

# Laurel



# Wreath

Volume 41

Rhododendron Needlers Quilt Guild Newsletter

Jan/2023

## President's Message

Happy New Year fellow quilters!

It's exciting planning for our first quilt show since 2017! So much to be done, so many beautiful quilts to show. I hope you're all getting your last minute quilting finished including the hanging sleeves.

Thank-yous go out to everyone who has already been working hard to get us ready-- Terry G, Mary, AnneMarie, Maura, and Diana R as well as everyone who has signed up to work the show weekend. It takes a community to put on a show like ours.

One last piece of business: we need someone to step up to be president for next year.

Smooth quilting to all,  
Lisa Steinka

## 2022-23 Raffle

"Blue Plate Specials" will be on display at Homestead Quilting and Fabrics, Main St. in Lakeville during the month of January. Please encourage friends, family members, and colleagues who live in the surrounding area to patronize the shop, see our beautiful quilt and buy raffle tickets!

I have not yet lined up another display venue in February.

On Friday, March 3, and Saturday, March 4, I need volunteers to staff the table at Fabric Place Basement in Framingham from 11am-3pm. I will be out of state but have made arrangements for selling tickets there, the last display before the quilt show. Please contact me if you can spare a few hours towards this effort.



**It is also time to think about the design for the 2024/2025 raffle quilt.**

Please submit ideas to [ideas@rnqg.org](mailto:ideas@rnqg.org).

Deadline for submission is February 1st. All ideas are welcome!

Carol Coakley

## Quilt Show Update

With just 3 months until the Quilt Show we want to update you on all that we have been doing to prepare for a great show.

\*AnneMarie has continued to update the website with relevant information as it is sent to her. If you have any questions about the show or submitting your applications for the show, the Q & A section of the Quilt Show probably has the answer. Please remember that your applications are due on January 18th so if you have not submitted them please do so as soon as possible. If you are having trouble reducing the size of the photos there is a link to learn how to do it under the Q & A section.

\*Dottie and Jacqui have provided a separate article on the boutique. We just want to remind you to please continue to make the mini quilts to sell at the show. We received 89 but have already sold 23 of them which is great, but that means that we only have 66 available to sell at the show.

\*Diana Annis is in charge of designing where the quilts will be going and will begin to work on it as soon as all of the applications are complete. We had a meeting and have decided that the actual setup of the rows will change a bit to allow for a better flow throughout the show.

Diana Annis will also have a table for appraisals. Appointments will need to be booked. These appointments are also open to the public so look for details on the website and book early!

The theme of the show is a **Community of Quilters** and we have decided to promote the guild by having many of our guild related tables (membership, program, comfort quilts, buck a block, raffle baskets and boutique) in the cafeteria. We are going to have "Look What I Made In Class" quilts in that room as well. If you have some UFO's from a class please try to complete them for the exhibit.

As in the past, we are going to have a booklet describing all of our submissions ads. We are pleased that some of our members are finding businesses to advertise in the booklet. Additionally, there is an opportunity to place our own "shout-outs" as small ads much like in yearbooks. If you know someone that wants to submit an ad please contact Maureen McEntee. This is a great way for the guild to make additional income for the future.

Terry and Jacqueline have completed the ribbons for the people's choice and vendors choice awards.

The issue of bags that are used to place your quilts in as you drop them off at the March 15th meeting was recently discussed at the board meeting. In the past people did not receive their quilts back in the bags that they were submitted

in and many were displeased with this procedure. It was decided that we purchase bags that are being sent as we write this article.

Since we do not have an in person meeting prior to the March meeting we will be giving out a bag for each quilt you submit at the meeting. We are asking each quilter to put their quilts into the bags prior to giving them to Quilt Central that evening. If you are dropping off your quilts at either Zelayna or Anita's home prior to the show, they will have the bags for you to place your quilts in. We will be collecting the bags from you at the April and May meeting so that they can be saved for the next show.

Lisa recently sent out an email requesting people to sign up to volunteer at the show. The show cannot be a success unless everyone participates. There is a requirement that for each quilt that you submit to the show that you need to give two hours of volunteer time. This requirement is for the first three quilts. If you have more than three quilts, you do not have to give more hours, but clearly we would love to have you volunteer as much as you can. The raffle quilt continues to travel throughout our area. Carol and Carla have had it hanging in most of our local shops. It is now down at the Homestead Quilt Shop, a half mile off 495 in Lakeville through the month of January. Now is the time to pick up those additional tickets for your friends and family members to spread the word!

Maura continues to publicize the quilt show in as many ways as possible. Download and print the flyer from the RNQG website under Quilt Show 2023 starting in February. Hang them to your local churches, senior centers, libraries and grocery stores.

Thanks to the tireless work of Diana Richard we have 14 confirmed vendors for the show. Please see the list on our website.

Thanks to all who have brought the items for their raffle basket to Stephanie already. She has 19 so far. If your basket does not include food, please bring your basket items to All About Quilts (AAQ) asap. If your basket will include food items, please bring your items to AAQ by February 7th. Contact Stephanie for any specific concerns.

Signs: Kathleen Yorkis has most of the signs for the show for both inside and outside the venue. Please contact her if you have any questions about a sign for your table/area.

Terry Ruta will have a table to publicize our mission to create and distribute comfort quilts. Sue Crane created 3 additional quilts from the left over fabric used to make the raffle show quilt. We will have a silent auction at the quilt show with the proceeds to fund supplies such as batting for comfort quilts. More details to come.

Keep quilting,

Terry Greenstein and Mary Peterson

## Publicity

Hi fellow guild members! Please help promote the upcoming quilt show by printing out a flyer (see below) and posting at:

- local quilt shop
- your local library
- town hall
- senior center
- grocery store
- gym or PT facility
- common area where you or a friend lives
- coffee shop
- anywhere you think lots of folks will see.

<http://rnqg.org/images/RNQG/QuiltShow/2023QS-Flyer.pdf>

Invite a friend or family member to the show!

Thank you!

Maura Woodard

## Raffle Baskets

Happy New Year to everyone! Wishing you all a healthy, happy and safe new year. As of last count I believe we have 19 raffle baskets. Once again, a huge thank you to everyone who has contributed. If you intend to add a basket please let me know as soon as possible We will be putting them all together, wrapping everything up and putting last minute details on them by the middle of February. If you have a food basket you are contributing let me know so I can put aside a basket and wrapping for that. Please don't forget to bring your fat quarter and spool of thread to AAQ or get it to Stephanie with your name on it by the end of February so that you can be entered into the member's only raffle. During our March meeting we will draw a name and that person will win a basket of fat quarters or a basket of thread. You can't win if you don't participate! As always if you have any questions or comments please contact me by email or phone. Thanks again!

Stephanie Valanzola

## Comfort Quilts

I hope everyone had amazing holidays! For those who added "comfort quilts" to their resolution list, I can make that goal easier for you! We have over 50 quilt tops that have been matched with backing and batting that need to be assembled, quilted and bound. And we have homes for these quilts since we now have the an affiliation with a hospice organization. Think of how much these quilts will mean to some people and families who are going through such difficult times. Please let me know if you would like a quilt (or 2) to finish and we'll make an arrangement to get the supplies to you.

Thank you to everyone who helps out with our guild's donation program. We're really making a difference!!

Terry Ruta

## Quilt Appraisals

I am currently studying to become a certified quilt and quilted textiles appraiser. Part of the study is to do actual appraisals. I will be doing them at our show in March. All day on Saturday the 18th and 10 to 2 on Sunday the 19th. There will be a designated area for this purpose. Quilts can be brought in to me by anyone -- members, attendees and the general public. Please make an appointment if you can, but walk-ins are welcome.

Appraisals can be written, for insurance, and verbal for your own information. Written are \$40, verbal are \$25. I recommend bringing a note pad for verbal so you will have as much information as you can and not just try to remember it all. Fees are paid at the time of service. Research is done for written so please expect up to two weeks for your appraisal package to arrive.

There are many reasons for having an appraisal done. I have a handout of these and am happy to forward it to anyone who would like it. Please mention this service to anyone you think may be interested.

Thank you!

Diana R Annis

## Boutique Updates

Boutique co-chairs, Jacqui O'Brien and Dottie Sullivan, Email: [QSBoutique@rnqg.org](mailto:QSBoutique@rnqg.org)

Boutique Reminders:

- Please make more MINI POSTCARD QUILTS! The directions for mini quilts are at [www.rnqg.org](http://www.rnqg.org). Look for the link in the scrolling text in the upper right corner of the home page. Bring them either to the March in-person RNQG meeting on Wed 3/15/2023, or to the Boutique set-up day, Fri 3/17/2023. Once donated, mini quilts are the property of RNQG. No sales tags or inventory sheet are necessary for mini quilts.
- All other Boutique sale items (with completed sales tags) and your filled out inventory sheet will be collected from RNQG members on drop-off day ONLY, Friday 3/17, (i.e.,

quilt show set-up) at the show venue, starting approximately at the same time as quilt drop-off (TBA).

- All About Quilts (AAQ) in Walpole has a 'Boutique Box' which contains the sales tags (in pre-counted packets) that you need for marking all of your consigned or donated sale items. The box also contains printed versions of all of the documents that you need to participate in the Boutique.
- Is AAQ too far away? All Boutique documents are online at [www.rnqq.org](http://www.rnqq.org) – click on "Quilt Show" then on "Boutique" to get to the first document which contains links to the other three. You can buy your own tags (at your expense), but they must conform to what we're using (see the Nov. newsletter for details).
- Cleaning out your stash of quilting magazines? Please donate them to our Boutique!
- Already prepared for Boutique drop-off day and/or know what you're bringing to sell? It would be so helpful to know what your Boutique sale items will be ahead of the show – types of items and quantities (for space and display purposes). Just drop us an email using the address above.
- Still unsure of what you can sell (donate or consign) in the Boutique? Send us an email or call us using our telephone #'s from the Membership list. Photos of your candidate sale items are very helpful!
- What happens to your unsold items? Donated or consigned, they still belong to you and **must** be picked up by you or your designate on the last day of the show, at approximately the same time as quilt pick-up (times TBA).
- Questions not answered above? Immediately after our next two (Zoom) guild meetings on Jan 18th and Feb 15<sup>th</sup> 2023. Stay on the call! One/both of us will give a brief demo of how to fill in the inventory sheets, how to fill in your sales tags, and do a Q&A period. Optionally, send us your questions in advance so we can give you our most informed answer.

We're very excited about the upcoming quilt show, confident that our talented and generous community of quilters will fill the Boutique with beautiful treasures! Thanks to all in advance for your enthusiasm and support.

Dottie Sullivan

## Zoom Sew-Alongs

Mark your calendars and join us for sewing in the comfort of your own homes.

January 29th - 10 AM to 2 PM

February 7th - 6 PM to 9 PM

February 19th - 10 AM to 2 PM

March 7th - 6 PM to 9 PM

April 2nd - 10 AM to 2 PM

April 23rd - 10 AM to 2 PM

See you then.

### Programs: 2023

Mark your calendars. Don't miss out.

**January 18** - Comfort Quilt Sew-Along. Please join us on Zoom to make blocks for our comfort quilt efforts. We donate approximately 100 quilts per year, and if we all work together we can increase our efforts. We will be making 2 finished blocks with 1 red and 1 cream 10" square, not red and grey as pictured below. We are hoping that each participant will make at least 2 blocks. The instructions are on the website. We will be breaking out into small groups for conversation and camaraderie.

Instructions for blocks: <http://www.rnqg.org/images/RNQG/calendar/ModSqlnSqlns.pdf>

Video for Blocks

**February 15** - Member Trunk Show by Venera Emmi. Please join us on Zoom for a photographic journey of over 50 quilts made by Venera over the course of the last 22 years.

**March 15** - Quilt Show Finishing Touches and Body Mechanics by our very own Carol Coakley. Walpole K of C Hall

**April 19** - Quilt Show Retrospective and Quilters' S.O.S. Project by Lisa Steinka.

Walpole K of C Hall

Remember to sign up for Diana Annis' Machine Quilting workshop in May. You will want to learn her expert techniques for quilting on your domestic machine. The workshop will be opened to the public soon, so guarantee your space by registering now.

Venera Emmi

### Getting to know your Website!

Have you ever visited the "Member Resources" page on the RNQG website? If not, it's worth the trip!

Accessed through the menu on the left of the website, this page has always contained links to:

- the current and past issues of the RNQG newsletter,
- the "Reimbursement Form" that should be used to request repayment by any member that makes a purchase on behalf of RNQG using their own funds,
- the email address for the "Connecting Threads" coordinator,
- instructions and link to a video for making a hanging sleeve for a quilt, and
- a template and instructions for making your name tag using the traditional "laurel wreath" block design.

Recently added are • instructions for making the 5" X 8" Mini Quilts (the 2022 Summer Challenge), now a fundraiser for the quilt show, and

- instructions on making 12" X 12" quilts ready to mount on on a stretcher frame. Feel free to stop by any time, day or night -- it never sleeps!
- AnnMarie Freitas

## Quilt Registration E-Form Info

As of January 6, there are 83 quilts registered for the 2023 Quilt Show. Please remember: **registration closes on January, 18!**

Most people seem to navigate the form without problem, but I have noted a few issues.

1. People who have their email address from comcast.net will never receive an "Official Quilt Registration" email. This is beyond my control. Comcast has decided our form builder host is a "spammer" and does not forward the emails to you. The easiest way to get around this is to create and use a gmail address. If you do not receive a Registration email after submitting a quilt, please contact me at [registrar@rnqg.org](mailto:registrar@rnqg.org) so I can check the database. Please include your name and the quilt name so I know what to search for.

2. All quilts in the "Look What I Made in Class" (Category H) are automatically labeled Quilt #99.

Please do not change this number! Quilts in this category will all be accepted into the show and do not need to be ranked in order of your preference. You are guaranteed 3 quilts from categories A – G and all the quilts in Category H.

3. There seems to be some confusion with choosing the correct "Quilt Category". Quilt categories are described on the "Quilt Entry Rules '23" page of the website. Remember: the "Design Source" for any quilt that started with a purchased / copyrighted pattern – no matter how much you modified it – should be "Kit and / or Pattern". This is according to a certified judge that I met.

4. Photo import: if the photos are on your smart phone, the easiest way to get them on your computer is to email them to yourself! Once on your computer, they can be dragged and dropped" into the e-form.

5. Photo size: Maximum is requested to be 2MB. If your photo is larger than this, please go to the "Quilt Show Q & A" on the RNQG website and follow the link to determine how to resize your photo. There is no cost for the form builder UNLESS we use too much memory for data storage. If we go over the "free" amount, RNQG will be charged \$40 per month.

Any other questions? Feel free to ask! [webmaster@rnqg.org](mailto:webmaster@rnqg.org)

## Financials

RNQG bank balance \$8137.34

RNQG 2023 Raffle Quilt Ticket Sales current total \$2,056.00.

RNQG Mini Quilt Sales total \$230.00

Karen LeBlanc

## NEWS FROM THE NEW ENGLAND QUILT MUSEUM

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

Special closing: January 1-16 for annual maintenance projects

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:

January 17 through May 6, 2023 THE BEST OF CANADIAN QUILTS: A JURIED EXHIBITION FROM THE CANADIAN

### QUILTERS ASSOCIATION

January 17 through April 15, 2023

SOUTHERN QUILTS: CELEBRATING TRADITIONS, HISTORY, AND DESIGNS

April 18 through July 15, 2023

PORTABLE PATCHWORK

May 9 through August 12, 2023

QUILTS JAPAN: THE 16 TH QUILT NIHON

For more information on membership, exhibitions, and events, see: [www.neqm.org](http://www.neqm.org)

