

Life in Stitches

Newsletter of the Rio Grand Valley Quilt Guild

Published in November, 2019

PRESIDENTS THREADS THAT BIND

Just wish to say, Thank you so much for your confidence in re-electing me as your President for the next two years and my OPEN DOOR POLICY is still in effect. I wish to thank both Renee Darkis and Karon Jacobson for volunteering to run for Guild Officer Positions. Congratulations to Laural Powell for her new position of 3rd Vice President/Programs and Diana Wolf as Secretary.

Although Laural and I own Quilt Shops, our first priority, is to the Guild and our members. Our Guild is a team, and as a member, I am responsible for suggestions and actions to keep our Guild successful. Your faith was shown by the overwhelming approval voting for issues important to the future of the Guild.

Please read the new By-Laws and Standing Rules on the website, rgvqg.com. Many changes were made by the Committee and approved by the Board (August 7, 2019) for the benefit of you the members of the Guild. REMEMBER – The newsletter, Web Page and Facebook helps you to keep up to date with the Guild and events.

Cynthia England, an International teacher from the Houston Area, taught classes Thursday, November 7th and Friday, November 8th. Those that took the classes had a grand time. Her unique “picture piecing” method was easy and so much fun but I must tell you that becoming accustomed to first sewing the seam, ironing on the freezer paper pieces aligned to the seam or cheating by moving the pieces to ensure alignment, was an experience. Members that were present at the meeting got a glimpse of the Cynthia England vibrant personality which helps her be a successful teacher, artist and quilter

!!!!Happy Thanksgiving to all!!!! Looking forward to December, gosh almost here, we are fortunate to feature Tina Hilton, Turtle Hand Batik. There will be two 3-hour classes on Friday, December 13, 2019 – Mini Instant Art Quilts (class fee \$25 and \$20 kit fee). Sign Up and do not miss this great opportunity ... plus Saturday, December 14, the lecture is ‘Malaysian Batik – The Hidden Textile Treasures of Southeast Asia ... WHAT it is, WHO makes it & WHY It’s Important.’ THERE WILL ALSO BE A BIG SURPRISE GUEST AFTER A SHORT BUSINESS MEETING - WHO IS NOT TO BE MISSED!

A new year is dawning and the quilt show is near. We need your help in several areas to make items to be sold and auctioned as well as volunteers for the show to succeed. REMEMBER – all monies brought in by the quilt show will pave the way for teachers, program guests, military service quilts, Community Service and I could go on and on!!! This is your Guild! Stay Involved and Connected.

Mark your Calendar - Class – Friday December 13th and Guild Meeting Saturday December 14, 2019.

See Ya There! Safe Travels! **Returning Members - See the new meeting location. We are all bound together by a common thread – quilting!** Kathe – President@rgvqg.com 956-272-2377



Calendar

Guild Meeting:

December 14, 2019, 9:00 am to 12

Trophy Gardens

800 FM 495

Alamo TX 78516

Located between Alamo Rd and Tower Rd on the north side of State Hwy 495. If you travel from the east, your destination is the 2nd RV park on the north side of the highway. Advise the Gate Guard you are attending the Guild meeting and come on in.

Program: Tina Hilton, Malaysian Batik – The Hidden Textile Treasures of Southeast Asia

Board Meetings: December 11, 2019

Trophy Gardens

Show Board: 9:30 am

Board: 1:00 pm

Military Sew Day

Snow to Sun, Wed, Jan 15, 2020

1707 N International Blvd, Weslaco 78596, **Lunch provided**, 9 am - 3 pm

Trophy Gardens, Mon, Jan 27, 2020

800 Hwy 495, Alamo 78516

Lunch provided, 9 am - 3 pm

Upcoming Programs:

Jan - Karen Combs

Quilts of Illusions, Trunk Show

March - Angela Walters,
Ruler Work



RGVQG November 9, 2019 General Meeting Minutes

The November meeting began at 9 A.M.

Kathe LeTulle, President, introduced our national speaker, Cynthia England. Cynthia presented a program on pictorial quilts – Picture Piecing.

The RGVQG Business meeting began at 10:50 A.M.

Kathe made an announcement that our Librarian, Susan Coleman's husband John is in critical condition at a local hospital. Kathe asked that we keep them in our prayers.

Elections: Judy Brown and the Nomination Committee: Pam Manley, Cathy Mott, Jan Baethke, Carla Mewhinney, announced the newly elected officers. President – Kathe LeTulle. Programs/3rd VP – Laural Powell. Secretary – Diana Wolf. Congratulations to the winners and thank you to Renee Darkis and Karon Jacobson for running. Items on the ballot: 2020 Budget passed, 144 in favor and 1 against. Increase of School House Class fees from \$10.00 to \$20.00 beginning November of 2020 passed, 122 in favor and 23 against. Increase of membership dues from \$25.00 per year to \$30.00 per year beginning with 2020 year, passed. 136 for and 10 against. FYI: numerous locations on the website will be updated to accommodate these changes.

2020 Quilt Show – Marsha Santow: Marsha informed the membership that the quilt show is on course. Marsha is looking for a person to be the Receiving and Returning Quilt committee chairperson. A step by step guide is available. Deb Warner, Boutique Chair, encouraged the membership to make items for the boutique. Killer Bees, Harlingen, will host a boutique sew day on January 22, 2020. Information will be in the newsletter and on the website. Karen Hunger, Chair for Volunteers, encouraged members to go to the website and sign up.

Military Service Quilts – Pam Manley: Monday, November 11, 21 quilts will be presented at Brookridge in Pharr. A wall hanging will be presented to Heritage. Two Military Sew Days are scheduled in January, the 15th at Snow to Sun with lunch included and January 29 at Trophy Gardens. Quilts are presented to Valley residents only.

Treasurer – Diane Tewell: Thanked the membership for passing the budget as well as the increase of School House Class fees and membership dues. The extra income will afford the Guild to pay our standing financial obligations. October ending Bank Balance, \$3,803.60. October ending Savings Account Balance, \$33,142.82. Retreat Account, \$3,000.00.

Quilt Show Banners and Flyer packets were distributed by Paula McCutchan.

Quilt Show Challenge – Paula McCutchan: Once Upon a Time Quilt Show Quilt Challenge. 200 inches maximum. 3 different quilt techniques. Must be registered for the show. See the website for more information.

Programs – Judy Brown: Classes for Cynthia England were almost filled. December 14, 2019 Tina Hilton of Turtle Hand Batik will be our speaker and teacher. Tina will give (2) one-half day classes at \$25.00 with a \$20.00 kit. January, Karen Combes. February meeting will not have a speaker. The February Quilt Show will have a speaker and lecturer. March, Angela Walters. Judy encouraged everyone to register early for the classes.

Small Quilt Auction – Quilt Show – Judy Blum: Judy provided ideas for small quilts. This year a 'buy it now' price will be attached to each quilt as well as a silent auction list. Judy is retiring from this committee. The 2021 Quilt Show will be looking for a Small Quilt Auction Chairperson.

Retreat – Elaine Hall for Karyn Heaney: The retreats are full however there are waiting lists. The Friendship Retreat final payment due at the December meeting. The Bluebonnet Retreat final payment is due at the January 2020 meeting.

2020 Quilt Show Bags and Totes – Linda Haderer/ Diana Wolf: Linda shared a few bags and totes that have been donated for the raffle. Linda encourages the membership to fill the bags with themed items.

Opportunity Quilt Tickets – Sarah Reed: Sarah thanks those that have picked up their opportunity tickets. Sarah, personally, is gathering items for the Family Crisis Center in Harlingen, home for abused women. She is asking members if they might want to donate non-perishable food. The center can use twin-size quilts, see Sarah if you are interested.

2021 Quilt Show Chairperson – Laurie Magee: Laurie has a quilt appraiser coming to the 2020 quilt show in February. Sign up on line for a \$50.00 written appraisal or a \$25 verbal appraisal. Appraisals are important for insurance purposes. The appraisal / critique is also important for the quilter that is considering entering a quilt in a juried quilt show. The appraiser has agreed to return 10% of the appraisal fee to the GUILD and half of the critique fee.

Membership – Marty Morrison: 13 new members. 130 members for the year of 2020.

Winter Haven Bee – Deb Williams: Deb is seeking quilters to join the Winter Haven group at the Main House at Creations/Kerrville for a retreat. Cost is \$350.00. Dec 11 to 15th, 2019. See Deb.

Sunshine and Shadows – Maggie Putney: Encouraged members to give her name of those that would appreciate a card.

Community Service – Rick Redd: October totals: Items 62, Hours 146, Value \$1,058.50. Year to date: plus \$150,000.00.

Academic Scholarships – Evelyn Fincher: Evelyn has sent letters to all the valley schools about the RGVQG scholarships.

Attendance – Karen Hunger: 134 members plus 6 guests

Block of the Month – Subie Redd: Jean Nickila is the winner of the November Block of the Month blocks. If Jean returns in December with a completed project, she will be given a \$25.00 certificate. December Block of the Month is Ribbons, July 23. See the newsletter and the website for the information.

Youth Sew – Subie Redd: 200 Christmas Stockings plus 8 non-Christian themed stockings are completed and ready to present to the Children’s Hospital in Edinburg on December 12.

Reminder – January 1 the Guild is in need of a Newsletter Editor.

Treasurer’s Report - Diane Tewell

October 1 opening balance	\$7,027.34	Savings	\$33,142.82
Expenses	2,807.94	Retreat \$	3,000.00
Income	3,803.60 (Thank you, members)		
Interest	<u>1.41</u>		
Ending balance Oct 31	\$8,023.00		

Tote Bags and More

What generous and creative members we have. We brought empty baskets for members to take home or to their group and they all disappeared! I can’t wait to see what inspiration strikes and what they will look like when they return. Some members last spring mentioned certain themes they planned to make into a bag or basket. Hmm, these are due after the holidays. I wonder if there will be some re-gifting. Inquiring minds want to know.



We had so much fun last year at the table. We will need an equivalent number of volunteers again this year. Please let your Quilt Show Volunteer Coordinator know. The persons that volunteer learned some valuable information that helped when they were making decisions about where to put their tickets.

We will be collecting bags at the December meeting.

Upcoming Programs

If you weren't at the meeting in November, you missed a great program with Cynthia England!

However, the December program is shaping up to be yet another great program! Don't miss it.

Tina Hilton of Turtle Hand Batik will present "Malaysian Batik – The Hidden Textile Treasures of Southeast Asia — What It Is, Who Makes It & Why It's Important." Tina will have a prize for us and special prices on these beautiful and fun fabrics. There are still openings in her classes on Friday for \$25 class fee plus \$20 for a batik fabric kit, which includes a panel and enough fabric to complete an Instant Art Hanging (or pillow), including a panel, backing and binding. Your choice of fabric comes in a reusable zipper pouch.

See rgvqg.com/programs.html for additional details.



In addition to Tina, we have a second surprise December presenter. You won't want to miss this.

Additionally, the original speaker scheduled is sending a basket for a prize. Along with this special prize, plus from Tina's and the surprise guest, there will be OVER \$500 in prizes for those attending the December meeting.

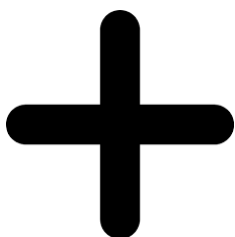
Details on future program classes plus the classes at the Quilt Show are on our website. We have designer Karen Combs coming in January, Rene Iannarelli at the Quilt Show in February and Angela Walters in March. There are currently openings in all classes, but Angela's are just about full with only 2 spaces for Thursday and 4 spaces for Friday as of this writing. When they fill, you can be put on a waiting list by contacting programs@rgvqg.com. Don't miss a class you want!!

Judy Brown, Program Chair

December Guild Meeting



TURTLE HAND
Crafted in Malaysia



On YOUR Website

There are some features on your RGVQG website that you may not be familiar with. To access the Members Only page, you will need the password which can be found on the reverse of your membership card.

1.) Did you forget which class you registered for or want to find someone to share a ride to a class? On the Members Only page you will find:

Program Class Registrations Information

Want to check your program class registrations? [Click here](#) to see the status of the registrations for the upcoming programs. Note that there are tabs at the bottom for the months. These are updated manually with a goal to update daily, but you can see the date and time of the last update on the top right. Any questions, please contact programs@rgvqg.com.

2.) Need a member's contact information? Again, please go to the Member's Only page where you will find access. You will need a password for this information which is also located on the reverse of your membership card.

Directory

[Click here](#) to obtain [2020 guild directory](#). The directory is password protected. Please contact me if you have problems downloading the directory or need the password.

3.) Are you having problems registering for a program or schoolhouse class? One of the issues may be with the payment choices.



If you have a PayPal account, use the top choice or second if you have PayPal CREDIT, but if you have a VISA, MasterCard, Discovery, etc., choose the bottom Debit or Credit Card. You will either be sent to PayPal to log in or be asked details about your credit card. After completing it, you will see a **Continue** choice. Choose that and your credit card will process after which you will return to our form to press Submit. You will receive a conformation screen that you are registered, plus you will receive an email confirmation. Within 24-48 hours you can see your name on the link described above in #1.)

Other questions, please ask and we will answer in future newsletters.
Judy Brown, Assistant Webmaster

Membership

Membership information. The annual dues are only \$30.00 and can be paid on-line, paid at a meeting, or a check (made payable to RGVQG) can be sent to the Guild mailing address.

It's time to begin the 2020 Membership drive -- To join or renew your membership, the easiest way is to go to www.rgvqg.com/membership.html and pay on-line. The 2020 membership numbers start with 200xxx. The cards for 2020 will be a Blue Jade Marble. Membership ID cards will have information on the back of the card needed to access the "Members Only" page and the Directory, which contains email and address information for all members. We have 321 Members in 2019. Now for 2020 we already have 135, some new members and, of course, some returning members.

Please remember to stop by the Membership table to pickup your Membership card and pay your \$5 if you renewed in September, October or November.

At the November meeting the following people have paid dues:

New Members: Ann Alexander, Joan Anderson, Linda Andert, Yvonne Blush, Betsie Brown, Pamela Clark, Melissa Espino, Joyce Evans, Becky Forschler, Carol Hood, Flo Hoog, Kristi Johnston, Vallerie Kauffman, Odette LaForge, Marge Lawrence, Patsy Leonard, Darlene Lynch, Lynn Murray, Michele Nichols, Rachel Patch, and Janet Prenkert.

Renewing Members: Melissa Arjona, Sue Arnold, Judy Antonovich, Jan Baethke, Sandy Bagot, Peggy Barrow, Lynne Benson, Ann Bergan, Judy Blum, Mary Britton, Judy Brown, Edna Butler, Mary Camp, Bonnie Cramer, Sharon Crosswhite, Glenda Davis, Edna Day, Nancy Flaherty, Bev Fleming, Mary Lou Garza, Vicki Guerra, Sandy Gurney, Elaine Hall, Mike Hall, Linda Haderer, Bev Harvey, Carol Hefta, Lila Helm, Lila Hetzler, Jackie Heyes, Diane Hines, Alannah Langlois, Kathe Letulle, Jean Kelley, Ellen Kizzar, Lucy Klaas, Laurie Magee, Pam Manley, Fran Mansfield, Mauderdyne Hambleton, Darlene Meadows, Patsy Mellen, Linda Morehead, Marty Morrison, Heather Nelson, Jeannie Nickila, Linda Osborne, Donna Otto, Renee Pageau, Joy Paugh, Jeanne Peterson, Jane Pronovost, Kathy Raleigh, Cascino Richardson, Clarice Rylander, Dawn Sanders, Marsha Santow, Becky Schoonover, Jenny Shull, Kathy Snyder, Sherry Skridulis, Patricia Sonnevil, Kristina Stillsmoking, Sharon Swanson, Annette Sweet, Linda Swonger, Darlene Talbott, Nancy Tatro, Barbara Walker, Carol White, Ladone Will, and Priscilla Wodzinski.

The Rio Grande Valley Quilt Guild web page is www.rgvqg.com

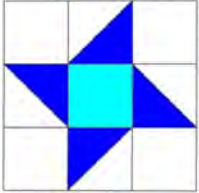
Please let me know if you need assistance.

Marty Morrison (membership@rgvqg.com) or 816-686-3467

Youth Outreach

Lots and lots of stockings made by the youth group that Subie Redd leads and teaches. These are destined to be donated to a hospital before The Season. Lots of learning and hard work by all to accomplish this many.





RETREAT



Happy Thanksgiving! We are getting closer to retreat. Start thinking about the projects you want to take with you. Who knows, you may even get something accomplished or maybe you will shop. It's all up to you. We know you will eat well!

Friendship Star Retreat

There are still 2 openings available. Anyone on the ***Bluebonnet Friends*** waiting lists who would like to go to the Friendship Star retreat this year will have first options for the Bluebonnet Friends Retreat in 2021. This would be an opportune time to go to retreat with a friend. I do not often have 2 openings at the same time very often.

This retreat is being held from Tuesday, March 17, 2020 thru Saturday, March 21, 2020. **Note the change of date. It has been pushed ahead one day.**

Final payment is due at the December, 2019 Guild meeting. Last day for a full refund is February 21, 2020.

Bluebonnet Friends

Do not forget about the Challenge that Bev Shaver put forth. Bring your Challenge in a bag or pillowcase. DO NOT put your name on it. There will be a place to drop it off. All items will be displayed and voted on. Bev promised door prizes. Can't wait to see what you all come up with. Remember the rules are that you can only use the fat quarter of the fabric that we purchased at the 2019 retreat or you must use at least 2 square inches of that fabric. You can add as many other fabrics that you wish. What you do with this fabric is up to you.

Final payment for this retreat is the January, 2020 Guild meeting. Last day for a full refund is February 28, 2020.

Happy quilting,
Karyn

Small Quilts for the Silent Auction Ready, Set, Sew!!!

I know you are all working on a small quilt for the silent auction at the quilt show, right? I hope you all are. We need those pieces. This is just one small way we can help the Guild. The proceeds goes toward Guild activities such as great speakers and workshops and scholarships. So please make one. My goal is to have more participation than we have had in years before.

This year we are trying something different. Because we have show attendees who only come for a day or even part of the day, we would like to offer them a chance to obtain a small quilt. They can bid on the quilt like we have done before or there will be a "BUY IT NOW" price. This price will be reasonable but higher than the opening bid price. The opening bids have always started at the same place, the "BUY IT NOW" prices may differ. If you have thoughts about the price on your small quilt, please indicate those ideas when you turn in the quilt.

I will be ready to accept quilts at the December meeting. Let's fill the big yellow bag. And the pink one! AND the green one!

Election Results

This was the first year we conducted the election voting online. There were 111 online votes cast plus 35 paper ballots at the November meeting. Thank you to the Nominating Committee: Judy Brown, Pam Manley, Jan Baethke, Carla Me-whinney and Cathy Mott. Also thank you to all that stepped forward to run and to those who voted.

The results were:

President:	Kathe LeTulle
3rd VP/Programs	Laural Powell
Secretary	Diana Wolf

All issues passed:

2020 Budget	144 in favor	1 against
Schoolhouse class fees increase \$10 to \$20 beginning in November 2020	122 in favor	23 against
Membership dues for \$25 to \$30 beginning 2020 dues		

Judy Brown, Nominations Committee Chair

Opportunity Quilt

Hello ladies and gentlemen,

I am so excited about the return of tickets at Novembers meeting. We had 28 people return books of ticket, some returned multiple books! To date we have had 84 persons turn theirs in, putting us a third of the way there.

Thank you for returning thdiaem and selling extra tickets. It really helps the guild out and we are all so appreciative.

Remember, if you know of any craft shows or other events where we can display the quilt at and sell tickets please contact me to make plans.

Please check the Guild Facebook page for volunteer opportunities in helping sell the tickets these events.

There has been a change in the drawing for the gift certificates. Due to budget cuts there will be two \$75.00 gift cards available for the drawing for returning your tickets and volunteering rather than the \$150.00 last year. I apologize for earlier different information, but some last minute changes were made to the Guild and Show budgets. We really do need your support to help fund programs, scholarships and other Guild activities. I just wanted to make everyone aware that it was changed.



at

Thank you all for working so hard selling tickets,

Sarah Reed, Opportunityquilt@rgvqg.com, 936-933-6965

Block of the Month for December Guild Meeting

We are on the website! Go to rgvqq.com. Then go to **members only** (last option). Enter the members only password that is on the back of your 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

July 23 -Ribbons

10" Finished

Solid dark or medium – Block A and D

Light small print or solid – Block B and/or D

Christmas print – Block C

Please measure, **unfinished** block should be **10 ½"**

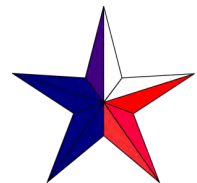
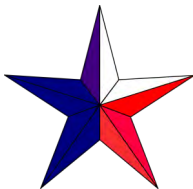
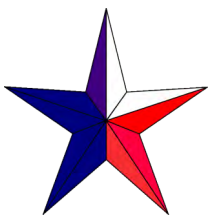
Bring to the December 14th Meeting

Military Service Quilts

The Guild presented veterans at the Brookridge Retirement Community with quilts to honor their service to our country. Quilts were hung from the banisters and along the stairway to add to the patriotic theme of the day.

The picture at the bottom of the page is from the newspaper coverage of the Winter Texan Times.

Their wonderful article started on the front page and continued on page 4 of their newspaper.



Bee News



Llano Grande Quilting Bee, November 2019

The Llano Grande Quilting Bee had their first meeting of the season on Monday, November 4. Members arrived with their (2) baby blankets for part of their membership dues for the 2019 2020 season. The Bee class schedule is filling up with beginning quilting, umbrellas, landscapes, Bargello, Vera Bradley look a like bag, and free motion quilting. Project

Monday, a regular feature at our meetings, highlights technique tips, project demos, and skill enhancement. The past few years one of our members organizes a Christmas Mystery Quilt project culminating in a luncheon where we share our projects. Plans are in place for the 11th Annual Quilt Show-Kaleidoscope of Diamonds on Tuesday, January 28, 2020 beginning at 9 a.m.at the Hynes Event Center in Mercedes. Submitted by Joy Paugh, Llano Grande Quilting Bee member.

Rio Grande Valley Quilt Guild

Community Service Report

October 2019

Total items62

Total hours -----146

Total value -----\$1,058.50

Donated to:

Family Crisis Center and Angry
Tia's and Abuelas by Killer Bees



TEXAS A&M
AGRILIFE
EXTENSION



ANNUAL MCV HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR

Saturday November 30, 2019

9:00am - 3:00pm

Edinburg Activity Center
123 E. Palm Dr, Edinburg TX



A very exciting one day shopping event
of handcrafted, homemade,
one of a kind treasures made by local talent.

Door Prizes-Craft Workshops-Community Performance



Don't forget - Quilting Stash for Sale. A member visited recently, and purchased a few things outstanding items. Although over half has been sold, there is still beautiful fabric on the shelves. There are other items as well. You may wish to revisit or check it out for the first time – just give Mr. Gene Ksepka a call – 956-405-3476 (home) or 956-371-4917 (cell) – you will not be disappointed.

Thought for the month:

What can I do to move the Guild this month to toward it's goals?

Sewing Machine Repair

offered by Victoria Sewing Machine Company
and Alvin Sew and Vacuum

Authorized repair services
for these brands and more.

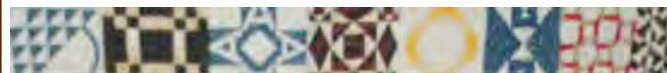


Our premier expert staff
offers two years free parts and labor included with all
new machines purchased through our shops.

One year free labor warranty for your machine when
cleaned or repaired by our expert staff. Sewing and
embroidery machines carefully serviced. Look for us at
the Rio Grande Valley Quilt Guild Show too.

Parts, service or more, call us at **361-574-1100**.

New! Drop off location in Corpus Christie at
the Sew Hooked Quilting and Creative Center, 2136
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tails.



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 Mercedes, TX 78570
 (956) 272-2377
 quilterstntkorner@gmail.com
 Kathé Letulle - Owner

Call for an appointment

**Quilters
 This N That
 Korner**
 Mercedes, Texas

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	
1/2 page: \$50.00	Business Card \$10.00
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. Paid advertisers may put one ad per month on our Facebook page at no cost.
 For more details contact: Judy Brown, Editor
 e-mail: newsletter@rgvqg.com

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Diana Wolf, Editor