

May '16

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

QUILTING SISTAH NEWS

African American Quilt Guild of Oakland

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

AAQGO FLEA MARKET

Saturday May 28th, 2016

1 p.m. – 3 p.m.

(Set up at noon)

West Oakland Library

1801 Adeline Street

Oakland, CA



It spring time and we are cleaning our sewing rooms

Lots of Fun Stuff to Buy

Fabric, Notion, Threads, Books, Magazines, finished blocks, and more.

Meet your Guild Members

Come explore to see what treasure you can buy.



African American Quilt

Guild of Oakland

P.O. Box 31834

Oakland, CA 94604

www.aaqgo.org

email:

aaqgoakland@gmail.com

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

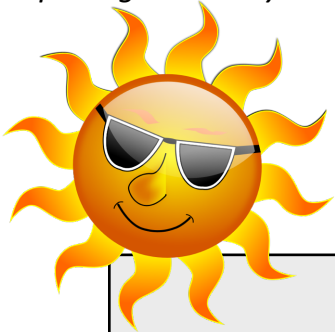
As summer approaches, the days are getting longer which provides abundant light for quilting projects. Sure the outside will call you but you can always do hand work on your patio or by your pool or in the park. The main thing is to motivate yourself in the creative processes of quilting. For members one of your projects should focus on fulfilling your obligation for our worthy cause project.

"Neighborhoods Coming Together: Quilts Around Oakland" which is our quilt show continues to be an overwhelming success! As summer comes, we continue to have showings of our quilts. Make sure that you check the AAQGO website for the list of the remaining shows. Because you viewed one show, it does not mean that you have seen all of the quilts that make up the entire show. At each site you will discover new quilts.

Just as the nation is electing new leadership, this is an election year for the Guild. Our Parliamentarian and Nomination chairperson, Marilyn Handis, is diligently working to find members who are ready to lead the Guild for the next two years. Give some thought to volunteering for an elected office or chairing a committee.

It is exciting to greet new members at our Guild meetings! Our theme of "Back to Basics" which our Vice President, Ann Robinson, is spear heading is motivating both new and seasoned to select fabric, cut fabric, piece and finish a quilt! It is time to refresh our skills, learn new things, and make new friends. Come and join us at our meetings which are the fourth Saturday of each month at the West Oakland Martin Luther King, Jr. Public Library in Oakland.

I would like to leave you with a quote from an unknown quilter: *"Don't worry about today. Do a little quilting and everything will be okay!"*



Blessings,
Marie dePorres Taylor
President



AAQGO PRESIDENT'S CHALLENGE

April 2016

Since this is a presidential election year in the United States **AND** AAQGO will elect new officers, the challenge is for you to create a patriotic quilt of your choice.

President's Challenge Rules:

- Size – Minimum 30" x 30", Maximum 36" x 36"
- Colors: At least 75% should be **red, white, and blue**.
- The quilt is **yours**, but we would like to borrow it for the Annual Lakeshore Library Exhibit scheduled for the month of August.
- Your **finished** quilt should be delivered to the July 23, 2016, meeting.
 - Finished = quilted and bound with a 4 inch sleeve and label attached.



AAQGO NEEDS YOU!

Leadership Positions Are Open

In June, the nominating committee will present the slate of officers for election to AAQGO leadership positions. And we need a few good people to come forward to volunteer to lead the Guild from September 2016 – August 2018.

All elected positions are open for nomination. Please review the position descriptions in the Bylaws which are posted on the website - www.aaqgo.org

Elected officers for the guild are: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Parliamentarian, and Historian. This group, together with appointed committee chairs, provides leadership for the Guild.

Won't you come forward to help us generate new energy and ideas for the Guild?

If you are interested in being nominated for election, please contact Marilyn Handis, Parliamentarian, at aaqgoakland@gmail.com and type NOMINATIONS in subject line.

AAQGO needs YOU!

Marilyn Handis



2014-2016 AAQGO BOARD

Back Row: Katie Wishom, Julia Vitero, Marie dePorres Taylor, Donald Foreman, Dolores Vitero Presley, Deborah Salmon
Front Row: Shyrrl Spann Hancock, Nickcolyer Hills, Marilyn Handis, Ann Robinson, Rosita Thomas



**“QUILTS OF MANY COLORS”
EXHIBITION
SISTERS QUILTING COLLECTIVE (SQC)**



The Sisters Quilting Collective (SQC) of Sacramento, held its third annual quilt exhibition in celebration of Women’s History Month. The **“Quilts of Many Colors” Exhibition** was held, Saturday, March 19, 2016, and Sunday, March 20, 2016, at The Event Center at the Oak Park Community Center, Sacramento, CA.

On Friday, March 18, 2016, a reception and trunk show was held for award winning Master Fiber Artist, Connie Horne. Connie’s quilt collection was on display on Saturday and Sunday as the main feature of the successful exhibition.



Connie Horne

The exhibition featured SQC’s opportunity quilt, interactive children’s activities, quilts by local and regional quilters, a variety of vendors, and the SQC General Store.

AAQGO dual membership members, Marsha Carter and Dolores Vitero Presley had entries in the exhibition. AAQGO members Julia Vitero and Deborah Salmon also exhibited.

Marsha Carter
AAQGO/SQC



Marsha Carter



Dolores Vitero Presley



Julia Vitero



Deborah Salmon

FERN ROYCE
GUEST SPEAKER - MARCH 27, 2016



At our AAQGO meeting on March 27, 2016, we were fortunate enough to have a guest speaker, Fern Royce. Dolores introduced Fern and spoke of how she and Julia met her at a class. Both Dolores and Julia thought she was a fun, inspiring quilter and friend. Fern not only shared her many quilts but also spoke of her quilting interests, classes and guidance she has received over the years. She was introduced to sewing as a young girl but did not start quilting until much later. Fern mentioned that she enjoys many quilting styles but did not consider herself a modern quilter but was more of an improvisational block style quilter and loves to work with wool fabrics in her quilts. She invited us to look into her blog <http://www.textilemavens.com/>.

Fern shared a project that she thought would be a quick project with her son in school. This turned out to be a whole year project with the students in this class each completing a tied quilt.

She shared many of her beautiful quilts and how she named them. To name a few, "His Shirt Off His Back", a quilt made with her father's shirts and "Freedom", a quilt she made for her son when he was 17 but did not finish until he was 21. It is always good to hear that we are not the only ones to take a while to complete a quilt. She shared a quilt which she made with red fabric made of many squares. She also likes to work with plaids. Using plaids she made a quilt inspired from a magazine which she called "Lessons Learned." Fern has attended many retreats, her first retreat making a quilt she called "Medallion Quilt" made of tiny pieces (floor scrap pieces), it was amazing to see. Many other quilts she made were what she called Liberated Stream Quilts inspired from a book, string quilts (baskets) with no foundation and using templates. Star quilts were made with strips put

together forming a star. She made many star blocks using various types of fabrics, the batiks were fabulous, and she called these liberated stars. "Bossy Quilt", inspired from a class using large and small blocks; "Coping", strips on black; flying geese with a lot of background which she named "What If"; "Tears of a Clown" made with fabric she purchased at a White Elephant sale with clown fabric shaped into rectangles. She made quilts with so many small pieces, triangles with INQ magazine "Driving Ms Winnie" made at a retreat. They were all so beautiful as she shared many more.

Fern mentioned she was always looking/asking for inspiration. She has bins full of scraps and when they get full, she makes a quilt. Fern stated that she was influenced by the work and books of Gwen Marston. One comment that stood out was "as long as you have a square put together, figure out squaring after". I believe she inspired many to not be afraid to put pieces together to form quilts no matter how big or small your scraps of fabric tend to be cut. The idea is to not be afraid, but get inspired.



Ernestine Tril



FOLK ART SISTERS OF SACRAMENTO (FASS)
CALLING ALL QUILT ARTISTS!

Juried Exhibition
"THE AFRICAN AMERICAN ODYSSEY:
Enslavement, Emancipation, Segregation (Jim Crow), Integration, Discrimination, Civil Rights, Assimilation, Freedom of Choice."

August 1 – 31, 2017
The Brickhouse Gallery and Art Complex
2837 36th Street, Sacramento, CA 95817
Telephone HOTLINE: 209-957-9177

Folk Art Sisters of Sacramento (FASS) is currently seeking quilt artists residing in the United States, to participate in a juried exhibition entitled **"THE AFRICAN AMERICAN ODYSSEY: Enslavement, Emancipation, Segregation (Jim Crow), Integration, Discrimination, Civil Rights, Assimilation, Freedom**

guest
speaker

BLACK HISTORY MONTH FAMILY WORKSHOP

FEBRUARY 2016

At our Black History Month program, we were bursting at the seams with talent. There was a plethora of different people at the event. Friends and families all came together to sew a quantity of 9 and 4 patch blocks as an intro to sewing. It was nice to see so many newcomers and returning guests. Thank you to all of those who donated gifts for our raffle. It was great to see so many backpacks filled with books, pencil and crayons as well as toys and other great items. Also, thank you too all of the members who showed up for support of our program, for had they not been there the event, it would not have been such a success.

Deborah Salmon



celebrate
BLACK
history **MONTH**

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Shout out to everyone, we did a WONDERFUL job. We had a great turnout!

I made 20 back packs this year (10 more than last year's) which tells me we have a younger group of quilters coming up.



I would like to thank all the contributors who donated fabric and money to make these backpacks.

Now I need to tell you a story:

I was at the fabric store buying next year's fabric for the backpacks (the price was right), I had about 20 bolts of fabric (10 or so were kids print) in my cart, a stranger ask "what are going to do with the fabric?". I told her and she reached in her purse and gave me \$20. I was so touched, and thankful and went and purchased a few more pieces! Another stranger heard and donated \$10 toward the backpacks!

I am well on my way to completing next year's supplies, now if only I can start making them earlier! Each backpack takes a yard of fabric (½ yard for outside, ½ yard for lining, ½ yard of interfacing, and 2 ½ yards of cording). Sounds like a quilt date if anyone wants to get together and make next year's backpacks - let me know.

Thanks

Ann Robinson

WORTHY CAUSES NEWS



Child Abuse Listening, Interviewing and Coordination Center (CALICO) is the organization chosen by AAQGO to be the recipient of our quilted donations. Pictured above are Jackie Clemons-Dorsey, Worthy Causes Chairperson (second from left), along with Susie Patrick and Katie Wishom who delivered 19 pillow cases and 21 quilts of various sizes to CALICO representative, Bertha E. Nevarez, Program Manager/Child Interview Specialist (second from right). The quilts and pillow cases were all designed, quilted and donated by members of AAQGO! Jackie expressed our hope that these gifts would put a smile on the faces of the recipients.

Fabric Donations. The NY Times article generated a number of offers from individuals who read it and were inspired by it and offered to donate fabric. Our thanks to the following individuals for their generous donations:

Sarah Schanz-Bortman, Marketing Assistant for Windham Fabrics in Jersey City, New Jersey, who donated several beautiful packs of fat quarters and some larger pieces.

Dorothy Mandlin of New York City who donated quilt tops, fabric and even Blocks of the Month from patterns she obtained from our website

Reyes Briones of Oakland who donated flannel material.

Judith Thorn of San Francisco who donated beautiful cotton fabrics.

These fabrics and quilt tops are available to members who wish to make or finish quilts, pillow cases and Blocks of the Month for Worthy Causes.

Jackie Clemons-Dorsey



Guild Member BUZZ!



SUNSHINE AND SHADOWS



Our condolences to the family of **Anne Jones** on the loss of her Father.

Our positive thoughts and prayers to all members and their families facing health challenges.

Accolades to **Sally Dickson**, the winner of the Stanford University's *President's Award for Excellence Through Diversity*.

New and returning members!

Frances M Beal
Ellen Blakey
Rose Marie Caraway
Cynthia Coats
Yvonne J Crosby-Young
Gail Gardley
LaVerne Hayes
Jerry Oyarzo Hickey
Denise S Jenkins
Nefertiti Littlejohn
Karen Kasturi Matter
Audrey Ross
Fern Royce
Christina Hope Tatman
Betty Ubiles
Allie Vines



Birthdays!

MAY

Ellen Blakey
Felecia Germany
Jerry Oyarzo Hickey
Nefertiti Littlejohn
Teloca McLinn
Frances Porter
Ann Robinson
Deborah Salmon
Marjorie Smith
Marie dePorres Taylor
Suzanne Taylor



JUNE

Jamie Gladney-Presley
Ora Knowell
Sandra Murray-Isaacs
Esther Pancho
Jeanette Robinson
Patricia Turner

JULY

Jackie Clemons-Dorsey
FranCione
Midge Robinson
Christina Hope Tatman

LOCAL EVENTS

April 1 - May 30
NEIGHBORHOODS COMING TOGETHER: QUILTS AROUND OAKLAND, Women's Cancer Resource Center
5741 Telegraph Avenue Oakland

May 1 - June 5
35th Annual Quilt Show
Berkeley Public Library
Main Branch
Berkeley, CA

May 4 - 29
Stitch to the Future
Pacific Piecemakers Quilt Guild
20th Anniversary Celebration
Quilt Challenge
Gualala Arts Center
Gualala, CA
www.pacificpiecemakers.org

May 27 - August 12
NEIGHBORHOODS COMING TOGETHER: QUILTS AROUND OAKLAND, Board of Supervisors Gallery, Alameda County Administration Building
1221 Oak Street, Oakland

June 25 - 26
Bountiful Central Coast
Annual Seven Sisters Quilt Show
Alex Madonna Expo Center
San Luis Obispo
www.sevensistersquiltshow.org

August 27 - 28
Harvest on the Delta
Delta Quilters Guild
24th Annual Quilt Show
Brentwood Community Center
www.deltaquilters.org

August 29 - September 8
10 Day Quilt n' Cruise Alaska
Pams Path to Travel,
terry@pamstravel.net
650.773.5756

October 1 - 2
Golden Threads
Mother Lode Quilters' Guild
Historic Downtown Sutter Creek
Auditorium and Community Center
Sutter Creek, CA
www.mlqgsuttercreek.org

April 22 - 23, 2017
Colors of the Vineyard
Amador Valley Quilters
Robert Livermore Community Center, Livermore, CA
www.amadorvalleyquilters.org

August 1 - 31, 2017
THE AFRICAN AMERICAN ODYSSEY: Enslavement, Emancipation, Segregation (Jim Crow), Integration, Discrimination, Civil Rights, Assimilation, Freedom of Choice.
Folk Art Sisters of Sacramento (FASS)
Brickyard Gallery and Art Complex
Sacramento, CA

BACK TO BASICS!

I'm always hearing, my quilt never looks neat, my size is off, what the difference between “?” and “??”, how do you use “?”.

I heard you! I enjoyed creating these sessions, it helps reassure what I've learned.

I was taught by a teacher who said “You can do it your way after I've taught you the correct way!” Being a rebel I do it my way, but I hear her voice guiding me her way.

Back to Basic will guide you on how to finish a quilt and will include the following sessions:

1. Tools: there are so many tools to choose, find the one that suits you
2. Hands on: how to get started
 - a. Fabric
 - b. Finding the grain
 - c. Measure twice cut once
 - d. Cutting
 - e. Quarter inch seam allowance
 - f. Pinning
 - g. Ironing versus pressing
 - h. Squaring
3. Hands on: next steps
 - a. Quilting finishing
4. Hands on: if needed

The turnout at the April meeting indicated that this was well overdue. I would like to thank all of you for your support (the novice and seasoned quilters) and look forward to Session Two.

If you have any questions or there is something specific that you want to learn, email me and I will see if I can add it to the agenda, Either way, I will make sure your question will be answered!

Thanks,

Ann Robinson

Vice President



QUILTS SHINE AT WOMEN'S CANCER RESOURCE EXHIBIT

The extraordinary community participation in the quilt exhibit has been very exciting for all of us. For over a year guild members have been reaching out, teaching and encouraging community members of all ages to make quilts that tell their stories. The exhibit at Women's Cancer Resource Center (WCRC) is a prime example where nearly 20 quilts were made by women who receive services at the center. A special thanks goes out to all guild workshop teachers that include Julia Vitero, Ann Robinson, Dolores Presley, Suzi Taylor, Ora Clay, Niambi Kee, Amal Johnson, Fran Porter, Nell Mays, Marsha Carter, Ora Knowell, Jackie Houston and Carole Rogers. Many student quilters enjoyed the workshops and made very original quilts.



Kat Johnson, Hadas Rivera Weiss & Amal Johnson



Raija Rickansrud



Raija Rickansrud, Jackie Williams, Ann Shelton and Ora Knowell.



Ann Shelton

Don't miss an opportunity to see these quilts that will be on display at WCRC until June 30, 2016.

Marion Coleman ~ Quilt Exhibit Chairperson



GLENVIEW SCHOOL - BHM/STEM Project

February 2016

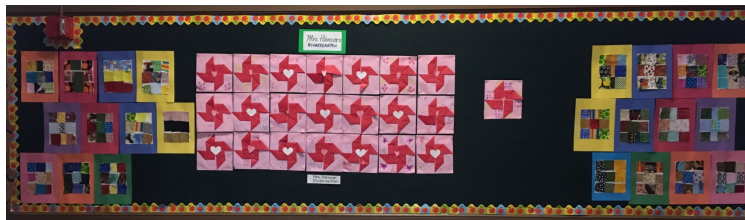
Request: Conduct an art project for Kindergarten, Transitional Kindergarten, first, second, third, fourth and fifth graders.

Project: Grades K and TK created quilts blocks using paper templates, glue sticks and fabric squares. First and second graders made 4-patch blocks, third and fourth graders made 9-patch blocks. Fifth graders created an appliquéd free form block.

Length of Workshops: Initially eight school days (8:30 am - 2:45 pm) were needed to see all 433 students for a minimum of two 50 minute sessions. Additional days were added to assist some classes in the completion of the projects.

Volunteers: Dolores Vitero Presley, Julia Vitero, Helen Anderson, Blanche Brown, Katie Wishom, Deborah Salmon, Ann Robinson, Zondra Martin, Donald Foreman, Norma Mason, Betty Ubiles, several parents/grandparents of students.

Results:



Dolores Vitero Presley
Project Leader



I AM AAQGO

Name: Kasturi Karen Mattern

Age(ish): Mid-sixties

Occupation: Retired acupuncturist, part-time cook and bottle-washer

Where I was born: Philadelphia, the "Germantown" neighborhood

Town in which I currently live: Berkeley

How long I've lived in (town, state): 43 years

What I like most about (town, state): Berkeley has great gardens, libraries and bookstores (some of my favorite things), and Tilden Park, and my neighbors are friendly, positive people. Nice, clement weather and fresh air blowing in off the ocean through the Golden Gate.

Favorite place to take friends when they come to visit: UC Berkeley Botanical Garden

The people who mean the most to me: My dear husband of 43 years, Gary, my friends and members of my spiritual community. Also, my family, which is now very small.

A key event in my life and the impact it had on me: I think of several, but the one that relates most to quilting is how I moved here from Philadelphia, knowing no one and very homesick, when my wonderful new neighbors, Jan Inouye and Joyce Williams, took me under their wings and taught me how to quilt and do cross-stitch embroidery, becoming a part of their circle. When I went back to school in my thirties to become an acupuncturist, I decided to use my needle skills in a new and different way - but it felt right! It's interesting to me that as I become older, I passionately want to do more embroidery and quilting again.

Hobbies: Reading, writing, needlework, hiking, getting together with friends to walk, share meals and enjoy films.

Favorite Sports Team: I blush to admit I have no favorite team but I feel my baseball team is the Oakland A's (not the Phillies anymore).

Sports: I enjoy swimming (not sure if it's a sport) but I love it!

Pets: One yellow-and-white cat - Nesbit.

Favorite Food/Dessert: Kichari

One thing I want to accomplish while I am able: I want to express love through needlework especially embroidery and quilting.

I "give back" by volunteering with: Mother's Kitchen, serving in 55 cities, and locally at South Berkeley Community Church on Thursdays.

Favorite vacation destination: The Sierra Nevada and high desert of California.

What I like most about quilting: The peaceful, contemplative mood of quilting, the fact that I can quilt in solitude or with others, and the total immersion in color!

One thing I want to accomplish in quilting: To get my points matched up and my quilting stitches short and even! It's been a long time since I've quilted and I gotta say it really shows! (To be truthful, I never really got good at the perfection part of piecing and quilting, even when I was doing a lot more of it!)

How AAQGO has made me a better quilter: Well, already I have been asked to make a pieced Block of the Month which challenges me to sharpen up my very rusty piecework skills - I feel this is frustrating but a good thing! And I expect to learn a lot as a participating member of AAQGO.

Other information I would like to share: I decided to join the AAQGO because I heard about the Neighbors Coming Together show on public radio, went to see the show at the Joyce Gordon Gallery and felt that the AAQGO is interested in expressing creativity through quilts, rather than just doing exercises in geometry and I resonate with that emphasis on creativity and personal expression, especially in relationship with the environment and community.

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.

**African American Quilt
Guild of Oakland**
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Quilting Sistah News



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