

**RIVERWALK QUILTERS GUILD NEWSLETTER**

Naperville, Illinois

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**HAPPY SPRING**



Please make sure you read all the news because every page has information you can use!

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<p><b>PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (Bev Parker)</b></p>	<p><b>APRIL GUEST SPEAKER</b></p>
<p>We have only three months left of our current year and three great events. In our April meeting we'll hear about thread painting from an expert, Joyce Hughes. Don't miss it!</p> <p>May is our second annual bring-a-friend month. If friends join that month, their membership is paid through June 2025, giving them June 2024 for free.</p> <p>It's also our philanthropy sew-in, a more social evening, where we can introduce our guests and piece together quilt tops for worthy organizations. Please invite a friend!</p> <p>June is our annual party, being expertly planned by Peggie Getz and Deb Obrecht. Joining them in planning is Julie Milldrum, who is in charge of the rummage sale.</p> <p>June is also the month we elect our new board. We have open slots and especially welcome new faces and fresh ideas.</p> <p>Please consider serving when Heidi Enright contacts you. It's a wonderful opportunity to help steer the guild while making new friends.</p>	<p><b>April 9, 2024, Joyce Hughes</b></p>  <p>Joyce is an award-winning self-taught quilter, fiber artist and author.</p> <p>Her first quilt was a t-shirt quilt, which she enjoyed making, but felt limited in the ability to express her artistic capabilities.</p> <p>Within several months, she began to design pictorial landscape quilts using raw edge applique, thread painting, and a variety of embellishments.</p> <p>Never knowing the "rules" she broke a lot of them, but with exciting results! Joyce has written two books about dimensional thread painting on panels: <i>Creating Art Quilts with Panels</i> and <i>Thread Paint a Garden Quilt</i>.</p> <p>Joyce uses fabric panels as the base to create dimension and texture with threads and embellishments. For her classes she uses custom-made panels from photos she has taken in her garden.</p>
<p><b>UPCOMING PROGRAMS (Nancy Sturgeon)</b></p>	<p><b>MEMBERSHIP (Margaret Zitt)</b></p>
<p><b>RQG PROGRAMS 2024-2025</b></p> <p><b>May 14, 2024, Sew-In</b></p> <p><b>June 11, 2024, Rummage Sale &amp; Anniversary Party</b></p> <p><b>July 9, 2024, Zoom—Michael James—<i>Past Forward</i></b></p> <p><b>August 13, 2024—Schoolhouse—Sherry Gendel, organizer</b></p> <p><b>September 10, 2024—Zoom—Cindy Grisdela <i>Anatomy of an Improv Quilt</i></b></p> <p><b>October 15, 2024—Small Quilt Auction/Other Fundraising Event</b></p> <p><b>November 12, 2024—Zoom—Jaimie Davis—<i>Baltimore Album Quilts</i></b></p> <p><b>December 10, 2024—Zoom—Audrey Esarey—<i>Foundation Paper Piecing</i></b></p> <p><b>January 14, 2025—Zoom—Ellen Lindner—<i>Playing with Fabric</i></b></p> <p><b>February 11, 2025—Zoom—<i>Antique Quilts</i>—Janis Arquette, Nancy Sturgeon, Darlene Schille, etc.</b></p> <p><b>March 11, 2025—Philanthropy Sew-In</b></p> <p><b>April 8, 2025—Zoom—Amy Struckmeyer—<i>Reframe Your Color</i></b></p> <p><b>May 13, 2025—Zoom—open.</b></p>	<p>We are welcoming guests to the May 14th meeting with our no fee Open House. They will be coming to see what our guild does throughout the year.</p> <p>The Philanthropy Sew-In will show them some of the remarkable things we do as members of the guild.</p> <p>If you have someone who might be interested in seeing what we do, please invite them to come. If they decide to join and pay the annual fee, they can come to the Annual Party in June. A wonderful time to meet us!</p> <p>Mary Cieslak sent you the copy of the directory last week. Please check that your information is correct so that it can be used as a reference directory for next year.</p> <p>In May you will receive the 2024-2025 membership form to sign up for next year.</p> <p>Please remember to bring the yearly fee of \$35.00 with the form.</p> <p>Margaret Zitt</p>

**PHILANTHROPY (Lisa Klingbeil & Fabric Fondlers Bee)**

Last month we donated 7 child/lap quilts, 11 pillowcases and 7 sets of receiving blankets/burp cloths to Sharing Connection.

We were also thrilled that all quilt kits were picked up at the March general meeting. We have been busy cutting and assembling kits for the May Philanthropy Sew In.

We will have a Sew In signup sheet at the April general meeting so please be sure to stop by and see us.

Thank you so much to everyone that has participated!

Lisa Klingbeil and the Fabric Fondlers Bee

**PHILANTHROPY – THE MEANING  
(Heidi Enright – Nominating Chair)**

Did You Know? The Greek root of philanthropy may be literally translated as "loving people."

The English word can refer to general goodwill to one's fellow people, as well as to the active effort to promote the welfare of people, but in modern use it is most often used to refer specifically to the practice of giving money and time to help make life better for others Merriam-Webster.

A few years ago, a friend of mine, who knew I was a quilter, asked me if I knew of anywhere or anyone who would accept baby quilts made by her 80+ year old mother. Her mother lives in Bloomington, IL.

I told her that quilt guilds would probably love to have those quilts to distribute to people in need. My friend said that they had tried to contact guilds in the Bloomington area and had no luck. I then told her about our Riverwalk Guild and the philanthropy committee and all that we do and where the quilts are distributed in our area.

My friend was thrilled to hear that the quilts were going to people in need. Her mother in Bloomington was also thrilled to know that a group was doing such good work.

Since then, I have been receiving boxes of very nicely made baby quilts from my friend every few months as she returns from visiting her mother. The last group of quilts included fabric and quilting books that will go to our philanthropy group and books to our June rummage sale as my friend's mother, at her age, feels it is time to stop sewing.

I mention this to say that our philanthropy committee in our guild is unique. Not only do we have a sew-in for charity once a year, our group each month offers kits for us to sew for those in need and our committee distributes these items to various charities in the area.

The Philanthropy committee has been a part of our guild since our guild started. It is good work that really should continue!

Let's keep "loving people" in our area as best we can. Please consider answering the call to be a part of the Philanthropy committee.

Heidi Enright,  
Nominating Chair

**NOMINATING CHAIR (Heidi Enright)**

“Going once, going twice.”

As nominating chair, part of my job is to call all of you and ask you if you will consider serving on the RQG board for next year.

Cold calling people is not my strong point, but that is exactly why I need to do it, to get better at it and feel more comfortable doing it. I am a shy person by nature. But again, it’s good for me to step out of my comfort zone.

When I was at the guild meeting last month I heard two women say that they already had a quilt ready for the Small Quilt auction in October! I loved hearing that because it reminded me that many of us really enjoy this event. We all seem to enjoy the professional auctioneer and he really helps make the evening a success both as a fundraiser and as a fun evening enjoying each other’s company.

Let me say again that the Small Quilt Auction is a fun, successful event. All the information is available to take it over and fill in the staff. There is no need to start from scratch.

Many women, who have worked at our auction in the past, have already offered to help during the event. Also, there are many former chairs of this event who are available for support and guidance. Keep in mind the Riverwalk Quilters Guild is a volunteer organization, made up of people who are fond of the art of quilting! If we do not have volunteers to lead events, they simply will not happen.

Are you willing to step out of your comfort zone and take the lead on this project? If a person or group of persons does not volunteer to lead the Small Quilt Auction, the current board will have to rethink the auction event and consider other types of fundraising for the guild.

Would you be OK with the elimination of the Small Quilt auction? If the auction is eliminated, some other type of income will be needed for the guild to help pay for programs and expenses.

Do you have any suggestions for a guild fundraiser or any experience in fundraising in other groups where you could share your ideas? Please think about and consider.

Thanks. Heidi Enright

**LIBRARY (Sandy Doubek & Judy Morgan)**

Come and check out a library book!

We have some new ones added and since we won’t have library available at the May meeting, you’ll have an extra month to peruse them!

Also, a reminder to bring back any you checked out last month.

Sandy and Judy

**SOCIAL MEDIA (Margaret Donahue)**

Hello Humble Quilters,

See what I did there... I am hoping that you all start letting your light shine a little more in the coming months.

Please send me photos that you would like to have posted on our Facebook or Instagram pages. It really helps us get to know each other better when we share our creativity.

Starting in April I will give the membership chairperson a list of contributors. These quilters will get an extra raffle ticket for the door prizes.

Looking forward to hearing from you!

Margaret Donahue  
[mdonahue1068@gmail.com](mailto:mdonahue1068@gmail.com)  
@magm3501  
@naperriverwalkquilts  
Riverwalk Quilters Guild on Facebook

## Mystery BOM for April

This month's block for the 2024 Mystery Block of the Month has a New-to-Me unit...the cat's cradle unit.

If you've struggled with this unit before or are concerned about needing to make something you haven't made before, the pattern designer, Sherri McConnell, shares a tutorial in this month's video on how to make a cat's cradle unit with a specialty ruler by Creative Grids or how to make it the traditional way as outlined in this month's pattern.

After completing this month's block, you should have a total of 4 blocks (we're 1/3 of the way there!) which is enough to make a small project if you aren't able to finish the full quilt...but of course I hope you will!

Bring your block(s) or completed item(s) to an upcoming Show and Tell or maybe you prefer to wait until the end of the year after your entire quilt has been made to reveal the mystery. It will be fun to see everyone's variations on this project.

**Here are this month's links:**

1. [April 2024 Block Pattern](#)
2. [April 2024 Block Video Tutorial](#)  
(and here are all the previous links in case you missed them)
3. [Fabric Requirements for AQL BOM 2024](#)
4. [January 2024 Block Pattern](#) and [January 2024 Block Video Tutorial](#)
5. [February 2024 Block Pattern](#) and [February 2024 Block Video Tutorial](#)
6. [March 2024 Block Pattern](#) and [March 2024 Block Video Tutorial](#)

*As a quick reminder, one of our past speakers, Sherri McConnell of A Quilting Life, has agreed to let us run her mystery BOM as a guild special event this year.*

*Each participant needs to download the pattern from Sherri's website, so the links provided will take you to the blog post where you can find the pattern.*

Please contact Sherry Gendel at [RQGSpecialEvent@gmail.com](mailto:RQGSpecialEvent@gmail.com) with any questions.

## Spring Challenge – "RIVERWALK 30"

Due to the scheduled Philanthropy Sew-in for May and the Guild Party and Rummage Sale for June, the deadline to complete your Spring Challenge project has been moved to the JULY guild meeting.

To commemorate our guild's 30th anniversary, members are invited to create a quilted item (details outlined below). If possible, our collection of 30th anniversary items will be displayed in a location in downtown Naperville to celebrate our guild's milestone anniversary and help build awareness for our guild.

Please help make our display beautiful and eye-catching to the community by participating in the Spring Challenge!

Spring Challenge Theme: **Riverwalk 30**

Challenge Due Date: **July guild meeting, July 9, 2024**

## Challenge Overview:

- Make a quilted item that represents the word "Riverwalk" and the number "30".
- Your interpretation of the word and number do not need to be literal interpretations – get creative if you'd like!
- Makers should be prepared to allow their item to be on display locally for a short period of time after the challenge (dates and location are still TBD)

## Challenge Instructions:

1. Make your quilted item using the guidelines above.
2. If it is not obvious when looking at your item, write a brief explanation of how you interpreted the word "Riverwalk" and the number "30".
3. Bring your completed item and the written explanation to the July guild meeting for display
4. Members will vote for the top 3 entries at the July meeting.
5. Challenge winners will be announced at the August meeting and will receive a prize

**Questions?** Contact Sherry Gendel, Special Events Chair, [RQGSpecialEvent@gmail.com](mailto:RQGSpecialEvent@gmail.com)

QUILTING BEES (Sherry Gendel)	MISC
<p><a href="#">Last Call for Bee Forms!</a></p> <p>Last call for those interested in joining a Bee! We currently have a small handful of Bee Availability Forms that have been turned in. With just a few more we should be able to start two small, new bees – one for daytime and one for evenings/weekends.</p> <p><b>If you are interested in joining a bee</b>, plan to bring your interest form to the April meeting so we can include you! You can complete the Bee Availability Form at the meeting check-in table or you can download the form from our website (in the Forms section of the Home tab).</p> <p>Completed forms can be turned in at the membership check-in table at an in-person meeting or emailed to <a href="mailto:RQGSpecialEvent@gmail.com">RQGSpecialEvent@gmail.com</a>. <i>Please watch for a confirmation email that it has been well-received and reach out to Sherry Gendel directly (contact info in the membership directory) if you don't receive a confirmation.</i></p> <p><b>If you are part of an existing bee that is interested in having new members join your group</b>, please contact Sherry Gendel to share your bee meeting days and times so new bee members can be matched to your group based on their availability to meet.</p>	<p>Do You Own a LongArm Machine?</p> <p>Several members of the Riverwalk Quilters Guild are also members of the Northern Illinois LongArm Guild (NILAG). This guild was established around 2010 for long arm quilters in the Chicago area.</p> <p>We used to meet in person in Wheaton. Then came Covid, and we decided to meet via <b>Zoom</b>. This was a big success, and we have become a virtual guild. We have a member who lives in Quito Ecuador who joins our meetings live and others in Canada, Europe and all over the US.</p> <p>We meet on the <b>second Saturday</b> of every other month at <b>9:30 a.m. Central time--February, April, June, August, October, and December.</b></p> <p>Some of our members quilt for others professionally and others, including me, quilt for ourselves and various charities like Quilts Beyond Borders and Quilts of Valor.</p> <p>We have had live speakers from South Africa, Spain, Canada, and the US. We currently have 94 members.</p> <p>You can check us out online at <a href="http://NILAG.org">NILAG.org</a>. Nancy Sturgeon</p>

**GET TO KNOW YOUR BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

<p><b><u>Julie Milldrum:</u> Rummage Sale.</b></p> <p>Julie has been a member of the guild for about five years. She raised her three kids in Naperville and has lived here for 34 years.</p> <p>She started quilting at age five or six. She was an off-and-on quilter until she visited the National Quilt Museum in Paducah, Kentucky. That visit reinvigorated her interest. At that point she could afford her hobby and has enjoyed it ever since. She mostly sews Lone Star quilts for her Native American friends, but loves everything batik.</p> <p>Julie finished high school in Lincoln, Nebraska. Soon after college she married her husband Dane who was a Marine pilot. He brought them to Naperville by flying with American Airlines and is now retired. She loves to travel, especially to rugged places in Africa.</p> <p>Julie has spent a lot of time in U.S. national parks and on Indian reservations. She is pleased to be involved in such a great group of women who value quilting for all generations and have a true heart for giving generously to all their causes.</p>	<p><b><u>Peggie Getz:</u> June Party.</b></p> <p>Peggie joined the guild about ten years ago. While living in New England, she and the other mothers in her mom's group decided to take a quilting class. She made a quilt-as-you-go sampler and loved it. She enjoys picking out fabrics and especially likes piecing tops.</p> <p>Peggie grew up in St. Louis and graduated from the University of Missouri where she met her husband.</p> <p>Due to his job, she moved around a lot, living in Louisiana, Michigan (twice), Connecticut, and finally here in Illinois.</p> <p>After moving to Naperville, she was hired at Nichols Library to work on Tuesday evenings, preventing her from joining the guild where several of her friends were members. After her hours changed, she joined and has been with us ever since.</p>
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<p><b><u>Deb Obriecht:</u> June Party.</b></p> <p>Deb joined the guild about twenty years ago and has served in many capacities on the board including treasurer, philanthropy, and hospitality.</p> <p>She also recruited vendors for one of our shows. She grew up in Portsmouth, Virginia and ended up in Naperville after marrying her husband, who is from Oak Lawn. They worked for the same CPA firm in the early 1980s, moved to Denver separately—and sparks flew.</p> <p>Deb has a passion for quilting, but particularly favors hand applique. Her grandmother taught her to sew clothes when she was nine. She switched to quilting when her mother started a double wedding ring quilt and was tired of all those circles. Deb finished the quilt and was hooked. (She still has the quilt!)</p>
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NEWSLETTER ADS	FOR SALE
<p>The Riverwalk Quilters Guild newsletter is published monthly.</p> <p>To submit articles for inclusion, contact our RQG Newsletter Chair by the 4th Tuesday of the month.</p> <p>Guild members may place free ads for personal use only.</p> <p>Please make sure the ad is directly related to our shared hobby.</p> <p>If the ad is for a business, Rates are as follows:  <b>Full Page:</b> \$50.00  <b>Half Page:</b> \$25.00  <b>Quarter Page:</b> \$12.50  <b>Eighth Page:</b> \$ 5.00  Full page ad available for a single month only.</p> <p>Make checks out to <b>Riverwalk Quilters Guild</b> and mail to the following address:  Riverwalk Quilters Guild  PO Box 5092  Naperville, IL 60567</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>For Sale</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">New Joy quilt frame (Long arm table only)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Never used</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Fits up to a king size quilt</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Asking \$400 (paid \$1,173)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Contact Liz: 630-253-9657 Lives in Naperville</p>

**2023 – 2024 RQG EXECUTIVE BOARD & COMMITTEE POSITIONS**

POSITION	2023 - 2024 EXECUTIVE BOARD CHAIRS	EMAILS
President	Bev Parker	<a href="mailto:RQGPresident@gmail.com">RQGPresident@gmail.com</a>
Vice President	Mara Gallager	<a href="mailto:RQGVicePresident@gmail.com">RQGVicePresident@gmail.com</a>
Secretary	Mary Saba	<a href="mailto:RQGSecretary@gmail.com">RQGSecretary@gmail.com</a>
Treasurer	Ganga Gubbi	<a href="mailto:RQGTreasurer@gmail.com">RQGTreasurer@gmail.com</a>
POSITION	2023 - 2024 COMMITTEE CHAIRS	EMAILS
Contracts	Nancy Sturgeon	<a href="mailto:RQGContracts@gmail.com">RQGContracts@gmail.com</a>
Holiday Party	Deb Obrecht & Peggie Getz	
Library	Sandy Doubeck & Judy Morgan	<a href="mailto:RQGLibrarian@gmail.com">RQGLibrarian@gmail.com</a>
Membership	Margaret Zitt	<a href="mailto:RQGMembership@gmail.com">RQGMembership@gmail.com</a>
Newsletter	Mary Cieslak	<a href="mailto:RQGNewsletter@gmail.com">RQGNewsletter@gmail.com</a>
Philanthropy	Lisa Klingbeil & Fabric Fondler's Bee	<a href="mailto:RQGPhilanthropy@gmail.com">RQGPhilanthropy@gmail.com</a>
Photo Membership Directory	Margaret Zitt	<a href="mailto:RQGMembership@gmail.com">RQGMembership@gmail.com</a>
Programs	Nancy Sturgeon	<a href="mailto:RQGPrograms@gmail.com">RQGPrograms@gmail.com</a>
Rummage Sale	Julie Milldrum	<a href="mailto:educateread1@gmail.com">educateread1@gmail.com</a>
Small Quilt Auction	Nancy Sturgeon	<a href="mailto:RQGSmallQuiltAuction@gmail.com">RQGSmallQuiltAuction@gmail.com</a>
Social Media (Facebook, Instagram)	Margaret Donahue	<a href="mailto:RQGSocialMedia@gmail.com">RQGSocialMedia@gmail.com</a>
Special Events	Sherry Gendel	<a href="mailto:RQGSpecialEvent@gmail.com">RQGSpecialEvent@gmail.com</a>
Video Communications	Position Open	<a href="mailto:RQGVideoCom@gmail.com">RQGVideoCom@gmail.com</a>
Website	Rosemary Sanza	<a href="mailto:RQGWebsite@gmail.com">RQGWebsite@gmail.com</a>

a/o 8/30/23