

December 2024



By Brandi Kelly-Contreras



Happy Holidays to you all!

Our meeting this month is going to be a Potluck with our Community Partners and a table decorating contest. The judges will be looking at creativity and involvement within the entire table. You have time to conspire with your tablemates. Be sure to bring your favorite dish to share and your creative touch to inspire the holidays.

This year we have a lot to be thankful for and I, for one, am thankful to each one of you, especially our board of officers. I am looking forward to our general meeting where I will be able to pass the torch to the incoming board and recognize all the hard work

that our team has done for our guild. It has been my pleasure to be your President this year. Looking toward the new year I hope that you challenge yourself to help our guild.

I feel like we have all heard this but so very true. This year has just flown by way too fast. I have no idea where or why I can't seem to stop time. LOL, That could be my new superpower. I am looking forward to a peaceful New Year filled with my family and friends.

"We all take different paths in life, but no matter where we go, we will take a little of each other everywhere." (McConaughey et al., 2024).

Special points of interest:

- Holiday Party
- 2025 Open Sew Dates
- Membership Renewal Form
- Call for Entries SCCQG 2025
 Special Exhibit
- Quilt University Handouts
- New Guild in town -Seashore Quilters



By Alan Calgaro

This month's program was our "Quilters University". It was an educational evening that spotlighted some basic skills along with a stash-busting "Crumb Quilt" demonstration.

I especially want to thank our presenters for sharing their expertise -

Kim Snow - Best practices for achieving an accurate 1/4" seam, and the importance of consistent stitching

Lori Davies - How to square up quilt blocks so that your finished quilt will also turn out correctly

Lyndell Darby - How to Finish your quilt binding with hand stitching

Dr. Deb Belcher - Methods and suggestions for using your scraps to make a Crumb Quilt

At the December general meeting, we will be hosting representatives from some of the charities that we sponsor with our quilts and other services. We will also be presenting the President's Quilt to our 2024 president, Brandi Kelly-Contreras. Thank you, Brandi, for your leadership throughout the year.

***December's meeting is also our Potluck! Bring a dish that can be shared with the members. The best suggestion is to use a disposable serving dish.







Kim, Lyndell and Dr. Deb have provided their handouts for this edition of the newsletter. They start on page 21.



By Kate Weber & Janet Dietzman

December 14 - Open Sew No Fee

Finish up those holiday gifts! Get away from the shopping rush; come, sit, and do nothing (we won't tell on you!).

Online registration for 2025 workshops will not be available until January 2, 2025. You may register now by paying with cash or a post-dated check.

January 11 - Photo Transfer. \$35

Learn how to transfer those family photos onto fabric so they can be included in



your quilts and wall hangings. Everything you need will be at the workshop: Computer, scanner, and color printer! Hands-on so you can do it yourself when the workshop is over!

February 13 – For the Love of Ric Rac. \$35

Take the fear out of working with Ric Rac.
Learn how to round and turn corners



successfully and how to "join" the tails and change colors seamlessly. Two projects will be presented: receiving blanket and table runner. (Optional: \$25 kit available)

March 13 – Into the Heat Set. \$35 and \$36 kit fee

In this class you will learn to use a "collage with



templates" technique. It is an innovative and revolutionary new technique. It is easy and foolproof and the results are amazing. This technique leaves the quilt and the fabric soft and manageable, not stiff and board-like, as fusible webs and glues do. The best, however, is that you can do raw edge applique without any fraying edges!! This technique produces a no-fray raw edge applique as a result.

Note: This is a technique class. Time is insufficient to complete a complete project.

April 12 – Free Motion Quilting on Your Domestic Machine. \$35

Ever wanted just to get your quilt quilted without waiting on a longarmer's schedule? Are you sure there's



a way to use your home sewing machine to quilt that wall hanging or quilt? Well, there is!

Steve Shuman is back to demonstrate how it's done. He'll guide us through domestic machine quilting with tips, techniques, and his abundance of humor.

Sign up soon and sign up often!

Remember!
Signing up on
the interest
sheet does
NOT mean
that you are
registered for
the workshop!

You are not registered until you pay.



By Carollynn Machado-Guarino

Over the last year or two, Community Relations has done some things differently and would appreciate some feedback and suggestions. So many of you have contributed your time, effort, and resources and the Committee members would like to know what is working for you and our charities. The Committee members will be meeting after the December Guild meeting where we will hear from the charities. The following areas might be helpful upon which to focus your attention:

Participation Gift Certificates
Curated Fabric Bundles
Pre-cut Kits

Batting and fabric availability Whatever else comes to mind

Please send Carollynn an email or text with your thoughts, and/or suggestions.

Thank you Kim Snow for sharing this wonderful pattern. This month's free pattern is on the next two pages.



We make great things happen when we work hand in hand.

Opportunity Quilt By Susan Fisher and Lynn Adamson



Mickey and Minnie

Welcome to December QBS Quilters! This festive month is all about gathering with loved ones, sharing laughter, and exchanging good cheer. It's also a time for plenty of special events and activities!

As you attend these gatherings, remember that you can support the guild's fundraising efforts by bringing the quilt along and selling tickets for a chance to win the beautiful Mickey and Minnie quilt, lovingly crafted by Jo Melis.

Tickets are just \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00 and remember, the winner need not be present to win! The drawing will take place on April 10, 2025, so be sure to get your tickets early!

If you'd like to help out by taking the quilt to an event, please contact the Opportunity Quilt Co-Chairs, Lynne Adamson and Susan Fisher (email addresses in the roster), and reserve your time with the quilt today!

Also, a big THANK YOU to Kate Weber who generously volunteered her time to take the quilt to several events over the past few months!



We make great things happen when we work hand in hand.

Easy Charm Square Quilt

Finished quilt = 31" x 35"

This is a super easy hack for a charm square quilt that finishes with borders and inside trim already attached. No individual piecing!



Fabric requirements:

1 charm pack (42 squares or 36 squares)

1/2 yard coordinating solid/small print

Cutting:

4 - 1" x WOF strip

4 - 2.5" x WOF strip

Credit to Fallon Caldwell of Sew Be It Quilts

https://sew-be-it-quilts.myshopify.com/

Instructions: YouTube link: Easy Charm Square Quilt by Fallon Caldwell

- 1. Lay out charms 6 across in 7 rows, or 6 by 6
- 2. Stitch all together
- 3. Fold top in half and make long cut 2 ½" in from 2nd block on each side
- 4. Sew 1" strips to cut edges of middle section
- 5. Sew 2 ½" strips to cut edges of outside sections
- Rotate outer sections so border is on the outside and stitch to center section
- 7. Repeat steps 3 through 6, folding border edges together

Cut view with strip placement





This is Kim's quilt fully assembled. Very cute.

Show and Tell By Carole Juardo and Dorothy Foral



Our group picture for November's fall theme is Lyndell Darby and Linda Fowler.



The theme for December is CHRISTMAS and NEW YEARS.



Kim Snow "Autumn Barn" This quilt is from a modified Riley Blake pattern. She did her longarm quilting.



Kim also created this complicated quilt based on a Lakeside Quilt pattern from Wilmington fabrics. A gift for her daughter and new husband. Joyce Allen did the long arm stitching. Just stunning!!!



Signe Kaaleel
"Bear Paws"
She made this for 1 of 3 triplets.
Wonderful colors pop with the muted background sashings. Madeline
Serna did the longarm quilting.





Edyth Henrickson
"Catmosphere"
Her love for cats helped her finish this quilt she started a long time ago. Her friend Sandy helped her attach the borders and miter the corners.

Annette Morales did her longarm quilting.



Sandra Scoltook-Martinez
"Covid Jester"
She tried to make at least one block at a time and finally, she finished it. She did her longarm quilting.



Sandra also finished this wonderful pattern from Hawaiian Sons fabrics. The design has a spinning feel to it.



Sandra loved making this last quilt, her Bargello. She shared her story of a lady traveling a very long distance to her house to help her finish this very challenging design. All the longarm quilting she did herself.



Lori Davies

She created this wonderful collection of Fall themes, cut and perfectly placed to represent the season even with the falling of leaves. She also did her longarm quilting.



Continued



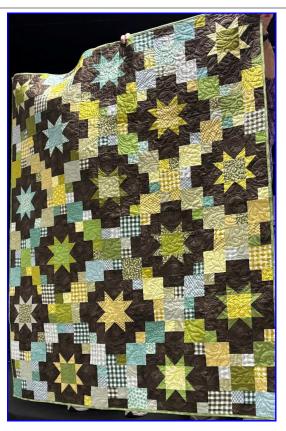
Wendy Healy

"Ribbon Box"
She made this soft-colored quilt for a friend's new baby girl. Wendy did the longarm quilting.



"All Big Things Start Small"
Wendy was very creative with a soft book she bought thinking it would better as a quilt, so she created this charming baby quilt. She also made a matching pillow with a hidden zipper in the back. Wendy did the longarm quilting.





Joyce Allen
"Brightly Dark"

Joyce switched the background fabric to a dark color, instead of white like the pattern called for. The results are - It made the Stars Pop!!!! She also did the longarm quilting.



Sharon Richardson

"Happy Scrappy"
This quilt is a Winner!!! Basic strips were repeated and flipped. She also added appliqued birds dancing and flapping around. Madeline Serna did the longarm quilting.



Continued



Randy Miller
She created this bold and very striking quilt in a bit of a puzzle pattern.
Angela Dean did the longarm quilting.



Kate Weber
She created this wild Dungeons and
Dragons fabric quilt for the Guild
Gaming Center. The longarm quilting
she did herself. The backing was
equally on Fire!!!



Dawn Lindelin
"Fractures"
She created this fabulous quilt from a panel she got from Hawaii. Dawn also did the longarm quilting.



Kate Weber and Neva Young Menniger "Crazy Quilt"

They both worked to complete this quilt made by Neva's husband's great-grandmother. Kate added the borders and label from a wide ribbon. This treasure had so many hand stitches



Continued

Lastly from our October Workshop with Lori Davies: "The Little Ghost Who Was a Quilt"



and embellishments on it. So special.

Jody Bacq

"The Little Ghost Who Was a Quilt" Jody also did the longarm quilting. She used a wonderful cool color pallet



with the use of blues.

Melody Doukenick

"The Little Ghost Who Was a Quilt"
The crowd went wild when Melody said
it was wearing her "SMILE". So
adorable. Her use of warm colors



Continued

Library by Pam Plakos & Lyndell Darby

Are you interested in getting a QBS name tag? Please come by the library table with \$10 and place your order. Your QBS name tag will be waiting for you at the next guild meeting.





Intraguild - Special Interest Groups by Kate Weber

Boho Heart Special Interest Group - Bring your projects to the December guild meeting, flimsy or quilt, to show what we've been working on!





December 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
1	2	3 Board Meeting	4	5	6	7 Sew So Saturday	
8	9	10	11	12 General Meeting	13	14 Workshop Board Wrap-Up Meeting	
15	16	17	18 Newsletter Deadline	19	20	21 Sew So Saturday	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28 Sew So Saturday	
29	30	31 Happy New Year!					

Upcoming Events

January 2025

02 Board Meeting 04 Sew So Saturday 09 General Meeting 11 Workshop 18 Sew So Saturday 25 Sew So Saturday

February 2025

22

01	Sew So Saturday
04	Board Meeting
08	Sew So Saturday
13	General Meeting
15	Workshop

Sew So Saturday



Linda Fowler	Dec 02
Janet Dietzman	Dec 09
Melody Doukenick	Dec 16
Carollynn Machado-Guarino	Dec 24
Lynne Miller	Dec 30

Please note that the 2025 Board Meeting dates are subject to change by the new board.

Schedule of Events

- Board Meetings are at Carollynn's home starting at 6:30.
- Sew So Saturdays are at Carollynn's home and are subject to change. 9am to whenever.
- General Meeting is at Arbor Road Church¹ in the Fellowship Hall Basement at 7pm doors open at 6:15pm. The program this month is Party with Community Partners.
- Workshop is at Arbor Road Church¹, Room A-110 from 9am to 3pm. This month is No Fee Open Sew and Special Interest Groups.

Carollynn's personal information is in the guild roster.

¹Arbor Road Church, 5336 E. Arbor Road, Long Beach, CA 90808

Remember To ...

- Pack your Show & Tell items.
- Bring a friend.
- Bring change for the raffle.
- Bring your projects from previous workshops.
- Bring goodies if it is your turn.
- Bring your own coffee cup.
- Wear your name badge.

- © Come early and sign-in.
- Silence your cell phones.
- Make a new friend and introduce yourself to one of our many new members and guests.
- ☺ HAVE FUN AND LOTS OF IT!!
- © Clean up your area as you leave.
- Orive safe.



Free Project



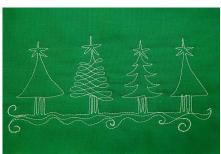
If you see a FREE PROJECT on the internet, and you think the guild members might enjoy it, please send the link to quiltersbythesea@gmail.com. Thank you.

Share this **Christmas Countdown Calendar** with the little ones in the family.

https://www.allpeoplequilt.com/holiday-quilts/christmas/ christmas-countdown



Free Motion Quilting Motif



Check out this free motion quilting motif from We All Sew

https://weallsew.com/how-to-free-motion-quilt-achristmas-tree/







Sew So Saturday by Carollynn Machado-Guarino

Come and enjoy sewing, knitting, or any hand or machine work you want to do. No obligations to work on any guild project. Shop from the wall of free fabric with smaller and larger pieces. Drop by with a charity donation, fill out a ticket, and say howdy.

Saturdays from 9 am to 5 pm:

December 7 December 21 December 28

You can find Carollynn's address in the roster. Carpool if possible. Let's keep her neighbors friendly.



Open Sew

These are <u>not QBS</u> events, this is <u>For Your Information</u> only.

El Dorado Senior Center (2800 Studebaker, Long Beach) does have a quilting room set up every Wednesday, 9am-1pm. Room comes with irons and ironing boards, otherwise take your own stuff. Plenty of big tables for spreading out projects.



Lakewood has opened the doors of the Burns Community Center to all quilters and needle workers once a month, 9 am-3:30 pm. All are welcome! General sewing tools will be available (cutting mats, cutters, irons, and boards). You bring a sewing machine, tools, and a project. Burns is located at 5510 Clark Avenue, Lakewood.

 January 29, 2025
 May 28, 2025
 September 17, 2025

 February 19, 2025
 June 18, 2025
 October 22, 2025

 March 19, 2025
 July 23, 2025
 November 19, 2025

 April 23, 2025
 August 20, 2025
 (last date for 2025)

Intraguild BOM by Alan Calgaro

Thank you to everyone who stitched the Flying Geese quilt block for November. We collected 18 blocks and raffled 2 sets of 9 blocks. Congratulations to our winners Irene Rainer and Sara Jones. **Sara - I have your blocks and will bring them to the December guild meeting.

The block for December is a fun Holiday Gift box block in a 12" size. Copies of the instructions came from "Burlap & Blossom". There is also an online tutorial on their YouTube site - www.youtube.com/watch?v=QXesIEPZtc8.

The kits provided white snowflake tone-on-tone background fabric. Hopefully, everyone can find festive fabrics from their stash for the box and ribbon in the block. Have fun stitching holiday gift boxes!

The handout is on the next two pages.

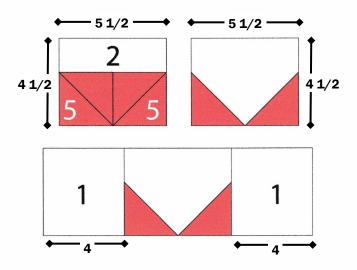
Block of the Month



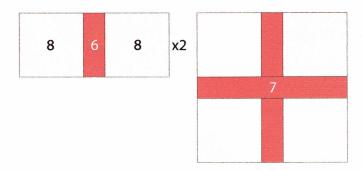
1	Two - 2 1/4" x 2 1/2"	Two - 4" x 4 ½"	Two - 5 ¾" x 6 ½"	Two - 7 ½" x 8 ½"
2	One - 2 ½" x 3"	One - 4 ½" x 5 ½"	One - 6 ½" x 8"	One - 8 ½" x 10 ½"
3	Two - 1 ¾" x 4 ½"	Two - 3" x 8 ½"	Two - 4 ¼" x 12 ½"	Two - 5 ½" x 16 ½"
4	One - 1" x 4"	One - 1 ½" x 7 ½"	One - 2" x 11"	One - 2 ½" x 14 ½"
	Bow (Red):			
	6" Block pieces	12" Block pieces	18" Block pieces	24" Block pieces
5	Two - 1 ¾" x 1 ¾"	Two - 3" x 3"	Two - 4 1/4" x 4 1/4"	Two - 5 ½" x 5 ½"
5	Two - 1 ¾" x 1 ¾"	Two - 3" x 3"	Two - 4 ¼" x 4 ¼"	Two - 5 ½" x 5 ½"
5	Two - 1 ¾" x 1 ¾" Ribbon (Light F		Two - 4 1/4" x 4 1/4"	Two - 5 ½" x 5 ½"
5			Two - 4 ¼" x 4 ¼" 18" Block pieces	Two - 5 1/2" x 5 1/2" 24" Block pieces
	Ribbon (Light F	Red):		
6	Ribbon (Light F	Red): 12" Block pieces	18" Block pieces	24" Block pieces
6 7	Ribbon (Light F 6" Block pieces Two - 1" x 2"	Red): 12" Block pieces Two - 1 1/2" x 3 1/2"	18" Block pieces Two - 2" x 5"	24" Block pieces Two - 2 ½" x 6 ½"
6	Ribbon (Light F 6" Block pieces Two - 1" x 2"	Red): 12" Block pieces Two - 1 1/2" x 3 1/2"	18" Block pieces Two - 2" x 5"	24" Block pieces Two - 2 ½" x 6 ½"
6	Ribbon (Light F 6" Block pieces Two - 1" x 2"	Red): 12" Block pieces Two - 1 1/2" x 3 1/2"	18" Block pieces Two - 2" x 5"	24" Block pieces Two - 2 ½" x 6 ½"

Constructing the block:

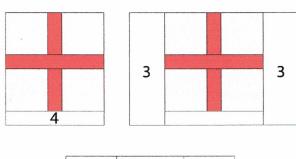
1. Mark a diagonal line on the wrong side of the 5 pieces. With right sides facing, place a 5 piece on the bottom left corner of the 2 piece. Stitch on the marked line. Trim ¼" away from the stitched line and press. Repeat on the bottom right corner of the 2 piece. Join a 1 piece to the left and right sides of the 2 piece to form the bow unit which should measure 2 ½" x 6 ½" (4 ½" x 12 ½") (6 ½" x 18 ½") (8 ½" x 24 ½").

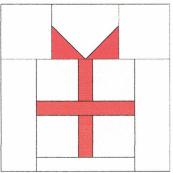


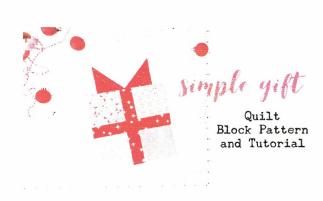
2. Join an 8 piece to the left and right sides of each 6 piece to form two ribbon units. Join a ribbon unit to the top and bottom of the 7 piece to form the gift unit which should measure $4" \times 4" \underbrace{(7 \frac{1}{2}" \times 7 \frac{1}{2}")}_{(14 \frac{1}{2}" \times 14 \frac{1}{2}")}$.



3. Join the 4 piece to the bottom of the gift unit. Join a 3 piece to the left and right sides of the gift unit. Join the bow unit to the top of the gift unit to form the finished block which should measure 6 %" x 6 %" (12 %" x 12 %") (24 %" x 24 %").







Here's what's happening at our sister guild.





Programs

Workshops

https://www.acaciaquiltguild.org/meetings

https://www.acaciaquiltguild.org/workshops

Membership by Charlotte Lee & Melody Doukenick

Hello, fellow quilters! It's almost time to renew your membership, but not until January online. A postdated check for next year, cash works too. Nothing will be processed until January. We have had some new faces so introduce yourself. A renewal form will be in the newsletter (next page) this month and next month. Only fill one out if there has been a change. Thank you!!!



Hospitality by Joyce Allen

Please bring snacks for our next general meeting if your name begins with the letters as indicated below. Extra goodies are always welcome.

December HOLIDAY PARTY

Thank you for your contributions of snacks.

I will make the coffee and punch and provide napkins and plates to serve your snacks.



Sunshine and Shadows by Dr. Deb Belcher

Jim and Maureen ("Mo") Gonzalez live in my condo complex. They are original owners and wonderful neighbors. If I ever want to know any details from the history of the condo complex, they are full of information. Jim is a veteran of Vietnam—he flew several types of aircraft for the military. Mo had cancer years ago, but it came back recently. I asked the guild if we could give Jim a patriotic quilt and Mo a comfort quilt. I'm so glad we did. They appreciate our quilts very much. I have included pictures of them holding their quilts.







Quilters By the Sea

Membership Registration

January 1, 20__ to December 31, 20_

For new members, please fill in the information below. If you are renewing your membership, please fill in your name and note any information that has changed.

Membership Type: (please check one)					
□ New □ Renewal □ Charter □ Juni	or				
Name:					
Address:					
City:					
Zip Code:					
Phone:	☐ Home; ☐ Cell; ☐ Work				
2nd Phone:	☐ Home; ☐ Cell; ☐ Work				
Birthday: Month Day	(No year please)				
Email:					
Other Information:					
DUES / FEES					
□ \$40.00 Yearly □ \$20.00 after July 1st					
Make checks payable to "Quilters By the Sea"					
Dues are due no later than the	e February General Meeting				
Submit to Membership or Mail to: P.O. Box 92814, Long Beach, CA 90809					
	For Administrative Use				
	Received:				
	Entered:				

Check #: ___ Receipt #: __

Call for Entries SCCQG 2025 Special Exhibit

"Tradition with a Twist"

Road to California Quilters Conference January 22-25, 2025

This exhibit will display how quilters take a "traditional" pattern, give it "a twist," and create an interesting new work.

Group and individual-made guilts are accepted for consideration.

Quilts of all styles and techniques are welcome so long as they fit the requirements below.

Entry requirements are as follows (please read carefully):

The quilt must have been finished in 2023/2025 and be in good condition.

Size constraint: The perimeter should <u>not be larger than 240" overall</u> and <u>no smaller than 60" overall</u>. Items that don't meet this criterion may be accepted and may be folded for display purposes. 40-48" width is preferred to help with displaying quilts.

Embellishments must not protrude more than ½" from the surface of the quilt.

The guilt must be made of fabric and guilted either by hand, or machine, or both.

It must be constructed of three layers and bound or closed around all quilt edges.

Quilt/hanging must have an attached 4" hanging sleeve (basted or safety pins allowed).

Entrant must be a current member of an SCCQG Member Guild or an Affiliate member.

Enter by email. Entries must include a separate digital **jpeg** photo named as follows: entrant's last name_(underscore)name of quilt_(underscore)guild initials.jpeg. For example: "Weber_chubby_LBMQG.jpeg". Each entry <u>must have</u> a short paragraph describing how the entry is a twist on a traditional pattern. (The Exhibit curator reserves editing rights.)

Online entry form at:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAlpQLSdGYQmpQvWqWwZN9-37mcgQs3xYj4Ms8A_OSpV6PqTLo9UssA/viewform?usp=sf_link

Timetable

December 28, 2024 (Saturday) All entry forms and photos are due.

Entries need to include a current email address for confirmation of receipt. See the instructions above.

January 15, 2025 Deadline for receipt of exhibit quilts. Accepted quilts must be received by the SCCQG Road2CA Curator (Kate Weber) for exhibition. All entries are required to have a 4" hanging sleeve. Sleeves may be basted or safety pinned in place. Entries must be in a cloth bag or pillowcase with the entrant's name and phone number.

January 22-25, 2025 Quilts will be displayed as part of the SCCQG "Stitching a Community Together" Exhibit at Road to California, Ontario Convention Center, Ontario, California.

January 25 – February 15, 2025 Quilts will be returned according to prior arrangements. Unclaimed quilts will be donated to a charity.

Entries and Questions: <u>SCCQGRD2CA@gmail.com</u>

SCCQG and Road reserve the right to reject quilts not suitable for hanging.

Rev 11/20/2024



If you are planning on helping families at a food bank this season, things you might want to know:

- Do not donate Kraft Mac and Cheese in the box. They can rarely use it because it needs milk and butter which is hard to get from regular food banks.
- 2. Boxed milk is a treasure, as kids need it for cereal which they also get a lot of.
- 3. Everyone donates pasta sauce and spaghetti noodles.
- 4. They cannot eat all the awesome canned veggies and soup unless you put a can opener in too or buy pop tops.
- 5. Oil is a luxury, but needed for Rice a-Roni, which they also get a lot of.
- 6. Spices or salt and pepper would be a real Christmas gift.
- 7. Tea bags and coffee make them feel like you care.
- 8. Sugar and flour are treats.
- 9. They fawn over fresh produce donated by farmers and grocery stores.
- 10. Seeds are cool in Spring and Summer because growing can be easy for some.
- 11. They rarely get fresh meat.
- 12. Tuna and crackers make a good lunch.
- 13. Hamburger Helper goes nowhere without ground beef.
- 14. They get lots of peanut butter and jelly but usually not sandwich bread.
- 15. Butter or margarine is nice too.
- 16. Eggs are a real commodity.
- 17. Cake mix and frosting make it possible to make a child's birthday cake.
- 18. Dishwashing detergent is very expensive and is always appreciated.
- 19. Feminine hygiene products are a luxury and women will cry over that.
- 20. Everyone loves Stove Top Stuffing.

I found this list and thought it was interesting so I wanted to share it. It sure made me stop and think about what I will be donating from now on.





QBS Email Information

Some of us receive emails from the QBS account that says it is from "Quilters By the Sea" and others say it is from "Suzie Quilter". Both of these are valid, so if you see "Suzie Quilter" please don't junk it. It is from Quilters By the Sea.

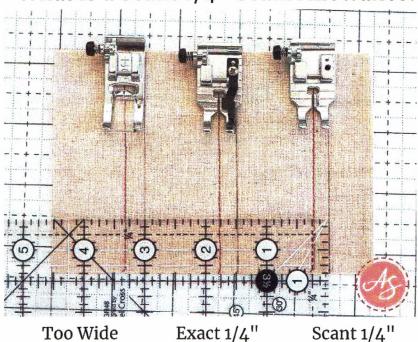




First, a ¼" seam allowance is the gold-standard in quilting. All quilt patterns are written with a ¼" seam allowance built into the cutting and piecing directions (unless otherwise noted.)

Piecing with a Scant quarter-inch seam allowance can make a huge difference in the accuracy and appearance of your finished quilt. The information below shows what it is and why it matters.

What is a Scant 1/4" Seam Allowance?



Above are three different seams sewn on the right side of a drawn straight line. The seam on the far left used a generic presser foot with the needle centered. The seam in the middle used a quarter-inch foot attachment. The seam on the right used a quarter-inch foot attachment and an adjustment to the needle position .75mm to the right.

Here is the difference. On the left you can see that the seam allowance is actually slightly bigger than ¼" - it falls outside the ¼" line on the ruler. That may seem "close enough" but actually can have a big impact on a pieced block.

In the middle, the seam is exactly $\frac{1}{4}$ " away from the drawn line. It's an accurate $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance.

On the right you can see that the seam lies just slightly - maybe only a thread's width - *inside* the $\frac{1}{4}$ " line. **This, my friends, is a** *scant* $\frac{1}{4}$ ".

Why Does the Seam Width Matter?

The reason this makes a difference is that by the time you open up the pieces and fold one side over (press seams to one side) you lose a tiny little bit of real estate with each seam because of fabric bulk, affecting the size of your blocks by making the pieced blocks slightly smaller. Multiply that by numerous seams and a block can shrink as much as a ¼ of an inch let alone an entire quilt.

Think about it this way: A seam that is off one eighth of an inch is about 8% of a 3-inch square. Eight percent adds up pretty fast if a quilt made of 3-inch squares is going to be any size at all. But, that same one eighth of an inch (the difference between a scant quarter inch seam and a slightly more generous quarter inch seam), is only 4% of a 6-inch square, 3% of an 8-inch square, and 2% of a 12-inch square. The point is that precision matters and shows a lot more when you're working with smaller pieces. Points can get lost in a generous seam at any size unit.

Using a scant quarter-inch seam can keep the shrinkage to a minimum.

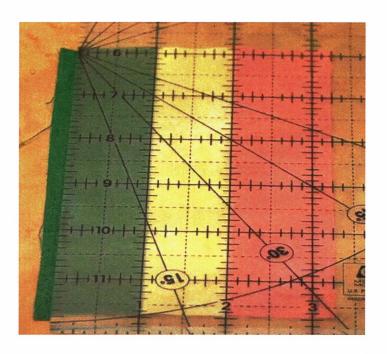
How to Get a Scant 1/4" Seam Allowance

<u>First</u>: *Measure the consistent seam allowance you get with the foot you use.* Typically lining up the edge of your fabric with the right side of your presser foot is a good guide for keeping your seam allowance consistent. Some newer sewing machines come with a specific ¼" quilter's foot with a seam allowance marked by the edge of the presser foot being ¼" away from the needle.

If your machine does not have a dedicated $\frac{1}{4}$ " foot you will need to measure where the $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam lines up with your most common presser foot. And even if you do have a $\frac{1}{4}$ " foot, check how wide the seam is.

<u>Second</u>: *Move the needle slightly to the right to make it a 'scant' ¼".* Measure again until your seam stitching is just inside the ¼" marking on a ruler.

<u>Third</u>: *Test the results*. Sew three 1½" strips together. The middle strip should measure exactly 1 inch and each outside strip should measure 1½". The entire strip set should measure 3½".



How to Sew a Consistent Scant 1/4" Seam

Keeping your seam allowance consistent is an important key to all good-looking finished quilts. Here are some tips that can help maintain that consistency.

<u>Use a quarter-inch presser foot</u>: This specialized foot has a built-in guide that helps you maintain a consistent 1/4 inch seam. Select a foot that works best with your machine.

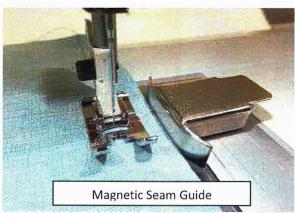
Adjust your needle position: If your quarter-inch foot is slightly off, you may need to adjust the needle position slightly to achieve the correct seam allowance.

Align fabric with the guide: Place the raw edge of your fabric against the flange or guide on the presser foot.

<u>Use a seam guide</u>: Some quilters use a piece of washi tape or painter's tape to mark the exact 1/4 inch line on their sewing machine bed. Using a ruler, do your best to measure a quarter inch away from the needle. Place tape. Sew a test piece then measure the seam allowance. Adjust the tape and retest the seam allowance until the seam allowance is precise.

Another option is a magnetic seam guide, which is easy to place and remove. The downside is that you have to recalibrate each time you remove it





What Can Affect My Seam Allowance?

Here are some items that can affect the results of your seam:

- 1. <u>Fabric</u>: The amount of bulk a fabric has will affect how much space is consumed when you press seams folded. This becomes especially important if your project has many multiple-seam points. If you are using a bulkier fabric you may need to make adjustments to achieve your scant ½" seam.
- 2. <u>Thread</u>: Like fabric, thicker thread will consume more space. Most quilters use 40 or 50 weight thread. Whichever you use, be consistent.
- NOTE: When using 100 wt thread a scant ½" seam may be unnecessary.

 3. <u>Machine</u>: If you have more than one machine, each may have a slightly
- different ¼" result.

 IMPORTANT: Plan to sew any given project consistently with one
- machine; don't alternate.
- 4. <u>Check your seam regularly</u>: If you've moved your machine, cleaned it, serviced, etc., re-check your seam.
- 5. **Rulers**: Not every ruler marks the ¼" the same! The keys to precise piecing are: 1) Precise cutting and 2) Precise seams. Therefore, using rulers of the same brand will improve your cutting results. And always use rulers for measuring precisely rather than your cutting mat.

Closing Thoughts

Build a habit of being both precise and consistent. However, perfection should never be more important than fun when you're quilting!



Hand Binding YouTube References

American Patchwork and Quilting – "Hand Stitching Your Binding"

Homemade Emily Jane – "Hand Binding a Quilt: A Complete Tutorial

A Quilting Life – "How to Hand Stitch Binding on a Quilt"

The Crafty Gemini – "How to Hand Sew Binding to Back of Quilt"

Website- fatquartershop.com/resources "How to Bind a Quilt"

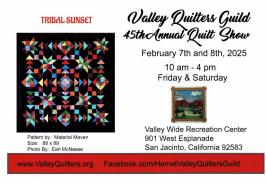
Basic Darlene Machaud sewing

Dr. Deb had printer issues and wasn't able to print a handout so she wrote one up by hand.



Events happening in the area.



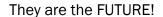




Thank you for the opportunity to share with Quilters by the Sea guild members our excitement about Seashore Quilters Guild, a new daytime guild in the Seal Beach/Long Beach area. Our first meeting is January 17, 2025, at Fiddler's Green at 4745 Yorktown, Building 19 on the Joint Training Reserves Base in Los Alamitos, CA (an ID is required at the gate).



Our <u>website</u> has all the information you need to join. The membership forms are there and may be downloaded and completed. Once they are completed they may be mailed in with your dues (check or cash of \$40). You will also find the most up-to-date information on our <u>website</u> as we continue to bring our guild together. We are also excited about offering a Youth Membership for ages 10 -17 for \$20/year. It is so important to get our youth involved in this fabulous guilty art world of ours.



If you join by January 10, you will be part of the Charter Members Group, our Influencers. Once a member, our Facebook page will be available to you (only paid members can join and participate).









Lioness LONGARM QUILTING SERVICE Joyce Lee Allen 562-228-9882 Joyceallen241@gmail.com



Many of our guild members have allergies so please do not wear perfume/cologne to the meetings. Your cooperation in making our gatherings a pleasure for all is much appreciated.

Please support the advertisers in the QBS newsletter and when you visit them please mention where you saw their ad.

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New to quilting??? Check out these sites.

Glossary of quilting terms - <u>www.nationalquilterscircle.com/post/glossary-of-quilting-terms/</u>

or here - www.allpeoplequilt.com/how-to-quilt/quilting-basics/complete-list-common-quilting-terms

Here is a link to a Missouri Star YouTube video called Quilting 101: Parts of the Quilt



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E-mail: <u>QuiltersByTheSea@gmail.com</u> Website: <u>quiltersbythesea.com</u>



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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

POSITIONS - ELECTED

President
VP. Programs
V.P. Workshops
Treasurer
Secretary
Auditor
Membership
Special Events
Quilt Show (2024-2025)

POSITIONS-APPOINTED

Intraguild Chairperson Community Relations Librarian(s) Parliamentarian Newsletter Editor SCCQG Representative

STANDING COMMITTEES

Bee Keeper
Block of the Month
Crumb Box
Equipment
Facility Location Liaison
Greeters
Guild Basket
Historian
Hospitality
Opportunity Quilt 2024
Opportunity Quilt 2025
Photographer

Opportunity Quiit 2025
Photographer
President's Gift
Publicity
Raffle
Red Hen
Retreat
Round Robin Row
Secret Pal

Sew So Saturday Social Media Show & Tell

Sunshine and Shadows

Webmaster

Brandi Kelly-Contreras

Alan Calgaro

Kate Weber & Janet Dietzman

Lori Davies Teri Meggers Kim Snow

Charlotte Lee & Melody Doukenick

OPEN

Lori Davies

Lori Davies

Carollynn Machado-Guarino Pam Plakos & Lyndell Darby

Marc Hyatt Patti Paschall Dr. Deb Belcher

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Alan Calgaro Kristy Chillington Linda Monsen

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Randy Miller and guild members

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OPEN
Jovce Allen

Susan Fisher and Lynn Adamson

OPEN

Dorothy Foral Alan Calgaro Dawn Lindelin Kim Snow Lori Davies Lori Davies OPEN

Carole Jurado

Carollynn Machado-Guarino

Dawn Lindelin

Carole Jurado & Dorothy Foral

Dr. Deb Belcher Dawn Lindelin

GENERAL MEETINGS are held the **2nd THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH** unless otherwise stated in the newsletter and/or posted on the <u>Calendar</u> page of our <u>website</u>.

Doors open at 6:15 pm, Meeting starts at 7:00 pm.

Arbor Road Church, Downstairs in the Fellowship Hall, 5336 E. Arbor Road, Long Beach, CA 90808

BOARD MEETINGS are held 9 days before the General Meeting at 6:30 pm unless otherwise stated in the newsletter and/or posted on the <u>Calendar</u> page of our <u>website</u>. The location rotates among board members.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE is the Wednesday after the General Meeting. Please email articles in MS Word format to: QuiltersByTheSea@gmail.com

As a reminder, we like to keep your information correct and updated in the Membership Roster. If you have any changes to your information as it appears or if you have updates, please email them to quiltersbythesea@gmail.com.

This guild is organized for educational and charitable purposes. Its objective is to further quilting excellence through education and travel, and to promote quilting in a philanthropic manner. This corporation does not contemplate pecuniary gain or profit to members thereof and is organized for nonprofit purposes. Annual dues are \$40.00 and shall be payable at or before the January general meeting. Membership shall be prorated if paid at or after the July general meeting and shall be half the full annual dues.

Reminder: visitor/guest fees are \$5.00 for in person meetings. Fees may be waived by the President or the Vice President of Programs only. Visitor Fees are generally waived when we do not have a paid speaker for that evening.