

# Life in Stitches

Newsletter of the Rio Grand Valley Quilt Guild

Published in February 2018

## PRESIDENTS THREADS THAT BIND

Are you tired of the cold and dreary weather? THEN, you should have gotten a lot of sewing and quilting done preparing for the 2019 Guild Quilt Show.

Must give a big applause to Alice Gibson and her quilt show team for a successful 2018 Guild Quilt Show. One for the books!!! There were so many positive comments stated so the Rio Grande Valley Quilting Guild can hold their heads up high for a job well done.

Victoria Findlay Wolfe and Ricky Tims were well received plus all their secret tips have changed the "fear" factor for a large number of quilters.

I have made my first Barn Quilt with the assistance of quilt artist Suzi Parron. My first real quilt art piece and many thanks to her sharing of her knowledge of Barn Quilts around the United States to the Guild. She is such a delight!

Looking forward to quilt artist Marci Baker in March...Don't Miss This One.

Thank you to all who stopped me during the quilt show on the Island, Llano Grande quilt show and this past meeting and introduced yourselves. A bigger help to me than you will ever know.

We are all bound together by a common thread - quilting!

**See ya in March,  
Kathe**



## Calendar

### **Guild Meeting:**

Saturday, March 10, 2018  
9:00 am to noon

Alamo Recreational Vehicle Park  
(Alamo Rec-Veh, Main Hall  
1320 W Frontage Road  
Alamo TX 78516

**Carpooling is encouraged.**

**Program: Top Secret Tips by  
Marci Baker**

### **Board Meeting:**

Wednesday Mar 7, 2018  
Quilt Show Board 9:30 am to  
noon , Guild Board 1-2 pm  
Both at Renee's Fiber Art  
Quilting School.  
1623 N Tower Rd,  
Alamo, TX 78516

### **Military Service Quilts:**

60" x 72" finished  
Red, white and blue  
combinations, Contact Carla  
Mcwhinney or Renee Darkis for  
more information.

### **Programs:**

March: Top Secret Tips  
Marci Baker



## Treasurer's Report

Income and Expeditures RGVQG Checking Account	
JANUARY 2018	
Balance Forward	\$ 3,637.09
<b>INCOME</b>	
Administration (donations to the Guild not allocated)	
Community Service	
Fabric Drawing	111
Guests & Fines	
Library	
Membership	1725
Military Service Quilts	51
Newsletter (advertising)	50
Other Income - Checks not cashed (savings trnsfr)	5000
Programs (fees) (subtract refunds from here)	-681.65
Quilt Show	
School House (fees) (subtract refunds from here)	165
Youth Education	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 6,420.35</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
Administration, Gift Certificate	20.97
Bank Service Charge - checks, fees	
Bee Keeper (Split upper valley and lower valley bees)	
Biz Utilities - building use (not classes; 1/2 storage unit), PO Box, Web	556.04
Community Service	27.06
Fabric Drawing	
Friendship Day	
Guests & Fines	
Library	
Membership	
Military Service quilts (include 1/2 storage unit \$825)	1303.56
President (door prizes, departing officers)	206.36
Professional Fees - Legal, Accountant, Insurance	
Programs, (includes Bldg use rent)	2510.42
School House (includes bldg use rent)	200
Scholarships - Officers (6 officers & show chair)	
Scholarships - Quilt Show (3 members)	
Scholarships - (College)	2000
Sunshine & Shadows	
Youth Education	
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 6,824.41</b>
Account Balance Forward	\$ 3,233.03

# RIO GRANDE VALLEY QUILT GUILD GENERAL MEETING

**February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

The meeting was called to order by Kathe Letulle, President at 10:25 am following our Guest Speaker, Suzi Parron.

The Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports were adopted as published in the newsletter.

Vicki Guerra, Librarian, asked the members to PLEASE return any books they have signed out before returning home to the north. If you have a desire to see a certain book, let her know and she will try to obtain it for the library.

Newsletter: Please, all news is due by the 15<sup>th</sup>, earlier if at all possible.

Retreat: There is a sign up list for anyone who wishes a massage while at retreat. Cost is \$60/hr.

Remember to fill out the Emergency Form (found on the web site) and bring with you to Retreat.

Karen has two openings for the Bluebonnet Retreat if anyone wants to go.

Sunshine & Shadows: Please keep the following in your prayers; Jan McCoy (husband in hospice),

Joy Paugh (sister-in-law passed away), Maggie Putney (husband ill), Karon Jacobson, (husband ill) and Judi Swanda (knee surgery the 16<sup>th</sup>).

Block of Month: Bonnie Cassidy shows the quilt that Karen Knowlton made out of last months block making her eligible for a Scholarship. This month's winner is Jesse VandenBerg. Next months block is a 8 ½" finished block called "Sawtooth" from January 23<sup>r</sup>.

Bonnie Hall reports that we now have 293 members with 6 new members and 2 returning members today. Winners of the \$600 Scholarship Draw to attend an International/National Quilt Show and take a class during that show are as follows:

First three winners: Annie Smith, Kathy Dunning and Sue Arnold

The following are on the alternate list in order from first to last should one of the above not be able to use their scholarship: Karen Steffan; Lynne Johnson; Debbie Williams; Mary Jo Havertape; Ingrid Pietsch; Thelma Woods; Carolyn Gottfried and Donna Wendell.

2019 Show: Debi Warner, Show Chair announced the Theme of the Show will be "This Land is Your Land". Our Guest Speaker for the show will be Kathy Geier, Landscape Artist. Paula McCutchan announced that the Challenge Quilt Theme is "Love of Nature". It may be any size or shape with a maximum of 210" perimeter. At least one item on the quilt must be three (3) dimensional.

Military Quilts: Carla reported that 55 quilts and 8 lap quilts were delivered this week to the VA Out Patient Clinic and they can use more. February 19<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 am to 2:30 pm will be a sew day at Snow to Sun, 1701 N. Interntional Blvd., Weslaco (North of Hwy 83). Everyone is encouraged to attend.

Community Service: Rick Red reports that two Military Service Tops and two Hospice Quilt Tops were completed during the Quilt Show.

Alice Gibson reported on the 2017 Quilt Show and thanked everyone for their volunteering and help in making it a successful show. She presented a check for \$12,000. to the guild. Next year and for the following 4 years the Quilt Show will be held on the Island on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday/Saturday of February. . The date was changed due to conflict with other shows.

A Drawing was held for the Sewing Machine donated to one of our great volunteers and was won by Susan Dagg (not sure of spelling).

Meeting adjourned Judi Swanda for Joy Paugh, Secretary.

# COMMUNITY SERVICE

## Community Service Year End Report 2017

Items 6,547

Hours 26,974

Value \$195,446.75

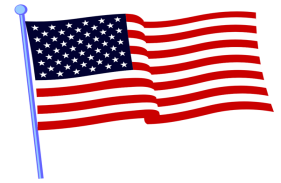
Note: This is just a bit less than \$200,000.00

## Community Service Report, January 2018

Total Items 1,042

Total hours 3,287

Total value \$23,830.75



free clipart by www.ClipProject.info



Military Sew Day, February 19th, 9 to 3, Snow to Sun R V Resort, 1015 Blvd. Weslaco

**Lunch provided.** Bring your machines, and sewing tools.

There will be kits available for your sewing pleasure. Lots of fun and fellowship.

## Military Service Quilts

We are happy to report that we distributed 55 quilts and 8 wheelchair quilts to the McAllen VA Outpatient Clinic on 2/7/18. We delivered the quilts to the Social Worker and Nursing Supervisor, who will ensure our quilts go to the patients most in need. They were very happy to be getting the wheelchair quilts because the physical therapy and rehab units located there are always in need of lap quilts. While we were unloading the quilts several patients came up to admire the quilts and ask how they could get one.

We will have a Military Quilt Sew Day on Monday, Feb 19, at Snow to Sun Park. The address is 1701 N. International Blvd (exit #160). Please come and join the fun. Lunch will be provided and we will supply fabric and panels for your sewing pleasure. We encourage you to make a wheelchair quilt, but you can sew on any military quilt you want. We also plan to make presentation to 2 veterans during our Sew Day.

We have depleted our supply of finished quilts and could use some help. We have about 20 quilts that are bundled and ready to quilt. You do not need a long-arm, or free motion quilting skills to quilt these quilts. If you can meander or do straight line quilting on your domestic machine, these quilts are waiting for you. They are an excellent way to practice and hone your skills. If you would like to help with the quilting, please let Carla Mewhinney or Renee Dark know. We will get the quilts to you. Thanks in advance for your help.



## RGVQG MEMBERSHIP

You may now pay for your membership [online](#) using a credit card or PayPal. If you are not sure you paid your dues for 2018, you can verify by checking the sign-in sheet at the guild meetings. If you are no longer on the sign-in sheet, you have not yet paid your 2018 dues; you will have to pay the \$10 guest fee (or pay the \$25 membership) to attend any more meetings.

We have **293** members in the Rio Grande Valley Quilt Guild as of 02/10/2018.

New members have never belonged to our guild before. Returning members were members in the past, but not the prior year. Renewing members were members in the prior year. The following are the memberships received since the last membership article.

**Welcome New Members** – Sue Berg, Florence Berube, Debra Evans, Carol Hefta, Janice Hopkins-Fockele, Wanda Kamp, Michelle Patmon, Alicia Teran, Mark Warner.

**Welcome back returning members** – Connie Brown.

**Welcome back renewing members** – Beth Braun, Kathy Dunning, Carolyn Fox, Marilyn Hensz, Pam Liston, Jane Olson, Nancy Risinger.

I will not be publishing address or email info in the newsletter. Address and email info for all members is now available online on the alligator page. You will need a password to open the directory. Your 2018 membership ID cards will have the info needed to access the online directory on the back of the ID card.

Bonnie M Hall ([membership@rgvqg.com](mailto:membership@rgvqg.com)) or 740-398-1629 (call or text)

## RGVQG Scholarships

### Winners

Annie Smith  
Kathy Dunning  
Sue Arnold

### Alternates

Karen Steffen  
Lynne Johnson  
Debbie Williams  
Mary Jo Havertape  
Ingrid Pietsch  
Thelma Woods  
Carolyn Gottfried  
Donna Wendell



## Bee News



### !!! News Flash !!!

It would be great to have all the **GUILD BEES announce their quilt show** being held at their parks or neighborhoods. This is **free** publicity for you. **GO FOR IT.** If there is space, we could move these announcements to the front page of the newsletter. Often space is available there.

The **Row Quilters Bee** is an open group, and meets at the Alamo Country Club each Friday, at 10 am in the main hall annex to sew and share. Pat Skye led a tour of the New Quilts From An Old Favorite: Flying Geese, award winning quilts from the National Quilt Museum in Paducah Kentucky. Truly an eye opening experience. Fun, fun, fun! Lunch for the Bee's challenge winners followed.

**Killer Bees:** Is an open bee and we welcome any person interested in joining us...Beginner to Professional...9 am at Sunshine Country Club, Retzlaf Hall in Harlingen. Several classes were taught, Darlene Meadows taught "Fold and Stitch Leaf Topper and Marsha Santow taught Easy Attic Windows. Next week is the annual Killer Bees garage sale after the meeting (mainly quilting related items), and the following program is Linda Osborne teaching "3D Folded Block".

**The Green Bees of Green Gate Grove.** We held our 15th annual quilt show on February 6th at Green Gate. It was again a huge success thanks to everyone who attended. We had over 400 guests come through to view 130 quilts, and plenty of miscellaneous quilted items. Beautiful Swedish weaving talents were displayed as well. Group projects that we have done this month were "Chip Out of Every Block" and "Carpenter's Star". We had so much fun showing off our projects and finding new ways to use our "stash". Thank you to the guild for your support. We look forward to having our show next year. Our "Opportunity Quilt" is already in the making. As always, it's the first Tuesday in February.

**We need buzzin' from more Bees !**

### Thank you

Derrel Letulle sent a thank you card for presenting a quilt to him on Veteran's Day. He appreciated the heartwarming gift.

Barry Wood also thanked the Guild for his exquisite quilt. He will treasure it for a lifetime and plans for his family to have it for generations to come.

## 2018 Quilt Show Report

The 2018 quilt show is now in the history books, our theme of sewing with the stars was carried through to include classes with two world class teachers, Victoria Wolfe Finley from New York and Ricky Tims from Colorado.

The opportunity to take Victoria's classes were filled for both Friday and Saturday. From the verbal reports both classes were well received plus we got to see the results at the meeting on Saturday.

Ricky had two events during the show the lecture Friday morning where there were seats available because it was in the theatre that holds 190 people. The Friday night was a first for our show and was attended by both the ladies but also husbands and having been there myself was very appreciative of his musical skills.

Many of the attendees also attended Ricky's Luminarium on Sunday and Monday that was also a great time for those of us who attended.

We also had Lisa Erlackson qualified as both a quilt appraiser and judge from north Texas. We certainly kept her busy with 27 appraisals plus her lecture that was well attended. I think all of the appraisals are now in the hands of the owners of the quilts.

The quality of the 300 quilts on display was excellent, I have been involved with the show for many years and have seen a continual increase in the quality yearly. Is it time to try a juried show?

The opportunity quilt, had \$7000.00 in sales. It was won by Cricket Rice, who was very excited about both winning the quilt and meeting the maker Lila Helm. The wall hanging was won by a three year old girl in Minnesota a surprise to her Mother, because Grandmother had bought the ticket.

The vendors were happy with their sales, thanks to all the attendees for bringing your shopping needs with you.

The style show was another success with 30 participants on Friday and 24 on Saturday. The hit of the show was the youth who modelled the clothes they had made. The highlight was a self designed quinceañera dress Rosario Garza was the crowd pleaser of the event. Hopefully she will apply for one of our student scholarships.

We were successful with the small quilt auction that people contributed so willingly as a fund raiser. Financially we were successful to the point that a cheque for \$12000.00 was given to the quilt from the Quilt Show Board on Saturday at our February meeting.

Thank you all for being willing volunteers and participants in our annual quilt show.

Good luck to the next year's Show Board.

Respectfully submitted,  
Alice Gibson





THIS LAND IS YOUR LAND...in celebration of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our “conservationist President” Teddy Roosevelt’s death....

**Our CHALLENGE Is: “A love for Nature”.**

Create a Nature Quilt that is near and dear to your heart! Whether it is the first snow on the majestic mountain tops, autumn leaves and amber waves of grain in the Fall, baby animals and the first buds sprouting out in Spring or the splashing ocean waves on a hot summer day, NATURE IS ALL AROUND US!

Now lets spice this up a little! Your challenge **MUST** have at least **ONE THREE- DIMENSIONAL ELEMENT** (think puffed up frog, fringe for lion’s mane, etc.) It may be the materials used or embellishments.

Your nature quilt should meet the following criteria:

- Maximum size total perimeter 210 inches
- ALL MEDIA AND METHODS accepted
- Must be registered for the 2019 Quilt Show
- MUST have one three- dimensional element

For your inspiration you may even choose a favorite National or State Park, a Vacation spot, or even your pet dog!

**BE CREATIVE AND HAVE FUN!**

**Doodle space to color your next quilt blocks**

## 2019 Quilt Show Theme

To add some perspective to the theme of the quilt show, 2019 is the hundredth anniversary of the death of our conservationist President, Theodore “Teddy” Roosevelt. Pres. Roosevelt set aside more public lands than any other President in history. His American Antiquities Act of 1906 made it possible for future Presidents to protect lands for their cultural significance and natural resources.

Your personal connection to the land will also be celebrated with this theme. Be it agricultural, forest, wetlands, or habitat for birds and animals, we invite you to express your own ideas in this quilt show.

Please read the article about the 2019 Challenge to show your LOVE FOR NATURE!

And take a peak at Judy Brown’s article on Cathy Geier <http://cathygeier.com> to see all the wonders of our quilt show teacher and lecturer.



### WANTED! VOLUNTEERS!

### SOMETHING NEW THIS YEAR!

We would like to have a **\*large\*** group of volunteers to do Publicity for the Quilt Show this year.

Maybe you only want to do research for places to advertise.

Maybe you like getting prices and figuring budgets.

Maybe you are willing to take bookmarks around to parks, but only in your own community.

Maybe you only want to sew but would enjoy making banners to hang in hotels.

Maybe you like to write, but the rest of these tasks freak you out!

Maybe you would love any excuse to go to the Island and would love being the liaison to the community center or some churches

Maybe you love thinking up ideas, but just don’t want to do any of them.

Maybe you like to draw.

If any of these (and many more) apply to you, then this year’s Publicity Committee might be your cup of tea. The Show Board would like to get the word out this year in many ways. In fact, Debi wants to have so many folks on Publicity that we can break into teams.

If you can do any of these, please send you name, email, telephone, and activity preference to:

Debi Warner, Interim Chair, Publicity

## RETREAT 2018 Important Information

Ladies, the following contains very important information for the 2018 retreat. Please visit the members only website and you will find a Retreat Checklist, directions to John Newcombe Tennis Ranch, the Shop Lists and most important is the Emergency Medical Form.

**Please, do NOT use any perfumes or colognes while at retreat. We have some retreaters who have sensitivities to smells.**

The **Emergency Medical Form** is to be completed and brought with you to Retreat. I will have the envelopes at retreat. There you will put the form in the envelope and sign it. These forms will be given back to you at the end of retreat. If you are using last year's form, please review and make sure all information is current. This form is for your protection in case of an unforeseen occurrence.

You need to bring the following items with you:

- Extension Cords
- Duct Tape
- Emergency Medical Form

As in the past, I am looking for large cutting mats to share . If you have a large mat we can use, please let me know. Ironing boards and irons will be provided.

Annie will be giving massages again this year. You need to make an appointment with me for a massage. You pay Annie directly.

The pool and hot tub is available to use. So bring your swimsuit and hope for a little hot weather.

When you arrive, you register and pickup your room key in the Main Lodge. **Check-in** is at **3PM**. They will not be ready for you before that time. **Retreat starts at 3PM**. No one will be able to get into the sewing room until that time. This makes it fair to all.

The backside of the lodge has a ramp that leads to the sewing room. There is temporary parking there also. I have a wagon that can be used to get your things in the sewing room. There will also be other wagons available. You pick your spot and you're setup for the entire retreat. The room is locked at night so your things are secure.

We meet at 5:30PM in the sewing room. We all go to dinner from there.

I will have the 2019 registration forms with me. You will be able to register for 2019 before you leave. There is a \$100 deposit due at that time.

The Bluebonnet Friends Retreaters will have a "Bluebonnet Day". Katherine Rose will have your shirts if you order one from her. If you did not order one from Katherine, you can wear any blue shirt. We are bonding, Ladies.

If there are any questions, feel free to call or email. I am in the Guild Directory.

Looking forward to another fulfilled retreat, Karyn Heaney  
**Karyn Heaney**

Faux Best Press

TO MAKE:

GALLON:

1 gallon (128 oz) Distilled Water

16 oz Vodka (Potato Based) - Luksusowa Brand

5 1/3 tsp scent oil – Fresh Linen Highly Fragranced Warming Oil (optional)

HALF GALLON:

½ Gallon (64 oz) Distilled Water

8 oz Vodka (potato based) - Luksusowa Brand

2 2/3 tsp scent oil – Fresh Linen Highly Fragranced Warming Oil (optional)

QUART:

1 qt (32 oz) distilled water

4 oz Vodka (potato based) – Luksusowa Brand

1-1/3 tsp scent oil – Fresh Linen Highly Fragranced Warming Oil (optional)



# Irish Traveler Mystery Quilt, Month 4

This is a mystery that will take you on a trip through the Irish countryside. The winding pattern is a great way to begin your travels into quilting, while still entertaining for more experienced quilters.

## Irish Traveler Mystery Quilt – Month #5

Decide between the two layouts, then arrange your 16 blocks accordingly.

Gather 20 Sashing Strips. Connect Blocks in rows of chosen design, with Sashing Strips. Start and end each row with a Sashing Strip. Press toward Sashing Strips.

3) Gather 25 Cornerstones, and 20 Sashing strips. Connect 5 Cornerstones using 4 Sashing strips. Press toward the Sashing Strips. Make 5 of these Connecting Strips.

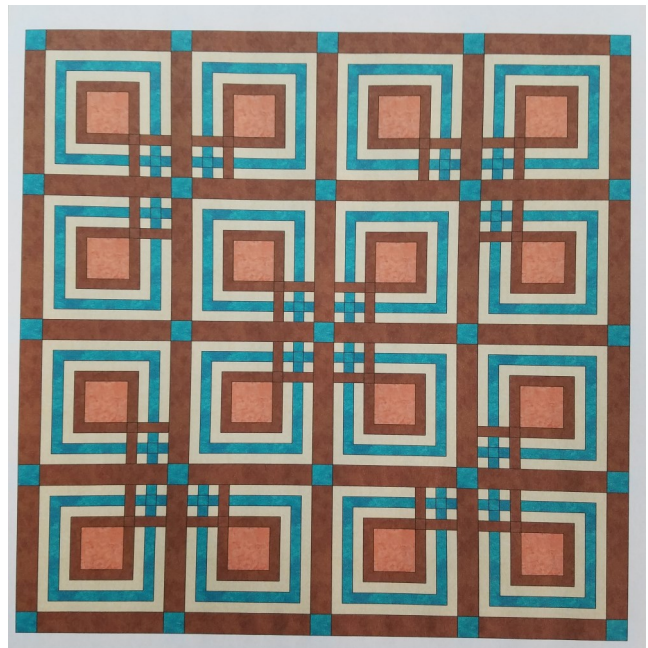
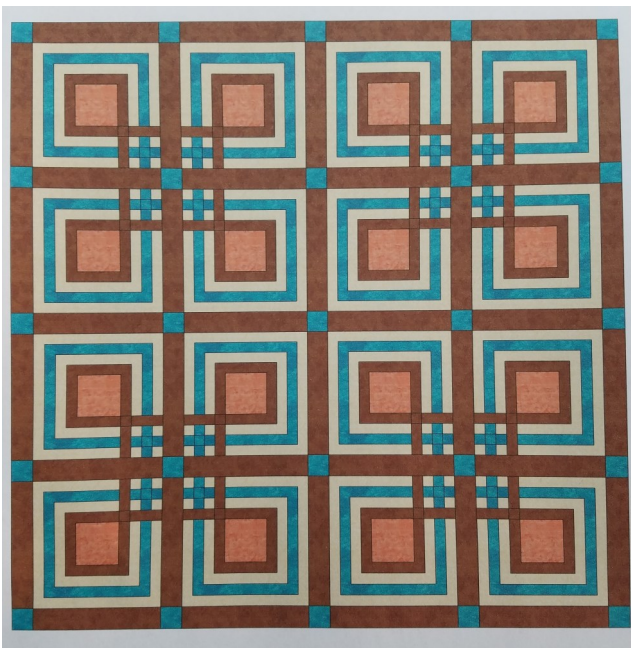
4) Gather 4 Block Rows and 3 of the 5 Connecting Strips. Use the Connecting Strips to connect the Block Rows, according to your chosen design.

5) Sew a Connecting Strip to the top of the first Block Row.

6) Sew a Connecting Strip to the bottom of the last Block Row.

Suggested Border directions will be in next month's newsletter.

As always if you have any questions, you can contact Laural Powell at [gobquilts@gmail.com](mailto:gobquilts@gmail.com)



## 20th Annual Bluebonnet Shop Hop April 12-14, 2018

**Extended Shopping Hours Thursday 9-8, Friday 9-8, Saturday 9-7**

**20th anniversary—20 prizes**

**Many contests, a free giveaway  
to each participant.**

### **8 Participating Shops**

**THE QUILT HAUS 651 N. Business 35, #510**

• New Braunfels 830-620-1382 **MESQUITE BEAN**

**FABRICS 6708 N New Braunfels Ave • San**

**Antonio 210-281-1256 MEMORIES BY THE YARD**

**8015 Mainland • San Antonio 210-520-4833 B&B QUILTING 410 East Loop St • Buda 512-312-2299 HOLLY**

**DEE QUILTS 405 E Davis St • Luling 830-875-5432 GONE QUILTING 1115 Cedar Street • Bandera 830-796-**

**4360 A QUILTER'S FOLLY 8213 Brodie Ln. #100 • Austin 512-899-3233 VALLI & KIM 700 West Highway**

**290 • Dripping Springs 512-858-4433**



Kika de la Garza Fine Arts Center  
921 E. 12th St., Mission, TX 78572

uval.texas@gmail.com  
956-583-ARTS  
www.uppervalleyartleague.org

The Upper Valley Art League Presents

# FIBER ARTS UNLIMITED EXHIBITION

March 10 - April 7, 2018

**Opening Reception: Saturday, March 10, 7-9 p.m.**

Open Hours:

Tue - Fri 10 am to 6 pm

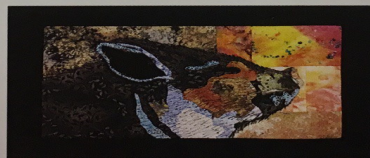
Sat 10 - 2 pm

Sun or Mon by appt. only

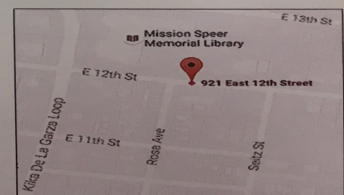
Call to confirm

Free & Open to the Public

*All Passes; Art Alone Endures*



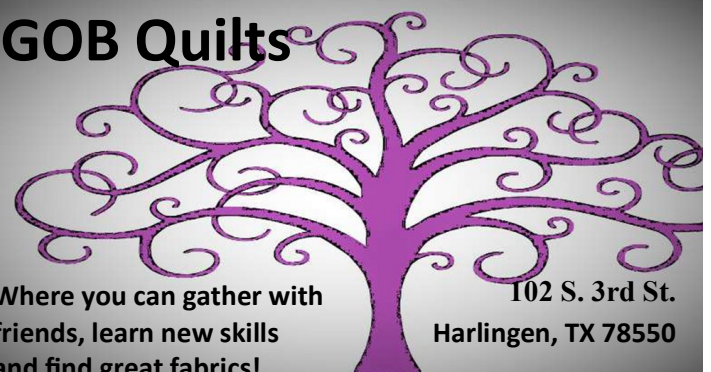
The 2017 People's Choice Award Winner, Pat Skye, Syd the Pig, 15" x 22", fabric and thread



100% Cotton Fabric  
Cotton and Wool Batting  
Notions

1001 Segovia  
Llano Grande RV Resort  
Mercedes, TX 78570  
(956) 272-2377  
quilterstntkorner@gmail.com  
Kathè Letulle - Owner  
Call for an appointment

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# Renee's Quilting

Renee Darkis

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reneedarkis@hotmail.com

*Longarm Quilting  
services, Custom  
Quilting, Computer*

**Authorized dealer for  
Janome, Handi Quilter,  
Elna and  
Ever-Sewn Dealers**



See our class schedule and  
Sign Up online.

Repair and Parts Services for All Makes and Models,  
Scissor Sharpening.

Barb and Ron Bergquist—Owners

Hours: Monday—Saturday 9 am to 9 pm.

Sunday 10 am to 6 pm

Our online store has fabric, classes, info, batting,  
fusibles and more !

Helping You Quilt Love from Fabric In McAllen  
(same complex as Harbor Freight)

2706 N. 10th Street, McAllen, TX 78501

956 638 1961

email: [info@ablockaway.com](mailto:info@ablockaway.com)

Web: [www.ablockaway.com](http://www.ablockaway.com)

## For more information

For more information about the things mentioned in the newsletter, look on our web page, [rgvqg.com](http://rgvqg.com) or [rgvqg.com/alligator](http://rgvqg.com/alligator)

## Policy for article submission.

**MS Word or other text document format is vastly preferred** over pdf. Please Include a "headline" or Header for your article. I will not spell check or grammar check your articles. Pictures, graphics including clip art should be in .jpeg, .jpg, pub, .gif, .png or .bmp. If you have questions, please contact me. Diana Wolf, Editor

## RGVQG Newsletter Advertising Rates

Business Card \$10.00	1/4 page \$25.00
1/2 page: \$50.00	Full Page \$100.00
Classified Ad: \$5.00 or 3-4 lines	

**Deadline:** 15th of the month to be included in our next monthly publication.

For more details contact:

Diana Wolf, Editor cell: 913-449-1668

e-mail: [newsletter@rgvqg.com](mailto:newsletter@rgvqg.com)

## RGVQG Disclaimer

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Diana Wolf, Editor