

Southern California Council of Quilt Guilds

Volume XXIII, No. 2

March 2011

President's Comments

Greetings Quilters,

Happy Spring, finally! Even though it is delightful to be outside digging and planting we also need to take time for our passion, quilting. My sewing room used to be the media room and it is configured so no direct sunlight can come in. It makes a great sewing space! My passion for wool quilts only requires good lighting and a cozy sofa. That space I find in my sitting room where I can be so close to nature that the little birds try to land on the grids of the windows. Where do you get your inspiration? Where is your favorite place to sew? Do you invite friends over to sew with you on occasion?

Inspiration will come with loads of excitement and ideas when we gather for Meet The Teachers in April. Jean Kuper has an inspiring line up of teachers for us. Traditionally this is our most well attended meeting. Come and mix and mingle, talk with the teachers and find someone new to invite to your guild. Just think! You will be the one to inspire the other quilters in your guild to attend a meeting and/or workshop and perhaps learn something new. April's meeting promises to be an exciting meeting and not to be missed.

Thank you for all that your individual guilds do for philanthropy. Thank you to our dedicated Board for your commitment to SCCQG. Congratulations, once again to Don Beld. Please read the article posted later in the newsletter.

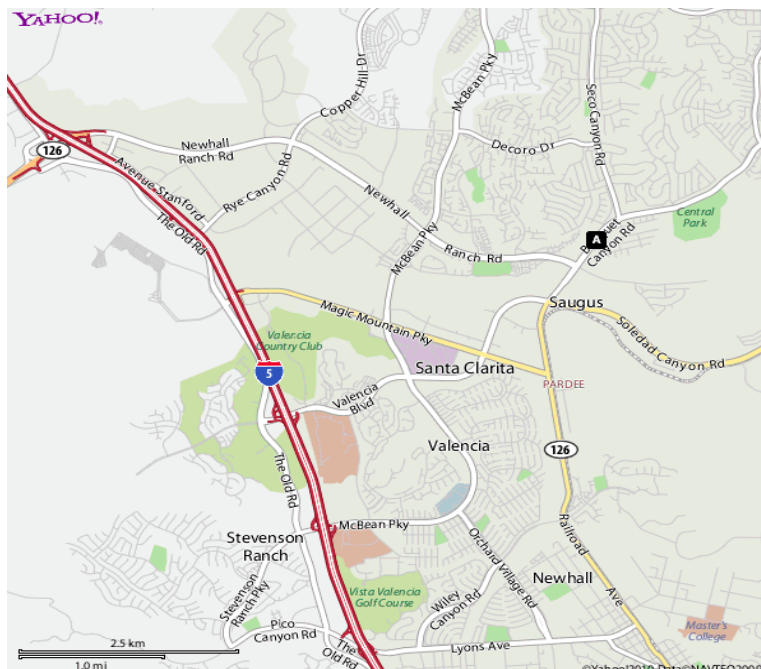
Kaaren Nowlin

April 9, 2011, Meet The Teachers

Contact for SCCQG for this meeting is Jean Kuper quiltjmk@verizon.net

Meeting Location: Santa Clarita Valley United Methodist 26640 Bouquet Canyon Road, Saugus, CA 91380

RSVP- Patti Voyles patti.voyles@att.net



Traveling southbound on, Interstate 5, exit at Newhall Ranch Road (East), to Bouquet Canyon Road, 4.2 miles Turn Left. Church will be on right side just beyond Espuella Drive.

Traveling southeast from the coast, take 101 south to CA 126 East, go 41 miles, across Interstate 5 the road becomes Newhall Ranch Road. Continue just beyond Espuella Dr.

From the LA or southern area, exit 5 at Valencia Blvd., exit #169, East. Go 2.5 miles turn Left on Bouquet Canyon Road, bear left when joined by Railroad Ave. Cross Newhall Ranch Road. Church will

be approximately .7 miles on the Right side after Railroad Avenue jog



Turtle Sought! - Painted Turtle Camp

The Painted Turtle Camp is seeking more turtle pillows they send home with the special needs children they serve every summer. They keep unstuffed pillows to stuff on site, then send home with each child along with a quilt. The turtles are a big hit.

Santa Clarita Valley Quilters were helping to keep the turtles in stock until this year - they are down to 120. " We are making some, but cannot make enough for the campers. We are hoping other guilds will step up and provide additional turtles." The pattern can be found on the website at <http://www.thepaintedturtle.org/turtle/howyoucanhelp/otherwaystocontribute/> - look at the bottom of the scroll down section for "instructions".

If you have turtles made before the April 9th council meeting, have your representative bring them along. We'll be glad to take them to the camp which north of our city.

Patti Voyles - Santa Clarita Valley Quilt Guild for "The Painted Turtle Camp"

P.S. Lap quilts are always needed by the camp for campers to take home, no larger than 35-40" wide by 45-50 " long, suitable for 7 - 17 years of age.

Membership and Web

Jan Steffen -

Membership and Webmistress

I would like to request that you send all your information to info@sccqg.org. I will not be issuing passwords any longer. It is easier for me to take your information and place it in myself as I'm using html most of the time. The web site is continuing to evolve and grow. I am requesting jpgs of opportunity quilts with the name of the quilt and any information your guild would like to have with the picture. I have 16 opportunity quilts from guilds members posted. I am also requesting teachers send me a photo of one quilt which will be placed on the site. Please keep me informed of any email changes as this is our way to communicate with you and your guild

Teachers! By now some have found that they are on the waiting list for the April 9th's Meet The Teachers. Please make a note in your calendar to pay your dues by January 1st of each year or be on the waiting list. We will not have 2 'Meet the Teachers' during the year, only one. So be sure to get on the list by paying your dues and watching your email. Respond immediately. Please send in one jpg of a quilt or what you teach (be it beading or quilting) and I will post it on the website. Be sure to tell me the name of the quilt and information about the quilt (1 - 2 sentences).

Young Piecemakers Quilt Guild

The Young Piecemakers is holding another Wearable Fashion and Quilt Show on April 9, 2011 in Corona, CA. This year they have a fairy godmother in the form of Eleanor Burns of Quilt in a Day fame. Impressed by the young group and their accomplishments, she is donating her appearance at the show this year!

If you are unable to attend the SCCQG meeting, you might try attending this one day event, to support the Young Piecemakers ongoing outreach to teens learning to quilt.

"Hooray for Don"

Don Beld, quilter, teacher, and founder of **Home of the Brave** Quilts – honoring America's Fallen Heroes in the Afghanistan and Iraqi Wars - has had a remarkable year. He has been included in Joe Cunningham's book, *Men and the Art of Quilt Making*, and as part of the book's promotion, provided quilts for the AQS Show in DeMoines, Iowa last October. He has two quilts in the Potholder Show at the New England Quilt Museum to be displayed April – June 2011. His book, co-authored with Pam Weeks, *Civil War Quilts*, is scheduled out in the fall of this year. In addition, Don has been asked to be the Special Presentation Speaker at the American Quilt Study Group (AQSG) Seminar in Cherry Hill, NJ later this year, with a giving a 90 minute presentation on his 911 and other Memorial Quilts. AQSG publishes a yearly book on quilt history studies, and published a recent paper written by Jonathan Gregory on three organizations that are making quilts honoring the fallen Iraq-Afghanistan soldiers, including Home of the Brave, which has given over 4030 quilts to date. Jonathan Gregory has asked Don to display his Sanitary Commission Quilts in a Quilt Study Center at in University of Nebraska running from July 2012 to January 2013. All of this is pretty impressive. Don has commented in writing "I'm not sure it gets any better than this...I'm not quite sure what to make of all the honor as I just think of myself as an old man who loves history, his country and quilting – not necessarily in that order." Well Don, SCCQG is proud of your achievements in quilting and can only add a hearty "It's about time" to all the honors. Congratulations Don

- Becky Miller, editor

Future SCCQG Meeting

July 9, 2011 – Hosted by Flying Geese Quilters Guild. Topic – Update & Improve your guild newsletter.

October 8, 2011 – Hosted by Nite Owl Quilters
Topic: What can SCCQG do for you

Minutes

General Meeting, January 8, 2011

Meeting called to order at 10AM.

Introduction of new representatives – Night Owls, Busy Bear, North County Quilters.

Acceptance of check to cover meeting by LA County Quilters Guild.

Kaaren Nowlin - Erika Fields proposal for support – to start a foundation to support a group of male and female quilters in the military in Afghanistan to provide quilts to the Afghan babies.

Don Beld – treasurer report. Insurance paid out \$24,000. Problems with the IRS – they say we are okay with our filing; then, we get a different group saying we are not. This activity goes back and forth. Last years IRS data has been filed. There are a number of guilds who are delinquent on the dues.

- Home of the Brave project quilt. The Minnesota coordinator died. She had a heart transplant which failed after many years. They have made a quilt in her memory and are using it to be raffled with the proceeds to contribute to the project which provided quilts to the families of those who have lost a service person. The blocks include some from France where people are also making quilts for American soldiers.

- "*Men and the Art of Quilting*." book is available. Don is included.

Pam Overton – insurance liaison. It is important that each guild have insurance even if it isn't through the council. We have a lawsuit and the insurance is taking care of it. Be sure to pass information about the council, insurance between the boards in your home guilds.

Jan Steffen – membership chair. Becky Miller entered a motion to have her approved as webmaster. Randy Miller seconded. Motion accepted with no opposition.

With approval, Jan provided a power point presentation of how the new website would function. She will be notifying the representative of record with new passwords.

Overview of site showed most of existing functions will continue. The 'for members' Other data on the site includes data on board members, guild information, membership data, teacher information including a place to apply, vendor data (from paid members only), topics for meetings and hints and tips for guilds, photo gallery (jpg formats), resources, contact data. Pictures of the Erika Fields project are included. If you have questions, need to get in, have the council rep for your guild notify Jan at jan@janicesteffen.com.

Guild dues are \$30. Insurance is calculated by multiplying \$2.75 per member of your guild. Insurance is being required by most locations such as those for meetings, shows or special events. Check with the location you are planning to use to see if an insurance certificate is required so you have time to request one. It will be faxed to the facility. It is automatically updated via fax when details change. If dues are not paid, the insurance lapses.

Jean Kuper – report on April "meet the teachers" council program. Santa Clarita Valley Quilt Guild is the hosting guild: their address will be on the website. There will be no member packets this year. Pick up information from each teacher. Teachers must be members of our council to participate. Meeting is April 9th. It is a good idea to bring your contracts and setup programs with the teachers. In your contract be very specific about what expenses are to be covered. Normally travel expenses are covered – airplane ticket is reasonable for instance. The guild doesn't have to pay for everything. One option is to look at cost of rental versus mileage if the teacher is driving. Paying for a rental may be cheaper. NEGOTIATE!

UPDATE YOUR GUILD DATA ON THE WEBSITE.

Cathe Hedrick announced the program for the day – Other Ways to Make Money. The topics included Quilt Shows, Auctions, Opportunity Quilts. Each table had a book for taking notes. Cathe will compile the information provided by each group an email data to the representatives and anyone leaving their information in the book. Member announcements:

you may be able to add on additional class days with the teacher.

Bus Trips

Bus trips to Quilt Runs in California

Road 2 California

PIQF

Long Beach

Make the price right so that folks will want to ride your bus, offer snacks, and play games on the bus, such as fat quarter game, trivia game, quilt word search and Quilt-O. We do have folks what were at this table who will be glad to share how to play those games if anyone is interested. Am I right girls??

Bus trip in conjunction with wine tasting and shops of your choice.

You could organize Cruises for your Guild, not a bus trip but includes travel. Some cruise lines are willing to organize a cruise trip just for your guild.

Quilt Shows

Well quilt shows table had more notes than any of the others!

Discussion included yearly, even years only, every other year?????

Many guilds seem to have quilt show one year and another major event the next year like an auction, Tea, Sewing Room Tour, or Opportunity Quilt?

Problems that were expressed:

Quilt Chairs hard to find, other guild said they have not had a problem??

Space of a size needed difficult to locate at affordable prices

Lack of participation of members

Lots of man hours needed

Amount of hours justify the money earned?

Quilt prizes awarded by vote of attendees rather than professional judge

Some guilds said they don't judge quilts as the quilts shown are available for sale

Cost of professional judges

Suggestions

3 quilts donated for use for show, opportunity quilt for sale, one for giveaway for Quilt Chair, one for person who sells most tickets, stimulates interest in several ways.

Presidents booth at show for current and past presidents of guild to show their work.

Booths manned by the charities that the guild donates it quilts to each year showing what they do and representatives there to share the mission of the group.

Back to basics show, no vendor's just quilts hung to show the work of the membership.

Some Quilt Shows have auction at the show and most things for the action are donated and proceeds go to guild.

Most shows had vendors

Boutiques ranged in price on proceeds to maker. Some as high as 50/50

Education booths help promote quilting, offer guild members opportunity to show off their skills with demonstrations and have a spot to entertain smaller children by providing a quilting project.

Auctions/Some events called by different names

Live and Silent Auctions seems to be a great way to make money, everything is donated and the proceeds go directly to the Guild.

Start soliciting donations at least 8 month before the auction.

The Auctioneer is vitally important they are the ones that can run the prices up on the items. It might be worth hiring a professional

There is a strategy to the sequence of the live auction items, it seems that starting slow and building is the best way to go your biggest item in the middle of the auction and then slowly down to a small item again. Do not allow guests in your audience to start getting up to pay for silent auction items until the bidding is complete for the live auction. Make sure announcements are made from the stage that the silent auction cashier will not open until everything is complete. If you do not do this you will lose proceeds and the audience becomes distracted.

You will need guild members who are good at asking for donations from community business, quilt related and other. Never too early to start this process. Items that sell well are personal in nature like a donation by a quilt shop who will host a certain number of guild members for a day with food and special attention.

Live Auction items can be quilts or quilt tops donated by members or local vendors.

Discounts to retreats donated by local retreat companies, sewing machines by local dealers and any other item that you think will appeal to your audience that is of a more expensive nature.

It is smart to have some kind of entertainment at these events. If you check around in your community you will find folks that can entertain, maybe at your local high school, college or professionals in the area. One guild has used a professional magician and he was a huge success and really warmed up the audience. He was a surprise no one knew he was coming and that worked well.

Open this event to the general public, encourage membership to bring friends and family. An ad in the local newspaper is a great idea. No charge to guests.

As your special Auction items come in take pictures and feature them on your website.

Baskets seem to be a great auction item, all of the items donated and pictures of them being assembled should appear on the guild website! The items in the baskets are new product.

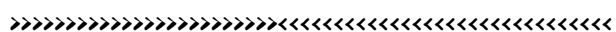
Packaging is important, throwing things on a table and hoping that folks will spend a lot to dig through does not work, you need to take the time to sort all of the donated items. Start 8 months in advance to collect donated items. Rent a storage unit, if you do not have a guild member willing to donate their garage or other space to work in. Make sure the storage unit is big enough to set up tables and chairs so that guild members will help out in increments of a couple of hours to sort and package and labels items. Have members donate ribbons, and plastic storage zippered bags they get their sheets and other items in so you may use those to make up your auctions items. Sort fabrics by size and colors and mark on the tag the amount of fabric approximately in a package and the approximate value. You can take the yardage and divide the current rate per yard by about 4 and charge that amount per yard. Same goes for quilting tools or quilt related items. Put a minimum bid on each item.

Live Auction items are usually quilts or quilt tops donated by members or local vendors. Discounts to retreats donated by local retreat companies, sewing machines by local dealers

and any other item that you think will appeal to your audience.

There were several suggestions on how to set up your bid process for the silent auction. Most of us did talk about bid sheets, they should have the number and name of the item and the low bid price.

Some guilds keep their silent auction open for 1 hour and the last 15 minutes reduce the price of the min bid by ½ for that 15 minute period on items that have no bid on them. This usually gets everything sold. Remember the goal is not to take anything to the thrift store sell it all at the Auction!!!!



Raffle Requirements and Legalities

Confused about the legalities of raffles? You are not alone? Here are some of the notes from previous SCCQG meetings and mailings. All raffles must be reported to the State of California and sending raffle tickets thru the mail is illegal. From the USPS comes the following:

"Q. Do raffle tickets mailed as part of a raffle conducted by a nonprofit organization violate the proscription against mailing lottery tickets set forth in Domestic Mail Manual (DMM) C031.3.2?

"A. Raffles that incorporate "prize," "chance," and "consideration" are considered lotteries under the statute and postal standards. Tickets for such raffles are considered unlawful mail matter and are non-mailable.

"When one or more of the three elements (i.e., prize, chance, or consideration) are eliminated from a raffle, the arrangement does not constitute a lottery for postal purposes. For instance, "consideration" is eliminated if persons may enter without payment of a fee. Thus, a nonprofit organization that designs a raffle where it is clear that a donation is not required (e.g., via a check box: "Please enter

my name in the drawing. I do not wish to make a donation at this time.") to participate in the raffle may use the mail to distribute the tickets for that raffle."

The full text of the regulation is in the Domestic Mail Manual, or DMM, section C031.3.2, regarding lotteries:

<http://pe.usps.gov/text/dmm/c031.htm#Xar2317>

Scroll down to the relevant section of that page, which is:

"3.0 Lottery Matter (18 USC 1302)

"3.1 Definition

"For this standard, lottery is any scheme or promotion, whether lawful under the laws of any state, which, on paying a consideration, offers a prize dependent in whole or in part on lot or chance.

"3.2 Unlawful Mail Matter

"Unlawful matter includes any letter, newspaper, periodical, parcel, stamped card or postcard, circular, or other matter permitting or facilitating participation in a lottery; any lottery ticket or part thereof or substitute; and any form of payment for a lottery ticket or share.

"3.3 Fishing Contests, Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, Lotteries

"This standard does not apply to:

"a. Any fishing contest not conducted for profit, in which prizes are awarded for the species, size, weight, or quality of fish caught by contestants in any bona fide fishing or recreational event (18 USC 1305).

"b. Any gaming conducted by an Indian tribe under the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (25 USC 2720).

"c. An advertisement, list of prizes, or other information on a lottery not prohibited by the state where it is conducted."

Today is the oldest you have been and the youngest you will be.

News from Afghanistan

In the last newsletter, you read about Erika Fields and her group stationed in Afghanistan, teaching local women how to quilt, knit and crochet. Hopefully, some SCCQG members sent materials. I personally have sent 8 boxes of thread, cotton fabric – all prewashed, batting and other sewing notions including scissors, mostly donated from members of my guild. More boxes will be ready to mail soon. Materials and aid are still needed. If you or your guild don't want to ship directly to Erika, bring donations to the April SCCQG meeting and I will see they are shipped. Thx.

ERIKA L. FIELDS
USFOR-A NKC
AFN PAO
APO AE 09356



Erika and others. Please note ready access to weapon.



FYI...

... Please ask your local quilt shop owner to renew membership or join SCCQG. For their membership fee they get a free link on our website.

...Have you checked the SCCQG website calendar and your guild information for accuracy? Please notify Jan Steffen when your main e-mail contact changes.

... In an effort to be more helpful and to make more personal contact with members, SCCQG is sending an occasional email. It is always disheartening when it is returned as non-deliverable

Begin where you are but don't stay there.



THE ALLIANCE FOR AMERICAN QUILTS

The Alliance for American Quilts (AAQ) links the world of quilts, scholarship, and the general public. AAQ develops projects and carry them out in partnership with museums, universities, business partners and grassroots quilt guilds around the country.

"Today 27 million Americans are involved in quilt making, Quilts matter!"

Website: AllianceforAmericanquilts.org



Something To Consider

Linda Smith, newsletter editor of Flying Geese Quilters, told us her guild set up an email account for their newsletter. They receive newsletters from other guilds. She has suggested that SCCQG do something similar. She says it is also possible to set up a distribution list and that it can serve to generate special announcements from this data base. SCCQG liked this concept and we thought we

would pass along the idea to other SCCQG members.

Many guilds have email accounts for their officers attached to their websites. Example: President – president@quiltguild.com This is handy since as officers change the contact for that office does not.



Board Members



President: **Kaaren Nowlin**
Kaarennowlin@yahoo.com

Vice President **Cathe Hedrick**
/Programs: Chedrick@housing.ucsb.edu

Secretary: **Patti Voyles**
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Treasurer: **Don Beld**
donbeld@pacbell.net

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Parliamentarian: **Jean Kuper**
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Please remember

As part of your guild commitment to the Council:

Newsletters are to be sent to:

SCCQG President: Kaaren Nowlin
SCCQG Newsletter Editor: Becky Miller
SCCQG Membership: Info@sccqg.org

And, last but not least, please remember that the SCCQG board members are volunteers, just as all of you are volunteers for your respective guilds. We do the best we can with the time that we have.

For something truly inspirational try this URL about the Blind Quilter.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7lfaSmDxVZQ>