



# Santa Monica Quilt Guild

P.O. Box 5514, Santa Monica, CA 90409

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[www.santamonicaquiltguild.org](http://www.santamonicaquiltguild.org)

## Join us for a Virtual Zoom Meeting on August 3

### President's Corner

Thank you to the hard working quilters who came to the July Sew In. We were a small but mighty group. Tops from Pat of Love and Kathryn Small were sandwiched with fabric previously donated to the guild and some bolts brought to us by Suzanne from Sewing Arts. Several quilters took more than one quilt to finish at home and some have been completed and returned. Contact a board member if you would like to sew blocks together or take a top to finish. We still have batting and backing. You can do as much or as little as a binding if you prefer.

Changing the subject--I'd like to talk to you about unsewing and how I do it. We all do it—not by choice but because occasionally we sew X to Y when it should have gone next to Z. Time for the seam-ripper. I use one to get the seam open with the poking end but then I prefer a medical scalpel blade. My sister who worked for a dentist, gave me a disposable blade that served me for a long time. A blade is much cheaper than a commercial seam ripper that always seems to get dull quickly. The tool booth at Road 2 California and other shows sells blades and handles and will replace the blade if you are unsure. I treat this tool with great respect and store it in an old cover for a seam ripper which is inside a vinyl pen holder. As with a rotary cutter, you don't want an accident.

Last year I bought this Sewing Bird (Lacis, Berkeley, CA) that clamps to the cabinet. Its pretty to look at and serves as a third hand. I clamp one end of my sewing in the bird's mouth, hold the seam apart with one hand, and touch the scalpel blade to the exposed threads. It rips through the threads quickly.

The other tool I use to clean up the mess of threads still attached is "Seam Fix". It's part of a special seam ripper and has a soft rubber end that grabs and pulls out the pesky cut threads. I can then sweep with the tool and wipe the threads off onto a piece of scrap batting and later into the trash. You can see these tools in my photo that is part of the meeting Show and Tell.

Hope everyone is not doing much unsewing. I managed to finish a small quilt that I started at last month's Sew-In from strips donated by Sewing Arts. Others have completed quilts from that night—Keep them coming. Thankful we have many generous and productive members.

See you on Zoom!

President – Aileen Kuda-Cooke [kudacooke@gmail.com](mailto:kudacooke@gmail.com), text me anytime at 310/739-6222

### Program

Our August speaker will be Carol Wilhoit. Carol's talk is titled: "Get Your Stash Together: Organization for Quilters." (I personally am really looking forward to this – if you saw my sewing room you would understand why!) Carol comes to us from Wheaton Illinois. From her website [carolquilts.com](http://carolquilts.com): "During forty years of quilting, Carol has become interested in making small quilted projects as well as quilts. As a retired physician, she enjoys bringing her technical mind to quilting. She enjoys figuring out how to make the construction process easier while producing better results. She has also refined techniques for building, organizing, and using a fabric stash that make it a joy to have and to use."

You should have all received the email about the Global Quilt Connections Sampler Platter on July 30 and 31. Sign in to preview potential speakers for the coming year and let me know who you like!

Program Chair – Laurie Reyen

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## Visit French General

Our guild has been invited to visit the French General store near downtown Los Angeles.

Look at <https://www.frenchgeneral.com/> for the kinds of fabric and notions that they carry. This is a huge treat! It's open to the public only by appointment.

We have selected Sunday, August 14.

It is a small store, so please let me know if you would like to be on the list. We need to go in small groups and carpooling is best as parking is limited.

Kennalee [kennaleem@aol.com](mailto:kennaleem@aol.com)

## Vice President

How can it be the end of July already? Didn't summer just begin? We do have a quilter spotlight this month. Luann Jaffe is sharing something about her quilting journey with us!

You have all received the email dated July 21, 2022 from Pam Overton regarding the Global Quilt Connection. This will be happening this coming weekend. All are welcome to participate to hear from/about possible speakers. It will run Saturday 7/30 and Sunday 7/31 from 12-3 PM. The link is in the email. You can also hear it on YouTube for the next 24 hours if you can't tune in at the live time. If someone really excites you, please let Laurie Reyen know for programs.

Have worked on a couple of UFO's leftover from other people. Good to get them done and donated but I think I rather work on my own UFO's! Luckily I don't have too many of those. I seem to be more a one or two project at a time person and have not taken many classes to have small project started but not finished.

Here's to finishing. Happy quilting

*Vice President – Allison Leong*

## Spotlight Quilter – Betsy Barker

### REQUIEM FOR AN IRON

The last seam on the two quilts for the Ukrainian refugees was finished. Done, and ready for the last ironing. I needed to package them for the next day's mail to the longarm quilter. After I put a binding on the quilts, it could still take months to ship them to the refugees before winter's cold began.

My design had blue snowmen on the top in a pattern of half square triangles from 10" squares. The backs were yellow sunflowers in a cuddly, comforting flannel. These fabrics matched the Ukrainian flag of blue (skies) and yellow (sunflowers).

I turned my old purple iron to the cotton setting. The acrid scent of smoke wafted towards me. What was burning? When I lifted the iron, all the indicator lights were flashing a dangerous bright red. I

unplugged the iron and placed it on the tile counter far from anything it could set on fire.

Luckily, there was no burn mark damage. But without an iron, there was no way to meet my deadline.

If the tops and backs weren't pressed flat, the twisted seams would make uneven quilting stitches in these gift quilts.

This was probably the third iron I'd worn out since starting quilting in 1985. This purple iron had seen my traditional block quilts change to improvisation as my skills grew. But now it was time to say goodbye my old friend.

Somewhere in my house was a new iron, bought from the same drugstore where I'd bought my purple iron many years ago. My career in technology taught me to always have a backup on hand. Otherwise, I'd be rushing to the drugstore in emergency mode when my purple iron wore out.

But where was it? I searched in the hall closet and under my sewing tables. I even looked under my fabric stash. But it wasn't in any of the usual storage places, and my apartment is only one bedroom.

Finally, I found the iron still in its box, waiting for its debut into my creative life. I ripped open the box and plugged in the iron, turning the heat indicator up to cotton. Would this iron become my new quilting buddy?

Once more, I moved the iron gently over the seams. But the seams weren't getting flat! This new gray iron was much lighter than my purple iron, so it didn't have the weight to flatten the seams. I sprayed water on the seams to help the fabric to fold. I held the iron over each seam for 30 seconds, listening for the sizzle of the water. Between holding the iron on the seams and the water spray, the seam became smooth. Finally, the two quilt tops and backs were pressed flat, and packaged to mail to the long arm quilter the next day.

Who had received my donated quilts in the past? Some went to homeless children, and some to children in hospitals. Did they feel my love when they wrapped themselves in a fabric hug? Did they feel special, that someone unknown had made this gift for them? I make complex quilts to express my creativity, and charity quilts to cope with world events that are beyond my control. That is my legacy.

## Spotlight Quilter – Luann Jaffe

My name is Luann Jaffe. I am a native Californian and became interested in quilting 14 years ago when I found out that we were going to be grandparents of a baby girl after 6 grandsons. I could have used my limited knitting skills to make something for the baby shower but let my friend Sandy Ray talk me into

making a baby quilt. At first I said no but then decided why not try something new and the rest is history. She told me I would either love quilting or hate it. Obviously it turned out to be the former. She loaned me the pattern and I spent 3 hours picking out 7 fabrics at JoAnns. I then went on to take a beginning quilting class at Sewing Arts and bought one of the machines that we used in the class. Today I am the proud owner of 2 Bernina sewing machines, a Viking embroidery machine, a Brother traveling machine and a Bernina Longarm. I'm also guilty of having way too much fabric including much too many precuts which I am trying to use up

I am a traditional quilter but find I still like trying new things. During Covid, I joined Alex Anderson's Quilt Show and did my first Block of the Month – Color My World which became my favorite and I am now doing Garden Party Down Under which is all applique, something I had never done before and now I don't know which one is my favorite. I can hardly wait for each month to start so I can start making my new block.

After making quilts for all of my family members, I have to say that making and donating quilts through Philanthropy has been very gratifying. I've been active on two of the boards and have been able to meet some wonderful ladies.

I'm including both of my favorite quilts – Color My World and Garden Party Down Under which won't be completed and put together until December

Covid has slowed down a lot of social activities so I try to get together with a few old friends whenever possible. I've been trying to get in on as many Zooms as possible to keep in touch with the guilds, taking a few classes along the way. I still love to cook and bake and spend as much time as possible with my family.

## Show and Tell

If you have items to share for Show and Tell, please send your show and tell photos no later than Sunday to [pam@travelingquilters.com](mailto:pam@travelingquilters.com), July 31.

## Zoom meeting links

We have set up the guild meeting zoom link as a recurring meeting. We will also use the same link for any Sew-Ins and Happy Hours. The link will be included in the email with this newsletter. We'll also send a reminder on Monday night.

## Website

Please email photos of your finished quilts and works-in-progress to Emily ([wattsejw@gmail.com](mailto:wattsejw@gmail.com)) to post them on our website and social media accounts, Facebook and Instagram, for "at-home show & tell."

I continue to update the website for your viewing pleasure. Let me know if there is anything specific, you would like to see on it. [www.santamonicaquiltguild.org](http://www.santamonicaquiltguild.org)

*Webmistress – Emily Watts*

## Nominating Committee

At the August meeting, we will announce the proposed slate of officers and ask for further nominations from the floor. Thank you to the members who have volunteered to serve on the board.

*Nominating Committee - Sally Madigan,  
Sheila Cummins, Yoshi Nickerson*

## SMQG General Meeting Minutes – July 6, 2022

SMQG Quilt guild members met in person and on Zoom (hybrid) for its July 2022 general meeting.

The gathering began at 3:00pm in Simkins Hall at First United Methodist Church in Santa Monica for a philanthropy sew-in. Members who were able to attend worked on donated quilt tops or block creating philanthropy quilts.

The business meeting was called to order by President Aileen Cooke at 7:00 pm and was conducted in hybrid style with members attending in person and on zoom. Emily Watts, guild website coordinator, facilitated the zoom connection.

### Business Meeting:

The President, Aileen Cooke, called approval of the June 2022 Minutes and Treasurer's report as published in the July 2022 newsletter. Both were approved by acclamation.

### Committee Reports:

Nominating Committee: Aileen reported that the nominating committee has been working on a slate and still need to find a volunteer(s) for philanthropy chair or co-chairs.

Membership: No report.

Vice President: Allison indicated all information for the VP is in the July guild newsletter.

Newsletter: Pam continued to invite member submissions to the newsletter. She also announced that the SCCQG is endorsing a project to provide approximately 140 quilts for the service men/women serving on the naval submarine USS California. Quilts need to be a specific size 50"x70" and need to be in patriotic fabrics. The deadline is December 1, 2022. There is detailed information on the Council's website. Pam will also have information the August newsletter.

Philanthropy: Quilts are always welcome. The chairs are still accepting placemats. They need 60 more to fulfill their current commitment.

**Program and Workshops:** Laurie reported that at the August meeting speaker will be Carol Wilhout on zoom. September speaker will be Suzy Nash and she will be an in-house speaker. She continues to encourage members to send her speaker suggestions. She indicated some of the guild's best speakers have been member suggestions. She has booked speakers through the end of 2022, except for December.

**Ways and Means and Hospitality:** No report.

**Website:** No report.

**Corresponding Secretary:** No report.

**New Business:** Kennalee announced the guild has received an invitation to visit the French General Store in Los Angeles. This is a special visit as The French General Store is an on-line store. Kennalee will let the guild know the date. Due to the store's size, the number of attendees will be limited. The guild donated 25 boxes to the Navajo Quilt Project which the store sponsors.

**Old Business:** The next guild zoom social will be Friday, July 15, from 5-6pm.

**Show and Tell:** Members who shared quilts were Aileen Cooke, Allison Leong, Kennalee Mattson.

The business meeting was adjourned by president Aileen Cooke at 7:25 pm. The in-person philanthropy sew-in ended at approximately 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Veronica Gray

## Birthdays - August

<b>Cindi Garacochea</b>	2-Aug
<b>Stephanie Wexler</b>	25-Aug
<b>Annette Levey</b>	15-Aug

## Philanthropy

Thank you once again for your placemat donations. We have already given 60 placemats to El Segundo, 350 to Santa Monica, 50 to Beverly Hills and in the next week or so 150 to Culver City Meals on Wheels. This has been a very successful project but we're not quite through. We still have West Los Angeles and possibly Inglewood. So we welcome whatever you can do for this project. The ladies working at the Quilt House have been doing a fantastic job for us too.

We're still collecting quilts and hoping you'll join us at the sew in on July 6th at the Church at 3PM. It would be great if we could get some quilt tops completed during the afternoon. We also have some backings donated by Julie at Sewing Arts and there will be batting available too. Looking forward to seeing you.

*Luann Jaffe and Bobbie Blake, Philanthropy Co-Chairs*

## SMQG Schedule of Events

Your Program chair is busy working to fill out our calendar for the coming year with interesting speakers. As always, your input/feedback/suggestions are welcome. Please contact Laurie Reyen to let her know your thoughts.

Date	Speaker/Teacher	Lecture	website
September 7	Suzy Nash	Collage Quilts	
October 5	Noreen Skiles	Use It All: You Paid for It	
November 2	Veruschka Zarate	Finding Pride and Joy in Quilting	Prideandjoyquilting.com
December 7	Holiday Meeting		

## Selected Upcoming Southern California Events

<b>August 3-6</b>	Long Beach International Quilt Festival. For more information, go to <a href="http://www.quilts.com">www.quilts.com</a>
<b>September 13</b>	El Camino Quilters Silent Auction and Mega Sale, 9:30 – 12 noon, Faith Community Church, 2700 Rancho Pancho, Carlsbad, CA. Visit their website to view the list of auction items. <a href="https://www.elcaminoquilters.com">https://www.elcaminoquilters.com</a> ; Open to the Public — Free Admission; Cash & Major Credit Cards Accepted
<b>September 17-18</b>	Friendship Square Quilt Guild Quilt show, Alive with Color – Take 2. Saturday, 10-5, Sunday 10-4. La Habra Community Center, 101 W. La Habra Blvd., La Habra, CA. Admission \$8.00. Visit their website for more information: <a href="http://www.fsqq.org/">http://www.fsqq.org/</a>
<b>September 24-25</b>	Coastal Quilters Guild of Santa Barbara & Goleta, 12 <sup>th</sup> Biennial Quilt Show – Harvest of Color – a Member's Showcase Quilt Show; Saturday, 10:00 am – 5:00 pm, Sunday, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm. Warren Hall, Earl Warren Showgrounds, Los Positas & Calle Real, Santa Barbara, CA; over 200 traditional, modern and art quilts, boutique and merchant mall. Pre-sales tickets, \$10, available July 2022. Tickets at door \$12. Good for both days. Information at <a href="http://www.coastalquilters.org">www.coastalquilters.org</a> as it becomes available. Free parking. Questions now? Email <a href="mailto:cqgshow@coastalquilters.org">cqgshow@coastalquilters.org</a> .



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**2022**

- Temecula Quilt-Away Retreat in September
- Long Beach International Quilt Festival, August 3 – San Diego departures only

**2023**

- Road to California – January 21 – San Diego departures only
- Temecula Quilt-Away Retreat in February

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