



Laurel

Wreath

Volume 39

Newsletter of the Rhododendron Needlers Quilt Guild

Sept./'22

President's Message

A new year is right around the corner and I hope you are all ready for it. I am especially looking forward to our first Quilt Show in 6 years!! We are "A Community of Quilters". As such, let's come together to embrace the work that comes with a Quilt Show year. We are a smaller guild than we were at the last show which makes it so much more important for everyone to find a place to help. You've all heard it before-- many hands make light work-- but it's also true that many helping hands working together make a community.

We have a new meeting place at the **Knights of Columbus Hall at 137 Stone Street in Walpole**. That's important to know since we are starting our year in person. I'm sure that while we are all anxious to see our friends again, some are anxious about that contact as well. Masks at this time are not mandatory but certainly welcome. The most important part is for everyone to be comfortable. We will continue to present meetings via Zoom in Nov, Jan, Feb. I am sure that it will be a comfort knowing we don't have to brave the cold, snow and ice of winter driving.

On October 2nd we have Phyllis Cullen returning in person to present her workshop "Portrait Collage". And at our October meeting Suzi Perron will share a presentation on "Barn Quilts". In May, our own Diana Annis will present "How Do I Quilt This" at our meeting and follow up with a full day workshop on "Machine Quilting".

This is a year of tightening our belts. Hosting workshops and speakers without the benefit of three missed shows has diminished our coffers. This year five of our members are stepping forward to present trunk shows and presentations. I am sure you will be awed by the talent and generosity of our members.

I want to thank everyone who has stepped up to chair a committee, and I welcome newcomers to the guild and to the board. We all benefit from new knowledge shared. Be sure to read the newsletter and check out our website for more complete information on our meetings, workshops, sew-alongs and quilt show news.

Lastly, I want to thank Venera for her time and efforts to keep us going these past three years. I hope to be able to fill her shoes
Lisa

2022-23 RNQG Kickoff

Our first meeting will take place on **September 21, 2022** from 7 – 9 PM at the **Walpole Knights of Columbus Hall** located at **137 Stone Street in Walpole**, a short distance from the Walpole Public Library. The building is handicap-accessible and



has ample parking.

When September rolls in, you know it's time to kickoff a new quilting year! 2022-23 promises to be exciting for members of RNQG since we will host our first quilt show since 2017. Join fellow guild members for this in-person meeting at a NEW VENUE to get your first look at the the year. Don't miss out -- the biggest penalty is not learning about the great things in store. Our goal is 100% participation.

Topics to be covered include:

Program Preview

ZOOM tutorial / tips / etiquette, and

Quilt Show Information and Status

A Comfort Quilt Block pattern will also be distributed for the January Sew-Along

Don't forget to bring all the quilts you have completed over the course of the

summer for show-and tell, especially postcard quilts that will be sold at the show!

October 2, 2022 9:30AM – 5 PM All About Quilts

SUNDAY Workshop: "Portrait Collage"

Phyllis Cullen

Website: phylliscullenartstudio.com

Member Fee: \$65 Non-Member Fee: \$75

By popular demand, Phyllis returns to RNQG to teach members and friends how to make fabulous portrait collages from a photo! During class, Phyllis will describe her process for posterizing photos.



Unfortunately there is not enough time in a one-day workshop for students to posterize their own photos and complete the project layout.

Visit the RNQG October calendar page to see the workshop sign-up sheet and workshop supply list. It's not too late to sign up to learn the technique if you use a photo / kit available from Phyllis!

October 19, 2022 7PM – 9 PM Walpole K of C Hall

Topic: "Barn Quilts" Suzi Parron Website: barnquiltinfo.com/suzi.htm

Suzi Parron is a quilter, a folk art collector, and an avid kayaker. She stumbled across her first barn quilt in 2008, and immediately looked for a book with more information. Finding that there were none, she decided to write one!

Quilt trail founder Donna Sue Groves provided her with lots of contacts and background information, and Suzi spent the next two years of weekends and summers writing her first book "*Barn Quilts and the American Quilt Trail Movement*", published in 2012.

Her evening lecture this takes the audience on a journey along the quilt trail, beginning with the very first barn quilt.

The presentation features over one hundred stunning photographs of barn quilts, some of which rival cloth quilts in their intricacy. You will hear stories of some of the individuals who have painted quilt blocks to honor loved ones or their local culture, along with a few humorous anecdotes. Her commentary is both informative and entertaining, exploring the way in which our quilting heritage takes on new meaning as this movement continues to expand.

Barn quilts now appear in forty-eight states and two Canadian provinces. Her subsequent book, "*Following the Barn Quilt Trail*" was published in 2016 and features an additional 130 photographs which she snapped during a 13,000-mile trek across 30 states and parts of Canada.

October 18, 2022 Suzi Parron Website: barnquiltinfo.com/suzi.htm

TUESDAY Workshop, 10 AM – 3 PM

DAY PRIOR to RNQG guild meeting

Painting" Fee: \$55 Workshop Supply Kit: \$40

Church of Our Savior Hall

60 Union Street, Middleboro, MA



Join the barn quilt movement by creating your own painted quilt block! You will begin with a pre-primed board and go through each step -- drafting, taping, and painting —with careful attention to detail. You will leave with a finished quilt block or with one last color which will be provided to add at home. It can be ready for show and tell at the RNQG Wednesday night meeting!

This workshop is hosted by Silver City Quilt Guild so it takes place the day before Suzi is our guest speaker. Interested individuals must **contact Cindy Barret, the SCQG program chair, at crosscntry@gmail.com prior to September 24 so a supply kit for you can be included in the shipment.**

The link to the workshop supply list can be found on the RNQG calendar page for October.



A Community of Quilters Quilt Show Update

The quilt show date has been confirmed with the **Blue Hills Voc Tech High School for March 18-19, 2023**. It will be here before you know it! Quilt Show planning is in full gear!

We are excited to report that we have been meeting and making great progress! Our quilt show committee leaders have all submitted budgets. These were discussed and voted on at our recent quilt show committee meeting as well as the RNQG board meeting. The budget was very involved and we appreciate the work that went into this important stage of planning. We are working to keep the budget low without skimping on the things that make our show so great. Individual quilt show committees have continued to meet and work on their specific role for the show. These committee chairs will be sending our requests for volunteers. Please consider helping in as many ways as you can. The ribbon categories for the show have been established including

Art/Contemporary
Machine Pieced Wall
Machine Pieced Bed/Lap
Machine Applique Wall/Bed/Lap
Hand Made
Look what I made in Class
Best of Show
Best Machine quilting
Best Hand Quilting

Please continue to complete UFOs and half-done class projects. Although we are smaller in number, we should have plenty of Covid quilts to show. We will also be showcasing the quilts you have made during our workshops.

As far as publicity, Maura Woodard has created a beautiful "Save the Date" card featuring our stunning raffle quilt. Please take some at the September meeting and bring them along as you visit quilt shows and shops. There is an on-line version to share virtually. Thanks to all who have already shared on Facebook!

Maura has been working on getting the word out and is actively advertising when the Blue Plate Special show quilt is moved to a new venue. When you visit these shops, be sure to let them know how much we appreciate allowing our quilt to hang there.

Diana Richard has started to receive confirmations from vendors after sending out countless letters and personally speaking to vendors at quilt shows. Understandably, these are smaller in number. If you have any leads for her please send her an email.

After much discussion, we have decided to create a traditional quilt show booklet. These booklets can be very expensive to print. The prices for ads were discussed and voted on. This will include business card size ads for \$25 and an opportunity for quilters and families to submit one or two lines of encouragement (much like a graduation or dance show booklet). These ads will generate \$5 for one line and \$10 for two lines. This will be fun and was enthusiastically endorsed by all board members.

Raffle baskets and the boutique committees are bustling ,and information is included separately in this newsletter. As you can see, we are well on our way to our best quilt show yet! Please continue to look for ways you can contribute.

Terry Greenstein and Mary Peterson

Publicity

I have been busy publicizing the Raffle Quilt Summer Tour with some luck from online and print publications! Please ask the general membership to share on their social media and town pages. It's very much where people get their news today.

Currently the quilt is at Franklin Mill Store, then Norwood Day Sept 10 and Medfield Day Sept 24. It will round out November at Emma's In Franklin. See Carol Coakley for October Tour dates. If anyone needs more Quilt Show postcards, let me know.

Maura Woodward



Summer Challenge

I hope that everyone was able to work on the Summer Challenge over the summer: We will collect the 5" x 8" mini postcard quilts at the September meeting. I distributed the pre-cut the pellon kits with instructions at our May meeting and for those who did not attend the meeting, I left the remaining kits with Venera at All About Quilts.

These quilts are fun to create and don't take that much time. We will be selling them for \$10 at our Quilt Show. It is an inexpensive way for someone to leave our quilt show with a little piece of artwork and we hope that this will be one way to bring in income to the guild.

If you have not had a chance to complete the postcard quilts, there still is time to do so. If you choose not to make them and have the kits, please bring them to the September meeting as I am sure that there will be members who would want to make additional quilts. These photos of mini quilts were made by AnneMarie Freitas and are a great illustration of what you can create. Thanks in advance for participating in the challenge.

Terry Greenstein



Updates on 2023 Raffle Baskets

Here's hoping everyone had a relaxing and fun summer! I truly appreciate the support and help in preparing the raffle baskets for the March show. Below is a list of baskets and who has signed up for them. If there are any errors please let me know

Life is Better at the Beach	Brenda
Movie Night	Janet Elia
It's a Dog's World	Peg Kellogg
Book Worm	Brenda
Games	Carol
Taste of Italy	Mary P.
Ruler Basket	Venera
Craft Beer	Renate and Ines
Clean Your Car	Maura

Who Doesn't Love Chocolate	Terry R.
Snap on Tools	Susan K.
Grill Time	Evelyn M.
Bird Watching	Brenda
Cat Basket	Karen L.
Gluten Free	Lisa
Sue Pellan Basket	Sue
Everything Coming Up Roses,	
Kid's Art, Time to Relax	Stephanie
Knitting	Diana A.

I will start collecting these items at our meetings starting in September. I want to thank everyone who has stepped up to the task. It is really appreciated. If you haven't signed up it's not too late. Please see Stephanie if you have ideas for any other baskets.

I have reached out to approximately 40 companies for donations and have only received one response. I understand times are difficult but was very surprised at the lack of response. That is why your help is critical to make this a success.

We are also having some fun and asking every member to bring in one spool of thread and one fat quarter. We will be collecting these and will raffle a basket of thread to a lucky member of the guild on the day of the show and a basket of fat quarters to another lucky member! You must participate in order to qualify so please remember to bring these items in. I will be collecting them as well and will have a checklist of who have participated. Thanks for your time. If anyone has any questions or concerns please give me a call.

Stephanie sewbit55@yahoo.com

Comfort Quilts

Here's hoping everyone had a wonderful summer and maybe had a chance to get some quilting done! I received quite a few quilts from members. Some will be going to the foster care agency we are affiliated with and some will be going to the Medway House Family Shelter. The foster agency placed kids over the summer and one of their clients is pregnant. I will bring them a bag of quilts for all the kiddos and the baby on the way!

The shelter has many new clients, most with children. I will focus on the kids first but may also have some quilts for the parents.

Please bring any completed quilts to me at our next meeting and please let me know if you need any backing or batting. I will have some kits available to pick up and possibly some quilts to bind. Thank you for all you do!!

Terry Ruta

Sew-Along

The result of the Monkey Survey indicated that a significant number of members preferred a Tuesday evening Sew-Along, so we have scheduled a few Tuesday evenings this year starting in December.

Come join us for quilting and conversation.

Sunday, September 11th and Sunday, September 25th.

Sunday, October 16th

Sunday, November 6th

Mark your calendars. Let's get quilting.

Venera Emmi

Sew-Along Host

Fundraising

It's not open season to apply for grants yet, but if you were negatively impacted by the pandemic as an individual artist or as an arts corporation, check out the Mass Cultural Council website. There are Cultural Sector Recovery Grants for individuals and corporations. They say the application process should take 15-30 minutes and is not very restrictive. Individuals could receive \$5000. Unfortunately the guild does not have annual revenue of \$50,000 so it does not apply to our guild as a corporation.

Check out this for your businesses, large or small, and if you earn income as an artist. Deadline is Nov 1.

Other Quilt Exhibits

* Tree Ring Histories, the quilts of Anna Von Mertens

Website: https://arboretum.harvard.edu/art_shows/tree-ring-histories-the-quilts-of-anna-von-mertens/

* Cochecho Quilt Guild Exhibit in Rochester, New Hampshire October 22,23, 2022

Website: <http://cochechoquilters.com/index.html>

NEWS FROM THE NEW ENGLAND QUILT MUSEUM

Hours: Tuesday through Saturday, 10 AM - 4 PM; Closed Sundays and Mondays

Special closings: November 25 (Thanksgiving) & December 25 (Christmas)

A parking lot behind the museum is available for free parking ON WEEKENDS ONLY. A new free parking option when the Lowell National Historical Park Visitor Center is open can be viewed at: <https://www.nps.gov/lowe/planyourvisit/directions.htm>

CURRENT EXHIBITS:

Now through October 1, 2022

* Reflections of light: recent works by Caryl Bryer Fallert-Gentry

* Barbara Brackman's "hospital sketches": applique quilts inspired by Civil war healthcare workers

Now through October 15, 2022

Every quilt tells a story: new accessions to the neqm collection

October 4 – December 31, 2022

* works by Tomie Nagano

*Sustainability: solutions to improve our world by saqa

October 18 – December 31, 2022

* Log cabin quilts from the permanent collection

SPECIAL EVENTS:

Saturday, November 12, 2022 at 11 a.m.

A Talk and Reading by Linda Hoffman: The Artist and the Orchard, A Memoir

NBQA Hosting Upcoming Quilt Show

The Narrigansett Bay Quilters Association will be hosting their upcoming quilt show, "Harvest of Quilts" on Friday, October 14 and Saturday, October 16 from 10 AM to 4 PM each day at the United Methodist Church of East Greenwich, RI, 1558 South County Trail, East Greenwich RI 02818. There will be vendors, themed raffle baskets, NBQA Raffle Quilt and the "Boutique at NBQA" Buses are welcome.

For more information contact Quilt Show Chair Joan Potter at joanpotter1@cox.net or nbqamail@gmail.com or stetso_nbarbara6@gmail.com

NBQA website: <http://www.nbqa.org>

Sewstainability Stash Share

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24 10:00 AM—2:00 PM

Simoni Room Morrill Memorial Library 33 Walpole St., Norwood, MA, 02062

Share fabric and craft supplies.

Come to the Morrill Memorial Library's Simoni Room between the hours of 10:00am and 2:00pm for Sewstainability's semi annual StashShare. At this event people share with one another rather than having to buy sewing needlework and crafting materials and equipment. Come drop off materials from your personal stash that don't seem to get used so others can enjoy them.

No registration is required Drop in to the event, leave things, browse for yourself, and go home ready for productive and pleasant winter days. No money needed.
The Share is for people in Norwood and surrounding communities.
NO businesses please.

Please deliver the things you have to share during one of the following times:

- Thursday, September 22 between 7:00-8:30 PM;
- Friday, September 23 between 10:00 AM-4:00 PM;
- Saturday, September 24 between 9-10 AM.

We need time to set things out on the tables and group by categories before the actual share happens.

*If you are able to help transport from our storage and help set up the tables in advance on the Friday drop-off date, let us know at: sustain@tgryes.org
Call the Reference Desk at 781-769-0200 x2 for more information.

Be Safe, a tip from fellow member Laura Rosenspan

I have been quilting since 1978 and I've been teaching almost as long. I always wash my fabrics first and have advised my students to as well. From traditional quilt making and garment making - flash forward to contemporary wall quilts and fiber sculptures.

So now the question, do we still wash fabric before cutting and stitching even if our end product is not for sleeping under, or wearing, or for babies?
The definitive answer – YES! The reasons are:

1. To remove harmful chemicals.

New fabric (and new clothing) can wreak havoc on your skin if it hasn't first been washed. Unwashed fabrics can disperse dyes, formaldehyde and all kinds of finishing resins which are extremely harsh on the skin and can cause textile contact dermatitis. As a former textile designer, I assure you chemicals are used for many reasons: to help the dyes penetrate the cloth, to adhere the paints, to make the colors glow, and to appeal to the buyers. So even if you don't think you need to wash your new fabric purchases since you are making art for the wall you should. After all, you are handling the fabric with your bare hands, right?

2. Germs and bugs

The NHS and CDC both confirm that unwashed clothing can transmit viruses ranging from COVID-19 to norovirus (severe stomach flu), as well as bacteria and even parasites like lice and the mites responsible for scabies infections. In the article I was just reading, according to a Dr. Liv, contact dermatitis is a skin disease that you can think of as a huge allergic reaction in which the skin becomes itchy, scaly and bumpy. They wrote, "if you're guilty of wearing new threads before washing them, you might need to stop blaming hormones and changes in the weather for the occasional skin crisis you experience. Even if you've been lucky so far, it's best not to tempt fate, since Dr. Liv tells

us that flare-ups of contact dermatitis can be quite stubborn and often require cortisol in order to calm down.”

So, I'm just saying, in order to stay safe, wash your new fabric and any new clothes you buy).

Laura Rosenspan

**ALL
ABOUT
QUILTS**

958 Main St
Walpole, MA

508-668-0145
allaboutquiltswalpole@gmail.com
allaboutquilts.com