

Laurel Wreath

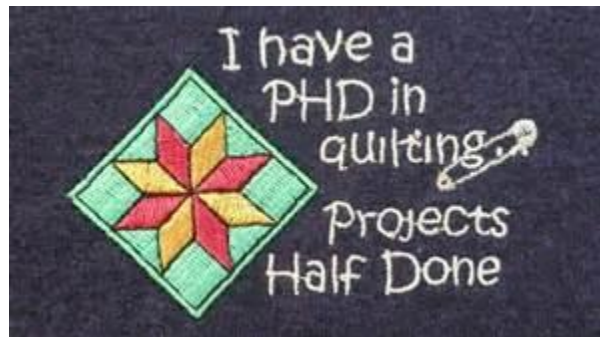
Volume 32 • Issue 3 Newsletter of the Rhododendron Needlers Quilt Guild January-February, 2015

Dear Fellow Quilters and Members of RNQG,

Hope you are getting excited about our upcoming quilt show. I know I am. It is time to enter your quilts. It wasn't hard to do. Finish up those quilts, raffle basket or something to sell at the boutique. Also it is time to decide how you will help. Sign up sheets will be at our next meeting and we still need people to white glove among other things. It was from coming to a quilt show that I became a member. Let's show them what RNQG can do.

Stay warm, healthy, and happy in 2015.

Zelayna Rauch
President



Please forward submissions to the newsletter to Lhancock42@aol.com. The deadline for the next edition of the Laurel Wreath is February 20, 2015.

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!

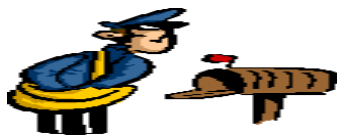
WEBSITE

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 webmaster@rnqq.org. If you need to check the date of a meeting or what events are coming up, please remember to visit the website at www.rnqq.org.

If you have a problem with the website, be sure to describe the issues you are having in an email to webmaster@rnqq.org. If the webmaster doesn't know there is a problem, you can be certain that it will never be fixed!

CONNECTING THREADS

This year the RNQG contact person for Connecting Threads is Joanne Beaupre. If you know of someone who could use a greeting card on behalf of the guild, please contact Joanne at Jcb124@aol.com or by calling her at 781-326-4138.



SCHEDULE OF BOARD MEETINGS

Board meetings are held 6:30 – 7:55 at the Walpole Public Library, Pinnacle Room, 143 School Street, Walpole. All members are invited to attend. All board members are encouraged attend.

September 3, 2014
 November 5, 2014
 January 7, 2015
 March 4, 2015
 May 6, 2015

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RNQG PROGRAMS 2014-2015

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. Until payment is received, you are not considered registered. If you register for a workshop and find you are unable to attend, there will be no refund from RNQG. You may find a replacement for your spot and have that individual pay you directly.

January 21, 2015 7:30 - 9 PM Italian - American Club, Walpole

**Marian Bressel Website: fabritique.com
Lecture / Trunk Show: "Fabric Trip to Africa"**

Join tour guide Marian Bressel on a textile tour of the "plateau continent".

A quilter since the mid 1980's, Marian was uninspired by the selection of fabrics -- mostly calicos -- available in American shops during this era. While vacationing in Africa in 1991 she was exposed to the vibrant colors and designs used by the natives and knew she'd found her muse. She brought many yards back to the U.S. for her personal use, but eventually decided they should be made available to other American quilters.

During the evening lecture, Marian will discuss the different types of fabric manufactured in Africa, the origins of the designs found on the fabrics and the significance of fabrics in African culture. This will be a *tactile* textile experience -- many fabric samples will be passed to members of the audience!



**February 18, 2015 7:30 - 9:00 PM Italian - American Club,
Walpole**

**Marianne L. Hatton Website: mariannehatton.com
Lecture / Trunk Show: "Jill of All Trades, Mistress of Some"**

Hear the evolutionary tale and see the works of a quilter from a distant continent!

Raised in South Africa in a family and culture that encouraged and practiced handwork, Marianne Hatton can barely remember a time when she didn't have a needle in hand. She began sewing her own clothing at an early age and as a young adult taught Home Economics in South African high schools.

Her transition to quilter occurred some time after she moved to the US. Her first ventures in this country were in the specialty wedding cake and fabric import businesses. These were ultimately abandoned when she realized how much she missed teaching and creating quilts. For more than 20 years she has focused her energy on teaching classes in quilt making. Her goal is to enable students to put their own stamp on their quilted creations and to coax out the latent talent for design that many of us don't know lies within, while teaching solid construction techniques for the lasting legacies our quilts may become.



Marianne's quilts are usually grounded in tradition and some are free form designs. She rarely knows what the outcome of a quilt will be when she begins, preferring the "mystery" as the quilts grow, change, and evolve towards a surprise ending. The planning happens in progress and is what keeps her interested and excited. Her book, "Simply Dynamic Sampler Quilts," was published by the American Quilters Society in 2010. It showcases what Marianne refers to as the "next generation of sampler quilts."

March 18, 2015 7:30 – 9 PM Italian-American Club

Guest Speaker: Pat Ferguson
Topic: Zentangles

Website: patfergusonquilts.com

Zentangle®...you've likely heard the word before, coined in late 2003 by Rick Roberts and Maria Thomas. You may have even seen samples of the art form, intricate-looking designs, typically in black and white. But do you realize that you have all the skills needed to create your own? If you can write your name, you can create a zentangle! The method has a few very simple steps that are easy to learn and follow.



Pat Ferguson (aka the "Zen Quilter") is a longarm quilter and Certified Zentangle® Teacher who uses this wonderful art form to inspire her machine quilting. According to Pat, "I could not draw until I created my first Zentangle, and then I was hooked! Even if you think you can't draw let me prove you wrong!"

During this program, Pat teaches the basics of Zentangle and how it can influence your machine quilting or possibly encourage you to begin to machine quilt. You will also be inspired by the "zen" quilts she brings for your viewing pleasure!

Pat's passion for quilting began in 1980 and has evolved into a lifetime ambition. She enjoys trying new techniques and incorporates them into her custom work and classes. She became a Certified Zentangle Teacher in 2010 and subsequently authored the "Zen Quilting Workbook" which includes patterns created by Pat, amazing designs created by her students, and teaches the reader how to produce unique continuous line designs that are easy to execute!



Detail of "Dahlia" Quilt
by Pat Ferguson

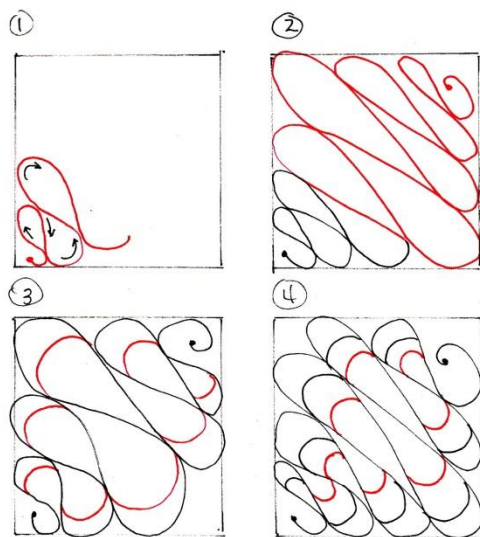
* **Please Note:** There will be a mini-workshop during this program. Each participant will draw a 3 1/2" zentangle over the course of the evening. If you would like to try your hand at zentangling, you must purchase the "Zentangle Starter Kit" from Pat -- \$6 fee to be paid that evening. Advance sign-up is requested so Pat will know how many kits to bring. You may sign up at guild meetings now through February or by email to programs@rnqg.org. If you prefer to be an observer, a projector will allow you to watch Pat's work. You may also walk around the room to see how participating guild members progress in their designs.

Demystifying Zentangles®

According to the official Zentangle® website, "Zentangle® is an easy to learn method of creating beautiful images from repetitive patterns". Pat Ferguson (our guest speaker for the March guild meeting) adds, "It requires no artistic skills. It is therapeutic, non-technical, helps break creative block and takes on its own form with each person's individual style."

Pat is a pioneer in the area of "Zen Quilting". She moved Zentangles® from their origins of black ink on white cardstock into the world of quilts by allowing the art form to inspire designs for her machine quilting.

The March guild meeting will have two segments. The first part of the evening is a trunk show of Pat's quilts. During the second half of the evening, Pat invites guild members to try their hand at the art form. She will demonstrate how to draw several basic Zentangle® shapes (such as the one shown below).



Workshop participants will claim seats at tables placed near the front of the room. To join in the workshop, you must pre-register so Pat will know how many "starter kits" to bring for the evening. Each kit contains all the tools and supplies needed for drawing Zentangles®. The \$6.00 fee for the starter kit must be paid to Pat that evening.

Individuals who choose not to join the workshop are free to get up to observe the progress of participants or can simply watch Pat's pen strokes which will be projected on a screen.

Registration for the workshop closes at the February guild meeting! To register, please send an email to programs@rnqg.org with subject "Zentangles". Make sure to include your name in the body of the email!

April 15, 2015 7:30 - 9 PM Italian-American Club, Walpole

Show & Tell: The Winners Are...

With the show behind us, it's time for the makers of the winning quilts to take a bow!

Use this opportunity to

- take a close look at the quilts deemed "best" by the judge and show-goers...
- hear the stories behind the quilts...
- ask those, "how did you..." questions...

and simply celebrate the art that binds us together!



May 20, 2015**7:30 - 9PM Italian-American Club, Walpole****Guest Speaker: Kathie Beltz****Lecture: Studio 180 Tool Demonstration and Trunk Show**

Do you struggle to get all of your quilt blocks the perfect size? Are you looking for a way to eliminate mathematical calculations when changing the size of a block? Do you want to forget the theorems you learned in high school geometry?

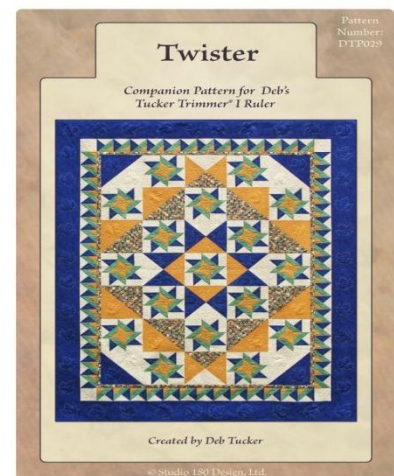
If the answer to any of these questions is "Yes!" then this program is perfect for you. The focus of the evening is the set of quilting tools created by Deb Tucker of Studio 180 designs. Each tool was engineered to simplify measuring, cutting and trim down of basic quilting blocks -- half square triangles, flying geese, and square-in-a-square units among others -- making it easy to create beautiful quilts without a lot of fuss.

Kathie Beltz is a Certified Instructor of Studio 180 Design FUNdamental Tools who is "totally addicted to quilting." Her quilting addiction began in 1995, advanced to teaching in 2004, and became critical when she took the final leap into judging in 2007. Her own quilts have won numerous awards around the country.

The presentation will demonstrate use of Studio 180 Design tools and include a trunk show of quilts.

May 21, 2015 9:30AM – 4 PM**All About Quilts****Kathie Beltz****Project: Twister**

This project constructs the pieced border units at the same time as the pieced block units - definitely a two for one deal! Deb's construction methods and Tucker Trimmer I and Tucker Trimmer III tools let you construct all units without cutting or piecing triangle shapes and then gives you the added benefit of trimming down for super high precision. The large setting pieces can easily be trimmed with the Tucker Trimmer III tool. A very simple project to make!



June 17, 2015

6:30 - 8PM Italian-American Club, Walpole



Mingle with guild friends and feast on their favorite dishes at this end-of-the-quilting-year celebration. There's always great variety! Be among the first to get the pre-season scoop on programs scheduled for the 2015-16 quilting year.



New Monthly Raffle

We are going to add a new raffle in addition to the two monthly raffles we have in place. No money involved on this one. It is a Fat Quarter Raffle. Each month there will be a theme. Donate as many fat quarters as you wish as long as they fit the theme. Each fat quarter entered gets you a ticket. **Please make sure each fat quarter measures 18x22 and is of good quality fabric.** Winning ticket takes the bundle.

The monthly themes will be:

- January - White/light cream tone-on-tone
- February - Red
- March - Green
- April - Spring Prints
- May - Batiks



Raffle Basket Donations

We will be accepting raffle basket donations for the Quilt Show at the guild meetings in January and February. You are more than welcome to donate a complete basket to your liking, however, if you feel that you cannot do so and would like to donate an item or two, please bring them to either of the meetings and we will assemble baskets accordingly.

Some ideas for baskets are: gardening, coffee, tea, spa, movie, games, kids, chocolate, soup, bird lovers, car, arts and crafts, golf, dance, knitting, game night, music, cooking, and travel, to name a few. Let your creative imagination flow. Help us to make the raffle baskets a success. Thank you in advance. You can contact either of us by email or phone if you need help or have questions

Deb McManus 508-384-4875 mcdeb@verizon.net

Mary Sandison 781-843-5468 marys252711@gmail.com

2015 Raffle Quilt

Dear RNQG Members

The 2015 Raffle Quilt "Under the Leaves" has already been to All about Quilts in Walpole, a Quilt Retreat down the Cape, A Quilters Gathering in Manchester, New Hampshire, Mad about Quilts in Mansfield and is presently at Emma's Quilt Cupboard in Franklin. There is a huge sale at Emma's for the next couple of weeks.

We are now in a New Year, please think about selling Raffle Tickets to your family, friends and at other social gatherings. Our next meeting is January 21, 2015. I will be there to accept raffle tickets and distribute them too.

Thank you for your support

Karen LeBlanc



LIBRARY NEWS

Hi All,

I have been busy reorganizing the Library over the holidays. This entailed bringing all the books home with me and checking to see if they were all there. I had to chase some down that have been out for a while (I am talking years in some cases :) so please make sure when you take a book out that you return it in good time. I also went through and removed about 85 books. These are books that are older, out of date, just plain dated or not taken out in years. I am giving them to the Boutique for sale at our upcoming show. Bonnie Ritchie, Nancy Pond, Esther O'Connell and Judy Garfunkel came out and helped me re-number the books. They also looked at the books I was removing to give me input on the books I had chosen to remove. That was a BIG help, so "Thank You."

I am going to give this new list to AnneMarie, our Web Master, who will put them on the website. You should be able to access the list by Title, Author or Subject. I will have the same list in print at the meetings.

At this point, I want to remind you all of the Library Rules.

1. You must be a current RNQG member to sign a book out.
2. You may have only 2 books at a time.
3. You should Return your books within 2 months. If it is a new book to the library, please return it in 1 month.

If no one is at the library table to help you check out, please take the card from the book and write your Name, Phone#, Date (month and year). File it in the box by number.

Thank you,
Lisa Steinka
RNQG Librarian

P.S. To everyone I spoke with about outstanding books, please remember to bring them to the meeting. If you aren't coming, please send them in with a friend.



COMFORT QUILTS

The next Quilt-a-Thon is scheduled for Monday, January 19, 2015, in Sherborn at the UUAC, 11 Washington St., Sherborn, MA, from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. All are welcome. Quilt kits are provided, or you can bring your own. We sew lap sized quilts. You can work on a top, quilt a top, handsew a label or a binding.

NEW ENGLAND QUILT MUSEUM

As a member of the New England Quilt Museum, each year the RNQC receives six free passes to the Museum. Each pass is for a member and a guest. If you have not taken advantage of this free visit, you will be very pleased when you do. Lowell is a easy hour and thirty minutes from our area and there is nearby city parking and good restaurants. Please contact me either by e-mail (taralynch5@icloud.com) or by phone (781-828-4016) for your passes.

Tara Lynch, NEQM representative



Quilt Show March 21-22, 2015 News & information

Sarah has just returned from Kenya with 35 beautiful quilts to be displayed and sold at the quilt show.

Sheryl Fowler, from the Kenya guild, will be here to speak and answer any questions at the show.

Have you decided on what quilts you want to enter? Check out the RNQC website for the entry form. Remember, the deadline for entry is February 1, 2015.

Boutique -- Have you decided what you want to put in the boutique? Information about how to go about it is up on the web site.

Baskets -- Do you have an idea for a basket? Maybe you and a friend could do one together? Any donations or help will be greatly appreciated.

Volunteers -- Please start planning on what area you would like to help out your guild in making this a memorable event. Volunteer sign-up sheets will be available at the guild meetings. Members are asked to volunteer 2 hours for each quilt they have submitted for the show.

NOTICE – RACK RENTALS

I have been keeper of the racks for a number of years now and would like to retire from this position. It is a paid position. There is some organization and heavy lifting involved, although, that can be delegated to those renting.

For anyone interested you are more than welcome to call me at your convenience. 508-285-4986.

We do need to rent these out, if only to pay for the storage space. We have been doing that and bringing in some more in addition.

So give me a call for the details before you decide no.

Thank you!
Diana Annis

ZENTANGLES

If you would like to try your hand at Zentangling during the March guild meeting with Pat Ferguson, please send an email to programs@rnqq.org. Pat needs to know in advance how many zentangle kits are needed that evening. There is a \$6.00 fee for the kit which will be collected at the meeting.

Zentangling with a teacher can be thought of as “directed doodling”. Take it from a non-artist who has tried Zentangling — it is both relaxing and FUN!

**REMINDER — REMINDER —
REMINDER**

Quilt registration for the 2015 RNQG Quilt Show closes on February 1! There are no exceptions. You must use the e-form which can be accessed through the “Quilt Show '15” tab on the RNQG website. Please read the instruction page prior to filling the form. Since the form times out if you take too long before submitting, it is recommended that you have all the information you need beside you when you open the form.

If you have any problems or questions, don't hesitate to send an email to quiltregistrar@rnqq.org or call AnneMarie Freitas at 508-930-4771.

NEW ENGLAND QUILT MUSEUM NEWS

18 Shattuck Street, Lowell, MA 978-452-4207

www.nequiltmuseum.org

SHARE OUR PASSION...



Opening Wed, January 14, 2015

A PASSION FOR PRUSSIAN BLUE

Vibrant American Quilts from 1830 to the Present

[MORE INFO](#)

Join us for the Curator's Reception and Gallery Talk
with Guest Curator Anita Loscalzo
Sat, January 31 • 1 pm

Preserving Our History

On View January 14 through March 14, 2015
In the Classroom Gallery

FIRST IMPRESSIONS
New to the Collection

BROWN BAG LECTURE
Thurs, Feb 5 • 12:30-1:30pm

Nancy Halpern, quilt artist and longtime member of
the Museum's Collections Committee,
discusses these remarkable new acquisitions.
Free to members

ONLY A FEW DAYS TO DOUBLE YOUR IMPACT!



A group of generous donors will match Annual Fund contributions made through next Wednesday, December 31, 2014. Please help us reach our fundraising goals during this important matching challenge!

[DONATE ONLINE](#)

Your tax-deductible contribution provides critical operating support for our small nonprofit. No gift is too small, and every gift is greatly appreciated.

Thank you for supporting the important mission of the New England Quilt Museum!

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Museum Book Group

3rd Thursdays at 12:30 pm

The book group meets monthly in the Museum Library to discuss titles, both nonfiction and fiction, related to quilt making and quilt history. All are invited to join in this friendly and engaging discussion led by volunteer, Martha McCarthy.

January 18

To encourage new participants, January's discussion begins with a twist: Please bring a quilt-related book recently purchased, borrowed or received as a gift, and share your thoughts and recommendations with the group.

February 19

Nonfiction: *Made in America 1776-1830: Quilts by the Daughters of Liberty* by Terry Clothier Thompson

Fiction: *Apart at the Seams* by Marie Bostwick

March 19

Nonfiction: *The Needle's Eye: Women's Work in the Age of Revolution* by Marla R. Miller

Fiction: *Clay's Quilt* by Silas House

Visit nequiltmuseum.org for current information on exhibitions, education programs, and seasonal hours.



TRADITIONS & TREASURES QUILT SHOW

MARCH 21 & 22

Together we can make this the best show ever!

Doors open at 10AM, bring a friend or two.

RNQG MEMBERS
present **Traditions &
Treasures Quilt Show**
featuring
“**Out of Africa**”

**Don't be shy we need
everyone to
participate.**

**Enter your quilts,
make a raffle basket,
donate to the guild
member boutique,
VOLUNTEER!**

**Deadline for quilt
entry is February 1,
2015 enter at
RNQG.org**

Blue Hills Regional
Technical School
800 Randolph Street
Canton, MA

Member Feedback

Last month the RNQG meeting was a source of disappointment for me. As a member of RNQG, I have made and donated many quilts in the name of the “comfort quilt” project. I always felt that I wanted to make something that would bring comfort and be a source of peace to someone in need of a hug. The quilt was supposed to brighten someone’s day. I felt that the donation should be appealing and pleasant to look at. I wanted my donated quilt to surround someone going thru a tough time as a reminder that they were loved, thought of and cared about. This very same quilt may even hug a family member long after their loved one has passed as a soothing reminder of their loss... a “comfort quilt” to help them cope with their grief.

I was horrified to think that the presentation and representation of this project has turned into a numbers goal. Since when did we start producing something that you slap together using your crappy, ugly fabric, without a care that points don’t match? Is this under the pretense that the recipient is dying, doesn’t care and won’t know the difference? Where is compassion and pride in the “comfort quilt project”?

Shame on us if this is how we are being represented.

Nancy Pond



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