



# RGVQG News

September 2025

Rio Grande Valley Quilt Guild, P.O. Box 32, Weslaco, TX 78599 - [rgvqg.com](http://rgvqg.com)

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## President's Threads That Bind

The end of the year draws nearer. Time seems to speed up as this year draws to an close.

In any organization, 20 % of the people do 80 % of the work. We have some position open now, and several

Some people on our Board carry more than one area of responsibility, such as Community Service and Newsletter both done by one person. There are other examples. The Board includes all Guild officers and all Guild chairs. We need more people filling positions. At one time, we did not have a Historian for several years.

There is a vacancy now, and several chairs have announced they are stepping aside at the end of December.

A best practice for any volunteer organization to have a Vice Chair, a type of understudy, to the Chair. The knowledge you gain helps make transition smoother.

To learn what committee suits your skills and desires, attend a Board meeting. You are not appointed or elected just by attending. Anyone can, any month. Just contact the President so the link can be sent to you.

Meet more people, help our great group, and make a positive impact in our community.

And sew it goes.

Happy stitchin'.  
Til later. Diana W

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## Sunshine and Shadows

by Jackie Landon/Kathe Letulle

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](mailto:sunshine@rgvqg.com).

## Military Service Quilts

Rosemary Kramer and Nancy Malmin

A special thank you to the people that took the 7 bundled items that needed quilting. We have given out 28 quilts these last few months that has depleted our cupboard.

We gave out 18 kits for rail fence squares consisting of 2 1/2 " x 6 1/2" strips of red, white and blue fabric. Sew white in the middle.

If you can cut or bring your scraps of red, white and blue fabric to the next few meetings we can make more kits. Solids and prints are welcome.

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## 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.

We think you'll have a lot of fun in all of these classes!

October 16<sup>th</sup> - **Tiny Treat Bags**, by Dale Shafer  
The little Halloween bags are so cute, and can be used as decorations or be given to your little great-grandkids. Think other holiday fabrics, too.

November 20<sup>th</sup> - **Hemingway Pouches**, by Kris Driscoll and Anita Schmidt  
The Hemingway Pouches (2 sizes in our class) are so useful - one for eyeglasses, rotary cutter, telephone, etc. the other for an iPad or several notebooks. Use your most striking fabrics for these.

December 18<sup>th</sup> - **Magic Scrappy Quilt**  
The Magic Quilt will amaze you! There is a chart to follow on the website. The "Square size" is the size of the center of the quilt you will have before you add a border or borders. Just pick the size you want - most are for table toppers, baby quilts or wall hangings, but the largest sizes will make lap quilts. Once you pick the size you want, pick the size of the squares you need to use, from the first column. Just cut these squares and bring to class - 32, 50 or 72. Please call me if you have any questions.

# Membership Information

by Lynne Johnson,

Membership Chair

I want to thank everyone for your efforts in recruiting and bringing guests to the Guild meetings for 2025. We had 10 new members join since the last newsletter, which brings a total of 270 members for 2025.

We now get to enjoy getting new and old members to sign up for 2026.

Looking forward to lots of fun, new and old faces, classes and speakers. It is going to be a great year for our Guild!

All membership numbers this year start with the first 3 digits being 250, so if 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.

### Members Only page -

The Members Only page is protected by password. Aloysius alligator is the keeper of the password for the page and the directories. The Members Only page contains the following information:

- Directory
  - Current
  - Past

- Class Registrations Information
- Board Meeting Minutes
- Library Books
- Patterns
- Retreats
- RGVQG Bee Information
- Rio Grande Valley Quilt Guild
  - BYLAWS
  - Standing Rules
  - Treasurers Reports

## BYLAWS And STANDING RULES COMMITTEE

Kathe Letulle, Chair

At the Guild General Business Meeting in November 2025, you, the membership will be asked to vote on the Proposed Guild By-Laws and Standing Rules. These proposed changes have been approved by your Board. This task is done every 2 years.

For your convenience, the links for the Draft of the Proposed By-Laws and Standing Rules changes have been added to the Guild Website at the very bottom of the Members Only Page. This information will also be on the Guild Facebook page as well as the Guild Newsletter. If you do not know the password for the Guild Website, please either email me as stated below, text or phone at (956-272-2377)

The Committee - Mike Hall, Donna Otto, Josie McVey, Carmen Avila, David Lerma and I are asking that each of you READ (several times if necessary and not scan or speed read) the proposed By-Laws and Standing Rules. If you have any concerns, please identify the data area (e.g. BL Article 3, 5.02 or SR Section 2, Number 4) then list your concern with a suggested revision and reasoning for the change. Email

this to me at [quilterstntkorner@gmail.com](mailto:quilterstntkorner@gmail.com) by September 8, 2025. Remember that the By-Laws are not to be restrictive so be sure to refer to the Standing Rules as that is where the further definition of the By-Law is found. Please compare the two to ensure that your concern may be answered.

There will be an email sent to all members, with the compiled concerns reference link, so that everyone will be on the same page for a full discussion. This discussion will be an agenda item at the Guild Meeting on September 13, 2025.

You, the members of the Guild, are the governing body and with By-Laws and Standing Rules, we can view the future of the Guild in a positive manner.

Thank you in advance.

## Education Outreach Program

The Education Outreach Committee is excited to partner with the Palmview Library in McAllen to bring the art of sewing and quilting to the community! Our dedicated volunteers are doing an amazing job guiding participants in creating beautiful projects, and the enthusiasm has been infectious. We're hosting two classes each month until December, so there's plenty of opportunity to join in on the fun!



If you have any sewing notions or fabric that you'd like to donate to the Library we'd be thrilled to accept your generous contributions! Simply reach out to one of our wonderful volunteers: Kris Driscoll, Esperanza Rocha, Kathleen Stevens, Sue Tennyson, Alta Garcia Carreon or Florea Flores—and we'll gladly deliver your donations to the library.

Let's come together to keep the creativity flowing! Thank you, Gloria Garcia for taking our pictures and Carmen Avila for sharing her sewing machines.

Happy Volunteering,  
Florea Flores

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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 to 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](mailto:joinfb@rgvqg.com).

# Retreat News

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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 11<sup>th</sup> 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 27<sup>th</sup> 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@rgvqq.com](mailto:retreat@rgvqq.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](#)

## Community Service

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

**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!

**September No reports submitted.**

# 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 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

### **Mission Bee**



Velma is an incredible member of the Mission Bees, and she's truly taken her learning to exhilarating new heights! I can't wait to see the amazing things she'll accomplish with the bird! The anticipation is thrilling!

### **Fiber Arts Bee**

Join us for an exhilarating experience at the Fiber Arts Bee, happening on the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month at the Upper Valley Fiber Arts in Mission! Dive into a world of creativity and challenge yourself with thrilling projects. Don't miss out on the fun—come unleash your imagination and craft something amazing with us!

# Scrap Block Draw

by Chris Cowan

On pause until further notice

## Programs

By Josie McVey

Thank you for your support of our Program Classes. Please continue to take classes, we will certainly learn something new at every class, but most important is that it will brighten your day to be around your quilting friends.

If you have any ideas for 2026 please send them my way.

Friday, October 17, 2025 - Joy Paugh -



T Shirt Quilt Class

Saturday, October 11

More info on [rgvqq.com](http://rgvqq.com)

November 8, 2025 - Lorelai Kuecker

Pigs in a Blanket on Zoom!

"Stitch by Stitch: A Youth Quilting Journey!"

Guild members may bring your daughter(s) and/or granddaughter(s) to listen to this inspirational speaker.

Friday, December 12, 2025 - Regina Earley -

Scrappy Applique Class - Fast, Fun and Forgiving Workshop.

Saturday, December 13, 2025 - Regina Earley - Lecture & Trunk Show

# RGVQG General Meeting Minutes

By Heather Nelson, secretary

SEPTEMBER 13, 2025

Diana Wolf called the meeting to order at 9:00 am Saturday, September 13, 2025.

Josie McVey introduced our speaker, Barbara Grey and her assistant Phoebe. Barbara's trunk show contained many beautiful examples of her quilts using Judy Neimeyer techniques and patterns.

**Point of note:** Kathe Letulle stated that in the upcoming future many of the committees will be needing some new members. We would like to encourage all members to consider volunteering.

**SECRETARY:** August minutes approved and filed in archives.

**MEMBERSHIP:** today 12 members were on Zoom. We had 4 guests and 64 in person. We added 10 new members this month.

**COMMUNITY SERVICE:** no change

**PROGRAMS:** complete until December. There may be the possibility of a monthly quilt.

**QUILT SHOW:** pick up your tickets for the opportunity quilt. Volunteers are needed to take the opportunity quilt out in public such as at Sam's Club.

**NOMINATIONS:** Candidates for office are Kathe Letulle, president, Heather Nelson, secretary, and Josie McVey-programs

**UPPER VALLEY BEEKEEPER:** Florea Flores has resigned as upper valley beekeeper.

**LOWER VALLEY BEEKEEPER:** nothing new  
**LIBRARY:** you can check out books from the guild library on the website. They will be brought to the next guild meeting

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** nothing new

**FRIENDS OF THE GUILD:** nothing new

**MILITARY SERVICE:** could use more batting  
**WEBMASTER:** nothing new, Bonnie Hall reminded everyone about the website password.

**SCHOOLHOUSE:** October-Halloween mini treat bag  
November-Hemingway pouch  
December-magic quilt

If you have any questions, call Dale Shafer

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Garage sale will be in March, probably at the church.

We are participating in a program to make quilts for foster children. The due date is February 28.

Read the changes to the bylaws and be sure to send any question to Kathe Letulle. Lynne Johnson made the motion to adjourn, and Gloria Garza seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully  
Heather Nelson secretary

## 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](mailto:agonzalez@nplexusrgv.com).

**Optimum size needed 50x70. Bonnie has committed us for 15 quilts.**

## 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?

Witten 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?

### 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!"

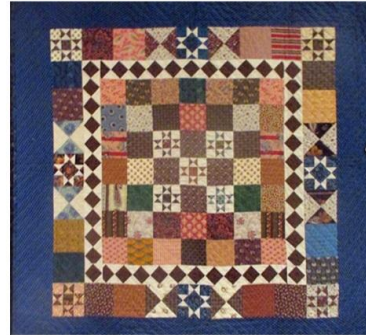


100% Cotton Fabric  
Cotton and Wool Batting  
Notions

1001 Segovia  
Llano Grande RV Resort  
Mercedes, TX 78570  
(956) 272-2377  
quilterstntkorn@gmail.com  
Kathie Letulle - Owner

Quilters  
This N That  
Korner  
Mercedes, Texas

Call for an appointment



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

**Framed Center/Medallion Quilts** showcase works from the American Quilt Study Group's 2021 Biennial Quilt Study. At the 2021 Biennial Quilt Study, AQSG members were challenged to study a Medallion quilt and create their own original work inspired by it. "Inspiration" quilts range from the 18th to the 21st centuries. Some of the new quilts might be mistaken for the originals, while others offer a fresh take on a classic look.

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

Finally, **Rebound-Renew-Reimagine** displays 19 quilts from the Manhattan Quilters Group. For many members, the enforced isolation of the Covid-19 pandemic had brought reflection and new experimentation with previous techniques and materials. The exhibit was made to create quilts with titles that begin with a "re," which often carries 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, 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](http://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](http://www.TexasQuiltMuseum.org). Also see us on Facebook, Instagram, X, and Threads!