

QUILTING SISTAH NEWS

African American Quilt Guild of Oakland

ESTHER PANCHO'S CLASSROOM

For a newcomer, the AAQGO is a buzzing gathering of quilters and friends, ready once a month with new stories, skills, and show-and-tell. As the Guild heads into its 18th year, some members don't know about the beginnings of AAQGO, in Esther Pancho's classroom.



Esther was teaching a quilting class at the Downtown Oakland Senior Center, having just moved to town from Los Angeles. After a career teaching home economics, Esther was no stranger to teaching. However, when it comes to quilting, Esther thought a demonstration was enough and rules were not necessary. As she recalls, "At first I didn't use a thimble!"

AAQGO became the thriving proof of Esther's ideals, where quilters could share little bits of fabric to help each other along. ("Do you have a little bit of red?" "I do, have some.") Esther lightheartedly advertised the class as "Traditional African Quilting," since she, the teacher, was African American, wanting a group to come together to get better and feel good about having more skills. The group was about getting better together.

Esther says now, when she reads about AAQGO she realizes the Guild has fulfilled and surpassed her vision. Not only is it a place for swapping fabrics, sharing, community, and uplift, AAQGO is well known. The 2016 New York Times article highlighted not only quilts made in Oakland, but quilts that moved through Oakland, coming to people in exhibit spaces all over the city and not waiting for the people to come to the quilts.

There were no ribbons in that exhibit, on purpose. Esther's goal for AAQGO was to skip competition and promote a cooperative spirit and learning from each other, a place where everyone is happy for you. Asked for her advice to new quilters, Esther offered "Let people be guided by what they like. It should feel like something wonderful, like eating a brownie."

Catherine Mukai



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Daylight savings time is gone until next Spring. Darkness comes early as well as the cool nights. During the summer you have shop hopped all over the world. Now it is time for you to look at all of your purchases and decide what you will make during the Fall and Winter months. Over the last several meetings, Ann Robinson has shared with us how to coordinate fabrics so that our quilts will "pop." As Fall and Winter progress, we can put her teachings to good use.

As the nights get longer and sunlight is harder to find, we sometime go into to the doldrums. A quilting project is the perfect "pick me up" for the Winter blues. Selecting a pattern or creating your own design, selecting the fabrics for the pattern, cutting, piecing, sandwiching, quilting and finally binding project. The finished project will be the remedy for the Winter doldrums.

The best way to do a Winter project is with friends. Laughing, discussing our projects, eating spending the day talking and sewing. At the end of the day, we have a finished project and the Winter blues are nothing but a memory.

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The other exciting thing about Fall and Winter is planning holiday gift projects to give to family and friends. Our November meeting is the perfect place to help stimulate your creative juices. What better way to work off Thanksgiving meals than coming to the meeting and learning some new gift ideas. On December 2nd, Teresa Weyand has graciously opened her home for our annual Holiday Party. The January meeting will be our annual sew day. Come and bring your sewing machine and sewing supplies and create a new project.

May your Fall and Winter be full of exciting projects, good food, and quality family and friend time. As we prepare for the coming of 2018, I leave you the this thought: Quilting gives me someplace to go when I have to stay where I am.

Blessings,
Marie de Porres Taylor



CONGRATS TO AAQGO MEMBER QUILTS AT PIQF



Barbara Fuston~*Tribute to Mondrian*



Nell Mays~*I Will Survive*



Ann Robinson~*African Dance Free*



Terry Green~*Oakland-You are Welcome*



Jeanette Robinson~*El Campanil*



5 Favorite Quilting Tips and Tricks

Courtesy of craftsy.com

1. PRE-WIND NEUTRAL BOBBINS

This is an especially helpful idea when attending a class or retreat. Store your collection of pre-wound bobbins in a bobbin case, and you're ready to sew for hours (or days)! Pre-wound bobbins can also be purchased from some thread manufacturers.

2. CHAIN PIECING

Not only does chain piecing save a lot of time for quilters, but it also helps to save thread. To chain piece, sew a set of fabric pieces together, stopping just before the edge of the fabric pair. Without removing the fabrics from the presser foot, prepare and add another set of fabrics. Begin sewing the next pair without clipping threads. Chain piecing goes even faster when the paired pieces have been prepared and stacked, and are ready to sew in large groups.

3. INCREASE ACCURACY

Sewing a precise 1/4" seam is the most important tool a quilter can have. To save time and avoid frustration be sure you are always sewing accurate 1/4 seams. While many machines come with specialty 1/4" feet, these also need to be tried and tested to be sure they are accurate. To test your seam allowance sew and then measuring the width of the seam with an acrylic ruler. Another way to do this is to rotary cut three 1 1/2" x 5" strips of fabric. Sew them together with your 1/4" seam. Press the seams open and measure the width of the middle strip from the right side of the fabric. The middle strip should measure exactly 1" wide. If this measurement is not correct, cut new strips and continue to make adjustments until your seams are 1/4". Some machines allow the needle to be moved to the right or the left, and often it's possible to make an adjustment by simply moving the needle.

4. PREPARE AND STACK PIECES

Cutting and stacking pieces ahead of time can lead to much time saved later.

5. MAINTAIN YOUR MACHINE

Remember to periodically clear any lint and oil the bobbin case of your machine. A well-maintained machine is one that will provide years and years of trouble-free sewing. One easy way to regularly take care of this routine maintenance is to clean and oil after you have emptied five bobbins (keep empty bobbins together so you know). For professional maintenance, most manufacturers recommend a regular cleaning once a year. Choose one month a year and regularly take your machine in for a "spa" day during that month each year.





SOMETHING NEW

As our members are displaying their quilts more and more, the Newsletter is starting a new column. We don't have a name for it - suggestions accepted - but, thus far, we know it will contain what you see below. If you think we need more, let us know.

To keep this column current, we need everyone's input. If you are showing or know someone who will be showing, send the information to our email address - aaqgoakland@gmail.com - and type in the subject line *FOR THE NEWSLETTER*.

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| Alice Beasley LaQuita Tummings | October 21 - November 26,2017 <i>Thread Heads</i> Berkeley Art Center 1275 Walnut St Berkeley, CA | Reception October 21 |
| Niambi Kee | November 3 - 29, 2017 <i>Mygration</i> Joyce Gordon Gallery 406 - 14th St Oakland, CA | Reception November 3, 6-9PM Artist Talk November 11, 1-4PM |
| Francie Gross | November 11 - 12, 2017 Vallejo Open Studios Pick up maps at Vallejo Naval & Historic Museum | Reception October 20, 6:30-8:30 Vallejo Naval & Historic Museum 734 Marin St Vallejo |
| Marion Coleman | The Gallery at the Merc Temecula, TX October 6 - December 30, 2017 <i>And Still We Rise</i> Columbus Museum Columbus, GA | |
| Sew N Sews Pat Bailey, Blanche Brown, Marilyn Handis, Norma Mason, Carolyn Pope, Dolores Presley, | November 27, 2017 To February 9, 2018 <i>Favorites</i> John O'Lague Galleria Hayward City Hall 777 B St | Reception December 1, 5:30 PM |

| | | |
|--|--|----------------------------------|
| Ann Robinson, Julia Vitero | Hayward, CA | |
| Amal Johnson Norma Mason Dolores Vitero Presley | December 1 - January 2, 2018 <i>The Power of 12</i> Bay Quilts 5327 Jacuzzi St, #3 Richmond, CA | Reception December 3, 1- 4 PM |
| Sew N Sews Pat Bailey, Blanche Brown, Marilyn Handis, Norma Mason, Carolyn Pope, Dolores Presley, Ann Robinson, Julia Vitero | January 11, 2018 To March Hayward Senior Center 22325 North 3rd St Hayward, CA | |
| | | |

Dolores Vitero Presley



A MESSAGE FROM OUR SANTA ROSA QUILTING SISTERS:

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!!

To all quilters who have extended your thoughts, prayers, and stash to the Santa Rosa Quilt Guild, your response has been truly inspiring, but your compassion and generosity are far exceeding our storage space. If you have sent us a donation or it is ready to go into the mail, we thank you. If you are still organizing a donation with your friends or guild, PLEASE HOLD! In just a week's time the volume of donations has become a bit overwhelming, and we need time to process.

We are so grateful for the outreach by the quilting communities in California and throughout the country to help us recover from the effects of the fires in Sonoma County. Your heart and generosity are a perfect expression of what we quilters do.

We are still happy to accept completed quilts, tops and pillow cases. They should be sent to:

[Janet Tonkin; 634 Madrone Ct.; Santa Rosa, CA 95409.](#)

We are **Sonoma County Strong**, and we have many, many quilts to make to bring comfort to those who have lost so much.

Thank you.



PROTECTING YOUR QUILT FROM BEING STOLEN - PART I

By *Loretta Henry*

At one of our recent AAQGO meetings, we were discussing an upcoming show and were told to label the quilts because, well, they can walk away. This is a major problem, not only were quilts taken off the racks at shows, but they were taken from the trunks of cars and hotel rooms. We could protect our quilts by not sharing them with the public or take a pro-active stance and do all that we can to make sure that they are returned to their rightful owner. While it would be impossible to stop every thief, perhaps there were ways to deter someone from taking it.

This article is in two parts. In the first, I will list ways to identify and document ownership of your quilts and in the second, I will list devices that can be used while your quilt is on public display.

I am not a lawyer, however, I would like to share what I learned by searching the internet.

Identification

1. Label your quilt. On the back add a label with information that will help it get returned to you. Include your name, address, date, name of quilt, patterns, type of media and the name to the quilter, etc. Make it as unique as possible. Not only include your name on the label, but sign it. You are an artist so sign all of your work.
2. Don't make it easy to remove the label. Make sure the stitching is very secure. Better yet, attach it to the backing fabric before the sandwich is put together and then quilt the label onto the back of the quilt. The extra stitches will tack it securely down and make it harder from someone to rip it off.
3. If you have already completed the quilt, you can use Wonder-Under or another double side stabilizer to permanently attach the label to the quilt. Remove the label and follow the directions to iron it onto the back of the quilt.
4. You should also write your information under the label or under the binding with a permanent marker in case someone does remove the label.
5. QR codes are popular and it is easy to add one to your label. Download an app and enter identifying information on to the site. The app creates a code that you print onto the label or under it. Quilting over the code will not hinder it. Anyone with a smart phone can scan the code and know who to return it to. For more information check <http://www.seamstobeyouandme.com/2011/05/.../a-new-way-to-identify-your-quilt-qr-code>



Documentation

1. Contact the agent providing your renter's or homeowner's insurance company to learn the information and procedures that you will need to follow in case the quilt is stolen.
2. Take pictures of both the front and the back. Make sure you photograph not only the whole piece, but highlight important details with close ups. The more details the easier it will be to have the quilt returned to you. It is also a good idea to take photos of the work in progress.
3. Keep a written record of the date it was began, description, size, pattern, materials used, colors, date completed, name of quilter and places that it was shown. Include fabric scraps. This will help you verify for the insurance company that you actually did create and own it.
4. Under United States Copyright Laws, any item physically created within the U. S. borders is automatically granted a copyright; even your shopping list. You may have used someone else's pattern, but you used different fabrics, colors, stitches, etc to



AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY LEGACY (AAHL)™

“Never, Ever Forget”



DELILAH LEONTIUM BEASLEY 1871-1934

FIRST AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMAN TO PUBLISH WEEKLY IN A MAJOR METROPOLITAN NEWSPAPER*

September 2017

AFRICAN AMERICAN QUILT GUILD OF OAKLAND (AAQGO)

Marie de Porres Taylor, President

A special thanks to AAQGO and especially to members, **Rosie Caraway, Deborah Salmon, Sandra Sweeting-Hall, Norma Mason, Loretta Henry, Cheryl Buckley, Rosita Thomas and Dolores Presley.**

Their hosting and presence added much to the festivities of the AAHL Exhibition and the **Marion Coleman** Trunk Show, August 5, 2017 at the Brickhouse Gallery and Art Complex in Sacramento.

Adding visual beauty to the exhibition were AAQGO quilt exhibitors **Alice Beasley, Cheryl Buckley, Ora Clay, Jacqueline Dorsey, Norma Mason, Nell Mays, Rosita Thomas and Julia Vitero.**

Cash awards were given to the following quilters.

\$500 INSPIRATION AWARD - Originality and Visual Impact – Katherine Wilson, Baltimore, MD

\$500 EXECUTION AWARD - Quality of design and Technique- Ife Felix, New York, NY

\$100 HONORABLE MENTION AWARD

Deborah Murphy, Live Oak, CA

Jeleana Johnson, Sacramento, CA

Norma Mason, Oakland, CA

\$100 EMERGING ARTIST AWARD - Trish Wade, Sacramento, CA

\$50 – PERSERVERANCE AWARD

Cheryl Buckley, Oakland, CA

Teri McIntosh, Oakland, CA

Thank you again for supporting us. You only need ask, for any future support, we can give to you.

Marsha Carter

African American History Legacy (AAHL)™

Guild Member BUZZ!



Sunshine and Shadows



Congratulations to **Marion Coleman** who was invited to speak at an ACTA gathering for her AAQGO and individual accomplishments. Marion graciously donated her honorarium to the Guild.

Evelyn Johnson and **Pat Bailey** surgeries were a success. Both ladies are doing well.

Please continue to lift **Shyrrl Hancock** and **Nell Mays** up in prayer.

Our condolences to the family of **Marilyn Handis** on the loss of her daughter-in-law.

BIRTHDAYS

NOVEMBER

Patricia Harris
Julia Vitero - 4
Shyrrl Spann Hancock - 8
Marion Thomas - 22
Teri Green - 28

DECEMBER

Rosita Thomas - 6
Verlie Collins - 11
Gloria Wells - 14
Marsha Carter - 12
Teresa Weyand - 20
Barbara Fuston - 29

JANUARY

Pati Fried
Lola Tatum - 12
Linda Franklin - 16
Gail Gardley - 29



New and Returning Members

Alicia DeCatur
Francie Gross
Patricia Harris
Karolyn Lewis
Betty Ubiles
Carolyn Walker

New Pieces - Affiliate Member



LOCAL EVENTS

November 3 - 28
Quilts by Fern Royce
Bay Quilts
Richmond, CA
Reception Sunday,
Nov 5th

November 17 -
February 9, 2018
*Favorites from the
Sew n Sews*
A mini group of
AAQGO
Hayward City Hall

December 1 - 3
Artifactory Holiday
Fair
Hoover House
Palo Alto, CA

December 2 - 31
The Power of 12
by 12 Group
Bay Quilts
Richmond, CA
Reception Sunday,
December 3, 1 pm

December 16 - 17

KPFA Fair
Craneway Pavilion
Richmond, CA

January 11 - March 7,
2018

*Small Quilts from the
Sew n Sews*
A mini group of AAQGO
Hayward Senior Center
Hayward, CA

February 9 - 11, 2018

Folsom Quilt Show
Folsom Community
Center
Folsom, CA
www.folsomquilt.org

March 17 - 18, 2018

Voices in Cloth
East Bay Heritage
Quilters
Craneway Pavilion
Richmond, CA

April 6 - 7, 2018

Streams of Color
Foothill Quilters Guild
36th Annual Quilt Show
Parkside Church and ARD
Regional Park
Auburn, CA
quiltshow@foothillquilters.org

May - June, 2018

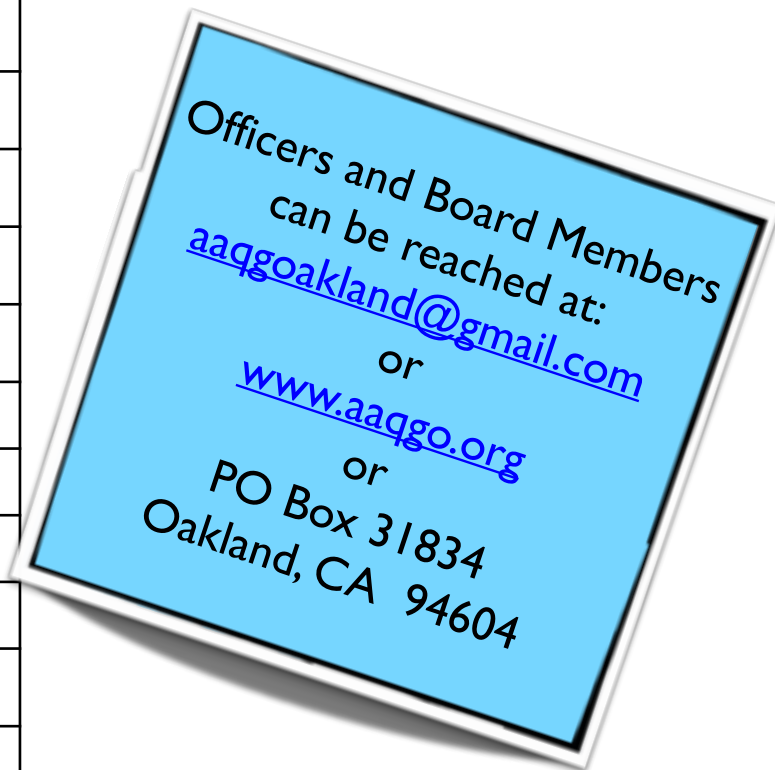
Berkeley Main Library
Berkeley, CA

June 2 - 3, 2018

Stars Above the Sierra
Carson City Quilt Guild
Gardnerville, NV
quiltshow.cvqg.com

Who is who? and what is what?

| 2016 - 2018 Officers and Board Members | |
|---|------------------------|
| President | Marie dePorres Taylor |
| Vice President | Ann Robinson |
| Secretary | Rosita Thomas |
| Treasurer | Dolores Vitero Presley |
| Historian | Donald Foreman |
| Parliamentarian | FranCione |
| Founder | Esther Pancho |
| Education | Deborah Salmon |
| Exhibits | Julia Vitero |
| Library | Shyrrl Spann-Hancock |
| Membership | Suzi Taylor |
| Newsletter | Dolores Vitero Presley |
| NCQC Liaison | Ernie Tril |
| Opportunity Quilt | Vacant |
| Publicity | Vacant |
| Quilt Show | Marion Coleman |
| Sunshine | Evelyn Johnson |
| Website | Ann Robinson |
| Worthy Causes | Felecia Germany |



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.

**African American Quilt
Guild of Oakland**
P.O. Box 31834
Oakland, CA 94604

Quilting Sistah News

www.aaqgo.org
aaqgoakland@gmail.com



QUILTING SISTAH NEWS
African American Quilt Guild of Oakland

P.O. Box 31834
Oakland, CA 94604

Next Meeting
Saturday, Nov 25, 2017
12 p.m. - 4 p.m.
Gift Making Workshop
West Oakland Library
1801 Adeline Street
Oakland CA 94607
Visit our website:
<http://www.aaqgo.org>