

MNAG News

Volume 3, Issue 3

June/July 2016

President's Message

Well, warmer weather is here ... then it's not. That is one of the things I love about the Bay Area. We had two wonderful workshops, the Kenyan Girls project in April and the Serger Workshop in May, and another coming up this month – the Stitchin' for Kids workshop on June 18th. Then the Marin County Fair will be here at the end of June! Busy, busy times.

Our April workshop was well-attended with members sewing reusable pads, pad-holders, and bags for the Kenyan project. We also purchased some of the articles on Upendo Women's Foundation wish list to round out the personal bags given to the girls (wash cloths, small soaps, underwear). Njeri updated us on this Foundation's progress, which is now branching out to other countries in Africa.

Barsha was our fearless leader into the details of serging at the May workshop. There were approximately 15 members who attended, and a great number of different machines to assist with the basics, from threading, cleaning to oiling and how often. Barsha also gave us many tips on how to use the serger for projects, in ways you never thought possible. Candace showed us the serged flower pin that she had made, and we tested out roll hems, overlocking, and various fabrics. Thank you, Barsha, you are like a glass of fine wine in the middle of chaos!

For those of you working on your Stitchin' for Kids projects, bring all your finished and unfinished items that were checked out to the June 18th workshop to turn in. Also, I have received a number of fabric donations to re-stock their project bins, or to use at the workshop. Thanks go out to members and others for their donations to this outreach activity.

The Marin County Fair will be open on June 30th; so if you haven't signed up for volunteering for a couple of hours, we could use your help plus you get to attend the Fair exhibits and mid-way on this entrance ticket. Flo has been circulating the sign-up sheet at the Monday meetings, so if you haven't gotten a spot, please let her know if you are available by emailing her at flohoy@gmail.com.

We are again sponsoring the Crafts & Quilt Faire at Aldersgate on July 16th. Vendor tables are \$15, which will cover the advertising costs for an ad in the six local papers, post-cards and various flyers that members are going to hand out to local businesses, as well as post items on "NextDoor" and on the Marin IJ's website. If you would like to secure a spot for a table or tables, please email me at ldorsey66@hotmail.com. We already have three tables taken, and are looking to accommodate more artists, so if you know an artist or are an artist that would like to sell your creations to the public, please get the word out. MNAG will again host a booth to sell tickets for the Opportunity Quilt, as well as provide goodies for the bake sale.

For those who were not at the last workshop, Laura presented the 2016 Opportunity Quilt for us to view and it is beautiful! She and Barsha finished up piecing the top, and Colleen did a great job on the quilting. It is a modern interpretation that is full of movement, and the multi-color quilted stitching enhances that movement. Well done, ladies! It is stunning.

LaDonna

OPPORTUNITY QUILT

The quilt is finished and will be displayed at the Marin Fair, where guild members will be selling raffle tickets.



Thanks to all guild members who made blocks, top was assembled by Barsha & Laura; Colleen Granger, *Sew Little Time Quilting* did a masterful job of quilting the quilt this year!

ON-GOING MENTORING SESSIONS FOR QUILTER—FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH

The quilters group continues to meet on the 1st Monday of the month at 4:00 p.m. – everyone is welcome. The format is a relaxed atmosphere where everyone is working on their own projects. Sara and Jo are available to answer questions and provide assistance where necessary.

Sara & Jo shared binding tips at the March meeting, which was well received by the members in attendance.

MARIN NEEDLE ARTS GUILD PURPOSE

MNAG Statement of Purpose

- *To educate & promote the highest standards of technique & design in the needle arts.*
- *To encourage interest, enjoyment creativity in doing all forms of needle arts.*
- *To promote cooperation and interchange of ideas among those who are engaged in,*

or interested in, needle arts in all parts of the world.

The Guild, a non-profit membership organization, brings together quilters, needle artists and fiber artists. Membership is open to anyone who has an interest in the Needle Arts. Current members include educators and award-winning crafts-people, as well as many enthusiastic amateurs who enjoy learning new skills, sharing ideas and enjoying the company of fellow enthusiasts.

Our goal, in fact, is to promote the Needle Arts through education. This year, 2015, there is a mentoring quilt class on the first Monday of each month and there will be workshop/class the 3rd Saturday of most months.

Members are always available to help anyone interested in learning a new skill, or improving their techniques. Beginners are encouraged to come join us for a fun filled day of learning and productivity. We also invite members to bring guests who may enjoy a particular event.

BLOCK OF MONTH - Update

Mission Statement: The goal of the block of the month program is for members to explore new and old quilting techniques while making a quilt for themselves and one for our outreach program.

Questions contact Carol Parker at ceprep@comcast.net.

OUTREACH

Below is an excerpt from Shirley's information that was provided to the Las Gallinas Lion's Club; it is a comprehensive list of what the guild donated in 2015 Outreach projects. Each of us should be proud of our contributions to the various causes. The Lion's club responded with another donation of \$1000.00 to the guild to be used towards Outreach projects.

1. **Stitchin4Kids**-They give dolls & doll clothing, quilts, hand-made items to children who are in long-term care; they give to children in 5 hospitals twice a year. MNAG provided: 32 doll quilts, 9 infant quilts, 29 hospital games (hand-made), 17 knit “princess crowns”.
2. **Homeward Bound**- They provide housing for homeless families & individuals in Marin. MNAG made 24 twin-size quilts.
3. **Seaman’s Church Institute/Port of Oakland**: The 10 wool scarves/hats provide extra warmth to mariners.
4. **Marin Community Center/Pediatric services**. MNAG provided 20 infant quilts.
5. **Wildcare**: They care for injured wild animals with the intention that they be returned to the wild. MNAG made 63 knit bird nests.
6. **Senior Care & Rehab facilities in Petaluma & Marin**. MNAG made 30 blankets/lap robes, 32 activity aprons, bibs, & caps.
7. **Upendo Women’s Foundation**- They support Kenyan girls with the intent that they will be able to attend/stay in school to get an education. MNAG held a workshop and completed over 175 hand-made items and purchased 3 large cartons of personal supplies.
8. **Valley Fire**-Middletown Elem. School-Teachers asked for 800 quilts for K-3 graders. MNAG provided some quilts.
9. **Doodlebug sewing class** (The students call themselves: “Just Add a Pocket”!!)-Elementary children learn to sew & forward needle arts skills. MNAG members provide year-round classes, summer sewing camp for 32 students, materials, & education in needle arts at the “Doodlebug” quilt store San Anselmo. This year the students made infant & doll quilts, stuffed

animals, & doll clothes for Stitchin4Kids & other organizations that MNAG supports.

Other donations: 3 large boxes of infant blankets & clothing for Christmas went to Novato Human Needs Center and to Community Action Marin.

As a reminder the sizes of quilts that we are making for various causes are listed below:

Quilts for **Stitchin for Kids** group:

Isolet/Preemie covering: 24” - 30” x 30” - 36” cotton or flannel

Older child: 40” x 60” can use Fleece, which can easily be fringed. If fringing and knotting don’t tie knots too tight as they want the item to lay flat! 1 ½ yards fleece is perfect and will make an item about 54” square.

Remember all items going to “Stitchin” group get washed by them before they are donated!

www.stitchinforkids.org/ has information and patterns for a number of items that they give to the children.

Homeward Bound Quilts:

Twin Size 60” x 78” will provide some overhang

Lap or snuggle quilt: 45” x 60” great for watching TV or lounging around

Convalescent and Care Facilities:

Lap Quilts for Wheelchair use 36” x 40”, can’t be too large as they interfere with wheels

Lap Quilts 40”-48” x 60” can be used on beds or while sitting in chair or couch.

Some of the “convalescent” size quilts will be earmarked for Hospice of Marin for their room at “The Tamalpais” in Mill Valley.

KNITTING & WEARABLE ARTS

Wearable Arts/Knitting will be meeting at Aldersgate from 4pm – 6pm, prior to our Monthly meeting and sharing space with the mentoring quilt group. The group has put together several lap

quilts that will be used in outreach. If you have squares Arlene is handling putting them together.

If wearable arts and knitting intrigue you, join us for techniques, tips and inspiration while working on your projects.

As Spring arrives Wildcare Bird Sanctuary will most likely be request "bird nests" for orphaned birds. Check their website for information from previous years.

<http://www.wildcarebayarea.org/>

NEW NEEDLEWORK SCHOOL

San Francisco School of Needlework and Design is opening their doors in Union Square area of San Francisco. The school was co-founded by Lucy Barter and Ellice Sperber, who were trained at the Royal School of Needlework in England; subsequently they met while teaching classes in the United States. Check out their upcoming classes, retreats and more <http://www.sfneedleworkanddesign.org/>

Events around the Bay Area

June 4-5th

Moonlighter Quilt Guild presents

Wine Country Quilt Show

Veterans Bldg

<http://www.mqsc.org/annual-quilt-show/>

Santa Rosa, CA

July 16-17th

Piecemakers Quilt Guild

"Legacies of Love Quilt Show"

Dominican Center

43326 Mission Circle

Fremont, CA

<http://www.piecemakersguild.org>

August 6-7th

Chester Piecemakers Quilt Guild

Quilts of Lake Almanor

Chester High School

612 First Street

Chester, CA 96020

For more information check www.ncqc.net/; they have additional information on all Northern California Quilt shows.

AFFILIATES:

Broadway Quilts

Gery Rosemurgy

20525 Broadway, Sonoma, CA

707-938.7312

www.broadwayquilts.com

Hen Haus Boutique

8099 La Plaza, Ste H

Cotati, CA 94931

707-763-9377

Lisa Vancor Long Arm Quilting

112 A Clorinda Avenue

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*Please send newsworthy items to Laura Fraser. Newsletter will be published every 2 months. Next publication will be **March 2016**.*

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2015 COMMITTEES

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Jo Banvard

Block of Month – Carol Parker

Newsletter - Laura Fraser
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CALENDAR 2016

Mark your calendars for upcoming dates in 2016. **All events subject to change!**

Meetings at Aldersgate Church, 1 Wellbrock Heights, San Rafael (Terra Linda)

www.mnag.org for directions.

Check website calendar for additional information. <http://www.mnag.org/calendar.htm>

Monday Night

June 6th

Quilt Mentoring 4 -6pm
Knitting/Wearable Arts 4-6
Potluck Sew-cial 6pm

June 30th thru July 4th Marin County Fair

No Monday Meeting in July

Saturday Meetings /Workshops

June 18th Stitchin4Kids

We will be working on lots of projects to be donated to the Stitchin for Kids organization, who provide gifts for hospitalized children

July 16th Quilt Show/Boutique at Aldersgate Church, Social Hall

August 1st

Quilt Mentoring 4 -6pm

Knitting/Wearable Arts 4-6

Potluck Sew-cial 6pm

Christmas Stocking Project Lisa Morse

August 20th Outreach Workshop

No Monday Meeting in September

Sept. 17th

October 3rd

Quilt Mentoring 4 -6pm

Knitting/Wearable Arts 4-6

Potluck Sew-cial 6pm

October 15th

November 7th

Quilt Mentoring 4 -6pm

Knitting/Wearable Arts 4-6

Potluck Sew-cial 6pm

November 19th Outreach Workshop

December 5th HOLIDAY PARTY

Show & Tell at all meetings

