



SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY QUILTERS' GUILD

JUNE 10TH IS VIRTUAL & IN-PERSON MEETING
(SEE MEETING ARTICLE FOR DETAILS)

WE MEET THE SECOND THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH • 7 PM
AT HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH • 364 E BARSTOW AVE • FRESNO, CA
(NW CORNER OF FRESNO ST AND BARSTOW AVE)
DOORS OPEN AT 6 PM FOR SET-UP & SOCIAL TIME, MEETING AT 7 PM
COME EARLY TO SOCIALIZE!

Jun 2021
Volume
33, No. 10

S.J.V.Q.G.
P.O. Box 3256
Clovis, CA
93613
www.sjvqg.net

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



THE GIFT

"When a gift is made, it is always that- a gift. It no longer belongs to you. If it can't be given freely and totally, with no strings attached, it should probably not be given at all. And it's not that easy. Especially with quilts where hours of patient sewing and difficult decisions have become a part of your work. There is so much of you in the quilt that it leaves you vulnerable for a response." **Jean Ray Laury**

This quote is from a column, by **Jean Ray Laury**, which was shared with me. The question and subsequent response, had to do with giving a quilt away. It hit a soft spot in my quilter's heart. I have given away many quilts or quilted objects. Some have been adored and spit up on, some have been used as picnic blankets, some have been stored away, and some have found their way to permanence on someone's bed or wall.

The creative process of quilting is different for each one of us. Our speaker in May liked to make small wall quilts. **Teresa Orr** only makes BIG quilts. Diane Sakamoto loves to applique' on her quilts. Our quilt preference may be different but we each will need to choose fabrics (even if we began with a kit), cut our large pieces of fabric into small pieces and then sew them back together again! Then we'll need to figure out how we want to quilt our project and what will we do with the finished quilt. That *is* an artistic process, whether you see yourself as an artist or not.

This quilt/wall hanging that I have posted a picture of hangs in our home. It was hung in our other home the day my mother-in-law gave it to me saying, "I don't know if you will like this Joanie. I don't have an artistic bone in my body but I made this in a class with **Jean Ray Laury**."

She gave it to me with no strings attached. It was slightly stained. But because she made it I LOVED it! I found a place to permanently display it in our home.

I want to leave you with another quote from **Jean Ray Laury's** column. (If you want to read the entire column you will find it near the end of this newsletter.)

"To give a quilt away and feel really good about it, first determine whether or not it's really a true gift. Do you have expectations of the gift? Are you counting on something from the recipient? Be as careful as you can to assure that the receiver will love it, use it, and care for it. And *then* give it- freely, totally, and completely. Do this with no expectations, and then any response that's positive can be enjoyed and appreciated."

I am thinking about her advice as I finish a wall hanging. Happy gift giving to you all!

Joanie Martin, President

GUILD HYBRID MEETINGS

June – July

We have scheduled our meetings/speakers to be online via Zoom through the month of July. June and July meetings will be held **both** virtually and shared at the church for members who wish to gather in person.

If you are planning on coming to our meeting in person please note that at this time, **masks will be required**, seating will be socially distanced (currently the church will seat 2 people to a table and there are 25 tables). You will be greeted at the door by a guild member with a thermometer and a questionnaire. These are the guild policies as well as the church's.

Our Zoom meeting will begin promptly at 7 PM. Members attending the meeting at the church will be viewing the program on a large screen. The door to the church will be opened at 6:30 PM. Please bring your own food or beverages.

If you have any comments or questions please direct them to sjvqg1@gmail.com.

PRESIDENT'S QUILT

After a long covid related delay, former SJVQG President **Sandy Gaines** was presented with her 'Alice in Wonderland' themed quilt at our May meeting. It was beautifully pieced by **Barbara Pearson** and long armed by **John Lilly**. We appreciate and thank Sandy for serving as our President.



MEMBERSHIP – Sharon Pryor

New members who wish to join during June, July and August will pay the full annual dues which will include membership for the upcoming year that starts September 1st. The application can be found in this newsletter or on the website at sjvqg.net. Dues are \$35 annual (\$38 if using PayPal) and can be mailed in with your application or paid online.

In order to deliver membership cards to those who have paid their membership dues, this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Guild mailed out 'membership postcards' for members to use for discounts at quilt/fabric stores. Since it may still be a while until we are able to meet in person, it was determined that this was the most cost-effective way to provide you with proof of membership. Your PINK membership card is mailed out when your dues are received and your membership has been updated.

The 2020-2021 password for access to the 'Members Only' section of our website and for access to our ZOOM meetings has been sent out to all members in good standing.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY - Happy Birthday Wishes go out to the following June birthdays.

Sharon Carter

Kathleen Coleman

Frances Jamison

Fanchon Owen

Diane Sakamoto

GUILD NOMINATING COMMITTEE

We are looking to begin the process of forming a Nominating Committee for board members for the 2021-2022 year. If you have any interest in serving on this committee please contact **Joanie Martin** at sjvqg1@gmail.com.

DON'T FORGET HOBBS UPC CODES FROM ANY SIZE!

Remember to check your sewing room—maybe there's a packaged, pre-cut Hobbs batting just waiting to be used in your next project. Cut the UPC code from the plastic wrapping and contact **Susan Schara**. Our guild can qualify for a hefty discount on the comfort quilt batting we use up so rapidly these days. We will be ordering one discounted queen-sized batting (we have to pay shipping) and need three more UPC codes. (This offer is for guilds, not individual quilters—sorry

BLOCK OF THE MONTH – Sonja Hernandez

Block of the Month (BOM) patterns and directions are now sent out via E-Blasts each month. Whether you do one block or make a quilt, wall hanging, table runner or whatever...don't forget to send a photo to the President at sjvqg1@gmail.com so we can all see your creation AND your name will be entered in our monthly BOM drawing. Keep in mind your BOM blocks can also be donated to the comfort quilt stash so they can be incorporated into a comfort quilt. The winner of the May BOM drawing was **Shannon Mueller** with her great Racing Flying Geese block. Join us for the June 'Rose' BOM.



COFFEE CHAT 2021 - Sonja Hernandez & Diana Gardner

A few of last month's 'Quilt As You Go' results are shown here. Individual blocks were machine quilted and then joined together with one of the methods we learned.



Table runner by Shannon Mueller



Table runner by Joanie Martin

Now on to paper piecing! If there is something you want to learn to do, join us on Tuesdays and you are bound to get suggestions and help.

JOIN THE FUN---LEARN NEW QUILTING TECHNIQUES ---MARK YOUR CALENDAR for the Coffee Chat get-togethers at 11 a.m. – 12 Noon on the 2nd & 4th Tuesdays.

Jun 8 & June 22

Zoom ID#674 755 1749 Password: Quilts

COMFORT QUILT NEWS – Susan Schara

Last month was like many others in the Comfort Quilt realm: fabric donations came from **Shannon Brown**, sisters **Irene** and **Pauline**, and **Nancy Lord**; tops from **Carol Mills-Henry**, **Judy Bibb**, and **Gerri Evans**; finished quilts from **Connor Hightower**, **Jan Kinney**, and **Dee Mooneyham**; and blocks from BOM participants and Coffee Chat folks. Volunteer stash-organizer **Judy Bibb** continued to work her way through the color bins, and volunteer quilters **Janet DeJong**, **Jan Kinney**, **Barbara Pearson**, **Kim Killian** (and her friend **Patti**), and **Susan Schara** were busy busy busy as always. And **Fanchon** did bindings, of course.

What was different, earth-shaking, and incredible was the **Great Stash Give-Away**! Fifteen or twenty members and friends descended on Susan's front lawn and took whatever colors and fabric types caught their fancy, then looked a little more, tried to head home but had to look again, and filled bags with their choices from the array on the grass. Most visitors had naked faces! They talked and laughed from less than six feet away! Their smiles were visible! Some hugged! For a couple of hours, it was just like BEFORE! And no, the whole thing did not take place on a screen.....Of course, the give-away had to come to an end, but members left fortified by the little taste of BEFORE which, if we are lucky, will become daily reality in a few months. Can hardly wait!



STASH GIVE AWAY 'SHOPPERS'

ANY UNCLAIMED FABRIC WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE JUNE IN-PERSON MEETING

COMFORT QUILTS

WHETHER YOU PIECED, QUILTED, DID BINDING, DONATED FABRIC OR MADE KITS –THANK YOU!







BYLAWS AND POLICIES AND PROCEDURES (PP) COMMITTEE

Reneeta Anthony

OPPORTUNITY FOR MEMBERS - BYLAWS AND POLICIES AND PROCEDURES (PP) COMMITTEE

The SJVQG Bylaws govern the focus for the guild from year to year as well as outline the expectations and operation of the guild's business practices and ethics. The Policies and Procedures (PP) provide each of the Guild's standing committees and officers with guidance to meet all of the operational needs of the guild. Each year the Guild's President and Board members review the bylaws and policies and procedures to see if they need further refinement. **Joanie Martin**, President, has asked this year's committee to be led by **Reneeta Anthony**. Any of the SJVQG members are invited to participate in the 2021 Bylaws & PP Committee. The first meeting of the SJVQG Bylaws and PP Committee will be held via zoom on **April 6, 2021 at 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM**. Members are encouraged to participate. Meetings will occur twice per month through July. We will address one operation at each meeting (Bylaws one meeting and PP at the next meeting). **Contact Reneeta Anthony at Reneeta@yahoo.com or 559.779.2288 to participate.** Join Zoom Meeting by copying the link below

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/6747551749?pwd=NWdEMTJFb212c1A1VXhLMDIiUG9Mdz09>

or

Log In to ZOOM.US and enter the following information

Meeting ID: 674 755 1749 -- Password: Quilts

There is one guild committee addressing both the Bylaws and the PP. All meetings will occur from 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM via ZOOM.

Bylaw meetings, 2-3 PM:

6/21 - Monday

Policies and procedures meetings:, 2-3 PM

6/8 - Tuesday

Please contact Reneeta at Reneeta@yahoo.com or 559.779.2288 to participate. Tune into Zoom via the instructions above.

KASES FOR KIDS
Sonja Hernandez & Diana Gardner

There are many duffle bag and accessory bag kits available at the Stash Room and they will continue to be available all year. If you would rather pick them up from **Diana**, please call or text, so she can put them on the porch. (She works Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday but is happy to leave them for you on the porch.) Our goal is 50 completed duffle bags for the 2021 year.

Text or call **Diana Gardner** at **(559) 978-0706**.

PROGRAMS- Diana Gardner

Join Zoom Meeting by copying the link below

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/6747551749?pwd=NWdEMTJFb212c1A1VXhLMdIUUG9Mdz09>

or

Log In to [ZOOM.US](https://zoom.us) and enter the following information

Meeting ID: 674 755 1749

Password: Quilts

JUNE PROGRAM: Ellen Lindner, Adventure Quilter, Ellen's Lecture will be "*Color it Beautiful*". What do key lime pie and a beautiful quilt have in common? It's the COMBINATION of ingredients that produce great results. In this lecture you'll learn to select colors that will work well together, and how to best manage their proportions. Basic color theory will be explained in simple terms, and demonstrated with fabulous quilts. See Ellen's handout for her lecture at the end of this newsletter.

Ellen Lindner is a talented quilt artist and teacher, who is passionate about making fabric into art. She says, "I make art for the pure joy of doing so!" Known for its strong contrasts and vivid colors, her art has been shown throughout the United States, and beyond, has been commissioned by several well-known hospitals, and has been published in several magazines. Ellen has been seen on Quilting Arts TV, where she taught some of her techniques. She's also written two books and several magazine articles. Her work is very diverse, ranging from pictorial still life to modernist abstracts. In addition to using commercial fabrics, Ellen has recently started dying much of her own fabric. This enlivens her pieces and gives her one more way to control the results. She works in a freeform collage style, while borrowing heavily from traditional quilt making techniques. See more at her website: <https://adventurequilter.com>

JULY PROGRAM – Join us for a Virtual Studio Tour of five SJVQG quilters. The quilters are: **Carol Mercer, Kim Killian, Teresa Orr, Sandy Gaines and Pat Robertson**. Come see how these quilters organize their quilting spaces.

In addition, we will have our Show and Tell both virtually and in person since we will be at the church and on zoom. So, members need to send photos of their quilts to sjvqg1@gmail.com by June 7th.

THE STASH ASIAN CHALLENGE



Two quilts finished for the Asian Challenge

Our guild stash was given with some beautiful Asian-themed fabrics. Enough of them that we want to share! The caveat is that you need to make a quilt out of it (size does not matter) and save it until October!

In October we will host **ArtHop** at First Presbyterian Church in downtown Fresno and we will display our Asian quilts. **ArtHop** is in the evening on the first Thursday of the month. The quilts will remain on display for the month of October. Currently **ArtHop** is virtual, but we are hoping that this will be a live event that we can invite friends and family to attend.

Joanie Martin is in possession of the Asian fabrics. She plans to bring them to the June guild meeting for members to look at in person. After the meeting, you can contact her at sjvqg1@gmail.com to find a time to see the fabrics. She lives a mile from Hope Lutheran Church.

WALL QUILTS WANTED

Butterfly Gardens will open in Clovis in July 2022. These 75 apartments will serve people who are homeless and also have disabilities. It is a permanent housing development and they are very focused on creating a place of dignity where people can start fresh.

They are looking for wall quilts to decorate the common spaces and hallways and they contacted our guild to see if any of our members would like to donate one of their quilts. This is another opportunity to serve our community.

If you are interested or have questions please contact **Joanie Martin** at sjvqg1@gmail.com.

DOTTIE'S FINDINGS – Dottie Daybell

JUNE 2021 FINDINGS

1. Elizabeth Eastmond at opquilt.com had a post that led me to this blog by Melanie from Iowa. Elizabeth calls her the "Medallion Quilt Queen." She has a page of medallion lessons. While you're there, look at her Galleries page for photos.

<https://catbirdquilts.wordpress.com/medallion-lessons/>

2. Patriotic BOM This quilt is not red, white and blue, but it would be a good way to use up scraps of patriotic fabrics. It's a nice variation on the Disappearing 9-patch.

<https://lillyella.com/2015/06/24/disappearing-nine-patch-with-sashing-a-quick-tutorial/>

3. Cheryl in South Carolina has a page of pretty mystery quilts she's designed. Unlike some, her mysteries remain free and available on her blog long after the mystery has ended.

<https://meadowmistdesigns.blogspot.com/p/mystery-quilt.html>

4. Log Cabin meets Irish Chain, so to speak. Melissa has designed an interesting block she calls Stacked Squares (or maybe Log Cabin Chain?)

<http://www.happyquiltingmelissa.com/2021/04/stacked-squares-quilt-and-tutorial.html>

5. An amazing Covid quilt! Lynne Tyler sells a tutorial on making pieced bird quilts. She's posted photos from Ronda, who used the tutorial to make a wonderful quilt. First, a teaser showing the back of the quilt, and then a post about the front, with birds and quilted words.

<https://patcherymenagerie.blogspot.com/2021/05/sneak-peek.html>

<https://patcherymenagerie.blogspot.com/2021/05/rondas-covid-bird-quilt.html>



TREASURER REPORT – Reneeta Anthony

11:29 AM
05/20/21

San Joaquin Valley Quilters' Guild, Inc. Reconciliation Detail Westamerica Bank, Period Ending 04/30/2021

Type	Date	Num	Name	Clr	Amount	Balance
Beginning Balance						41,813.94
Cleared Transactions						
Checks and Payments - 1 item						
Check	04/15/2021	4222	Diane P Harris	X	-475.00	-475.00
Total Checks and Payments					-475.00	-475.00
Deposits and Credits - 3 items						
Deposit	04/05/2021			X	70.00	70.00
Deposit	04/14/2021			X	395.00	465.00
Deposit	04/30/2021			X	0.69	465.69
Total Deposits and Credits					465.69	465.69
Total Cleared Transactions					-9.31	-9.31
Cleared Balance					-9.31	41,804.63
Register Balance as of 04/30/2021					-9.31	41,804.63
Ending Balance					-9.31	41,804.63

Treasurer's Report for the period ending April 30, 2021.

DISBURSEMENTS AND ACTIVITIES IN APRIL 2021: One check was cashed by Dianne Harris, paid for our April speaker (\$475). Two deposits were made totaling \$465. The deposits supported Fundraising (\$310), Membership (\$95) and Non-Member Membership fee (\$60).

MUG RUGS FUND RAISER

Need an inexpensive gift? Starting at the May meeting, for \$5 you can purchase a set of mug rugs that includes a special 'cake in a mug' recipe. The Guild has already sold over 60 sets and will now make the remaining sets available to members who attend guild meetings at the church.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS – 2021

Join Zoom Meetings by copying the link below

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/6747551749?pwd=NWdEMTJFb212c1A1VXhLMDIiUG9Mdz09>

The general meetings are now “hybrid” – Join in-person at the church or via ZOOM.

or

Log In to ZOOM.US and enter the following information

Meeting ID: 674 755 1749 - Password: Quilts

- | | |
|--------|--|
| Jun 8 | Coffee Chat, 11-12 noon via zoom |
| Jun 8 | Policy and Procedures Meeting via ZOOM, 2-3 p.m. |
| Jun 10 | SJVQG General Meeting, Starts at 7 p.m.
Speaker Ellen Lindner, <u>https://adventurequilter.com</u> |
| Jun 17 | SJVQG Board Meeting – 6:30 p.m. |
| Jun 21 | ByLaws Meeting via ZOOM, 2-3 p.m. |
| Jun 22 | Coffee Chat, 11-12 noon via zoom |
| Jul 8 | SJVQG General Meeting, Starts at 7 p.m.
Virtual Studio Tour |
| Jul 15 | SJVQG Board Meeting – 6:30 p.m. |

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***** **STITCHING & STUFF** *****

This free section is open for our individual members to post information regarding private classes they teach or other events they may have or are involved in. Submit your information to the editor by the 20th of the month.

Diana Gardner
Sewing Classes and Dolly Mamas Classes
Classes on hiatus until further notice

Did you know? **Diana Gardner** is teaching sewing classes to any adult who wants to learn to sew. Classic, beginner classes as well as intermediate and advanced classes are available. Contact Diana for information as to days, time, location, class materials, and costs.

Diana also teaches a class called the “*Dolly Mamas*”. These students make a new outfit for an 18” American Girl doll every month. They have been sewing and creating new clothing for their dolls for the past two years. They learn something new each month while having fun sewing.

Call: **Diana Gardner, (559) 978-0706**. Please leave a message when you call.

Senior Quilters – Diana Gardner
Contact Diana for more information

Senior Quilters are meeting again! We now meet on the **First Monday of each month** at the Fresno Reformed Christian Church on West Shields and Crystal Avenues. We meet from 10 to 3. Bring your sewing machine and sewing kit, your lunch and your project(s). We have fabric and batting and lots of ideas if you are short on them. We are a friendly, helpful group who enjoy quilting. Our projects are donated to homebound seniors in our community. Any questions, call or text Diana Gardner at (559) 978-0706 if you are interested in joining the group.

Rhea Wiens – Quilting Classes

Come and enjoy taking quilting classes at Redeemer Lutheran Church with **Rhea Wiens**, Instructor. Schedule your time from one of the following:

Monday – 6pm – 8pm

Tuesday – 9:30am-11:30am * 1pm-3pm * 3:30pm-5:30pm * 6pm-8pm

Wednesday – 9am-11am * 6pm-8pm

Also available, Quilts by Design – Longarm hand-guided machine quilting by Rhea.

To get more information and to schedule call **Rhea Wiens** at **(559) 436-0775**. Please leave a message when you call.

***** **STITCHING & STUFF** *****

This free section is open for our individual members to post information regarding private classes they teach or other events they may have or are involved in. Submit your information to the editor by the 20th of the month.

Quilt Classes with **Nancy Christian**

\$30.00 per class

At D & J Sewing @ Gettysburg & Clovis Ave

Class hours are 9:30 am - 5:00 pm

Each month I teach a new quilt pattern, some may become your new favorite. I try to work with Fat Quarters and pre-cuts as we seem to buy those more easily.

I have the class on Wed, then on Thurs & Friday of the same week I offer 'Come Sew with Nancy'. You can finish up your projects or bring in other projects that you may be stuck on. This is a good time to visit with other quilters while you work on your projects. By the time you go home on Friday, you should have a completed quilt top done, or maybe more.

Wed June 9th class Bits & Pieces from the book Fun Friends & Fat Quarters

Thursday / Friday June 10/11th 'Come Sew with Nancy', \$20 per day

Wed July 14th class Graffi from the book Scrap Basket Bounty, available at D & J

Thursday / Friday July 15/16th 'Come Sew with Nancy', \$20 per day

Wed Aug 11th class Zen Cabin by Zen Chic, pattern available at D & J

Thursday / Friday Aug 12/13th 'Come Sew with Nancy', \$20 per day

Wed Oct 13th class Pound Cake from the book Fun Friends & Fat Quarters

Thursday / Friday October 14/15th 'Come Sew with Nancy', \$20 per day

Wed Nov 10th class Floating Pinwheels from Scrap Basket Bounty, available at D & J

Thursday / Friday Nov 11 /12th 'Come Sew with Nancy', \$20 per day.

If you have any questions/concerns on the classes or the come sew, reach out to me and I will be happy to answer them.

Nancy Christian

559-203-0188

SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY QUILTERS' GUILD

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Sept 1, 2020– Aug 31, 2021

Annual Dues – \$35.00 (\$38 if using PayPal)

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY. Name, address, phone and e-mail will be printed in the membership directory and on the password protected website.

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone Number: _____

E-mail _____

Please **PRINT** all characters legibly.

Do you want your roster information on the password protected website? Yes___ No___
(If left blank, information provided above will be on website for membership viewing only)

Do you want a printed membership directory? Yes ___ No ___

New Member _____ Renewal _____ Month of your birth _____

Are you a Past President _____ Charter Member _____

Skill Level: Beginner ___ Intermediate ___ Advanced ___ Houston Award Winner ___

What is your Quilting Style? (machine or hand piecing, appliqué, modern, traditional, etc)

What skills or experience would you like to share with us?

Are you interested in serving on the Guild Board or one of the many committees?

Turn your completed application and membership fee in at the Guild meeting or mail to:

Membership Committee, SJVQG, P.O. Box 3256, Clovis, CA 93613.

For Membership Chairman's use only (do not fill in).

Date Processed _____ \$ _____ Check # _____ Cash _____

FREE MEMBER ADS

Classified 'For Sale' ads for individual members are free. If you have an 'extra' sewing machine or any sewing, fiber arts or quilt related items you would like to sell, send a description and possibly a picture to the editor by the 20th of the month. Call the editor if you have any questions.

Stitching & Stuff - This free section is open for our individual members to post information regarding private classes they teach or other events they may have or are involved in. Submit your information to the editor by the 20th of the month.

Quilters' Corner – For members to share information and photos about their quilts, ribbons won, rides wanted to out of town quilt shows, etc.

This is **YOUR** newsletter. If you have any information or news of interest to fellow quilters, quilt show information, articles or ads you want to share with our members, please submit them to the editor **on or before the 20th day of the month.**

Irene Allen, editor, 559-304-2831, irene.allen81@yahoo.com

WAYS TO SUPPORT YOUR GUILD – Reneeta Anthony



[AmazonSmile: You shop. Amazon gives.](https://smile.amazon.com/ch/77-0162207)

Please remember when you are shopping on-line to use the SJVQG AmazonSmile page when you order. If you click on the link above, you will go to the SJVQG identifying number so your purchase can help the guild. If you need the link, copy/paste:

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/77-0162207>

Donations If you are blessed this year and are able and desire to contribute to your quilt guild, please consider us in your giving budget. The SJVQG is a 501(c)3 organization, and we will provide you with a tax receipt of your contribution. Contact **Reneeta Anthony** if you have questions at 559-779-2288 to obtain more information or send a check payable to: SJVQG, PO Box 3256, Clovis, CA 93613.



Cotton-Pick'n Quilts

Longarm quilting service

Janet DeJong
(559)765-7015
janetdejong10@gmail.com

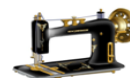
Many digital edge-to-edge designs to choose from

A smoke-free, pet-free environment

Sew - N - Tech

Sandy Gaines

Sewing Arts Instructor



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- **Software & Technical Support**
- **Sewing Machine Service**
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Let's get you Stitching
(559) 338-3273



Mennonite Quilt Center

OPEN FOR IN-STORE SHOPPING
TUESDAY THRU SATURDAY
10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Masks Required

GUILD MEMBERS – 15% OFF

Shop online and have it shipped, or arrange curbside pickup
Check our website for updates
Check our website for all updates

1012 G Street, Reedley, CA
559-638-3560
www.mennonitequiltcenter.org
9-4 Monday-Friday, 9-3 Saturday
Find us on Facebook and Instagram
@mennonitequiltcenter

TALKING IT OVER BY JEAN RAY LAURY

Q: "Last year I spent four months working on a quilt that I gave to my in-laws as a gift. They haven't even mentioned it and now I am sorry I gave it away. What should I have done?"

A: When a gift is made, it is always that- a gift. It no longer belongs to you. If it can't be given freely and totally, with no strings attached, it should probably not be given at all. And it's not that easy. Especially with quilts where hours of patient sewing and difficult decisions have become a part of your work. There is so much of you in the quilt that it leaves you vulnerable for a response.

Gifts that are used to "buy" something, such as obligations, or to tie someone closer are not really gifts. They are purchases in the guise of gifts. To really *give* something it is important to relinquish all holds on it- to trust it totally to the person to whom it is given.

It seems contradictory, but in offering a gift of your work to someone else you actually enrich yourself. You gain personally from it. You are expanded. If you feel impoverished by your gift, then it probably has not really been given. There may have been strings or expectations attached. Giving is both a very simple and very complex act.

If you greatly value a quilt you have made it will be important to determine how you will "spend" it. If you sell it, you are spending (or trading) the quilt for money. That is often a necessity. If you give it, then what you get in return is the pleasure of giving. That is a luxury. And it is important to present it to someone who will enjoy and appreciate the energy, time and talent lavished on the work.

Should you have any doubts about giving your quilt, you're probably not ready to part with it. You'd be better off to just trot out and buy a present, saving your quilted "child" until you know it will bring the response you need.

Sometimes we *hope* a recipient will recognize how wonderful our work is. We *hope* to see it hung over the mantle, or used in the master bedroom. We *hope* it will be cherished and cared for. But it is important to care so much for the person that whatever she does with the quilt, it's okay.

If you give you sister-in-law your work and she thinks it is, well, very nice (in spite of what she calls your weird colors) you will probably experience a little let down. If you give the quilt to a brother who has no appreciation for your work, you are going to be disappointed. If you give the quilt to a friend, fully expecting it to be on display in her living room (and she sticks it in the linen closet as extra bedding) you are going to feel crushed. On the other hand, if they are appreciative and *love* your quilts, the gift can make your relationship closer and better than ever. You will share something new. But you need to know beforehand that when it's out of your hands you no longer have any say over it.

When you give a quilt to a new baby, you accept that milk may be burped onto it. It may be dragged along the floor or eventually made into a tent. If you are not ready for that, hold off, or you'll be giving away your quilt while still trying to cling to the threads you used to sew it. A possible alternative, obviously, is to determine all of this ahead of time. Suggest to the mother that you'd like to make a quilted wall piece for the baby's room, and get a response. Or ask if she'd like you to make a christening quilt that could be used by all the babies in the family. That would clarify your intent (though it would not assure the ultimate disposition of the quilt). You can "feel out" what the reception will be.

To give a quilt away and feel really good about it, first determine whether or not it's really a true gift. Do you have expectations of the gift? Are you counting on something from the recipient? Be as careful as you can to assure that the receiver will love it, use it, and care for it. And *then* give it- freely, totally, and completely. Do this with no expectations, and then any response that's positive can be enjoyed and appreciated.

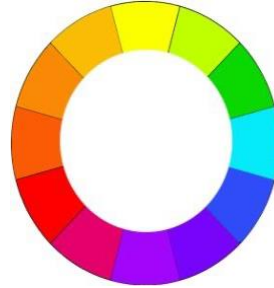
And don't limit the gift giving to family. A friend or potential friend may be the most appreciative of all. That does happen. I know a woman who has been quilting for twenty-seven years, waiting for her children or grandchildren to express some interest in her work. If they never do, she says, she will give her work to her quilting friends. I think she'll be doing the right thing.

1986 JRL

Ellen Lindner

Adventure Quilter

COLOR it BEAUTIFUL



Color Wheel:

- Each swatch represents a family
- Colors arranged according to similarities and differences

Temperature:

- Warm colors = fire: red, orange, and yellow
- Cool colors = green, blue, and purple
- Balance = "A little bit of fire"

Complementary (opposite) color combinations:

- Green / Red
- Purple / Yellow
- Blue / Orange

Other:

- Value & Intensity

Challenges:

- Make or buy a color wheel
- Observe colors everywhere!
- Try complementary colors
- Use balanced proportions of warm and cool colors
- Use a new color

Suggested Reading: [*Personal Workshop: Adventures in Color*, e-book by Ellen Lindner](#)

About Ellen:

Ellen Lindner is a VERY enthusiastic quilt maker, author, and teacher. She likes trying new things, and encourages her students to do the same.

Ellen was featured on three episodes of Quilting Arts TV, as she explained her techniques and design tips. Her quilts have won both local and national awards. They have been included in many prestigious shows, including those in Paducah, and Houston, as well as in art galleries, museums, and U.S. embassies, both near and far.

In addition, Ellen's quilts have been included in multiple publications, including several articles and [eBooks](#) she has written. She also has several [on-demand classes online](#).

[Sign up for Ellen's monthly newsletter](#) to get tutorials, information about upcoming classes, and see her latest quilts.

Ellen's website is full of useful information. Things like how to face a quilt, block/flatten a quilt, select a border, and [more about color](#). Find it all at [AdventureQuilter.com](#)