



RGVQG News

October 2025

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

President's Threads That Bind

The only constant in life is change. At our November meeting, we will change our Bylaws and Standing Rules. Please read them and be ready to ask questions and vote. Additionally, we will be electing three officers.

Planning for our Quilt Show is at full steam. There are still plenty of opportunities for volunteers. The boutique needs items to sell. And finish your quilts because Mike and his team want to hang them all over the hall at the show. More of our North friends are drifting back to the Valley and the Bees are buzzing. We will be having a Friendship Day in February. Grab some of your friends so we can show them how much fun the Guild can be.

Still stitchin' along.
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.



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.

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!

November 20th - **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 18th - **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 again for your efforts in recruiting and bringing guests to the Guild meetings. We ended 2025 with 270 members, which was up from 234 in 2024 and 239 in 2023. We are already starting off 2026 with a bang with 7 new members. We have lots of great things planned for 2026 so don't miss out. Join, renew, or return today!

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 November 8, 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. 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.

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.

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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.

Happy Volunteering,
Florea Flores

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.

Guild Emails -

The guild webmaster usually sends out two emails a month

- RGVQG Newsletter (after the meeting)
- RGVQG Meeting Notice (Thursday before the meeting)

Both emails are sent from bonniemhall@rgvqg.com.

Please put this email in your contact list. This will help to direct the emails to your inbox instead of sending them to spam or junk.

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](#)

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.

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@rgvqq.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. [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!

October 10 items. 10 hrs, \$72.50 value.

RGV Quilt Show

By Renee Darkis

Quilt show news:

I am excited that we already have \$1000 in opportunity quilt ticket sales! The quilt is beautiful and I thank Carla Mewhinney, Lila Helm and Judi Swanda for their help in making this quilt. It is a king size. The second-place lap quilt has a cozy flannel backing for those "cold" Texas nights. Third place is a great cork fabric duffel bag made by Lila and Carla. It is great to have friends! Be sure to get your tickets.

Challenge news:

The baby/youth quilt challenge is going to be a special exhibit at the show. These will all be donated to charities. I have challenged the Guild members to one quilt per person. That means we should have 250 or more quilts. Won't that be a sight to see! These quilts (and only these quilts) do not need hanging sleeve or a label, only the number for the quilt when you register. Speaking of registration please start entering them online now so we can get an idea of how much space we will need. My goal is to have the exhibit brimming with quilts. I know this group can do it.

Special Help needed for quilt show:

We are going to send a text message to everyone who purchases a quilt ticket to remind them about the show. I hope this will boost attendance. The kicker is I will need someone or some people to enter the phone numbers in a spreadsheet. This won't be hard, just entering numbers but it may take a while. If you want something to keep your hands busy so you can't snack at night consider this job. Let me, Renee or Bonnie Hall know if you can help.

Quilt show decision to be made in November:

As you know the show is a fund raiser for the Guild. We also had last year over 200 people registered as volunteers. That is a huge cost to the guild. At the last meeting there was a great discussion of how to stop this loss. So, we have some scenarios for you to consider and to vote on at the next meeting.

Option 1- Do nothing, costing us about \$1000 in profits.

Option 2- Have a workers report at the end of the day. Those who did not work or show up will be billed the price of show entry.

Option 3- Workers pay show entry.

Option 4- Workers pay a reduced show entry of \$10 for both days of the show or \$5 for one day.

I am sure there are some hybrids of these options which can be discussed at the next meeting. I know we all want the show to be successful so we may continue to have national speakers and programs at our meetings. Please consider this carefully and be prepared to discuss at the November meeting.

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

Mike Hall, Treasurer

Treasury Info!!

The September 2025 Treasurer's Report & the proposed 2026 Budget information have been posted to the guild website's Members Only page. The proposed 2026 Budget has been approved by the board and will be presented at the November Annual meeting for membership approval. You can view these documents by:

Accessing rgvqq.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 rgvqq.treasurer@gmail.com or treasurer@rgvqq.com

Scrap Block Draw

by Chris Cowan

On pause until further notice

Bee News

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!

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.

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

ATTENTION GUILD MEMBERS:

Below is the link to the October Guild Meeting recording. In this recording, the photos of **Kay Dombe's beautiful quilts** are shown but the sound of the presentation is scratchy.

LINK: [GMT20251011-](#)

[140029 Recording 1686x720.mp4](#)

RGVQG General Meeting Minutes

By Heather Nelson, secretary

OCTOBER 11, 2025

Diana Wolf called the meeting to order at 9:00 am October 11, 2025.

Kathe Letulle introduced speaker Kate Dombi who presented a trunk show of her beautiful work.

After break Diana Wolf presented information about the church's charity project of filling shoeboxes with gifts.

Diana made a plea to the members to fill vacant committee positions and gave a reminder that we are signed up to provide quilts for the children aging out of foster care.

SECRETARY-no additions or corrects and they are filed

TREASURER'S REPORT-Mike Hall reviewed the current months budget. He presented the 2026 proposed budget both of which can be viewed on the guild website.

MEMBERSHIP-today's attendance 50 members in house, 12 on zoom with 2 guests. We have seven new members for 2026 and renewals for 2026 are now open.

PROGRAMS-October's class will be t-shirt quilts presented by Joy Paugh. Garage sale will be held in March.

QUILT SHOW-Show t-shirts are now available. Renee Darkis reminded us to participate in both show challenges. We were advised that Committee chairs will receive a list showing the names and times of the volunteers. Volunteers are to check in with committee chairs.

Mary Camp made a motion that everyone pay to get into the show. Jan Bathke seconded the

motion. Discussion ensued and the motion failed. Mary Camp made a motion to table this issue until further discussion can be had. Kathe Letulle seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Bonnie Hall could use help entering phone numbers in a spreadsheet to contact raffle ticket purchasers.

HOSTESS-thanks to Nancy Boyer for stepping in as hostess today.

MILITARY SERVICE-thank you to Dale Shafer for making kits for military service quilts and thanks to those who turned the kits into quilts. Currently two quilts need quilting.

RETREAT-still taking names on the waiting list

SCHOOLHOUSE-Dale Shafer has added another bag size to the Halloween mini bag class.

WEBMASTER-put Bonnie Hall in your contacts to stop your guild emails ending up in Spam. Reminder of the password for the members only account.

Reminder that bees can use the guild account.

BYLAWS-please read the standing rules and bylaws.

NOMINATION COMMITTEE-Elections will be held in November. Debbie Genette announced that elections will be December 8th and you will be voting for president, secretary and programs. There were no nominations from the floor. The nomination for president will be Kathe Letulle, for secretary Heather Nelson and for Programs Josie McVey.

Friendship day will be held Jan. 24th at the First Nazarene Church of Harlingen. It will be starting at 9 am till whenever. Edna Butler has agreed to host the event.

Carrah Maney donated 30 dog beds this month. Edna Butler made a motion to adjourn. Kathe Letulle seconded.

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.

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?

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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!"

100% Cotton Fabric
Cotton and Wool Batting
Notions
 1001 Segovia
 Llano Grande RV Resort
 Mercedes, TX 78570
 (956) 272-2377
 quilterstntkorners@gmail.com
 Kathie Letulle - Owner
 Call for an appointment
 Mercedes, Texas



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!

Piecemakers By the Bay Quilt Guild Pieces of Paradise



- * Vendors
- * Guild Country Store
- * Famous Scrap Dive
- * Door Prizes
- * Opportunity Quilt Raffle
- * Silent Auction
- * Quilt Exhibits

Friday 8-5
Saturday 8-4

January 30th and 31st, 2026
Friday and Saturday 10 am to 5 pm
First Presbyterian Church
301 Texas Business North
Rockport, Texas
Admission \$10

2026
Opportunity
Quilt



piecemakersbythebay.org
Facebook: Piecemakers By The Bay Quilt Guild Group