

Riverwalk Quilters Guild

Volume XX Issue 7 January 2014

President's Message

Cheryl Wanska

president@riverwalkquilters.com

Happy New Year! Do your goals for 2014 include quilting? I want to finish a few things, learn a little more, use up some stuff....so I think I will mark a time on my calendar with QUILT! That's where I write important things that eventually get done. What works for you?

We have a great party coming up, thanks to Jayne Reishus, Loraine Nemo & crew. Have you collected lots of goodies for the Rummage Sale? I found duplicate patterns, "this just isn't me" fabric, and interesting odds & ends for artsy quilters. Remember to also bring items for Loaves & Fishes. Besides food, paper products and personal care items remain desperately needed.

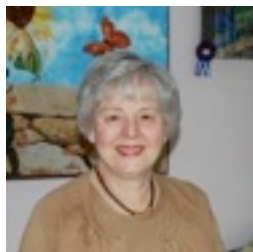
The RQG goal for 2015 is a fun & fabulous quilt show. How do you plan to help? Besides workers, we need a few to lead (or chair) committees. Assistants would be great, too. Maybe you and a friend can share a position. There are lots of ways you can be an active member of RQG!!

Happy Quilting
Cheryl

YVETTE THORN is

Quilter of the Month on our RQG website. Check out the entire article with photos of Yvette's work. It's an inspiring article!

<http://www.riverwalkquilters.com/gallery.html>



RIVERWALK QG 2014 Schedule of RQG Meetings

Tuesday, January 14

6:30 pm Grace United Methodist Church
HOLIDAY PARTY
RUMMAGE SALE
OPPORTUNITY BASKET
Food Pantry Donation

Tuesday, February 11

7 pm Grace United Methodist Church
SMALL QUILTS/ CREATIVE PROCESS
Cheryl Sleboda, RQG

Tuesday, March 11

7 pm Grace United Methodist Church
TRADITIONAL PIECING—Monique Dillard

Tuesday, April 8

7 p.m. Grace Church
PHILANTHROPY Pillow Case SEW-IN

Tuesday, May 13

7 pm Grace United Methodist Church
INNOVATIVE PIECING/ART QUILTS
Pat Bishop

Tuesday, June 10

7 pm Grace United Methodist Church
PICTORIAL QUILTS—Rosalie Baker

WHAT TO BRING—January 14—6:30

No library in January

Donation—Loaves & Fishes food pantry

Name tag

Dinner dish per alphabet in article page 3

Your own unusual mug

Show & Tell—paper pieced quilts

\$\$\$ for rummage sale items & raffle basket

Riverwalk Quilters Guild 2014 Board & Committees

To send a message to any on this list,
click on their hyperlink (blue.)

President..... Cheryl Wanska
president@riverwalkquilters.com

Vice President..... Heidi Enright
vicepresident@riverwalkquilters.com

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secretary@riverwalkquilters.com

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Membership..... Sharon Goodman
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Special Events..... Celeste Akre &
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specialevents@riverwalkquilters.com

Philanthropy..... Rebecca Williams &
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Hospitality..... Nancy Lindberg &
Lois Skooglund
hospitality@riverwalkquilters.com

Newsletter Nancy Sturgeon
newsletter@riverwalkquilters.com

Website..... Sue Damitz
website@riverwalkquilters.com

Small Quilt Auction..... Sandy Alfaia &
Kathy Herbach
smallquiltauction@riverwalkquilters.com

SPECIAL EVENTS

Celeste & Susan Akre

specialevents@riverwalkquilters.com



Reach for the Stars!

In celebration of our guild's 20th anniversary in 2014, we are having a quilt challenge. This quilt must contain some

representation of a star. All techniques and interpretations are welcome. Be creative! Minimum size: 30" x 30". Maximum size: 40" x 40." (Quilt does not need to be square.) Quilts are due on or before our March meeting (3/11/2014). We will be voting on the top 8 quilts in March so we can enter them in the **AQS Ultimate Guild Challenge**. If our entry is accepted, the winning quilts will be displayed at the **AQS Grand Rapids Quilt Show!**

Notion Nirvana

RAFFLE BASKET on January 14

What is Nirvana? The dictionary says it's perfect bliss or paradise. That's just what the fabulous raffle basket for January will be. You could win the fantastic set of notions—



all of those nifty tools and gadgets that make the sewing/quilting process perfectly blissful! Look for the Notion Nirvana basket at our January party! Oh yes, you'll wanna buy some tickets for Nirvana!



Happy New Year!
January 14 6:30 pm
RQG Member
Only Party
We're "Going to
Pieces!"

The dictionary defines "going to pieces" as "becoming non-functional," but not for us quilters! We love pieces, and we'll be having all kinds of "piecing" fun at our annual party.

"Piece-meal" **pot-luck dinner** provided by you, our members!

If your last name begins with:

A-E dessert

F-N side dish or salad

O-Z main dish

It has been our tradition to **collect for Loaves & Fishes**. Please bring donations.

We're going green. **Bring your OWN MUG, unusual or not**. You might win a prize!

Of course, the evening will include **games, prizes, a wonderful raffle basket**, and a few **surprises!** Since our theme is "pieces," there will be a **special show and tell** of any quilt you made that is **paper pieced or English paper pieced**.

"Going To Pieces" SET-UP HELPERS—

Thank you in advance for offering to help with the **January meeting** set-up. Please plan to **arrive at 5:30**—if at all possible!

RQG Rummage Sale
Tuesday, January 14, 2014
6:30 pm

While you're putting away holiday decorations or trying to implement Beth Randall's organizing suggestions, you will no doubt run across sewing and quilting
 Riverwalk Quilters Guild

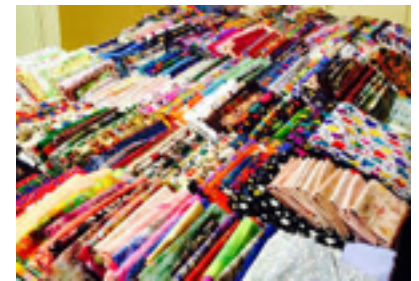
items that you no longer want or use. Put them in a box or bag to bring to the rummage sale. Don't forget that one quilter's trash is another's treasure!

Pre-price all donations, marked clearly with a BARGAIN price.

Price in increments of 25¢.

Package SMALL ITEMS together in CLEAR PLASTIC bags with price.

Items to donate: fabric, tools, rulers, books, notions, patterns, quilt tops, blocks, UFOs, thread embellishments, etc. **Proceeds go to the guild.**



Nancy Sturgeon, Rummage Sale Queen
Princesses: Norma Beckemeier, Terri Hayes, Judy Long, Bev Parker, and Carol Rubeck.

LOAVES & FISHES

Food Pantry Collection



It has been a January tradition for the Riverwalk Quilters to bring donations for the local food pantry. As we gather to enjoy an

abundant buffet of delicious food this month, let's remember to give to Loaves & Fishes. Please donate nutritious canned or boxed food, sturdy produce (oranges, potatoes, etc.) or toiletries and personal care items which are desperately needed. Thanks in advance...let's give generously!



**How to
SORT &
PURGE
your
sewing
room
for the
rummage
sale**

Hey ladies, did you all get an idea or two or receive some motivation from Beth Randall, the organizing expert who spoke in December? We know, as she pointed out, the first step to getting our sewing/quilting mess in order is to SORT & PURGE!

We also know the hardest part is getting started. Why not take Beth's suggestion and set a time and date? Begin by making an appointment with yourself; choose a day and time and put it on the calendar! The perfect deadline is our rummage sale January 10.

Get your white trash bag and mark it RQG, and your black one for real trash, and start sorting! Here are some tips to make it fun (!) and easy:

1. Play peppy music to keep up your pace.
2. Set a timer and don't leave the purging area until your time is up.
3. Resist being sentimental.
4. Be willing to donate—

A quilt project all packaged, not started that you just don't love anymore

A quilt project all packaged, not started that you like but know you won't ever get to

Fabric given to you as a gift, but you don't really like it

Workshop UFOs that you learned from but the learning is over

Scraps when you don't make scrap quilts

Fabrics in colors you've fallen out of love with

Envision someone else joyfully purchasing your donations. You will make her day!

This can be a fun trip down memory lane, and once you're going, you may find it hard to stop! Enjoy the process, knowing you'll have less clutter, a better workplace, and will make better use of your precious time in the future! PURGE ON!

Don't forget that your items for the sale should be neatly bundled or packaged and pre-priced in 25¢ increments.

HOSPITALITY
 Nancy Lindberg & Lois Skooglund
hospitality@riverwalkquilters.com

A BIG thank you to those who signed up in 2013 to bring delicious treats. All the members appreciated your efforts!

Riverwalk Quilters Guild

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

Website: www.riverwalkquilters.com

Facebook:

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

The Riverwalk Quilters Guild—2nd Tuesday 7pm

Grace United Methodist Church

300 E. Gartner Road, Naperville, Illinois

The RQG Board—4th Tuesday 7pm Grace Church

**Wanted: RQG WORKSHOP
LOCATIONS**

We are searching for locations in which we can hold our workshops. We need a large room with tables so we can spread out to sew. We need good free parking. We need a place that has good lighting, and a low room rent. Any ideas? Contact Lisa Noonan at

programs@riverwalkquilters.com.

NEXT RQG BOARD MEETING

7 p.m., **January 28**, Grace Methodist Church

RQG WEBSITE

Sue Damitz

info@riverwalkquilters.com

Want to learn more about guild members? A new gallery page with an interview with Yvette Thorn is now available on our website at

<http://www.riverwalkquilters.com/gallery.html>

In addition, a drop-down menu from the gallery button contains the previous interviews (in case you missed these in the past). Thanks go to Oriene Springstroh for interviewing Yvette, Terri Smith for taking the pictures, and Sandra Alfaia for optimizing the photos for the web. In the future, look for additional interviews with the help of Oriene, Terri, and Sandra.

naperville quilts 2015 QUILT SHOW

Even though we have no show chairwoman/women yet, several RQG members have volunteered to chair some of the committees. In addition, the NIU site has not been reserved because NIU hasn't determined a graduation date for 2015.

Won't you volunteer to lead us through our 2015 show? The time is coming soon when we will not be able to have a 2015 show if we have no leaders of this event. We need your help!

RQG RAFFLE QUILT

Nancy Lindberg has volunteered to head the raffle quilt committee. A design has been chosen. We also need someone to be in charge of the raffle quilt ticket sales and someone to organize and arrange the travel itinerary for our raffle quilt. Can you help? Contact Cheryl W.

UPCOMING LOCAL EVENTS

Naperville Womans' Club

Quilt Talk

95th St. Naperville Library

Wed, Feb 5, 2014, 5:30 p.m.

Speaker: Dr. Clarice Boswell

Learn how quilts helped slaves on the Underground Railroad by the author of *Lizzie's Story: A Slave Family's Journey to Freedom*.

Please contact the club to see if guests are allowed and also if there is a fee.

general@napervillewomansclub.org

SALT CREEK Quilt Show

March 1-2, 2014

Clarendon Hills Illinois Middle School
Clarendon Hills, Illinois

<http://www.saltcreekqg.org/index.asp?p=quiltshow.asp>

INDIANA HERITAGE Quilt Show

March 6-8, 2014

Bloomington, Indiana

quilting workshops led by well-known teachers,
200+ quilts from all over the world
showcase of special exhibits

www.IHQS.org

Pride of the Prairie Quilt Show

March 8-9, 2014

Richland Grade School
Crest Hill, Illinois

www.prideofprairie.org

Hands All Around Quilt Show

March 28-29, 2014

Bloomington, Illinois

<http://haaqq.tripod.com/>



THREAD STORAGE by Loraine Nemo

After our talk from Beth Randall in December, I thought I'd share how I store my thread. If you have dust in your house, open thread storage, such as a peg board, only becomes a dust catcher—you wind up with furry spools which are not good for your sewing machine! Years ago when my son was on a budget and knew I liked practical gifts, he went to Menard's and got me a great hardware storage bin.



It has 18 good-sized, clear plastic drawers. Each of my drawers contains similar colors of thread along with their bobbins, and I can see the colors right through the front of each drawer. The cabinet can either stand

alone or be hung. In addition, each drawer can be removed to take to my machine so I can find the perfect thread.

I have a second identical cabinet for sewing notions such as needles, safety pins, sewing machine feet, etc. You can label the front of each drawer. I really like my hardware organizers. Finding the right color thread or special notion is now a snap!

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



PHILANTHROPY

Dana Elliott & Rebecca Williams
philanthropy@riverwalkquilters.com

GOT PILLOWCASES?

Please take some time to finish yours and bring them and any charity quilts to the February meeting. **We will not have a philanthropy table set up in January.** Thank you to all who support our philanthropy group projects! Your generosity is inspiring!

MEMBERSHIP

Sharon Goodman & Joan Carter
membership@riverwalkquilters.com

Befriending a New Member

We are asking for volunteers (individuals or entire bees) to befriend new members at upcoming guild meetings. The idea is to sit with a new member for three consecutive guild meetings, to introduce her to other members, and to answer any questions she might have about our guild. Friendly companions can smooth the way for a new member to feel comfortable in our large guild. If you'd like to help out, please sign up at the membership table on Tuesday, January 14th, or send an e-mail to membership@riverwalkquilters.com. If you are a new member and would like to sit with a volunteer, please contact the membership chairwomen above.

In December we had 67 members in attendance along with 2 guests.



TAME your FABRIC STASH

by Nancy Sturgeon

Teresa in her blog Fabric Therapy below asks her readers these questions about their stash:

- Do you feel comfortable having sewing friends just "drop in," unannounced, to your sewing space?
- Are things lost in your sewing area?
- Is there something lost that you have completely given up looking for?
- Have you accidentally re-purchased items?
- Have you intentionally re-purchased items, after giving up on ever finding them in your sewing area?
- Do you have more than one project spread out on your work table right now?
- Do you have a "double secret fabric stash" hidden somewhere in your home...or in a remote location?
- Is there fabric in your car trunk right now? (you're BUSTED, Ola!)
- When you have a spare 15 minutes, can you enjoy 15 minutes of sewing "play time?" (thank you Victoria of [Bumblebeans...](#))
- Does your sewing space fill you with anxiety and anger or peace and creativity?

If you can relate to any of these, read on.

The blog **Fabric Therapy** <http://fabrictherapy.blogspot.com/2012/04/stash-organization-part-1-fabric.html> written by Teresa Rawson of Ypsilanti, Michigan, is the ultimate in stash organization blogs. If you think you have a lot of fabric, check out Teresa's blog which includes many photos. And she gives out lots of great tips. Teresa says her set up is what works for her, but you can make some of her ideas useful in your own space. She shares in these 5 separate posts. She covers it all.

Part 1: Organizing Misconceptions/Method and What I Do With My Fabric (FQ and larger)

Part 2: Taming the Scrap Piles

Part 3: UFO's and Kits - Improving Their Odds of Being Finished Someday

Part 4: Tools and Supplies

Part 5: Media - Books, Patterns, Magazines, Ideas, Loose Ends

Last November the **Craftsy** blog <http://www.craftsy.com/blog/2013/11/how-to-display-fabric-stash/#sthash.EKXJ29rL.dpbs> had an article on how to display your fabric stash. In it they said: "An organized fabric stash is a must. The key is to be inspired by your fabric stash, not hindered by it. Messy piles of fabric can put a damper on creativity. Many collectors find enjoyment and inspiration by seeing their fabrics regularly. They (fabrics) become decorative items that can be appreciated before they are even used!"

On her blog **smashed peas and carrots** <http://smashedpeasandcarrots.com/mini-fabric-bolts-and-some-studio-organization/> Maggie winds her fabric on **inexpensive mini fabric bolts** from Amazon.com. They are acid-free and are sold as comic book storage boards. A pack of 100 is \$11. Maggie purchased packs of 7-1/2" x 10-1/2" boards; but, they do come in different sizes. In her blog, she shows how to fold your fabric to fit the board. Her part two link features her "studio" or former dining room.

Take some time to check out these blogs. There are lots of articles you can find on line on how to organize your stash, your sewing room, etc.

We live near Ikea which has many different pieces of room organization furniture. Also check out Lowes, Home Depot, etc.

You will be a very happy quilter if you can tame your stash and organize your surroundings.