



Stitch'n Times

Santa Rosa Quilt Guild

P.O. Box 9251, Santa Rosa, CA 95405

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President's Message

The Things We Find Precious



Over the weekend, I visited Taylor Trades Outdoor Market at the Veterans Building parking lot. There are rows of tables stacked with objects that once meant something to someone: a box of costume jewelry, a set of mismatched mugs, a framed painting leaning against a folding chair. To the casual passerby, it's just stuff—clutter, really. But if you look closely, you can almost sense the stories humming beneath the dust.

I've come to believe that the things we hold most dear are rarely the things anyone else would pay money for. In my house, there's the ceramic vase my husband made which we can't quite throw away because it sat in every apartment and house he's had since college. It's the finger-painted glass jar that my son made when he was in kindergarten, that is, if I'm honest, a little ugly—but he gifted it to me with love, and that makes it beautiful. It's the quilt pieced together from old shirts and scraps of fabric, not because it matches the décor, but because it carries the warmth of memories stitched into every seam.

Anyone who quilts knows the joy of collecting fabric—yard by yard, pattern by pattern, long before the pieces find their way into a finished quilt. To outsiders, it may look like a chaotic stash stuffed in baskets and bins, but to the quilter, each piece is full of possibility. That floral print might remind them of a grandmother's apron, while those bold geometric patterns calls back to a trip abroad. Long before the needle touches cloth, the fabric is already precious because it represents both memory and imagination.

I think of a painting I once picked up while traveling made by an artist whose name I can't recall. It wasn't expensive. It wasn't even especially striking. But, when I brought it home, it became a window to that place and time, a reminder of who I was and what I felt standing on that street corner far from home. That painting still hangs on my wall—not because others admire it, but because it whispers to me.

That's the beauty of these treasures: their worth doesn't need an audience. They bring us joy, quietly, privately, even if no one else understands why. And maybe that's the point. Life has a way of reminding us that not everything precious is obvious, not everything valuable can be explained.

And yes, I've read about "Swedish death cleaning," the practice of clearing out our belongings so we don't leave a burden behind. There's wisdom in it—but also a danger if we take it too far. If we strip away everything in the name of tidiness or efficiency, we risk losing the very things that give our lives texture and warmth. A little clutter, a few odd treasures on the shelf, is not a failure—it's evidence of a life fully lived.

One day, those same beloved objects will likely end up on a card table in someone else's garage, or in the hands of strangers browsing an estate sale. To them, they'll be curiosities at best, junk at worst. And that's okay. Their work will be done. They weren't meant to hold universal meaning—they were meant to hold mine.

What matters is not whether the world sees their value, but that for a time, they lit up our lives.

Linda Ralleca

Volunteer!

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



October 2025 Program and Workshop

Program - October 16, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. on Zoom Only

Brandy Maslowski – Quilter on Fire

Your Mind Matters with Quilters on Fire

Brandy Maslowski is a quilt maker and artist who somehow managed to turn her love of quilting into a career that takes her around the globe as a teacher, speaker, tour guide, and quilt judge. She's the author of a children's picture book, *Kristy's Quilt*, and the Editor of "Quilting Arts" and "QuiltCon" magazines, all while curating amazing guests for her weekly *Quilter on Fire* podcast. Her workshops, ranging from modern improv to fiber art, are designed to gently (and sometimes hilariously) nudge quilters into artfulness. Brandy's art quilts explore themes like healing, growth, humor, and the joy of friendship—because quilts tell a story and, let's face it, quilting should always come with a side of fun.



YOUR MIND MATTERS with the Quilter on Fire –

This lecture and trunk show provides a feature of quilts, textile art, and processes that tell the story of Brandy's path to healing. With consistent practices in self-care, learning, and creativity to live happily rather than searching for happiness, she discovered along the way that bringing joy to others through her podcasts, teaching, and travel fills her cup every day.

Debbie Ward



(FYI ... HSTS = Half Square Triangles, in case you were wondering)

Workshop - October 17, 2025

9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Zoom Only

Brandy Maslowski, Quilter on Fire

Serenity Cruise Pattern

Members - \$50.00

Non-Members - \$60.00

This machine quilting class is such a fun and easy intro to curved piecing! If you've never tried it, this is the class for you.

Cutting fabric in advance is required for this class.

We start off the morning with some easy 4-patch piecing, and then tackle those giant curves before lunch. In the afternoon, you will learn the stripy blocks rounding out all three techniques that you need to assemble the quilt top.

Pattern fee discounted to \$8.00 for students.

Debbie Ward



Get Involved!!

Get involved in SRQG!

Being part of a quilt guild is about more than attending monthly meetings and admiring the beautiful work of fellow quilters. A guild thrives when members take an active role, and the rewards of participation are many. Whether you step up to chair a committee, or simply lend a hand to an existing team, your involvement benefits both the guild and you personally.

Personal Benefits of Active Participation

★ Learn and Grow

Volunteering helps you expand your quilting knowledge and organizational skills. Chairing or helping with the *Technical Sharing Workshop*, for example, exposes you to new techniques and teaching methods. Supporting the *Mystery Quilt* team gives you insight into planning and pacing projects that keep members engaged.

★ Build Connections

Working side by side with other guild members fosters lasting friendships. You'll get to know people beyond casual meeting conversations and share the joy of working toward a common goal.

★ Enhance Creativity

Taking part in guild activities often sparks new ideas. Hearing different perspectives, trying new methods, and helping to plan programs can inspire your own quilting projects in ways you might not expect.

★ Give Back to the Community

The guild exists because members contribute their time and talents. Your participation ensures that everyone has opportunities to learn, be inspired, and feel connected.

"As a new resident of Santa Rosa, the guild has helped me meet new people, allowed me to share my ideas, and expand my knowledge of quilting."

Guild-Wide Benefits of Volunteering

★ Stronger Programs

Committees are the backbone of guild events and activities. When members step forward

to lead or support, the guild can offer richer programs, more workshops, and a wider variety of events.

★ Shared Workload

The more hands involved, the lighter the workload becomes. Instead of one or two people carrying the responsibility, everyone shares in making the guild a success.

★ Fresh Ideas

New volunteers bring new energy. Your perspective may help shape a workshop, project, or event in a way that makes it even more engaging and valuable for the whole membership.

Are you starting to get interested? We have some opportunities in 2026 for you to become more involved in our guild. Here are some ways you can help:

Spotlight on Open Opportunities

★ Technical Sharing Workshop Chair or Team Member

Help bring fresh quilting skills to the guild by coordinating demonstrations and workshops featuring guild members willing to share a technique or expertise. These can be scheduled after meetings, or, in the case of a "Super-sized TSW," have its own day. Learn more: Rhonda Denny

★ Mystery Quilt Committee

A mystery quilt is a quilting project where the final design is not revealed until the end. Participants receive instructions or clues in a series of steps over several months, and work on different parts of the quilt without knowing the overall pattern. Join the fun of planning clues, prepping instructions, and keeping the surprise alive! Learn more: Jean Chirhart and Rena Ferrero

★ Corresponding Secretary

Some of the correspondence the Corresponding Secretary sends out are the Tax Donation letters and Founders' Day invitations. To make it easy, templates are used. Learn more: Janice Juul

★ ZOOM Team

The ZOOM team could use additional members.

Get Involved!! continued ➔

Get Involved!! continued ➔

Get Involved!! continued from page 3

Don't worry if you feel unfamiliar with the technology. They will train! Learn more: Elaine Ramires

★ Social Media

Do you have skills or experience in digital graphics or marketing? Are you creative and understand social media? We can use those skills to highlight SRQG and our activities on our Instagram page. Learn more: Linda Ralleca

★ Newsletter Editor -

Do you love words, storytelling, and helping others shine? We're looking for a volunteer to serve as the editor of the *Stitch'n Times* newsletter. This is a fantastic opportunity to share your writing and editing skills while shaping a publication that keeps SRQG members connected and inspired. The ideal editor will have a keen eye for detail, an ability to engage and guide contributors, and the organizational chops to keep everything flowing smoothly. Creativity is key, and being comfortable with digital marketing tools will make the role even more rewarding. If you're ready to bring your voice and vision to our newsletter, we'd love to have you on board! Learn more: Jim Jensen

How to Get Started

Those are a few areas where we need help. If you are curious about volunteering, take the first step by reaching out. **Check the list of the committee chairpersons** at the end of the newsletter, and let them know you're interested in helping. They'll be glad to share what support is needed and how you can get involved. Even a small contribution of time makes a big difference—and you might find it's one of the most rewarding parts of guild membership.

★ General Inquiries

- Email: president.srqq@gmail.com

Or ask any Board Member.

□ **Remember:** Our guild is only as strong as its members' participation. By stepping up, you not only help the SRQG flourish, but you also enrich your own quilting journey.



2026 Opportunity Quilt

Our beautiful *Bali Wedding Star* quilt is now hanging at Bolt Fabric in Cloverdale after being at the Sonoma County Fair where it won a blue ribbon!



The comment from the fair judge:

"Beautiful! Great job!"

The quilt pattern is from Quiltworx, and the fabric and strip sets were donated by Jan Nilsen. It was foundation paper pieced by Elaine Ramires, and Bolt Fabric donated the backing fabric.

Rena Ferrero machine quilted it. Elaine also made an eye catching label for the back. The finished quilt is 80" X 80".

Raffle ticket sales at the fair were fairly good (\$142.00) and the comments about the quilt were very positive. I also took tickets to the Lake Tahoe retreat and encouraged everyone to buy some.

Remember: all members are encouraged to buy \$20 worth or more!! Keep a book of 10 tickets on hand. They are great little "thank you" gifts for the special people in your life. I give them to my neighbors and other friends "just because".

The drawing for the *Bali Wedding Star* quilt will be at our April 2, 2026, guild meeting.

Rena Ferrero



Membership

Please join the Membership Crew in welcoming the new members who have joined since the last newsletter:



- Tina Subar
- Stacy Shuster
- MaryAnn Bilecki
- Barbara Derringer
- Gayle Citta

Please look for these ladies and welcome them to the guild!

As always, please email Jan Andrews if you have any corrections or additions to your Membership Roster listing. The Roster is updated after every meeting, so if you would like the latest version, email Jan as well.

Jan Andrews

UFO Challenge

HOORAY! IT'S (almost) TIME to display our UFOs. Have you completed yours?

Mark your calendar for Thursday, September 4, to bring your finished UFO to the Santa Rosa Quilt Guild meeting. I'm looking forward to seeing you with your finished challenge.

Don't forget, there are rewards for your finished challenge: refund of your "bet," chocolate, and a fat quarter of fabric. Who doesn't want more fabric?

Elizabeth McDonnell



September Block-of-the-Month

The September 2025 block is *Shooting Stars* designed by Stacy Iest Hsu for the Moda Blockheads 5 Quilt Along. I have chosen a lot of the blocks from this Quilt Along as I thought they were different than many of the traditional star blocks.



Sew as many blocks each month as you would like and submit them to be entered into the drawing. Each block you enter gives you an entry into the drawing. The drawing for the September 2025 blocks will be at our November 6, 2025, meeting.

Watch for the email each month notifying you when the instructions have been posted to the website. The directions for all the BOMs are posted on the guild website at:

[Block of the Month at the Santa Rosa Quilt Guild](#)

Karin Wesner

Sunshine

The Sunshine Committee sends cards to our members who may need a smile to brighten their day. The reason 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 list), 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 .jpg of your quilt – actual size. My stationery cards hold a 4" x 6" 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

Little Bits with Jackie Pitts

Shopping for Fabric in a

Dangerous Neighborhood

I know it's a dangerous neighborhood. You can get robbed there. Not all the shops are well lighted, so even if all concerned are acting in good faith, what you think you see doesn't always strongly resemble what you actually get. I try not to go there when I'm feeling vulnerable or in need of cheering up, but opportunities for time travel are greater here than in most other neighborhoods, so I shop here from time to time.

The first thing to watch out for in shopping on eBay is the shipping costs. A nice \$3 item might not be such a bargain if you have to pay \$15.65 to have it shipped from Australia. This is especially true if you are talking about a fabric item not especially fragile or valuable, and small enough to slip into an envelope like a letter. I always allow a little extra when ordering from Ukraine. If somebody is trying to make a living doing something peaceful in a war zone, I'd like to encourage them. I've bought several lovely pieces of needlework from there.

Many dealers in the United States charge what sounds like unreasonable shipping rates. You may decide that the overall deal makes the shipping rate acceptable. You may not. But always check before you make up your mind. Once I'd been checking eBay for a present for my sister, something that had enchanted her several decades ago when she didn't have room for it. After I found her present, I somehow found myself looking at dolls. A sweet faced little boy doll who would fit nicely into my collection was down to the last five minutes of his auction, and nobody had bid on him. The minimum bid was absurdly low, though the shipping was a tad high. So I bought him. Presently a VERY large cardboard box arrived. Inside was a vast quantity of packing paper. Inside that was a bundle of orange bubble wrap tightly wrapped and taped. At the center of the bubble wrap was a drawstring bag, and in that bag, safe and sound, was the little boy doll. The seller had decided to part with her childhood doll and had made every effort to give him a good future. I felt I had touched something very warm and human, and made sure to tell the seller that he would be kindly treated. He sits among his peers perhaps dreaming of his more active days. Sometimes extra shipping is worth paying, but al-



Little Bits continued

ways check the shipping before you make up your mind. Always!

The search term I used was "fabric panels for quilting." This brought up a great deal of material – good, bad, and ugly. Everybody is there and findable – Elvis, Frieda, Rosie the Riveter, Bigfoot. There are swamps full of frogs, and an astonishing number of Highland Cows. Who knew? There is of course no way to be sure how these fabrics have been stored. I've never bought on eBay a fabric that looked or smelled like it had spent a lot of time in somebody's basement. You might want to ask how and where the fabric was stored.

Also more troubling, there is no way you can check the hand of the fabric. How does it feel to the touch? But suppose this is a fabric you saw earlier and didn't buy while the buying was good. A Cranston print that you bought and wish you had bought more of. Something by Daisy Kingdom or Little Quilts. You know the hand of that fabric. You have bought from them before and know what to expect. I like the doll-sized cheater quilts put out by Little Quilts. They make a pleasant and relaxing hand quilting project. Dolls arrive at Doll Club meetings wrapped in them from time to time. I was happy to find a few of these which I had missed in their heyday. (By the way, Gwen Marston's TWENTY LITTLE PATCHWORK QUILTS is being reprinted by Dover Press, as are a lot of needlework classics.)



While wandering the dimly lit streets of this dangerous neighborhood, I found a shop that was brightly lit. I saw page after page of hundreds of beautiful, high quality fabrics, the small sizes under \$5, postage paid. I was astonished and impressed. My sister had called a few days before and wistfully spoken of certain paper dolls in our shared childhood before the middle of the last century. Here was one of those very paper dolls! In fact there were at least three from the series. Many styles are represented: Art Nouveau, Art Deco, lots of the sorts of things you see on Victorian trade cards, pretty ladies, Indian and Japanese, cats, Cecily Mary Barker's flower fairies, even a few of the pre-Raphaelite painters such as Waterhouse.



Little Bits continued ➔

Little Bits continued page 7 ➔

Little Bits continued

Ten days later the envelope arrived. I am very pleased with the contents. The designs are printed on 200 count 100% cotton. No setting agent is required but the manufacturer recommends that the user soak the fabric for 10 minutes before use and carefully rinse until the water runs clear. This process is said to set the ink. They say thereafter to wash with Woolite or something similar. You can sew the piece on your garment, or use a fabric glue such as "OK to Wash It." These pieces are especially intended for use in crazy quilting. You will find the shop (and I hope you do) at [Keepsake Fabrics](#). These people are easy to do business with. I don't know if the fabrics are printed on demand like Spoonflower. The directions for care suggest that they might be. Whatever the case, mine arrived 10 days after I sent for them which is very reasonable. Most of the designs come in four sizes: 3" x 4" at \$4.75, 4" x 6" at \$6.75, 5" x 7" at \$10.75, and 7" x 10" at \$14.

Besides crazy quilting, I hope to use some of mine in soft jewelry. This fabric is pleasant and non-scratchy to wear, and I have missed it. I used to have a little purple heart-shaped brooch with yellow embroidery and a vintage plastic charm. I liked to wear this with my red paisley blazer. It wasn't garish. Really it wasn't. I was younger. The world was younger. I'd do it again in a heartbeat. [Simple DIY For Unique Brooch From Denim And Burlap](#)



And speaking of soft jewelry, I've been making butterflies. There are lots of links for fabric origami butterflies, so I've included two favorites. They are very easy; 3-folds and 4-folds, respectively. [How to make Origami Butterflies with beads & embroidery](#) Practice a couple of times on junk mail. [Origami Butterfly](#) This would be a fun project to share with a child or a crafty friend. You can put these butterflies on a brooch, or a hair ornament, or perch one on each basket handle in a basket quilt. It involves sewing two squares or two oblongs of different fabrics. Turn and press. Follow the simple folds to make a butterfly. You will need to tack in a few places to hold the shape. Anyone of a vintage to have worn pleated skirts to school remembers that fabric doesn't necessarily 'want' to stay folded, but the butterfly isn't at all hard and is very much worth the effort.



Jackie Pitts

September/October 2025

Quilt Guild Challenge

Santa Rosa Quilt Guild Challenge Quilt for 2025

The Challenge Quilt Reveals!

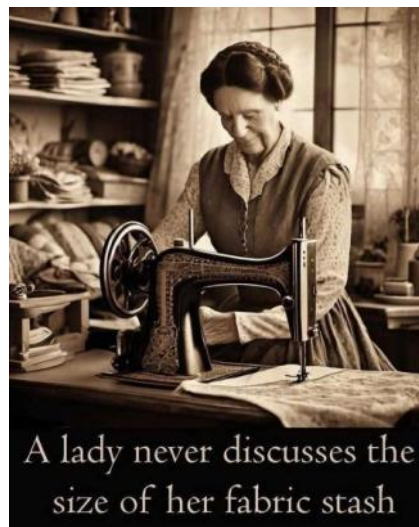
The reveal of the Challenge Quilts, "**When I Am An Old Woman I Shall Wear Purple**," was super fun, and the creativity shown by our members was truly *spectacular*! I know we still have a couple of people who were unable to finish in time for the scheduled reveal dates, and we will weave theirs in to our regular Show-and-Tells.



Next Steps: Our next big date will be November 6 when the quilts will be turned in. They should of course be finished and have a sleeve. Please make the sleeve an inch or so short of each side so that the slats for hanging the quilts will not show. Pin your paperwork to the back, that includes the release of liability form, and your artist's information.

In addition to the turn-in date, keep in mind that the quilts will be hung in the Senior wing of the Findley Community Center. The display dates are January 5 through March 26, 2026. This is a wonderful opportunity to share our love for quilting with the community at large, and specifically to an age demographic that many of us share. In the past our display has been very well received, and I hope we will be able to continue to be included on the calendar of the Person's Center. There are only a few chosen each year to show artwork, so it is a real privilege to be invited for the third year in a row.

Toni Anderson



A lady never discusses the size of her fabric stash

Technique Sharing Workshops (TSW)

Hello Santa Rosa Quilt Guild!

September, already? That happened fast! Did you know that SRQG was founded in September of 1976? This means 49 years of endless creativity, making relationships, honing our skills, supporting the communities we live in, and sharing the love of what we are all doing. It enriches our lives and the lives of others with beautiful hand-made goods.

We have completed all Technique Sharing Workshops and Super-sized TSW for 2025. I'd like to thank our presenters and students for your super support encouraging some to share their tips, tricks, or processes with others to increase their skills and creativity.

TSWs are traditionally held after the business meeting ends. They're normally about 15 minutes of information, demos, and inspiration in some quiet corner of the Veteran's Building roughly five or six times a year. If you have something to share with the guild, please let your TSW chair know.

Last year (2024) we thought to increase more TSWs through the year. Someone came up with a grand idea to rent the Luther Burbank Art and Garden Center three times a year to hold more in-depth workshops. We call these 'Super-sized TSWs'. They are six hours of instruction led by a guild member for only a small fee to cover the rent. If you have great ideas and want to share them and/or chair this fun committee, let leadership know.

I want to thank Christine Rogers for being an amazing handmaiden. She did most of the busy work for all TSWs and reminded me to do this or that. Thank you, Chris, for holding us together from meeting to meeting. Thank you, Laura Barrett, for holding my hand and giving me the confidence to chair this volunteer position. Thank you to Sharon and Jim, for proofing (and reproofing) my newsletter articles.

In 2025, we enjoyed these TSWs: Janice Juul – sewing roll; Betty Upchurch – free-motion quilting; Breda Kobrin – receiving blanket with mitered corners; Sue Stone – portable ironing board; Janet Tonkin – AccuQuilt cutters and dies; Genelle Voorhees – coiled bowl; Rhonda Denny – stitching witch and bling workshop. Thank you all sew very much.

Rhonda Denny

2025 Mystery Quilt

By now, if you've been working on the 2025 Mystery Quilt, you have all of the clues and might be almost finished.

The final clue #6 was actually sent in with #5 and then sent again in August.

I have my top finished, and I really like it. It's a gift for a great-great-nephew who is 6 years old.

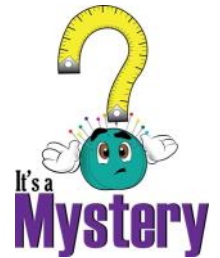
Other members have made ones that are much more sophisticated and quite lovely. Sharing the finished quilt top / quilt was originally planned for the first meeting in October, but we've run into conflicts with other activities, so that date will be determined a little later in the year.

We'll let you know when we know!!! Regardless, Jean and I are excited to see what others have created.

If you have questions about how the quilt is put together, please don't hesitate to call me or email me, my information is in the roster.

Jean Chirhart

Rena Ferrero



Craft Fair

Time to get crafting!

Our annual Craft Fair will be held November 6, the first meeting of the month.

The Craft Fair is an opportunity for members to offer their handmade items for sale to the rest of the guild. It's a great opportunity to sell your creations.

You can request a half or whole table, but you don't need a big fancy display. You will be selling to a friendly group that appreciates handcrafted items and food.

There is no charge to be a seller, although a voluntary donation to SRQG is appreciated.

If you would like to sign up or have questions, please contact me.

Gale Davis.





PET PROJECTS



Finley Center

The August issue of the Santa Rosa Community Center Activity Guide will feature the Santa Rosa Quilt Guild's "Quilt Making Classes." There will be four sessions of classes happening in September, October, January, and February. Each session will last four weeks. The classes will be taught by SRQG volunteers, and materials will come from donations to the guild, so the classes will be offered at an affordable cost of \$40.00 per four-week session to cover the rent of the room only. Our focus will be on having students experience the complete quilting process. The classes will be on Tuesday evenings from 5:15 p.m. – 7:15 p.m.



September – the class will focus on beginning sewing and piecing together blocks with squares and half-square triangles.

October – participants will make a variety of star blocks.

January – the class will assemble the quilt blocks, and include sashing and borders to finish a quilt top.

February – we will quilt and bind our quilts.

The teachers of the classes are Sue Stone, Rena Ferrero, Michelle Proto, Karin Wesner, Pleasant Vitali, and Eileen McAlister. Others who have helped in preparing for the classes are Diane Hoxeng, Linda Ralleca, and Diane Coddling. Lynette Whitman, Linda May Vaughn, and Marianne Newman have also volunteered to help.

We have recently received two large stashes from friends of the guild, and we have 12 working machines with two more promised. If you wish to donate to this cause, we always need white or cream thread and rotary blades, Olfa brand, size 45 mm. We also need funds for sewing machine upkeep and repair.

Please see Diana Coddling if you wish to donate funds.

A big thank you goes to everyone who has donated in the past. Your donations keep on giving as we bring new people into our wonderful craft.

Debbie Faris-Cole

Baby Closet

It's hard to believe the baby closet has been in service for four-and-a-half years at the Santa Rosa Community Health Center's (SRCH) Lombardi Campus. I had/have a five-year plan. The goal was to serve one of the hardest hit campuses in Santa Rosa, the Roseland neighborhood, on and around the onset of the pandemic.

Fill the closet, stat! We needed to start as soon as possible to meet the needs of the tiniest of patients. We tried some different ideas, such as an age limit, but what about siblings? The donors wanted to know that the closet was well-received, and that it offered some relief for the families. Layette sets included blankets, quilts, wet wipes, washcloths, bibs, hats, clothing, maybe a book or two, and smallish stuffed animals for siblings.

I also needed to replace my group of SRQG sewists with SRCH sewists. Due to the pandemic, there were no meetings I could hold to instruct basic sewing, or even gather a group together to see if there was interest in such a thing. Our very own Brenda Kobrin held a workshop at Village Sewing Center on Lewis Road to make two-sided, self-binding blankets with mitered corners. The workshop brought in 20 blankets. Brenda, you are a rock star!

I let the health center know I will be stepping back from the closet at the beginning of 2026. I will still collect anything that anyone still wants to donate, but my heart is now elsewhere. The receiving blankets for flu vaccines incentive is working. There is an uptick in completed vaccinations in the under two-year set. I love this project. My favorite story is that one baby was so enamored with the receiving blanket that she squealed with delight, not realizing they had given her the vaccine, and she didn't even want the stickers they were giving out. I do want to keep on with the receiving blankets incentive because it is working. 150 were asked for and 200 were turned in.

As for SRQG, thousands of baby closet items were turned in. I want to thank everyone who participated for the generous contributions that made a difference for a hard-hit community.

Thank you, all, for the TLC for the wee ones...

Rhonda Denny



PET PROJECTS

Heart Pillows

An invitation to make **Breast Cancer Heart Pillows**:

How would you like to help bring a bit of comfort to a patient going through breast cancer surgery?



Our Heart Pillow volunteers make and distribute Heart Pillows for the Kaiser Breast Cancer 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 15-1/2" 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 on the membership list. I will be happy to email you with 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



Sew-a-Row

Based on the Sew-a-Rows that have been turned in the past couple of months, we had great fun with our summer guests! Thank you so much to everyone who has been participating. We even have ten Sew-a-Rows completed!

There are still more wonderful Sew-a-Rows waiting to be finished, so check out the pictures on the web-site and give me a call, text, or email and let me know the one(s) that peak your interest, and I will get it/them to you!

All Sew-a-Rows will be due on November 6, so let's keep quilting!

Eileen McAlister



Friendship Blocks

In September we will be debuting a new Friendship Block for our President, Linda Ralleca.

Be sure to pick up your instructions and fabric for this exciting Friendship block. It will be a nice souvenir of her presidency to be able to make a quilt with everyone's names on the blocks for her to be able to look back on.

This is what friendship blocks are all about – the memories of friends and good times we've had in our quilting community making and sharing our projects together.

If you have an idea for your own Friendship Block quilt, just let me know and we'll get you started, too.

You can find out how many credits you have by looking at [Friendship blocks at the Santa Rosa Quilt Guild](http://www.srqg.org).

Thank you to everyone who has been a part of keeping the Friendship Block program going in our guild.

Lisa Gamble

Community Quilts

Community Quilts

Quiltathon October 2, 2025 (We will have ice cream!)

After a summer of vacations, county fairs, and barbecues, we will be gathering for our third Quiltathon of the year on Thursday, October 2, at the Veteran's Building. We have received lots of tops and finished quilts since our previous Quiltathon in May, so there will be plenty to keep everyone busy. This is the last Quiltathon of 2025, so be sure to come out and help finish the quilts we donate to our community while visiting with your guild friends. As a fun thank you, our Hospitality Committee will be serving ice cream. They always come up with something delicious.



For those of you who are new to the guild, at a Quiltathon we start with layered quilt sandwiches, smoothing and pinning them. These are stitched around the edges leaving an opening for turning (also known as the *pillow case* or *envelope* method). The quilts are then trimmed and turned right side out. The next stage is edge stitching with our expert sewists sewing 1/8" from the edge, catching the opening, and making a nice edge to the quilt. The quilts are then quilted by machine; then our hand sewists put on one of our labels. Lastly, the quilts are reviewed by members of our quality control team who make sure there are no pins or needles left in a quilt, trimming threads, and removing excess lint and threads with lint rollers.

One of the greatest needs we have is for members to bring their sewing machines to sew around the edges of the layered quilts with a walking foot, or to do quilting with either a walking foot or a free-motion foot. The quilting can be very simple on these NICU quilts.

As you can see, there is a job for everyone. One of the favorite aspects of the Quiltathon is the opportunity to visit with our long-time friends, and to make new friends. We will send out an email to everyone with the details on what tools and supplies you need to bring on Quiltathon day.

The doors open at 9:30 a.m. for individuals to set up their sewing machines, or find a spot for the other activities. We will start clean up at 1:30 p.m. and leave by 2 p.m. Be sure to come and join in the fun!

NICU Kits Available

Did you know we have kits to make NICU tops? We provide about 200 - 300 quilts each year to the NICU (Neonatal Intensive Care Unit) of the three local hospitals in Santa Rosa: Kaiser, Sutter, and Memorial; as well as to Sonoma County Public Health for new babies. The quilts in the hospitals are used to cover the isolettes and keep out the bright light from the babies' eyes. The size of the quilt is 32" x 40". The quilt can be a bit bigger by 2 - 4 inches, but cannot be smaller. The parents take home the quilt with their new baby. We have received many thank you notes from parents and grandparents about how special this quilt is to them.



You can make the finished quilt or quilt top using your own pattern or one of our kits. The kits are great for beginners and for those looking for a quick project. Margo Pitter has been making our kits for several years now, and she has a wonderful eye for color and pattern. If you would like a NICU kit, please ask Margo, Laura, or Janet Tonkin at a guild meeting.

Quilt Tops and Finished Quilts

You can bring your finished quilt tops and finished quilts to any in-person meeting and deliver them to the Community Quilts Committee. Look for the red wagon with the Community Quilts sign in the back of the room, or give them to Janet Tonkin or Laura Barrett. We appreciate the time and resources and the creativity you put into each of the tops and finished quilts that you make for our community. Thank you.

We have batting and/or backing available for you to use to finish the quilt top you have made for Community Quilts. Contact Janet Tonkin or Laura Barrett and we will arrange to get it to you.

Delivery of Quilts

We continue to deliver quilts to the hospitals, Veteran's groups, special requests, and more on an ongoing basis. We appreciate the generosity of our members bringing in finished quilts and quilt tops to every meeting. Come by our Community Quilts Wagon and see the generosity for yourself and be amazed!

Laura Barrett

Janet Tonkin

COMMUNITY QUILT SIZES

If you are making donation quilts on your own, these are the approximate sizes most needed.

32" x 40" Baby Quilts	For Sutter, Kaiser, and Memorial NICUs, Public Health nursing, and teen moms. We provide kits for making the tops, or you may use your own fabrics.
40" x 60"	For Valley of the Moon and other organizations serving children in need. Please use bright colors for young children or fabrics that will appeal to teenagers.
50" x 65"	For 18-year-olds aging out of the Foster Care system, and for women residing at the YWCA Safe House.
40" x 60"	Lap quilts for adults to be handed out by Secret Santa, women being served by Verity, seniors in local convalescent hospitals, and others.
14" - 18" Square Doll Quilts	For little girls and boys. We collect them throughout the year and donate during the holidays.

Sonoma County Fair Award Winners

Congratulations to all the fair winners!

Toni Anderson - one second
 Carole Behlke - one first
 Lyra Bobo - one first
 Janet Chosa - one first, one second
 Rhonda Denny - one second
 Leti Duenas - two firsts
 Susan Fabiano - one first
 Debbie Faris-Cole - one second
 Jani Goodwin - one first, two seconds
 Cherie Gooler - one first
 Mary Anne Hayre - three firsts, Best of Show
 Karen Hendrix - one first
 Marilyn Lira - one second
 Nancy McDermott - Peoples' Choice Award
 Elaine Ramires - one first
 Linda Salomon - one second
 Gina Stateler-Calhoun - one first, one second
 Karen Taylor - one second
 Elaine Tucker - one first

Congratulations to the third and fourth place winners, too.

Calling All Web Wizards

The Santa Rosa Quilt Guild is seeking recommendations for a skilled **web developer/designer** to help us reimagine our website. Our goal is to create a modern, welcoming, and easy-to-navigate online home that reflects the creativity of our members while making it easier for our web team to update and manage content.

We're looking for someone who can:

- Refresh the overall design with a more modern look.
- Improve usability for members and visitors.
- Set up a content management system that allows our team to keep the site up to date with minimal fuss.

Our preference is for a web developer who is local or in the Pacific time zone. If you know a talented web professional—or if you are one yourself—we'd love to hear from you! Please send your recommendations or contact information to Linda Hooper or Linda Ralleca.

Together, we can stitch a brighter digital future for the Guild!

Linda Ralleca



Mary Ann Hayre
 Sonoma County Fair
 Best of Show

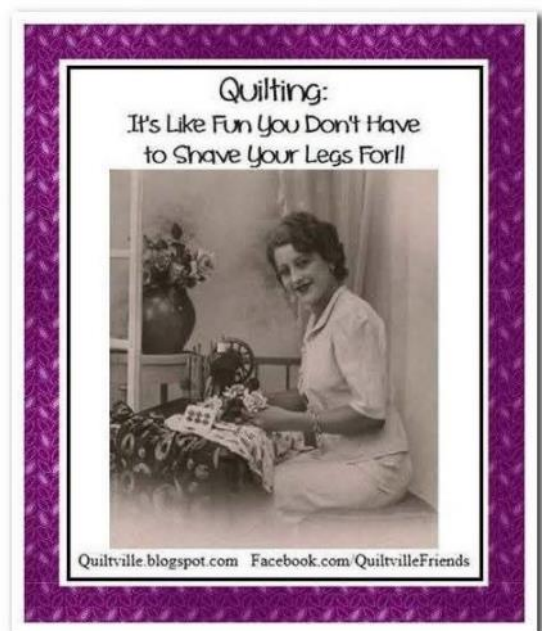


Quilty Happenings

Shows, Events, and Activities

Name	Location	Dates	Quilt Submission Deadline
<u>"Routed West: Twentieth-Century African American Quilts in California"</u>	Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive (BAMPFA) Berkeley, CA	Jun 8 – Nov 30	NA
<u>International Quilt Festival</u>	George R Brown Conv Center Houston, TX	Oct 9-12 Classes start Oct 6	passed
<u>MQSC Fabric, Quilt, and Craft Boutique</u>	Vets Building, Santa Rosa	Oct 11th	NA
Oakmont Quilting Bee exhibit	Rincon Valley Library	Now through Oct 29th	NA
<u>Pointless Sisters Quilt Show</u>	Occidental Center for the Arts	Now through Sep 14	NA
<u>Quilt, Craft, and Sewing Festival</u>	Alameda Fairground, Pleasanton	Sep 25-27	NA
<u>23rd Annual Falling Leaves Quilt Show</u>	Lake County Fairgrounds, Lakeport, CA	Oct 4-5	passed

If there's an event you'd like Guild Members to know about, please submit it to Linda Ralleca.



2025 Elected Board and Committee Chairs

2025 ELECTED BOARD

President	Linda Ralleca
Vice President	Eileen McAlister
Treasurer	Diana Coddling
Secretary	Debbie Faris-Cole
Program Chair	Debbie Ward
Program Chair Elect	Chris Rogers
Parliamentarian	Elaine Ramires
Members-at-Large	Laura Barrett
	Rhonda Denny
	Rena Ferrero
	Mary Ann Hayre
	Karen Hendrix
	Diane Hoxeng

2025 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Audits	Eileen McAlister
Awards	Sharon Fry
Block-of-the-Month	Karin Wesner
Boutique	Betty Upchurch
Budget	Diana Coddling
Challenge Quilt	Toni Anderson
Community Quilts	Laura Barrett
Corresponding Secretary	Janice Juul
Craft Fair	Gale Davis
Email Coordinator	Sharon Fry

Fair Liaison - Santa Rosa
 Fair Liaison - Cloverdale
 Fifth Thursday Sew Day
 Friendship Blocks
 Historian
 Hospitality
 Library
 Membership
 Mystery Quilt
 Newsletter Editor
 Nominating
 Opportunity Quilt Ticket Sales
 Opportunity Quilt Design
 Proofreader
 Retreat
 Sew-a-Row
 Sewing Room Sale
 Social Media
 Sunshine
 Technique Sharing Workshop
 Twenty Year Members
 UFO Challenge
 Videographer
 Website
 Welcoming Committee
 Zoom Committee

Gina Stateler-Calhoun
 Norma Viglienzzone
 Elaine Ramires
 Lisa Gamble
 Sharon Fry
 Carolle LeMonnier
 Sharon Fry
 Jan Andrews
 Jean Chirhart
 Jim Jensen
 Elaine Ramires
 Rena Ferrero
 Elaine Ramires
 Sharon Fry
 Vicki David
 Eileen McAlister
 Joy McGoran
 Linda Ralleca
 Janice Juul
 Rhonda Denny
 Laura Barrett
 Elizabeth McDonnell
 Linda Hooper
 Linda Hooper
 Rhonda Denny
 Elaine Ramires

SRQG 2025 Calendar

SEPTEMBER

- 4** General Meeting - *In-Person, Zoom Recorded*
UFO Challenge
- 18** Founders' Day - *In-Person, Zoom*
Fair Winners Celebrated
- 25** Board Meeting - *Zoom Only*



Toni Anderson - Frank's World

OCTOBER

- 2** General Meeting - *In-person, Zoom Recorded*
Quiltathon
- 16** Program - *Zoom Only*
Brandy Maslowski - "Your Mind Matter with Quilts on Fire"
- 17** Workshop - *Zoom Only*
Brandy Maslowski - "Serenity Cruise"
- 23** Board Meeting - *Zoom Only*
- 30** Fifth Thursday Sew Day - *LBAGC*



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

10% discount for SRQG members

CLOVERDALE QUILTING

Margaret Davids, Owner
111 Lake St.

Cloverdale, CA 95425

415-577-8407

[Cloverdale Quilting](#)

cloverdalequilting@gmail.com

Hours by Appointment

BAY QUILTS

Sally Davey and Abbey Shane Lawrence

5327 Jacuzzi St., #3C

Richmond, CA 94804

(510) 558-0218

[Bay Quilts](#)

create@sfbayquilts.com

FOGBELT QUILTING COMPANY

Megan Schofield

4991 Newanga Ave.

Santa Rosa, CA 95405

707-738-2364

Hours on demand

www.fogbeltquilting.com

megan@fogbeltquilting.com

