

Laurel Wreath

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Newsletter of the Rhododendron Needlers Quilt Guild

January – February 2017

JANUARY – FEBRUARY 2017 NEWSLETTER

Happy New Year. The next few months are going to be very busy months for RNQG. On January 18th Pam Weeks, who is the Binney Family Curator of the NE Quilt Museum, will be coming to our meeting to give us a lecture on “A Complete History of Quilting in 60 Minutes or Less.” If you have an antique or not so new quilt that you want to learn more about, bring it to the meeting. **Please note that we will be starting this meeting at 7:15 p.m.** The following Saturday, Michele O’Neil Kincaid is coming to provide us with a workshop entitled “Lady Slippers Trapunto.” This is a great opportunity for us all to learn how to add trapunto to our quilting skills. Please contact Lisa Steinka to sign up.

If you have not yet submitted your applications for the Quilt show, the deadline is January 18th. Some of you may not be very computer savvy and may find the computer application daunting. If so, please contact me and I will help you complete your applications. It is important to us all that everyone who wants to exhibit her quilt(s) has the opportunity to do so.

Diana Richards and Jane McClellan will be holding the Quilt Show meeting on January 25th at the Walpole Library. As quilters we enjoy it when others get to experience our beautiful quilts. In order to do that we all need to pitch in and help to make the show a success. If you have not yet signed up to help, please do so. There are so many different jobs that need filing and it takes our entire community to create the beautiful show that we put on every other year.

The RNQG & Friends Quilt Retreat, February 2-5, is quickly approaching. This will be a great opportunity for those of us who have not yet completed the quilts that we submitted to the quilt show, which is the weekend of March 18-19th, to complete them. The retreat is going to be at the Sea Crest once again this year and we currently have 40 people attending. As we all discovered last year, it is a great way to get to know and to learn from each other.

Last month I mentioned that Kathy Graves would be heading up the RNQG Bee project. At the last meeting she passed around forms for members to sign up to participate in a bee. A Bee can be what a group may choose to make it. There are some where people bring their machines and sew during the time they are together. Others create challenges for the bee to create. Still others meet and inspire others with ideas, critique work, get advice, etc. and don’t use a machine at all during the time they are together. We currently have 15 quilters who have expressed an interest. We will be passing the forms around again at the January meeting. If you are interested and are not going to be attending the meeting please contact Kathy or myself and we will put you on the list.

At the last meeting we announced that Marie Fowler has volunteered to help us with our Comfort Quilt committee. Until this fall RNQG had been involved with the Power of the Quilt Project at the Unitarian Universalist Area Church in Sherborn. When Chris Crawford stepped down as the chair of the committee, the Board made the decision that it was time to bring the entire process back to the guild. We realize that we need to start from the beginning and thus we really need you, our members, to bring in fabrics that you might not want to use any longer, batting, and backs. If you have comfort quilts that you have created, please bring them to the meeting. If you have blocks that you no longer are interested in working on, the committee would love them. We will have a table set up at the meetings for your donations. And speaking of committee, we really would love it if some of our members would step forward and join Marie in this very important aspect of our guild.

In November I mentioned to the guild that 64% of our quilters who filled out the survey expressed an interest in taking a bus trip to the Vermont Quilt Festival. We need someone to volunteer to put this together. To date I have not heard from anyone. If you want to make this happen, we really need someone to step forward to organize it. I hope someone does volunteer, as I am sure that bus trip will prove to be lots of fun.

I have volunteered to be the Co-Program Chair and I am in the process of choosing our speakers/workshops for next year. If you know of a speaker whom you would like to have come to the guild, please let me know. The speakers/teachers that we bring are an important part of what we all expect from our guild and I want to ensure that we satisfy the interests of us all.

Happy quilting,
Terry M. Greenstein
President, RNQG



BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2016-2017

President	Terry Greenstein
Vice President.	Helen Curtis
Secretary.	Jane McClellan
Treasurer.	Karen LeBlanc
Programs 2016-2017.	Lisa Steinka
Programs 2017-2018.	Terry Greenstein
Membership.	Mary Peterson
Newsletter	Mary Sandison
Hospitality.	Venera Emmi
Monthly Raffle.	Nancy Pond
Quilted Comforts.	TBD
Rack Keeper.	Diana Annis
Connecting Thread.	Diana Richard
NEQMA Liaison.	Anita Loscalzo
Auction/Fundraiser.	TBD
Quilt Show 2017.	Diana Richard Jane McClellan
Historian.	Kathy Graves
Raffle Quilt 2017.	Abby Sullivan
Webmaster.	AnneMarie Freitas
Facebook Guru.	Deb Woodhams
Publicity.	Judy Schimdt

RNQG MONTHLY MEETINGS

RNQG meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of the month, from September through June.

NEW MEETING SPACE for 2016-2017:
Norfolk County Agricultural High School
400 Main Street
Walpole, MA

Social time starts at 7:00 PM and the business meeting at 7:30 PM. **The January 18, 2017, meeting will be starting at 7:15 PM.**

Getting to know each other is important.
Please remember to wear your nametag to meetings. If you do, you'll receive a raffle ticket for a fun prize

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

Board meetings are held 6:30- 8:30 at:
Walpole Public Library
143 School Street
Walpole, MA

All members are invited to attend. All board members are highly encouraged attend. The next board meeting is scheduled for March 1, 2017.

Hello from Hospitality

Refreshments:

We will be providing some snacks for your enjoyment at our meeting. We will also provide cups if anyone would like to get some water at the Bubbler. Otherwise, our meetings are now BYOB. If you are unable to bring a treat to your assigned meeting, please just bring something to any meeting of your choice. I will be sending out an email as a reminder about a week before the meeting. If I have listed anyone below who is a member of the board, please forgive the error and ignore the request.

The following quilters are asked to bring something for the **January meeting**:

Angela Dubuc, Janet Elia, Emily Ellen, Jacqueline Fleishman, Marie Fowler, Judith Garfunkel, Sonia Giandomenico, Beverly Giblin, Sue Goldstein, Marcia N. Grey.

The following quilters are asked to bring something to the **February meeting**:

Mary Harrington, Renie Howard, Janet Irons, Mary Joyce, Barbara Keegan, Peg Kellogg, Maria Lage, Ruth-Ann MacEachern, Maureen McEntee and Deborah McManus.

Thank you,
Venera

LIBRARY UPDATE

It has been decided to disband the library. The books are extremely heavy (at least 200lbs!) Even bringing one carton to a meeting is prohibitive (40lbs). We will be sorting the newest books to be used by the raffle committee. The remainder will be sold at the Quilt Show.

RNQG FACEBOOK

Please “friend” us on our Facebook page, **Rhododendron Needlers Quilt Guild**. Invite your friends to join our page as we step into the world of Social Media.

CONNECTING THREADS

This year the RNQG contact person for Connecting Threads is Diana Richard.

If you know of a guild member who has been ill, had a death in the family, was recently married, had a baby, or needs a friendly greeting for any reason, please contact the [Connecting Threads Coordinator](#) on our guild website.

When we are having a tough time due to any reason, it is very nice to have those well wishes come to us from the guild.

WEBSITE: www.rnqg.org

You may not realize it, but the RNQG website is always evolving! Most of the recent changes are associated with our 2017 quilt show. From our home page at rnqg.org, I encourage you to click on the “Quilt Show ‘17” navigation button on the left side of the page to reach the main page for the quilt show. The tabs along the top of the page give you access to the newest addition, “Quilt Show Q & A”, as well as the Quilt Entry Rules, the E-form for quilt registration, and information about the Boutique table. Please let me know if you think the Q & A article is missing anything!

Since I frequently find myself responding to questions asked with the prefix, “you can find that on the website, but”, I have come to realize that a majority of the members have not meandered through its pages.

Did you know...

- Our home page (“About the Guild”) button has tabs that can bring you to information on membership, the history of our charitable quilt involvement, the towns to which library and student scholarships have been granted, the text of our constitution, and ways that you can get more actively involved with the guild, including a description of the board positions and the duties associated with each?
- Tabs at the top of the “Calendar” page allow you to go directly to detailed information for a particular month? The month-specific pages include background information on the guest speaker, workshop specifics and links to workshop supply lists?
- The “Photos” page has tabs that allow you to peruse photographs from a particular guild year as far back as 2010-11?
- Visitors to the “Member Resources” page gives access to a variety of topics of potential interest to RNQG members, including:
 1. all RNQG newsletters since September, 2010,
 2. the list of RNQG library holdings, sorted by title, author or subject,
 3. a printable copy of the RNQG reimbursement form,

- 4. email access to the “Connecting Threads” coordinator, the guild member responsible for sending greeting cards to members in cases where comfort or congratulations are appropriate, and
- 5. the instructions for making RNQG nametags?
- The “Links” page contains URL’s for member-owned businesses as well as websites of general interest to all quilters?
- If you need to contact a guild board member, the “Contact Us” page gives you an easy way to use email to get in touch with the person you desire without needing to open the membership directory?

Hopefully, this article has piqued your interest and you will soon embark on a stroll through the RNQG website (www.rnqg.org)!

Please let me know if there is anything YOU would like to have added!

AnneMarie Freitas
webmaster@rnqg.org

RNQG 2016 Summer Challenge (still ongoing)

“Please Don’t Touch the Quilts!”

This phrase is always prominently (and frequently) displayed at quilt shows. Wouldn’t it be nice if the reminders were also quilts, as lovely as those they aim to protect? With our next quilt show on the horizon, the goal of this challenge is to create a small quilt that gets across the idea, “Please Don’t Touch the Quilts!”

Challenge Rules:

- Quilt Size (approximate): 10” X 12”
- There is no restriction on materials or embellishments. Let your creative juices flow!
- It is not necessary to include text -- challenge quilts may be purely visual representations (like international road signs)
- No hanging sleeve is required.

Please bring your completed quilt to the next guild meeting for display. Since the challenge quilts will become the property of RNQG, each person who participates in the challenge will receive a small gift as a “Thank You” for participation. The challenge quilts will be listed as a Viewer’s Choice judging category at the Quilt Show!

RNQG Programs 2016-17

Happy New Year to All! We still have some wonderful lectures and programs coming this winter and spring.

1. Pam Weeks will be speaking at our January meeting- A Brief History of Quilting in 60 Minutes or Less. THIS MEETING WILL START AT 7:15 WITH HER LECTURE. This is at her request in case of winter driving conditions.
2. Michele O’Neil Kincaid is presenting our Saturday workshop at AAQ on January 21. Lady Slipper Trapunto. Come to the meeting to see the sample for this class.
3. Michelle Tade Banton is presenting From Concept to Consumer at our February meeting. A great talk on the process of a design becoming a fabric.
4. March has us with last minute prep for the Quilt Show. In addition to those tasks, I will have the Library at the meeting for the last time. It was agreed that we will not continue with the library because of transportation and storage constraints. Books will be available for purchase. What is not sold will be given to either the monthly raffles or

to the Boutique to sell at the show. Lastly I will also be running a short video on the Kentucky Quilt Project- The first group to collect state historic quilts.

5. April is **Strut Your Stuff** and artists reception celebrating the Quilt Show Winners. Winners- please bring your quilts to show and share stories- inspiration to aggravations! The rest of you, come see the quilts and enjoy the refreshments and social time. This is instead of our pot luck as there is no place to hold it in our new location.

6. May is for Riane Menardi. At the meeting she will present Zoom In: Exploring Cropping and Scale in Modern Quilt Design. On Thursday she will present a Half Day class High Contrast Hand Quilting. Check out the website for her supply list.

Raffle quilt update

We are getting down to the wire for selling and returning tickets for our Raffle Quilt!! Please bring your ticket stubs and money to the next Guild meeting (and pick up more if you need them:-)

The RNQG raffle quilt mugs are still available for \$13. Please contact Abby Sullivan or Marci Toma by email if you want it at the January meeting.

Thanks for all your hard work marketing our quilt, and remember as always, **Sell Sell Sell!**
Your Raffle Quilt Committee

QUILT SHOW NEWS RNQG 2017 QUILT SHOW - March 18-19 2017

Next Committee meeting: Jan 25, 2016, 6:30 pm Walpole Library, *in the children’s room on first floor*. All show committee chairs are encouraged to attend. If you are not able to attend, please let Diana know.

Other than the fact that we still have no one stepping up to lead the set-up process on Friday, the rest of the planning is going along great. My co- chair, Jane, and I are very excited about the progress.

ENTRIES: We need your entries!! Please remember your quilts **DO NOT have to be done** in order to fill out the entry form. You need a photo to give us an idea of what it is and most important we need the measurements. Don’t forget to register your quilts for the quilt show! The deadline (Jan 18) is fast approaching! Quilts must be registered using the e-form accessed through the “Quilt Show ‘17” page on the website. Make sure you understand the quilt categories and requirements for the label and sleeve – details can be found on the “Quilt Entry Rules” page. It is also worthwhile visiting the “Quilt Show Q & A” page, especially if you are not comfortable with using the e-form – there is an **instructional video available** both here and on the RNQG Facebook page that demonstrates filling the e-form.

One common problem for individuals registering quilts is learning that the photo they wish to attach is too large. The e-form will not accept a photo that is larger than 2 MB. It is very easy to re-size photos on both Macs and Windows-based computers using programs that came with your computer! There are many YouTube videos that demonstrate how to resize photos. The links to these videos can also be found on the Quilt Show Q & A page.

If your photo is on your phone, you should copy it onto your computer so it can be attached to the e-form. The easiest way to do this is to email it to yourself! IF you cannot get your photo into the electronic form, there are instructions on how you can submit your entry with a print photo. If you have any questions or difficulties with the e-form, don’t hesitate to email registrar@rnqg.org

RAFFLE BASKETS: should be turned in at the Jan 18 meeting. If you have signed up for one of Angela’s themed baskets or items, or volunteered to make your own basket, please bring them to the Jan meeting. If you don’t remember what you signed up for please contact her at rafflebaskets@rnqg.org

PUBLICITY: informational flyers have gone out to many, many shops and guilds. Judy is also working on getting the information into newspapers and tv stations. I will have some post cards bundled at the Jan meeting that need to go to specific shops and am hoping that those of you who are close to or go to these shops would be able to take them. We need shops, libraries, and senior citizen centers to get this info

COMFORT QUILTS: As with past shows, we will have an area to promote our Comfort Quilts. It will be an active, hands on display and we will need a supply of comfort quilts for the display. For those of you who have some ready for donating, or can finish some by show time, please be sure to bring them to hand in to Marie Fowler, our new comfort quilt co-coordinator.

BOUTIQUE: *Remember the pillow forms many of us picked up at our last meeting at the VFW? I took one with the suggestion to cover it to be sold at our show. Proceeds to go to our treasury. I love this idea! Let's see how many we can have done! Diana Annis*

Boutique inventory forms are available on our website. Carolyn Anderson has run the boutique several times and has a good handle on it. She does have a specific system for keeping track of your sales and asks that you use her price tags that she provides and these are available from her or Diana Richard at each of the meetings up till show time! Please pick up some at the show table at each meeting

VOLUNTEERS: Lisa Steinka will be providing the volunteer staffing sheets at each of the next meetings for everyone to start signing up for your show jobs. Everyone who enters a quilt is required to sign up for a minimum of two hours at the show, or four hours if two or more quilts are submitted for display. However, everyone in this guild benefits from the show. This is how we pay for our teachers, our workshops, our meeting places, etc. Even if you do not enter a quilt, you are benefiting from the show and I encourage every member to find time to volunteer for shifts at the show. We are also looking for extra able-bodied helpers for set up and take down. If you have husbands, boyfriends, sons, or friends and family members that can do some lifting and climb ladders, we need the help. Please check out the sign ups at the Quilt show table at our meeting, or contact Lisa at volunteer@rnqg.org

MEMBERSHIP: We will be actively recruiting new members at the show and to help with this we are initiating a Big Sister Mentor Program. Each new member that joins at the show will not only get the usual 3 free meetings for the rest of the 2016-2017 year, but will be assigned a big sister and given that contact information that day. They will also receive a name tag (thank you Joanne Beaupre for making them ahead), be sent the last newsletter, and directory within the following week, and a call from the assigned big sister within a week to make contact and welcome the new member. The big sister should also make a point of inviting the new member to the April meeting, meet up with her there, and be ready to introduce the new member at the meeting. I am asking for 10-15 of our current members to sign up to be a big sister mentor, and the signup sheets will be at our show table at each guild meeting.

BUCK A BLOCK

New for the 2017 Quilt Show, Karen LeBlanc is the Chairperson and will be working together with the Comfort Quilt chairperson, Marie Fowler.

- 1) I want to encourage visitors to sit and sew a block whether they are non-sewers or professional sewers.
- 2) There will be a 12 ½ inch square and two small squares with the line drawn on the diagonal to be sewn on opposite corners. For \$1.00 visitors can sit and sew a block to take home or sit and sew a 6 ½ inch and two small squares to be incorporated into a Charity Quilt for the RNQG Guild. Also, I will have fabric pens available for personal messages.

Thank you
Karen LeBlanc



New England Quilt Museum

18 SHATTUCK ST., LOWELL, MASSACHUSETTS 01852

www.nequiltmuseum.org

News from the New England Quilt Museum

Current Exhibits & Upcoming events

In the main galleries:

The Quilted Canvas: The Crit Group: 30 Years and Still Quilting

January 11 through April 29, 2017

This exhibit of works by five artists in fiber is a unique insight into the relationships of a critique group. Judy Becker, Nancy Crasco, Sandy Donabed, Sylvia Einstein, and Carol Anne Grotrian have been meeting each month for thirty years to support and sustain each other as artists. Nancy Crasco states, “the focus of our gatherings is always about the work: assisting with aesthetic and construction concerns, sharing opportunities to exhibit, discussing current trends in fiber, and providing the impetus to continue creating.” All of the artists have gained national recognition and have exhibited widely in the United States and abroad.

Each of the artists has a distinct style which is acknowledged and encouraged by the others. They agree that the scariest outcome of a critique group would be to have their works be similar. Each artist has a different source of motivation or inspiration and employs a unique manner of working.

Saturday, January 28, 2017 at 11 am

Curator's Reception and Gallery Talk with the Artists

(Snow Date: Feb 4)

BROWN BAG LECTURE

Thursday, Feb 2 at 12:30 pm

“Breaking the Surface: Creating Digital Fiber Art”

Free to members and included with admission for nonmembers

Wen Redmond is a mixed media artist who delights in creating dialogue, changing perspectives and perceptions of fiber. She works intuitively, encouraging ‘flow’, experimentation and the inner muse both in herself and her workshop participants. Wen has created several signature techniques; **Digital Fiber, Holographic Images** published in *Quilting Arts Magazine* with an **appearance on Quilting Arts TV**, and Serendipity Collage Technique published in *Cloth Paper Scissors Magazine*. She has two Interweave DVD Workshops, Holographic Memories and **Textured Digital Photographs**. Her book, *Digital Fiber* is due in December 2016.

In the classroom gallery:

Along the Spice Route: A Journey in 41 Wall Quilts

On View through February 11, 2017

Featuring 41 artistic interpretations of spices that refine modern cuisine, *Along the Spice Route*, offers an opportunity to discover the spices’ countries of origin, the importance of ancient trade routes, and the lasting connections between the world’s cultural heritages.

February 15 - April 29, 2017

Water is Life: A Quilts for Change Exhibition



Local Quilts Shows and Events

January-March 2017

Quilt Exhibit: "The embroidered quilts of Donna Ruggiero"
Brookside Quiltworks
2 Sheffield Rdk, Egremont, MA 01258
(413) 528-0445 or catherine@brooksidequiltworks.com

February 16–18, 2017

The Fabric Extravaganza 2017 (Bargain Hunters Sale!)
Holiday Inn,
3 Northeastern Blvd, Nashua, NH 03062
Admission is FREE
Hours: 10 Am to 6 PM Thursday and Friday, Feb 16 & 17th
10 AM to 3 PM Saturday, Feb 18th
Multi store owner event with huge savings on hundreds and hundreds of fabrics, books, patterns, notions, quilting supplies and more! It's our once a year "blow-out" sale.

March 18-19 2017 ☺

Rhododendron Needlers Quilt Guild Quilt Show
Blue Hills Regional High School
800 Randolph Street, Canton, MA 02021
www.rnqg.org

March 24 – 26, 2017

Annual Schoolhouse Shop Hop
Various locations in MA & NH
<http://www.schoolhouseshophop.com>

April 1-2, 2017

Hands All Around 16th Biennial Quilt Show
Hands Across the Valley Quilt Guild
University of Massachusetts
One Campus Center Way, Amherst, MA
www.handsacrossthevalley.org/quilt-show

April 5-8, 2017

MQX Quilt Festival – New England
The Center of New Hampshire/Radisson Hotel
Manchester, NH
<http://www.mqxshow.com/MQX/East/QuiltShow/>

April 8-9, 2017

Tewksbury Piecemakers Annual Quilt Show
Tewksbury Senior Center
175 Chandler St, Tewksbury, MA
tewksburypiecemakers.com
Denise Sawyer 978-761-7415 dgsawyer1@yahoo.com

May 11-13, 2017

6th Annual 2017 BUCC Quilt Show & Sale "Get Your Bow Tie On"

Thur. 5-8pm, Fri. 9am-8pm, Sat. 9am-5pm.

Entry fee is \$5 (under 12 free)

Belchertown United Church of Christ

18 Park Street

Belchertown, MA 01007

<http://buccquiltshowandsale.weebly.com/>

May 13 – October 22, 2017

Circular Abstractions: Bulls-Eye Quilts

Fuller Craft Museum

Brockton MA 02301

<http://fullercraft.org/event/circular-abstractions-bulls-eye-quilts/>

A useful link to quilt shops and quilt shows is: <http://www.quiltersresources.net>

Also, two new quilt shops have opened in the last few months:

- ❖ Near Amherst is the Yellow Quilt Shop, 131 Main St, Hatfield MA, 01038
www.Theyellowquiltshop.com
- ❖ On the cape is Cape Cod Quilts and Cottages, 159 Main St, West Dennis, 02670
www.capecodquiltsandcottages.com

CLASSIFIED ADS - FOR SALE

This section is new this year!

If you have a quilt related item you would like to advertise, please send the following information to editor@rngg.org

Item for Sale:

Description: *(include condition of item - new, used, etc.)*

Asking Price: *(state whether firm price, negotiable, best offer)*

Contact information:

Advertising is free for RNQG members and \$1.00, per newsletter, for non-members (\$5.00 for the year).

For Sale - from RNQG member Laura Rosenspan:

Looking for a good home for - my beautiful and working Singer Treadle Machine, black with gold filigree. It is in its original wood cabinet, with six drawers (3 and 3), and it is on wheels. See photos below.

I am offering it to Rhodie members (and friends) first, before I put it on Craig's List.

It is a loved and cared for machine and cabinet. A gorgeous piece of furniture and a working machine all in one.

I am asking for \$465.00 or best offer.

Contact me, Laura Rosenspan, [781-784-2668](tel:781-784-2668) or [781-820-7898](tel:781-820-7898) or LRQuilts@aol.com

BTW - if you haven't tried sewing on one of these and especially if you haven't tried Free-motion quilting on a vintage Singer sewing machine, consider this:

1 - finishing a quilt (sewing together the top, batting and backing) by machine probably was one of the first things done with the invention of the sewing machine in the 1850's.

2 - these machines have a larger underarm space than modern machines: typically 7" across the bed from needle to pylon and a good 4 to 5 inches in height. Some modern machines barely have 4" to work with. This allows you to fit and work with larger quilts than you can deal with, with most modern machines.

3 - Feed Dog Drop for free motion quilting on many models. The Singer 201, and the "15" series (15-88, 15-90, and 15-91) all have simple mechanisms for dropping feed dogs via a thumb screw located just under the bed in front.

4 - The Heavy Weight of the machine allows you to move the quilt around without fear of the machine moving around.

5 - Original Singer Cabinets provide an even better stability for free motion work.





Support RNQG members and local businesses

Do you have a business you would like to advertise? Please send an email to editor@rnqg.org for information.



Visit Kathy's website at <http://nextgenerationquilting.net>



REMINDER
Always show your RNQG membership card to receive a discount on your purchases at
All About Quilts and Ann's Fabrics.