

Life in Stitches

Newsletter of the Rio Grand Valley Quilt Guild

Published in April, 2019

PRESIDENTS THREADS THAT BIND

For all of you who have left the valley or will be leaving before the April Guild Meeting – wishing safe travels and blessed summers - You will be welcomed again next season with open arms.

What a wonderful three days of classes from Judy Gauthier. If you did not attend these classes – you really missed out! A very informative presentation at the March Guild Meeting....members are asking for her to return next year! THAT is a real testament to her presentation and interesting classes.

Military Service Co-Chairpersons have turned another corner. Renee Darkis and Carla Mewhinney have done an outstanding job during their volunteer term on this committee to set the program on the right path and place the RGVQG on the lips of many valley veterans. Thank you for your volunteer service to the Guild.

The Guild now has a new Chairperson – Pam Manley and a new Co-Chairperson – Lucy Klass. These ladies have large shoes to fill left by Renee and Carla so please give them the same support that was given to Renee and Carla.

These past two weeks, the retreats celebrated a 20 year old birthday....Many memories were shared and celebrations were the utmost priority and of course sewing. Fun times were had by all plus many thanks to Karyn Heaney for her service as volunteer chairperson for Retreats. Cannot wait to see the signature blocks memory quilt – red friendship star and blues, white and green. Those blocks were a beautiful display with green clothes pins attaching the blocks to the rope across the back wall of the retreat center.

Programs will begin again in November with a great lineup of national instructors and Schoolhouses will also begin again in November with Guild Members teaching projects. The time has come to begin thinking of elections for President, Vice President Programs and Secretary in December 2019. According to the Guild By-Laws, three board members and 2 non board members of the Guild to complete the Nominating Committee – if you wish to volunteer, contact me at the information below.

REQUEST: The Guild is looking for a group to take on the task for the 2021 Opportunity Quilt. The ticket sales for this quilt will begin one year from now. Please volunteer and let me know ASAP. Thanks.

Another group is requested to take on the task for the 2022 Opportunity Quilt – and those ticket sales will begin sales two years from now. HELP! HELP! HELP! Thanks in advance..

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: APRIL Guild Meeting –APRIL 13th– 9AM sharp. Lecture by Judy Brown – “Enhancing Quilting Using Computers”.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the April 13th Guild Meeting. We are all bound together by a common thread – quilting! See Ya There!

Kathe – President@rgvqg.com 956-272-2377



Calendar

Guild Meeting: Apr 13, 2019
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: Enhancing Quilting
Using Computers by Judy Brown

Board Meeting:

Board Meeting, 1:00 pm
at Renee’s Fiber Art Quilting
School. 1623 N Tower Rd,
Alamo, TX 78516

Programs:

May: Laurie Magee

Back in the Day, Vintage Quilt
trends, colors and patterns.

Jun: Bonnie Hall

Jul: TBD

Aug: TBD

Sep: Friendship Day

Oct: Rummage Sale

Nov: Cynthia England

Dec: Doug Leko

RGVQG General Meeting Minutes, Saturday, March 9, 2019

Kathe LeTulle, President, opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m.

Judy Brown, Programs, introduced the speaker, Judy Gauthier. Judy's presentation was Quilts for Scrap Lovers, with special emphasis on hard to place fabrics and extensive information on color combinations and how to choose colors.

10:15 the program ended, the meeting resumed at 10:35 a.m.

Secretary Report – Joy Paugh: The February minutes were printed in the newsletter. No changes or corrections, the minutes stand as printed.

Treasurers Report – Diane Tewell: February ending bank balance: \$3,201.27. February savings account balance: \$33,135.63.

Scholarships – Evelyn Fincher: (2) \$2,000.00 scholarships were award to Valeria Garza and Rosario Garcia. Each received a \$2,000.00. Valeria is attending the Art Institute of Austin and Rosario is attending the Art Institute of San Antonio.

Congratulations to Kay Dombi with her quilt "Friends of Baltimore meet South Texas". The quilt has been juried into the AQS Spring Show in Paducah, April 24 – 27th.

Membership – Marty Morrison: The guild now has 309 members. There were 12 guests today with a total of 178 attending.

Military Service Quilts - Carla Mewhinney: There are quite a few quilts that need quilting. See Carla to pick up quilts. Millie Peach presented a quilt to Steve Carlson from Snow to Sun, Steve sent a thank you note of which Carla read. Carla and Renee Darkis are retiring this month from the Military Service Quilt chairmanship.

Sunshine and Shadows – Maggie Putney: Maggie asked that you let her know of any member that is ill or has passed away. Maggie wanted to let the Friendship Star Retreat attendees that the Cotton Boll will be at the Ranch on Weds, however she will have her shop open Monday afternoon at 1pm.

Community Service – Rick Redd (not present): The February totals are: Items-374, Hours-2182, and Value \$15,819.50.

Quilt Walk – 2019 Quilt Show – Linda Haderer and Diana Wolf: The Bag Raffle was a great success at the Quilt Show, thank you to each one that contributed a bag, tote or item to fill bags.

Newsletter – Diana Wolf: The articles are due on the 15th. Please submit articles about your Bee activity.

Retreat- Karyn Heaney: Karyn reminded the attendees of the items to bring: Emergency form, green shirt, specific block for your week of retreat. Website has a list of quilt shops in the New Braunfels surrounding area. All Brands in San Antonio and Sew Little Time in New Braunfels has special gifts for those that stop by their shop during our 2 retreats. The 2020 retreat deposits are due by April 13, at the guild meeting.

School House Classes – Karen Dill: The 2019-2020 classes will be on the website in the next month. Show and Tell of the March 1st bag class by Patty Hoerr.

Programs – Judy Brown: Speakers are still needed for the 2019 July and August meetings. Those attending the landscape class of Cathy Geier's at the Quilt Show on Padre Island did a show and tell. Umbrella forms will be ordered from Judy Gauthier. The programs for 2019-2020 season will be on line in the next month. Members can register for the classes 6 months in advance.

Library – Susan Coleman: Requested that members return their library books prior to leaving for the summer. All library books are listed on line. Members can request books on line and pick up at the monthly meetings.

Webmaster – Bonnie Hall: A new website was finalized February 26. The purple membership card (2019) has the passcodes on the back.

Quilt Show 2019 – Debi Warner: Debi passed the “monkey” onto 2020 Quilt Show Chairman, Marsha Santow. Marsha announced the title of the show “Once Upon A Time”. Paula McCutcheon did an overview of the 2020 Quilt Challenge. Bright Yellow sheets were available that listed the requirements of the challenge. Sarah Reed spoke about the 2020 Quilt Show Opportunity Show Tickets. These tickets are available as well as a picture of the quilt. Karen Hunger announced that she already has volunteers signed up for the 2020 quilt show.

Block of the Month – Jan Baetkhe: Winner of the March blocks – Karen Knowlton. Winner of the February Blocks was Wanda Carlson, her finished products from the blocks were shown. Wanda will receive a \$25 certificate for classes through the guild. April block of the month may be seen on line.

Judy Brown was given a quilt frame. If anyone is interested, see Judy.

2019 Opportunity Ticket sales winner – Diane Hines: Diane pulled 2 winning tickets for \$150.00 gift certificates. One from GOB Quilts and one from Block Away. Winners were Beth Braun and Elaine Muzichuk.

2020 Quilt Show Speaker is Teresa Duryea Wong. Japanese Contemporary Quilts. Teresa will provide 2 lectures during the show.

Judi Swanda – comments on parking and coffee at the Alamo Rec-Veh. Parking Cones are being set out for handi-capped parking. The coffee in the center is for park residents only. Members please be respectful of parking and coffee.

Fat Quarter Draw and Show and Tell.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m. by Kathe LeTulle, President.

Respectfully submitted, Joy Paugh, Secretary.

Treasurer’s Report

Feb 1, 2019 beginning balance	5,193.73
Expenditures	3,925.26
Income	<u>1,932.80</u>
Ending balance	3,201.27
Savings account balance	33,135.63

Community Service Report February 2019

Total Items 374
Total hours 2182
Total value \$15,819.50

Donated to:
Mission Jalisco
Rainbow Room
Arora House
Perry Foundation
Valley Regional
Catholic Daughters
Mission Hospital Nursery
Angry Tia
Mission Rehab

Donated by:
Honey Bee's
Winter Haven Quilter's
Karon Jacobson
Sew and Sew Bee
Millie Peach
Daawn Saunders
Killer Bees



Programs Chair, Judy Brown

Judy Gauthier brought our 2018-2019 national speakers to a close. From now through October we have scheduled local programs, but think those of you who remain in the Valley for the summer will find them interesting. National speakers will return for the 2019-2020 season in November with registrations beginning in May.

For those of you who didn't attend the any of the March classes, we were so pleased to discover that Renee has added a small refrigerator, microwave and coffee maker to the classroom. She also has soda available to purchase. Thanks, Renee!

For those of you who ordered umbrellas at the March meeting, they have been shipped and will be available at the April meeting. If you are leaving before that, please contact programs@rgvqg.com.

For the April program on April 13, I have been pulling together resources to enhance your quilting using a computer, tablet or even mobile phone. This is not a basic program to teach computing, but to introduce you to tips, tricks and opportunities for quilters. It is my hope that there will be some new things even for those who regularly use their computers, but more importantly is a starting place to share resources other members are using and finding to be of value.

Quilt Show Winners 2019

<https://www.rgvqg.com/uploads/1/2/4/4/124429654/nl-2019-02-feb-qs.pdf>

Click on the link in the box. If the above link doesn't work, please go to the newsletter page of rgvqg.com to get the quilt show edition newsletter.

Please call me, (740) 398-1629, if you have any problems opening the newsletter.
Any questions regarding the **CONTENT** of the quilt show edition should be directed to me, Bonnie Hall, at qsregistration@rgvqg.com and (740) 398-1629

From your Friendly Librarian:

Happy Spring everyone! As our Winter Texan season draws towards a close, just a **friendly reminder to return all guild library books before you leave us for the summer.**

If you will be unable to attend a guild meeting before leaving, give me a call. My number is 303-887-2408. Summer is a busy season. If either you or I miss a meeting, and you NEED (ok, just WANT is good enough) some reading material, give me a call. The library can be open for your browsing pleasure.

BOOK IT!

Reviews of Books from the Guild Library



Appliqué in Bloom by Gabrielle Swain. 1994. Comes with 3 patterns in an envelope.

This is a beginner's book that takes you through all the preparation stages, such as fabric selection, to basic needle turn applique techniques. Lots of color illustrations show the beauty of applique. There are "tip" boxes throughout the text that address basic issues just in case you need them. There is a detailed "troubleshooting" section that discusses common errors, such as curves, points, and fraying, and how to fix them.

The book includes 3 sheets of patterns. There are a dozen basic patterns and some complementary ones, but the book also includes border patterns. The chapter on finishing the block includes a stippling technique for shading. Shading enhances the blossoms, berries, leaves, and stems covered in this book.

To check out this book, use the library feature in the Members' Only section at rgvqg.com.

Youth Sewing

We had a total of 8 youths attend our Spring sewing class. They had the opportunity to learn the basics of sewing on a machine and by learning the basic safety of sewing tools, iron and their sewing machine. They constructed a Drawstring Backpack perfect for any use. Working with cotton fabric and a pattern they manage to cut their pattern, iron the fabric and sew a casing, zig zag and straight stitch. All the youth were able to complete their bag.



Designing Women

Although Valeria Garza and Rosario Garcia are much too young to even remember the popular sitcom referenced above, the Rio Grande Valley Quilt Guild is giving these young designers an opportunity to fulfill their dreams of Fashion Design careers.

Valeria and Rosario each received a 2019 scholarship award letter for \$2,000 at the March 9 Guild meeting.

Garza, a senior at Sharyland High School in Edinburg was chosen from four high school scholarship applicants. The criteria for scholarship selection are based on printed Guild guidelines and state that the applicant must be a graduating high school senior and plan to attend college and major or minor in “the arts related to textiles, including fashion, designing, pattern making, study of materials, dyes, color, and other textile-related studies”. Other considerations are extracurricular activities and grade point average.

Garcia, who graduated in 2018 as a homeschool senior at the Catholic Institute for the Arts and Academics, Edinburg, is completing her freshman year in Fashion Design at The Art Institute of San Antonio in San Antonio. Each year, the Scholarship Chair notifies former award recipients to apply for the current year’s scholarships. In the event there are no qualified high school senior applicants for the two scholarships, former scholarship students who plan to continue their studies according to the Guild guidelines may apply for consideration. Garcia applied and received a scholarship for her second year in college.

Letters were mailed in October 2018 by Evelyn Fincher, High School/College Scholarship Committee Chairman, to Rio Grande Valley high school counselors and art departments. Other members of the committee are Donna Brown and Judy Bassett. The committee met following the February 28, 2019 application deadline, ranked applicants and sent their recommendations to the Executive Board members who approved the final selections.

Fincher introduced Garza and Garcia. Garza plans to attend The Art Institute of Austin in Austin with a major in Fashion Design and a minor in Photography. She shared her plans to create her own line of fashions.

“I want to further my education in photography in order to have photoshoots with models wearing my clothing line and help advertise my future brand.” She also shared a portfolio of her design line created for a high school project.

Next Rosario Garcia spoke about her continuing sewing and quilting interests during her first year of college. She shared some of the challenges and her excitement as she could “hardly wait to get home to try new techniques.” She also shared some of her disappointment at not being able to live on campus because she is underage.

She thanked members of the Guild and her family for giving her renewed interest and resources to “reach my dream of designing my own fashion line.”

Garza introduced her mother, Maritssa. Garcia introduced her father, Adolfo and her brother. Her mother, Guadalupe and her other two siblings were in San Antonio where they maintain a second home while Garcia is in college.

Fincher presented award letters to the students and explained the procedure for receipt of the award checks. Katherine Letulle, Guild president, will present Garza’s certificate at her high school awards assembly June 2. Garcia’s certificate will be mailed.

Garza and Garcia are real designing women and as such, we, as members of the RGVQG, wish them even more success than their “sitcom” predecessors.



Opportunity Quilt Ticket Sales



The team who created this beautiful quilt: Carla Mewhinney, Sue Arnold, Nancy Flaherty, Lila Helm, Karen Eck, and quilted by Renee Darkis.

As the new committee member for the Opportunity Quilt ticket sales for 2020, I am so excited about the beautiful items made this year. The quilt is a stained-glass pattern king measuring 108x108 with wool batting. It will keep you very warm in the winter months. The other two prizes are a stained glass hanging and a large tote.

Ticket sales have begun and the Guild requests you (each member) sell a small package with a total value of \$20. All proceeds go back to the Guild to help cover the costs of instructors, hall rental and scholarships. You can pick up your tickets at the Opportunity Quilt table at the Saturday Guild meetings. Tickets can be sold as singles for a \$1 or 6 for \$5. When you pick up your envelopes please return the \$20 payment and stubs inside it by the February 2020 meeting. If you need more, I would love for you to pick more up and sell as many as you can.

Additionally, we will be selling tickets at different events this year like the Jackson Street Market Days, South Padre Island Market days etc. If you have an event at your park like a craft show/sale, jam, garage sale, or any others please contact me and we will get to these.

We want to make the 2020 quilt ticket sales higher than they've ever been and I can't do that without each and every one of you. You all play a vital roll in helping to achieve this and I think we can do it.

Congratulations to Beth Braun and Elaine Muzichuk for each winning \$150 gift cards for ticket sales for the 2019 show.

Thank you all so very much.

Please contact me if you have any questions, ideas or just to say Hi.

Sarah Reed

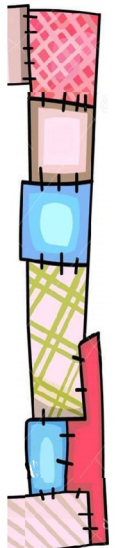
opportunityquilt@rgvqg.com

936-933-6965

Small Quilt Auction! Ready, Set, Go!

The show is over and I think most of felt it was a good one. The small quilt auction did better than last year. BUT it is now time to think ahead to the next year. First, I am suggesting that these small quilts be no bigger than 24" by 24." Next is the design, it is difficult to say what people are looking for. While any "Texas" and "beach" quilts are favorites, the top bid quilts this year were neither. AND several quilts that weren't bid on the first day were rehung on Saturday and were sold. So it is always a guess and each audience is a different audience. This is a time to grab some fun fabrics and try an interesting block, put a border on it and finish it off. I saw a cute quilt the other day on Facebook and ONE block would be such a quilt small quilt. Who is going to be the first to let me know that they have finished a small quilt for the auction!

Opportunity for someone! I would like to find someone to work with me. This isn't a difficult job but I would like to find someone to share the job, particularly at the show. This would be to largely share the start of the day and the ending of the day. A partner would allow me to take a class or attend a lecture which I haven't been able to do the last two years. If this something that might interest you send me an email. Judy Blum Judy.blum19@gmail.com





ONCE UPON A TIME

**Reading your favorite book was like
dreaming with your eyes open!**

Welcome to the 2020 RGVQG CHALLENGE!

PICTURE THIS- Make a story quilt/wall hanging to depict your favorite book. It can also be a favorite children's book that you read to your children or grandchildren.

Your entry must be free of any text or images protected by copyright.

Maximum size to be less than a total perimeter of 200 inches.

Must be registered for the 2020 Quilt Show and in the description please state the title of the book and the author.

Now for the CHALLENGE- Your inspiration must have **THREE** different Quilting Techniques (Think hand pieced, machine pieced, applique, paper piecing, wool, curves, embroidery, embellishments, fabric folding, etc.)

Have Fun and enjoy your creativity!

"Books are the treasured wealth of the world and the fit inheritance of generations."

Henry David Thoreau

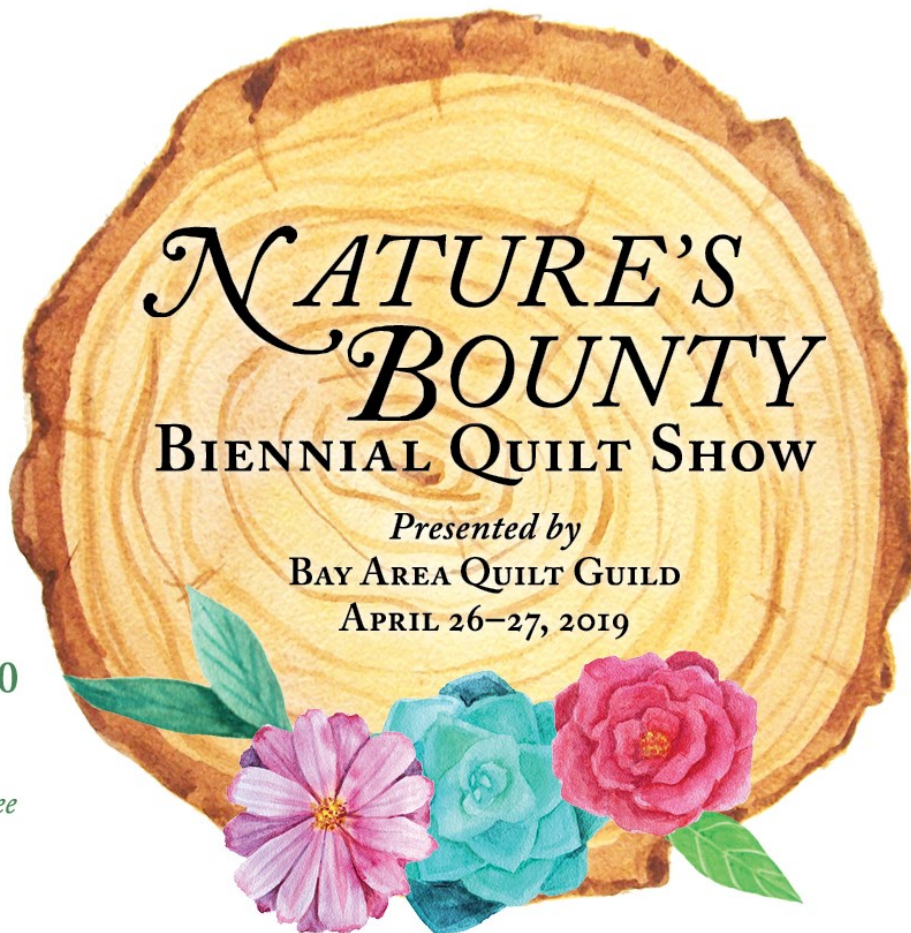


Friday, April 26
10 A.M. – 5 P.M.

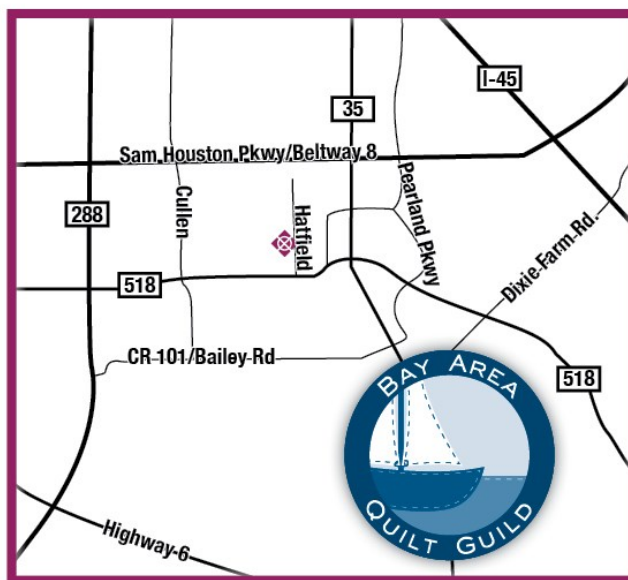
Saturday, April 27
10 A.M. – 4 P.M.

ADMISSION \$10
(Valid both days
with wristband)
Children 5 & Under Free

150+ Quilts
Vendors
Raffle Baskets
Silent Auction
Gift Boutique



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS HALL
2320 Hatfield Rd., Pearland, TX 77581



www.BAYAREAQUILTGUILD.org

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Blue Bonnet Retreaters Challenge



The Bluebonnet Retreaters are participating in a Challenge for their 2020 Retreat.

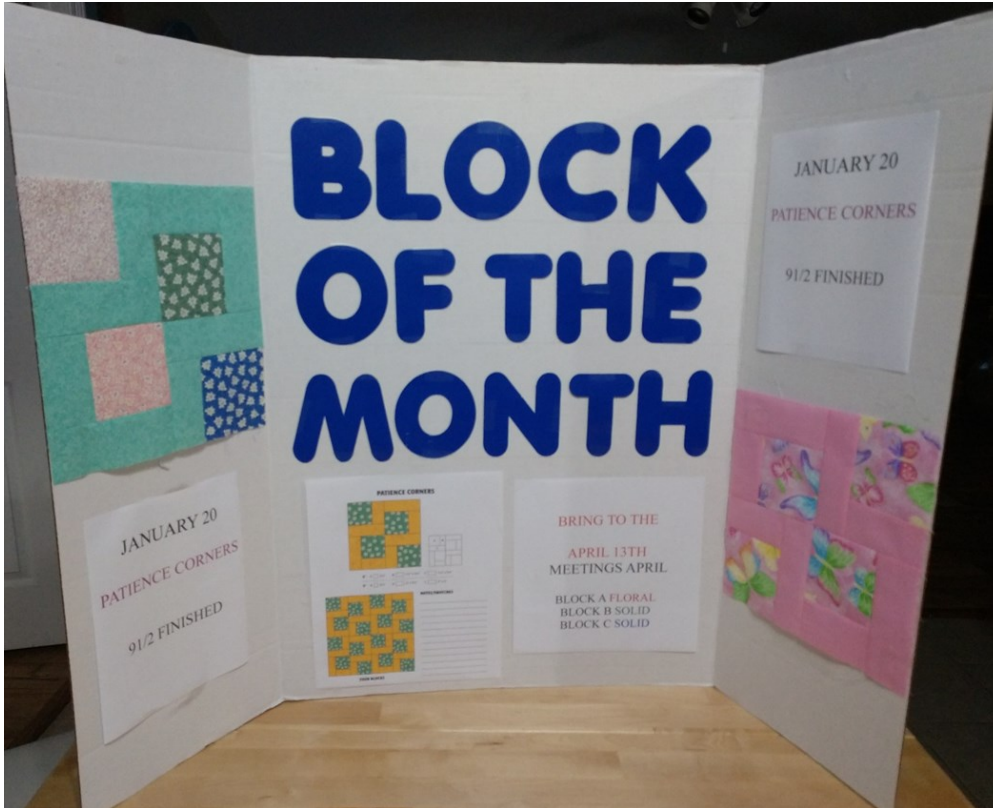
If you purchased a fat quarter of the Challenge fabric, the rules are below.

1. At least a 2” square of the fabric must be showing on the front of your quilted item.
2. No more than 1 fat quarter of the Challenge fabric can be used. In other words, you cannot purchase more of the Challenge fabric for your quilted item.
3. You may add as many other fabrics as you wish to you Challenge entry as there are no size requirements.
4. Please DO NOT let other members see your item since we will be voting on them at the Retreat.

Other questions?? Please email Bev Shaver at baharvey@illinois.edu
Have Fun Ladies!!!

BOM for April Guild Meeting

We are on the website! Go to rgvqg.com. Then go to **members only** (last option). Enter the members only password that is on the back of your 2019 membership card. Scroll down until you see **Block of the Month**, click here, then click on the meeting month or you can use the info provided here.



Quilter's Block-a-Day Calendar by Debbie Kratovil

January 20 – Patience Corners

9" Finished

Block A – Floral

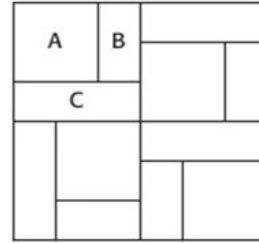
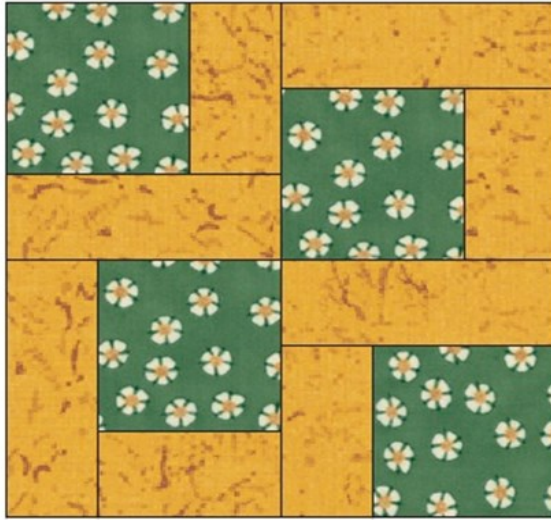
Block B & C - Solid

Please measure, **unfinished** block should be 9 ½"

Bring to the April 13th Meeting

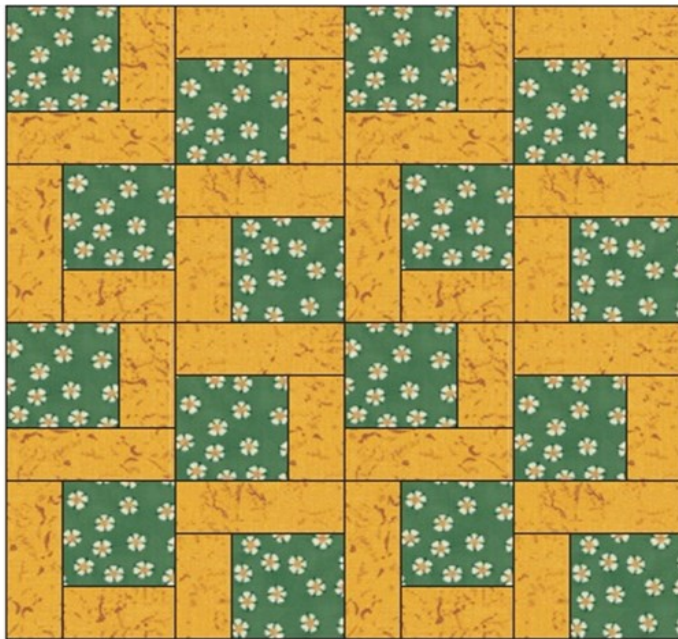
See the following page for more information.

PATIENCE CORNERS



6" A 2½" B 1½" x 2½" C 1½" x 3½"

9" A 3½" B 2" x 3½" C 2" x 5"



FOUR BLOCKS

NOTES/SWATCHES

© 2007 BY DEBBY KRATOVIL
 FROM THE QUILTER'S BLOCK-A-DAY CALENDAR COMPANION CD (MARTINGALE & COMPANY®)



Bee News



From your Upper Valley Beekeeper:

Winter Texans know good things need to come to an end and a large number have started the migration north. Activities slow down and it is no different for the Sew and Sew Bee at Snow to Sun. Next week for our last Bee teaching program, 'Lover's Knot Placemats', I just figured out how to trim the setting blocks before sewing the borders. The long edge of the placemat touches the edge of the ruler while the 1/4" line of the ruler is on the Center Knot Point.

This past Thursday the Sew and Sew Bee went for lunch at Cortino's yum, yum. We play the 'fat quarter' game using dice. Each participant brings 3 fat quarters and because we had a large number of participants, 3 people won 27 fat quarters each. This game stirs the competitive spirits. Following the lunch a car load drove to A Block Away with a \$150 gift certificate in hand that the group won at the last Guild meeting for selling Opportunity Quilt tickets. Besides sewing, eating and shopping we felt like winners.

Next season I encourage all Bees to sell tickets at their Park's activities. At the Snow to Sun Craft Sale, it was easy to sell tickets when the quilt is in full display. It is a good time to advertise the Quilt Show at Padres well.

Next season I encourage Bees to contact their Beekeepers and share how the Guild can help at the local Bee level. It would be great to have new Bees join the RGVQG. Bees are the backbone of the Guild. I know everyone who reads this are Guild Members, ask your sewing buddies to become members. Contact me for information on how Bees can become affiliate members. eamuz@icloud.com

This has been a wonderful year and I extend congratulations to individuals who share their talents and groups for bringing enthusiasm to the RGVQG.

See you next seasons and safe travels this spring and next fall.

Elaine Muzichuk

The Wanna Bees had their meeting at Cindy Hernandez's home in Weslaco on March 10, 2019. They did their Show & Tell, and prepared for their next project which will be another veteran lap quilt for one of our member's dad.

Killer Bees continued to have classes, enjoyed a Spring Lunch potluck where challenge quilts were revealed, and the next year's challenge was presented. Good times and fellowship occur in our open group which meets year round.

Sew Be It has new members with a variety of interests. We can always learn from each other.

Row Quilters continue to work on quilts for domestic abuse victims and other charitable organizations. Some are concentrating on finishing UFOs. Lunching together is always fun.

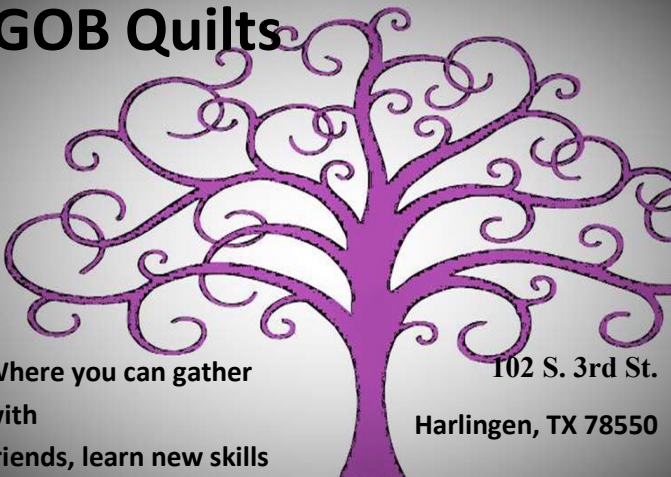


Renee's Quilting

Renee Darkis
812-890-1572
 reneedarkis@hotmail.com

*Longarm Quilting
 services, Custom
 Quilting, Computer
 and hand guided.*

GOB Quilts



Where you can gather
with
friends, learn new skills

102 S. 3rd St.
Harlingen, TX 78550



**Quilters
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Korner**
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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

For more information

For more information about the things mentioned in the newsletter, look on our web page, rgvqg.com or 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

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

Deadline: 15th of the month to be included in our next monthly publication.
 For more details contact:
 Diana Wolf, Editor cell: 913-449-1668
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