

Riverwalk Quilters Guild 2014 Board & Committees

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

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Newsletter Nancy Sturgeon
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Website..... Sue Damitz
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Small Quilt Auction..... Sandy Alfaia &
Kathy Herbach
smallquiltauction@riverwalkquilters.com

**You can click on any blue link in this
newsletter to find out more info!**

PROGRAMS

Lisa Noonan

programs@riverwalkquilters.com

**Tuesday, May 13 at 7 p.m.
lower level, Grace Methodist Church**

INNOVATIVE PIECING/ART QUILTS Pat Bishop

Pat has been making traditional quilts for 30 years. She says that becoming a fiber artist was a matter of many things—wanting to try new techniques, the availability of new materials, the speed of machine quilting, and her



desire to be an artist. When she joined a small art quilt group in 2005, Pat was challenged to become more creative. Since then she's been having a great time living her passion. Pat exhibits and sells her fiber work. She says she wants to help others realize their desires to create their own art.

PAT BISHOP

Art Quilts for the Non-Artist

**2-Day workshop, 95th St. Library
Wednesday & Thursday, May 14–15**

**Tuesday, June 10 at 7 pm
lower level, Grace Methodist Church
PICTORIAL QUILTS—Rosalie Baker**

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.

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

MEMBERSHIP

Sharon Goodman & Joan Carter

membership@riverwalkquilters.com

At the April 8th meeting, there were 50 hard-working members taking part in the pillowcase sew-in, plus a guest. Kath Pearce, Sharon Goodman's special friend from England was speedily put to work selling guild note cards and pins. Later Kath was spotted cutting fabric, pinning, and sewing.

Bring your **MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL** form and payment to the May 13 meeting. **\$35** covers the year 7/1/14–6/30/15. *An extra fee of \$12.00 covers the newsletter sent by US mail.* **Checks payable to "Riverwalk Quilters Guild."** *A late fee of \$5 will be charged for renewals received after July 1, 2014.*

The completed renewal/member information form must be included with your payment.

You can mail your renewal and check to Riverwalk Quilters Guild, PO Box 5092, Naperville, IL 60567. **Please fill out the form. Do not write "Same."**

Quilting with a Modern Slant new book by Rachel May

May profiles dozens of quilters including Illinois quilters Jacquie Gering of Chicago, Weeks Ringle and Bill Kerr of Oak Park and Jane Sassaman of Harvard. She says, "I wanted to make quilters feel like I do when I come home from a quilt guild meeting inspired by someone else's beautiful work, encouraged by sage advice, and brimming with ideas to start or keep on creating." *many tips and techniques included*

PHILANTHROPY

Dana Elliott & Rebecca Williams
philanthropy@riverwalkquilters.com

At our April meeting we completed a whopping 156 pillowcases to be donated to the Edward Hospital Cancer Center and Edward Hosp Care Center. The room was a buzz of energy as about 50 of us sewed, ironed, pinned and turned pillowcases. Dana and Becky pre-cut 100 pillowcases prior to that evening. Jean Hildebrand brought a bunch that just needed the last seam sewed, and the rest were pre-cut and/or sewn by Bees. A few people even cut some fabric at the meeting. Thank you to all who helped ahead of time and to members who brought their machines, irons, and other tools to the meeting. The end result was fantastic. We never imagined it would be such a success. Thanks to all of you guild members for your support and tireless energy that evening. Oh, let's not forget the marvelous treats that kept us all going. It was a fun night enjoyed by all!



Philanthropy cont.—

RQG member **Jean Hildebrand** was given a special award for being a faithful supporter of philanthropy every month. She has donated many quilts and pillow cases over the years to RQG philanthropy. When we think of the members who contribute to philanthropy, many names pop in our head, but Jean stands out the most this year with her tireless work every month. If we saw that Jean was at RQG that month, we could bet she had some-thing nice to turn in to philanthropy! Thank you, Jean, for your hours of service.



**Pillowcases Galore!
many hands make light work...
Photos courtesy of Carolyn Finzer!**



Riverwalk Website Gallery

Lydia Ferrigan

[http://www.riverwalkquilters.com/
gallery_LydiaFerrigan.html](http://www.riverwalkquilters.com/gallery_LydiaFerrigan.html)



GLUE BASTING Your Piecing
Yes, glue basting!

If you want to achieve really perfect piecing with everything aligned, check out this blog and video. The video is made by Sharon Shamber's daughter Christy Fincher. Sharon is a multi-award winner at Houston and other quilting contests. Interesting technique...Try it!

<http://pileofabric.com/2013/06/11/precise-piecing-using-glue-basting/>

HOSPITALITY
 Nancy Lindberg & Lois Skooglund
hospitality@riverwalkquilters.com

A big thank you to those who brought the delicious treats in April! They fueled our sewing energy and helped us make so many cases!

Civil War Quilters of Illinois
***Loyal Hearts exhibit* May 6–October 17**
Illinois State Museum, Lockport Gallery
201 W. 10th St. 815-838-7400

Sunday, August 10 2 p.m.
Curator's Tour

The exhibit features quilts and objects from the era that reveal the stories of women's work and struggles on the home front during the Civil War. In the days following the April 1861 Confederate bombardment on Fort Sumter, dedicated men from Illinois rushed to join the Union Army. With vigor equal to the enlisting men, loyal women of Illinois organized to support the soldiers on the field and in the hospital, as they braced themselves for the changes in family and community life the war would bring.

Following the Union defeat at the Battle of Bull Run in July 1861, President Lincoln issued an appeal for quilts, other bedding, clothing, and foodstuffs for the Union troops. While Illinois women made or gathered quilts for the soldiers, they also created highly decorated quilts for fund-raising auctions to support the war effort. Soldier's quilts wore out with hard use, and few have survived. However, other quilts of the era that have been carefully preserved help tell the stories of these most trying of times. The Civil War-era quilts in the exhibition provide a passage through which to explore the lives and wartime support activities of the women who made them.

Each quilt on exhibit has its own unique story and individual attributes, even though they were collectively created in the same time period.

Civil War Quilters of Illinois continued—One is a particularly rare quilt that has recently received national attention: a Log Cabin quilt from Anna, Illinois, that was pieced together with fabrics including scraps from both Union and Confederate uniforms. The uniform scraps reportedly belonged to the maker's sons who fought on both sides of the war. An album quilt on display was made by Martha Jane Gourley (Gehlman), a close neighbor of Abraham Lincoln in Springfield. Miss Gourley's friends and family, whose names adorn this quilt, are from northern as well as southern states representing the range of families who settled the "West," as Illinois was then considered.

UPCOMING MIDWEST EVENTS

Wisconsin Museum of Quilts & Fiber Arts
 April 9–June 22 www.wiquiltmuseum.com

Faithful Circle Quilt Guild, Downers Grove
 May 28 Jane Krueger & Linda Marcou
www.fcquilters.com

April 10–June 22
 DePaul Art Museum, Chicago
 click on the title link below for more info on 2 special weekend programs
["From Heart to Hand: African American Quilts from the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts."](#)

NW Suburban Quilters Guild
 Mary Kay Moulton
 May 15 lecture plus workshop www.nsqg.net

**RQG RAFFLE QUILT
 Ticket Sales & Travel Itinerary
 Persons Needed**

We need one or two of you to chair our raffle quilt ticket sales and/or organize and arrange the travel itinerary for our raffle quilt. Can you help? Contact Cheryl Wanska

SPECIAL EVENTS
 Celeste & Susan Akre
specialevents@riverwalkquilters.com

Reach for the Stars!
 18 Challenge Quilts Submitted



8 Winners to go to AQS Grand Rapids as voted by members at the March meeting winners denoted by *



The next pages include a thumbnail of each quilt and the story of why and how it was made.



Celeste Akre*

My quilt is paper pieced and was edge to edge quilted with a longarm.



Susan Akre*

Polaris—Heading in the Right Direction

This original design by Susan is paper pieced, includes needle turned hand appliqué and is longarm quilted.



Sandra Alfaia* When the Challenge was introduced, my first thought was "I've never done a star." So I went to the library and took out eight books on star patterns. I fell in love with Sharon Rexroad's pineapple stars, and I knew I wanted to try one,

but how to fit it into my final piece was still a mystery. Then my sister challenged me to forget all "quilting" expectations and to do something from the heart. I have been an artist and designer all my life, and sewing has always been separate—just a hobby. A recent health scare really drove home the idea that life doesn't go on forever, and if there's anything I wanted to accomplish, NOW was a good time. As a result, I've changed many things in my life, trying to BE and DO all the things that make me happy and fulfill me. The timing of this challenge was just as I decided to combine my art and love of fabric and challenge myself to "do more, try harder, dig deeper" and use my quilts to express myself. This piece is an expression of a personal journey—of where I am today. I included the hunter stars, because there are many goals and things I want to do, but I need to focus and choose "MY star." I love appliqué and find that many of the shapes and ideas I

Sandra continued—want to express, just have to be drawn out on paper. I scan in the drawing and then fill in the block design around it. I have the complete design in the computer usually before I start. Sometimes I work out basic color ideas then. I did make my pineapple star first, and so when I designed the rest with 4" blocks, it became problematic as the star couldn't be pieced in. So I decided to just appliqué it on! I love color and picking out fabrics—especially batiks. They're so much like watercolors. I also love to piece the backgrounds. Obviously I don't follow many rules. I do whatever works to get the right color in the right place and the design where I want it. I also enjoyed trying to incorporate something 3-D in this piece—the string to hang on to the star. I read recently that you should watch where you put your energy—what you love. I enjoyed every minute working on this piece and spent many hours sewing...and thinking.



Linda Benda The star brought to mind the American flag, so my humble little quilt is a small but sincere homage to Old Glory. I vowed to use fabric I already had and was able to find colors and patterns that I

liked. It is machine pieced and machine quilted, such as my old machine will allow. I enjoyed the idea of the challenge and would like another opportunity to create a better entry.



Heidi Enright*

I have always admired the **Feathered Star** quilt pattern. When I started quilting 20+ years ago, I thought Feathered Star quilts were beautiful. However, I would never have attempted any

pattern so difficult as I was terrified of so many triangles, points matching, etc. Twenty years later I look back and see that it was inspiration from our quilt guild and encouragement from women in my quilt bee that led me to attempt

Heidi continued—this pattern. Joining the Guild has inspired and challenged my quilting. The speakers, work-shops, demonstrations, philanthropy sew-ins, quilt challenges, etc. have all had a part in developing my quilting skills. But it has been the friendships that I have made when I joined a committee or served on the board that really encouraged me to try harder and improve my sewing/quilting skills. So I tried the Feathered Star pattern. It's not perfect, but I'm not terrified of triangles anymore! I also put a modern twist on the quilt by surrounding it with a few squares of color *and* a lot of white background. I attempted some modern quilting using a walking foot and just sewing vertically down the squares. I hope the in the next 20 years the guild continues to function with speakers, workshops, and challenges because we members can really benefit from being inspired, challenged and encouraged!



Kathleen Herbach*
I fell in love with the pattern when I saw it made up at quiltfabric.com. It is paper pieced. I also fussy cut the big diamonds and the center, and that was a challenge for me. I loved

making the flying geese with busy focus fabric so you see lots of parts of the fabric pattern. The quilting was fun—free format feathers with an echo and then the walking foot straight lines to finish it off. The piping gives it a nice finish. There is a quilting pattern in the border that I call Balloons (round, fat, feathers) but you cannot really even see them!



Carolyn Finzer

You could say that *My Stars* is a mixed media quilt. I purchased several pieces of **star** motif fabric at our January rummage sale and found a silver and black knit scarf with **star** motifs at Savers.

These were my groundwork for the quilt. Layering followed. I went through my ribbon, bead and vintage button boxes for tiny **star** embellishments. I used an orphaned Friendship **Star** block, felt and plastic **star** tree trimmers, brass **star** charms, small metal **stars**, ric-rac, gold braid, knit cording and a portion of an aqua vinyl gift bag. Recycling and repurposing stuff has been a passion of mine for over 45 years. I am a self-described dumpster diva and junque genie who revels in the challenges of stealing art out of scraps, bits, pieces and found objects. The look or style of my assemblages is primitive, rustic, folksy or shabby chic... My goal was to include 20 significant **stars** in honor of our RQG 20th Anniversary!



Ruth Hild

I chose fabrics with stars to represent our guild of many stars. Some are smaller, learning and supporting stars. Others are larger, officers and committee member stars. A few are the largest

stars, who have had quilts in contests, shows, and displays, have won prizes, are on TV, etc. Many others shine in different areas. We shine bright as we make and give quilts and pillowcases, and donate them to help those in need. All these stars have worked together over the past 20 years to make a wonderful guild. No one star is more important than another as it takes all the stars to make a successful guild. We thank our founding stars and all who have held offices and responsibilities over the past 20 years. May we continue to Reach for the Stars! This star pattern was chosen to duplicate the stars in the navy fabric. Even the white fabric has stars on it. Gold thread quilted around the pieced stars helps each of them to stand out. Machine pieced and machine quilted.



Lenore Hrejsa

I'd been saving this fabric that seemed to 'glow' for just the right project. I have never participated in a challenge before, but I thought that making a fiery star out of the fabric would be a good use for it.

I was flipping through books and magazines when I came upon Mary Ellen Hopkins sketch of a "Blazing Star". The title grabbed me, so I adjusted the size to fit the requirements and finally used my fiery material. There seemed to be too much black, so I hand quilted gold rays in each corner. The rest of the quilt was stitched in the ditch. I enjoyed making the star and found that a guild challenge is a great motivator to complete a project!



Linda Kurcz*

I am intrigued by tessellations and recently saw another configuration of this star pattern which I want to try out as well. My challenge quilt is machine pieced with inspiration from Jackie

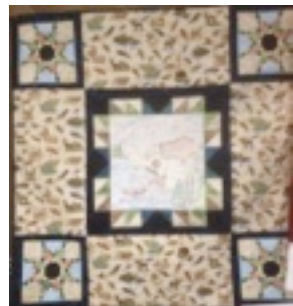
Robinson's variable star pattern and quilted on my longarm machine in an all over feather design. I challenged myself to select fabrics in my collection to construct the quilt. I chose a 1/2 yard piece of hand dyed fabric ranging in color from yellow to raspberry/violet and then selected the remaining pieces to coordinate. There was just enough of the hand dyed fabric to complete the top and the binding!



Nancy Lindberg

Here is my challenge story...and I'm sticking to it! This challenge wall hanging actually began taking shape in 1997 when I moved back to Naperville from Stockton, CA. I had met a small group of really

nice quilters there, and they each gave me one of the small star blocks. Some were hand pieced. Some were machine pieced. A couple were hand painted. In addition, I made a few myself. I decided I wanted to incorporate them somehow with a Mariner's compass block. That was the challenge for me—to take on a mariner's compass—as I was pretty new to quilting at that time. That part actually turned out to be the easy. Figuring out where to place the small blocks became the real challenge. The quilt sat for a few years, and I finally finished it about eight years after I originally started it. It is hand quilted with metallic thread



Sabrina Marton

This quilt was my very first attempt at paper piecing; but, I did not use the given pattern or colors to assemble the quilt. I took the 4 paper pieced stars and created a design which was more meaningful to me. I used

the stars to surround an embroidered picture of our family cottage in Canada where our favorite memories are laying on the dock and watching the shooting stars of the Perseid meteor shower each summer. I love how my paper pieced stars and the embroidery work turned out, but I wasn't happy about the overall design and almost didn't enter it. I ran out of time because the stars took longer than I anticipated, and I didn't know any of the tricks. I have now learned a fun new technique: paper piecing. I may finally create my Riverwalk name tag as designed using the paper pieced method instead of fusing!



Loraine Nemo

Spinning Stars
Stars seem to swirl in the sky, so I decided to make a quilt with “spinning” stars. My goal was to show movement, and because I admire quilts that are done in segments

or modules, I wanted to experiment with that. Also I wanted the finished quilt to be something useful. With a decent selection of patriotic fabrics, the red/white/blue theme seemed just right. First I sewed the center star, quilting it in a swirly pattern. Then I separately sewed and quilted four segments each shaped in a whooshing arc, and added them around the center star. While not an intricate piece, the finished quilt does have the desired “spin”, and can now serve as a table topper for those patriotic holidays.



Nancy Niswander

My quilt is called Stars in their Eyes. It is about my daughters having stars in their eyes when they played together. They were always so happy, so I made their eyes into stars and quilted stars in the background. I used

machine piecing and quilting. Some of the stars were trapunto and I drew their faces from a photo I took when they were younger. I used needle turn appliqué and raw edge appliqué. It is supposed to convey the happiness they felt when they were little kids.



Carol Rubeck*

As soon as I heard “anything resembling a star” for our guild challenge, I thought of Judy Martin’s book SCRAPs which

I purchased after seeing her on “Simply Quilts” years ago. I had

never made a quilt from this book, but after

Riverwalk Quilters Guild

Carol continued—leafing through it, I picked the pattern *Meteor Showers*. It is beautiful, and I thought I could easily adapt the pattern to our guild challenge requirements— which I think I did with some success. Using Judy’s pattern, I came up with my quilt *Starry Eyes*. I used only fabrics from my stash and so was able to complete it without buying more. This is a new thing for me! That’s for sure. I used Judy’s “Point Trimmer” which is an excellent tool to help in lining up all those diamonds. While making the quilt, I also honed my skills with the seam ripper. I would get a star all put together only to find that the colors were reversed! That happened more than once; however, I was pleased with the outcome...It is the first time I have entered a challenge. And it is a thrill to have been one of those chosen to represent RQG in Grand Rapids. .



Darlene Schille

I thought that I should make a challenge quilt because I never did it before, and I felt guilty. I had many scraps of batiks and many blues, and I even found **star** batiks in my scrap stash so that was

my theme. I made up my own design which is very simple. No special techniques. Just my Janome and me. We have so many great quilters in our guild, and I think the challenge was a great success. I’m glad I took the opportunity to do something new for me.



Yvette Thorn*

I had purchased a book by Ginny Beyer shortly after I began quilting that contained blocks that were all to be drafted to the desired size. I chose one that was interesting and based on a grid of 8

units by 8 units. That meant I needed to divide 30 inches by 8 for get my unit. I taped together 1/8 inch graph paper and started drafting the block. While doing that, another square of 7 1/2

Yvette continued—inches was created in the center. I then thought I should try drafting another block into the smaller square which worked. This was definitely an exercise in creating templates and using tools where possible—especially for the triangles. What you didn't see was the wasted fabric because my templates were a couple of degrees off. It showed how size and accuracy matters when dealing with triangles. When I had finished the top, it was visually flat with the fabric I had chosen. I taped off the large points and stamped on the lighter fabric with aloe vera gel in orange and fuchsia inks using a sea sponge. That made a huge difference. The quilting evolved because I took a literal interpretation of a star and thought the lines needed to flow out of the center. The circles around the center block reminded me of a roiling center of a star—thus Sheer Energy.



Mary Walschot

I went with a traditional look because we need to understand the past before we move into the future. No real story behind the quilt. I'm just getting experience, and I enjoy the "old school"

blocks. It was also my second experience with appliqué work. I always wanted to learn the blanket stitch so I used it to attach the label to the back of the quilt.

Philanthropy is Looking for Baby Quilts

for the Pregnancy Information Center (PIC) in Aurora which has been serving women and men since 1985. Their services are free, confidential and offered in English and Spanish. PIC offers accurate information about pregnancy, fetal development, lifestyle issues, and related concerns. They can use baby quilts for their clients. Can you donate any? Why don't you try a new technique on a small baby quilt? Have a baby themed fabric panel? Add a few borders and quilt it for PIC. The babies are not fussy, and neither are the new moms!



RQG Note Cards & Pins now 50% off!

SALE of HUGE Quantity of

QUILT Stuff

Friday, May 2nd 8 am to 4 pm
Saturday, May 3rd, 8 am to 12 noon

852 Skyline Drive, Batavia, IL—off Randall Road

As part of a community sale, this homeowner is selling a huge quantity of quilting fabrics, quilting books, patterns, tools, and magazines. Priced to sell! This is an opportunity you will not want to miss! Homeowner is Keith Rosborough.

GLUE BASTE HEXAGONS

Are you crazy about hexagons but hate all that basting of the fabric to the cardboard templates? There is another way to tackle hexagons. Just google "glue basting hexagons". You'll find tutorials, blogs and you tube demonstrations on dealing with basting hexagons. You can also make or purchase diamond templates and other shapes. I even saw a video of a person joining the hexagons with monofilament thread and a zig zag stitch on her sewing machine. Didn't look bad—from a distance. Get in the hexie craze. You don't have to hand baste them...unless you want to!

Office Use Only

Amt. pd.: _____

Check #: _____

Date: _____

New/Renewal/Change of Address: _____

Riverwalk Quilters Guild Member Information Form July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2015

Please print clearly:

Name: _____

Street: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

____ I do not have e-mail. Please send my newsletter & membership directory by regular mail, a \$12 additional fee.

____ I would like to receive information on joining or forming a Quilting Bee.

____ I **do not** want photos of my likeness nor my work published in our newsletter, website, or facebook page.

What year did you join the guild? (1st year was 1994) _____

Which Quilting Bee(s) do you belong to? _____

I understand that I am obliged to volunteer for guild activities.

Signature _____

Membership Rates for 2014-2015:

Renewal Fee/New Member Fee: **\$35.00/year**

Fee for Newsletter & Membership Directory Sent by US Mail: **\$12.00/year**

Dues Late Payment Fee (after July 1): **\$5.00**

Guest Fee: **\$10.00/meeting**

(Guests who join the Guild within 1 month of paying guest fee: **\$10.00 discount**)

Pro-Rated Membership Fee (new member after Jan. 1): **\$20.00**

*(Make checks payable to **Riverwalk Quilters Guild**. Drop off at guild meeting or mail to: Riverwalk Quilters Guild, PO Box 5092, Naperville, IL 60567)*