

Laurel Wreath

Volume 52 • Issue 1

Newsletter of the Rhododendron Needlers Quilt Guild

Sept / Oct 2026

Presidents Letter

Cathy Kelliher

Dear RNQG Members,

Fall is almost here as well as beautiful foliage!
The foliage reminds me of our lovely quilts.

Many thanks for all the behind the scenes work that was done during the summer, especially our program chairs Jacqui and Jacqueline.

We have a busy year ahead with excellent speakers, workshops and a Quilt Show at a new venue. Terry Ruta has been busy meeting with show people to ensure a successful show. The raffle quilt has been shown at some town day events with more to come.

The Fabric Sale is scheduled for Sunday September 27 at the VFW Hall on Dean St in Norwood. There is quite a lot of quality fabric at wonderful prices.

Jessica Walls has already provided 2 classes for our kid's program. Parents and children are clearly delighted. Jessica has more planned.

Finally, our exciting Retreat is coming in March 2027. There are still spots available, but the deadline to register is the end of September.

There are plenty of opportunities for everyone to participate!

Please remember our next meeting is Wednesday, September 16 at the Congregational Church in Canton. Door opens at 6:30pm. I hope to see many members!

Best,
Cathy

PLEASE TAKE NOTE – all content in this newsletter can be found on www.rnqg.org.

2026-2027 Membership dues are due: cash, check and Venmo are accepted as payment.

RNQG Board Members 2026-2027			COMMITTEES	
President	Cathy K.		Connecting Threads	Stephanie V.
Vice President	VACANT		Fabric Sale	Maureen M.
Secretary	Ines A.		Zoom sew-along	Nancy St. L
Treasurer	Karen L. Gail W		Retreat	Jacqui O. Jacqueline F.
Programs 2026-27 2028	Jacqui O. Jacqueline F. Carla K.		Social Footprint	Brenda F. Zelayna R.
Membership	Maureen M.		Retreat	Jacqui O'Brien Jacqueline F.
Raffle Quilt Marketing	Terry R. Cathy K. Carol C.		Quilt Buddies	Margaret R. Kathleen Y.
2029 Raffle Quilt	VACANT		Youth Outreach	Jessica W.
Comfort Quilts	Terry R.		Bread and Thread	Anita L.
NEQM Liaison	Laura R.			
Member at Large	Maureen M.		Church Liaison	Carla K Theresa D.
Storage and Racks	Diana A.			
Newsletter	Susan K.			
Publicity	Susan B.			
Website	Sarah S.			
Historian	Zelayna R.			
Show Chair 2027	Terry R.			

UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

Note: day changed to Tuesday

Meeting held at Walpole Library 7 – 9 pm

NOV 3	Tuesday	Walpole Library
JAN 5	Tuesday	Walpole Library
MAR 2	Tuesday	Walpole Library
MAY 4	Tuesday	Walpole Library

Members are welcome to attend board meetings.

UPCOMING GUILD MEETINGS

7-9 PM Congregational Church of Canton
 1541 Washington St, Canton, MA 02102

SEPT 16	Wednesday	in person
OCT 21	Wednesday	in person
NOV 18	Wednesday	in person
JAN 20	Wednesday	ZOOM
FEB 17	Wednesday	ZOOM
MAR 17	Wednesday	in person
APR 21	Wednesday	in person
MAY 19	Wednesday	in person
JUNE 16	Wednesday	in person

2027 Common Threads Quilt Show Updates

Terry Ruta

The committees are in full swing planning for our quilt show in April! We are having our first meeting of the fall on 9/10. I will have some brief updates at our guild meeting. Looking forward to seeing all the quilts you are making for show entry! Be sure to check the show on our website for show details!

[Show Q&A's](#)

[Quilt Entry Rules](#)

[Quilt Judging](#)

[2027 Show Challenge](#)

[Publicity](#)

[Boutique Q&A's](#)

[Boutique Guidelines](#)

Raffle Quilt Town Days

Terry Ruta

The 2026-27 Raffle Quilt was featured at both Canton Day and Norwood Day and will be going to Medfield Day on 9.26 and the Fabric Sale on 9/27. It will then begin its time being hung in local quilt shops. Please continue to sell tickets and let us know if you need more! All proceeds from the raffle quilt come directly back to the guild.

Comfort Quilts

Terry Ruta

The 4 beautiful quilts we gave to the Habitat for Humanity family in Franklin in June were well received and I heard back that the family members love them!

This summer we donated 5 large colorful quilts to the Start Above organization. This is the group that helps foster young adults set up an apartment to begin life "outside the system". Sarah, our contact for this group, was very grateful for quilts!

I dropped off 10 quilts to My Brother's Keeper in Easton and 7 quilts to Pathways Healthcare Hospice in Westwood. I have a bag ready to go to Abundant Hope in Attleboro for the fall and a bag ready for the NICU donations.

I bought a new roll of 100% cotton batting so please let me know if you are making a comfort quilt and need batting. I'm happy to be bringing it to our September meeting.

Our Quilts of Valor were presented to Veteran's at the Marshfield Fair on 8.30. I shared a link to newspaper articles about the event on our Facebook page.

I received this email from the director of the Medway House Family Shelter that we donated many quilts to:

"Hello Terry,

I wanted you to know that Medway House will be closing its doors due to lack of funding. Our last day open will be August 31, 2026.

Thank you for the beautiful quilts you sent our way over the years and for partnering with us to make a lasting impact on the lives of those we served. We are deeply grateful for all you have done. Your support has made a meaningful difference, and we thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

Apryl L. Mattingly

Program Manager

Medway House Family Shelter/Milford Scattered Sites

Post Show Raffle for Members

Terry Ruta

It's back: the post-Quilt Show raffle! We did it two shows ago and it was a hit! Your participation is totally voluntary. The idea is that any member who wishes to participate brings in a spool of thread and a fat quarter of fabric to any guild meeting before the show, beginning with our first meeting in September and going through to March.

I (Brenda Fraser) will collect all, and create a basket filled with threads and another filled with fat quarters of fabrics. We will hold a drawing at the May guild meeting to see who wins either the entire basket of threads or the entire basket of fat quarters. Just a little something fun for us to celebrate another successful show and year.

PROGRAM CHAIRS

Jacqueline Fleishman and Jacqui O'Brien

2026-2027 PROGRAMS!

We have fun, interesting, and intriguing lectures and workshops planned for this year! Look on the RNQG website for the complete descriptions and registration forms.
www.rnqg.org

September – Rita Partridge will speak about wool embroidery **Pansy Pincushion**, and her Pansy Pincushion workshop is completely full.

October – Lee Sproul will ask us Two Questions and will give us Many Answers during her lecture. Her Squiggles workshop will be a lot of fun as we create wavy strips to fashion into an abstract quilt. **Squiggles Workshop**

Please note three spots are open. Register soon as we'll be offering the remaining places to other guilds.

November – We've planned an entertaining Member to Member Quilt Show inspired evening filled with raffles, prizes, learning, a good way to connect with other members in a different set up than our traditional meetings. More details will be emailed next month. **Quilt Show Member to Member event**

Rita Partridge returns to lead a workshop on how to Collage Laura Heine's Teeny Tiny quilts. **Collage Workshop**



Make sure to sign up soon as there are only 4 spots left! Six weeks prior to the workshop we'll invite other guilds to announce to their members to register.

Mini Quilt (MQ) Workshop

12-4 pm Dottie Sullivan's house

12 Ridgewood Crossing, Hingham, MA

These 5" X 8" works of fabric art (Mini Quilts) were a big hit at our 2023 and 2025 quilt show. Think of making a MQ as creating a work of art, but instead of using paint, you're using fabric! We'll look at Guild's current stash of MQ's to demonstrate some techniques to consider when making your own and view pictures of those already sold. So, take a break from sewing blocks together and do something totally creative and unique! We expect that the MQ that you make during this free workshop will be donated for sale in the Boutique of our April 2027 show.

Dottie will supply...

- Write-up with guidelines for making MQ's (the RNQG directions plus Dottie's Tips)
- Pre-cut Pellon 72F Peltex Two-sided Fusible Ultra Firm Stabilizer
- Steam-a-Seam 2 "Lite" (fusible web)
- Access to Dottie's vast stash of fabric suitable for MQ's. At your choosing, you can get all of your fabric from Dottie's stash or combine with what you bring (see below)
- Pre-cut 5X8" backing fabric and pre-cut light-weight fusible interfacing

You should supply.... all of the stuff you'd normally have for machine quilting plus...

- Interesting fabric "scraps" for the mini quilt front. Review your 'stash' and see if you can combine any fabrics into a 'theme'. Consider a print with an identifiable object on it that will fit onto a 5" X 8" format. For example, animals, flowers, a holiday theme, coffee cups, etc. Look for pleasing background fabrics or consider doing a more abstract design. Still don't know what to bring... contact Dottie: Dottie@SullivanCrew.com
- A few spools of various-colored thread that coordinate with your theme/fabric (50/2 is fine; if using heavier weight thread, make sure you have a correspondingly heavier duty machine needle.
- Sharp scissors suitable for fussy-cutting small fabric pieces
- Optional: Embellishments like Tulle or any other small items that can be sewn/glued onto the MQ.

NOTE: Jacqui O'Brien, a talented MQ creator, will help with instructing participants!

Rhody and Friends Quilt Retreat

The March 2027 retreat is filling up, at this year's retreat we had 42 retreaters, next year is shaping up to have about the same. There are approximately 16 openings for the 2027 retreat. **Sew**, if you are interested in attending, please check the link to our website and for all the details and pricing and register for this event.

The Highlights:

- The Cape, even though it's March the weather is mild and walking on the beach is always great no matter what time of year. We are staying at the Seacrest Resort in Falmouth, right on the beach.
- 4 days, 3 nights
- 3 breakfasts, 2 dinners, cookies, brownies, coffee and teas available during the day
- Large banquet hall outside the hotel lobby, plenty of room for all retreaters, everyone gets their own table.
- Bring a friend from outside the guild, who knows, maybe they will join the guild.
- Games and several daily raffles for some nice prizes

Note deposit is due by the end of September so sign up now! **Rhody & Friends Retreat**
Any questions, please reach out to Jacqueline Fleishman or Jacqui O'Brien

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.

Bread and Thread Lunches**Panera Bread, Walpole Mall**

Anita Loscalzo

Wednesdays 12 - 2 p.m.

9/9

10/14

11/11

12/9

1/13

2/10

3/10

4/14

5/12

6/9

Zoom Sew-Alongs

Nancy St Laurent

Monday	9/14	2-5 p.m.
Thursday	9/24	5-8 p.m.
Tuesday	10/6	2-5 p.m.
Thursday	10/29	5-8 p.m.
Tuesday	11/3	2-5 p.m.
Thursday	11/12	5-8 p.m.
Tuesday	12/1	2-5 p.m.
Thursday	12/10	5-8 p.m.
Tuesday	1/5	2-5 p.m.
Thursday	1/28	5-8 p.m.
Tuesday	2/2	2-5 p.m.
Thursday	2/25	5-8 p.m.
Tuesday	3/2	2-5 p.m.
Thursday	3/25	5-8 p.m.
Tuesday	4/6	2-5 p.m.
Thursday	4/29	5-8 p.m.
Tuesday	5/4	2-5 p.m.
Thursday	5/27	5-8 p.m.
Tuesday	6/1	2-5 p.m.

RNQG QUILT BUDDIES PROGRAM FOR 2026-2027

Margaret Rolph

The quilt buddies' program is starting up! If you participated last year, we hope you had fun and will do it again. If you are new to the guild, here is the basic information.

What is QUILT BUDDIES?

A fun program which matches you with a secret buddy. You give small, inexpensive gifts to your buddy to brighten their day. You can bring the gift to the guild meetings or mail it to your buddy. You will be matched to another member, who will give you small gifts which will bring a smile to your face! Your buddy will be "revealed" at the last meeting of the quilt year.

To Participate:

There is a questionnaire available to print on our website **RNQG.ORG**. You can print the questionnaire, fill it out and bring it to the September meeting, or mail it to Margaret Rolph (address is on the questionnaire). We will also have copies of the questionnaire at the meeting- you can fill it out there or mail it to Margaret. **DEADLINE FOR RECEIVING QUESTIONNAIRES IS SEPTEMBER 30.** We will use the questionnaires to match buddies

and send you a copy of your buddy's questionnaire. We plan to get the matches done in early October so that you can bring the first gift for your new buddy to the October meeting.

Boutique Newsletter Entry

Jacqui O'Brien and Dottie Sullivan, Boutique Co-chairs, are excited to share some updates about the Boutique, the "booth" in the Quilt show where guild members sell their new/handmade/gently used quilting/sewing items. Documents will be available starting at the Oct 2026 Guild meeting (handouts available at every in-person meeting **beginning in Oct**, at All About Quilts in the "Boutique Box", and online at www.rnqg.org).

NEW for this show:

- We'll use ONE INVENTORY SHEET for Consigned and Donated Items.
- "Drop-off" of items you want to sell will ONLY BE done DURING MARCH 2027, performed with you by an "At-home intake checker". We're eliminating "Drop-off" during the Friday show set-up day to expedite the Booth set-up process.
- No check-out for unsold DONATED items. Unsold DONATED items will be returned to you w/o rectifying against the Inventory sheet. Simply return to the Boutique on Sunday, after the show and sign the Inventory take your box of unsold donated items and GO! If you consign items, you will need to work with a Boutique checker to have your items checked out.
- AFTER your checkout, there will be bins for you to donate back to the guild any of your unsold fabric & books. Fabrics will go to Comfort quilts and books will eventually make their way to the New England Quilt Museum.

SO...how can you join the fun? Participate in the Boutique Workshops to help us stock the Boutique with lovely, handmade items; We need your help to get lots of saleable items made! These workshops are running now through November, announced as their details are available. **Also, see the attached document for many ideas of items that may sell well at the Boutique, click the link and watch and learn from the YouTube videos. Get creative and look around for other items to make and donate.**

Finally, Jacqui and Dottie are retiring after the April 2027 show, so we're seeking replacements! PLEASE CONSIDER VOLUNTEERING FOR THIS FUN, EXCITING OPPORTUNITY for our 2029 Show – it is an important and substantial source of Guild revenue so it's imperative to find replacements ASAP to keep the tradition of having a GREAT Quilt Show Boutique going.

RNQG Tote bags for sale!

**Take one home at the next guild meeting,
Available at September, November, March, May Meetings**



Boat Style tote:

- Heavy Duty Canvas
- 20" W x 16" H
- 25" Handles
- Deep outside pocket
- Inside drop pocket.
- closure

Bags are \$30.00.

*Pay by cash, check (made out to RNQG) and Venmo