

Laurel Wreath

Volume 29 • Issue 4

Newsletter of the Rhododendron Needlers Quilt Guild

May-June 2012

Hello Quilting Friends,

As I look out my window, it seems like spring. The flowers on the trees are blooming and my perennials are starting to pop. When I step outside, the temperature feels more like March than May and I have to take my coffee back inside to enjoy the view from the window rather than the patio. I hope this is not indicative of what our summer will be like, but I have to remember, this is New England and anything is possible.

I would like to send out a great big THANK YOU to all who attended and participated in our Auction last month. We had 67 people in attendance and of those attendees, 8 were guests. AnneMarie and her helpers did a great job organizing and displaying the items available and, as always, Paul was an entertaining auctioneer. In total, we raised over \$1900 for the guild. This will help us to support our programs for next year. Speaking of next year, we still have some positions open for the 2012-2013 Board of Directors. The slate is included elsewhere in the newsletter for your review. Anyone interested in a vacant position should e-mail me as soon as possible. We will vote on the new Board at the potluck dinner in June.

Our speaker this month is Merry May. She is the first person to organize on-line Mystery Quilts under the name of Merry Mayheim. Her workshop still has openings and is described in the newsletter and on our website at www.rmqq.org. Anyone interested should send a check to either Diana Richard or Diana Annis to be included in the roster. Her workshop will give us an opportunity to use some of the scraps we have been accumulating. Having attended this workshop at the Vermont Quilt Festival in the past, I can say that it is an enjoyable and fun time for anyone who participates.

Take some time to peruse the newsletter with a cup of tea, coffee, or glass of wine and enjoy the fine weather we are having, whether it is on the patio, or like me, from the kitchen window. I hope to see everyone on the 16th.

Happy Quilting,

Linda Hancock

MEETING INFORMATION

All RNQG meetings are held at 7:30 pm at the Italian-American Club, 109 Stone Street, Walpole, MA. Getting to know each other can be difficult. Please remember to wear your nametag to meetings. If you do, you'll receive a raffle ticket for a fun prize!

SCHEDULE OF BOARD MEETINGS

Board meetings are held at All About Quilts, 958 Main Street, Walpole. All members are invited to attend. All board members are encouraged attend. Future board meetings will be held on the following dates:

September 7, 2011 November 2, 2011
 January 4, 2012 March 7, 2012
 May 2, 2012

WEBSITE

AnneMarie Freitas continues to work her magic to make the RNQG website both full of information and very user friendly. If you have anything you'd like her to post, you can reach her at am@freitas4.com. Whenever you need to double check the date of a meeting or what events are coming up, please remember to check out the website at www.rnqg.org.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2011-2012

President: Linda Hancock
 Vice President: Zelayana Rauch
 Secretary: Rita Partridge
 Treasurer: Diana Richard
 Programs 2011-2012: Diana Annis
 Celine Spader
 Programs 2012-2013: Diana Annis
 Membership: Vicki Pariyar
 Venera Emmi
 Newsletter: Linda Hancock
 Hospitality: Jacqueline Fleischman
 Library: Lisa Steinka
 Bonnie Vinson
 Directory: Barbara Becker
 Monthly Raffle: Deb McManus
 Quilted Comforts: Paul Burega
 Rack Keeper: Diana Annis
 Connecting Threads: Claudia Cummings
 NEQMA Liaison: Teddi Weber
 Quilt Show 2013: Linda Hancock
 Historian: Avis Davidson
 Raffle Quilt: Deb Woodhams
 Raffle Tickets: Sarah Brewin
 Webmaster: AnneMarie Freitas
 Block of the Month: Suspended
 Publicity: Vacant

CONNECTING THREADS

This year the RNQG contact person for Connecting Threads is Claudia Cummings. If you know of someone who could use a greeting card on behalf of the guild, please contact Claudia at klevv@comcast.net or by calling her at 508-378-3137.



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.

May 16, 2012: Merry May

“Nothing Up My Hanging Sleeve”

Unusual and entertaining tips and tricks from “The Fudgemaster’s” thirty years of quiltmaking 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.

At the Potluck Dinner meeting in June, we will ask the membership to vote in a new board for the Guild year 2012-2013. The following is a proposed slate for your consideration. As you can see, there are still some positions open. If anyone is interested in serving on the Board, please let me know as soon as possible. Nominations can also be taken from the floor on the night of the election. You can nominate yourself, or someone else (with their permission).

2012-2013 RNQG Proposed Board of Directors

President:	Zeylana Rauch
Vice President:	
Secretary:	Rita Partridge
Treasurer:	
Programs 2012-2013:	Diana Annis
Programs 2013-2014:	Diana Richard
Membership:	Vicki Pariyar, Venera Emmi
Newsletter:	
Hospitality:	
Library:	Lisa Steinka
Directory:	
Monthly Raffle	Deb McManus
Quilted Comforts:	Paul Burega
Rack Keeper:	Diana Annis
Connecting Threads:	
NEQMA Liaison:	Teddi Weber
Quilt Show 2013:	Linda Hancock
Historian:	Avis Davison
Raffle Quilt 2013:	Deb Woodhams
Raffle Tickets 2013:	Sara Brewin
Raffle Quilt 2014:	
Webmaster:	AnneMarie Freitas
Publicity:	

Museum News

This year marks the 25th Anniversary of the New England Quilt Museum. As our gift to you, we are offering FREE ADMISSION on the 25th of every month (as long as it falls on a day the museum is normally open).

EXHIBITS:

FENWAY CENTENNIAL: Quilts by Rosemary Bawn & Other Quilt Artists

March 29-July 8, 2012

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Just in time for the 100th birthday party of Fenway Park comes a quiltmakers' celebration of an American landmark. Co-curated by Vivian Lee Sayre and Rosemary Bawn, this exhibition brings together a collection of art quilts that capture the excitement of 100 years of Fenway Park. Bring every baseball fan you know. They'll never think of quilts - or Fenway - in the same way again! Here are some special events happening in May & June.

**Sunday, May 13: Mothers' Day - Free Admission**

**Saturday, May 19, 2-4PM: Anniversary Party with Shelly Zegart**

**Saturday, June 2, Noon-4PM: Play Ball! Workshop with Deb Janes**  
[\$30 Members/\$35 Non-Member]

*The quilt museum announces their Silver Threads Challenge just in time for Images 2012*

**As the New England Quilt Museum celebrates its Silver Anniversary, quilters across the continent and around the world are invited to join the fun.**

**Enter the *Silver Threads Quilt Challenge*. Make a quilt inspired by the theme "silver." No one is more imaginative than a quilter. Have fun with this! Check out the web site [www.nequiltmuseum.org](http://www.nequiltmuseum.org) for rules and registration.**

**Prizes will be awarded in a number of categories. Your quilt will be featured in a Special Exhibit at the IMAGES Quilt Show during the Lowell Quilt Festival [August 9-11, 2012]. The top 25 entries will be loaned to the museum for a national tour in 2013**

### SAVE THE DATE!

**August 9-11, 2012: The Lowell Quilt Festival, A Citywide Celebration of Quilts, featuring IMAGES, New England's Premier Judged and Juried Quilt Show. This year we are thrilled to announce that our very special guest will be Marianne Fons, co-founder of *Fons & Porter's Love of Quilting* magazine and television program. Marianne will be appearing with her daughter Mary Fons, who now co-hosts the *Love of Quilting* television program.**

### Website News

Whenever you have a guild-related question, I hope your first inclination is to check the website at [rnqg.org](http://rnqg.org)! There are frequent updates, and suggestions for new features are always welcome.

Recently added is a “Quilting News” button on the menu at the left of the screen. This selection brings you to a page of upcoming quilting events – local as well as some farther afield. It includes dates and locations for quilt shows and exhibits, quilting retreats, shop hops and classes. Click on any of the text listed in bold violet to go to the website associated with an event that piques your interest.

Any website suggestions or problems? Don’t hesitate to drop me a line at [webmaster@rnqg.org](mailto:webmaster@rnqg.org)!

AnneMarie Freitas

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### Call for Photos

If anyone has taken photos at guild meetings or workshops this quilting year (2011-12), *please* send them to me at [webmaster@rnqg.org](mailto:webmaster@rnqg.org). The album created for 2010-11 looks lonely!

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### Retreat

The quilt retreat this year will be in Maine in November. If you are interested in more information, please feel free to contact Avis Davidson at [avisdavidson60@yahoo.com](mailto:avisdavidson60@yahoo.com) or by phone at 508-822-4297.

4/20/12

Thank you for your donation to the Walpole Public Library. The library purchased the following titles:

The Quilters Bible by Linda Clements  
Essential Sampler Quilt Book  
Fresh Quilting by Malka Dubrawsky  
Quilting 101  
Quilting Line + Color

These titles will be enjoyed by library users for years to come.

Norma Jean Cauldwell  
Assistant Director



## Walpole Public Library

Part of the mission of RNQG is to promote education for the arts in our communities. With that in mind, each year a high school is chosen to award a scholarship to a graduating senior interested in pursuing an education in the arts. A town library is also chosen to receive a donation in order to purchase quilting books for their collection. This year, Walpole was the town chosen by the board to receive these awards.

## Greetings From a Former Guild Member

Rebecca Bradbury, a former member of RNQG, has fond memories of the guild. Her recent letter follows:

*I was looking up quilt shows today and then looked up Rhododendron, my first quilt guild. Until my husband moved me to Maine in 2008, I enjoyed being an active member for 20 years and remember fondly all the fabulous shows, speakers, and workshops, many which I took part in. From the newsletter and website I see that you are all continuing to inspire each other and spread the love of quilting. The work you've done on the website is great. I was interested in reading the newsletters and I like the listings of shows and activities (hoping to find something for May 19, 2012). I especially enjoyed the new photo section of people and projects, some even with labels. It's really nice to see some familiar faces and the Show and Tell items are inspiring.*

*Last summer/fall I met up with Bonnie Vinson and Nancy Pond, who have always inspired me with their fantastic creative skills. We got together for quilting a couple of times before I had to head back to Maine. During our visit we talked about an old project I started during my Rhododendron days. In 1990, RNQG had a speaker from W. Springfield, MA, Joanne Parisi. Her presentation was titled "Olde is New" and consisted of using new fabrics to make nine-patch blocks set with sashing and small 4-patch blocks connecting the sashing.*

*The premise was to choose fabrics that weren't exactly what we liked (that "ugly" fabrics would give the blocks more of a feeling of being old). Gail Sturgis and I took our hand-outs from Joanne home and began our quilts. Gail finished her in the 1990's but I grew disillusioned with my project. Last year (2011) after attending the Maine Quilts Show, I was inspired to resurrect that project. I brought that "quilt" to MA with me and signed up for a "Help" class at Quilter's Stash. Under the guidance of a most talented teacher (sorry I can't recall her name right now) I was back on track. The visits with Bonnie and Nancy followed. By the end of the second visit, with much encouragement from Bonnie and Nancy, I pledged to finish the quilt top before the end of October. And I did it! Sent pictures to Bonnie and Nancy and was very satisfied with myself. The quilt top that I once disliked very much was now complete and now I loved it! (Quilt top photo at right)*

*I am now involved with 3 quilt groups, 2 in my area and 1 is in Calais (which I don't get often as it is over an hour away). Please feel free to share my photo and any information about the project (edited as you wish) on your website. The original quilt plan from Joanne Parisi was for the blocks to be plainly set horizontally and vertically. I changed the design by placing the*





*blocks into vertical rows, which I found to be much more pleasing. I wonder how many of your current members will remember this speaker and project from 1990!*

*I will try to check your website more frequently to see what inspiring work everyone is doing. I believe you'll have a quilt show next year (2013). Hope it might be convenient for me to attend. Please tell all my quilting friends "Hello from Maine".*

*I'll sign off as*

*Your Quilting "Pin" Pal,  
Rebecca Bradbury of Roque Bluffs, Maine*

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

June 1-3, 2012

Quilter's Connection

Arsenal Center for Arts, 321 Arsenal St., Watertown, Ma

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

June 29 – July 1, 2012

Vermont Quilt Festival

Champlain Valley Exposition Center, Essex Junction, VT

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

Aug. 2-4, 2012

Red, White and Quilted

Bayberry Quilters of Cape Cod Annual Quilt Show

Cape Cod Regional Technical High School, Harwich, MA

[www.bayberryquiltersofcapecod.com](http://www.bayberryquiltersofcapecod.com)

Aug 9-11, 2012

Lowell Quilt Festival

Lowell, MA

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

Nov 1- 4, 2012

A Quilters Gathering

NEW LOCATION

Radisson Hotel, Manchester NH

[www.aquiltersgathering.com](http://www.aquiltersgathering.com)

**Fostering the RNQG Community**

Some time ago the Board decided that it would allow guild members who have businesses to put ads in the newsletter for a small annual fee. Your ad will appear in every newsletter of that guild season. It's a great way for guild members to let others know what services they offer and to further foster our sense of community. Guild treasurer, Diana Richard, receives the check for the fee and you give newsletter editor, Linda Hancock, a copy of your business card for inclusion in the newsletter.



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