

Aug '14

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

QUILTING SISTAH NEWS

African American Quilt Guild of Oakland



AAQGO MINI GROUP SHOW

Odyssey: Ten journeys of new challenges, adventure and discovery



The eight week show by the Sew n Sews came to an end earlier this month. Foothill Gallery reported it was one of the best attended displays at their new venue on Foothill Boulevard in Hayward.

The group's members - Pat Bailey, Blanche Brown, Marsha Carter, Marilyn Handis, Debbie Mason, Norma Mason, Carolyn Pope, Dolores Presley, Ann Seals and Julia Vitero - hosted a reception mid July where more than 100 family members and friends attended to view some of their works created over the past ten years. Their *whisper challenge*, a visual display of the old *telephone game*, started with a photo of a tea pot and cups and ended as a tribute to Milt Jackson, was one of the many highlights of this display. Each quilt was labeled with an explanation of how the artist was inspired by the previous quilt to create her own. Their latest *whisper challenge* quilts, starting with autumn leaves and ending with Grover Washington, can be viewed at Laney College Library through the end of August. Other featured quilts in the display were the self portraits created by each member and their *Black Is Beautiful* challenge quilts.



A special thank you to Ann and her sister, Gina Baker, for catering the reception and to Dolores and Debbie for organizing this event.



**African American Quilt
Guild of Oakland**
P.O. Box 31834
Oakland, CA 94604
www.aaqgo.org
email: aaqgo@comcast.net



**Our Guild
Meeting is the
4th Saturday
each Month**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

"Summertime and the living is easy" or busy, or traveling, and retreating time. Our members are doing all these summertime things plus shopping in new places for fabric for their stash.

At our July Guild meeting we elected the 2014-2016 officers and affirmed the standing committee chairs. Our new officers are as follows: President - Marie dePorres Taylor, Vice President - Ann Seals, Secretary - Rosita Thomas, Treasurer - Dolores Vitero Presley, Parliamentarian - Marilyn Handis, Historian - Donald Foreman. Our 2014-2016 Standing Committee Chairs are: Education - Deborah Salmon, Exhibits - Julia Vitero, Library - Shyrrl Hancock, Membership - Nickcolyer Hills, Newsletter - Dolores Vitero Presley, NCQC Liaison - Katie Wishom, Opportunity Quilt - Teri Green, Publicity - vacant, Quilt Show - Marion Coleman, Retreat - Ann Seals, Sunshine - Nell Mays, Website - Ann Seals, Worthy Causes - Jackie Clemons-Dorsey.

Thank you to the former members of the Board for their years of service to the Guild. A special thanks goes out to Katie Wishom and the nomination committee for all their hard work and conducting a successful election. I am grateful to our new Board for saying yes to serving in a leadership position in the Guild. I know that your lives are very busy and I am appreciative to your yes to the African American Quilt Guild of Oakland. Thank you to all for allowing me to serve you for the next two years. With your support, we will do marvelous things to advance the Guild projects.

This summer the Guild members quilts have been displayed throughout the Bay Area at Laney College Library, Oakland Public Library and the Joyce Gordon Gallery. The Sew n Sews exhibit, sponsored by the Hayward Arts Council, was displayed at the Foothill Gallery in Hayward.

How are you doing on your quilts for our 2016 quilt show/exhibits, *Bringing Neighborhoods Together: Quilts Around Oakland*. Our last three meetings have enhanced our skills, gave us more information on quilt styles and challenged us to broaden our creative thoughts and skills.

As we begin our new year at the September meeting, I look forward to greeting each of you. We have lots planned for this year. Come and find out what we have in store for you!

Blessings,
Marie





AAQGO MEMBERSHIP MEETING
(First meeting of the new fiscal year)

SEPTEMBER 27, 2014

1 PM

WEST OAKLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY



SPECIAL GUESTS

SISTERS QUILTING COLLECTIVE (SQC)
OF SACRAMENTO, CA

COMPLIMENTARY LUNCH
FOR AAQGO and SQC MEMBERS ONLY

Note: Team up with an AAQGO member and
decorate a luncheon table.

THEME:

“QUILTING SISTERS ARE LIKE THREADS OF GOLD IN THE FABRIC OF LIFE”
(Or a quilting theme of your choice)

Prizes for “BEST TABLE DECORATIONS” will be given.

For more information contact:

Marsha Carter

MarshaCarter@comcast.net

209-957-9177



The SQC of Sacramento will arrive by BUS!

Guild Member BUZZ!



SUNSHINE AND SHADOWS



Our positive thought and prayers to all members and their families facing health challenges. We are happy to see **Sally Dickson** up and about.

Condolences to **Ellen Blakely** on the loss of her father.

Renew Your Membership today!

Membership Application on page 9

QUILTER'S TIP OF THE DAY:

I found a good use for extra address labels. I fold them down over the tops of my favorite catalog and magazine pages I want to go back to. This saves time when I'm ready to order from the catalog or look for a quilt that I want to make.

Birthdays!

August

Pat Bailey
Jackie Houston
Niambi Kee
Nell Mays
Karla Robinson



September

Florence Davis-Warner
Sally Dickson
Donald Foreman
Ernestine Tril
LaQuita Tummings

October

Blanche Brown
Ora Clay
Marion Coleman
Ann Farley
Marilyn Handis
Nickcolyer Hills
Louise Jackson
Kyla Laffoon
Heidi Patrick



September 20 - 21

Quilting by the Bay Quilt Show

Peninsula Quilters
Menlo Park, CA
peninsulaquilters.org

September 20 - 21

Quilts & Threads Show

Sierra Quilt Guild
Mother Lode Fairgrounds,
Sonora, CA
www.sierraquiltguild.com

Local Events

September 29 - October 25

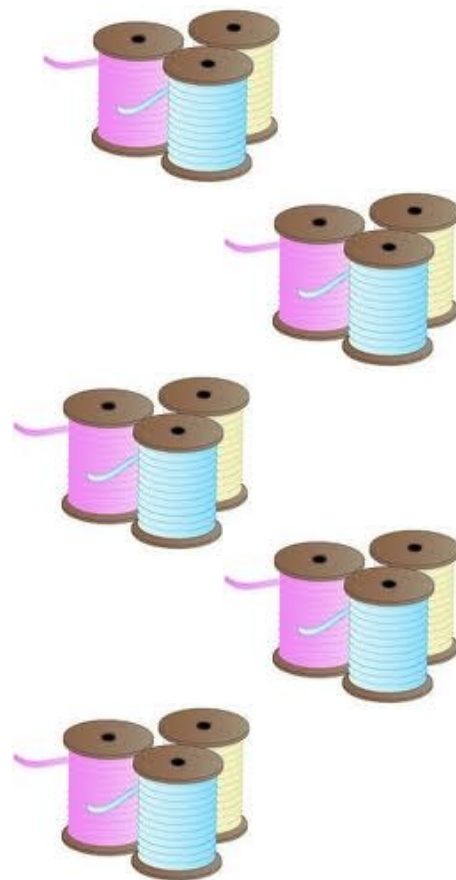
Feathered Friends
Fiber Affairs
Vacaville Art Gallery
Vacaville, CA
707.448.8712
www.sierraquiltguild.com

September 27 - 28

In a Quilted Garden
Napa Valley Quilt Guild
Napa Valley Expo -
Chardonnay Hall
Napa, CA
www.napavalleyquilters.org

October 16 - 19

Pacific International Quilt
Festival
San Clara Convention
Center
San Clara, CA
<http://www.quiltfest.com>



CALL FOR ENTRIES

Sponsored by: Quilts around the World GmbH

Deadline: February 28, 2015

Cost: -0-

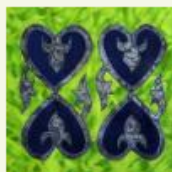
Theme: **Where do you come from?** Stories as blocks. Blocks and their (hi)story.

Task: To find modern or historical graphical ornaments, symbols or patterns which reflect your personal relationship with a geographical region, its culture or its traditions and to (re)design one of these motifs as original patchwork block.

All block patterns will be published with background stories, inspirations and sewing instruction in a "Patterns around the World" handbook. Proceeds from the book sales will be donated to the United Nations Children's Fund UNICEF. Additionally, the patchwork blocks will be used to assemble a large community quilt which will travel to quilt shows around the world.

More information including block size and examples can be found at <http://www.quilt-around-the-world.com/en/content/where-do-you-come> and info@Quilt-around-the-World.com see example below....

Brigitte L (CH): Wedding Present from Great-Grandfather



Name of the block: Wedding Present from my Great-Grandfather

Name of the quilter: Brigitte L

Country: Switzerland

Our great-granfather built the house which our family has now lived in in the third generation in 1905, probably as a wedding present for his son, our grandfather. It is late art nouveau which is also represented in the beautiful grille on our front doors. When we moved into the house, we did some remodeling and had to take out the stone tiles in the store room. Two of the most beautiful are exhibited in our garden. They always remind me of Walter's great-grandfather.



2014 AAQGO RETREAT

The AAQGO Quilting retreat is everything you would expect and then some more. Oh yes, it is indeed a FUN filled weekend of sewing/quilting. But fun can be defined in many ways...

Just the ride alone to San Damiano is worth it as you wind up the hillside over the bumps in the road so you don't drive so fast and miss the stately mansions overlooking the hillside. Then you come upon a peaceful and serene white complex surrounded by a wooded area. Most of the time San Damiano serves as a catholic spiritual retreat center. Each year AAQGO has had the Francis Room all to ourselves. It is large enough for each quilter to have their own table and space. The room is surrounded by bedrooms (think dorm style) with two twin beds and private bathroom in each room. But, oh, it gets better. Three times a day, you hear a quiet "bell ring" calling you for breakfast, lunch and dinner that you did not have to prepare. No worries - plenty of food to eat each time. If that's not enough we have snacks, drinks and more snacks in our space.

As the retreat goes arrive you could magically see the stress of life just melting away - that is after the car is unloaded with all of your quilting goods. Now some are minimalist and just bring their mystery quilt fabric and few other items host Ann Seals told us to bring. And then there are some, like Sally who have everything! I think she finished five quilt tops while she was there, had fabric to share with everyone, and then some. Oh, let's not forget about Carolyn, the seamstress, who brings something special to sew - like a "coat" of many colors that she put together this time. They are part of the "over achievers".

Everyone in attendance was an experienced quilter having completed plenty of projects over many years. But, we did have Renea, a new quilter (i.e. has not yet made anything) who finished her FIRST quilt during the retreat. There were plenty of people to assist her with cutting, arranging the squares, choosing colors, and sewing tips from Deborah and Mary. Now one thing you will learn at the retreat is "others will have an opinion" and tell you what they think. You decide if you want to follow them. Everyone offered advice, showed each other how to do things, and shared what they had if you needed. True sisterhood!

Speaking of others teaching others - Loretta taught us all how to finish a binding and make it "snap". If you don't know what that means - you will just have to see her about it.

Amal taught us how to paper piece - which was the first time for many of us. We had several mini-projects that Ann, Kyla and Mary prepared for us ... all supposedly only taking an "hour" to do. Well, we did them - some taking more and some less. At the retreat - we made a Sewing Caddy, a Sewing Machine Cover, Fat Quarter Lollipop, a tool caddy

made with a picture frame, and learned how to fold our fabric with a 6" ruler. Kyla was making a raffle quilt called "Seven Dog Nights".

Each year Ann has a mystery quilt that and gives us fabric requirements and cutting instructions. We don't see the actual quilt pattern until we get to the retreat. Most of us complained about how much we had to cut (about 600 individual pieces). I'm now looking forward to seeing the finished mystery quilt projects at the August meeting. Loretta and I completed a few of the blocks.

Finally we have games - one get to you know called the "Container Game". We learned about each other including Barbara who is related to a famous football player. Marjorie was really surprised at her surprise birthday party. Marie loves traveling to Africa including Kenya, Tanzania and South Africa. If you need Raider gear and want to donate to a good cause, see Ann Farley. Benita had a lot of respect for Muhammed Ali and also went to college with Loretta.

Jeanette has a collection of old Ebony magazines. Helen just got back from South Africa from a quilting tour. We also have three ladies who own and do long arm quilting (Kyla, Deborah and Mary). Marian quilts twice per week with the senior groups in Oakland. And for me, I had to share my childhood nickname.

When Ann throws a party there are gifts galore. We start with gifts from Ann - a bag that she personally makes for each and every quilter - all from different fabrics. She's an "over achiever" in the best way. Then we have two gift exchanges.

Again there were a few "over-achievers" that put much more in the gift bags than anyone could imagine. By the end of the retreat we all felt like "over achievers" but in a very positive way. We laughed, talked, got very serious in doing our projects, kidded each other, and talked about each other, but all in the name of FUN.

If you know anything about Ms. Ann Seals - you know that it's her party! Every year she gives 200% to make the weekend special and never ever fails. Kudos to Ann and her team! If you have never attended a retreat, I urge you to think about 2015 and make it a date but do it early before space runs out!

Teri Green





ANNOUNCING.....AAQGO 2015 QUILT RETREAT

I am very pleased to again host the upcoming AAQGO Quilt Retreat at San Damiano Center, Danville, CA, in 2015. I believe this will be our 10th anniversary.

It is not too early to plan for a full filled weekend with your fellow quilters. The Retreat is designed for you to learn and grown, have fun, get to know your sistah quilters, eat, sew, eat, sew and sew some more.

The Retreat is open to all levels of quilters. One thing about quilters - we are always willing to teach others.

The date and cost is yet to be confirmed, however, it is usually held the second weekend in August (August 7 - 9, 2015) and the cost will be approximately \$293 (single room, food and supplies).

To secure a spot, your \$100 deposit payable to AAQGO is due by September 27, 2014. You must be an AAQGO member to attend.

Some of the projects from the 2014 Retreat will be shown at the August meeting.

Please contact me with any questions.

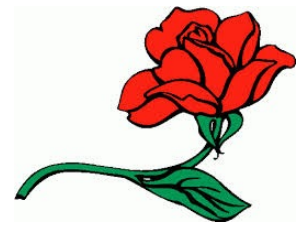
Ann Seals

IT'S SUNNY IN OAKLAND . . .

Ladies and Gent, I hope you have enjoyed your AAQGO Sunshine Program this last year but I sometimes like to shake things up a bit. Your program will again be changed and updated. Gone are the days of monthly birthday “fat quarter gifts.” In exchange we will have bi-monthly birthday celebrations in September, November, January, March, May and July. In case you didn’t get the drift that means food, i.e. birthday cake one time, maybe ice cream and cookies another, etc. The other months we will have drawings for one or two gifts - every member present is eligible to participate. Okay, that means gift(s) in October, December, February, April, June and August. You will also continue to receive birthday cards in your mail in your birthday month. The specialty cards will still be sent for the “known” unfortunate illness or bereavement. I have no control over the weather but I’m trying to keep our “quilting spirit sunny.”

Have a warm and rosy year,

Nell Mays (Ms. Sunshine)



Mark your calendar! Bay Area SHOP HOP! Pick up the handout at any of the participating shops! or check out their website!

<http://www.quiltersquestbayarea.com>

Kyla Laffoon will be the chaperone on the Sonoma Bus! Yes, there is a bus that will take you to all of 8 of the shops! See the website for list of shops and bus info!



AAQGO MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION

P.O. Box 31834 ~ Oakland, CA 94604

www.aaqgo.org ~ aaqgo@comcast.net

New _____ Renewal _____

The membership year is from September 1 to August 31. All persons must complete an application annually and pay \$30 annual dues for adult members and \$15 annual dues for youth members (17 years and under).

AAQGO PRIVACY INFORMATION: We publish a directory and make it available to Guild members only. Our by-laws state that the directory information may not be sold or used by anyone else.

Please check the box next to your demographic information that you **approve** being published.

- ☐ Name _____
- ☐ Address _____
- ☐ City, State, ZIP _____
- ☐ Daytime Phone _____ Evening Phone _____
- ☐ Email address _____ Birth Date _____

VOLUNTEERING: AAQGO is an all volunteer organization. Our events and activities are made possible by members who volunteer their time and expertise. These are opportunities for everyone - even those with limited time. Let us know your skills and the activity in which you can help.

I do: Traditional Piecing ____ Art Quilts ____ Hand Quilting ____ Machine Quilting ____ Applique ____
Dyeing ____ Beading ____ Other _____

I would be interested in helping with: General Meeting ____ Membership ____ Hanging Quilts Exhibits ____
Programs ____ Newsletter ____ Community Outreach ____ Education ____ Worthy Causes ____ Publicity ____
Teaching a skill or technique ____ Other _____

I would like the Guild to present the following activities or demonstrations

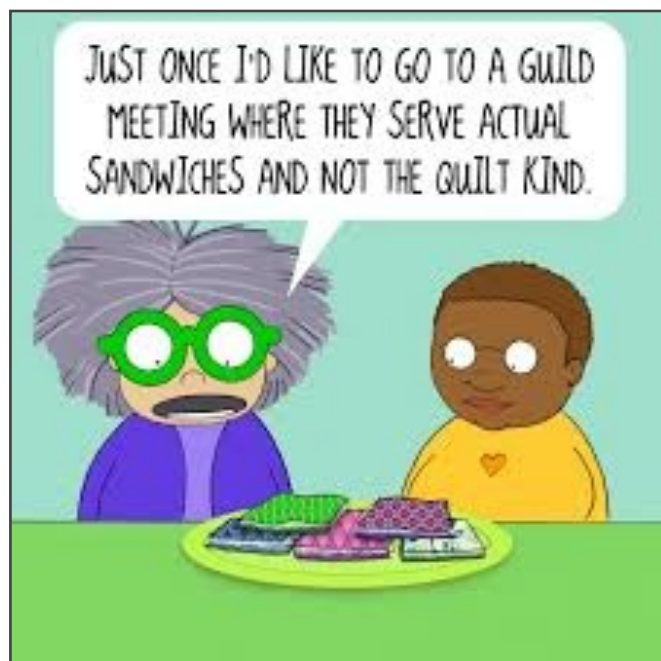
EXPECTATIONS of Guild membership are as follows:

- Know and understand the organization's by-laws
- Participate in Community service projects and donate a minimum of one quilt annually to Quilts for Worthy Causes
- Participate in Opportunity Quilt fundraising by selling a minimum of \$20 in ticket sales

Internal use only: Date received via mail/meeting _____ Treasurer _____ Membership _____ Secretary _____ Newsletter _____
Revised 2014.03 v2

Who is who? and what is what?

2014 - 2016 Officers and Board Members	
President	Marie dePorres Taylor
Vice President	Ann Seals
Secretary	Rosita Thomas
Treasurer	Dolores Vitero Presley
Historian	Donald Foreman
Parliamentarian	Marilyn Handis
Founder	Esther Pancho
Education	Deborah Salmon
Exhibits	Julia Vitero
Library	Shyrrl Spann-Hancock
Membership	Nickcolyer Hills
Newsletter	Dolores Vitero Presley
NCQC Liaison	Katie Wishom
Opportunity Quilt	Teri Green
Publicity	Vacant
Quilt Show	Marion Coleman
Sunshine	Nell Mays
Website	Ann Seals
Worthy Causes	Jackie Clemons-Dorsey



MEMBERSHIP:

Membership shall be open to anyone interested in the purpose and objectives of this Guild, and payment of annual dues. No discrimination shall be made with regard to race, color, creed, or national origin.

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Quilting Sistah News



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African American Quilt Guild of Oakland

P.O. Box 31834
Oakland, CA 94604

Next Meeting

Saturday, Sept 27th, 2014. 1-3 p.m.
AAQGO Membership Meeting and Luncheon
West Oakland Library
1801 Adeline Street
Oakland CA 94607

Visit our website:

<http://www.aaqgo.org>