

Laurel Wreath

Volume 38 • Issue 4

Newsletter of the Rhododendron Needlers Quilt Guild

May / June 2021

A Word From our President...

Dear Members,

This has been a year of learning to live in different ways. It was difficult learning to limit our social interactions. Many of us had to cancel travel plans. We weren't able to dine out for many months. Many of us couldn't visit with our children or grandchildren. The pandemic created an interruption in our patterns, habits and schedules. And worst of all many of us were touched by the loss of loved ones, family, friends and neighbors.

On the other hand, there were so many wonderful new experiences that kept us sane in a world catastrophe. We all learned to use technology to keep in touch and help our guild remain active. Many of us learned to love sitting outside around a fire pit in the cold weather, enjoying time with family and friends. I looked forward to visiting with my family on Zoom every Tuesday night as we gathered around our computers in different towns, cities and states. One of the best experiences, however, was the chance to quilt, with fellow RNQG members during Sew-Alongs. I've never experienced anything like it. It was different from getting together during meetings. It was different from getting together in workshops, and it was different from gathering together at retreats. It was very personal. Each and every member who joined the Zoom calls laughed, learned, shared something informative or even life-changing. We got to know each other better and make progress on our individual projects. Most importantly it was a way to break the isolation many of us felt during a difficult and unprecedented time in world history.

I'm proud to be a part of this resilient group of women. I'm proud of what we have accomplished this year. I hope all of you are too. Kudos to the board for all their good work.

Venera

Come enjoy a fantastic  *ZOOM classroom experience!*

What: All Star Virtual Sampler Platter

When: Sat, May 22 and Sun, May 23, 3 – 6PM EST

Experience some of the best teachers the virtual world has to offer in this live zoom event offered by the Global Quilt Connection. An All-Star cast of 18 quilt teachers will demonstrate some of their favorite quilting techniques, showcasing a wide variety of styles and techniques. You'll see everything from traditional to modern and art quilting techniques.

Come when you can, stay as long as you'd like. Between each 15-minute demo, short and entertaining zoom tutorials will be offered that help you get the most out of a zoom workshop. If you haven't yet had the opportunity to experience a live zoom class, this is your perfect risk-free opportunity to check it out. Each teacher will demonstrate her "Zoomin'-awesome" teaching style so you can get a good feel of how wonderful virtual classes can be.

RNQG has paid the fee for guild member participation. The week before the Sampler, you will receive a Zoom link and a PDF that includes written instructions to go along with each teacher's demonstration, as well as a page with tips for making the most of live zoom workshops. Click [<here>](#) to see the teacher schedule.

FYI, this event will NOT be recorded, so mark your calendar NOW!

Committee Reports...

Treasury

Despite some financial and program adjustments, 2020-21 has been a successful year for the guild.

Increased ticket sales for the raffle quilt over the past month have resulted in a profit -- \$581.15 as of May 5. Thank you!

The Board has decided to continue its \$500 annual donation to the New England Quilt Museum, but will not provide a scholarship for a graduating HS student or make a donation to a public library this year.

The RNQG membership fee is returning to the pre-Covid price of \$45 per year for 2021-22. Assuming level membership renewal, income should balance perfectly with the guild budget for 2021-22.

Comfort Quilts

The guild continues to donate comfort quilts to many organizations. I just delivered quilts to the foster care agency in Berkley that we are affiliated with, a red·white·blue quilt to a woman in Norton who puts together baskets for veterans, larger quilts to the Rise Up organization that helps foster young adults establish themselves for college, and another 2 bags to the human services representative for Norton to distribute. Here is the email I received from Bob at the foster care agency:

Hi Terry!

Thank you so much. Please let your members know that all quilts are spoken for already, including for a 5 month old that we just took in on Monday! We are currently serving 72 children and teens. I wish that all of you could experience the excitement when we hand them out at home visits. All of our kiddos LOVE THEM!

Thanks so much!!

So ladies – we’re making a difference! Please let me know if you need fabric or batting!

Terry R contact: comfortquiltchair@rnqg.org

Editor’s Note: *At our recent board meeting, Terry R. reported that more than 200 comfort quilts have been made by RNQG members during her tenure as Comfort Quilt Chair. Bravo!*

Special thanks also to Terry for all her hard work!

Important Dates...

For the 2020-2021 quilting season, all meetings are conducted virtually via ZOOM. The link to a meeting will arrive by email a day or two prior to the meeting.

Upcoming Guild Meetings:

(Wednesdays, 7 - 9PM)

May 19 RNQG members

June 16 Jennifer Watchorn

By popular demand, now twice per month!

Open Sew-Alongs:

(Sundays, 10AM – 2PM)

May 2 and 16

June 6 and 27

July 11 and 25

August 8 and 22

Upcoming Board Meetings:

(Wednesdays, 7 - 9PM)

Special session – July 7

Please note: *Any RNQG member may attend a board meeting. Please email president@rnqg.org to request an invitation.*

Got Fundraising Ideas?

Don’t need to be “fully hatched”... email any inspirations/thoughts to president@rnqg.org.

Programs May / June

May 19, 2021 7 – 9 PM ZOOM meeting

Topic: “Business, Pleasure and the tale of a ‘Quilting Journey”

So much to cover, and so little time!

This evening’s program will include Member’s Show and Tell, election of the 2021-22 board members, preview of the programs for 2021-22, drawing the winning ticket for our amazing raffle quilt, and hearing one member tell the story of her “Quilting Journey”.

Twenty years ago, RNQG member and Program Chairperson, Karen LeBlanc (this month’s *Featured Member*) decided she needed to explore a new direction in her life. College was over; friends were getting married; and she was finally living away from home. There was a long history of quilting amongst her relatives -- both sets of grandparents as well as more distant relatives had engaged in the hobby in Nova Scotia, Canada but it took many years for Karen to catch the “quilting bug.”

Her mother had always owned a Singer sewing machine, but the projects she did (e.g., hemming) were boring to the girl. Shapes and contrasting color combinations are what appealed to Karen both then and now. It wasn’t until a local craft store advertised their “Learn How to Sew” program, allowing students to use sewing machines owned by the store, that Karen decided to try her hand at the art. She soon purchased her first sewing machine, an Elna that cost her \$100.



Join us at the guild meeting to hear the rest of Karen’s story and see how her skills and tastes have grown and changed through the years!

Names to Know...

**RNQG Board Members
2020-21**

President	Venera E.
Vice President	<i>vacant</i>
Secretary	Sue C.
Treasurer	Karen L.
Programs	
2020-21	Karen L.
2021-22	Mary P.
Historian	Lisa S.
Membership	Margaret R and Judy S.
Raffle Quilt Tix	Carol C.
Comfort Quilts	Terry R.
NEQM Rep	Anita L.
Social Media	
Facebook	Venera E.
Instagram	Karen L.
Twitter	AnneMarie F.
Quilt Rack Rental	Diana A.
Connecting Threads	Deb B.
Newsletter	AnneMarie F.
Monthly Raffles	RuthAnn S and Sonia G.
Publicity	<i>vacant</i>
Website	AnneMarie F.

Places to Go...

RNQG on Social Media

Click the icon to reach the RNQG page



or reach our private Facebook Group by clicking [<here>](#) .

Want something added to the RNQG social media pages? Email request to [SocialMedia@rnqg.org!](mailto:SocialMedia@rnqg.org)



New England Quilt Museum News

*Until further notice, museum hours are:
Tuesday through Saturday, 10 AM - 4 PM*

CURRENT & FUTURE EXHIBITS:

On view through May 22, 2021

- **YELLOW AND ORANGE: QUILTS FROM THE PILGRIM/ROY COLLECTION**
- **A SLICE OF CHEDDAR: YELLOW AND ORANGE QUILTS FROM THE NEQM COLLECTION**

On view through May 22, 2021

THE CONSTANT QUILTER: QUILTS BY WENDY REED

On view through May 29, 2021

MODERN QUILTS

May 25 – September 11, 2021

QUILTS JAPAN: THE 15TH QUILT NIHON

June 1 – July 31, 2021

BLENDED QUILTS BY KATHY METELICA CRAY

AVAILABLE FOR STREAMING:

- [Virtual tour of QUILTED CANVAS III: STILL HERE!](#)
- [Virtual tour of DEEDS NOT WORDS: CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE](#)
- [VIRTUAL QUILT GUILDS: RUNNING SUCCESSFUL GUILD MEETINGS ON ZOOM](#)

As you prepare to visit, please be aware that the staff is taking measures to ensure that your experience is both enjoyable and safe.

- 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.
- The staff regularly sanitizes all high-touch areas throughout the day.

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

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

Featured Member...

Karen LeBlanc



Karen first became involved with RNQG in 2012. Her chiropractor, Zelayna Rauch, is the RNQG member who encouraged her to attend her first guild meeting.

Karen's face and name are probably familiar to everyone in the guild because she has held several positions on the RNQG board over the years, *even during her first year of membership!* Now in her final months as Program Chairperson, she has for the past several years served as Treasurer for the organization, having previously chaired Raffle Ticket sales and assisted with the Raffle Quilt.

With a college education focused on legal education, she has worked for an attorney for over 25 years doing a variety of tasks, including preparing tax returns for clients. Evenings and weekends are spent with the ones she loves: her boyfriend, two stepdaughters, a brand new *beautiful* granddaughter, and three furry cats.

Be sure to attend the May 19 guild meeting to hear the details of her "Quilting Journey".

RNQG Member Perks...

Show your RNQG membership card to receive a discount on purchases at the following stores:

[All About Quilts](#) 958 Main Street, Walpole

[Ann's Fabrics](#) 235 Turnpike Street, Canton

[Emma's Quilt Cupboard](#) 319 E. Central Street, Canton

[Franklin Mill Store](#) 305 Union Street, Franklin

Raffle Quilt

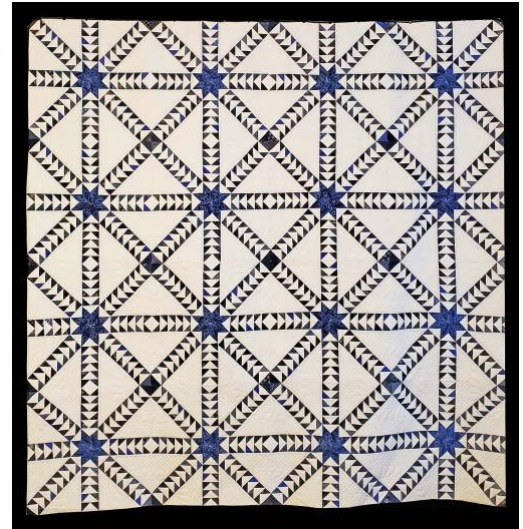
Be sure to attend the guild's monthly meeting via Zoom Wednesday, May 19th when the winner of RNQG's raffle quilt, *Flying Blues* will be selected!

The pandemic surely impacted the ability to display the quilt and promote the raffle, but our plea for a final push on ticket sales helped us turn a profit over the last month. Thanks to everyone who took the challenge to heart!

We are also grateful to the two quilt stores that displayed our quilt, *All About Quilts* and *Ann's Fabrics*. I encourage guild members to show their appreciation by patronizing these stores. Many customers apparently commented on the quilt's design, color, and the beautiful quilting done by Diana Annis. Those comments translated into ticket \$ales!

For anyone interested in purchasing tickets up to and including May 19th, kindly contact Carol Coakley, Raffle Chair, at raffletix@rngg.org or call (207) 460-7907.

Good luck to each and every one. The winner will have a beautiful quilt to treasure.



Flying Blues
2021 RNQG Raffle Quilt



KEEP
CALM
AND
READ
ON

Another Amazing On-Line Educational Opportunity for Quilters!

Quiltside Chats are a series of live *and* lively conversations between Carolyn Ducey (Curator of Collections at the International Quilt Museum) and a member of the American Quilt Study Group (AQSG). Each episode features a quilt selected by the guest that she (or he) would sneak out of the building...if it weren't a crime.

The Chats can be viewed LIVE on the [AQSG Facebook page](#) and [YouTube channel](#). The programs are sponsored by Quiltfolk, FREE, open to all, and no registration is required. The schedule appears below:

March 21– Marianne Fons

April 18 – Pam Weeks

May 16 – Mary Kerr

July 18 – Sue Reich

September 19 – *RNQG member* Anita Loscalzo

October 17 – Xenia Cord

January 16, 2022 – Merikay Waldvogel

You can view any missed programs at your convenience on the AQS YouTube channel!

Classified Ads...

FREE Hand Quilting Frame: Still in the original box, this vintage, hardwood quilting frame was manufactured by the Frank A. Edmunds company for Sears and Roebuck. Tilt top, fits quilts up to 82" wide. Box has minor water marks. Contact Nancy S. at Classified-1@rnqg.org for further information.



FREE Vintage Doilies, Lace: All in excellent condition, vintage unknown. Contact Lisa S. at Classified-2@rnqg.org for further information.



FOR SALE: Antique Lace items: Petticoat, jabot, and lace, all in excellent condition. \$10 for the lot. Contact Lisa S. at Classified-2@rnqg.org for further information.

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Note: Advertising is free for RNQG members. Non-members pay \$1.00 per newsletter (\$5.00 annually)

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