

Laurel *Wreath*

Volume 29 • Issue 2

Newsletter of the Rhododendron Needlers Quilt Guild

January-February 2012

Hello Quilting Friends,

I can't believe that 2012 is here already. I know it comes at the same time every year, but it always takes me by surprise. It seems as though the years go by so much faster. Maybe it's just that I have so much I want to accomplish. The list never seems to get any shorter. It only seems to grow.

Now that the holidays are behind us, we can focus on other things, like finishing projects that we wanted to make for gifts, but never seemed to find the time to complete. It is also time to begin thinking about our Auction. It will be held at the April 18 guild meeting. This is the guild's major fundraiser for the off-show year. Look in this newsletter for the donation form to fill out and include with your items. Think a little outside the box. The items do not have to be quilt related and they could be services, rather than products. Bring your items to the meetings during January, February and March and give them either to myself or AnneMarie Freitas. Providing the items prior to the Auction helps the evening to run smoothly. We are also looking for a few volunteers to help in preparing the items for Auction, as well as the day of the meeting itself for setup and other tasks.

While I am on the volunteering thought trail, it is also time to think about participating in the guild by serving as a Board member. You can nominate yourself, or someone else. Feel free to contact myself, or check the website for information.

Fix yourself a cup of tea, coffee, or glass of wine and sit back. Peruse through this edition of the newsletter. Think about how you might want to become involved. Clean out your sewing room and provide some items for the Auction. Or, maybe finish a project you started. It is a brand new year filled with so many hopes and possibilities.

Happy Quilting,

Linda Hancock

RNQG PROGRAMS 2011-2012

Guild meetings are held on the third Wednesday of the month at the Italian-American Club, 109 Stone Street, Walpole, MA. Unless stated otherwise, all workshops are held at All About Quilts, 958 Main Street, Walpole, MA and run from 9:30AM to 4 PM.

Workshop fees: \$60 for RNQG members, \$65 for non-RNQG members. Additional costs (if applicable) are listed in program description. Any non-RNQG member registered for a workshop may attend the guild meeting preceding the workshop free of charge.

Workshop fees are due at the time of registration. If you register for a workshop and find you are unable to attend, there are NO refunds from RNQG. You may find a replacement for your spot and have that individual pay you directly.

January 18, 2012: Janet Elia**“Japanese Sashiko”**

A member of RNQG and a full-time school nurse at Taunton High School, Janet teaches at Quilter’s Stash in her spare time and is fondly known as the “Bag Lady”!! Her presentation includes the beautiful art form of Japanese Sashiko: it’s history, fabric choices, marking the design, thread and needle choices, and the sashiko stitch. Each member of the audience receives a small kit containing a pre-marked 6-inch fabric square, embroidery needle and thread. You will have the opportunity to try your hand at Sashiko during the meeting! A short trunk show of Janet’s past works rounds out the evening.

February 15, 2012: Member Sew-In

This evening is designed to allow RNQG members to mingle with one another. Members should bring a current sewing project (hand or machine work) to the meeting. Tables will be set up and outlet strips provided. Irons, ironing boards and cutting mats will be available for communal use. If needed, bring your own sewing machine and heavy extension cord. Over the course of the evening, there will be several demonstrations on techniques that are useful to all quilters. Random raffles will take place throughout the evening.

March 21, 2012: Donnalynn Milford**“With Bestest Love from Aunt Char”**

Take a refreshing look at the history of American quilting while hearing short, but amusing, stories about the women who made the quilts. Donnalynn Milford of Glens Falls, NY, brings her trunk show of 40+ quilts and quilt tops to help tell the stories. The collection is said to be one of the best antique quilt collections in the Northeast ranging from the 1830s to the 1940s.

April 16, 2012: Rockin’ Auction

The RNQG biennial blast of bidding and bargain-buying returns to the Italian-American Club in 2012! Both silent and live auction segments are planned for the evening. Be sure to bring your checkbook and your friends to this gala event!

May 16, 2012: Merry May**“Nothing Up My Hanging Sleeve”**

Unusual and entertaining tips and tricks from “The Fudgemaster’s” thirty years of quilting experience. Topics include: “Alternative Shopping,” and “Things My Grandmother Taught Me.” There are many visual samples. Merry is best known for writing mystery quilt instructions under the pen name of “Inspector Cluesew” which began in 1992. Her mysteries have appeared in several magazines, as well as through online venues. Merry was the first person (under the sponsorship of Planet Patchwork and Quiltropolis) to offer a one-day online mystery “workshop,” complete with a chat room for participants. She “retired” the Cluesew name in 2003 and re-launched her popular mystery quilts under the name of “Merry Mahem.”

May 17, 2012: Full-day Workshop with Merry May**“Rags to Riches Scrap Quilts”**

Beginning with a fabric swap of 4 inch squares, the class moves on to making order out of chaos, and finally assembles the squares into an easy block design with many layout possibilities. Mary has taught this workshop at the Vermont Quilt Festival on several occasions with very good reviews. For Advanced Beginners

June 20, 2012: Poppin’ Potluck

Bring a favorite dish and a hearty appetite to this final opportunity to mingle with your RNQG friends before the summer break.

NOTE: Guild elections will be held this night as part of the annual business meeting.

CALL FOR ITEMS

Diana Richard is looking for sports related t-shirts or fabric having to do with the Celtics, Patriots, Bruins, and Red Sox for the Wrapped up in Sports Quiltathon mentioned here in our newsletter. If you have any outgrown or lightly worn items that we could salvage the logo portion from, please bring them to Diana at the January meeting.

NOMINEES WANTED

This is a call for nominations for the Board for the 2012-2013 guild year. Now is the time to think about how you can contribute to the running of the guild. If you have a special talent or interest, why not nominate yourself for one of the many board positions. It is a great chance to give back to the guild, as well as meet some wonderful people who give freely of their time and expertise. Positions, as well as duties, are available on our website at www.rnqg.org. If you are interested, please feel free to contact me at lhancock42@aol.com or see me at any regular meeting.

QUILTED COMFORTS

For the holidays, quilted comforts provided 21 quilts to hospice patients which were very well received and much appreciated. However, we need volunteers to sew quilt tops. We have kits with 12 - 12" blocks or 48 - 6" blocks, plus a 2" border. You can sew the squares, or make half square or quarter square triangles to make a quilt top. You can also use your favorite layer cake or nickel square pattern (layer cakes are 10" squares, and nickel quilts use 5" squares). If you can't sew an entire top, perhaps you can sew 1/2 a top, and share with a friend. Perhaps you have been itching to try a new technique, such as the 10 minute blocks (you sew 5 blocks together to make a 4-patch with a diamond in the center). Expand your piecing horizons this winter by working on a comfort quilt.

Contact Paul Burega (781-258-0042) for a kit, or for several kits. Spend an hour and turn 12 - 12" blocks into a half-square triangle quilt. Perhaps you have a non-guild member friend who would like a kit or two. These kits can be made from a novice sewer to an expert sewer, you decide how much sewing you want to do to make a comfort quilt.

Help us to reach our goal of 200 quilts for the year.

MUSEUM NEWS

The New England Quilt Museum will be closed for winter break from Jan.1-18, 2012.

The next exhibit will open on January 19, 2012, entitled "Campaigns & Commemoratives: Quilts for Presidents." Come and see a fascinating look at Presidential & political quilts and other textile memorabilia created from 1780 to 2008. The opening reception will begin at 1 p.m. on Saturday January 21, 2012. The featured speaker will be Gary Sohmers, appraiser of collectibles on PBS television program, Antiques Roadshow. The exhibit runs from Jan. 19-March 24, 2012.

RNQG Auction: Call for Items

The RNQG Auction is scheduled for the April 18, 2012. This is our biennial fundraiser held during a non-show year and enables the guild to operate and provide speakers and workshops for the coming year. Your help is requested in providing items or services that can be auctioned. Think a little outside the box. Take a look at the suggestion list provided elsewhere in the newsletter. Clean out your sewing room. If you have any gently used items, new items that never made it out of the package, or fabrics that you bought and now think "what was I thinking, I'll never use this" why not donate them. Please bring them to any guild meeting prior to April, with the Auction Donation Form completed, and give them to either Linda Hancock or AnneMarie Freitas. Only you can make this a success. Mark your calendar. Bring your other quilting friends who may not be members. Plenty of refreshments and fun will be provided.



A is for... **AUCTION !**
Be **C**reative and **D**onate!

- | | |
|---|---|
| A <i>Appliqué patterns; angle tools; antique quilts</i> | N <i>Needles; needle threaders; needle grabbers; themed notecards; novels</i> |
| B <i>Beads; buttons; boxes; batting; books; baskets; bobbin winders; bookplates; bookends; bags</i> | O <i>O'lipfa (ruler safety shield); Ottolites; organizers; fabric origami</i> |
| C <i>Color tools; circle cutters; cutting mats; chalk; cookbooks; charm packs; fabric calculators</i> | P <i>Pins; placemats; piping tools; pin cushions; pillows; printable fabric; patterns; photo transfer paper</i> |
| D <i>Design wall; instructional DVDs; fabric dyes</i> | Q <i>Q-snap frames; quilt wash; "Quilter's Assistant"(proportional scale); Quilter's pocket reference</i> |
| E <i>Embellishments; color evaluator tools</i> | R <i>Rotary cutters; redwork; rulers; ruler stands; Retayne; reducing glass</i> |
| F <i>Fat quarters; fabric lengths; finished quilts; flour sacks; scissor fobs; Fray Check; fork pins; foundation paper</i> | S <i>Scissors; stencils; software; spray adhesive; steam-a-seam; sandpaper board; stabilizers; seam rippers</i> |
| G <i>Gift certificates; fabric glue; quilting gloves; Golden Threads paper</i> | T <i>Teflon pressing sheets; thread; table runners; template plastic; templates; thimbles; Timtex (for fabric bowls)</i> |
| H <i>Quilt Hangers; hera markers; hoops; handbags; hand cream; handle for rotary rulers</i> | U <i>UFO's</i> |
| I <i>Irons; portable ironing surfaces; Invisi-grip (for rulers); iron cleaner</i> | V <i>Vacuum attachments (mini); vinyl for appliqué overlay; vintage sewing items</i> |
| J <i>Jelly rolls; journals; quilt-themed jewelry</i> | W <i>Wall hangings; water-soluble thread; wool; wearables; whimsical themed items</i> |
| K <i>Kits; Kwik Klip (for closing safety pins);</i> | X <i>X-block ruler</i> |
| L <i>Light table; quilt labels; lessons; scissor leash; lint remover</i> | Y <i>Yo-yo makers; YLI products</i> |
| M <i>Angled mirrors; mugs; micron tip pens; magazines; marking supplies</i> | Z <i>Zebra fabrics; zippered project storage bags; thread tweeZers</i> |

RNQG Auction Pledge Form

Name: _____ Phone#: _____

I will provide the following items or services for auction:

1. _____ Value: _____

2. _____ Value: _____

3. _____ Value: _____

RNQG Auction Pledge Form

Name: _____ Phone#: _____

I will provide the following items or services for auction:

1. _____ Value: _____

2. _____ Value: _____

3. _____ Value: _____

Other Activities, just in case RNQG isn't keeping you busy enough!

March 16-18, 2012

Pioneer Valley Quilters of Agawam
Westfield State University, Westfield, MA

March 24-25, 2012

Thimble Pleasures
Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational High School, 65 Pleasant St, Upton, Ma

March 30-31, 2012

Quinobequin Quilters
Needham Masonic Lodge, 1101 highland Ave, Needham, MA

April 12-14, 2012

MQX
Rhode Island Convention Center, Providence, RI
www.mqxshow.com

April 20-21, 2012

North Parish Quilters
Americial Civic Center, 467 Main St, Wakefield, MA

April 21-22, 2012

Narragansett Bay Quilt Association
North Kingstown High School, North Kingstown, RI
www.nbquilts.org

June 29 – July 1, 2012

Vermont Quilt Festival
Champlain Valley Exposition Center, Essex Junction, VT
www.vqf.org

Aug 9-11, 2012

Lowell Quilt Festival
Lowell, MA

Nov 1- 4, 2012

A Quilters Gathering
NEW LOCATION
Radisson Hotel, Manchester NH
www.aquiltersgathering.com

Wrapped Up In Sports

Boston, MA

Special Event:

3rd Annual Quiltathon

Date:

February 18, 2012 9:00am - 4:00pm

Description:

The 3rd Annual Quiltathon is scheduled to take place on Saturday, February 18, 2012 at Fenway Park!

In honor of Fenway's 100th Anniversary, the goal has been set to make 100 quilt tops before the day's end!

Completed quilts will be donated to Room to Grow, Hospitality Homes, Children's Hospital Boston and Horizons for Homeless Children.

- Complimentary food and refreshments will be provided
- Raffles & Gifts will be awarded
- AND expect a visit from Red Sox favorite Wally who is looking forward to coming back to sew!

A full day is not required. Volunteers are encouraged to attend throughout the day. The longer you stay, the more quilts will be made for children in need.

Come participate for a worthy cause - making children smile!

Address:

Fenway Park
4 Yawkey Way
Boston, MA 02215

Contact:

info@wrappedupinsports.org



