

Willow Woods Quilt Guild

Newsletter November 2022

Meets the Second Saturday of each
month at Elks Lodge
26584 Highway 18,
Rim Forest, CA

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Month at a Glance

Upcoming Events for November
and Beyond:

- Saturday, November 12th -
Meeting at 10:30 to noon at
Elks Lodge in Rim Forest

Special items to bring to the next
meeting:

- Show & Tell items! What have
you been working on?
- Sack Lunch - no potluck this
month
- Your dues if you haven't al-
ready paid.
- Something to work on if you
plan on staying after the meet-
ing.



President - Kelli Agner

Dear Willow Woods Quilters,

How are your holiday projects coming? It seems like October just flew by and now there are just weeks before these beautiful holiday items are meant to be enjoyed. Personally, I think I need to bump my start dates... maybe August is a good time to start projects for Valentine's Day!

I look forward to seeing everyone at our meeting on Saturday, November 12th. We have planning to do as we prepare to celebrate the end of 2022 and imagine the educational and connecting activities for 2023.

Following the meeting, all are welcome to stay. Stay and sew, bring something to work on, or just stay to enjoy the company.

See you on the 12th!

Kelli

Secretary - Cheryl Wood

Willow Woods Quilt Guild Minutes for October 2022

President Kelli Agner opened the meeting at 10:30, 12 members were present.

Secretary Report:

There was no secretary report as Cheryl Woods is in Germany, Kim Wingert took the notes for the meeting.

Treasurer Report:

Judy Green was also out of town, but reported the balance to be \$4487.18.

President Report:

Kelli brought fun cake-pops for everyone to celebrate the guild's 24th anniversary.

—The Valley Quilters' Guild Show will be February 10-11, 2023; the entry forms need to be submitted by December 1, 2022 to be in their show.

—Road 2 California will be January 18-21, 2023, all entry forms with pictures are due October 24th.

—Renewing guild members' dues are due by December.

Show and Share:

- Jen Lanak showed her One Block Wonder and the Sea Glass quilt that had been in the newsletter. Jen also shared what she learned from attending a SAQA (Studio Art and Quilt Association) workshop on sun printing. She brought examples of the prints that she had created on silk and on cotton.

- Darrell Harris showed his placemat, and is working on a four patch quilt that he is making from fabric he purchased from the thrift shop.

- Sylvia Owoh brought her Singer 99 to share, and the beautiful case for it that Darrell had created. She and Darrell will be showing her collection of Singer sewing machines during the quilt walk next year.

- Bonnie Egan showed the paper-pieced squares that she has been working on, project bags she has made and her log cabin quilt.

- Kim Wingert showed her little quilt made from thirties reproduction fabric, and a more modern quilt.

- Pamela Abell shared her struggle to make a modern quilt for the upcoming abstract challenge; and she showed the modern quilt that she had accomplished which included some Civil War reproduction fabric. She also shared that she had been excited to learn about using "leaders and enders" last month to sneak in quilt blocks for one quilt while actually making another.

- Pat Duebbers showed four quilts that her friends had made for the charity



Secretary (Minutes Cont.) - Cheryl W.

auction: a tree quilt, a house quilt a bird quilt and a nine-patch.

- Kimberly Everhart showed the progress she had been making on the memory quilt.
- Yolanda Douglas showed her mini pineapple quilted pillow. She also shared an update on her battle with the rat in her kitchen—which she won.
- Jeanne Folta showed her Halloween four patch that she made for charity, and also “Big Blue” disappearing nine patch that she had make for her step mother.
- Kelli Agner showed the square in a square that she had made using Tula Pink fabric.

Nomination Committee:

Jen Lanak, Trisha Skalnik and Yolanda Douglas presented the nominees for the 2023 WWQG Board which the members unanimously approved and are as follows:

- President- Kelli Agner
- VP- Kaaren Nowlin
- VP- Jen Lanak
- Treasurer- Judy Green
- Secretary- Cheryl Wood

Programs:

Kaaran Nowlin provided some leaves for the little pumpkins she taught us to make last month.

Challenges:

Jen Lanak reminded everyone that the Abstract Quilt Challenge is coming up in December. She also asked if we would be interested in weekend “day retreat” between Thanksgiving and Christmas. We would set up at her house, plan to sew together during the days but return home in the evenings. The members appeared interested, and it was suggested we have our December meeting at her house over a pot-luck.

Quilt Walk and Auction Committee:

At this point the committee is just having phone meetings. Sylvia and Darrell will have their own booth displaying vintage sewing machines and will be demonstrating them. Yolanda will head up the Quilts of Valor booth but will need some respite time. The hanging of the quilts for the Walk is covered. A member will be needed to assist with the exchange of money at pick up time. Be prepared at the November meeting with the measurement information and the type of quilts you will be bringing to the Walk. It would be helpful to know how to group the quilts and what will be needed to show them. Kelli will be passing around a clip board—be ready.

Guild Memorial Quilt:

Kimberly Everhart expressed concern that the members who initially agreed to help with the quilt no longer attend the meetings. She would appreciate new volunteers, but won't be asking

for them until she is prepared to sew, most likely after the new year. She has changed the format of how the quilt will be done, and is presently working on printing 2" blocks.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:40.

Challenges - Jen Lanak

UFO Challenge

We are in the final stretch of this year's UFO challenge. November's number is #10! On my list is finishing up a quilt that Olivia started during quarantine. She got about half done with piecing her blocks before losing interest, but I have all the fabric cut. I just need to continue where she left off.

As expected, I did not make any progress on my October project, but I did finish up January's! LOL.

Abstract Challenge

Our December meeting is fast approaching and is the due date for our Abstract Challenge. Remember: Any size, shape or color goes. Any technique. Use whatever embellishment you like. Just have it done by the December meeting and bring it to show & share.

What is abstract art? The dictionary says it is "art that does not attempt to represent reality, but seeks to achieve its effect using shapes, forms, colors, and textures."

I also really liked the article at <https://www.imaginated.com/art-glossary/what-is-abstract-art/> by Harriet Maher. While her article is still an overview, she provides good examples and links artwork and video to reference. Check it out.

December Gift Exchange

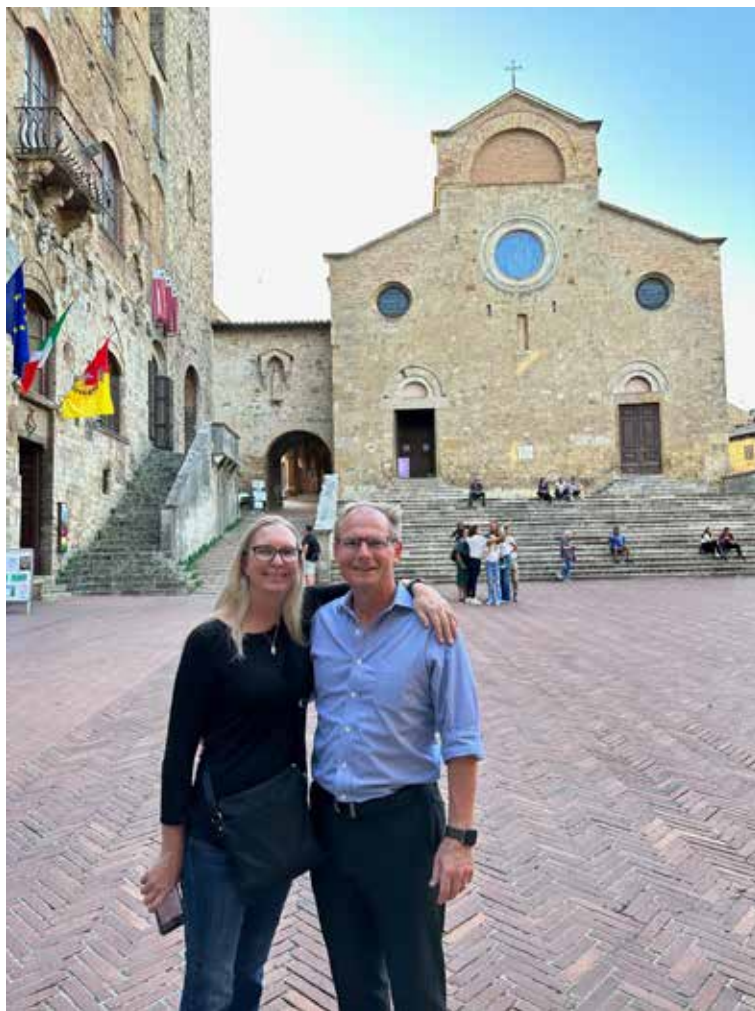
Not necessarily a challenge, but I want to remind everyone that we will be doing a handmade gift exchange at the December meeting. It is purely optional to participate!!! If you want to, please make something handmade to exchange in a blind swap at the December meeting. It does not have to be a quilt! Remember those amazing wood turned objects that Darrell made last year? And those lovely folded fabric ornaments made by Judy and ?? Please do not make anything too large! We are talking about a small handmade item, exchanged for fun.

What Have You Been Up To?

Jennifer Lanak

I have started my Abstract challenge piece; however, it is still in too many pieces to share anything substantial.

Frank and I just spent 9 glorious days on a vacation to Italy (without the girls). We played a lot of golf, ate way too much food, drank more wine than usual, and saw some of the local sights.





On our last day, we took a brutal hike from one Cinque Terra town to the next and collapsed in a cafe where I spied this Singer table, seemingly abandoned. If only I had room in my luggage.

It was a bit rough coming back to reality, but I'm eager to continue my sewing projects.



Yolanda Douglas

WHAT I DID in OCTOBER 2022

Self-Revelation: I enjoy making the quilt top way more than finishing and quilting. Not such new news. I am really going to try to get some of my UFOs quilted in 2023. I have enough backing material to blanket Lake Arrowhead! Any suggestions about how to get out of this rut?

For years I have lusted over Sea Glass quilts. When Jen Lanak brought hers for Show&Tell I knew that I had to have one. But, I have very few glassy blue and green fabrics, and those colors don't fit well in my home. Then I thought, I live on a creek and have a dry creek next to my house. Just use more grays, greens, browns. Thank you Jen for the excellent tutorial in our September newsletter. I pulled fabric for my Dry Creek quilt and fused and cut stones. I also fused and cut other shapes so that I could test spray basting and practice free-motion quilting. I must say that cutting the stones and circles was a quite Zen experience. I needed the quiet, no stress activity!

I saw a log cabin star quilt that I thought that I would make for the 2023 Blue Jay Quilt Walk. It was almost finished and I didn't like it. The values made a Friendship Star dominate and not the eight-pointed star that I preferred. I changed a few blocks - design opportunities - and I think that I will be happier. I have added a mitered dark blue border that I think works. Next step - sandych and quilt!

I started making my 2022 holiday projects earlier this year and made some good progress. I moved the project box up to the top of the stack this month and will finish very soon.

My sister "commissioned" me to make a Dia de los Muertos quilt for the mother of a friend of hers. Fun project. I have pulled some fabrics but then she started sending "suggestions" - include the New Mexico state flag, make backing with Kokopelli fabric (Kokopelli is fertility symbol, dancing flute player from Native American culture).

I will use my own design. And I did remind her that Dia de los Muertos is a Mexican celebration of the souls of deceased loved ones. Maybe she should learn how to quilt. (At right is one I made in 2018.)

The Hexie Sew-along from earlier this year, also my UFO challenge for October: I actually folded and put away the laundry on my laundry/pool table so that I could use it as a "design wall". I have a preliminary layout (I am SHORT one block! of course).



I see rearrangements in my future. But at least it is on its way to being a finished quilt top - see first paragraph.

Big Tip: Based on some "reviews" (probably some company PR) I purchased Japanese-made titanium rotary blades. They have been terribly disappointing. A couple of days ago, I changed blades to a Fiskar - night and day. For the amount that you save on the titanium blades, you pay in frustration, jagged cut edges, and sore wrist and elbow.

YOLANDA DOUGLAS

Trisha Skalnik

Greetings Sister Quilters:

It is such a wonderful experience to come and see all of the beautiful quilts and cabinets that you create each month! Kudos to Darrell for custom building the cabinet for his newly acquired featherweight. Such talent!

Wow, you are busy bees! It is also encouraging to see more of our original quilters returning to the guild. Welcome back, Pat D.! We are looking forward to seeing Elaine soon.

Congratulations to our newly elected leaders! We are appreciative that you are willing to help us grow and embrace this new season. Such a room full of experienced ladies. Thank you for all you do.

We are looking forward to the upcoming quilt show in September of 2023! Our collection of quilts for the show is already filling up Kelli's storage. Stunningly beautiful work! It's going to be a remarkable show.

"Did you know..." There is a new 100% natural cotton batting which is also microwave-friendly called "Wrap-N-Zap". It is 45" x 1 yard and is \$8.59. The suggestion for use is 2 minute intervals, not to exceed 8 minutes. You can find it at ConnectingThreads.com. Note: do not use in a convection/microwave oven: the cotton is not fire retardant or flame proof.

Looking forward to the upcoming quilt retreat at Jenn's house on December 10th and 11th. What a wonderful time it will be. Thank you, Jen, for all your kindness and giving to the guild.

Can't believe the holidays are right around the corner. Time goes by faster each year. Enjoy each day. Quilt!

--Cheers, Trisha

Show & Share - photos by Trisha Skalnik











Special Feature: Link - Pat Duebbers

I found this tutorial on YouTube. I found it to be fun and a good beginning to let go of my anxiety about improv quilting. I was very attached to "patterns".

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=IRcvkBzUOGs>

Special Feature: Poem - Pamela Abell

A Legacy of Stitches

Sandra E. Andersen 2001-2008

A Legacy of Stitches is what we leave behind;
the imprint of our very soul that lasts beyond our time.

The heart that quilts knows, oh, so well the peace that can be found,
as needle meets with fabric, for there is no sweeter sound.

Whether quiet piecing done by hand or on our sewing machine,
there's rhythm to our stitches as we sew along each seam.

Those stitches tell the story of our lives as they unfold
as we think of quilts that Grandma made with stories left untold.

The humdrum of our daily lives grows elegant and grand,
when we start to cut the pieces, then stitch the fabric in our hands.

And whatever is the reason for the quilts we piece and sew,
and whoever is the maker, there is one thing that we know.

Each quilt is full of memories, and is a treasured thing.
If quilts could talk, imagine how some quilts would surely sing!

For some quilts are sewn in happy times and others when we're sad,
and some are sewn in laughter and others when we're mad.

Some are sewn to warm us, and some sewn just for fun,
and some are "works in progress" that never quite get done!

Some quilts are sewn for beauty, a quilt made just for "show",
but the heart of the true quilter is the one who really knows~

That no matter how the quilt is stitched, we leave our mark in time.
This Legacy of Stitches is what we leave behind.

Special Feature: Invitation - Jen Lanak



As mentioned at the October meeting, our December meeting and Holiday Potluck will take place at Jen's house. The address is 333 Riviera in Lake Arrowhead. Following the meeting, you are all invited to stay and work on any project you like. You can even return on Sunday to continue! (Basically, this is a retreat, but you go home and sleep in your own beds!) Please RSVP to Jen via email if you plan on retreating.

Everyone say prayers the weather allows us to do this!

Special Feature: Abstract Quilt Examples - Jen Lanak

Here are a few more pictures of an assortment of Abstract quilts I've seen over the years.



"Convergence" By Annette Guerrero of Pasadena, CA

"Iris" by Annette Guerrero of Pasadena, CA



"Bricks n Gears" by Claudia Pfiel of Krefeld, Germany.



"Persimmons" by Maren J. Johnson of Santa Barbara, CA



"Quilt Noir" by Shirley Gisi of Colorado Springs, CO.

"Fern Rising" by Claudia Pfeil of Krefeld, Germany

