



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

President's Threads That Bind

by Kathe Letulle

A SMILE IS THE BEST MAKEUP ANY WOMAN CAN WEAR! That is so true. There were many smiles at the Guild Meeting on Saturday. We are sad to say that some of us did not get the link to attend the meeting. If it had not been that I sent the link to our webmaster, I would not have attended the meeting myself. We are checking everything and everywhere to ensure this does not happen in the future - but some things cannot be avoided. In the future, if you have not received the link to the Guild Meeting by the Friday NOON prior to the meeting, after having checked your trash and spam folder, please send an e-mail to webmaster1@rgvqg.com advising that you did not receive the link. This is very important information to assist in solving the missing link issue with BenchMark, our provider sending the emails.

The Quilt Show was awesome. Everyone of those quilts were beautiful and I am so proud of all those who worked diligently to ensure our virtual show was a success. These individuals need to be commended and thanked over and over again. I am sure burnout is a common factor with them all. We have undertaken a BIG step foward into the virtual world and did not pay thousands of dollars to a commercial vendor. PROUD! PROUD! PROUD!

Hopefully, the Guild can begin meeting in person and virtually in the distant future. At least the technology of Zoom has kept us together for almost a year and we are very thankful for that. If you have

not begun to use Zoom, please give it a try and interact with all your Guild family. It sure is a treat!!!!

Have a blessed month and KEEP SMILING!

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 - April 10th at 9 AM Central Time.

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

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

Table of Contents

President's Threads That Bind	1
Membership Information.....	2
Treasurer Report	2
Upcoming Event	2
Retreat.....	3
Sunshine and Shadows.....	3
Academic Scholarships.....	3
Bylaw Revision.....	3
Bee News.....	4
2021 Quilt Show Winners.....	5
2021 Quilt Show	7
Military Service	8
2022 Quilt Show	9
Bee Banners	9
Minutes March 13, 2021	9

Membership Information

by Marty Morrison

You can be a member from anywhere and enjoy the benefits of the Rio Grande Valley Quilt Guild. We are still meeting via Zoom, so it doesn't matter where you live, also be sure to invite your friends to join us.

If you haven't renewed your membership, now is the time. Your dues are part of the 2021 Budget. 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

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.

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.

For 2020 we had a total of 320 members. For 2021 there are 179 members. Since the last newsletter we "Welcome" the following **New Members**:

Audrey Horton
Karen Kester

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

Treasurer Report

by Mike Hall

Rio Grande Valley Quilt Guild
Treasurer's February 2021 Report

Monthly Account Balances as of 2/28/2021

RGVQG Checking

Beginning Balance.....	\$14,319.06
Income	3,178.46
Expenses	\$1,436.66
Ending Balance	\$16,060.86

RGVQG Savings

Beginning Balance.....	\$33,160.82
Interest Income.....	\$0.76
Ending Balance	\$33,160.82

RGVQG Quilt Show

Beginning Balance.....	\$11,148.99
Income	\$2,625.22
Expenses.....	\$0.11
Ending Balance	\$13,774.10

RGVQG Retreat\$3,000.00

Upcoming Event

The Weslaco Museum, 500 S. Texas Blvd, Weslaco, is featuring Quilts From The Past. Laurie Magee, RGVQG, is featured as a guest speaker at the Saturday Speaker Series. Laurie's presentation will be March 27th from 2-3 pm. Ms. Magee will cover such topics as quilt types and styles. In particular, she will be talking about the quilts exhibited in the museum, some dating as far back as the early 1800's.

The Weslaco Museum is open from 10-4 Tuesday-Saturday. The speaker series is \$2.00 per person/ per session. Come early to see the exhibit or stay afterwards. It promises to be an afternoon to remember!

Telephone: (956) 968-1942

Retreat

by *Kathe Letulle*

22 anxious ladies are attending Friendship Star Retreat and 29 anxious ladies will be attending BlueBonnet Retreat.

We are planning to have a grand time with both retreats and these get togethers will surely be welcomed by all. We have not been able to see each other in person for quite some time and it is about time to have some fun instead of total isolation. Cannot wait for 2022 when we get back to having more ladies attend.

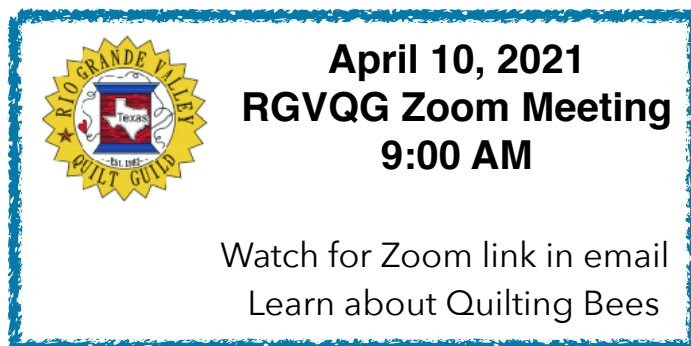
The shoes that we filled from Karen Heaney were HUGE! Thank you Karyn from the bottom of all retreaters hearts for the many years you dedicated to many, many retreats. We love and miss your smiling face.

Elaine Hall, Marty Morrison, Kathe Letulle - the retreat team as Karyn Heaney has relocated to North Carolina.

Sunshine and Shadows

by *Jackie Landon*

This month I've sent cards to Judy White and Esther Schmidt on the death of their husbands. I've also sent cards to Lucy Klass and Sarah Reed on health issues. If you know of anyone who needs a card from RGVQG, please send it to sunshine@rgvqg.com. I'm getting better after my hip replacement. One month down and 11 more months to go to be completely healed and walking again. Thank you.



Academic Scholarships

by *Evelyn Fincher*

We received two applications for the two 2021-22 Academic scholarships of \$1,000 each. Since we only received one application from a graduating high school student, I contacted the two recipients from 2020-21 and Rosario Garcia. Neither of the students responded. However, Rosario submitted her application. The RGVQG Board approved Carla Guzman, a Sharyland High School (Mission) senior whose college major is Business Administration with a transfer to Fashion Merchandising and Rosario Garcia, a senior in Fashion Design at the Art Institute of San Antonio. Both awardees will be present with their parents via Zoom at the April 10, 2021, RGVQG meeting.

Bylaw Revision

by *Diana Wolf*

Original wording:

4.03 A nominating committee composed of two members of the Board with three other members of the Guild shall be chosen by the Board at or prior to the August regular meeting of members. The nominating committee will publish the list of qualified and recommended candidates in the October newsletter. At the October meeting of members, any voting member in good standing may nominate a person for an office, with the seconding of any other member in good standing.

Proposed: Note changes are in bold typeface

4.03 A nominating committee composed of two members of the Board with three other members of the Guild shall be chosen by the Board at or prior to the **February** regular meeting of members. **These board members cannot be eligible for an additional term.** The nominating committee will publish the list of qualified and recommended candidates in the October newsletter. At the October meeting of members, any voting member in good standing may nominate a person for an office, with the seconding of any other member in good standing.



Sew N Sew Bee - Snow to Sun

by Mellie Peach

Sew N Sew Bee continues to meet weekly on Zoom. We discuss quilting successes, show new quilts that have been finished, new ideas and suggestions and catch up on our members current status—just as we would in a live session. We thank the RGVQG for this opportunity to spend 2 hours per week together!

At Snow to Sun, we had an additional sew day on Linda Burggraff's patio. Two fantastic lessons were taught: Kathy Kratz taught the elements and directions for making a Crumb Block and shared her



RGVQG Member, Linda Burggraff

finished Military Quilt made from the 12" blocks she adjust completed. Guild Member Linda Burggraff led a lively lesson and demo on an alternate Quilt as You Go method, with each step not only on the directions she provided on paper, but with sewn steps as well. The lessons were well received and Sew N Sew Quilters then quilted and developed her own Crumb Blocks and/or a few Quilt as you Go blocks. Military Service Quilt Tops as well as Baby Quilt Tops were sewn as well.

The beginning of March started a new venture for the Sew N Sew Quilters Bee. After 6 weeks of waiting 10 quilters could begin working again in the quilt room, which had been closed since March 11, 2020. Masks and social distancing were required, but the 4 sessions we had were well worth the effort. However, on Mar 12, 2021 the Bee was informed that we could no longer meet in the Quilt Room. This saddened everyone.



Kathy Kratz's Military Service Crumb Quilt Top

Honey Bees Quilting Group

by Jane Ross

The Honey Bees have been very busy even though we haven't all been able to meet or sew together in person. We have been meeting via Zoom and doing our classes via Zoom. We have been very fortunate to have talented presenters and "film crew". We are so fortunate to be able to do this, it has brought our group closer even though we are far away.

Some of the classes via Zoom have been: Nancy presented a "Fold N Stitch Wreath" class. Sharon presented the "Bitsy Box." Laural Powell presented a class via Zoom on her "Star Flower" table runner. Gena presented a class on repurposing vintage items. Julie presented her 8" Folded Star hot pad. Lots of great ideas for projects to sew. Looking forward to the future when we can meet in person.

We are in the process of contacting Bees in the Valley. We would also like to know of groups that gather to quilt or sew together at various RV parks. If you know of any, let us know and who to contact. A couple of groups we are communicating with seem interested in learning more.

2021 Quilt Show Winners

Best of Show



Best of Show - Diamonds by Julia Hanley

Art Quilts: These quilts must be an original design by the quilt maker. These may utilize multiple techniques, include embellishments, thread painting, beading, painting on fabric, photography on fabric, etc.



Pisces By Vicki Guerra

Challenge Quilts: 2021: When someone quilts a memory -- This year the challenge will be to take a pre-1960 VINTAGE BLOCK or VINTAGE LINEN and create a new wall hanging for future generations to cherish.



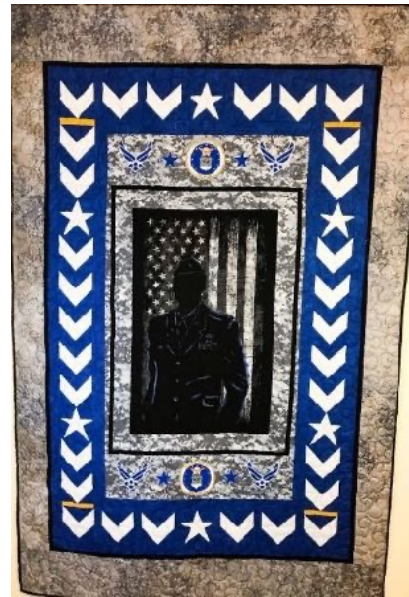
Modern Merges With Vintage By Karen Knowlton

Modern Quilts: These quilts generally have the following characteristics: Simplified, abstract design; Use of solid fabrics, bold colors, large prints; Negative space is very important in the overall composition; Improvisational piecing may be employed; Upcycled/recycled fabrics are often used; Quilting is restrained, often linear.



Diamonds By Julia Hanley

Quilts of Today - Bed Quilts: This category includes ANY entry that is pieced, embroidered, appliquéd, whole cloth, hand and/or machine quilted specifically made to be used as a throw or bed covering. Can include wool appliqué.



*Military Quilt Honoring My Husband
By Karen Knowlton*

Quilts of Today - Wall Quilts: This category includes ANY entry that is pieced, embroidered, appliquéd, whole cloth, hand and/or machine quilted specifically made to be hung on the wall. Can include wool appliqué.



Military Quilt By Tee Box Quilters

Quilts of Tomorrow: This category includes wall or bed quilts made by novice quilters; either youth or adults who have quilted less than 3 years. Any quilting form is acceptable but must have 3 layers and be quilted, not tied.



Cardinals In The Forest By Patsy Mellen

2021 Quilt Show

by Laurie Magee

The 2021 Show Board experience for us turned out to be quite different from the previous 38 shows. After the pandemic closed much of the country, including the Canadian borders, it was apparent that we were going to be unable to host an in-person show. The SPI Convention Center allowed us to roll-over our \$4950 deposit to 2022 and we began brainstorming alternatives. A virtual quilt show became our goal.

Our web resource in this plan was Jenna Purdy, a friend who was

pursing a career as a web designer. She had completed a 6-month boot camp in web design and was willing to work with us for free, to create an addition to her portfolio. My membership in American Quilt Study Group proved to be helpful as they provided quilt history lectures for the show with no charge. The lectures introduced their organization to the general quilting public through our show. Allison Rainboth and Susan Slaton also provided

lectures at no cost to the guild. The software used for the Quilt Gallery was a free open-source software developed for art shows and academia which worked well with the excellent photographs taken by June and Dale Borneman and quilters who were not able to come to the RGV this year. The remaining software was purchased as well as

an additional website that could support the software needed for the show.

The show board was restructured into three teams: Quilt Gallery, Marketplace, and Education. The fact that we were able to complete this huge endeavor successfully is entirely due to the hard work by the members of the Show Board. This committee work required at least one Zoom meeting a week, and for some members two or three Zoom meetings a week.

Our vendors were contacted following the show and all have indicated that they were happy with the show and had an increase in sales with some

of the sales coming from outside the US. They are willing to vend again for us, though the non-Texas shops would want that to be virtually. They also have consented to have their links posted on the Guild website.

Although the final show figures are not completed since several items have not been paid for by bidders, the show broke even. The production of the show cost \$1065.00 The remainder of the expenses include fixed expenses such as the storage units and insurance, as well as the cost of items that were

purchased in preparation for the in-person show. The cost of these items that could not be used: raffle tickets, supplies for the opportunity quilt, quilting of the opportunity quilt and more, has been covered by the show income. This means that there are sufficient funds to support the 2022 show.



My heartfelt thanks to all the show board members, who worked tirelessly on a quilt show created in a new format using Zoom, technologies unfamiliar to most of us prior to the pandemic. You all were supportive of me when I reached the point of too much Zoom, ebbing sanity, and not enough time! You Rock!!!

The other amazing group that deserves praise are those individuals who donated items for the silent auction and those who entered your quilts and paraphernalia in the quilt gallery. There was a lot of eye candy for the quilt show viewers!

Military Service

by Mellie Peach

Lucy and Mellie met March 4 for a short planning session. Sew N Sew has had two additional Military Sew Days, February 26 and March 3, and produced 16 additional tops brought to the Alamo Country Club bundling day held on March 5, 2021. 7 more were added to the tops during the storage shed on Friday, March 12. 14 quilts were bundled at Alamo Country Club and the fabric, scraps and remnants were sorted and organized by the 5/6 quilters present. Three Military Service Quilts were presented by Karon Jacobson in February at Sandpiper Resort, Edinburg, and we are awaiting photographs and the Community Service documentation for them. Three more MSQ's are being presented on March 21 at Sandpiper Resort.

The Military Service Quilt Committee request:

1. Donations of red, white and blue fabric (yardage preferred, but large remnants or large scraps will work.)
2. Monetary Donations designated to RGVQG Military Service Quilt Committee.
3. Batting--80/20 preferred. (bolts, yardage or very large remnants) and backing fabric (yardage or can be sewn...)

Also, it is requested that the RGVQG consider the possibility of presenting a quilt to a qualified non-permanent resident of the valley for a donation to RGVQG/Military Service. is under consideration

Quilters and binders are an on-going need. Completed tops are always welcome.

An inventory of available quilts, tops, wheel chair quilts, quilt bundles for MSQ's, ready to be quilted, batting and backing availability has been completed by Kathy Dunning (acting for Lucy Klass) and Mellie Peach. This includes what is currently in stock at Alamo Country Club and at the Guild storage facility. There are 3 quilts at Mike and Bonnie Hall's and other officer's and Board member's homes that will be presented to our veterans.



Kathy Dunning, Dale Shafer, Elaine Hall and Lucy Klass. Mellie Peach photo.

Advertisement

Janome 9400 with all included feet, accessories +xtras \$1850.

Review: <https://www.kimberlyeinmo.com/a-review-of-the-janome-memory-craft-9400>

Fran Wessel 956 605-1387

DO YOU WANT TO HAVE FUTURE QUILT SHOWS??????? If there is no Quilt Show Chairperson - THERE WILL NOT BE A QUILT SHOW for 2023 and 2024!!! Do you really want that!

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 an awesome mentor prior to your own show and we contemplate not VIRTUAL SO sent an e-mail to president@rgvq.com or text [956-272-2377](tel: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!

2022 Quilt Show

by Laural Powell

This will be the 40th Anniversary of the Rio Grande Valley Quilt Show which is the **Ruby Jubilee**. Although as Show Chair I was looking for more of a theme.

One of my favorite quotes has always been, "You are capable of more than you know". A couple of years ago, when Deb Warner handed over the quilt show to the new Chair Marsha Santow, she gave her a little stuffed monkey. Well I decided my monkey is going to have wings. Finally, when I think of rubies I automatically think of Ruby Slippers. From this, I am sure you have guessed the theme I settled on is **Wizard of Oz!**



We are in all hopes of having an in-person show. If so, it will be February 18th & 19th, 2022, at the South Padre Island Convention Centre. Although if this last year has taught us anything, it is to be caution and have a back-up plan. So, over the next couple of months we will be rolling out the details a little slower than usual.

The Challenge will be "There's No Place Like Home". The full details will be in the April Newsletter, along with information on the other categories.

For now, you can start thinking of ideas from "Somewhere Over the Rainbow"!

Bee Banners

We are asking all Bees associated with the Rio Grande Valley Quilt Guild, to make a quilted banner, to be display at the 40th Anniversary of the Rio Grande Valley Quilt Show.



Banners must be/have:

- 21" x 42" (vertical or horizontal)
- Sleeves like other quilt show entries
- Incorporate the name and theme of the Bee

Banners do not have to incorporate the show theme. This way these banners can be used, by the Bees, several times and for different events. The deadline for registering the Bee Banners for the quilt show will be January 22, 2022. Any questions on the Bee Banners can be sent to quiltshow@rgvqg.com.

Minutes March 13, 2021

by Diana Wolf

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 am by the President, Kathe Letulle. Seventy-four participants were on line and a quorum was established.

Mike Hall, Treasurer, presented the Treasurer's report. There were no comments or corrections, so it was filed for audit.

[For Treasurer Report, see page 2]

Secretary's report of minutes taken at the last general meeting by Diana Wolf were printed in the newsletter for member review. There were no additions or corrections, so they stood approved.

We have a new Programs Chair, Jean Waufle, Kathe Letulle announced. Laural Powell was our Programs Chair. However, she is the incoming Quilt Show Chair which can demand much time so she transitioned positions. Jean also plans to run for Programs Chair this next season.

Continued next page

Laural Powell stated the Show Committee was still assessing how the Show went. It is hoped a live show at the South Padre Island Convention Center could be held as they currently hold our deposit for it. The exact dates will depend upon whether it is in-person or online. An in-person would be held February 18th and 19th, 2022, and an online show would be held in February, sometime that would not conflict with another show. The Show committee is cautiously optimistic, but proceeding carefully in their analysis. Activity on The Opportunity Quilt has been suspended for the near term, pending a decision about how the show will be held next year.

She did have a request that Bees design and make a quilted banner about their Bee. It should be sized 21 inches by 42 inches, orientated either vertically or horizontally, and which includes a sleeve for hanging. The banners can then be used year after year, in various ways. The theme for the Quilt Show this year will be The Wizard of Oz. The theme for the Challenge category is "There is no place like home". The banners could be used in a scavenger hunt for an in-person show.

If you don't currently belong to a Bee, there is a list on the Guild website and you can join an open Bee. Jean Waufle, our new Programs chair announced the April meeting would be about Quilting Bees.

The winners of the Academic Scholarships will also be announced at the April meeting.

Laurie Magee, the recent Show Chair, shared the almost final financial report from the Virtual Quilt Show. She thanked all the Quilt Show volunteers who worked incredibly hard over the last few months. The figures are almost final, but there are a few outstanding but small financial issues. In a simplified format, the Show total income was \$4,495.03 with total expenditures of \$4,587.00. This covered several fixed expenses such as storage rental, tickets printed previously for an in-person show, fabric for the Opportunity Quilt and other items. Website hosting was purchased for two years, which means we own the hosting service for the webpage for another year. The webpage could perhaps be used for on-line sales or other projects.

The totals do not reflect the value of many, many hours of many volunteer time by members and persons not members but who were responsible for most of the web design and implementation. Some classes were donated, others cost \$600 but had income of \$720.00, which was very good. She feels inexperience was met by determination, and overall, the show was a success. She received many favorable remarks about a Guild of our size pulling off a virtual show like this without professional help for design and support. Deb Blackburn surveyed the vendors after the show and they were generally pleased with the results for their shops. This is critical information for next year's show; no matter if it is in-person or virtual. Some sales occurred from outside the United States. Many favorable comments about the Show were received from Guild members.

A slide show of the winning quilts in the virtual show are on the Show and RGVQG website. They will also appear in the newsletter.

Laural Powell presented a program about ways to use ugly fabric to make a quilt. She played a presentation from Karen Brown of Just Get It Done Quilts that can be viewed on YouTube. It was twelve minutes packed with information. The pattern is available for free on her website.

Gayle Steinbeck as Hostess announced the door prize winners. They were Bev Widdows, Sandy Bagot, Jane Ross, Kay Moreland and Marge Lehman.

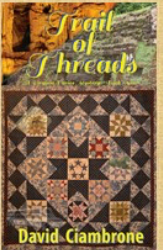
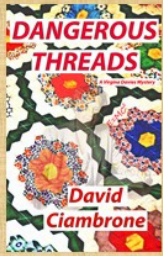
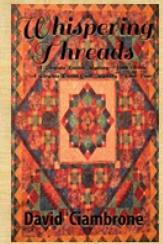
Mellie Peach announced the Weslaco Museum has a display through April of antique quilts. She encouraged members to view it. The Harlingen Arts and Heritage museum is showing the winners from the Paducah Show "New Quilts from an Old Favorite - Wheel of Fortune" until April 16th.

One of the counselors at the school where a recipient of the Academic Scholarship is a student wants a video clip of the award ceremony next month. Various ways to do this were discussed.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:01 am by Kathe Letulle, President.

Virginia Davies

Beautiful and sexy Virginia Davies Clark a member of the Bee Hive Quilt Bee and Main Street Quilt Guild, is a curator at the Georgetown Museum in Texas. She's also a reserve Special Agent for the Smithsonian Central Security Service. Virginia and her friends go headlong into mysteries and adventures getting into more trouble than anyone should. She's a dynamic combination of Indiana Jones and Jessica Fletcher. She raises havoc and solves crimes in adventures that have nonstop action and are page turning thrillers.



Quilt Mysteries

David Ciambrone

Available from Amazon.com

www.davidciambrone.com



New Quilts from an Old Favorite
WHEEL OF FORTUNE

January 12 - April 16, 2021
Gallery Talks by Reservation

956-216-4901 • 2425 Boxwood, Harlingen, TX 78550

HARLINGEN ARTS AND HERITAGE MUSEUM



I have a mountain of batiks I am selling for \$10 a yard. Here is the [Google Drive](#) with all the batiks on offer. I can mail or you can come see me in Lockhart. Instructions are in the Google Drive Folder.

Jessica Smith
830-305-3971



TNT
Quilters
This N That
Korner
Mercedes, Texas

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