



PACIFIC PIECEMAKERS QUILT GUILD

# Bits & Pieces

[www.pacificpiecemakers.org](http://www.pacificpiecemakers.org)

MAY 2007

PATCHWORK PINCUSHION CLASS PRESENTED BY MASTER-PIECER SALLY COLLINS



Come learn all of Sally's fabulous tricks for getting your piecing just right. This class will focus on precision piecing using a 3" sampler block that is bordered and then finished with a piped edge, filled and closed. Effective methods and techniques for choosing color and fabric, cutting, sewing, finishing and evaluating/measuring your own work will be covered to help students achieve quality workmanship in any scale. Students will receive a handout for reference in addition to teacher explanation and some demonstration. If you are interested in improving your sewing skills and creating a great product, this is the class for you.

## BLOCK-OF-THE-MONTH IS A DRUNKARD'S PATH

You don't even need to have a drink to make a charming Drunkard's Path quilt. Just raid your stash of batiks in the blue/purple color range. Here's how it works: Get the block-of-the-month instructions from Renata Lopez or Janet Sears. Or pick them up at the May PPQG meeting. Using white and batik fabrics, make as many blocks as you wish. Bring your blocks to the May or June guild meeting. For every block you bring, you may put one slip of paper with your name in the basket. At the June meeting, one name will be drawn from the basket. That lucky quilter wins all the blocks and is well on her way to a fabulous quilt. Enter as many sets as you wish. The blocks are easy to make. Just be sure to cut accurately and sew true 1/4 inch seams. The rest is a breeze. Get out your batiks and have fun!

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

We have a returning member: (Julie belonged to the guild before) and two new members. Please welcome:

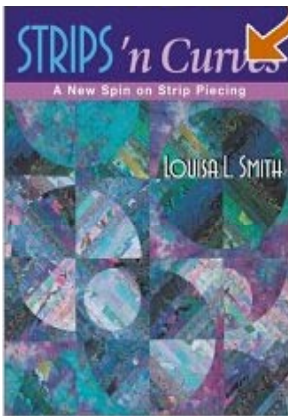
Julie Verran  
Po Box 382  
Gualala, CA 95445  
884-3740  
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birthday Nov 4

Priscilla Dwyer  
1454 Clement St  
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415-831-7743  
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birthday May 31

Nancy Epanchin  
15721 Forest View Rd  
Manchester, CA 95459  
882-1928  
vagabs@wildblue.net  
birthday April 14

## PPQG LIBRARY NOTES: FINDING THE BOOK YOU WANT

Browsing the online list of titles in the PPQG library turned up a number of books that intrigued me enough to pull them off the shelves for a closer look. Browsing the shelves I found even more. Another way to find out what books are available is to use the computer GAC has just added to the library. You can search by author, title, or subject to help you find what is, or is supposed to be, on the shelves. Say you want a book on binding, or a title by Kaffe Fassett, just type in the words and you should get a list of available titles.

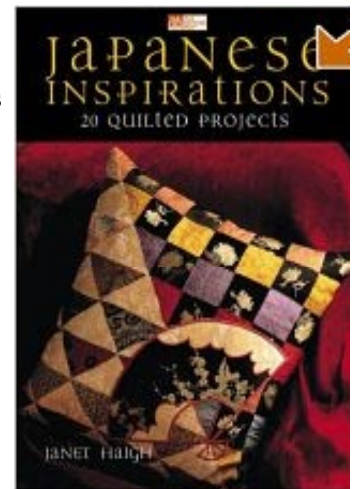
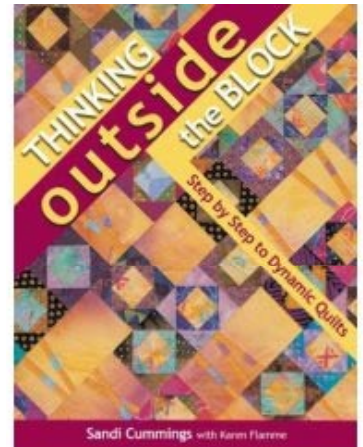


If you select a title, but can't find it on the shelf, the next step is to look in the white binder where books are signed out. Start with the most recent page and go down the column looking at the books that have not been returned. Or check the call number column; almost all the PPQG books start with 746. If you find that someone has the book you

want, give her a polite call or email to let her know you are waiting and would like the book next. If you can't find the book in the binder, let us know and we'll see if we can help locate it.

We have shortened the list of missing books, but still have 26 for which we can't account. Some of the newer titles missing are *Fiber Arts Design Book 7*, edited by Susan Kieffer, and Sandi Cummings, *Thinking Outside the Block* by Sandi Cummings, *Strips and Curves* by Louisa Smith, *Japanese Inspirations* by Janet Haigh. Please check your shelves—or drawers or stacks of UFOs or any other places these and the other missing books may be lurking. Remember the green PPQG dot is the clue.

If, you have a topic, title, or author you would like to suggest we add to the collection, please let us know.



—Anna Hines and Marilyn Alderson

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I'm not sure exactly when and where my fascination with frontier women and their lives first developed. It might have stemmed from childhood stories of my great-grandparents; pioneers who settled in a dugout in the Arizona desert. Or it might have something to do with the many conferences, lectures and historic sites I've visited after almost 44 years of marriage to a Historian. You can imagine that I was delighted with Julie Silber's visit to the Guild on April 20th. Her book *Hearts and Hands* with its pictures of quilters from the past combines my interest in women of frontier times with my love of quilting. Many years ago I inherited my grandmother's treadle Singer sewing machine that now sits in my quilting room not far from the wood stove. I often imagine the long skirt of my grandmother swaying back and forth as she pedaled...or is it treadled...During one winter storm when the power was out for four days, I decided I'd had enough of knitting in candlelight while my Bernina sat useless, so I removed the clutter from the top of Mama's Singer and began treading. I managed to piece together several blocks with wrinkled seams when I noticed the old flat iron sitting on top of the wood stove. Voila! Pressed seams! All I needed was the long skirt and I could have been a frontier women. Let's just say I was very glad when the lights came on and I was able to take a hot shower, microwave my lunch and get back to my Bernina. If you're interested in reading more about frontier quilters, I recommend one of my favorite books (available in the Art Center Library), *A People and Their Quilts* by John Rice Irwin, a collection of interviews and pictures of quilters from the past.

—Marilyn

## I'VE GOT ALL THESE BLOCKS...NOW WHAT DO I DO?

This class taught by Mary Austin & Janet Sears is for quilters who have accumulated a number of blocks either from a class or other source. There will be four sessions on June 7, 14, 21 and 28 from 9:30 am until 12:30 pm . The various techniques will be taught by demonstration with no sewing machines required. The four sessions will include:

1. Joining blocks: Using sashing and borders as a technique to determine quilt size. Several different sashings and borders will be demonstrated. Settings and how they affect size and appearance will also be discussed.
2. How to sandwich a quilt.: A "sandwich" is the three-layers (top, batting and backing) that comprise a quilt and the choices include: Choosing batting. Choosing and transferring a quilting design. Layering your top. Setting up your machine for straight line quilting and free motion quilting.
3. Quilting choices: By hand, by machine, using stencils, free-form, free-motion. Techniques for marking the quilting design will be discussed. Also included is how to square your quilt and prepare it for binding.
4. Finishing steps: Binding, hanging sleeve and label. Instruction for blocking your quilt will be covered.

Call Gualala Arts Center to register today. Cost is \$40 for PPQG/GAC members or \$60 for PPQG or GAC members.

## 2007 GUILD CHALLENGE

Imagine a flock of birds gracefully soaring through the evening clouds.....or a balloon flying free in the wind. Imagine yourself on a magic carpet or a leaf blowing across the grass. Test yourself in our 2007 Pacific Piecemakers Annual Flights of Imagination Challenge.

The entry forms are out. The pieces are due on June 6th between 10 and 2.

The show opens on June 9th with mix and d'oeuvres party pm. The show July 9th.

The show opens on June 9th mingle wine and hors in the foyer from 5-7 will be on display until



Come on and all and enjoy our flights of fantasy!!!!

## Happy Birthday

Charlene Younker	May 4	Donna Auguste	May 30
Linda Brodie	May 11	Sylvia Edwards	May 31
Joyce Gaudet	May 17	Priscilla Dwyer	May 31
Bette Covington	May 19		

## GUILD GLIMMERS

When Julie Silber talks about old quilts, she evokes the women who made them. At the April guild meeting, Julie presented a slide lecture *Keepin' Them in Stitches: America's Funniest Quilts*. There were quilts that were charming, quilts that were strange, and quilts that truly made you laugh. Yet all were presented with affection and appreciation. Julie Silber, Albion's internationally recognized quilt collector, curator, author, appraiser, and expert on Amish and Early American quilts, shed light on our national role as curators and practitioners of this very American art form. What an opportunity we had to evaluate our quilts with those made by others across our nation, and over the centuries. After her amusing and informative talk, Julie appraised quilts for guild members and visitors. If you stayed to listen and watch these appraisals, you learned even more about our quilting history and the women who made these utilitarian and cherished objects. From a tiny cradle quilt from the 1930s brought by Elizabeth Langdon to a king-size applique quilt from the 1850s brought by Janet Windsor each was thoughtfully and thoroughly discussed. Worth every minute and every penny!

## QUILTS OF VALOR

For complete instructions for how to make your top for the Quilts of Valor program in which our guild is participating go to <http://www.qovf.org> or watch for an upcoming email.