



Rio Grande Valley Quilt Guild, P.O. Box 32, Weslaco, TX 78599 - rgvqg.com

President's Threads That Bind

by Kathe Letulle

There is a blessing in the storm. So far, we have weathered the COVID storm for more months that anyone can count. The hard part is not knowing when the COVID storm will be over, but the blessing is that we can all still communicate and visit with each other each month via Zoom. The Bees are using the Guild Zoom account to aid in staying together and continuing to do projects. I understand that this time has been somewhat depressing to say the least, and many of us are quarantined as well as isolated from activity. That is the virtue of the storm – but we can change tactics and continue with our UFOs, stash reducing, searching the internet for patterns, purchasing online plus a multitude of anything we can think possible. Be sure to weather this storm and find all the blessings that are there for you. Stay positive and starve off the depression of isolation. This too shall pass – maybe not tomorrow but take each day as it comes. One never fully realizes the beauty in the finished project. Appreciation yes, so find the beauty in everything you do. *Do not be the same—be better!*

Christmas is almost here, and the 2021 New Year is just around the corner. What will be your New Year's Resolution? Were you able to keep up with last year's resolution, will you be able to continue for a year the new one? We are all human and sometimes hard to keep the faith. We all wish that 2021 will be a better one than 2020—we must all enforce our positive thoughts to keep a brighter upcoming year.

Let us all unite and help our Guild Family to see a brighter and healthier New Year.

Here is wishing everyone a VERY Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year, prayers for staying safe and virtual hugs all around.

Remember to read all the articles in every newsletter and send your **Show and Tell Photos** to me for the January Meeting.

ALL Members - ALWAYS check the website for any updates, access to Board and meeting minutes, and what is going on within the Guild during this time of getting back to what we feel will be a normal life. See you at the next Guild Meeting - January 9th at 9 AM Central Time.

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

Blessings! Kathe - President@rgvqg.com
956-272-2377

RGVQG Important Dates

- January meeting.....January 9
- Board meeting.....January 6
- Friendship Retreat payment deadline ..December 31
- New Year's Eve PartyDecember 31
- January newsletter deadlineJanuary 11
- Virtual Quilt ShowFebruary 8-14

2021 Dues are payable now

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The call is out for a volunteer to be an upcoming Quilt Show **Chairperson** for the **2023** or **2024 Quilt Show?** Volunteer NOW and you have awesome mentors prior to your own show and we contemplate not virtual, so send an e-mail to president@rgvq.com text to 956-272-2377. If you know someone who would be an awesome Chairperson, nominate them and that person will be contacted. REMEMBER: There Can Be No QUILT Show Without A Chairperson! Let's Keep This Quilt Guild function ONGOING!

January Guild Meeting

The January Guild Meeting will be on January 9th. Always there will be a few housekeeping chores that has become the norm. Just seeing all the smiling faces, sure puts a warm spot in everyone's heart. If you are not secure with Zoom, there is always assistance, e-mail Diane Tewell at zcoor@rgvqg.com. We are all here to help.

A new change: Be sure to watch for the "Zoom Invitation Link To Join" email for the January Guild Meeting - 9AM Central Time. This will be emailed the FRIDAY, (January 8th) prior to the meeting so the email (with Zoom meeting link as well as the ID & Passcode in the event the link is inoperable) will be close at hand and not lost in the multitude of emails. A safe way to keep these close at hand is to create a holding file for all Zoom meetings. Zoom is the one link that is vital to the success of our Guild; we all do not need to be here in the Valley!!!

GUESTS are welcomed – but they must register first. Check out rgvqg.com for further guest information.

Audit Committee Volunteers

In order to audit the Guild Financials, 3 volunteers are asked to complete this task. The volunteer must have a working knowledge of bookkeeping and be available on January 4 and 5, 2021. The volunteers will review the Guilds financial statements, documents, data and accounting entries. They will also report on information from the Guilds Quick Books, account balances, cash flow statements, income statements, balance sheets, and internal control systems.

The audit report will be presented at the Guild Board Meeting on January 6, 2021, and the Guild Membership Meeting on January 9, 2021. If you are interested, submit your request to president@rgvqg.com.

Thank you in advance.

Treasurer Report

by Diane Tewell

November Treasurers Report

November 1 Beginning Balance	\$10,210.40
Expenditures	0
Income	\$236.10
Amazon Smile	\$26.10
Membership	\$210.00
November 30 Ending Balance	\$10,446.50
Savings	\$33,158.38

Sunshine and Shadows

by Jackie Landon

Received a thank you from Kay Minner about the death of her family member. If you have any others in the Guild who need a card of encouragement, get well card, sympathy card, please send the person's name and a general statement to shadows@rgvqg.com.

Military Service

by Pam Manley and Lucy Klass

What an outpouring of generosity! We have provided nine more quilts this month for ceremonies to honor our Veterans. We have also received seventeen tops and twenty-six finished quilts. It is unbelievable and so wonderful.

This brings us to a total of 127 quilts given out to date. Presently, we are organizing our fabrics and pieces to make some kits. This will make it easier for you to practice piecing and perhaps quilting as you help our veterans. If you don't want to do the quilting, we have volunteers who help with that part of the task.

Thank you for all your hard work! May you and your family be blessed you and make safe choices during this Holiday Season.

Membership Information

by Marty Morrison

Merry Christmas to everyone ! Remember that we are meeting via Zoom, so you can be a member from anywhere, so if you can't come to the Rio Grande Valley you can still be a member and enjoy the benefits of being a member of the Guild.

Now is the time to renew your membership. The annual dues are only \$30.00 and can be paid on-line, just click on the link below <https://form.jotform.co/rgvquiltguild/membership> or a check made payable to **Rio Grande Valley Quilt Guild** and send to:

RGVQG Membership
PO Box 32
Weslaco, TX 78599-0032

If you are paying by check, please include your email address – then I can let you know that the Guild has received your check. Also please provide any personal information has changed, so the Guild Directory can be updated.

2021 Membership cards begin with the numbers 210xxx. The information needed to access the "Members Only" page and the Directory will be sent to you by email.

For 2020 we have a total of 320 members.

For 2021 there are 61 members. Since the last newsletter we "Welcome" the following **New Members:**

- Roberta Allen
- Billie Barr
- Judy Weitekamp

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

Important Retreat News

By Karyn Heaney

As of this writing I have not received 20 payments from the Friendship Star retreaters. Please send in your final payment ASAP, or notify me that you are cancelling for 2021. The condos will only house 3 this year due to Covid. There is a lot of work to do and I want to get a handle on this so that I can update the ranch. They have been absolutely fabulous to work with and I want to continue this working relationship with them. There has not been an increase in the retreat fees since we started going to the ranch. They will not increase fees for 2021 because of putting fewer gals in a condo.

Nancy Brooks has requested that everyone going to the Friendship Star retreat bring a handmade item to be used as a door prize. Let's get behind Nancy and support her.

Bluebonnet friends, I need to know if you will be cancelling ASAP. As mentioned above, rooming is changing slightly due to Covid. Also, do not forget your challenge project. The prizes are wonderful.

If there are any questions you can contact me. My info is in the directory on the Guild's website on the members only page.

Fat Quarter Draw

by Jan Baethke

Fat Quarter Draw...how full is your FQD Envelope getting as you add your dollars each month while waiting for our in person meetings to "come back"? With the vaccine hitting the airwaves this week, I'm hoping that we'll be meeting by at least next fall 2021! So keep adding your dollars and we'll have a Fat Quarter Blast at that time!

In the meantime...I will see y'all on Zoom each month. Oh, and don't forget to pay your dues... here's the link to easily do it online:
<https://www.rgvqg.com/membership.html>

2021 Virtual Quilt Show

by Laurie Magee

Call for 2021 Quilt Show Entries

Entries in all the show categories are welcome but there are a few that we would like to highlight at this point! Entries do not have to be finished during the past year. You may have something special that you have hesitated to enter in the past. This format gives us lots of options to showcase your work.

Quilts of the Future

This category covers two groups of quilters. The first group are quilters who were under 18 when they made their entry. Youth do not have to be quilt guild members and do not have to pay a fee to enter. This means that if your grandchildren make quilts, please consider entering their work and take the necessary photos.

The second group include adults, regardless of age, who have quilted less than three years.

Challenge Quilts

These entries must include a vintage blocks or embroidered linens but after that let your imagination run wild!

Quilts of the Past

This category is an opportunity to share your vintage quilt collection OR any of your family quilt treasures. These can be of any size and can be tied as well as quilted. Crazy quilts are also welcome.

Art Quilts

This category is an opportunity to enter your original work created perhaps after an inspirational class or springing from your own creative juices. I would love to see some pandemic themed items in this category.

From Vintage to Modern – Quilts for All Times Silent Auction

by Joy Paugh

Silent Auction Donation - Gift Certificate/Cards and Boxes (Flat Rate Boxes from the USPS)

I am hearing there is some confusion on the Silent Auction "Box Donations". Hopefully this will answer the questions out there. First, it is a Silent Auction on a Virtual Quilt Show. In the process of working through the logistics of how this would work, the mailing or/shipping of the auction items was a concern. The idea was to use the USPS Flat Rate Envelopes or Boxes to keep the shipping simple and cost effective. The Gift Certificates or Gift Cards can easily be mailed. The items however big or small or one item or multiple items needed a method to make it simple. Therefore, the Flat Rate Boxes came to play. The donor donates a quilt kit, and she decides that she will pay the postage, the entire auctioned amount will go to the Guild. When the winner is determined the donor places her items in the appropriate (pre decided) flat rate envelope or flat rate box and mails it off. If the donor decides the winner pays the postage fee, the donor mails the package and submits a Quilt Show Payment Voucher form to the Quilt Show Treasurer for reimbursement of the postage.



The Weathered Windmill from Judi Niemeyer was sent to us from her company Quiltworx.com. It came in a Priority Mail Envelope. When the winner is named, the kit will be mailed in a Priority Mail Envelope (Flat Rate). The smallest box is

5.375 x 8.625 x 1.625. I went to the Post Office and picked up one of each size. They are FREE. However, the postage is noted where you pick up the box. They range from around \$6.00 to \$15.00. Select the size that best fits your donation. On the Silent Auction Donation form, if you choose not to pay the postage (i.e., winner pays the postage), a selection of boxes appear for you to select the appropriate size and the associated flat rate will be shown.

Sarah Reed and I want you to know how excited we are with the items that are coming in for the Silent Auction!

- Linda Osborne snagged a couple of books (signed no less) from Ricky Tims
- Judy Niemeyer of Quiltworx.com sent a great paper piecing pattern called Weathered Windmill from the Reclaimed West Collection.
- Individuals and Bees have filled out donation box forms for light boxes, knitting kits, quilting notions, travel themes and Texas Theme.

Sarah has received certificates and gift cards for dining out and for long arm services. To date we have 5 gift certificate/cards and 12 donation boxes.

It would be great to have more items on the auction. Small Quilts reminiscent of our Silent Auction in the past would be a great contribution. Totes, empty or filled with themed items. Individuals as well as groups may donate to this cause! REMEMBER - the show is our opportunity to bring income in to the guild to pay for our community service and military service projects, fund the scholarships and pay for programs.

Deadline for the Silent Auction Donation forms is January 11, 2021. Time is running short – fill out your Silent Auction Donation form today!

Guild Historical Photos

by Mike Hall

In preparation for the 2021 Rio Grande Valley Quilt Guild's **Virtual** Quilt Show, I have been researching historical photos from the Guild archives which may be included as part of the quilt show presentation's web site. If you do not wish to have your picture or likeness included, please let me know or leave a voice message at 956-283-1744 or by texting me at 740-398-4142. You may also opt out by email at bmmghall@gmail.com using the subject "Please withhold my picture!". I will make every attempt to comply with your wishes.

The Well Loved Quilt

by Linda Osborne

What a wonderful blessing to have a good friend give your new born baby a handmade baby quilt. You look at it and just know that the fabric and pattern were selected just for your newborn. You realize all the time it took to make it was given in love to your child. One of the guild members, Jan Baethke, was one of those good friends to baby, Kayla. She selected this pattern and fabric just for her. The quilt came out to be beautiful and the gift included a doll quilt for Kayla to use as she played in childhood. Love even shown for the child's development in this case.

Through the years as baby, Kayla, grew it looks like she used and carried the quilt with her. I imagined her folks had to sneak it away from her as she slept to wash it and place it back with her before she awoke. I can just imagine it being carried everywhere and her folks having to be sure they have the quilt so she would go to sleep, etc., when they traveled. Here is a picture of the quilt as it was given and Kayla as a full grown 20 year old holding her well loved quilt today. She indeed loved that gift to shreds and still won't part with it. I sure wouldn't either, would you? Those threads left of the fabric show years of love from a friend to their beautiful friend's daughter who loved it throughout her life. What do you think when you see the pictures – is this not one of the most loved quilts you have ever seen? It sure is in my eyes. Jan has a new quilt on the way as this goes to print.



In our virtual show this is entry #6089.



Happy Memories From Polyester Scraps

by Linda Osborne

It must have been a very happy day back in the 50's when Charlotte Baethke got her Newhome sewing machine. I am sure she thought of many wonderful things she would create for her family. Ahhhh, then came the 70's , the time of those wonderful Polyester "Lovely Leisure Suits"and slacks that everyone felt that they just had to have and knew they looked fantastic and stylish wearing. Charlotte used that machine to make them for her family and I am sure they loved wearing her creations. They were all looking good in the latest style. As what happens (continued next page) when anyone sews, the scraps started to pile up. Being a thrifty sewing lady she was, she used the scraps to make a quilt. The Baethke daughter has great memories snuggling and reading in bed with Grandma Charlotte under the Polyester quilt made from the scraps by her. Little did that blessed child know that in the future grandma's treasured sewing machine would become hers. Every time she sees or uses the 1950 Newhome machine, I am sure a smile comes across her face knowing who used it, the happy memories of the things it had created (continued next page)

and of the times reading in bed with Grandma Charlotte under the wonderful Polyester scrap quilt. Below lies Grandma Charlotte and Kristi. Circa 1980s.

This Polyester quilt is #5100 in our virtual quilt show.



Publicity

by Sarah Reed

We are really trying to spread the word about our zoom meetings. If you can share this link <https://www.welcomemomergv.com/events/2020/rgv-quilt-guild> with your Facebook page, quilting groups, park groups, or any others you can think of that would be terrific. You can also share our Facebook page, www.RGVQG.com as well. We appreciate as much publicity as possible. We are not a Guild without all of you!

Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, and Happy New Year.



Scholarships

by Evelyn Fincher

With much assistance and encouragement from Bonnie Hall, I was able to locate email addresses for all but 2 or 3 rural schools (we've never received communication from them) and sent the scholarship invitation letter to them. I asked for receipt acknowledgment and received it from a few of the larger schools. I have counselors' personal emails for some of the schools. I usually don't receive any applications until late January or February. I will send emails to this year's scholarship recipients in the event we have no new applicants. I will compile a group email list for future reference. I plan to update the Academic Scholarship Committee/Chairman procedures to reflect these changes and have everything ready to give to my successor.

New Year's Eve Party!

by Diana Wolf

Where - your house

When - Dec 31st Start time is 7 pm. Ending is 12:15 pm or sooner.



Look for more details (such as the link) in an email blast from Bonnie Hall.

We will play a few simple games (and they might be a bit silly), share projects we have in progress, or are proud to have completed, and sit and sew most of the time. Join when you want, leave when you want.

Have a favorite snack ready along with your favorite beverage. The Midnight Quilter likes wine before she does free motion quilting. It might be a good time to try that and you don't have to show it to anyone.

A good time to be a bit silly as it ends, especially this year.

Come and have some fun with your friends, or soon to be friends.

Programs

by Laural Powell



Mary Kerr is an American Quilt Society certified appraiser and an award-winning quilter. She grew up in a family of quilters and has been teaching since 1987. Mary's recent work marries her love of all things vintage with the freedom of expression that is encouraged in the Art Quilt community.

During the **January 9th Guild Meeting**, we will celebrate quilts from Mary Kerr's newest book, *Twisted: Modern Quilts with a Vintage Twist*. This fabulous collection features modern quilts that were created using vintage textiles. Join in the fun as Mary shares her unique approach that gives us permission to play with vintage textiles in new and exciting ways.



At the **Quilt Show in February**, Mary will present her "A Wonky Star: Improv with a Vintage Twist" class. In this class we will embrace the magic of working with vintage textiles to create a wonky star with lots of negative space for modern quilting designs. This workshop will be packed full of tips for working with vintage fragments and ways to showcase these treasured pieces. Finished sizes will vary.

Join this class and become inspired to create your own Twisted magic!

Online Quilting Happenings

by Judy Brown

1. Colors of 2021 announced...

Kona color



Pantone colors...



2. Looking for ideas for quilt labels? Check out 60+ Quilt Label Quotes and Sayings.

3. Don't forget to go to smile.amazon.com and choose Rio Grande Valley Quilt Guild and we will receive credit for your orders at no cost to you.

Consignments

by Deb Blackburn

If you have a table runner, wall hanging or quilt you want to sell, the time to do so is during our Virtual Quilt Show! We have everything ready for you to submit your quilted item. And everyone attending the virtual show will have the opportunity to see them advertised for sale!

If you follow this link, you will be at the form that needs to be filled out for each quilted item: [Consignment Quilt Registration](#). The form lists minimum prices for the various sizes. Please feel free to list any price (higher than the minimum amounts) that you would like to get for your masterpiece(s)!

This consignment availability is only for Rio Grande Valley Quilt Guild members! There is a one-time fee of \$10, which will allow you to submit any number of quilted items for sale. If this consignment area goes well, we may be able to keep this opportunity alive for consignment after the quilt show as well. Now is the time to utilize this consignment opportunity!

If you have any questions, please feel free to e-mail me at: deborahblackbourn@yahoo.com or feel free to call me at 608-485-0815.

General Meeting

by Diana Wolf

Saturday, December 12, 2020

There were 75 persons in attendance and more than 32 were members. Quorum established.

Kathe Letulle, President, opened the meeting at 9:00 am. She suggested that as long as the COVID-19 pandemic is an issue; we will continue meeting on Zoom for the foreseeable future.

It was announced the Friendship Retreat attendees need to complete their payment as soon as possible. The deadline is Dec 31st.

Diana Wolf announced there will be a New Year's Eve party online for Guild members. Likely to start about 7 pm that evening and end at 12:15 am or sooner. More information will be in a following email. All are welcome.

The Treasurer's report was presented by Diane Tewell. The beginning checking balance Nov 1 was \$10,210.40 and ending balance was \$10,446.50. The savings account balance is \$33,159.38. Her report was approved and filed for audit.

Diana Wolf asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes printed in last month's newsletter. None were heard. The report stands approved.

Laurie Magee reported on the Virtual Quilt Show. The Show committee continues to meet and made some decisions about how the web page will be laid out. Several quilt categories have few entries and more are sought. Many, many more details will be in this month's newsletter. Joy Paugh will have an article in the newsletter answering questions about "If it Fits, it Ships" boxes for the Show.

A member asked where membership checks should be mailed. Marty Morrison, Membership chair answered and put in the Zoom chat they should be mailed to PO Box 32, Weslaco, TX 78599. They should be made out to RGVQG (unless you would like to write out Rio Grande Valley Quilt Guild).

The meeting was adjourned at 9:09 am, so the Friendship Day program could start. Laural Powell presented a well-received program of bingo, and how to make a fabric holiday ornament.

The achievements of an organization are the results of the combined effort of each individual.
— Vince Lombardi

Newsletter Advertising Rates

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



Deadline: Monday following meeting on second Saturday of the month to be included in our next monthly publication. January 2021 content is due by the 11th.

Newsletter is posted 12 times each year. Paid advertisers may put one ad per month on our Facebook page at no cost.

Guidelines for Article Submission


- Digital format is preferred
- Please Include a "headline" or header for your article and your name with any other contact information
- Pictures, graphics including clip art preferred in .jpeg, .jpg, .gif or .png

RGVQG Disclaimer

RGVQG does not discriminate nor endorse any advertisement placed in RGVQG News. RGVQG is not responsible for, nor takes responsibility for defective merchandise or false advertisements.

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 Waldron Road, Corpus Christie, TX 78418. Call for details.


Renee's Quilting

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Custom quilting
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reneedarkis@hotmail.com

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Where you can gather with
friends, learn new skills
and find great fabrics!

102 S. 3rd St.
Harlingen, TX 78550



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quiltsntnkorn@gmail.com
Kathè Letulle - Owner
Call for an appointment