

Riverwalk Quilters Guild

Volume XXIII Issue 7 January 2017

President's Message Cheryl Sleboda rqqpresident@gmail.com

Time flies when we are having fun, right? Another year has passed and we are already into 2017! Each year brings the promise of all new goals and projects we want to start. I may have shared this with you before, but did you know my quilting career started on a New Year's resolution? Well, it did. I wanted to work more often in my quilt studio, so I started a "small quilt a week" project. That was in 2007. 10 years ago! By the time I stopped in 2011 I had made over 250 mini quilts, one a week. By then, my blog posts about each of them started to take off on the internet, and I was asked to write articles for Quilting Arts about some of the techniques I was using. The rest is, as they say, history. But it all started with a little resolution to work on quilting more. What are your goals for 2017 for quilting? Whether it's to finish a project, start something new, make more quilts, or perfect a skill, I wish you all the best for the year to come!

Cheryl

What to Bring January 10

- Name Tags
- Treats if you signed up and favorite mug
- Philanthropy Items

January 10, 2017 Holiday Party "An Evening in Paris"

Come and enjoy an "Evening in Paris", the theme for our annual guild members holiday party, on January 10, 2017! The evening begins at 6:30 pm, a bit earlier than our usual meeting, with a pot luck buffet starting at 7:00 pm. This year the guild will be providing the main course ~ fried chicken. We respectfully request members bring a dish to share as follows:

Last name S- Z: apéritif (appetizer)
 J - R: plat d'accompagnement
 (side dish)
 A - I: dessert

Following dinner, we will enjoy a performance of THE BEDQUILT, performed by professional actress Michèle LaRue.



As is our tradition, a donation of a non-perishable food item, toiletry or paper product for Loaves and Fishes would be gratefully appreciated!

J'espère te voir!

Doreen Tout

Dorothy Canfield Fisher's **The Bedquilt** follows the suspenseful journey of an unlikely heroine: Aunt Mehetabel is a downtrodden, elderly spinster, taken for granted by her New England family. Otherwise unskilled, she is "clever in the way of patching bedquilts." Mehetabel grows throughout the story, winning admiration and finding self-respect, as she painstakingly devotes herself to the realization of her ideal: "a pattern beyond which no patchwork quilt could go."

The Bedquilt, written by Canfield Fisher in 1906, is introduced by the gleeful account of **A Quilting Bee in Our Village**, penned by Mary E. Wilkins Freeman, eight years earlier. In Freeman's little town, good food, gossip, and games make a successful bee—it's not just about the sewing. LaRue concludes the program with Fisher's surprising description of how she wrote **The Bedquilt**.

LaRue, who specializes in tales from America's Gilded Age, creates a dozen distinctive characters in her energetic and empathetic performance of **The Bedquilt** and **Bee**. Stories from this period return us to a time when literature was written "for the ear," she explains, continuing: "Before radio, family and friends made their own home entertainment—reading aloud by flickering candle, kerosene lamp, and gaslight. Today, only the lighting has changed: adult audiences still hang on every word. Despite TV and films, the Internet and special effects, we still crave simply to listen to a tale well told."

LaRue has twice presented **The Bedquilt** at the invitation of the American Quilter's Society International Quilt Show and Conference. "You had the audience in your command," declared her host: "We could have heard a pin drop as they listened to your every word." In Seattle, last year, audiences exclaimed, "I was spellbound!" and, "Riveting—twice—I would love to hear it again!"

The **Bedquilt** and of **A Quilting Bee in Our Village** are two of thirty stories in LaRue's repertoire of vintage *TALES WELL TOLD*.

She has performed these, collectively, in 400 venues, from Massachusetts to Washington State. A Chicago native, she has made her home in the New York City suburbs for . . . a very long time. **LaRue** is a member of both actors' unions—Actors' Equity and SAG-AFTRA—and a much-published theatre writer and book editor.

Dorothy Canfield Fisher (1879 – 1958), has been called "one of the most popular and engaging American writers of the first half of the twentieth century." She wrote more than forty books, including translations and nonfiction, as well as novels and short-story collections.

Mary Eleanor Wilkins Freeman (1852 – 1930) spent most of her life in Randolph, Massachusetts. The people she knew and the scenes witnessed there form the background for most of her tales of New England rural life.

February 14, 2017
Valli Schiller
"My Life in Quilt Years"

"MY LIFE IN QUILT YEARS" LECTURE is a trunk show of approximately 20 of Valli's bed and wall quilts and the stories behind them. Her style ranges from traditional to contemporary, with an emphasis on innovative machine techniques. Quilters of all abilities will be encouraged and inspired as Valli shares her life in quilts.

Valli Schiller started sewing as a child and shows no signs of stopping any time soon. She's been making quilts since 1990, right around the time she discovered rotary cutters and computerized sewing machines. She's an avid machine stitcher who loves experimenting with new techniques and sharing them with others.

Valli's quilts are exhibited nationally and have won multiple awards, including blue ribbons at the IQA judged show in Houston and the AQS judged show in Paducah. Her Mille Fleurs quilt was featured on the cover of Quilter's Newsletter magazine. Her Common Threads quilt was a finalist in the 2007 \$100,000 Quilting Challenge.

Valli lives in Naperville, Illinois. She's a member of the Riverwalk Quilters' Guild, the Pride of the Prairie Quilters, and the Professional Art Quilt Alliance.

Programs March- June 2017

March 14, 2017

Maggie Weiss

"The Sacred Feminine in Fiber"

April 11, 2017

Philanthropy Sew- In

May 9, 2017

Lisa Binkley

"Adding Sparkle & Texture to your Quilts"

Workshop: May 10

Bead Embroidered Mini Quilts

June 13, 2017

Susan Cleveland of Pieces Be with You

Lecture TBA

Workshop June 14 TBA

RQ Inventory

We are establishing a list of all supplies and equipment currently owned by our Guild. We know that many of our members have kindly stored items at their homes. Please email the Secretary, Lenore Hrejsa, if you have any items to add to the list of inventory. The list would include irons, ironing boards, quilt racks, suitcases, decorations, tablecloths, etc.

Thank You!

Hospitality Tracy Husch-Lissak & Sandy Alfaia rqghospitality@gmail.com

The January meeting begins at 6:30 pm with a pot luck buffet starting at 7:00 pm. This year the guild will be providing the main course ~ fried chicken. We respectfully request members bring a dish to share as follows:

Last name	S- Z:	appetizer
	J - R	side dish
	A - I	dessert

Finally, a reminder to bring your favorite mug for coffee, tea or water.

Thank you!

Sandy Alfaia & Tracy Husch-Lissak

Membership Yvette Thorn & Linda Kurcz rqgmembership@gmail.com

Fifty-seven (57) members and 7 guests weathered the cold to attend our December meeting. Welcome new member, Tina Orlita, who joined the Guild at the meeting. The Membership total is now 107 members.

Linda

Library News
Carol Rubek & Judy Long
rqqlibrarian@gmail.com

We are looking for suggestions for books we might order for our library. Please send suggested book titles to:

carolrubeck@gmail.com
jemb@sbcglobal.net

Thank you so much

Philanthropy
Lucy Blasi & Kathleen Curtis
rqqphilanthropy@gmail.com

We have an idea for the April Sew In. Scrappy Larger Blocks using 2 ½ strips. Pieced together Rail Fence pattern. This will allow us to create larger quilt tops for Edwards Hospital. Finished block size and more info to come once we finalize our plan so Stay tuned.....

We received a large donation from a non-member, Kathy Kotowski who contacted us through our web site. She is moving and needed to downsize her fabric stash. Her donation was 6 kitchen size garbage bags full of beautiful fabric. WOW! She was super excited that her fabric will be used for our guild's charity sewing.

At the January Holiday party, we will not have a table set up for Philanthropy but we will gladly accept any donation you may have ready.

At the December Meeting the following is what we received from Members:

Quilt Tops
 Nancy Lindberg 5
 Camille Padilla 1

Quilts
 Tracy Husch-Lissak -2
 Judy Long -1
 Linda Yokelson -1
 Susan & Celest Akre- 8

Bird House Squares
 Rosemary Sanza – 1

Stuffed Frogs
 Judy Kanarek - 8

Fabric Stash Contribution
 Tracy Husch-Lissak – 22 yards
 Grace Community Church Quilt Group - one large bag

The following members have helped with finishing work:

Judy Long	Binding – 1 Quilt to Bind
Nancy SturgeonQuilting	– 4 Quilts returned
Nancy Lindberg	Binding – 1 Quilt returned
	Binding – took 1
Quilt to finish	
Linda Yokelson	Binding – 1 Quilt returned
	Binding – took 1
Quilt to finish	
Donna Millican	Binding - 1 Quilts returned
	Binding – took 2
Quilts to finish	
Camille Padilla	Binding – 1 Quilt returned
	Binding – took 1
Quilt to finish	
Sandy Bray	Quilting – took 2
Quilts to finish	
Mary Walschot	Binding – took 1 Quilt to finish
Carol Rubeck	Binding – took 1 Quilt to finish
Tina Orlita	Binding – took 1
Quilt to finish	
Leesa Jump	Binding – took 1
Quilt to finish	

As always, if we have missed anyone we are very sorry.

Thank you to all for your help with Philanthropy Sewing and for all you do to support us.

Special Events
Sue Damitz, Darlene Ebel and
Nancy Ebel
rqqspecialevents@gmail.com

**Member's Subsidize Sewing
Retreat – February 25, 2017**

Please join us on Saturday, February 25th, 2017 for a guild's member subsidize sewing retreat from 8:00 to 4:30. We are holding the retreat in our usual meeting room at the church. While we are still looking at the room layout, we know that 40 - 50 of us will fit. We had 14 signups at the November meeting, so there is still plenty of spaces for you to join in the fun. The signup cutoff will be at the January 2017 meeting or when we hit 50 people whichever comes first.

The cost to attend is \$10.00 which will cover a lunch box and holds a spot for you and is non-refundable. The following drinks will be provided: bottle water, coffee, ice tea, and hot tea that day.

Each of you will get a 6 foot or share a 10 foot table for your sewing area. In addition, the following areas will be available for all to use: layout, cutting, ironing, and lunch area. Due to possible wiring overload because of the power that irons take, we will be providing 5 - 6 ironing stations and request that you not use your own iron at your sewing station. To add to the excitement of the day, there will be door prizes provided.

This will be a day for you to sew on your projects. Philanthropy is willing to provide kits if any of you want to sew charity quilts. Let us know if you would like a kit so that we are sure there are enough kits available. Come sign up at the December meeting and join us for a day filled with quilting!

Sue Damitz

**Upcoming Midwest and Local
Events**

February 2-4, 2017: Bill Kerr from Modern Quilt Studio is lecturing and teaching.

March 204, 2017: Linda M. Poole lectures and teaches on whole cloth painting and applique techniques.

May 6-8, 2016 Nancy Mahoney lectures and teaches two workshops on her paper piecing a pineapple block with a twist, in three sizes, and Granny's Squares.

Each artist has class limits. Full information is found at illinoisquilters.com.
Martha Ross-Mockaitis, IQI
mrossmockaitis@gmail.com

Speaker Highlights from our December Meeting



Website
 Kathleen Pallardy
rqqwebsite@gmail.com

If you need something added or changed on the website www.riverwalkquilters.com, please email Kathleen Pallardy at the rqqwebsite@gmail.com

Advertising rates are based on one month's issue. Ads must be prepaid and received by the Editor by 4th Tuesday of each month.

Full Page \$50.00 * Half Page \$25.00
 Quarter Page \$12.50 Eighth Page \$ 5.00

*Full page ad available for single month only.

The Riverwalk Quilters Guild newsletter is published monthly. To submit articles for inclusion, contact the editor at rqqnewsletter@gmail.com by 4th Tuesday of the month.

Website: www.riverwalkquilters.com

Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/Riverwalk>

Riverwalk Quilters Guild meetings

- 2nd Tuesday, 7:00 pm

Grace United Methodist Church

300 E Gartner Road, Naperville, IL

RQG Board meetings – 4th Tuesday, 7:00 pm

Grace Church

Riverwalk Quilters Guild
 2016-2017 Board & Committees

President	Cheryl Sleboda
Vice President	Bev Parker
Secretary	Lenore Hrejsa
Treasurer	Vicky Laws
Programs/Workshops	Open/Co-Chair
	Various Bees
Contracts	Celeste Akre
	Susan Akre
Membership	Yvette Thorn
	Linda Kurcz
PR/Publicity	Margaret Donahue
Philanthropy	Lucy Blasi
	Kathleen Curtis
Library	Carol Rubeck
	Judy Long
Hospitality	Tracy Husch-Lissak
	Sandy Alfaia
Special Events	Sue Damitz
	Darlene Ebel
	Nancy Ebel
Newsletter	Sandy Bray
Back-Up assistant	Nancy Sturgeon
Website	Kathleen Pallardy
Facebook	Kathleen Herbach
Small Quilt Auction	Rosemary Sanza
	****Co-Chair wanted
Nominating Chair (2017/2018 Board Year)	Maria Peeples
January Holiday Party	Doreen Tout
	Mary Walschot
Rummage Sale	Nancy Sturgeon
Raffle Quilt Chair & Committee	****Open