



# Sierra Mountain Quilters Newsletter

**March 4, 2021 MEETING IS ON ZOOM**  
**Sign in at 5:30 p.m.; Meeting begins at 6:00 p.m.**  
**Program: "Edgy"**



## March 4th Meeting

The March 4th meeting features Linda Wagner with "Edgy", a presentation on borders and binding.

One definition of edgy is having an intense or sharp quality. Linda advises not to settle for the quick and dirty. A little extra piecing can create tremendous attention getting results.

Borders: plain or pieced. What will give your quilt the best possible visual impact and how do you decide? Inner borders, outer borders, and binding all provide opportunity to add a little to the finished product. Borders can just be there, or they can be what defines your quilt and gives it real visual impacts. Linda's presentation will demonstrate options you have as a quilter and artist, along with decision-making possibilities and how to make it fit.

Linda has been quilting for more than 35 years and teaching for 25 years. Her personal interests gravitate to scrappy quilts. You can see more about Linda and her work on her website at [addquilter.com](http://addquilter.com).



For the general meeting, you will receive an invitation by email from SMQA which includes instructions on how to sign into the meeting. Remember that the sign in information is for the March 4th meeting only, and you can begin signing in at 5:30 p.m.

### Please Note

If you have not renewed your membership for 2021, you will not receive further newsletters or Zoom notifications until your dues are paid.

**Sierra Mountain Quilters Association  
General Membership Meeting Minutes  
February 4, 2021**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by President Penni Simily. There were 33 members present on Zoom. Penni welcomed the members. Mel Peters made a motion, seconded by Laura Gonzalez, to accept the January 7, 2021, minutes as printed in the February newsletter. The motion carried. The January Treasurer's Report was accepted as published in the February newsletter and filed for audit.

Helen Brown, First Vice President, introduced the Material Girlfriends and their presentation on "Overcoming Quilting Disasters" this evening; they will do a workshop via Zoom on Friday and Saturday on the Confetti Star quilt.

Rhonda Lloyd stated she will be working with others to go through Donna Henning's quilts. Lin Crow has offered storage, and items will be available to the Guild at a later date.

Recess for the program at 6:12 p.m. with Lisa Norton and Lora Zmak, Material Girlfriends, giving their presentation.

Business meeting resumed at 7:15 p.m. Helen Brown reported that Linda Wagner will give a presentation on bindings and borders at the March 4<sup>th</sup> meeting. Patty Cramer and Maria Ciccarelli, Second Vice Presidents, announced that they are working on a wall hanging positivity challenge, to be smaller than 16 inches square and due at the August meeting.

Teri De La Torre, Membership, reported that there are 69 paid members, and she asked that dues be sent to the PO Box.

Sally Walker stated she updated the website to make the mystery quilt clues printable.

Patty Cramer advised of the distribution of heart pillows and cuddle quilts. They are working on a new project to provide baby bibs to Helping Hands. Kits for donation items are available at Bear Paw Quilts.

Constance Peterson, Librarian, noted that she is willing to meet members to check out library books. The titles of the books that are available will be listed on the website. Rhonda Lloyd noted that she is cleaning out her sewing room and will have books to donate to the Library.

Kathy Millhollon reminded members that the Quilt Show will not be held this year, but the opportunity quilt will still be raffled off. She urged members to sell tickets and they are due by May 10<sup>th</sup>.

Margie Williams announced that there will not be a spring retreat this year, it has been rescheduled for the second week in March 2022.

Betsy Anne Youngholm, Newsletter, reported that the Board discussed honoring Donna Henning by naming the scholarship after her. She has asked Rhonda Lloyd to help write something for the newsletter and to go out with the scholarship information.

Penni Simily announced that the Foothill Quilt Group is holding a virtual quilt show during the month of April. Betsy Anne will include information in the newsletter.

Show and Tell was held.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:36 p.m. The next meeting will be held via Zoom on March 4, 2021. Sign on is at 5:30 p.m. with the meeting beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Margie Williams, Secretary

**SMQA GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA**

**March 4, 2021**

**Sign in to Zoom 5:30 p.m.**

**Call to order 6:00 p.m.**

Call to order

Welcome

Secretary's report. Minutes from February 4th general meeting as published in the March newsletter

Treasurer's Report as published in the March newsletter

Introduction of Program:  
Edgy: Borders and Binding

**REPORTS**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice president
- Membership
- Webmaster
- Newsletter
- Cuddle Quilts
- Quilt show

Old Business  
Opportunity Quilt Raffle Tickets

New Business

Show and Tell as time permits



**PENNI'S POST**

March 2021

Hello Quilters.

I hope you are getting lots of projects completed. If you are like me, new ideas and projects are getting started all the time.

The row quilt at Bear Paw is in its second month. The confetti star class was great; some students have completed their quilt, and some are still creating. We are ready for the second mystery quilt clue this month.

Last month I offered to host a regular Zoom meeting for the mystery quilt. I am proposing Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m. We can start with every week. If you want an invite let me know.

I hope you will be attending the monthly meeting on March 4th. We are going to learn some great borders and binding techniques. We can all use new ideas.

Stay safe and wear your mask, and hopefully we can stay healthy.

Penni



**CUDDLE CORNER**

We are off to a terrific start. We gave 84 heart pillows to the St Agnes Foundation, 8 quilts to Mountain Crisis, 8 quilts to Fresno County Social Services, and 10 quilts and 10 baby bibs to Helping Hands. Helping Hands in Oakhurst was thrilled to receive the bibs and quilts for the young women and children they serve.



We have cuddle quilt, wheelchair bag, mask, and heart kits available at Bear Paw. We are working on a new quilt design and it should be debuted soon.

Please remember that every 2nd Friday of the month is drop off day for finished kits, at Bear Paw. Kits are available any time.

Again, keep those projects coming – everyone appreciates them!! Thank you, thank you, thank you to all who turned in quilts and hearts. They can mean the world to the recipients.

Maria & Patty

**2021 Mystery Quilt**

It's time to sew! Now that you have cut your 700 odd pieces of fabric, it's time for the next step.

We are moving to Step 3 of our mystery quilt, and the beginning of block construction. There are three different block types in this mystery quilt. In March we start with Block A. Click [here](#) for our 2021 mystery quilt steps.

These can also be found by going to our website, then clicking on the "member page" found on the horizontal navigation bar.

Feel free to contact me with any questions you might have.

Sally Walker

**AMENITIES**

Linda Miller

Cathy Reynolds  
Mary Wylly

Sympathy  
Thinking of You

If you know of a member who would appreciate receiving a card, please let Linda know.



## Staying Connected While Distanced

Early in 2020, pre-COVID 19, the Footloose sewing circle started a row exchange. Each participant set the theme of their own quilt by completing the first row. Bags were exchanged with plans to make the next swap in a month. Some bags contained lengthy directions, suggestions, etc. and extra fabric in addition to the initial row. Others simply put their starter row in a paper bag, trusting that the Footloose members would know best how to proceed. Since the group was no longer meeting in person, exchanges took place in parking lots.

Unbeknownst to the Footloose group's organizer, Lynn Gray, there was a bag full of rows for her too. She'd opted not to participate in this Row Exchange, but one of the members, Barbara Graas, would have none of that and made sure that Lynn had her own Row Quilt in the end. Barbara started a row (intended for Lynn) and put it in with the mix of bags that were shuffled amongst the participants. Though the rest of the members knew, Lynn was completely taken by surprise on the day of the reveal.



Lynn's Surprise

Though we could never have predicted it, the row exchange turned out to be a great way to stay connected in a year of social distancing.

### Quilting Circles

Contact: Marian Romero  
March 2021

**Yoyo's** are still Zooming. Stay safe everyone.

**Bits & Pieces** will meet Wednesday, March 3, same time, same place. Fun, fun, fun.

**Anything with Fabric** is continuing to Zoom twice a week, sharing our projects, and helping each other.

### TREASURER'S REPORT

Wendy Holt  
January 2021

**Checking Account**

(Balance 12/31/2020)	\$5,496.75
Deposits in January	\$1,520.00
Expenses in January	\$ 930.00

**Balance (1/31/2021)** \$6,086.75

Savings: \$ 26,356.46

### March Birthdays

Patty Vincent	3/10
Kay Marshall	3/13
Nancy Hyde	3/16
Sharon Weaver	3/20
Sue Johnson	3/20
Patty Cramer	3/23
Trudy Kinsel	3/27
Diane Matthews	3/27

***We wish you all a very Happy Birthday!***







Although our quilt show has been cancelled, our Opportunity Quilt raffle is still our major fundraiser. We will continue to sell raffle tickets for our Opportunity Quilt as a fundraiser for our guild and honor the date of the drawing for the quilt on May 16th. Please continue to sell tickets for our beautiful quilt.

Currently, our quilt is on display at Bear Paw Quilts and More, and we are grateful for this venue to show the quilt and sell tickets for it.



**MARCH HOLIDAYS**

- March 3 National Anthem Day
- March 8 International Women’s Day
- March 14 Daylight Savings Time begins
- March 15 National Napping Day
- March 17 St. Patrick’s Day
- March 20 Spring Equinox
- March 28 Palm Sunday  
Passover

The March birthstone, Aquamarine, is known for its ability to enhance communication, improve mental clarity, deepen intuition, and promote peace.

The flowers for March are the daffodil and the jonquil, both symbolizing new beginnings, inspiration, and creativity.

**Library Corner**

March’s theme is: Flowers (for Spring Quilts)

Patty Wien, thank you for the donation of Ann Hazelwood: Perry County Series

Many members do not know the time and energy Patty put into organizing our SMQA library. Patty designed a binder that describes every book we have to share with each other. Plus, a USB with all the books we own. She has done an amazing job. I would personally like to thank her.

And thank you, Maria, from Bear Paw, for donating over 200 hundred books.

The Art and Technique of Applique (original full-size patterns 32 flowers)

A Garden Party of Quilts

County Lily Quilt

Fabric to Dye For (Irises, Flower quilts, Tree patterns, plus more)

Flowers of the Bible

Fussy Flower Garden

Focus on Floral

Quilting for Joy (flowers, plus more)

The Garden Sunflower Quilt

The Magic Vine Quilt (Eleanor Burns)

Constance Peterson

## SMQA Scholarship Named for Donna Henning

Donna was a much-loved member of our mountain area community of quilters. She was a tireless mentor and teacher for new and experienced quilters and all those in between. Donna loved color, fabric, quilting, appliqué, and embroidery, and was always happy to share her enthusiasm and expertise. She was extraordinarily patient as a teacher and would always take the time to consult on quilt design. She was a source for all things quilting for many of us. As the owner of Bear Paw Quilts and More, Donna was a generous supporter of the Sierra Mountain Quilters Association.

Before moving to the mountain area, Donna worked as a court reporter in Simi Valley. She spent most of her spare time doing needlework and quilting. Her true passion was quilting as seen in all the beautiful quilts she created.

Her parents brought the family to Bass Lake every year for vacation. They often stayed in the cabins at the old Pines Resort and enjoyed camping in the forest. One of Donna's favorite places was Willow Creek on the north side of the lake. In the late 1980's, Donna bought a small condo in Oakhurst and found herself coming up more and more often. She finally decided to move here full time. Her family soon followed her, buying a home in Yosemite Lakes Park.

After moving to Oakhurst, she went to work for Arlene's Quilt Shop. When Arlene decided to close her business, Donna thought this would be the perfect opportunity to start her own shop. She had recently become friends with Bonnie McClintock, and they decided to open a shop together. They opened "Bear Paw Quilts and More" in the Junction Plaza shopping center during the Fourth of July weekend, 1999.

Several years later, they found they needed more space to accommodate workshops and *more fabric*, moving to the current location.

There were many local quilters who were lucky enough to work with Donna over the years, adding their own specialized skills to the whole quilt shop experience.

Bear Paw participated in many Shop Hops and was a frequent stop for quilting enthusiasts traveling through Oakhurst on their way to Bass Lake and Yosemite. Her customers were very supportive of Donna and Bear Paw, especially during her illness. They always left with a bit of fabric and special prayers for her. She will be sorely missed.

We acknowledge and honor Donna's life, friendship and enthusiasm for fabric, design, and color, by naming the SMQA annual student scholarship for her.



Donna's quilt donated to the Breast Cancer  
Walk-a-Thon in 2014

## Your Invitation to “Sharing the Joy of Quilting,” 38<sup>th</sup> Quilt Show

Foothill Quilters Guild, Auburn, CA

April 1-30, 2021

**Foothill Quilters Guild invites you to its first virtual quilt show.**

In order to protect the safety of all quilt show attendees during the COVID-19 pandemic, we will be holding a free, virtual quilt show during April 2021. The show will be hosted on the Foothill Quilters Guild website for the month of April. It will offer categorized displays of our members' quilts, interactive demonstrations, classes, and access to highly regarded vendors online throughout the month. Judging will be performed by professionals as well as online attendees. We anticipate a great virtual show and hope you will join us.



### Deep Space

The Foothill Quilters Guild's 2021 Opportunity Quilt, “Deep Space,” is 51" wide and 55" long. We will draw the lucky winner on Saturday, April 10, 2021. Visit our website if you would like to purchase tickets.



### Tips and Hints

For the handout for “Overcoming Quilting Disasters”, presented by Lisa and Lora at the February meeting, go to the Blog on their website (Materialgirlfriends.com). The Good Stuff section contains “Quilting Disasters and How to Fix Them”.

### A Challenge from your Second Vice Presidents

We are proposing a “Positivity” Challenge. We are hoping each member can find something positive about 2020 and make a block representative of that. If you'd like to participate, make a block (which could end up as a wall hanging) no larger than 16" square and share it at a meeting later in the year. We will pick the month soon.

Maria and Patty



For more about the Footloose row quilt exchange and more pictures, please go to the SMQA website

Chris Hartesveldt's Rows



Lisa Kernigan's Rows



Deb Austin's Rows



Betty Fisher's Fox Quilt



Sue Johnson's Applique from Toni Whitney design



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**UPCOMING CLASSES**

All classes are cancelled until the social/travel restrictions issued by the State of California have been lifted

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# Sierra Mountain Quilters Association

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**REMEMBER TO WEAR YOUR NAME  
BADGE AT THE NEXT MEETING!**

### BOARD MEMBERS

President	Penni Simily
First Vice Presidents	Helen Brown and Laura Gonzalez
Second Vice Presidents	Patty Cramer and Maria Ciccarelli
Treasurer	Wendy Holt
Secretary	Margie Williams

*Board Meetings are held at 1:00 p.m. on the fourth Monday of each month at Yosemite Bank Community Conference Room.*

Send Newsletter submissions to  
[betsy@youngholm.com](mailto:betsy@youngholm.com)  
Deadline is 20th of each month.

### COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Amenities	Linda Miller
New Member Support	Chris Hudson
Circles	Marian Romero
Cuddle Quilts	Patty Cramer & Maria Ciccarelli
Historian	
Hospitality	Circles
Librarian	Constance Peterson
Membership	Teri De La Torre
Newsletter	Betsy Anne Youngholm
Parliamentarian	Linda Pennington
Quilt Show Chairs	Sinta Borland & Jeri Carney
Webmaster	Sally Walker