



Stitch 'n Times

April 2005 • Vol. 30 • No. 4

president's message

I am certainly happy to have the month of March behind me! I had a successful surgery and am on the mend. I want to thank all of you who sent cards and e-mails and telephoned to see how I was doing, with offers of rides and help. When I was at the Accent on Health store, I was given two gifts made by women who want to support breast cancer patients. One was a pad to protect the surgical area from the seat belt and the other was a lovely Swarovski crystal bracelet with pink ribbon designs on some of the crystals. I really appreciated that someone had done this for me and other women. And, it made me realize how much our community quilts are appreciated by the strangers who are gifted with them. We are doing something really significant in our community. We are being recognized by others for this contribution. The Public Health Nurses nominated Lavella for a Volunteer of the Year award and she won! Congratulations, Lavella! You are our guiding force and we want you to know how much we appreciate you! ~ Gerrie Congdon, President

programs and workshops



Bento Box, a pattern design
by Tracy Brookshier

In April our speaker/teacher will be Tracy Brookshier. Tracy's quilts and her lecture/trunk show—*Brave Use of Color* will be visually exciting as well as broadening our ideas about color in our quilts. Tracey is a quilt artist, pattern designer, teacher, and quilt judge who began her quilting career seriously in 1993. On Friday, in her workshop, *Baskets*, Tracy will show us how to take a traditional pattern and make it spectacular. The pattern lends itself to fabrics from batiks to classic reproductions. This is a great class for beginners!

"Dyeing to Tell You" with Joy Lily will be our informative presentation in May. Joy's talk and slide show will cover many topics related to dyes and colors as well as "sex, drugs, food, and good books". The workshop, Shihbori Scarf Dyeing, on Friday will explore Arashi shibori—pole wrapping—the Japanese grandmother of tie-dyeing—to fold, wrap and dye multiple colors making white silk scarves into fabulous colorful wearable art. You may also bring your own cottons to shibori dye for quilting! All materials are provided for this class.



Silk Painting by Joy Lily

Please remember that all workshops this year will be held at the Luther Burbank Art & Garden Center at 2050 Yulupa Avenue. See Pam or Holly if you have any questions.

technique sharing workshops

There is still time to sign up for Melissa Trunick's "Mystery Quilt TSW" which will be on April 21st. Are you still trying to get the perfect quarter inch seam? Join Sharon Mills on May 19th for a "Block of the Month (the right handed friendship block) TSW." For other future workshops check the newsletter calendar. Be sure to drop by the Technique Sharing Workshop display at the back of the room before or after the guild meeting. You can sign up for all workshops in the white binder located at the display. ~ Linda Sims

5th thursday quilt retreat

The next retreat will be June 30th at the Quilted Cottage, 13875 Sonoma Hwy, Glen Ellen and on Sept. 29th at The Place to Sew, 530 McConnell Ave., Santa Rosa. Mark your calendars. More details in future newsletters.

sew-a-row program

If you signed up for the first "add-a row" slot, your row is due April 7th. Please pass it to the next person at the meeting, or contact them to make arrangements to pass it along, and please let me know that it has been passed along. Linda Thomas will fill in for me at the April 7th meeting, while I am in China. She will collect packets that are not passed on. There is still room to sign up to add a row to several of the packets. Each person who signs up will have two months to complete his/her row: There are three periods from which to choose: Apr 7 - Jun 2, Jun 2 - Aug 4, Aug 4 - Oct 6.

~Phyllis Gallaway

moonlight quilters auction

The doors into the annual Moonlight Quilters Auction open at 7:00 PM. Wednesday, April 20th at the Veterans Memorial Building, 1351 Maple Avenue, in Santa Rosa. There will be books, patterns, quilt tops, notions, fabric and more. All are welcome.

~ Marianne Watada, Auction Chair



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sunbonnet sue quilt winners

The Sunbonnet Sue blocks from last year's Tri Guild Luncheon were raffled off March 5th at the Tri Guild Luncheon hosted by the Petaluma Quilt Guild. The unique 8" applique blocks were assembled into three wall-hanging size quilts. Everyone who made a block was eligible to be entered in the raffle, with a winner from each guild. Thanks to everyone who made blocks!



Valeska Lattin with her Sunbonnet Sue Quilt

The winners were:

Petaluma Quilt Guild - Dolores Zaro
Moonlight Quilters - Catherine Sanders
Santa Rosa Quilt Guild - Valeska Lattin

wine country quilt show

Moonlight Quilters quilt show deadline for entries is April 6. Applications are available online at (*click on Annual Quilt Show and then on 2005 Entry Form.*) There is still time to complete a form to volunteer for a 2-hour slot at the show. These forms should be submitted by May 4. Because SRQG has been very generous with volunteering in the past, MQSC has once again invited SRQG to display and sell tickets for our opportunity quilt, and welcomes the SRQG boutique items into the show boutique. If you volunteer, not only will you have lots of fun, but you will get free admission to the show (just pick up your nametag from the hospitality room at the north west corner of the Vets Building) and you will be treated to a very good lunch!

spring bulb sales

Plan for summer color in your yard and order bulbs now! Our Spring Bulb Sale will continue through the second meeting of the month. Contact Justine Lott with any questions.

PUMP HOUSE QUILTS

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Vandy Noble

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quilter143@hotmail.com

santa rosa quilt guild library

Our guild library continues to grow with the assistance and donations of numerous members. Volunteers are always needed for a variety of tasks. If you have a few extra minutes before or after the meeting, we will find a project for you. Your pay is meeting more guild members and finding books to take home to read.

In last month's Newsletter I wrote how I had added our recent speaker Cara Gulati to my list of all-time favorite entertainers at our guild. Just one month later I very happily added another speaker to my list of greats - Cynthia England. Cynthia brought along her magnificent quilt that was named one of the 100 best of the 20th Century, AND donated an autographed copy of her very special book **PICTURE PIECING** to our library. Cynthia very generously explains the secrets of her special foundation piecing in her tip-filled book.

Phyllis Gallaway caught sight of Judy Martin's newest book, very appropriately titled **KNOCKOUT BLOCKS AND SAMPLER QUILTS**. This is one of the books that you may wish to purchase for your own personal library to refer back to again and again. Judy has included 109 block patterns (98 never-before-published), each with at least two color variations, which I find most helpful. Also included are nine sampler quilt patterns, and 34 other quilt plans. In the back of the book are over a dozen pages of charts including such facts as bed dimensions, how many patches can be cut from a yard of fabric, and lots more. I want to know what the author's "drug of choice" is as I am certain she never sleeps! What a treasure she is.

It is never, ever too early to start thinking about Christmas, so check out **DEBBIE MUMM'S DECORATING WITH QUICK & EASY HOLIDAY QUILTS**. See rooms photographed full of wall quilts, stockings, an angel tree topper that will not break when the cats tip over the tree, an elegant table runner, "merry mittens flatware holders" that would be darling for the kids in your family, throw pillows, bed pillowcases, and of course, ornaments, plus lots more. Get a start on those gifts and decorations now. Maybe you will want to try out some of those ideas to make for our guild's boutique fundraiser, which helps to bring us those incredible speakers.

Nancy Johnson-Srebro has written a book recommended to us by Phyllis Gallaway: **STARS BY MAGIC - NEW SUPER-EASY TECHNIQUE! DIAMOND-FREE STARS FROM SQUARES & RECTANGLES! PERFECT POINTS AND NO Y-SEAMS**. The title says it all! This would be another excellent book for inspiration for Friendship Blocks!

Indian Orange Peel, Pine Burr, An Unusual Lone Star, Clamshells, Lady Liberty Goes to Hawaii, Happy Rick-Rack, Terns & Ferns, Yardbirds Circling the Cat, Rattlesnake, Delirious, Summer Star, Mississippi Wheel of Fortune, and Cinco de Mayo - those are the patterns included in the **KAREN K. STONE QUILTS** book. Karen's quilts are terrific to look at, and can certainly be constructed by anyone who will study her book. I think the very best part of this book is the lesson in choosing the fabrics for her award-winning quilts. Some techniques included are foundation piecing, applique (fusible), embellishment, and Karen's feelings about quilting. There are so many terrific things I could say about this book, but not enough space, so get on the Reserve List and check it out and see for yourself!

Teddy Bear Quilts has donated **SUNBONNET SUE'S JOYFUL CHRISTMAS**, a redwork book by Pearl Louise Krush. I especially like the Sue Treetop Angel and the ornaments.

Carol Doak has compiled a buffet of new patterns for us in her **300 PAPER-PIECED QUILT BLOCKS**. This includes a CD enabling us to easily print her patterns from our computers. If anyone would like to practice paper-piecing, there are adorable patterns for houses, trucks, ducks, flowers, hearts, trees, and many more, that would make great blocks for the King-size library quilt that our guild, under the direction of Lee Trevelyan, is making for children to sit upon during story hours.

Esther Alton and Evelyn Hensley both suggested I obtain **FINISH IT WITH ALEX ANDERSON**. Alex illustrates borders with miters, scallops, and prairie points, and discusses ideas to coordinate borders, bindings, and edge treatments for the center of your quilts, as well as giving us directions for six quilts. If you are partial to butterflies, see her charming scrappy quilt with fused and buttonholed butterfly bodies.

If you are planning to travel in California, Nevada, Oregon, and/or Washington State, check out **THE QUILTERS PATH**. This little book is appropriate for February, March, and April 2005. It contains information of quilting events, activities, and shopping. Our guild even is mentioned.

All members appreciate when books are returned on a timely basis (that means, the very next meeting). And we also find that if you wear your nametag we learn your name more quickly!



~ Sharon 'the Librarian' Fry

an interview with fran wessel

Weed, CA is a small timber logging town near the Sierra where Fran was born. In her early childhood she loved riding horses. She entered competitions in a sport called barrel racing and won several blue ribbons. Her Aunt Betty was her mentor, her idol. Fran joyfully remembers the day Aunt Betty bought her a pair of authentic English riding pants. Fran and her husband have two children, one grandchild and one great grandchild residing in Olympia, WA.

Prior to Fran's newly acquired obsession with quilting she claims to have been unaware of her artistic talent. Yet it is evident in all her quilt projects. It was such a delight seeing her use of colors and creative design. I was particularly impressed with her intuitive placement and kinds of embellishments used on her quilts. After learning to quilt, Fran dropped her former concept that quilting was about "bed coverings". She also was inspired to free-up from following rules. "I can now do what's in my heart and thoughts". She now feels very creative. Following patterns is simply not her forte! Her inspirations come from selecting fabrics, sketching her own ideas and the possibility of stories it all may represent. Oh, did I tell you what impresses her the most in the process of quilting? Fran said, "having my machine not make thread nests and doing projects my own way"!

My last question was how she would like to be remembered. She said, "as a caring, upbeat, humorous person. Also I hope my work will inspire others". I for one will purely feel that way! Thank you kindly for being so open and sharing Fran. I appreciated your allowing me to interview you. You are an inspiration!

~Ruth Sayers



pre-washing fabrics

As with so much in quilting, there are two sides to many subjects (cut or tear fabric?, steam or dry iron?, press seams open or to one side?). I would like for you to know why I think it is so important to pre-wash and machine dry fabrics.

New fabric is very exciting to all quilters, whether it is yardage purchased at a favorite shop, or fabric and blocks we exchange at guild meetings. My excitement dwindles quickly when I examine fabrics that I bring home from guild exchanges and find the fabrics have not been pre-washed.

Even though the person who donates the fabrics for the exchanges may create pieces that are never intended for laundering, I would hope that they would realize that other quilters may launder their projects and do not want any surprises in the way the fabrics react. Many years ago I attended a class where we shared fabrics. I made the most wonderful miniature quilt with quarter-inch finished pieces. I marked the quilt top for hand quilting. When I spritzed the quilting marks off the completed piece I was sickened when the colors ran into one another ruining the project. I was taught a very valuable lesson that day. Please pre-wash your fabrics.

I hope that you will consider these thoughts in the future.

- Sharon 'the Librarian' Fry

P. S. Don't forget the Fabric Exchange at the first meeting of the month!

1. Good quality 100% cotton, *pre-washed* fabric
2. Perfectly cut 6-inch squares
3. Place the nine squares into a baggie marked with your name. If you wish to participate in the raffle, include a tenth square.
4. Theme Fabrics: April = Flowers, May=Cooking, June=Bugs

More information, questions, or comments about the Block Exchange may be directed to Pat Meiswinkel patmeis2@comcast.net

our new 2005 challenge!

Do you hear your fabric calling to you? Put your inspiration caps on, and get ready for the guild's 2005 Challenge! The theme is "The Sound of Quilting." Make a quilt that illustrates a noise, or is inspired by a sound, or is about anything you hear!

Please make your quilt no larger than 36" square. Any techniques, fabrics, or colors are suitable. Deadline: Plan to show your finished challenge quilt at the Founders Day Lunch meeting in September.

quilt happenings

APRIL

2,3 - Sun Country Quilters present *Stitchin' in the Kitchen* at the Tehama District Fairgrounds, Antelope Boulevard in Red Bluff. For more information contact Bette Lee Collins at (530) 529-5212 or e-mail bettelee@comcast.net

8, 9, 10 - *Sew-Quilt-Embroidery Festival* at the Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton. A product & supply festival for sew, quilt, needleart, & craft consumers. Vendor Mall made up of retailers, designers, teachers, & manufacturers from all over the U.S. & Canada. Top industry educators sharing their techniques & solutions, seminars, on-going demos, workshops, make it & take it projects, original & new innovative products, 2004 Hoffman Challenge exhibit. Come early & SAVE - Show only specials. (800) 472-6476, or email pcmg@juno.com Register for classes at www.pcmexpo.com

20 10 am - N.C.Q.C. *Quarterly General Meeting* - How To Put On A Quilt Show - Pleasant Hill Recreation Center, Pleasant Hill

23 (10 am to 5 pm) & 24 (10 am to 4 pm) - Amador Valley Quilters present *Quilted Treasures XI Quilt Show* - Alameda County Fairground, Bernal Avenue exit off Interstate 680. A Merchant mall, Demonstrations, Silent Auction & Country Store all for you to enjoy. Contact Cheryl Uribe (925) 449-8847; email relicquilts@comcast.net

30 6:30-9:30pm - Mt. Tam Quilt Guild 8th Annual Silent Auction & Marketplace, *Celebration of Spring*, featuring the talented quilters of Marin County presenting items for both silent auction & sale. Quilts, handcrafted items, gift certificates & merchandise. Cash & personal checks accepted. Corte Madera Recreation Center at 498 Tamalpais Drive in Corte Madera. Light refreshments will be served.

30 (10am-5pm) & May 1 (10am-4pm) - Carquinez Strait Stitchers 2005 Quilt Show *Spring on the Straits* will be held at the Clock Tower, 1189 Washington, in Benicia. \$5 donation, children under 12 free. Free parking. For more information call (707)749-6336

santa rosa quilt guild 2005 calendar

APRIL

7 General Meeting; Sewing Room Sale; Add-a-Row due; TSW- Color Theory

21 Program - Tracey Brookshier - Brave Use of Color Opportunity Quilt Raffle; TSW - Mystery Quilt

22 Workshop - Baskets

25 Pointless Sisters

28 Board Meeting

MAY

5 General Meeting; Quilt-a-thon

19 Program - Joy Lily - Dyeing to Tell You; TSW - Block of the Month

20 Workshop - Shibori Scarf Dyeing

24 Pointless Sisters

26 Board Meeting

JUNE

2 General Meeting; Add-a-row due; TSW - Quilted Bread Bag

4/5 MQSC Quilt Show

16 Program, Phil Beaver, Finding Your Own Signature in Quilting; Award Nominations Due

17 Workshop - Sunflower and Poinsettias

23 Board Meeting

26 Pointless Sisters

30 FREE Quilt Retreat

JULY

7 General Meeting;

21 Program, Laura Fogg - Trunk Show

22 Workshop, Landscape Collage; TSW - Sheer Hawaiian Quilting
No Board Meeting

26 Pointless Sisters; Sonoma County Fair (Through August 8)

AUGUST

4 General Meeting; UFO Challenge due; Add-a-row due
TSW: Paper Piecing

18 Program: Peggy Martin . Adventures in Color;
TSW - Fabric Postcards

19 Workshop - New York Beauty

23 Pointless Sisters

25 Board Meeting

SEPTEMBER

1 General Meeting; Sewing Room Sale

15 Program, Founder's Day Luncheon; Challenge Quilts

16 Workshop - Quilt Retreat! (Free)

22 Board Meeting

24 DVQ show and Quilting in the Garden Bus Trip

27 Pointless Sisters

29 Quilt Retreat (Free)

OCTOBER

6 General Meeting; Add-a-row due; Officer Nominations;
Quiltathon

13 PIQF (Through the 16th) (Bus trip: 13 or 14)

20 Program, Louisa Smith-Wonderful Art of Stripping

22 Workshop - Strips 'n Curves

25 Pointless Sisters,

27 Board Meeting

NOVEMBER

4 General Meeting; Voting 2006 Officers

18 Program, Julie Silber - Antiques Roadshow

22 Pointless Sisters,
No Board Meeting

DECEMBER

1 Annual Holiday Luncheon; Sew-a-Row Display/Lottery

community quilts

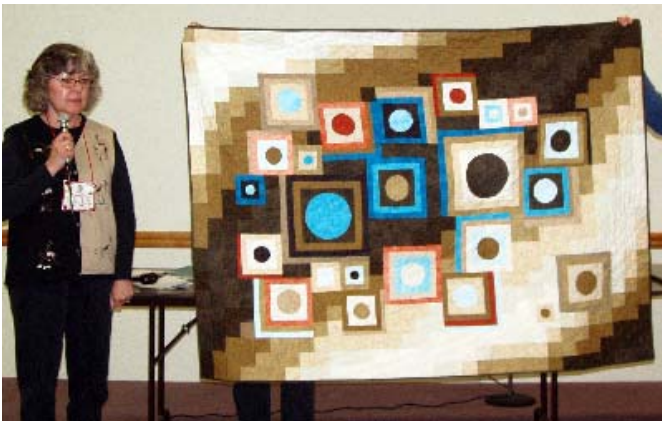
This has been a very special month for me. The Community Quilt Project was selected as a Sonoma County 2005 Public Health Champion in recognition of the contribution we have made to improve the health of our community. We were selected in the area of Responding to Disaster and Assisting Communities in Need. I am honored to accept this award for our guild. I want to thank all of you for making this possible.

On April 7, Kathryn Kennedy from the Valley of the Moon Children's Home will attend our meeting to accept the quilts we have made for the children. I am looking forward to hearing the update on the children's center. On May 5, Susan Starbuck from the Department of Health Services will be our guest and tell us about the mother's and children who receive quilts.

Another big event on May 5th is our second Quilt-a-thon. Please bring in finished tops so I can get them ready for the big day. Please plan to stay and help work on the quilts. I need many people to bring their sewing machines or sergers. A walking foot and quilting foot are great to have. I also need members to press tops, cut batting, pin sandwiched quilts, trim and turn and hand stitch. I also need help setting up before our meeting and then clean up afterwards. Please bring your sewing equipment like scissors, thimble, needles, etc. I have some on hand but never enough. I want to thank all of you who work so tirelessly to make all of this possible. This is a great way for the new members to get acquainted and see the different steps we do in completing our quilts. We will have a great day visiting and doing something really wonderful for our community.

~Lavella Cassinelli

you oughta be in pictures



Pam McVey's Circle and Squares



Marjorie Smith's Circle Play



Barbara Clacher's Leaves



Earlene Maffioli's Baby Quilt



Doris Maneke's Irish Chain



Selma Sklar's Radiant Suns

2005 board

2005 executive board

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Boutique*	Diane Land	837-9565
Com. Projects*	Lavella Cassinelli	545-5845
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	Pam McVey	833-1272
Field Trips	Melissa Trunick	838-3316
Finance	Norma Viglienze (Treas)	542-1458

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 Opportunity Quilt Tickets*
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 Hospitality*

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