

Laurel Wreath

Volume 51 • Issue 4

Newsletter of the Rhododendron Needlers Quilt Guild

Mar / Apr 2026

Presidents Letter

Carla Keen

Dear RNQG Members,

Delighted to be writing to you at the end of a long cold winter! Spring is almost here and we have lots of guild activities to look forward to. Here are some highlights!

Our next meeting is at 7 pm at Knights of Columbus in Walpole at 7. As always doors will be open at 6:30 for set-up and socializing beforehand. Please consider carpooling if possible as parking is tight.

The 2027 Quilt Show Committee chairs are meeting that same night at 5:30.

We are actively looking for a new venue for our meetings as we outgrow the K of C building. Many locations have already been ruled out. Thank you, Judy Swaim and Theresa Dillon, for helping to screen venues. Please let Cathy or I know if you have any suggestions for a centrally located building we might consider.

Our Fabric Sale will be held at the VFW Hall in Norwood on Sunday May 24 from 11-4. Thank you, Maureen McEntee, for all your hard work on this.

Also, Cathy Kelliher will be announcing our Summer Shop Hop date and details soon. It will probably be in August.

We continue to be so proud of our guild and all the wonderful things we are doing this year! This is only possible because all of you have been so helpful and enthusiastic!

Hope to see you at the March meeting!

Carla and Cath

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RNQG Board Members 2025-2026		COMMITTEES / ACTIVITIES	
President	Carla K.	Connecting Threads	Nancy P.
Vice President	Cathy K.	Quilting Buddies	Stephanie V.
Secretary	Ines A.	Quilting Buddies	Venera E.
Treasurer	Karen L.	Shop Hop	Cathy K. Jean R.
Programs 2025-26 2026-27	Lisa S. Jacqueline F.	Social Events and Social Media Zoom sew-along Bread and Thread Community Posts Facebook Instagram	Venera E.
Membership	Gail W. Stephanie V.	Retreat	Jacqui O. Jacqueline F.
Raffle Quilt Organizer Marketing	Marci T. VACANT	Studio Tour	Terry R. Diana A.
Comfort Quilts	Terry R. Gail W.	Youth Outreach	Jessica W.
NEQM Rep	Laura R.	Fabric Sale	Maureen Mc.
Quilt Rack Rental	Billie K.		
Newsletter	Susan K.		
Publicity	Maureen M		
Website	AnneMarie F. Sarah S.		
Historian	Zelayna R.		
Show Chair 2027	Terry R.		

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UPCOMING GUILD MEETINGS

MAR 18 Wednesday in person
APR 15 Wednesday in person
MAY 20 Wednesday in person*
JUNE 17 Wednesday in person

***PLEASE NOTE CHANGE for MAY 20 MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

Location will be at the Walpole Library.

MAY 20 IS A WEEK LATER THAN USUAL.

UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS: Note: day changed to Tuesday

Meeting is from 7 – 9 pm

MAY 5 Tuesday Canton (Carla's house)

Members are welcome to attend board meetings.

COMMUNITY POSTINGS

Venera E.

Zoom Sew-Along

Tuesday	3/24	10 a.m.-1 p.m.
Wednesday	4/1	10 a.m.-1 p.m.
Wednesday	4/22	6 - 9 p.m.
Monday	5/11	6 - 9 p.m.
Wednesday	5/27	1 - 4 p.m.
Tuesday	6/2	6 - 9 p.m.
Wednesday	6/24	10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Bread and Thread Lunches: Panera Bread, Walpole Mall

Wednesdays 12 - 2 p.m.

3/11

4/8

5/13

6/10

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Quilting Buddies

All those who applied are partnered up with a buddy. If you are part of the program, you can look for a little something from your quilting buddy at each meeting. If you have a buddy, remember to bring a little something to brighten their day to every meeting. If you can't come to a meeting, ask a friend to bring your gift or wait until next month and bring two. You will find your surprise in a plain brown bag with your name on it. This should be lots of fun. Remember, this is a, "Don't ask. Don't tell" program. You will find out who your Quilting Buddy is in June. In the meanwhile, enjoy the process.

SCHOLARSHIP

Abby Sullivan

As part of our RNQG philanthropic activities, we proudly offer a \$500 annual scholarship to a graduating high school student pursuing the Arts.

Traditionally, the RNQG Scholarship is awarded to a student from a selected guild member's town, with the lucky recipient chosen by the board.

For 2025, the board selected the town of Walpole. However, after several phone calls and multiple emails to the guidance department (which appear to be floating somewhere in cyberspace, possibly held hostage by a spam filter), we've decided it may be time for a new plan.

Since this scholarship supports a student pursuing the Arts — and we know creativity runs strong in our guild families — we're opening this year's opportunity to the children, grandchildren, and friends of guild members.

If you know a deserving student with talent, passion, and perhaps a flair for dramatic acceptance speeches, please submit their name. We will draw the recipient from the submitted nominations (no drumroll required... but certainly encouraged). We look forward to seeing your nominations — and to supporting a rising star in the Arts!

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MEETING VENUE CHANGE UPDATE:

Cathy Kelliher

At our recent board meeting the members asked to have the entire membership consider moving our monthly meetings from the 3rd Wednesday of the month to the **3rd Tuesday of the month.** This is due to the fact that finding a new meeting venue that is affordable is difficult because many places we could consider are not available on Wednesdays. More discussion will be at our March meeting. If any members have ideas for a new venue, we will welcome them.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

TREASURER

Karen L.

Any questions regarding financial status please contact the Treasurer, Karen LeBlanc, Kmlatfdc@aol.com

COMFORT QUILTS

Terry Ruta

As I mentioned at our last meeting, the hospice agency we work with in Westwood has new clients that they would like to gift comfort quilts to. Please bring any donations to our March meeting and I will get them to the agency as soon as possible. Remember to check your stash of homeless finished quilts!

Here is a thank you email from the organization we donated pillowcases to:

12/31/2025

Dear Friend,

We are deeply grateful for your generous gift of 200 pillowcases to our Massachusetts- Boston chapter. Your donation plays a pivotal role in helping us provide comfort and support to children and families facing the challenges of a serious illness or injury.

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Our mission is simple but profound: to offer children a fun and comforting place to lay their heads during difficult times. Many say our pillowcases are “magical” and in small, but significant ways, we help bring a sense of normalcy and warmth to children who need it most.

We know that serious illness affects the entire family. That’s why our programs are designed to support not just the child, but their caregivers and siblings as well. With your support, we provide vital resources and emotional tools families need to navigate this challenging experience, helping them cope while minimizing the risk of long-term emotional trauma.

Your generosity ensures that families have the support they need to build resilience and find strength for the future. The difference you are making is immeasurable, and we are so grateful for your commitment to our cause.



"My child was diagnosed with leukemia and the first time we received our pillowcase was the first time he smiled during his recovery from surgery. It's amazing how much one pillowcase can brighten a whole life and a whole room. It tells us that others have shared in these difficult times. A little touch of love and color helps give you a little more strength to fight.

Thank you for being a part of this important work. Your kindness truly transforms lives.

With heartfelt appreciation,

Cindy Kerr

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I will take isolette quilts and juvenile pillowcases throughout the year. As always, please let me know if you need any backing fabric or batting - I just bought a new roll! Thank you for all you do to make our charity efforts such a success!

2027 Quilt Show Update:

The dates for our 2027 show, Common Threads, is April 3 and 4 with set up happening on April 2nd. Committee Chairs are having their first meeting at 5:30pm on 4/18 right before our guild meeting at the K of C hall. There are still opportunities to help out so let me know if you're available.

And remember to start beautiful quilts to enter into the show!

RAFFLE QUILT TOWN DAYS

Our gorgeous raffle quilt, also being called Common Threads, is almost ready and tickets will be available at the next meeting. Photography of the quilt will take place soon and a flyer will be created that you can use when selling tickets.

We also have the town days that are coming up that we need volunteers to help with set up and ticket selling. Here are the dates and times. Please let me know if you can help out part or all of the day. The raffle quilt is a big fundraiser for the guild so please consider volunteering some time.

Walpole Day - May 9th, 11am to 3pm

Canton Heritage Festival - May 16th

Norwood Day - September 12, 10:30am to 3pm

Medfield Day - September 26

Sharon Day - Date to be confirmed.

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PROGRAM CHAIR

Lisa S.

2025-2026 PROGRAMS!

Hello Ladies of RNQG,

I imagine you are all as excited to resume our in-person meetings as I am.

This **March 18** our own Sarah Sullivan will share with us her journey creating her Dear Jane quilt, presenting “Patchwork and Perseverance”. And on the following Saturday **March 21** Janet Elia will present her Spiffy Binding workshop.

April is currently undecided as our planned presenter has had to drop out due to health reasons. I have not found a replacement but at this time I will most likely only be contracting for someone to present at our meeting.

May 20 we will be hearing from Heidi Proffetty on Making Mosaic Art Quilts and on the **23rd** she will present her workshop making Moroccan Quilt Tiles

On **June 17** at our meeting we will welcome Marge Tucker who will share her “Life in Quilts” and on the **20th** will present her workshop Improve Dresden Plate.

While many have signed up, there is still room in each workshop. Also, all workshops will be held at All About Quilts. Doors will be open hopefully by 9:30 so you can get in and set up so our workshops start on time.

Looking forward to a great spring.

See you soon,

Lisa

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NEQM NEWS:

Laura Rosenspan

This is a fabulous museum and we should go more often!

We share the belief that quilt making is an important artistic legacy that must be advanced, respected and celebrated.

Guild passes are now electronic:

8 complimentary admissions are now stored in our membership record at the admissions desk. Bring your membership card. Janet Elia's beautiful quilt is now up and part of the NE Guild's exhibit. I noticed so many more details like the fussy-cut pieces. Sensational, Janet. And you will all certainly find inspiration from the other wonderful quilts in this display.

RNQG FABRIC SALE

This Spring, RNQG will be holding its first fabric sale at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Hall in Norwood. The profits will be used for supplies for our Comfort Quilt Program and for our monthly programs and classes.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

We need your donated quilting fabric! This is the perfect opportunity to edit your stash and get ready for new fabric. We will be collecting your fabric donations at the next three RNQG meetings. If it is more convenient, you can drop it off at All About Quilts, in Walpole on Monday nights between 6:00 pm and 8:00 pm with a prior phone call to Maureen McEntee 781-789-1316. All fabric will be donated, we will not be accepting any fabric on consignment. All left-over fabric will be donated to Quilted Comforts and the Quilt Show Boutique.

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WHAT ARE WE LOOKING FOR?

Patterns

Complete Unused Quilt Kits

Quilting Fabric from Fat Quarters to multi yard pieces

- Please trim fabric ends straight across if they have been cut into
- Mark yardage amounts with masking tape or pinned paper.

Please don't use staples.

- Fold fabric selvages to middle crease and then fold again.
- We will price the fabric.

Volunteers Volunteer sheets will circulate later but we will need members to help with set up, take down and cashiers especially those who have experience with credit cards. If we all work together this will be a great fundraiser

Website

AnneMarie Freitas and Sarah Sullivan

Important RNQG Website and Email Communication Changes – Action Required!

We've modernized our website and email communications. Please read the following important changes to ensure you don't miss any guild announcements, newsletters, or Zoom invitations.

1. Updated website - www.rnqg.org

Our website address is still the same! You will notice a more modern look and feel. Please continue to use the website to get the latest information, events, and resources.

2. Change to "Contact Us" for members and non-members

The old email addresses (e.g., president@rnqg.org) are no longer active. If you need to contact a board member, please use the Contact Form on the new website: Contact Us – Rhododendron Needlers Quilt Guild. Using the Contact Form ensures your message is sent to the right person and to their

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correct email address. Non-members will also use the Contact Form on the website to contact the guild.

3. Change to Guild Member Email Distribution List

We've launched a new official email list: rnqgmembers@googlegroups.com.

- Only board members will use this email list to provide official RNQG communications (newsletters, announcements, Zoom links, etc.) to RNQG members.
- Only invited members can join this group and the list is not visible to anyone outside the group.
- If you need to contact a board member, use the Contact Form on the website.

Action Required: If you haven't received or accepted an invitation to join the Google group email list, please reach out to one of the board members ASAP. We want to ensure every member is connected and informed.

Thank you for your attention and cooperation as we improve our communication tools.