbank Art & Garden Center.

**Brenda Kobrin**

# Little Bits with Jackie Pitts

Recently I had lunch at a friend's house. Because of the unseasonably cold weather we were in her house rather than on her deck where in times past we have enjoyed the company of her redwood trees. Two of these are missing now, and they are missed. They were planted when she and her late husband were newlyweds. Since he died some years ago, they have continued to keep guard, but two of them were becoming a danger to the neighbor's house and had to be taken away. The neighbor has enough troubles [including a recent stroke] and doesn't need the danger of a large tree falling on his house. Even these trees, which look eternal, are subject to time and change. I've sometimes wondered what life feels like to a giant redwood tree or a sea turtle with an unhurried agenda, but then as far as anyone knows no tree or turtle has adventures equivalent to raising my kids or making my quilts. So, I will gladly give thanks for the human portion allotted to me. Some degree of tranquility is to be enjoyed through the institution of tea.

The beverage of tea has been with us a long time since its origins in Ancient China, but the institution of tea in the English-speaking world is a thing of the last couple of centuries, coming to us from British India. Most of India is hot and the local people like to get anything strenuous done in the relatively cooler mornings and then clean themselves up and enjoy a quiet time in the afternoon before a relatively late evening meal. The English brought this home with them and made it their own. So, I have had the fun of taking tea at the Victoria and Albert Museum in London, and in many much homier settings both in the UK and in the United States. There is a vast amount of lore concerned with tea, far too much for me to even hint at here, but the article that might especially catch a quilter's eye is a tea cozy. This very practical piece of equipment is designed to keep the teapot and its contents hot for a long time and therefore prolong the opportunity for conversation or quiet meditation in unhurried solitude.

My friend of the redwood trees collects teapots. The one we were using and several others wore tea cozies of the simplest and most effective kind, made of quilted fabric. They appeared to be made of the sound portions of defunct quilts. Make or obtain two pieces of quilted fabric, each measuring halfway around the teapot by the teapot's height from top to base.



Outside of tea cozy made from an old quilt. Photo by Linda Smith.

Little Bits continued →

## Little Bits continued

Hem or bind the short sides. Make a casing along both long edges of both pieces. There are several things you can use for cording. Don't use yarn as it will knot up. You can't go wrong with grosgrain ribbon. It is tough and washes well though you probably won't need to wash your tea cozy very often. Run the cording through the casing at the top of both quilted pieces, using a large safety pin or a bobby pin to lead it. Leave enough cording at each end to tie a bow. Now do the same with the bottom casing. Now put the cozy on the teapot by placing the spout between the two quilt pieces and drawing up the cozy to fit the teapot, tying a bow right over the handle and one right under the handle. A tea cozy of this kind will keep your tea hot for a long time.



Inside of tea cozy made from an old quilt. Photo by Linda Smith.

What do you serve with tea? Well, my friend and I enjoyed raw veggie bits dipped in something, I think ranch dressing, homemade bread, scones, and lemon curd. She says lemon curd isn't hard to make, but if I even wrote the recipe I'd have to apologize to my arteries. At the Victoria and Albert Museum, you get itty bitty dainty sandwiches, scones, and something of a creampuff-like nature, maybe dainty cookies. Finger food of some sort is the general idea. When there are young people involved such as kids returning from school there are traditional options. Since caffeine is thought to be one of the paradoxicals, in that it is thought to have the opposite effect on children from the one observed in adults, it may make them sleepy. I'm not suggesting that you give your grandkid an espresso so that he will take a nap. A traditional answer to this is called "cambric tea." Basically, this is milk with just enough tea to color it the color of cambric with sugar to taste. Your taste, not his. Graham crackers are a traditional health food, and Fig Newtons are basically fruit and cake. If you don't need caffeine in the late afternoon, consider the many herbal teas. Lemon ginger is my favorite.

When my sons were little boys, we had a special Twelfth Night Tea. Christmas toys were allowed to sleep under the Christmas tree until Twelfth Night at which time there was a parade from the Christmas tree to the dining room. Since there were lots of animals and wheeled goods this could be a pretty long parade. There was a theatrical performance at the puppet theatre which could be anything from the Nativity to the Adventures of Mickey Mouse. All former Christmas toys were invited, my childhood doll Rosie presiding from the high chair once the children had

Little Bits continued next page →

# Library

While speaking with a newer Guild Member recently it dawned on me that it was time to remind everyone that our library is so much more than just approximately 3,500 books in the storage unit.

## BOOKS:

Log on to our guild's website at [www.srqg.org](http://www.srqg.org). Click on "Library" on the left side. You will arrive at the Library's Home Page. There you will find a list of our newest acquisitions. If you do not see what you wish, use the SEARCH box near the top of the page to access the books in our library. Having trouble? At the top of the Home Page go to the link of the very helpful tutorial Linda Hooper wrote on how to use our library's website. Still can't find what you want? Email Sharon Fry. I am happy to grab library items on my way to a meeting, and/or Members are invited to follow me to the storage unit after meetings to search for their desired items.

## MAGAZINES:

We have all of the issues of "Quiltfolk," "Quilting Arts" and "American Quilter's Society."

We no longer subscribe to the following periodicals, but have many past copies filed in the storage unit: "Block," "Fons and Porter's Love of Quilting," "Quiltmaker," "Miniature Quilts," "Primitive Quilts," Japanese issues (written in Japanese, but the photos speak thousands of words), and a few more.

## DVDs:

Many back copies of Alex Anderson and Ricky Tims' "The Quilting Show," as well as tutorials by various quilters, and even some quilt shows. (Hint: type in DVD in the Search Box to see what is available.)

## ACCUQUILT:

Contact Janet Tonkin to check out a cutting machine, as well as a large assortment of dies, and instruction/idea books. Accuquilt information is available at the bottom of our Library's Home Page.

## RULERS:

Looking for a special quilting ruler? We might just have it in our storage unit for you to borrow. (Sorry, no formal list is available – email Sharon Fry with requests.)

Library continued →



Library continued

## TEMPLATES/STENCILS:

Contact Betty Upchurch as she is our keeper of various stencils and templates. (Nope – no list.)

## KNITTING NEEDLES AND CROCHET HOOKS:

Christine Gann may have just what you need for your next project (once again, no list.)

And if you do not find the book, magazine, DVD, Accuquilt die, ruler, template, stencil, needle, or hook, email me and I will put out a request to our generous Members.

*Sharon Fry*

# Knitting Needles

Check them out as you would like a library book.

Christine Gann has generously offered to take custody of the knitting needles and crochet hooks, too. I am delighted to pass them her way. If you want needles Christine can bring them to a guild meeting or make arrangements to pick them up from her. She is in the Membership Roster.

Thanks so much,

*Rhonda Denny and Christine Gann*

## Little Bits continued

outgrown it. The table was decorated with little houses and bottlebrush trees. We feasted upon elegant leftovers, the last of the Christmas cookies. I used my pretty China teacups and the boys never gave me cause to regret it. At the end of this happy time all the new toys were taken to the boys' rooms where space had been made for them. This is one way that one family made tea into a celebration.

I have seen many other kinds of tea cozies, some very fancy. There were knitted ones at a place in Oregon. There are big half circles that fit over the whole teapot. One was made like an old Russian woman who hid the teapot under her skirt. I once had one made from a panel depicting a big cat curled up on top of the teapot. She was pink with a pink gingham ruffle all around the bottom. However you do it, I suggest that you obtain and use a tea cozy as an investment in quiet, conversation, and sanity.

*Jackie Pitts*

# SEW DAY WITH JUDY MATHIESEN

January 16, 2026

Once a teacher,  
always a teacher.  
Judy Mathiesen  
demonstrates her  
technique for founda-  
tion piecing with  
freezer paper.



# 2026 Guild Challenge

What is a Guild Challenge?

Many of our new Members may not have heard of the yearly Guild Challenge, or they may be wondering what it is all about. It's an opportunity for all Members to create a quilt based on a theme with specific parameters set by the Challenge Coordinator. Think of it as an invitation to create something outside your normal quilt making routines. Try new techniques, designs, ideas that you believe fit the theme and constraints set by the coordinator. This year's theme is "The Dash."

I have heard a lot about the "Dash" lately via posts and conversations. I looked up the definition of "Dash" and found it used in different ways, but the most relevant to our Challenge is: **A race over a short distance.**

Our lives are that short distance. Each of us has a start date, and when we pass on we have an end date. We all encounter wonderful and not so wonderful moments as we travel along life's path. It is the dash between those two dates that makes us who we are and defines our life after death. Think about those wonderful times in your life and select one of your favorites as the basis of your quilt.

Here are the parameters:

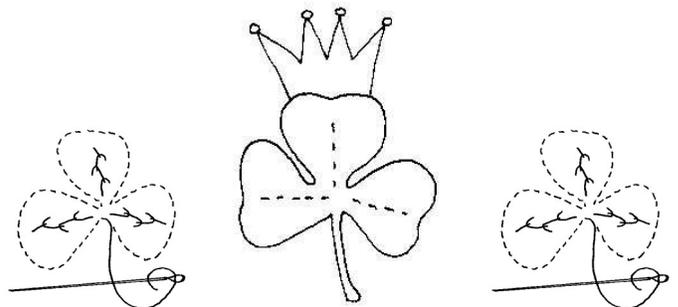
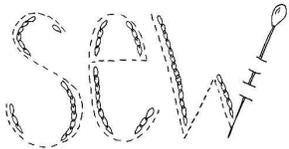
- Base your quilt on your favorite memory
- Finished size is 30" x 30"
- Colors are of your choosing, no color restrictions
- Add a 3" sleeve to the back of your quilt for displaying (with your approval)
- Finished quilts are due in September 2, 2026

Good news! We have been invited to show these quilts at the Finley Center in 2027, so put on your thinking caps and start sewing. Sign up at any meeting and let me know if you have any questions by contacting me.

**Genelle Voorhees**



**Sew Day Fun!**



# The Dash

by Linda Ellis

I read of a man who stood to speak at the funeral of a friend. He referred to the dates on the tombstone from the beginning...to the end.

He noted that first came the date of birth and spoke of the following date with tears, but he said what mattered most of all was the dash between those years.

For that dash represents all the time they spent alive on earth and now only those who loved them know what that little line is worth.

For it matters not, how much we own, the cars... the house...the cash. What matters is how we live and love and how we spend our dash.

So think about this long and hard; are there things you'd like to change? For you never know how much time is left that can still be rearranged.

To be less quick to anger and show appreciation more and love the people in our lives like we've never loved before.

If we treat each other with respect and more often wear a smile...remembering that this special dash might only last a little while.

So when your eulogy is being read, with your life's actions to rehash...would you be proud of the things they say about how you lived your dash?

# 2026 Elected Board and Committee Chairs

## 2026 ELECTED BOARD

President	Linda Ralleca
Vice President	Eileen McAlister
Treasurer	Karin Wesner
Secretary	Gale Davis
Program Chair	Chris Rogers
Program Chair Elect	Elaine Ramires
Parliamentarian	Diane Hoxeng
Members-at-Large	Mary Ann Hayre Karen Hendrix Sue Stone Elaine Tucker Sally Wingard Genelle Voorhees

## 2026 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Audits	Eileen McAlister
Awards	Sharon Fry
Block-of-the-Month	Patty Zack
Boutique	Betty Upchurch
Budget	Karin Wesner
Challenge Quilt	Genelle Voorhees
Community Education	Debbie Faris-Cole
Community Quilts	Laura Barrett
Corresponding Secretary	Karen Taylor
Craft Fair	Gale Davis
Door Prizes/Gift Baskets	Sally Wingard
Email Coordinator	Sharon Fry
Fair Liaison - Santa Rosa	Gina Stateler-Calhoun

Fair Liaison - Cloverdale	Elaine Ramires
Fifth Thursday Sew Day	Lisa Gamble
Friendship Blocks	Sharon Fry
Historian	Carolle LeMonnier
Hospitality	Sharon Fry
Library	Jan Andrews
Membership	Jan Andrews
Mystery Quilt	Jan Andrews
Newsletter Editor	Diane Hoxeng
Nominating	
Opportunity Quilt Ticket Sales	Elaine Ramires
Opportunity Quilt Design	Sharon Fry
Proofreader	Vicki David
Retreat - Lake Tahoe	Chris Rogers
Retreat - Local	Eileen McAlister
Sew-a-Row	Joy McGoran
Sewing Room Sale	Linda Ralleca
Social Media	Sharon Fry
Storage Unit	Janice Juul
Sunshine	Brenda Kobrin
Technique Sharing Workshops	Laura Barrett
Twenty-Year Members	Elizabeth McDonnell
UFO Challenge	Linda Hooper
Videographer	Linda Hooper
Website	Rhonda Denny
Welcoming Committee	Elaine Ramires
Zoom Committee	



# SRQG 2026 Calendar

## MARCH

- 5** General Meeting - *VBZR*  
Mystery Quilt Introduction  
TSW with Janet Tonkin:  
Making perfect circles to applique
- 19** Program Meeting - *In-Person, Zoom*  
Kitty Oliver  
"Quilt Judging: You Be the Judge"
- 20** Sew Day for Community Quilts - *LBAGC*
- 26** Board Meeting - *ZOOM*

## APRIL

- 2** General Meeting - *VBZR*  
Sew-a-Row: Row 2 due  
*Valley of the Moon Quilt Parade*  
2025-2026 Opportunity Quilt Drawing  
2026-2027 Opportunity Quilt Introduction
- 16** Program Meeting - *In-Person, Zoom*  
Mac McNamara -  
Lecture and Trunk Show
- 23** Board Meeting - *ZOOM*

LBAGC - Luther Burbank Art & Garden Center

VBZR - Veterans Building, ZOOM record only

# BREAKING NEWS!!!

The SRQG Board just approved a new, local retreat for Members who want to “get away from it all,” but not drive hours to a destination.

Here are the details:

## Three Night Quilting Retreat

October 29 - 30, 2026

Camp Newman, 4088 Porter Creek Road

Cost is \$650 double occupancy add 30% for single

Three meals a day, plus snacks

Camp Newman is located 25 minutes from Santa Rosa, and has been completely rebuilt since the fires, so the rooms and meeting spaces are new and updated. Rooms have two queen size beds, shower, refrigerator, microwave, and coffee maker. ADA rooms with one queen size bed are available at the same price.

A deposit of \$325 is due by April 16, and the balance of \$325 will be due August 20.



Al put the driver on the wrong side AND driving away from the Retreat!

Contact Chris Rogers if you are interested in this Retreat!

# Santa Rosa Quilt Guild Affiliates

## 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

[Bolt Fabric](#)

[info@boltcloverdale.com](mailto:info@boltcloverdale.com)

10% discount for SRQG Members

## CLOVERDALE QUILTING

Margaret Davids, Owner  
111 Lake St.

Cloverdale, CA 95425

415-577-8407

[Cloverdale Quilting](#)

[cloverdalequilting@gmail.com](mailto:cloverdalequilting@gmail.com)

Hours by Appointment



These people  
Make Santa Rosa Quilt Guild  
**THE BEST!**