Santa Monica Quilt Guild

PO Box 5514, Santa Monica, CA 90409-5514

Volume 36, Issue 11 August 2026

Wednesday, August 5, 2026, 7 p.m. ZOOM!

We have an interesting array of speakers coming up in the next few months. We're offering a variety of topics, another workshop, and, in one case, an opportunity for you to help decide the speaker's topic!

In August we will host Bob Purcell on Zoom. Many of you know that Bob is the former owner of Superior Threads. A few years ago, Bob decided to retire and sell the business. As with so many people who retire, though, after a few years Bob was "bored" and looking for something to do. So, what did he do, he purchased YLI, another thread company! Bob will be sharing his "Thread Mastery" lecture with us. His talk is full of information about thread, what to use when, needles, and much, much more. He provides a companion document (his Thread Mastery Manual) that you will want to download.

In September, we will once again be on Zoom. Remember . . . the church is NOT air conditioned and in late Summer, early Fall it's hot . . . even in Santa Monica. Our speaker this month is Julia McLeod. Visit her website to learn more about her (Julia McLeod - Quilts | Lectures | Workshops).

For the October meeting we're back to in-person at the church. Our speaker this month is Laura Greene, a local quilt artist from Upland, CA. Her topic? Well, that's where your help comes in. They are all interesting and so it's hard to choose which to offer. She will have a trunk show that is representative of whichever topic we choose. So click here to go to the survey that describes her four lecture topics. The survey will give you an opportunity to vote. We hope you'll participate. This is, after all, your guild and your opinion matters and your vote counts!

Last but not least, Diana Karna will be our November speaker. Enjoy this informative lecture on sewing quilted coats. We will go in depth on the pattern, how to take measurements for the best fit, go over several different finishing methods, and talk about adding collars and hoods. Get inspired with plenty of ideas for customization—and one of the best (and most fun!) parts of this in-person lecture is the opportunity to try on coats in the whole range of sizes. The lecture runs 40–45 minutes, with plenty of time afterward for guests to try on coats, ask questions, and confirm that perfect fit.

We are also offering a workshop with Diana on Thursday after the guild meeting (November 5). Now the real fun begins! In this 6-hour workshop we'll finish quilted back panels,

trace and cut pattern pieces, and dive into coat construction. Diana will do live demos on custom pattern adjustments, how to add pockets with binding, collars, and hoods, plus instruction for sewing the tricky parts with confidence. Throughout it all, she will offer plenty of guidance and encouragement so you can walk away with a finished or near finished coat that is a clear expression of your personal quilting style. One of the benefits of the In-Person Workshop is access to pre-cut pattern templates made from sturdy oak tag paper. These save time during the workshop and let you keep your own set of patterns to use for your next coat! Visit her website to learn more.
https://www.stitchingstyle.org

Sign up now for this fun workshop. The cost is $45 per person, plus $30 for your personal copy of the pattern. The $30 pattern fee is paid directly to the teacher. Once you have registered, you will receive the supply list. To ensure that we fill the workshop (and cover costs), we will begin advertising the workshop to other guilds right away. Interested in joining us? Sign up today!

President — Laurie Reyen

Thanks to all who came out for our July potluck- there were so many highlights, including the mystery quilt reveal, a rousing Quilto match, an epic free table from Ways and Means and as always, really great food! One of my favorite potluck items was Katrina Fam's Oh Henry Squares. Katrina has shared the recipe, which you will find included in this month's newsletter.

I took a field trip down to the Bowers Museum in Santa Ana to see their current exhibit, "The American Quilt: Cloth and Commerce". It was a really wonderful collection featuring quilts from our nation's founding, through the present day. If you can't make it down to Santa Ana, there is a video featuring the exhibit's curator, Tara Miller, giving a tour of the exhibit highlight's on the museum's website at bowers.org.

It's that time of year for our nominating committee to put together a slate of officers for the coming year. Serving on the Board is a great way to get to know your fellow members. If you are not sure about handling an office solo, there are multiple positions that can use a co-officer. Philanthropy and Ways and Means are 2 groups that come 2 mind. If you are interested, reach out to Aileen Cooke, the Chair of our nominating Committee.

We will be on Zoom for the next 2 months, with some great speakers lined up. Stay cool and will see you on the world wide web!

Threads of the Game

At our July meeting we discussed the upcoming Threads of the Game quilt exhibition to be presented at multiple sites in conjunction with the 2028 Summer Olympic. The organizers are looking for sport themed quilts to be included in the exhibit. as small as 30 x 30 through as large as 65 x 85. Quilts should have an international sports theme. This is not about

professional teams like the Dodgers, Rams, etc. There are some restrictions regarding use of the Olympic Rings. That is heavily trademarked. Their official release of information will be in September, and we'll see more then about guidelines. The exhibit will also be presented at the Road to California and Road to Virginia quilt shows in advance of the Games.

There is an opportunity for our organization to become a Founding Sponsor for the International Threads of the Games quilt exhibition. The sponsorship fee is $500. The sponsor funds will be used for promotion, shipping the exhibit to shows, and other promotional items. From exhibit organizer Jeff Warner:

The sponsorship provides the Guild a: "unique, fully supported partnership that includes premier benefits designed to elevate your organization on a national stage:

- Financial Reimbursement: This sponsorship carries minimal financial risk. Following the conclusion of the 2028 Olympic displays, any leftover operational funds will be distributed directly back to our Founding Sponsor guilds to reimburse your initial $500 investment.
- A Voting Seat on the Board: Your guild will immediately receive one voting seat on our exhibition advisory board, giving you a direct voice in key planning decisions.
- Guaranteed Exhibition Entry & Free Advertising: Your guild's custom, sport-themed quilt will bypass the standard public jury process. It will gain automatic entry into the exhibition and will be featured directly in our national promotional campaigns."

For more information on the exhibition, there is a presentation that was made at the most recent Southern California Council of Quilt Guilds meeting. To see the presentation which starts at 00:21:00 click on the link below and use Passcode: u!81Y!1u

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/vlemc_atchNDv_zsJ-oaMQ_98qUwB7labUFdgbfyMIogvrjuLLDaZW9t0khJ71Me.weZc9gnJ8HwiXihT?startTime=1783789263000

We plan to vote on the Guild's participation at the August meeting. (For those of you who voted at the July meeting it turns out we did not have the quorum necessary to make the vote official.)

Philanthropy — Cindi Garacochea

Thank you, members, for your donations. They are always appreciated.

We still need baby and toddler size quilts. The small quilts will be donated to Miriam's Place and Venice Family Clinic. The sizes needed are 30x40 for strollers, 36x52 mattress, 40x40 play sizes. Larger sized quilts are okay too; they will be donated soon.

Hospitality — Prima Casetta

It's summer and we're returning to zoom meetings for the next two months, just in time to beat the heat. While you learn about threads from Bob Purcell, our August speaker, enjoy a cool drink at home or maybe a dish of ice cream. The choice is up to you and what's in your refrigerator.

Membership — Donna Heiderman

It has been a quiet month on the membership front. If you know of anyone interested in quilting, invite them to join us at a meeting. They can sign up as a guest on the guild website to receive a link for our August 5th meeting on Zoom.

Shadows

Two of our Guild members have experienced significant losses in the last month.

Sally Madigan's son John passed away on June 24 at the age of 57. From Sally: "John had Becker Muscular Dystrophy, which was diagnosed when he was 15. Although he had lived 10 years beyond his predicted life span, his death was not expected. John was winding down his professional life as a Water Resource Engineer for the California Water Resources Board, coached a power soccer team for an adaptive sports group, enjoyed his garden, and cheered on various ice hockey teams, but not Las Vegas. We miss him greatly."

Susanne Cole's sister Annette passed away on June 30. On behalf of the Guild Sending condolences to Sally and Susanne and their families.

To Our Members:

Cindi Garacochea August 2
Gerry McGuire August 10
Linda Simmons August 22
Catherine Baxter August 25

Vice President — Allison Leong

We had a wonderful showing of Mystery quilts, tops and parts at the July potluck. I know some folks are still working on theirs. Mine is quilted and bound and ready for a home. Haven't decided on what that will be yet. Another project is done, YAY. I look forward to seeing other works in progress. We can submit to Pam our photos and she will make a slide show for the next meeting.

Thinking about our next guild project. I am open to suggestions. Meanwhile, happy quilting. Work on those UFOs. Happy quilting, Allison

Ways and Means — Perla & Blair

Ways and Means will be on break for August and September, so we'll see you on Zoom. Please save your donations until the October meeting. See you in October.

Secretary — Sheila Cummins

Minutes of SMQG Meeting, July 2, 2026, submitted by Prima Casetta on behalf of Sheila Cummins, Recording Secretary

The meeting was called to order by President Laurie Reyen at 6:05 pm. The in-person meeting (no Zoom component), was held at the First United Methodist Church of Santa Monica.
The first order of business was our pot-luck dinner, deemed by Laurie to be an "amazing spread".
At 6:50 pm, after dinner, Laurie chaired the business portion of the meeting.
Board reports
Programs - Pam reported that the August speaker will be Bob Purcell of YLI Threads and the September speaker will be Julia McLeod, presenting her lecture "Everything but Cotton". Both meetings will be Zoom only. Announcements of the October and November programs will be in the newsletter.
Membership – no report.
Philanthropy – no report.
Vice President – Allison announced that it was time for the mystery quilt reveal. Allison, Jo, Katrina, Susanne C., and Gwen presented their quilts, tops, or tops in progress. Jo also presented a quilt made by her friend Carl. The projects were in a variety of colors, all different, all lovely, all striking. Allison promised that more mystery quilts would be coming soon. She also asked for suggestions and if anyone else would like to lead project. Suggestions included a challenge quilt (Pam), Block of the month (Laurie), and a block swap (Blair).
Ways and Means – Blair reported that there was a free table that evening, to thank members for their support through the year. Items were donated by the Ways and Means committee and individual members.
Nominating Committee – Aileen reported that the committee had things "under control".
New business – Laurie reported on an email she had received, inviting the guild to become a founding sponsor for an international quilt exhibition relating to the 2028 summer Olympics, to be called Threads of the Games. Sponsors are being sought to donate $500 for operation costs and make a sports-themed quilt for the exhibition. Any leftover funds will be distributed back to the founding sponsor guilds. It is an opportunity to showcase our guild on a national level. It was motioned by Sonja and seconded by Jo that the guild donate $500 and participate in this venture. The motion was carried.
Show and tell – Allison showed a panel quilt made by Virginia and a baby quilt made by Kennalee. Pam showed a table topper and a table runner, both wool applique, that she had made, and a Fourth of July wall hanging that she purchased in South Dakota, on a recent Traveling Quilters trip. Blair modeled the dress she made from red and blue heart fabrics. Allison showed the June page of her monthly stitching diary, inspired by her recent trip to Kazakhstan and Turkey.
The last activity of the evening was a few games of Quilto. Pam called the words and the prize winners were Allison, Kathy Y., Sonja, and Janice M. (guest of Suzanne T.).
The meeting was adjourned at 8 pm.

2025-2026 BOARD MEMBERS
See Roster For Contact Information

President	Laurie Reyen
Vice President	Allison Leong
Recording Secretary	Sheila Cummins
Treasurer	Kennalee Mattson
Newsletter Editor	Kennalee Mattson
Membership	Donna Heiderman
Philanthropy	Cindi Garacochea
Program/Workshop	Pam Overton
Webmistress	Aileen Cooke
Ways and Means	Perla Rothenberg and Blair Seibert

Appointed Officers

Hospitality	Prima Casetta
Parliamentarian	open
Corresponding Sec.	Betsy Barker
Publicity/Social Media	Susanne Cole
Historian	open

S.M.Q.G. Board meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday of the month on Zoom at 7:00 p.m. Any member is invited to attend. Next: August 19, 2026

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS AT THE BOARD MEETING

SEWING ARTS

2306 Corinth Ave.
contactus@sewingarts.com
(310) 450-4300

Store Hours

Wednesday	12-4pm
Thursday	12-4pm
Friday	12-4pm
Saturday	11am-4pm
Sunday	11am-4pm
Monday	Closed
Tuesday	Closed

...and always open at sewingarts.com!

Longarm services and training available!
- Free-motion and automated designs for 5¢/square inch
- Training for $249, then rental for $35/hour

Oh Henry Bars

Recipe courtesy of Katrina Fam

Graham cracker wafers
1/2 cup butter
1/2 cup milk
1 cup brown sugar
1/2 tsp vanilla
Shredded coconut
Chopped nuts
Chocolate chips

Line an 8x8 pan with whole graham wafers. Melt 1/2 cup butter, 1/2 cup milk, 1 cup brown sugar and bring to boil for 2 min. Remove from heat. Then add 1/2 tsp vanilla. Put more wafers in a ziplock bag, crush finely with a rolling pin. Add to hot butter mixture, you'll probably need at least 2 cup of crumbs. You can add nuts and shredded coconut too. Add dry stuff until the mixture is about the consistency of peanut butter so you can drop it by spoonfuls onto the whole wafers. Then spread it. Sprinkle chocolate chips on top. The mixture will still be warm so they will melt a bit. Cool in fridge and cut into squares when firm.

You Went Where???

In June Kent and I went to Kyrgyzstan. The first questions we were usually asked when told of our plans was, where is that and why there? Kyrgyzstan is in Central Asia bordered by Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, and China. Why there? Why not? We have traveled with a company that does a very good job with trips. This trip was at the right time, somewhere interesting and a combination of hiking and culture. The people there are mostly Asian and now only about 10% of the population is ethnic Russian. Kyrgyzstan was a part of the Soviet Union until 1991. It was the first country to declare itself an independent country after the USSR fell apart. Russian is still very much used in education and most people seemed to speak both Kyrgyz and Russian.

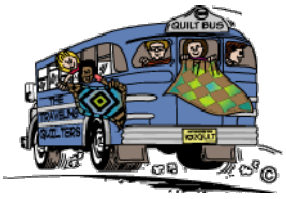
Traveling to unusual places is so interesting, however I was not able to find much reading material about that country before we left. (At least at the Santa Monica Library) We enjoyed learning about the history and culture though I would have liked more of that.
We visited a mosque that was used as a storage building during the Soviet times. The Holy Trinity Orthodox Church was built in the 1800's but was also closed during the Soviet times and needed refurbishment. It is an active church now though most of the population is Muslim. Foods were tasty and not too spicy, a combination of Asian and Middle Eastern. Bishkek is the capital and many restaurants with different foods can be found.

Farming and herding (sheep, cattle, horses) are the main occupations (besides tourism). Hiking involved a lot of cow patty awareness and avoidance. Herds winter at the lower areas but in spring are moved into the mountains to graze. A herder might be paid to watch over other people's animals. Fresh fruits and vegetables are in abundance and we were able to freely eat raw produce without worry of travelers gastrointestinal issues. The fruit is so abundant that many make their own raspberry preserves which are delicious.
We went to a felt making co-op which processes 5 tons of wool per year. Much of the work is done by hand. Felt is used for carpets in a reverse applique kind of technique. Also the traditional yurts all have a covering of felt. We visited a 7th generation yurt maker who took

us through the process of making all the different parts of the yurt and then putting up a yurt. We participated in the raising which went amazingly quickly. We had a demonstration of eagle hunting and were able to have an eagle (hooded) perch on our arm (with glove). The full grown golden eagle is heavy! There are Traditional games that are held every few years and Eagle Hunting is one of the "contests". Also at the games are several different sports that are on horseback. Some young men were happy to show us their skills in Kok boru, a combination of rugby and polo with a goat carcass that weighs about 40 pounds. Another game is picking up a coin (in a small bag) while on horseback and leaning waaay over to pick it up. The third game we saw was wrestling on horseback, the contestants are one on one and try to pull the other person off their horse. They get to eat the goat after the game is done. I guess it is pretty tenderized by then.

Hiking was great and the mountains are beautiful. We saw lots of wildflowers but we also saw lots of development going on as well. They are trying to develop a couple of skiing areas but that really tears up the beauty of the mountains. People from Kazakhstan come there to ski. Hiking helps work off all the wonderful meals. Everyone was very nice and welcoming. We were able to go to a couple of museums in Bishkek which was worth doing as we spent an extra day there. I saw more textile and embroidery work there. I brought along my daily stitching project and had lots of inspiration each day.

I highly recommend this adventure. Take a chance on something new!
Traveling Quilter Allison Leong



The Traveling Quilters

P.O. Box 3214, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266
A Tour Service for Quilters!

2026

- October 25, 2026 – Mystery Trip. Sorry, no hints!
- Temecula Quilt-Away Retreat – October 29-November 1 (We have some special activities planned to celebrate Halloween,)

Check out our website at www.travelingquilters.com. To join our mailing list, just send us an e-mail: pam@travelingquilters.com