



# STITCH 'N TIMES

Santa Rosa Quilt Guild

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

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## President's Message

### **The Heartbeat of Quilt Guilds**

Last week a friend and her daughter, who are big fans of Sam Heughan, were going to his whiskey bottle signing at Total Wine in Daly City. Would I like to join them? First, while I find the guy totally sexy (and you know what I'm talking about if you've watched *Outlander*), I am not that fan to go gaga over him. Second, I hate standing in lines, especially during a heatwave. And, third, it's quite a drive from Santa Rosa. This was just not my thing.

But I went anyway because I hadn't seen my friend in over two months and missed her. And, you know what? I had a lot of fun.

Last year, I was asked if I would consider being president of the Guild. My corporate leadership background gave me confidence that I could do the job, and I was starting to enjoy my uncomplicated and newly retired life. But I overcame my hesitation and accepted. And, you know what? I am glad I stepped in because I am having so much fun.

The Santa Rosa Quilt Guild is more than just a gathering of quilt enthusiasts—it's a vibrant hub where we come together to celebrate our craft. However, the guild doesn't run itself. The heartbeat of SRQG lies in the hands of its volunteers. The Officers are responsible for the strategic direction and operations of the guild, ensuring we have funds to operate, a place to meet, and regular programming. The Committee Chairs shape the guild's activities, sharing their skills, talent, and time.

Volunteers allow us to share our skills and stories. Novices find patient mentors, and seasoned quilters willingly pass down techniques that have weathered generations. Whether it's teaching a beginner how to piece a log cabin block, or demonstrating the delicate art of hand quilting, activities like our Show-and-Tells, Challenges, Block-of-the-Months, and Technical Sharing Workshops (TSWs).

Time, that elusive commodity, is willingly surrendered for the guild. Volunteers organize workshops, plan retreats, devote time to our Opportunity Quilt, and coordinate Community Quilts. They spend hours se-

lecting fabrics for group challenges, organizing Friendship Blocks, and running our Quiltathons.

*"I've got a busy week ahead," confesses one member, "but I wouldn't miss our guild meeting for the world. It's my creative recharge."*

Our guild is a treasure trove of talent. From precision piecing to intricate appliqué, each member brings a unique skill set. And when we collaborate, magic happens. Quilts emerge that blend traditional patterns with modern flair, where a splash of improv meets the elegance of hand-quilted feathers. Volunteers share their expertise generously, elevating everyone's work.

*"See this binding?" whispers a seasoned quilter during a workshop. "Fold it just so, and it'll frame your quilt like a masterpiece."*

What makes a guild truly fun? It's the thrill of challenges—the Mystery Quilt, the Challenge Quilt, or the "ugly fabric" contest. Volunteers dream up these escapades, igniting creativity and camaraderie. And when the results are unveiled, laughter fills the room. "Who knew that Australian snake and modern tree prints could look so fabulous together?"

*"I thought I'd hate that fabric, but now it's the star of my quilt!"*

Quilt guilds are time capsules, preserving techniques and traditions. Volunteers ensure that the old ways—the cathedral windows, the crazy quilts, the intricate Baltimore Album blocks—are not forgotten. They document stories behind vintage quilts, tracing lineage through stitches, and stories of our guild. And when a new quilter joins, they say, "Welcome to our legacy. Let's stitch your story into the fabric."

So, next time you step into one of our guild meetings, take a moment to look around and appreciate the volunteers. Consider where you might be able to help out. Sometimes, the best way to discover what's possible is by taking that leap of faith and giving it a shot. And, you know what? You may have some fun!

**Linda Ralleca** (President)

# !!VOLUNTEER!!

# Volunteer Opportunities

# Think Tank Recap

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AT SRQG

We are excited to announce that we have several Committee Coordinator roles available for 2025. Volunteers for one of these roles can go it alone or select a friend or two as your committee.



Having someone to bounce ideas around and get creative juices going is rewarding. While it may seem daunting, we help you in several ways. There are descriptions and “how-tos” for all committees (aka Pink Binders), and you will also have previous Committee Coordinators and the Board to go to if you have questions.

The goal is to have fun while contributing to SRQG!

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Linda Ralleca.

### Quilt Challenge

A challenge is issued, and the “rules” regarding introduction and reveal vary each time according to the whim of the Coordinator (or co-coordinators). Approximately six months later, the completed quilts are revealed at one of the SRQG meetings.

### Crafts Fair

The Crafts Fair Chair is responsible for the annual Craft Sales where regular and active members without an established California resale license may sell items they have made. Members may also sell items made by non-members upon approval of the Committee Chair and the Board. The Craft Sale is typically held in November.

### Technical Lead (new for 2025)

SRQG is in the process of becoming more digital and is looking for members who are proficient in Google Drive, Microsoft Word, and Microsoft Excel. The Technical Lead will assist and train the Board and Committee Chairs where needed in posting files on Google Drive or transcribing handwritten notes into procedures. Experience with creating user and training manuals and writing would be helpful in this role.

**Linda Ralleca** (President)



## Finance ‘Think Tank’ Recap

We held a meeting open to all members on August 19 at my home to discuss the guild finances. Two categories were discussed: The first was how we can increase our revenue to keep up with rising costs, and the second was how to decrease expenses without decreasing the member benefits.



The first and unanimous idea discussed to increase revenue was to raise our yearly dues to \$50 per member. We also talked about going back to the time when ALL members were given tickets to either buy or sell for our Opportunity Quilt.

Some of the other ideas thrown out were as follows:

- When we are at an event selling tickets to the Op Quilt, have a mini quilt to raffle for that event, that day.
- Ask Veterans group(s) to sponsor one of our meetings and pay the rent for that day.
- Have quilt-related items at the fair, and for an in-kind donation, give the item to the donor.
- Place a jar at the membership sign-in table asking for \$1 or \$2 per person.
- Research and apply for grants.
- Ask each member who attends the retreat to donate \$5 – 10 to the guild.
- Ask members who attend the Fifth Thursday sew day to donate \$5 – 10 to cover the cost of the LBAGC.
- Check with churches and organizations to help support the guild.
- Have a Live Auction for special items/quilts.
- Remind members about bequeathing funds to the guild as memorial donations.
- Have members with special studios give a tour and provide a luncheon to a few members with the donation from each member to be determined.
- Do not have lifetime memberships.

Think Tank continued page 3 →

# Opportunity Quilt 2025

# Grant Opportunities

## The Lucy Boston Quilt

Our beautiful "Lucy Boston" Opportunity Quilt is now on display at Bolt Fabric and Home in Cloverdale. Kate has the perfect wall to show it off in its entirety, along with its blue ribbon from the fair. It will be on display there until mid-November.



In early September I took the Opportunity Quilt to the Napa Valley Quilt Guild meeting. Anni Donahue was very helpful in arranging my visit and with ticket sales. In late September, Candi Delgado and I took it to Gualala to the Piecemakers Guild (a beautiful drive over to the coast). Both groups were very welcoming and admired the English paper piecing and overall traditional look of the quilt. We also managed to sell a lot of tickets. It's very interesting to visit other guilds and see what they're doing. Both guilds have been invited to bring their Opportunity Quilts to one of our meetings.

Although ticket sales are going fairly well, I'm still encouraging every member to buy at least \$20.00 worth of tickets. At the meetings many of you have bought tickets and it's greatly appreciated. Remember, if you have a supply in your purse or bag you can give or sell them to others! The Opportunity Quilt is a major fund raiser for our guild.

**Rena Ferrero** (Opportunity Ticket Sales Chair)

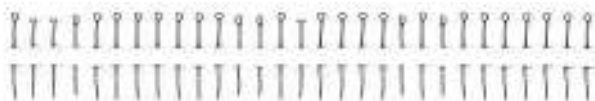
Think Tank continued from page 2

## How to Decrease Expenses

- Reduce the number of paid Speakers/Programs and have a Sew Day in the place of a speaker.
- Have members be the Speaker and provide the Program.
- Have a member be the Featured artist for the Program.

All of the above ideas were shared at the Board Meeting on August 22. The Board did vote to increase the dues to \$50 per member per year. Some ideas were not embraced by the Board and others will be looked into.

**Diana Coddling** (Treasurer)



## Sonoma County Supervisors Grant Money

In my quest to find more income for our guild, I searched online for possible grants for which our guild would qualify. I was grateful to find that we have an opportunity to apply for grant money from each of the five Sonoma County Supervisorial Districts. Working together with Laura Barrett from Community Quilts and Linda Ralleca, our guild president, we completed and submitted the grant application in late July.

As of this writing, we have received notice that three of the five district supervisors have granted our guild money to be used for our Community Quilt program. Districts 1, 2, and 3 have all sent notice that they will each grant us \$500 each. This is a wonderful help for our guild's efforts to raise money, and keep our guild financially strong.

Our grants are largely based on the fact that in 2023 our guild donated a total of 1,232 quilts to various organizations and persons. The grant money will be tracked, and a report will be filed with the Supervisors as to how the money was spent.

The largest group that received our quilts last year was dedicated to local veterans. One of our members, Lavella Cassinelli, works tirelessly with her team of volunteers to make many of the quilts for our veterans. If you would like to find out more in regard to making quilts for our veterans, contact Linda Ralleca.

Keep on quilting!

**Diana Coddling** (Treasurer)



# January 2025 Program and Workshop

## Program - David Owen Hastings - "Quilt Labels to Love!" January 16, 2025, 10 a.m. on Zoom

I combine computer-printed custom labels with a woven logo label on my quilts to give them a professional finish, and to record important details for posterity (or for the recipient). Quilts are a wonderful art form, and you should sign your work with a distinctive label. It's a great opportunity for you to consistently brand your quilts, especially those you gift to others at holidays or other special occasions.



It's also an opportunity to weave in the story of your quilt, so the story doesn't get lost. Was the quilt made for a special occasion? Was it made from a pattern, based on tradition, or is it a unique design? Who were the makers, and where was it made? Are there special fabrics used that require particular care? Imagine someone seeing your creation in the future – what would you want them to know?

I will walk participants through the steps to create these beautiful labels, and will share alternate labeling methods that draw from my graphic design background.

**Debbie Ward** (2025 Program Chair)



Laura Fogg Workshop

## Workshop: David Owen Hastings "Inspired by Architecture" January 17, 2025, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Zoom \$60 for SRQG members

David will guide you through a creative process for designing your own modern abstract quilts, taking inspiration from architectural photos, to develop dynamic and unique quilt designs.

**MONUMENTAL INSPIRATION WITH UNLIMITED POSSIBILITIES!**

Working from photos of architectural elements, David will guide you through the steps to design a mini-modern fabric quilt inspired by architecture! You will learn the quilt-as-you-go method, sewing the top pieces, batting, and backing simultaneously. You'll then add texture and complexity with David's unique approach to walking foot machine quilting where the quilting lines become a major design element. Learn to connect multiple quilted units with a "great gusset" joining technique, and then add a simple face binding for a modern finish.



**Debbie Ward** (2025 Program Chair)

## November 21 New Members Showcase

Last year, our Program Director, Trina Jahnsen, started a fun new program called "Meet the New Members." We will continue the tradition this year on November 21 (the Thursday BEFORE Thanksgiving). Our new members will share a few quilts or projects, and tell us about themselves. It's a fun way to get know our members.

I've reached out to our new members and many have agreed to join us. If I've somehow missed you, or if you haven't had a chance to answer me back, please email me directly if you're a new member and want to join in. We'd love to have you be part of the presentation.

Mark your calendars - November 21 New Members Showcase!

In-Person at the Vets Building and on Zoom.

**Elaine Ramires** (2024 Program Chair)

## 2025 Board Nominees

At our November 7, 2024, guild meeting we will vote on the nominees for our 2025 Board. This very talented group of thirteen people was introduced at our two meetings in October. Nominations closed at the end of the meeting on October 17.

We have a few Board members staying on in their positions (they are allowed three full terms in one position), one switching roles, and a couple of brand new faces. This is a nicely balanced group that represents the traditions of the past as well as people bringing in fresh, new ideas to help our guild keep moving forward.

We are very fortunate to have these members to lead us in the coming year ~~

President: Linda Ralleca

Vice President: Eileen McAlister

Secretary: Debbie Faris-Cole

Treasurer: Diana Codding

Programs: Debbie Ward

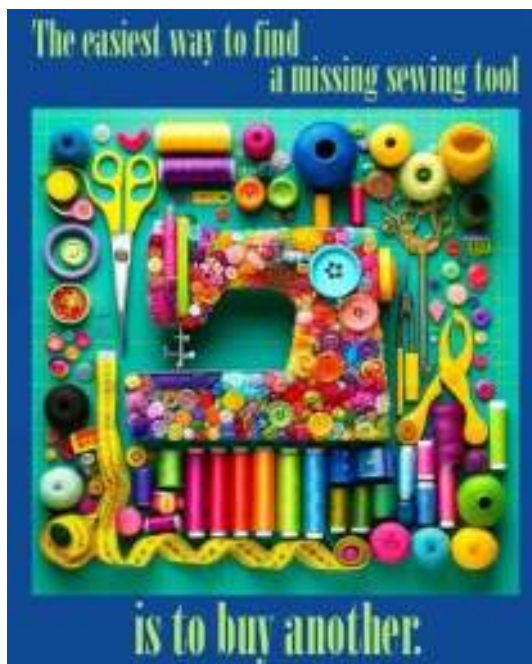
Programs-elect: Chris Rogers

Parliamentarian: Elaine Ramires

Members-at-Large: Rhonda Denny, Rena Ferrero, Mary Ann Hayre, Laura Barrett, Karen Hendrix, Diane Hoxeng

We thank these members for stepping up to serve on our 2025 Board.

**Sharon Fry** (Parliamentarian, Chair of the Nominations Committee)



## Friendship Blocks

We've been getting great response to our Friendship Blocks.

The *Halloween* blocks are finished and have been given to Caroline. The last stragglers to the *Home and Riding Along I* expect are in by this writing, and we have a new block.

Please sign up for the 24 Patriotic Star blocks for community quilts. They will be used to make a couple of lap quilts for veterans in time for Veterans' Day. These blocks have a hard deadline of December 5 so that the lap quilts can be assembled. Please only sign up if you can have your square ready by that date. A center square of fabric and instructions will be provided when you sign up.



The credits list has been updated and you can check it online.

**Lisa Gamble** (Friendship Block Chair)



In 1941, a woman in Georgia was captured working on a quilt in her smokehouse near Hinesville, showcasing a blend of traditional craftsmanship and the daily life of rural America during that era.



This image, photographed by Jack Delano for the Farm Security Administration, reflects the importance of quilting as both a practical and artistic pursuit in the lives of many women at the time. The smokehouse, often used for preserving meats, serves as a backdrop that highlights the intertwining of domestic labor and artistry. Quilting was not only a means of creating warm bedding, but also a way for women to express their creativity and community spirit. This snapshot of life illustrates the resilience and resourcefulness of rural families as they navigated the challenges of the pre-war period.

From *Quilter's Index*

## 2025 Merit Award Winners

Our guild may present Merit Awards to members who have shown an extraordinary dedication in a particular area. In order to qualify, a person must be a member for at least two years. Awardees are recommended to the Awards Committee with a statement of justification and supporting signatures of at least ten percent of the guild members. The committee makes its recommendation to the Board for approval. Presentations are made at the annual Founders' Day meeting on the third Thursday of September. Some years there are no nominees, other years there are multiples, and this was one of those years.

Our guild very happily recognized and thanked **Margo Pitter** for her many years on the Hospitality Committee. In 2014 Carolle LeMonnier, Georgiann Morrissey, Edy Sorensen, and Judy Lindberg were recognized for their talents in the kitchen, but Margo was a brand new member having just joined in 2013 and not yet part of the team. Carolle shared that "Margo started out slowly, and now Margo is running the team!" Margo gathers and stores the supplies, sets the tables in a pretty manner, arrives early and extends loving greetings to all, and represents the Hospitality crew at board meetings.



**Janice Juul** approached the Board with an idea for making fabric pillow covers for breast cancer patients, asking if guild members would be interested in assisting with the project. Janice distributes patterns, makes reminders at meetings and via emails, collects the covers, then stuffs and finishes them, and shares the heartfelt thank-you notes received. Many more than 200 women have received pillows at the Santa Rosa Kaiser facility. SRQG member Sharon Oman, a two-time breast cancer survivor, wrote "making pillows for Janice's project is emotionally healing and spiritually fulfilling for me. This project spreads to others the kind and loving vibes that emanate from Janice." Contact Janice if you would like to become involved.



Merit Award recipients are offered the choice of their dues paid for the following year, or an engraved gold charm featuring our guild's symbol, a rose, engraved, along with the current year. Both ladies chose the charm. This is a small token of our thanks for members who go above and beyond in the name of our guild. Be on the lookout for deserving people to be recognized in the future.

**Sharon Fry** (Awards Chair)

## Membership

Hello Quilting Friends!

It is the time of year for membership renewals, and as you know, we voted to increase dues to \$50.00 per year. We will accept renewals at the November 7 meeting, and at any meeting through the end of the year.

Make your check in the amount of \$50.00 to SRQG, and either bring it to a meeting, or mail it to: SRQG, P.O. Box 9251, Santa Rosa, CA, 95409. We do accept cash at meetings, but are unable to make change.

Thank you!

**Jan Andrews**  
(Membership Chair)



## 20 Year Members

Don't miss our December 5 meeting (both at the Veterans Building and on Zoom), when we will honor those members who reached 20 years of membership with Santa Rosa Quilt Guild.

Come and be inspired by the stories of how these members got involved in SRQG, and what has kept them in the Guild for 20 years.



## Technique Sharing Workshops (TSW)

Hello Good People,

Technique Sharing Workshops (TSWs) are our guild's way of sharing our tips and projects with fellow guild members, taught by our own guild members. Some TSWs are taught after the close of guild meetings, some are taped and shown during Zoom meetings, and our newest form is the Super-sized TSW, which is held at the Luther Burbank Art and Garden Center with the rental cost shared among the attendees.

Janice Juul will kick off 2025 on January 2 with a "Sewing Roll" that has three pockets, plus a wool needle/pin cushion. The pattern and fabric will be provided. There is no cost for this TSW, but seating is limited, therefore sign up soon.



Other TSWs scheduled for 2025 are:

- June 5 – Sue Stone – demonstration how to make a Portable Ironing Board
- July 3 – Vicki David – Traditional Binding

Ideas for future TSWs in need of teachers (what will YOU offer to teach/demonstrate?):

- Jelly rolls projects (trivets, small bowls, bread-baskets, or maybe rag rugs)
- Denim Upcycling (a quick project, maybe for a gift, or perhaps a more complex project as a Super-sized TSW)
- Slow-sew/Big-stitch (possibly a stitch book or a sampler – maybe a Super-sized TSW)

What would YOU like to learn in a TSW?

What would YOU like to teach/demonstrate at a TSW?

Don't hide your light under a basket ~~ let us know your thoughts.

**Rhonda Denny** (TSW Chair)



Sew-a-Rows



## Sew-a-Row

I am so pleased with the response from everyone with this year's Sew-a-Rows. We have such a wonderful variety of designs and such a fabulous group of talented quilters participating. Many of the Sew-a-Rows are almost done, so please come see what's available and adopt a Sew-a-Row at the next meeting.



Remember, the Sew-a-Row Show and Lottery will take place during our holiday gathering December 5.

**Eileen McAlister** (Sew-a-Row Chair)

## Sunshine

I would like to remind our members to please let me know if you hear of a quilt guild member 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.

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. I am getting ready to re-order my Sunshine photos. My stationery cards hold a 4x6 photo.

**Janice Juul** (Sunshine Committee Chair)



# Challenge Quilt 2024

## **Guild Challenge 2024**

We had a wonderful response to this year's Guild Challenge with 43 members completing the challenge. The response created another challenge of so many people sharing their quilts during one meeting, so we decided to alleviate that new challenge by spreading the Challenge Reveal to three different dates (October 17, November 7, and 21).

The Guild Challenge this year is called "Blind Date with an Orphan Block." Each participant received an envelope with three different orphan blocks. Every envelope had a different combination of orphan blocks.

The challenge was to use all three orphan blocks in the envelope on the front of a quilt. The quilt could be any size from a wall hanging to a bed quilt. Any amount of additional fabric could be added. Any technique, such as piecing, applique, paper piecing, fusing, or combination of techniques, could be used. The three orphan blocks in the envelope could be altered in any way.

We had 11 people participate in the Challenge Reveal on October 17. It was great fun to hear the oohs and aahs from the audience as the participants explained and showed how they interpreted the challenge. The quilts were a variety of sizes from 17" square to bed size. Here are a few comments made by some of the participants about the experience of the challenge:

"This was my first Challenge, and it really made me think outside the box. That was good for me, as I always use a pattern and make sure the fabrics really match."

"If I had seen the blocks before I took the envelope, I would never have done the Challenge. That was the challenge for me."

"I stared at the blocks for two months wondering what I would do. Then we had a speaker, Diane Harris, who talked about distributing color through a quilt. I used what I learned from her talk as a lesson in making my quilt."

"I had no idea what to do with the three very different orphan blocks, so I cut them up and made a vase of flowers."

"I used a technique I learned early in my quilting journey of making watercolor quilts. So this is the dog (block I received) walking in a field of flowers".

If you missed the Challenge Reveal on 10/17/24, you can watch it on the Zoom Recording sent out via email by Elaine Ramires. We promise you will be inspired.

There are plenty more quilts to be revealed on 11/7 and 11/21.

Everyone will have a chance to see our Guild Challenge quilts in person at an exhibit at the Person Senior Wing of Finley Center from January through March 2025. More details on the exhibit as it gets closer!

Thank you to all the members who took the Challenge and shared their quilts.

## ***Janet Tonkin and Laura Barrett***



**Karen Hendrix**



**Marilyn Droppers**



**Elaine Ramires**



**Sue Gragg**

## **2024 Challenge Quilt Participants**



**Laura Barrett**



## eScrip

### **Oliver's Gives Back, As Do Others**

Local markets donate to our guild through an easy program called **eScrip**. It is super easy to participate. You get an eScrip card from each of the stores you patronize.

Once you sign up at the store(s) and name Santa Rosa Quilt Guild as the recipient, the guild earns 3% of your purchase amount. That's it! You don't have to do anything else except shop at the local markets.

If you present your card each time you shop, the store will donate to the Guild, at no extra cost to you. You simply fundraise every time you shop at one of the following participating markets in Sonoma County: Oliver's, Petaluma Market, Molsberry Market, Sonoma Market, and Glen Ellen Village Market.

The sign-up forms are always available on our website on the Download Forms page. Towards the bottom of this page, you will see **eScrip Grocery Store Forms**. You can print the one for your preferred market(s) and take it with you to turn in at the market checkout register. Also, they are usually available at the guild meetings at the membership sign-in table.

This year, as of this writing, we have received \$617.87 from this program. That is a nice sum of money for our guild.

Please, I urge you all to sign up at the local markets, shop there to support them, and then they support us. It is a win-win situation.

**Diana Coddling** (Treasurer)



Sew-a-Row

## Member Sponsored Sew Day

### **Member Sponsored Sew Day at Veterans Building**

Always a fun get-together, there are some changes to the upcoming June 12, 2025, Sew Day, formerly known as the "Susan Silvey Sew Day." That original donation by Susan has been depleted. An anonymous angel has stepped up and donated money for this event to continue. New for 2025, the event will look as follows:

Veterans Building rental will be from 9:30 a.m.- 2:30 p.m. Sewing will be from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. with a half-hour set-up beforehand, and half-hour clean-up afterwards.

SRQG will supply drinks and dessert, but members will be asked to bring their own brown bag lunch.

The estimated cost of Veterans Building rental and refreshments is \$500. The SRQG Board has renamed the June event as "Member Sponsored Sew Day," and is encouraging anyone else who would like to underwrite future Sew Days (either anonymously or in your name) to donate through our website at

<https://www.spotfund.com/story/7796457a-0945-4947-b424-010ef84ab272?SFID=PreservingQuiltingHeritage>

When donating on our website, please put in comments that donation is for "Member Sponsored Sew Days." You can also contact our Treasurer, Diana Coddling, to make donation.

I look forward to sewing with many of you on June 12, 2025 - save the date!

**Elaine Ramires**



## Remember me ...

### **Lee Neuerburg**

I am sorry to report that one of our former guild members, Lee Neuerburg, died on August 14. Lee has not been a member for many years, but some of our long-time fellow members will recall Lee.

Back in 1997 we searched and searched, and searched some more, and begged and pleaded, coaxed and bribed, and still could not come up with someone to take on the presidency of our guild. Everyone was busy, traveling, had health issues, whatever. But then Lee Neuerburg stepped up and saved us. She told us that she did not have any experience with boards and running meetings, but she would at least give it a try if we would all help her out. And she promised that she would make it FUN. We worked together and with Lee at the helm, the guild survived very nicely -- and she kept her promise -- we DID have FUN.

When it came to planning our annual Founders' Day celebration, Lee suggested that we all go to a Russian Tea Room in Petaluma for a tea party. Well -- yes, it would have been FUN, but our piggy bank was not going to allow it. Instead, we jumped on her idea and turned our usual Salad-and-Cheesecake potluck into a Tea Party. We dressed up and, of course, wore hats. The tables were full of the best tiny sandwiches (you better believe the crusts were removed) and crumpets. Then-member Mary Bottini, was given the prize for creating an absolutely gorgeous, beautifully presented, and fantastically delicious many-layered, extremely thin dessert. We all dug out and polished our silver tea services. What a day we had -- and it all started with a president who wanted to make sure we all had fun during her term in office. The Queen of England would have been proud of us.

Even though it has been years since encountering Lee, I have very fond memories of her.

### **Sharon 'the Librarian' Fry**



### **Jeanne Parent**

Last year at a quilt retreat, Jeanne Parent and I talked about going on a New England Quilt Tour this fall to see the leaves turn. She booked a room with me and we both looked so forward to it. As you remember Jeanne passed away last December, and it was a big blow to all who knew her.

I just returned from this wonderful colorful tour, full of fall color, quilt shops, antiques, wine tasting, and dinner at the Trapp Family Lodge, which Jeanne was particularly looking forward to. I decided to take her with me, in picture form, to commemorate our friendship, and to feel close to her while on our trip. The other people in my tour group got into the spirit of things and helped me document by offering to take the photos.

I made this little postcard to celebrate Jeanne. A wonderful friend, who is very missed.

### **Toni Anderson**





# PET PROJECTS



## Napkins

Several months ago, while helping teach sewing at the Rincon Valley Library, I was approached by a woman whose children attend the Santa Rosa French-American Charter School asking if it would be possible to solicit cloth napkins for their classrooms.



The school is teaching sustainability, and she thought that reusable cloth napkins would help the children understand the importance of avoiding single-use products. Following a conversation with the Board, the project was approved and so far I have collected 140 of the 400 napkins that were requested.

Obviously, there is a need for more! I am cutting the napkins 13" so I am able to get three from a width of fabric, though they could be cut larger, depending on the WOF. Most are double-turned hems with mitered corners, but some are serged and they look great, too.

Please contact me if you have any questions about My Pet Project.

Thank you,

**Jan Andrews**



## 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?



I have volunteered to take over from the Pointless Sisters to help 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 to 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. My contact information is in the roster. Instructions and pattern are available at our meetings. If you are unable to attend an in-person meeting, I will happily mail you the information.

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

♥ **Janice Juul**



**Friendship Block by Sue Gragg**



# PET PROJECTS



## Days for Girls

### Days for Girls helps give menstruators back lost days

As members of a privileged society, how many of us really understand what billions of menstruating girls and women deal with every month? Do we even think about how this natural biological process can keep girls from attending school, or women having careers that can sustain them and their families simply for lack of access to menstrual supplies? Or the stigma around menstruation that keeps females oppressed in many societies? Unfortunately, this is a reality in many parts of the world.

**Days for Girls International** has a mission to alleviate these problems through health education, local sustainable businesses, policy and advocacy, and through supplying beautiful, washable pads and menstrual kits. I discovered this remarkable organization in 2016 and knew immediately that I needed to get involved. With a small, committed group of sewists, we could help make menstrual kits that could change lives for the better for girls and young women in parts of the world where there is poverty, war, displacement, and social inequity. That's when the Central Santa Rosa Days for Girls Team was born. We are part of a network of hundreds of teams, chapters, and local enterprises around the world that sew the components of these kits that are made available to menstruators in schools, refugee camps, war zones, and places where there is widespread poverty.

Some of our members sew at home, and many of us gather monthly at Village Sewing on the fourth Wednesday of the month to work together in community. We love what we do and we know we are making a difference. Reach out to me if you would like to help.

**Brenda Kobrin,**

**Team Leader, Central Santa Rosa Days for Girls Team**



## Baby Closet

Dearest Santa Rosa Quilt Guild,

I Chair a committee with Santa Rosa Community Health - the Board Quality Review Committee. In today's monthly meeting we discussed childhood vaccinations. It turns out that SRCH delivered 134 babies last year. Their goal is to make sure parents bring their infants in for wellness checks and vaccines. Many aren't as motivated as is required, so only 38% of the goal (45.3% of the infants) met the requirements.

I asked, "Aside from keeping their baby safe from illness, is there any other motivation or incentive that might help?" The answer is yes! At the second round of immunizations, they receive a \$10 dollar gift card. While it is something, it is not sufficient. Sew, I asked if, at the first appointment, we could give the parent a toasty, cozy receiving blanket to comfort their babies. The committee loved the idea and wants to implement it ASAP. So, I figure we need about 150 receiving blankets over the course of a year. This is an important cause that will keep infants and children and our communities healthier and comforted.

Receiving Blankets are super easy: Please prewash the fabric so that they are baby ready. Two pieces of flannel (just in time for winter) or one side flannel and one side cotton. I like 36"X36" but they can be any size of your choosing. Remember to top stitch or serge the edges. This project can make a difference, and I am delighted that home sewing can do so much for so many. Thank you for your continued support and the care and love you put into action for those in need.

From my whole heart, thank you!

**Rhonda Denny**



# Little Bits with Jackie Pitts

## **Pass it on**

The Hawaiian grandmother called the little girl, "Come here. I want to show you something about our culture." With deft hands she formed a palm frond into a little fish. The girl was delighted. Many years later she was showing people in the Visitors' Center how to make little fish out of palm fronds. My own grandmother, a native Californian, was passing through a vacant lot at the foot of the foothills with the little girl who was me. She stopped and picked up a bit of a weed, a round piece with a long soft pointed part. Just under the round part she made a hole with her thumbnail and slipped another similar weed through it, producing a miniature pair of scissors. I was enchanted. When I was too young to go to school, Mother threaded a darning needle with a double thread and cut out a simple doll dress for me to sew. Later, when my feet could reach the treadle, Grandma sat me at her sewing machine and walked me through making a dress. Experiences like these form a very natural way to pass on skills. Many members of this Guild are grandmothers and are actively teaching their own and other people's grandchildren to sew, and probably to knit as well, and/or crochet. Congratulations! You are keeping civilization going!

We have among us an amazingly vast variety of skills. These, with our stories, are among our most valuable possessions. And they increase rather than diminish with sharing. An autistic man I know, a relative, has a very good understanding of public transportation and has done a great deal of good by teaching this skill to others less able than himself. One woman who has had a lot of fun with books, and whose children had no difficulty learning to read, in her joy and thanksgiving took literacy training (Laubach) in order to teach someone to read as a way of giving thanks. We have Technique Sharing Workshops in order to share valuable skills with each other. One mother whose child usually practiced music right after school kept rhythm instruments handy in case a playmate turned up. (Ever hear a Bach minuet on cello and tambourine?) This eventually led to a Neighborhood Music Club among grade school children. When anybody could play a recognizable tune (Hot Cross Buns? Jingle Bells?) the whole 'club' would go to his front door to show his proud parents his accomplishment. The kids played plastic recorders and toy xylophones and other things. Many years later there was a knock on the front door of that house and the much taller member of the 'club,' recognizable only by his sparkling green

## **Little Bits continued**

eyes, had come to introduce his mother and to say that he still enjoyed making music.

Each of us has a list, at least mentally, of things 'everybody' ought to know how to do. Our lists will of course differ. My list of things every adult physically capable of doing should know how to do would include sewing on a button and hemming a pair of pants. The easiest way to hem pants and most skirts is by hand using blind stitch. When my son was an undergraduate he was rooming with two other music students and somebody's button came off his concert clothes just before a concert. There wasn't time to call one of the girls and sweet talk her into fixing it. My son sewed it on for him. My now adult grandson learned to sew on a button at my house. I have a series of alphabet banners that hang from a ribbon with vintage buttons at regular intervals to spell such things as; 'Happy Birthday' or 'Boo!' as needed. One of these buttons was sewn on by my grandson when he was a young lad.

Everyone should know how to change a tire. Or a baby. When we were in graduate school I was involved in a student project on Saturdays at Children's Hospital in San Francisco. My babysitter got sick. The man in charge of the project said, "Bring your baby. We'll figure something out." With fear and trembling I headed for San Francisco. There I handed my three-month-old firstborn to the pastor of a Chinese speaking church. An hour later I took him back freshly diapered (this was 1970 therefore cloth diapers!). And it was clear that this was not that man's first rodeo. I was duly impressed.

Everyone should know how to write a coherent social letter. Many years ago my husband's little sister (then ten years old) returned from a 4H event with the request that her brother teach her to write a social letter. She and her correspondent have been married 54 years now and have great-grandchildren. Physical letters hold people together better than texts and emails alone.

Everyone should know how to use a map and compass. Sometimes a GPS doesn't work or doesn't work right. My brother-in-law wanted to see San Quentin so he followed the GPS in his rental car which led him north over the Golden Gate Bridge into downtown San Francisco. Once a friend and I were on our way to a concert; we had both been to this concert hall before but it's still hard to find, so we were using the technology on her car ... and her cell phone ... and my cell phone. At one point my

**Little Bits continued →**

**Little Bits continued →**

## Little Bits continued

friend who was driving turned to the machine and said, "Are you sure?" to which it replied, "Come to think of it I'm not sure." We laughed, but we were late for the concert. We should have used a map.

Living in a human body, we should know the basics of maintenance and repair. Simple first aid for ourselves and our pets. Yes, you can use peroxide on a cat and he probably won't object. It won't sting though it might foam up. Everyone should know how to prepare a simple nourishing meal. If the person who usually does the cooking breaks an arm, can the others make peanut butter sandwiches with whole grain bread and raw carrots and celery? Everyone should know how to tie a square knot, find the North Star, and purify water. Things happen.

Many of us have a lot of physical possessions and would relish a gift of experience. Instead of yet another sweater, would someone you love enjoy an afternoon with you teaching her to quilt, or bake a pie, or make a dress? One of my more memorable wedding presents came from a friend of my mother's. This lady had a husband who wore dress shirts to work. She had three young sons who wore dress shirts to private school. As a wedding present she taught me to iron a dress shirt in three minutes. It's a gift I have used many times and still do.

Stories are also a gift of time. Not long ago I passed on a family story to one of my nieces, now a grandmother, who hadn't heard a family story about her own grandmother whom she hadn't got to know well. Pass those family stories on!

The hardest part of learning a new skill is persevering from the very beginning, to where you start to enjoy what you are doing. So, if you are teaching somebody a new skill, start with something small and easily finished with skills that can be built on later.

## Jackie Pitts



## Block-of-the-Month

Instructions for the August BOM are on our website. The drawing for this block will be at the SRQG guild meeting on November 7.

Below are pictures of our last BOM winners:

Congratulations to Karen Hendrix, who won the June BOM and Janet Tonkin who won the July BOM



August BOM

I have also attached a picture of Diana Coddling and the beautiful quilt she made with the May blocks she won. When a member completes a quilt with the blocks that were won, please be sure to see me so we can get a picture of you and your quilt.

Thank you to all members.

**Anni Donahue** (Block-of-the-Month Chair)



Janet Tonkin



Karen Hendrix



Diana Coddling

# Community Quilts



We made a donation of a large quilt to Kaiser Permanente, the Mammography Department, to be used as a raffle prize in their annual Breast Cancer walk and awareness event. 2024 was the third year of this event sponsored by the staff and employees of Kaiser to raise awareness of Breast Cancer during October.

## 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.

### Doll Quilts

Here's a quick and easy project to help out children (girls and boys) this holiday season ~ make a doll quilt. We give doll quilts to five groups: 4C's-Community Child Care Council; Welfare League; YMCA for Safe House; Salvation Army; and the Baby Closet.

Cheryl Dudley heads up this effort. Doll quilts should be 14" to 18" square, or if a rectangle, 14"x18". Any smaller is too small to wrap a doll in.

Cotton fabric for the top - can be pieced or whole cloth - something appealing to a child. The back can be flannel, fleece or cotton. No batting - because it makes the quilt too stiff to wrap around a doll. Light quilting - straight line or free-motion to hold the layers together.

Your leftovers from quilts you've made are perfect for doll quilts.

You can bring the doll quilts to the in-person meetings on November 7, or 21, or December 5 to be included in this year's holiday donation.

Thank you for joining in the Doll Quilt effort.

### Quilts for Veterans

Long-time member Lavella Cassinelli is the organizer for quilts for local veterans. It is an ongoing program of making and distributing the quilts all year long. Lavella is currently making quilts in red, white, and blue to be distributed on Veterans' Day, November 11. Lavella is a whiz at making the tops, which are then quilted by Betty Upchurch, and bound by Mary Wood. It is quite a tribute to our veterans who really appreciate the quilts.



The quilts tops are mostly lap size (about 40" x 60"). We'd love to have some members help with the quilting of these tops. We will provide the top, batting, and backing. Please contact Laura Barrett to learn more.

### Quiltathon

Our "true colors" really were alive at the Quiltathon on October 3. We had the lively, beautiful colors of all our quilts as we moved them around the room while adding our own work to finish them. We had the col-

Community Quilts continued page 16➔

## Community Quilts continued

ors of the dedication and generosity of the members who brought their sewing machines (27 of you!!!) and sewed around the edges and did quilting. We had the colorful effort and commitment of the guild as a whole working at each station doing such a beautiful job. The set-up and clean-up groups sure showed their dependability in unloading and loading our cars, and setting up and taking down the room. We had the colorful, delicious ice cream and toppings thanks to our hospitality committee. That sure hit the spot! And we had the heartwarming colors of long-time friends visiting, and new friends meeting for the first time.



## Community Quilts continued

donations of finished quilts, quilt tops, and fabric to Community Quilts all year long. It seems like our birthday every meeting, as you fill our red wagon with your beautiful quilt tops and finished quilts.

**Janet Tonkin and Laura Barrett**



(Community Veterans' Quilts Quilts Co-Chairs)



Thank you to everyone who came out, in spite of the heat, and offering your gift of talent at quilting to make quilts which will provide love, warmth, and beauty to our Community.

We ended the day with 115 finished quilts, and several bags of quilts in various stages of completion. We had two colorful

'Quiltmobiles' transporting our quilts to and from the Vet's building – a big "thank you" goes to Andrea Van Voorhis and Janet Tonkin for transforming their cars into 'Quiltmobiles'.

### Upcoming delivery of quilts in our Community

As we enter the last two months of 2024, we will be distributing quilts to various recipients. We will be giving lap size quilts to seniors through Secret Santa. We will provide big quilts (55"x65") and pillow cases to emancipated youths through Thrivent's program organized by member Dorothy Murray. We will also be delivering NICU quilts to Kaiser, Memorial, and Sutter hospitals as well as Public Health. We will probably have more deliveries as the need arises.



Please know how much your generosity is appreciated by all the recipients of our quilts. We get the pleasure of seeing the smiling faces as we make our deliveries of the quilts you donate. Thank you for the

The fall session of the Rincon Valley Sewing Circle is winding down, but we did add two extra sessions because we are having too much fun!

Our *Beginning Quilting* class is doing very well, and several of our students are already working on the binding of their table toppers. The lovely colors these folks have chosen from donated fabric amazes us all.



Speaking of fabric, we are so grateful to the estates of Nancy Parmelee, Mary Reder, and Nikki Hinch for their donations, and to Moonlight Quilters for allowing us to have free fabric at the end of their sale.

We are urging our students to come for a Show-and-Tell after class is done, and happily, some are joining the Guild. It is so fun to watch these folks discover the joy of learning about our favorite pastime.

**Vicki David, Helen Anderson, Jan Andrews, Judy Reid, Carolyn Meigs**



Community Quilts continued →



# The California Heritage Quilt Project

The California Heritage Quilt Project Documentation/Quilt Days held between 1984 and 1986.

These holdings consist of over 3,000 individual California quilts that were documented both on paper and in slide photography. This was done in over 32 quilt days held in two years, hosted by local guilds and museums across Northern and Southern California. Their purpose was to find the most historic quilts and present them in a book written by Jean Ray Laury. The book was completed in 1990 and the records were archived in 1991 at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA) as part of the American Quilt Research Center under guest curator and writer Sandi Fox.

Until the recent revival of the California Heritage Quilt Project in January 2022, these archives containing CHQPs organizing documents, the quilt days registrations and slides, plus materials relative to *Ho For California! Pioneer Women and Their Quilts*, have been in deep storage since early 1991. CHQP has established good contacts and have been working closely with LACMA in developing a plan for digitization since early 2023. The records are now permanently at the Balch Art Research Library at LACMA. Appointments are needed to look at the records, but they no longer have to come from deep storage. This is a huge step in making the records available for research.

Phase 1 of this effort was to determine if the 6000+ slides were viable for converting to high quality .jpps so we have a photo of each quilt registered. We now know this is possible and have committed funds to having these photos converted from slides to actual photos for our records. But, we need to raise more funds to complete this phase.

Phase 2 will entail scanning all the folders of registration forms, then matching them to the new .jpps for our electronic database. CHQP needs to know and have record of what California quilts have been registered under the project, and LACMA would like a more comprehensive "Finding Guide" (originally developed in 2006) to the holdings. We are working together to achieve this. This will allow a better research experience for anyone interested. We need to raise funds to support this phase.

Phase 3 will entail entering these quilts into the Quilt Index as part of the current California Heritage Quilt Project efforts. We need to raise funds to support this phase.

Digitizing is an expensive endeavor, but our enthusiastic supporters have helped to raise more than half the funds needed to complete the image digitization. We need to reach out and ask for any support in donations that can be made. To date, we have been the benefactor of many guilds where we have presented. American Quilt Study Group - Lucy Hilty Grant 2023, individual donors' enormous generosity and local quilt history groups like Repiecers have made contributions. Several Board members throughout the state are available to do "in-person" or zoom presentations for your guilds upon request. You can check our website to see where we may be set up at local quilt guild, quilt stores, and quilt shows. Come check us out and get your quilts documented and entered into the Quilt Index at [www.quiltindex.org](http://www.quiltindex.org)

With your help, your generous, tax-deductible donations can be made by clicking the link "Donate Now" provided on our website at [www.chqp.org/what-were-doing-now](http://www.chqp.org/what-were-doing-now) or you may mail a check made out to CHQP to our PO Box at CHQP PO Box 241, Jurupa Valley, CA 91752. Questions? Email Arlene Stevens – President at [caheritagequiltproject@gmail.com](mailto:caheritagequiltproject@gmail.com) or call 951-660-9690 (text first if possible).

CHQP is committed to preserving California's past, present, and future quilt history. With your help, we can make quilt research accessible to everyone. We are also seeking additional Board members, if interested, please contact us and see how you can help!

Scarlett Rose

CHQP Northstate board member





**QUILT SHOWS TO ENTER (and VISIT)**

Name	Location	Dates	Quilt Submission Deadline
<a href="#">Road to California</a>	Ontario Convention Center Ontario, CA	Jan 22-25, 2025	Submission deadline has past
<a href="#">QuiltCon 2025</a>	Phoenix Convention Center 100 N 3rd St Phoenix, AZ 85004.	Feb 20-23, 2025	Sep 1- Oct 30, 2024 Open to Modern Quilt Guild Members Sep 1- Oct 31, 2024
<a href="#">Pajaro Valley Quilt Show</a>	Santa Cruz County Fairgrounds Watsonville, CA	Feb 22-23, 2025	NA
<a href="#">Manteca Quilt Show</a>	San Joaquin County Office of Education Wentworth Center 2707 Transworld Drive Stockton, CA	March 22nd & 23rd, 2025	Feb 22, 2025 \$10 non-member fee
<a href="#">QuiltSF</a>	San Francisco, CA	March 28-29, 2025	TBD
<a href="#">Sisters Annual Quilt Show</a>	Sisters, OR	Jul 12, 2025	NA

If there are events you would like Guild Members to know about, please submit the information to Linda Ralleca.



# 2024 Elected Board and Committee Chairs

## 2024 ELECTED BOARD

President	Linda Ralleca
Vice President	Eileen McAlister
Treasurer	Diana Codding
Secretary	Debbie Faris-Cole
Program Chair	Elaine Ramires
Program Chair Elect	Debbie Ward
Parliamentarian	Sharon Fry
Members-at-Large	Jan Andrews Linda Hooper Mary Ann Hayre Rhonda Denny Laura Barrett Rena Ferrero

Field Trip  
Fifth Thursday Sew Day  
Friendship Blocks \*  
Historian \*  
Hospitality \*  
Library \*  
Membership \*  
Mystery Quilt  
Newsletter Editor  
Newsletter Proofreader  
Nominating Committee  
Opportunity Quilt Ticket Sales \*  
Past President  
Retreat  
Sew-A-Row \*  
Social Media  
Sunshine \*  
Technique Sharing Workshop \*  
UFO Challenge  
Videographer \*  
Website\*  
Welcoming Committee  
Zoom Committee\*

Lynette Whitman  
Elaine Ramires  
Lisa Gamble  
Sharon Fry  
Carolle LeMonnier  
Sharon Fry  
Jan Andrews  
Rena Ferrero  
Jim Jensen  
Sharon Fry  
Sharon Fry  
Rena Ferrero  
Diana Codding  
Vicki David  
Eileen McAlister  
Linda Ralleca  
Janice Juul  
Rhonda Denny  
Liz McDonnell  
Linda Hooper  
Linda Hooper  
Rhonda Denny  
Elaine Ramires

## 2024 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Block-of-the-Month*	Anni Donahue
Boutique *	Betty Upchurch
Budget	Diana Codding
Challenge Quilt	Laura Barrett
Community Quilts *	Laura Barrett
Corresponding Secretary	Janice Juul
Crafts Fair	Bonnie Butler-Sibald
Email Coordinator *	Sharon Fry
Fair Liaison - Santa Rosa	Gina Stateler-Calhoun
Fair Liaison - Cloverdale	Norma Viglienze

\* Standing Committee

# SRQG 2024 Calendar

## NOVEMBER

### 7 General Meeting - *In-Person, Zoom*

Craft Sale  
Voting 2025 Board  
Presenting 2025 Budget  
Sew-A-Row Final Rows Due  
Quilt Challenge Reveal Continues

### 21 Program - *In-Person, Zoom*

New Members Share Their Creations  
Quilt Challenge Reveal Concludes

### 28 Thanksgiving - *No Board Meeting*

## DECEMBER

### 5 Holiday Party - *In-Person, Zoom*

Sew-A-Row Show/Lottery  
Vote on Budget  
20 Year Members Honored

### 12 Joint Board Meeting - *In-Person*

Rincon Valley Library  
10:00 a.m.  
Past and Future Board Members and  
Committee Chairs Welcome



# Santa Rosa Quilt Guild Affiliates

## BAY QUILTS

Sally Davey and Abbey Shane Lawrence  
5327 Jacuzzi St., #3C  
Richmond, CA 94804  
(510) 558-0218  
[Bay Quilts](#)

## 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

## FOGBELT QUILTING COMPANY

Megan Schofield  
4991 Newanga Ave.  
Santa Rosa, CA 95405  
707-738-2364  
Hours on demand  
[www.fogbeltquilting.com](http://www.fogbeltquilting.com)  
[megan@fogbeltquilting.com](mailto:megan@fogbeltquilting.com)



**May all your stitches be bright!!**