

Laurel Wreath

Volume 38 • Issue 1

Newsletter of the Rhododendron Needlers Quilt Guild

September 2020

From our President

Dear Quilters,

As I suspect many of you have, I've spent my summer taking care of grandchildren, so my own children could continue to work remotely. It wasn't conducive to getting much quilting done. Although I took my traveling kit with me, most of what I got done was at home during the few days I spent here before returning to Connecticut to play camp counselor. I also suspect that many of you have gotten lots of quilting done during the quarantine. I can't wait to see your creations. I hope you are submitting pictures to Lisa Steinka for display during Show 'n' Tell at our September 2020 Zoom meeting.

The guild has a challenging year ahead. It is unique to a pandemic. We have moved from decades of meeting in person, to meeting on a video conferencing platform. The board members have spent many hours this summer working to keep our 40 or so year old quilt guild active and running. We have updated the website and created Venmo, Instagram and Twitter accounts, in addition to our already established Facebook account. We are hoping our efforts will increase our membership and give members an opportunity to be more connected. We have updated membership lists and finalized programs. We will be sponsoring our first Zoom workshop on Sunday, the 20th. I hope to see some of you there.

The board promises to stay true to our mission of promoting the art, craft and tradition of quilting, and bringing quilters together to inspire, learn, and share a love of a worldwide, centuries old art during this unprecedented time.

~Venera~

About Comfort Quilts –

Terry has been pulling out all stops and breathing new life into our always strong Comfort Quilt program! Please continue to reach out to her with all your generosity and quilty skills! Below is a note she received from one of the organizations that she coordinates with to get our quilts to those in need ~

From Comfort Quilts Coordinator –

Hi Everyone!

Through the summer everyone has been very busy sewing comfort quilts for donation. Nothing like a pandemic for extra sewing time!! We continue to donate beautiful quilts to various organizations who are VERY grateful. We have added a couple of new donation sites - we now send along a few adult quilts to the foster care agency in Berkeley for them to distribute to exceptional foster parents or people involved in their organization that go above and beyond.

We have also begun a relationship with a social worker in Springfield who works with at risk youth. She thinks the people she services will be very excited with a homemade item.

As always, I do have material and batting here if you need it. Just email and I will pull it together for you and arrange a pick-up time. I hope to get some kits made up soon for people to do.

Thank you to everyone who is in our efforts! They are very appreciated!!

Terry Ruta

Thank you !! contact:Terry Ruta (t.ruta@comcast.net)

Meet One of Our Quilters

SUZANNE CRANE:

I have been quilting since 1972 although I purchased a cotton crazy quilt top from a thrift store when I was sixteen in 1964. I have no idea what happened to it. My aunt sent me to Singer Sewing School when I was 12. Best gift ever!

In 1972 I was home on maternity leave and made my first quilt. I had a lot of double knit scraps leftover from dressmaking. There was an appliqué pattern in a magazine for a Sunbonnet Sue quilt. I still have that quilt and named it "Polly Esther Sue" because it is made of Polyester Double Knit fabrics which were considered the new miracle fabric...think leisure suits!

In 1982 the 3 women who owned Quilts Ltd. in Walpole put an ad in the local papers to start a quilt group at the Medfield Library. Five of us from Norfolk went and there were about 15 at that meeting. That was the beginning of RNQG.

A few years later we had our first "big" quilt show held in the room we meet in at the Aggie. The guild grew to 125 members with a waiting list. Judy Swaim (another original member) and I were Membership co-chairs for a couple of years. It was a great way to get to know other members.

I have always been a scrap quilter and enjoy making Comfort Quilts for our guild. I have made more than 200 quilts. Unfortunately, I have a closet full of UFO's.

I have been married to Bill for 49 years, we have three sons and 5 grandchildren. I taught two of my granddaughters to quilt when they were 7 and 8. They are all grown up now and still sew.

We live in the house my husband grew up in (on a portion of the former farm that has been in his family for 115 years.)

I grew up in Norwood and Wrentham.

Membership Information

- 🧩 Welcome to Margaret Rolph and Judy Swaim who are taking over the membership chair!

- 🧩 A reminder going out to those that have not signed up for 2020-2021. Going forward, you'll need to be signed up and have paid your dues to receive the ZOOM link for lectures and workshops throughout the year.
If you have not signed up yet, please download the membership application (from the RNQG website) and mail it with your \$35 check payable to RNQG to:
Margaret Rolph
8 Patty Ann Place
Walpole, MA 02032

Or use our Venmo account. Venmo information is found on the website. If you plan to use Venmo, please note this requires you to download the app to your phone to pay.

- 🧩 Membership cards this year can be picked up at All About Quilts in Walpole. They are available at the register in a small clear plastic box. Members can find their own cards. If for any reason you cannot get to All About Quilts, let us know so your card can be mailed to you.



RNQG MONTHLY MEETINGS

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

MEETING SPACE for 2020-2021:

We will be meeting via Zoom. The link for the meeting will go out the week of the meeting so keep your eyes out for it!

Social time starts at 7:00 PM and the business meeting 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

RNQG SOCIAL MEDIA

We invite you to like, subscribe, and follow us on all our social media pages. Check it out and see what is happening in our community.

- Please "like" us on our Facebook page, [Rhododendron Needlers Quilt Guild](#).
- Join us in a Facebook Group, [Rhododendron Needlers Quilt Guild Group](#).
- Follow us on Twitter: [Rhododendron Needlers Quilt Guild](#).
- Like and Subscribe to us on Instagram: [rhododendronneedlersquiltguild](#).

CONNECTING THREADS

This year the RNQG contact person for Connecting Threads is Deb Bonanno.

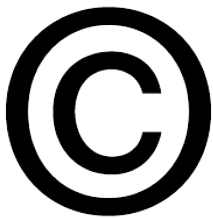
If you know of a guild member who has been ill, had a death in the family, was recently married, had a baby, or needs a friendly greeting for any reason, please email connectingthreads@rnqg.org.

*****2020 – 2021 PROGRAMS*****

Because of the current fluid situation with the Covid-19 pandemic program schedules may be subject to change. If you have signed up for a program - please check in with Karen LeBlanc (2020), our current program director, at programs@mqg.org.

DON'T MISS OUT ON THESE GEMS – They are for you!!!

October 21, 2020 7 – 9 PM ZOOM meeting (current plan)
Linda Pearl Websites: onequiltingcircle.com and thepatchworkpearl.com
Topic: “But I Didn’t *Mean* to Break the Rules...”



This lecture takes a lighthearted look at a very serious subject. Copyright infringement is a huge problem in today’s world, quilting included. Linda details several common scenarios (drawn from real life events), and breaks them down into easy to understand, easier to remember rules of the game. By the end of the evening, we will *all* know the rules and understand how to respect the intellectual property of others!

It wouldn’t be surprising if Linda’s name and face are familiar to you. A resident of Nashua, New Hampshire, she changed careers in 2007, going from “Big Box” retail management to quilting. She describes herself as, “a quilter, a speaker, a teacher...and someone who enjoys hanging out with other creative forces of nature.”

Linda does a little bit of lots of different things in the industry including bus trips, retreats, and pattern design. She is also the author of an online quilting newsletter “Cornerstones.” Her website [onequiltingcircle](http://onequiltingcircle.com) is her “creative home” on the web; [thepatchworkpearl](http://thepatchworkpearl.com) is directed to small business owners who need guidance in growing their customer base, making their businesses more profitable and/or easier to manage.

Linda is a member of the Craft Industry Alliance, the New England Quilt Museum and the International Association of Creative Arts Professionals.



November 18, 2020 10AM – 4PM ZOOM workshop (current plan)
Betsy Habich

Wednesday Workshop (*same day* but *prior* to guild meeting) : Picture Piecing

Member Fee: \$65

Non-Member Fee:\$75

This full-day workshop teaches Betsy's technique for piecing art quilts. Her basis is freezer paper templates, drawn seam lines and registration marks. The real magic happens with fabric choices. She teaches participants how to look at fabric differently -- finding sections with variation in color, texture and line that suggest the curve of the petal, the direction of the light, or fur. Using this process for each piece of the pattern template results in a quilt with enhanced movement and interest.

Students will use one of Betsy's patterns (pictured right and below). Much time in the workshop will be spent selecting, cutting and marking pieces and mocking up work on a design board. The goal is to complete the design and sew a few seams before the end of the class.



Daylily



Miss Lucy Cat



Jordan Pond

The cost of the pattern is included in the workshop fee. Since patterns will be mailed to participants, *pattern choice must be made by November 1, 2020* to ensure they will arrive prior to the date of the workshop.

Coming soon: workshop sign-up form and workshop supply lists

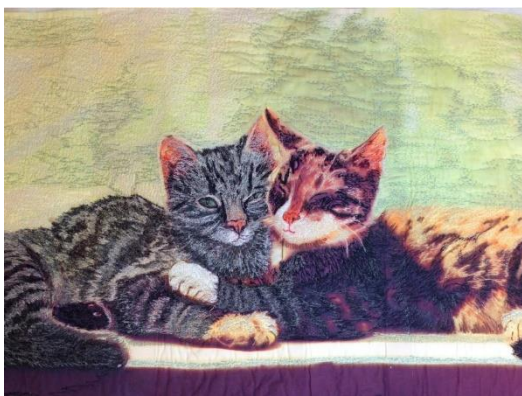
November 18, 2020**7 – 9 PM****ZOOM meeting (current plan)****Betsy Habich****Website: betsyhabich.com****Trunk Show: “The Joy of Fabric (and Thread)!”**

Betsy Habich is a lover of fabric, thread, fabric dyeing, botanical contact prints, eco-printing, shibori, tapestry by machine and cats (not necessarily in that order).

In Betsy’s words, this lecture / trunk show is “...about my life-long love of fabric and thread and exploration of its possibilities. Starting with my first quilt made with my early crewel- and batik-work, through sampler quilts, early pieced picture quilts from my studies with Ruth McDowell, to experiments with realism using painting, appliqué, and thread painting, with a few guilty diversions into fun stuff like Stack-n-Whack. My subjects range from 9/11 to my nephews, with cats,

flowers, and landscape being repeat subjects.”

Betsy’s work has received awards at regional quilt shows including the Vermont Quilt Festival, The Gathering, and Machine Quilters Expo (MQX). She has also had quilts juried into national shows, including International Quilt Association (IQA/Houston) and American Quilters Society (AQS/Paducah). She has taught at Fiber College of Maine, Connections Quilt Festival, and at guilds. One-woman shows have featured her quilts locally at shops and libraries. She lives with her husband, three cats, and a happy studio full of fabric and thread.



Local Quilt Shows and Events

Many local shows have been cancelled or postponed -
Reach out to the organizers/ webpages to check in

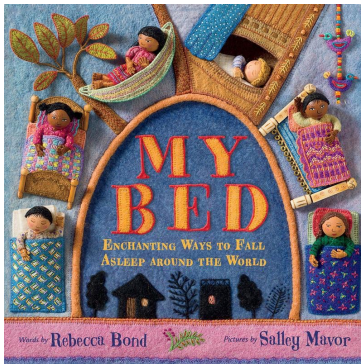
TOURING EXHIBITION

Salley Mavor: Bedtime Stitches

Original Artwork from this Book will be on display

Premiere Exhibition: Sept. 11 – Dec. 22, 2020 at the Cahoon Museum, Falmouth (Cotuit) MA.

Sally was originally scheduled to be the guest lecturer for the October RNQG meeting. She make 3-D hand- stitched artwork that ranges from “precious to poignant to provocative”.



An autographed copy of her Book, “My Bed : Enchanting Ways to Fall Asleep around the World”, can be pre-ordered from her website.

website: weefolkstudio.com

Fuller Craft Museum

Dear RNQG members and friends,

The Fuller Craft Museum is open with the safe covid19 precautions in place.

Whether you are venturing out (with your masks on of course) or are wondering about their new exhibit. Here’s a document with the objects from the new exhibition From Where I Sit:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Z8X5wywegG_rakn9ektv14g7CX0N2ht5/view?usp=sharing

More info will be coming.

Laura

NEWS FROM THE NEW ENGLAND QUILT MUSEUM

- The New England Quilt Museum has reopened after it's closure due to Covid-19. It is open: Tuesday through Saturday, 10 AM - 4 PM.
- Special Closings for Holidays and Installations in 2020:
 - Tuesday, September 29 (Installation)
 - Thursday, November 26 (Thanksgiving)
 - Friday, December 25 (Christmas Day)

Free parking is available 2 blocks from the museum in the National Park Service lot on Dutton Street.

CURRENT EXHIBITS:

- August 18-October 18, 2020
 - WAYSIDE QUILTERS GUILD: WINNER OF THE 2019 SUMMER CELEBRATION OF NEW ENGLAND QUILTS
- September 30-December 31, 2020
 - THE QUILTED CANVAS III: STILL HERE!
 - Quilts by Rhoda Cohen, Nancy Halpern, Jan Myers-Newbury, Judi Warren Blaydon
- October 20-December 30, 2020
 - BALTIMORE ALBUM QUILTS
- January 13 – April 24, 2021
 - FROM TRADITION TO INNOVATION: THREE-DIMENSIONAL FIBER ART FROM DOMINIQUE EHRMANN

Now, perhaps more than ever, museums are fundamental to our individual well-being and our communities. The NEQM staff and volunteers look forward to welcoming you. Maintaining a healthy museum environment requires everyone's cooperation. As you prepare to visit, please be aware that we are taking measures to ensure that your experience is both enjoyable and safe.

- A maximum of 20 visitors are allowed inside the Museum galleries and store at one time
- If we reach capacity, you may be asked to wait outside momentarily
- Face masks are required for everyone inside the building
- Social distancing markers and directional signage are in place to facilitate movement through the galleries and store.
- Hand sanitizer is available at several stations in the galleries and store.
- Our staff regularly sanitizes all high-touch areas throughout the day.
- We hope to resume our calendar of public programs and workshops later this year. Please check our website or subscribe to our monthly e-newsletter for future updates.

For a museum centered on uniting people with diverse interests and world views around the timeless art of quilt making, we feel the impact of our sixteen-week closure acutely. We are grateful for your continued support during this unprecedented time. --- Nora Palermo - Executive Director

For more information on membership, exhibitions, and events, see: www.neqm.org

CLASSIFIED ADS - FOR SALE

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

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.

ALL ABOUT QUILTS

958 Main St
Walpole, MA

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

REMINDER

Always show your RNQG membership card to receive a discount on your purchases at **All About Quilts (Walpole, MA)**, **Ann’s Fabrics (Canton, MA)** and the **Franklin Mill Store (Franklin, MA)**

Useful links to quilt related events and information are:
<http://www.quiltersresources.net> and <http://quiltnewengland.com/>

SAVE THE DATES - 3rd Wednesday of the month

- October 21st, 2020
- November 18th, 2020
- January 20th, 2021
- February 17th, 2021
- March 17th, 2021
- April 21st, 2021
- May 19th, 2021
- June 19th, 2021