

September 2022



The Sew & Tell

North County Quilters Association

Member SCCQG | PO Box 301215, Escondido, CA 92030-1215 | www.ncountyquilters.com

Executive Board

President	Carrie Harrison-Mortimer
VP of Meeting	Jan Wesley
VP of Programs	Jill Conger
Secretary	Paula Huntington
Treasurer	Sandy Hunter
Parliamentarian	Suzie Owen

Committee Chairs

Advertising/Publicity	<i>vacant</i>
Block of the Month	<i>vacant</i>
Fat Quarters	Janis Newlin
Good Cheer Quilts	Sandy Hunter, Claire Jungersen, Linda Steiner, Sue Ragan, Leslie Sowden
Greeter/Door Prizes	Dani Donnachie
Historian	<i>vacant</i>
Hospitality	<i>vacant</i>
Membership	Lynn Cass Susan Peters
Membership Directory	Romany Bowers
Mini Quilts	Joy Smith
Newsletter	Barbara Michalec
Opportunity Quilt	Alice Johnson
SCCQG Rep	Suzan Fornof
Webmaster	Laurel Conger
White Elephant	Karolyn Hart, Louise Anselmo

Special Interest Groups

Rare Bears	Tonita Waters
Security Blankets	Maureen McClellan

Neighborhood Groups

Sundance Kids	Paula Huntington
Escondido South	Joanne Eichler

President's Message

By Carrie Harrison-Mortimer

Hello, Quilters. Here we are starting a new guild year. I am looking forward to a year of new speakers, activities, philanthropic endeavors and sharing our knowledge with one another. Not to mention, general fun with our quilting friends.

2022 will be North County Quilters Association's 38th years as a guild. We have survived the difficult past few years and I am looking forward to more success in this coming year. Having said this, we could not continue without our volunteers. Thank you, all!

Hope all of you had a good summer break. Did you use the summer months to finish a project? Please bring and share it with us during Sew & Tell at the guild meeting. I for one would love to see all the projects you have been working on.

Looking forward to seeing all of you on Monday, Sept. 19th for our first guild meeting of the year. Until then, keep on quilting!!



Our Next Guild Meeting is ... Monday, September 19, 2022

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church
1087 Country Club Lane
Escondido, CA 92026

Doors open at 5:45pm

Meeting begins at 6:30pm

Speaker: Wendy Mathson



September Meeting Program

By Jill Conger

We have a really wonderful speaker visiting us at our first meeting of our 2022-2023 year.

Wendy Mathson, a local quilter, author, teacher and lecturer, will be explaining how Storm at Sea and Snail's Trail blocks don't have to be so intimidating. She has also designed some specific rulers to make the Storm at Sea and Snail's Trail blocks easier to piece.

Examples of her designs are below and on Page 4. You can learn more about Wendy and see more of her Storm at Sea and Snail's Trail quilts by visiting her website, www.quiltsbywendy.com



September Birthdays

A very Happy Birthday to all of our members with a September birthday:

Karolyn Hart (9/1)
Linda Steiner (9/22)
Susan Peters (9/27)
Janeen Dell 'Acqua (9/30)



Remember to stop by the White Elephant table to select \$5 worth of items for your birthday gift.

NCQA Needs YOU!

By Carrie Harrison-Mortimer

I would like to thank all of our returning board and committee members and welcome our new ones ...

- VP of Programs- Jill Conger
- Treasurer- Sandy Hunter
- Newsletter- Barbara Michalec
- Website- Laurel Conger

Thank you all for stepping up and supporting the guild. Your participation is very much appreciated.



We still need to fill some VERY IMPORTANT open positions ...

- **Advertising/Publicity**
- **Block of the Month**
- **Historian and**
- **Hospitality.**

If any of these positions interest you, please consult your membership directory for a description of the position and then contact any board member. **NCQA Needs YOU!**

Good Cheer News ... by Leslie Sowden

Welcome to a new year of making quilts and pillow cases for the guild to donate to Interfaith. The grand total for last year, September thru June, was 129 quilts and 94 pillowcases!

Over the summer the 5 women of the Good Cheer committee made 30 quilts. Nine of them were group quilts where one of us comes up with a pattern, we all make a bunch of blocks, then the pattern originator finishes the quilt. You can see those in this blog post.

<https://onewomanshands.blogspot.com/2022/08/good-cheer-group-quilts-aug-2022.html>

Seven of them were from a group challenge where we finished panels into quilts. You can see those here.

<https://onewomanshands.blogspot.com/2022/08/good-cheer-panel-quilts-summer-2022.html>

Five of the 30 were made from orphan blocks or partial tops given to us by White Elephant. Sometimes it's obvious what to do with them and other times it takes a bit of imagination and group effort to end up with a quilt. You can see them here.

<https://onewomanshands.blogspot.com/2022/08/good-cheer-quilts-summer-2022.html>

We'll have a lot of quilt kits and pillowcase kits at the September meeting. A couple of the quilt patterns are very simple, an excellent way to ease into piecing if you're a new quilter. See you at the meeting! Claire, Sandy, Linda, Sue & Leslie



Membership ... by Lynn Cass

Hello to all of you wonderful quilters. Hope "you all" were able to enjoy some fun summer trips and outings during our hot summer months! All I wanted to do was stay indoors with air conditioning and quilt. But we went on several fun vacations, one being a very long drive.

Hope "you all" were able to visit some or all of the shops on the "The Let's Eat Cake" quilt run in July. It was so much fun and I love supporting these shops.

Oh, did I tell you my family and I went to Texas in August. I found a really great quilt shop called "Quilt Among Friends." Love the name ... so let's keep that idea in mind as we begin a new year in our WONDERFUL guild.



Wow, can you believe summer is basically over and we will be starting back from our break! Hope you plan on coming to our September meeting as we begin a new year with more fun. As a reminder, please mail or bring the completed membership form and money with you to our meeting on the 3rd Monday, which is September 19th. I will be collecting completed forms at the membership table which is just past the piano where you sign in. If you need a renewal form, we will have one for you at the meeting so stop by to get one if needed. (Or you can print out Page 10 of this newsletter to fill one out at home and bring it with you to the meeting.)

One more important thought. We hope you are planning to bring a friend or family member to sign up with you so we can "quilt among friends" ... just as the Texas quilt shop's friendly name suggested. The membership form is also for new members.

We have a fun-filled year planned. Hope to see you all! Looking forward to another year with fellow quilters.



By Wendy Mathson

White Elephant Table

By Karolyn Hart

I hope everyone had a nice summer break. We are looking forward to seeing everyone soon!

Security Blankets

By Maureen McClellan

Hi everyone! Welcome to our new guild year.

Our Security Blanket program is still ongoing, even though the availability and affordability of the Blizzard fleece has become a bit of a problem. There is still a great need, so any donations of blankets or yardage would be greatly appreciated.

As a reminder, we donate fleece blankets to Palomar Health Forensics for survivors of sexual and domestic abuse (women and children). Each blanket takes 1-2/3 yards of solid or subtle print 58" wide fleece. We do a single turn hem on all sides, after removing selvages, using your choice of stitching.

Donations can be brought to guild meetings or feel free to call me and I'll be happy to pick up - 760-224-3494. Thank you so much for your continued support.

Neighborhood Groups

NCQA is pleased to host two neighborhood quilting groups for quilt gatherings between our regular monthly meetings.

Escondido South meets every other Thursday at 9:30am at Cypress Gardens to work on quilts to donate. September 8 and 22 are meeting days this month. Call Joan Eichler for more information.

The Sundance Kids meet the 1st Wednesday of each month at 9:30am at the Sundance Mobile Home Park rec center. Call Paula Huntington for more information.

Have You Heard??? ...

About the California Heritage Quilt Project

Started in 1984, the California Heritage Quilt Project (CHQP) is dedicated to recording the history of California quilts and quiltmakers as well as fostering the conservation and preservation of California's quilt heritage.

They are currently actively seeking new board members and advisors. Upcoming projects include reinstating Documentation Days and adding to the Oral History archive. To find out more, visit them at www.chqp.org

Below is the CHQP designed masterpiece gifted to the State of CA for its 150th birthday. Visit www.californiaheritagequiltproject.com for a fun interactive experience.





Many thanks to Dani Donnachie for sharing ☺☺☺!

Upcoming Quilting Events

El Camino Quilters is having a **Mega Sale and Silent Auction** on **September 13, 2022** from 9:30 – 12 Noon. This event has moved to a new venue The Fields Church – 2265 Camino Vida Roble, Carlsbad, CA 92011. Auction and sale items include: Gourmet dinner for six prepared by a professional chef, restaurant gift cards, theatre tickets, sports tickets, Legoland passes, themed baskets, specialty dessert club – 6 months of home-baked desserts, food and lodging for your own weekend quilt retreat for up to four guests at a private local San Diego area home, fabric, notions, quilting supplies and books, vintage quilts, quilt patterns and kits. Open to the Public – Free Admission. Cash & major credit cards accepted. Visit their website at www.elcaminoquilters.com for more information.

Friendship Square Quilt Guild of La Habra, CA is having a **Quilt Show Sept. 17 & 18th** entitled "Quilt Show Alive with Color -Take 2" on Sept. 17-18, 2022. Sat. 10-5 Sun. 10-4 in the La Habra Community Center 101 W. La Habra Blvd., La Habra, CA. There will be a large quilt display, vendors, Breast Cancer quilt raffle, boutique and quilt sale, silent auction and much more. The Opportunity Quilt (shown here) drawing will be Sun. Sept. 18, 3:30pm. Admission: \$8.

Visit www.fsqq.org/ for more information



Rare Bear Retreat At the Prince of Peace

By Tonita Waters

After a couple years of cancellations because of Covid, we were able to have our retreat even though the morning of, I had 2 cancellations because of exposure to that nasty germ.

It seems everyone had something different to work on ... from quilts and Santa Clause to lots of Xmas ornaments. The ladies from Sundance were making the cutest blocks.

We have scheduled the next retreat for July 14-16, 2023. If you wish to get on the list, send me a note. A deposit of \$50.00 is due by March.

Cost: one day lunch is \$35.00. For the sleep over (July 14-16) the cost is \$255.00 less the deposit of \$50.00, balance due of \$205.00 on July 14th.

A big thank you to everyone who came. Hope you had a good time. If you have any further questions, send me a message or give me a call.



Quilt Hanging Option

By Karen Crowson

I needed a hanging option for my moderate-sized appliqué quilt, without the need to attach a sleeve on the back. I found the STAS Quilt Hanger Set which comes in both light and heavy duty, depending on quilt size/weight. Installation was fairly easy. The quilt hangs nice and straight, and fairly flush to the wall. It will be a snap to change it out to another quilt or wall hanging for seasonal decor.

(Editor's Note: see this hanging system in action in Karen's photo of her town quilt on Page 8. For more information about the STAS Quilt Hanger, visit ... www.picturehangingsystems.com/stas-quilt-hanger-set)

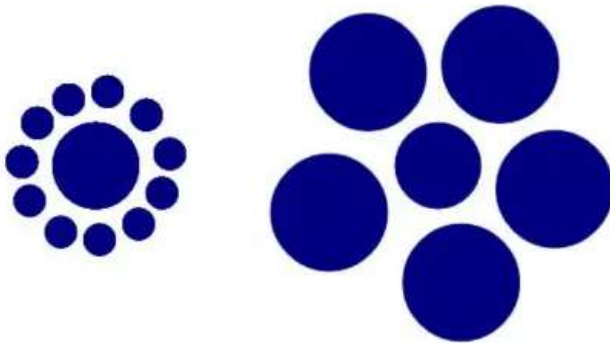
Seeing is Believing?

By Newsletter Editor

I was thrilled when I found out Wendy Mathson was coming to our September NCQA meeting to talk about her Storm at Sea and Snail's Trail designs. What fascinates me about these two blocks is the multiple interlocking patterns they create when set side by side. It's not just one pattern that's generated but many, often tricking our eyes into thinking we're seeing circles when there's only straight seams involved. Say what!!!????

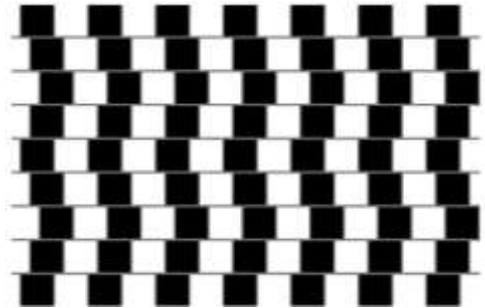
Optical illusions have thrilled me since I was a kid. I loved having my eyes trick my brain into seeing something that's not there. Modern science has researched such phenomena to the point that they can now tell us exactly what's happening physiologically. Psychologists and physicians even use optical illusions to diagnose depression and balance disorders.

But it's the fun factor that appeals to me, especially the surprises optical illusions bring to the world of quilt design. Take the Ebbinghaus Illusion for example. Below are two clusters of blue circles. Look carefully at both clusters. Which cluster has the larger middle circle?



If you said left, that was my answer. But believe it or not, both middle circles are the same size. The explanation for why we perceive them as different stems from our brain's use of context (i.e. the surroundings) to judge size. The middle circle on the left is surrounded by smaller circles, so the brain interprets that center circle as big. The center circle on the right is surrounded by larger circles so we see it as small. My mind immediately hiccups and tries to apply this revelation to big fish and little fish and their ponds. Could it be there are no big ponds and little ponds? Maybe ... it's all an optical illusion and the ponds are the same size!!

I'm going to leave that question for the poets and philosophers of the guild to ponder while we move on to another example of an optical illusion, the Café Wall Illusion.



In this illusion the rows appear to alternately angle up and down like teetering layers of the cake I made in middle school. In reality everything is straight rows. The black and white rows are straight. The skinny dark gray rows between the b/w rows are straight. Impossible, says my brain! That is, until I get out a straight edge and prove beyond a doubt to myself that the rows are indeed straight. What's going on physiologically again has to do with context. The retinas in our eyes consisting of tiny light receptors (rods and cones) interpret the gray line value differently depending on whether there are 2 blacks surrounding it, 2 whites or one of each. These differences in perceived value turns the gray straight line into a series of wedges which bend our perception of the real straightness.

Take this illusion into the world of quilts and you have endless possibilities. The design below is not a quilt, but a flag design by u/FoxyJnr987 on Reddit. It could easily become a quilt, however.



That idea almost sent me to my sewing room to try to make such a critter, but luckily, I stumbled onto a website called christaquilts.com where she does indeed turn the original Café Wall Illusion into a quilt. Go to this link:

<https://christaquilts.com/christas-quilts-optical-illusion/>

(Continued on Page 7)

Fat Quarters ... by Janis Newlin

Welcome back to the guild meetings. As I write this, we are still experiencing the muggiest hot summer I've known since we moved to Escondido in 1974. We had solar installed this past Spring and we are certainly enjoying our air conditioning!! Hopefully, by the time of our first meeting we will be experiencing some cooler weather.

The FAT QUARTER contest for the September meeting will be Halloween Prints. We are hoping for a fun year of great participation by all our members. Please look in your stash or stop by the White Elephant table at each meeting to see what you can find to join in.

The categories for this year are:

- September ~ Halloween prints
- October ~ Fall and Thanksgiving prints
- November ~ Christmas prints
- January ~ Blue and White fabrics
- February ~ Poke-a-dot fabrics
- March ~ Lavender and Yellow fabrics
- April ~ Fruit prints
- May ~ Ocean and/or beach prints

Looking forward to coming to our first meeting of the new Guild year.

Sew Hungry Quilters

Our quilting year's activities are starting again – Hooray! Come share a meal with fellow guild members.



Join us ...

on **Wednesday, 9/14/22**, at **11:30am**. We meet at **Golden Egg Omelet House, 316 W. Mission Ave, Escondido**. And... mark 11:30am on the 2nd Wednesday each month for Sew Hungry Quilters.

It's also a guild fundraiser (10% of your bill comes back to the guild).

Questions? Call ... Co-Chairs: Susan Peters, 760-741-5432 or Jan Wesley 760-746-8125.

Summer Quilting Fun

Hot Hot Hot	Grand kids visit	hubbie lunch	Doorbell = solar salesman	Sewing Room Time???
Dog meets skunk	Car battery dead	covid test	One block made ... only 63 to go	walk the dog
trash day again!!!	Whew ... negative is good	Free Space	yes, dear, I know you're sick	who's smoking cigars?
Midnight sewing	camomile tea ... YES!!	Flamingo fabric ... why?? Why not!!!	Hmmm? Why don't the stove burners light?	Why is the day so short?
10 more blocks done	NCQA peeps, I miss you	buy ice	return library books	Sorry, it's a sewing day. Make your own lunch.

Seeing is Believing?? (Continued from Page 6)

When you get there, scroll down until you see "Work in Progress" and select "Part 2". The Part 2 post will show you what her subunits were and how it looks on her design wall as a whole. It will literally bend your mind.

Whether you're making a Storm at Sea quilt, a Snail's Trail quilt or exploring optical illusions in print or in fabric, be sure to have fun and enjoy the many surprises along the way. In the insightful words of French impressionist Edgar Degas, "Art is not what you see, but what you make others see."

Image credits:

- for the flag: [u/FoxyJnr987](https://www.reddit.com/user/FoxyJnr987) via Reddit
- for optical illusions: www.insider.com/classic-optical-illusions-2018-1

Editor's Note ...

Any errors in the content of this newsletter are the work of my wild staff of keyboard fairies and myself. Please let us know about errors asap so we can fix them and make things right.

If you would like to write an article for the newsletter or draw a quilting related comic, please let us know that too. The deadline is the 1st of each month. Send to: newsletter@ncountyquilters.com

Sew & Tell

Member Showcase ...

→ **Lynn Cass** ... "Graduation quilt from high school for my granddaughter who is going away to college. It's her favorite soft colors."



← **Jan Wesley** ... "My Fourth of July applique"

↙ **Karen Crowson** ... "This is a quilt I started sometime in 2012. A quilt shop had opened in the town I lived in at the time, and I'd never quilted before. This is the 3rd quilt I attempted, but only had 3 blocks completed as work just didn't allow me the time for hobbies. I put it all in a box and forgot about it when we moved to San Diego. Came across it when reorganizing a closet and decided I would finish it before I started any other new projects."

My skills are a bit better now than they were back then, so I redid most of the first 3 blocks and actually got it done. It's hanging in my hallway now to remind me ... don't start anything new until you finish what you've started!" (Ed. Note: see Pg 5 for info on hanging system)

↓ **Karen Crowson** ... "This is an appliqué wall hanging I made for my kids in Texas. If I had realized how tiny some of the pieces were, I would probably not have tried it. Getting that white outline of the "X" lined up correctly was really tricky! Can you imagine how small the pieces would be for a state like California?"



More Sew & Tell ...

→ Karen Farhat



↑ Karen Farhat ... Jelly Roll Quilt

All in the Fabric ...



Cottonella couldn't figure out why she craved a cup a tea every time she used this beige fabric. Can you help her figure out why? (Hint: think Magic Eye)

Created on www.easystereogrambuilder.com

North County Quilters Association
 P.O. Box 301215, Escondido, CA 92030-1215
www.ncountyquilters.com

NORTH COUNTY QUILTERS ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP FORM

Membership in NCQA is \$30.00 to be paid on or before the September Guild Meeting annually. Membership includes: a Guest Pass, Directory Listing and Discount at some fabric stores. After January 1st, for new members only \$20 will include a guest pass but no listing in the NCQA Directory. NCQA newsletters sent by regular U.S. Mail (not emailed) will be an additional \$11 per year.

Past Presidents must submit membership form by the September Guild meeting each year to receive the emailed newsletter, directory listing, and a Guest Pass.

The fee for non-members attending a NCQA meeting without a Guest Pass is \$5.00 each.

Clearly print all information as you would like it to appear in the directory. In order to be in the directory, this form must be handed in on or before the September meeting. Or if you prefer, you may mail in your application and a check to the address above. If you want your membership card before the next meeting, include a self-addressed stamped envelope.

_____ New Member _____ Renewal

NAME _____ DATE _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____ BIRTHDAY (Month/day) _____

HOME PHONE _____ CELL PHONE _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

Newsletter emailed? _____ Newsletter Mailed (\$11.00 additional Annual Fee) _____

Would you like to be listed in the Membership Directory? _____ YES _____ NO

All members are requested to sell or purchase \$20 worth of Opportunity Quilt Tickets in the years the guild has an Opportunity Quilt. Also, all members are requested to participate in the work of the guild and in the work of the Quilt Show.

If you have any questions, please go to our website (www.ncountyquilters.com) or contact a Board Member. You can also write us at the address above.

Please mail completed form and a check made out to **North County Quilters Association** to:

North County Quilters Association
P.O. Box 301215
Escondido, CA 92030-1215

Date: _____ Rec'd \$ _____ Cash Check # _____ Issued Card _____

Directory _____ Database _____