

Adopted on January 8, 2023

CAMARILLO QUILTER'S ASSOCIATION (CQA)
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, December 12, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was conducted by CQA President, Barbara Witman and called to order at 9:30 AM in person at the Camarillo Community Center and on-line by Zoom.

PRESIDENT'S WELCOME, REMINDERS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome New Members and Visitors!

Reminders: Please...Silence Cell Phones, Fragrance Free, No Children. We are reminded to sign in at the Membership Table. This serves as a record and also a safety measure to assure we are all accounted in the event of an emergency.

Birthday Wishes: December Babies:

We all sang happy birthday.

COMFORT GIVERS—Uela Hodson

Pamuela took the podium to announce and present the 10 organizations that were to receive quilts today from the Comfort Givers, the philanthropic wing of Camarillo Quilters today. There were eight representatives present at the meeting today. Pamuela shared that she had 15 volunteers from the membership who sorted and helped to distribute the donated quilts amongst the organizations we support. Each representative shared a story or anecdote of what the quilts meant to their organization, how they were distributed to their clients or a heartfelt thank you to our members.

1. ***Kids to Kids:*** 19 Quilts; 6 pillowcases. David J. accepted. This is a resident facility for high-risk teen girls, located in downtown Ventura by the Pacific View Mall that has been established for 16+ years.
2. ***Casa Pacifica:*** 32 quilts, 8 pillowcases. Kristen Perez accepted. "Casa Pacifica offers teen and family services to help youth who struggle with complex mental and behavioral health challenges." (found on website...<https://www.casapacific.org/about>)
The focus of Casa Pacifica is Family reunification with a home like atmosphere. 50% of graduates of foster care, experience homelessness between the ages of 15 and 25.
3. ***Safe Harbor:*** 35 quilts, This organization steps in to remove kids at risk from current living situation and takes them directly to the District Attorney's office. The child essentially has nothing from this moment on until they receive one of the CQA quilts.
4. ***RAIN:*** 52 quilts. The origins of this organization stemmed from the el Niño in the 90s in our area. The focus was to rescue the homeless who found themselves in the river bottom in the midst of torrential rain and hence was established in 1997. RAIN (River Dwellers' Aid Inter-city Network) is a transitional living center. There can be as many as 25 families at any one time. The success rate ranges from 85%- 100%.
5. ***NICU of Ventura County Hospital :*** 37 Christmas quilts and 22 quilts were delivered.
6. ***Senior Concerns:*** 29 quilts. Accepted by Robin. Clients are in the phase of their lives which, present physical and cognitive challenges, which require additional care and

supervision. The organization provides a social safe space and even has a walk-in program. The representative shared a very heart warming story of one of her clients.

7. **Lighthouse Emergency Shelter:** 38 quilts and 13 burp clothes and 6 pillowcases. This is a 24 hour/7 days a week shelter offered to single women and mothers with children for 30 days but sometimes longer. They are considered the sister organization to the Rescue Mission. It is 50 years in existence. The director, who accepted the quilts, was joined by a 1 year graduate of the program, who shared her story and gratefulness at being given a quilt when she was at a very low point in her life. The director shared that they do have the opportunity to tour the facility and see all the donated quilts on the beds.

8. **Life Centers:** 27 quilts, 8 burp clothes, 14 receiving blankets. The quilts were accepted by the director. Life Centers is a counseling organization for girls with unexpected pregnancy. One client was as young as 12. They provide resources for decision making and clarification.

9. **Infusion Center:** 28 quilts. The quilts were accepted by Francisco. This agency has cancer and blood disease patients for treatment of local children. Initially the children get to pick out their own quilt and it is kept at the infusion center for each treatment. Once their treatment is complete they are given their quilt to take home.

10. **New Start for Moms:** 28 quilts and 7 receiving blankets.

The quilts were delivered prior to our Comfort Givers donation meeting today.

In addition to the quilts made by the Comfort Givers of CQA, the **Ojai Church of Christ** asked if CQA would distribute quilts made by their members. They put on their own labels which also credited CQA with the distribution.

The total quilts donated today was 347 quilts (including those donated by Ojai Church of Christ), 21 burp clothes, 6 pillowcases, and 21 receiving blankets.

Barbara Witman thanked all the quilters that participated and Pamuela, the Comfort Givers director, for all their hard work.

Appetizers were served during the break.

BREAK—15 MINUTES

Announcements:

Small Groups: Barbara W. said Vicki Geiger is going to stay in the position of Small Groups in a limited capacity until someone steps up to replace her. The membership is encouraged to volunteer.

QUILT SHOW: 2024—Cheryl Collart reminded us that our 2024 Quilt Show is coming up on April 20th, 2024. Cheryl also emphasized that although the theme of the show is musical, the show is for all kinds of quilts, and any type of quilt you might have and doesn't necessarily have to have a musical theme. As a reminder, entry fees are \$25.00 for one quilt, \$40.00 for two quilts. Entry fees include an entry ticket and a raffle ticket for this price.. Look for Joey Strait who is selling quilt show tickets today. We were advised the Quilt Show information has been posted on our CQA website. Entries are being accepted throughout January, February and March. The show will have a challenge called "Name that Tune". The size for the challenge piece cannot exceed 24" by 24"

max. There is no cost for entry into the challenge. Block of the Month will be featured as well and is also a free entry. Workshop projects will have a category also and be free to membership. Cheryl is collecting items for the Boutique sale today at the back of the room. The next planning meeting will be January 15th, 2024.

TRAVEL—Thelma Atkinson

The March Orcutt retreat at The Old Town Quilt Shop is full.

A June retreat at the Poinsettia Pavilion in Ventura is being planned for June 17, 18, 19, 2024.

Details are being worked out and the tickets will be offered for sale in January next month.

WORKSHOPS—Vanessa Buescher

January's speaker next month is Cristina Arcenqui Bono by ZOOM. The Lecture topic is "My Whole Cloth Journey".

February's speaker will be Trudy Cleveland. The lecture is called, "How to Shoot your Quilt". The topic is just in time for the quilt show coming up in April. Sign-ups for both workshops are being accepted.

REPORTS

TREASURER—Patricia Wood

ACCOUNT BALANCE:DECEMBER:

Checking=\$6,836.11; CD=~~\$34,066.72~~ **\$18,805.59**; Savings=~~\$18,805.59~~ **\$34,066.72**

TOTAL=\$59,708.42.00

(The totals of the CD and Savings were transposed. Error was noted after the minutes were adopted. The errors were corrected 2-12-2024 by secretary Barbara MacDonald).

FREE TABLE—Dalya Dektor

Dalya asked the membership for a show of hands if there was interest in a challenge for the Spring of 2024 focused on orphan blocks from the free table. There was a show of two hands at this time.

SHOW AND TELL: Only two members presented today.

RAFFLE—Today's raffle was for the Poinsettia Plants placed on the tables. There were twelve winners!

FINAL ANNOUNCEMENTS—Barbara Witman

- In January, a nominating committee for volunteer positions in our guild will be formed. Barbara W. has asked for members to step up and stated the job consists of mainly phone calls to people who have been nominated. The committee must include one member from the general membership.

- Those who bid on the Library silent auction were reminded to check on the results and to pick up their books if they won.

ADJOURNMENT -11:25 AM

Minutes respectfully submitted by

/s/Barbara MacDonald, Secretary

POTLUCK: Surprises were distributed to each of the tables. They were in keeping with an British tradition started in 1821 by Thomas Smith. The tradition was practiced by the rich population and eventually became part of an overall British holiday practice. Jonal Beck headed up a committee of members who assembled them. There were two methods demonstrated to open them by Barbara W. The Poppers started popping and it really made a BANG!

