



RGVQG News

July 2025

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

President's Threads That Bind

Looking forward, the Queen City Bees taught several participants beginning quilting skills at the Weslaco Library. They also taught a group in Edinburg. There are high hopes most will join the Guild.

The Weslaco Library Sewing class Closing Ceremonies will be July 28th at 10:30 am. Come see the participants' finished projects!

We also have started a "Friends of the Guild" email list. If you know someone who would like to receive three to four emails a year from us, let us know. One email would be about our Quilt Show. On our membership page there is a new sign up sheet or you can call me.

We have requests from two other libraries and another organization to teach beginning skills. Over an 8 week time frame we need teachers for one or two weeks for 2 hours. They would teach a skill, such cutting using a ruler, tips for sewing a straight line, how to make seams match. We also need someone to organize who will teach what and when. This will be an important outreach effort. We want to grow the Guild and we need your help.

Veteran's Day will be here soon and we need MSQ quilts. Our inventory is low.

Our Quilt Show will be here soon too.

Happy stitchin'.
Til later. Diana W

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Military Service Quilts

Rosemary Kramer and Nancy Malmin

There are still a lot to be quilted and finished. Thank you to all who help make this possible. Thank you to all and keep sewing your military tops this summer.

60 X 72 (twin) or 36 X 42 or 46 (wheelchair/lap).

Sunshine and Shadows

by Jackie Landon/Kathe Letulle

Sympathy Cards sent to Carla Mewhinney on the death of her husband, Jim.

Updating the last two months of notes sent: Jani Shoemaker's husband's uncle died in May, Renee Darkis' husband died in late April, Bev Widdows' husband died in late April.

Diana Wolf's husband had successful surgery during the month of June.

If you know of those 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 sunshine@rgvqg.com.

Schoolhouse Classes

by Dale Shafer and Nancy Malmin

Just a reminder that our Schoolhouse Classes will be starting a bit later this Fall. They are usually on the Thursday following the Guild meeting, though there are some exceptions. All classes are held at Pharr South, 1402 S. Cage, Pharr, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. - an entry code is provided for access to the park. Many choose to bring their lunch; however, there are several fast-food options, along with an HEB in the immediate area, if you'd prefer. We will be having some basic classes, some more advanced classes and some that are just for fun - all for a fee of \$20.! Because of copyright laws, patterns are sometimes required - this simply cannot be helped. Sign up is not available yet, but is coming soon. We have a small quilt, some very useful zipper bags, a table topper, a beach hat and a fabric basket in the works, and some of the samples will be at the next Guild meeting. Look forward to seeing you in class!

Membership Information

by Lynne Johnson,

Membership Chair

Current 2025 membership of the Rio Grande Valley Quilt Guild is 243. All membership numbers this year start with the first 3 digits being 250, so if you notice your membership number starts with those numbers you can be confident you're registered.

Thanks to all who have renewed their membership and are reaping the benefits of being in our guild.

Aloysius alligator

Look for me on our webpage! Click on me and



I'll take you to the Members Only page. Remember what I am. I'm also the keeper of the directories. Please add a two-digit year to open a directory.

BYLAWS COMMITTEE

Kathe Letulle, Chair

Thank You All for approving this By-Law Change. This will ensure the growth of our Guild.

RGVQG Guild Meeting - July 12, 2025 Agenda Item

Bylaw 2.04 states: "The Board may propose a change in the amount of the annual dues payable to the Guild by members. All changes in dues shall be voted on by the membership at the annual meeting. Dues are payable on or before January 31st of each calendar year.

The dues for a new member's first year will not be pro-rated."

Motion -

To **REMOVE** the words "at the annual meeting" from the second sentence, and to **REPLACE** the last sentence of Bylaw 2.04 "The dues for a new member's first year will not be prorated." **WITH** "The first-year dues for an individual applying for a NEW guild membership during the months of June through September will be reduced by 50%."

MOTION APPROVED

Standing Rules:

Addition:

MOTION: 15. The annual dues for membership in the Rio Grande Valley Quilt Guild will be \$30.00

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In Memoriam

We want to keep an updated digital slide show that allows us to honor the members who are no longer with us. Please notify Bonnie Hall when you are aware of someone who has passed. She keeps a file of names and obituaries, but she is not always aware of a

death. It does not matter if the person has returned up-North or hasn't been a member recently, we want to remember them. Each of you is the key to making sure no one is left out.

Informational SMS (text) Messages

We will be able to send text messages to all our members after they've paid their 2025 dues. If you haven't paid your 2025 dues, you will not get any text messages from RGVQG. The text messages will be short messages asking you to check your email for additional information, e.g. "Please check your email regarding Saturday's Guild meeting" or "Please check your email regarding this month's Newsletter".

The first text message you get will be like the following: "Please add +1 833-935-5165 to your contacts as RGVQG. These text messages will be from the Rio Grande Valley Quilt Guild."

RGVQG Emails Update

We use the Benchmark bulk email service to send 2-4 emails every month to all our active members.

Benchmark started to use a 'smart sending' feature recently. This feature will occasionally skip sending an email to a recipient that doesn't regularly open their email. They'll skip once then send the next email. People may not receive the Guild Meeting notices with the zoom link.

Please, at least, open any emails you receive from the guild. All of our guild related emails start with RGVQG.

Give with Bing

Another way to support RIO GRANDE VALLEY QUILT GUILD is through Give with Bing Microsoft Rewards lets you support RIO GRANDE VALLEY QUILT GUILD through its Give with Bing program. After signing up and selecting our organization, you can earn rewards points just for searching the web with Bing. Microsoft then turns those points into cash donations to us.

The program is free--you just need to sign up with a Microsoft account. As of May 2021, Microsoft Rewards has donated more than [\$6.5 million] to nonprofits around the world. Join now RIO GRANDE VALLEY QUILT GUILD (Give with Bing)

Microsoft Edge uses Bing. You can also get the Bing app for iPad, iPhone and Android. Please call Bonnie, 740-398-1629, if you need help setting up Give with Bing.

Social Media Expansion

by Laural Powell



We have

expanded our social media presence! For some time, the Guild has had a **closed Facebook group**, as Rio Grande Valley Quilt Guild. This means you must answer some questions and then be allowed into this group.

The Guild Board has voted to keep this group



members only. This is to provide a space for

our members to post and comment where they will know it will only be seen by Guild members.

The Guild Board also understands some may want to share what our guild is doing with their friends. Then others are introduced to our guild through our quilt show and/or community service efforts and want to know more about our guild. So, we created a **Facebook page** at **Rio Grande Valley Quilt Guild Texas**. This page can be viewed and followed by anyone interested in our guild.

Additionally, we have reactivated the Guild's **Instagram account**, which anyone can follow at **Rio Grande Valley Quilt Guild** or @rgvqgtx.

So, now anyone can follow the Guild on our Facebook page and Instagram account, while Guild members can have privacy by joining the Guild's closed Facebook group. If you need help accessing any of these, contact me at joinfb@rgvqg.com.

Friends of the Guild

Now visitors and friends can sign up for more information about the Rio Grande Valley Guild. A link is available on the home page of our website just below the Welcome message.

Limited emails will be sent to these individuals. An initial email will have information on our website, Facebook pages, and how to become a member. An email will be sent just prior to the Quilt Show as a reminder. Possibly an additional one as needed.

Do you know someone or want to share this link with them?

[Become a friend of the Guild](#)



Retreat News

by *Kathe Letulle*

**2026 RETREAT DATES -
New Braunfels, Texas -
John Newcomb Tennis Ranch**

Friendship Star - March 9 to 13, 2026
*Red Polo Shirt - \$30 each -
last date to order is January 15, 2026*

**Bluebonnet Friends - March 15 to 19,
2026**
*Blue Polo Shirt - \$30 each -
last date to order is January 15, 2026*

**Begin signing up on the wait list at any
Guild meeting or contact me at the
information below. Although the retreats
are filled, life happens, and openings
become available.**

At each retreat, one day is specific retreat color shirt day - either red for Friendship or blue for Bluebonnet. Such a sight to see everyone in their retreat color shirts and take a beautiful picture. Be sure to get your shirt ordered if you do not have one....just let me know if you wish to purchase one --- you can catch me at a Guild Meeting, snail mail or at my home.

The Laughter, willingness to assist your fellow quilter goes way beyond the beyond, and the overall positive vibes that radiate at each retreat, make these retreats very special.

Now to begin planning the 11th year we will RETREAT at the John Newcombe Tennis Ranch in New Braunfels, Texas. These folks are such a pleasure to work with for our stay at the "RANCH". Can you believe that we have been going to the RANCH this long! A Grand Experience. BUT JUST REMEMBER - this will also be the 27th Guild Retreat to date.

IF you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Blessings,
Kathe Letulle

1001 Segovia - Mercedes, TX 78570-7100
956-272-2377
retreat@rgvqg.com

Community Service

by *Chris Cowan*

It's great to be part of such a generous group! Remember you can report online or print a donation form to bring to a meeting and/or mail it to me.

We need to update the online site. Please go to the locations by city and see if we need to remove or add locations. Let us know so we can get it up to date. It would be greatly appreciated!

[Click for On-line form.](#)

JULY: 26 items, 157 hours, \$1138.25 value

RGV Quilt Show

By Renee Darkis



Quilt Show Links

The following are links to various quilt show information and forms. They will be updated soon to 2026 information.

Register your Quilt this is the form to register your quilt for the show

Quilt Show Facebook Page

2026 Quilt Registration Categories this is information on the categories for the show

Quilt Preparation Guidelines this helps you prepare your quilt for drop-off

2026 Quilt and Theme Challenges the rules for the Quilt (previous Chair's Choice) Challenge and

the rules for the Theme (previous Challenge) Challenge categories.

Quilt Appraisal Registration the form to get a quilt appraised

Boutique Pledge the form to pledge items for the boutique

Silent Auction Donation the form to donate an item to the silent auction

Quilt Show Committees this is a list of the different quilt show committees, please consider filling a vacant committee position.

Volunteer Registration the form to become a

volunteer for the quilt show (Feb 14-15, 2025) or any quilt show related activities, e.g. showing opportunity quilt, drop-off, pick-up, etc.

Treasurer Report

The June Treasurer's report has been posted to the Members Only page of the Guild's website (rgvqg.com). The treasury has received 106% of the projected annual revenue and projected expenses are currently remaining BELOW expectations.

The Guild's 13-month CD matured on July 6, 2025 at a value of \$21,030.26, and per the RGVQG Board's authorization, was surrendered to allow re-investment in a new 7-month CD which was purchased on July 8th. The Board also authorized the redemption of the guild's Credit Card Cash Rewards valued at \$514.26 to increase the CD purchase price to \$21,544.57 at a rate of 3.93% with an annual yield of 4%, maturing on February 8, 2026.

The 2025 Budget information & the monthly Treasurer's Reports are posted to the guild website's Members Only page. You can view these documents by:

Accessing rgvqg.com.

Click on the "Members Only" tab.

Enter the appropriate password

Scroll down to the bottom of the page

Click on "Treasurer Reports"

Click on the appropriate document

If you have any questions or comments, I can be contacted at:

Cell # 740-398-4142

Email rgvqg.treasurer@gmail.com

Respectfully, Mike Hall

Bee News

Queen City Bees News

The Queen City Bee has been keeping quite busy. We have made a commitment with the Weslaco Library to share our knowledge of quilting with members of the community. This is part of the Weslaco Library Summer Program and ran for 8 weeks. This sewing group at the Weslaco Library will be having a closing ceremony on July 28, 2025, at 10:30 am. All members are encouraged to come and help them celebrate.

We want to thank each and everyone who has come to help on Mondays and Thursdays. We also want to thank you all for the donations, without your generosity these activities would not be possible. Feel encouraged to come by the Weslaco Library on Mondays and/or Thursdays and visit with us.

Scrap Block Draw

by Chris Cowan

On pause until further notice

Programs

By Josie McVey

Thank you for your support of the Program Classes and Lecture Presentations. I am happy to say that 2025 is booked and now starting on 2026. If you have any ideas, suggestions, recommendations for lecture speakers and/or for class instruction, please do not hesitate to let me hear from you. I am committed to contacting whoever you would like to recommend. Praying and believing that all goes well with our speakers

and teachers and that no one will have to cancel a presentation. Please support our Guild classes by signing up. You are bound to learn something however small, make you a better quilter and you will share your time with amazing quilting friends.

On **August 9, 2025** we will have Leanne Parsons, Devoted Quilter from Canada, present a Zoom lecture on What to do with our UFO's!

Inspired by Her annual WIPS-B-GONE Challenge, this 60 minute lecture includes tips and suggestions she has learned for moving our old projects to the finish line. Since almost all quilters' have unfinished projects tucked away somewhere, this lecture will appeal to quilters of all skill levels and styles.

On **September 12, 2025** we will have Barbara Gary, a Judy Niemeyer Paper Foundation Certified Instructor from Albuquerque, New Mexico, teach a class on Tea Time Placemats. Supply list and fee for project are on our webpage.

On **September 13, 2025** we will have Barbara Gary, a Judy Niemeyer Paper Foundation Certified Instructor from Albuquerque, New Mexico, present a lecture to us. The topic will be announced soon.

RGVQG General Meeting Minutes

JULY 12, 2025

Heather Nelson, secretary

Diana Wolf called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

MEMBERSHIP: Today's attendance had 47 people in house and 12 of zoom. We also had 7 guests, 6 of whom joined the guild today. Welcome to our guild. Guild membership is currently 245. There is a quorum of members present today.

PROGRAM: Diana Wolf presented a program today of using the Fibonacci math formula to make your quilts more pleasing to the eye. She showed numerous examples of quilts where Fibonacci had been used. Diana will be teaching a class this spring on applying Fibonacci to quilting.

BYLAW: Kathe Letulle presented the bylaw change to the membership. Carrah Maney made a motion to make the bylaw change as proposed. Edna Butler seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

STANDING RULES: A proposed change to the standing rules was presented by Kathe Letulle for membership approval. Gloria Garcia made a motion to change the standing rules as proposed. Kathe Kratz seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

BYLAWS COMMITTEE

KATHE LETULLE - CHAIR

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TREASURER: Mike Hall presented a 6-month report of guild finances. This week our CD matured and Mike cashed it in and purchased a new 7-month one. See committee reports for complete financial statements. The treasurer's report will be filed for audit.

Programs: Josie and Carmen's Monday sewing group at the Weslaco Library will be having a closing ceremony on July 28, 2025, at 10:30 am. All members are encouraged to come and help them celebrate.

The McAllen library contacted Josie and wishes to work with the guild on setting up a similar sewing class there. Esperanza Rocha expressed an interest in helping in the McAllen/Edinburg area.

Mike Hall was contacted by the church which has expressed an interest in creating a sewing class. We are currently looking for volunteers to oversee organizing these classes.

BUMPER STICKERS: Diana Wolf presented information on Guild bumper stickers to the membership. They will be 4" by 4" with the guild logo and our website information.

Donna Otto made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:20 am. It was seconded by Dale Shafer. The vote was unanimous.

Day 1 Bags

If you would like to participate for next year, let Bonnie Hall or Alyssa Gonzalez know. You can contact Alyssa, **text (best) or call her cell phone at (956) 578-3352** or via email agonzalez@nplexusrgv.com.

Debra Warner(This is an article written by Debi for Quilting Hub!)

Should I Have My Quilt Appraised?

Written appraisals are required if you are going to send your quilt to an on-the-road quilt show or one of the major national shows but for the average quilter, what is the value of a quilt appraisal?

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Should I Have My Quilt appraised?

"If you don't have a written appraisal and something happens to the quilt, your insurance will only give you the cost of a blanket from a big box store." We've all heard this statement when planning for a quilt show that will offer the services of a certified appraiser. Generally, this is true.

But my first experience with a quilt appraiser was so much more! The appraiser asked so many good questions about my quilt. It really made me think that I should probably be recording some of this information even if I don't plan to have a certain quilt appraised. For example, she asked what batting was used in the quilt. Over time, this would be helpful to know.

She also asked about the origin of the fabric and KNEW when I wasn't complete in my answer. She told me that some of the fabric was older than what I had purchased. Oh yeah, some of it came from my mother's stash. I forgot about that.

Here are some things that you might not know about appraisals that might be helpful to you.

There are standards that quilt appraisers follow. Quilt appraisers are well educated and are certified by professional organizations. If you are curious, you can research this information.

Be aware that a retail associate at an antique store is probably not certified. Also, if the person offers to purchase the quilt, you most likely aren't dealing with a certified appraiser as this violates their ethics.

The appraiser will need to see the quilt in person. A photograph will not tell the appraiser enough about the fabric and the workmanship.

There is more than one way to appraise a quilt. Just as in real estate, some are valued at the fair market price. That means the value assigned is the same as that for which a similar quilt has sold. This method means that you may be able to purchase a similar item for the specified amount. The comparable quilts would be similar in pattern and fabric. These quilts may not appraise for as much as the owner might wish, but certainly more than a big box store blanket.

Fair market value is the only method available for vintage and antique quilts.

Another method is reconstruction of a similar quilt. This method might be used when a quilt is unique in idea, construction, etc. These quilts generally have no market equivalent and might appraise at a higher value than expected.

Labor-intensive design elements used in reconstruction would increase the replacement price.

Due to the above, an appraisal should be done every three to five years. Let's face it, times change.

A history of quilt sales by a quilter would also be taken into consideration. Sales receipts for such sales should be given to the appraiser.

A complete description of the quilt, including photographs, measurements, and the appraiser's workmanship comments are included with the appraisal.

Today's Internet feed contained a photo of a quilt recovered after the tornadoes in Tennessee. Luckily, the quilt was in pristine condition. The finders are trying to return the quilt to the rightful owner. An appraisal document would most certainly establish the ownership of such a treasure.

Asking the question, "Should you have your quilt appraised?" The answer is:

What if your children found your great grandmother's quilt carefully stored in your attic? Would they value it? Would they treat it differently if a certified appraisal statement was packed with it? I think we know the answer is, "Yes!"





The Copp Family's Framed Center Pieced Quilt (42" x 42") by Blair W. Mahan

Framed Center/Medallion Quilts showcases 45 works from the American Quilt Study Group. In the 2021 Biennial Quilt Study, AQSG members were challenged to study a Medallion quilt and create their own original work inspired by it. The "inspiration" quilts range from the 18th-20th centuries. Some of the new quilts might be mistaken for the originals, while others are a fresh take on a classic look.

"Framed or Medallion quilts have been a favorite of quilters for over 200 years. It's lovely to see contemporary interpretations of these classic Medallion quilts, especially in a manageable size." Mangum adds. **This exhibit is sponsored by the Lucille Gaebler Klein Fund.**

Finally, **Rebound-Renew-Reimagine** displays 19 quilts from the Manhattan Quilters Guild. For many members, the enforced isolation of the Covid-19 pandemic had brought deep reflection and new experimentation with previous techniques and materials. The decision was made to create quilts with titles that begin with a "re," which often carries such meanings as "again and again" and suggests a look backward while moving forward.

"Open yourself to the art that these quilts possess. Some artists included are Ludmilla Aristova, Rachael Dorr, Paula Nadelstern, and Victoria Findlay Wolfe," Mangum says. "This show demonstrates the power of hard times in the hands of dedicated artists. They translated their experiences of loss and grief and separation into artwork that makes us feel revived."



Recrystallize (40" x 49") by Iris Gowen/Photo by Adi Taiwar

Visit **The Texas Quilt Museum Store Online** to purchase fabric, patterns, books, T-shirts, one-of-a-kind jewelry and craft items, and more at www.texasquiltmuseum.com/store

The Texas Quilt Museum is located at 140 W. Colorado St., La Grange, Texas 78945. Hours are 10 am-4 pm Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays. For more information, visit www.TexasQuiltMuseum.org. Also see us on Facebook, Instagram, X, and Threads!