

# Riverwalk Quilters Guild

Volume XX Issue 9 March 2014

## President's Message

Cheryl Wanska

[president@riverwalkquilters.com](mailto:president@riverwalkquilters.com)

### SPRING INTO ACTION!!!

Spring is coming! Longer days give us more energy and increase that "I can do it!" feeling, especially in the sewing room. Show and Tell should be interesting this month! We may see some little pieces from those who tried Cheryl Sleboda's way of looking at learning a new skill—almost instant success!

Remember how exciting, colorful, interesting and fun our quilt show was last year? Planning it, working on different committees, seeing our quilting talents displayed for the enjoyment of family, friends, and lots of quilt lovers brought us closer as a guild and instilled pride in our creative abilities. I can't wait to see what the creative 127 members of RQG do for our next quilt show in 2015!

So, sign up today to plan our next wonderful quilt show with your quilts on display. Head up a committee (with a friend or two) or add your name as a helper to a couple of fun committees. And we need a special 2-3 members to sign up to lead our next fantastic show. The groundwork has been laid. The jobs described. The reports written. We need some members to coordinate our efforts. You don't need to start from square one as we did with our first show in 2013.

Call, text, email or just grab me or Heidi Enright now! Just say "yes!"  
Cheryl Wanska. President

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## RIVERWALK QG 2014 Schedule of RQG Meetings

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**Tuesday, March 11**

**7 pm Grace Methodist Church**

**TRADITIONAL PIECING—Monique Dillard**

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**Tuesday, April 8**

**7 p.m. Grace Methodist Church**

**PHILANTHROPY Pillow Case SEW-IN**

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**Tuesday, May 13**

**7 pm Grace Methodist Church**

**INNOVATIVE PIECING/ART QUILTS**

Pat Bishop

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**Tuesday, June 10**

**7 pm Grace Methodist Church PICTORIAL**

**QUILTS—Rosalie Baker**

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### NEXT RQG BOARD MEETING

7 p.m., **March 25**, Grace Methodist Church

### WHAT TO BRING—March 11

**Library Books Name tag Show & Tell**

**Treats—if you signed up**



## 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](mailto:president@riverwalkquilters.com)

**Vice President**..... Heidi Enright  
[vicepresident@riverwalkquilters.com](mailto:vicepresident@riverwalkquilters.com)

**Secretary**..... Carol Gruchala  
[secretary@riverwalkquilters.com](mailto:secretary@riverwalkquilters.com)

**Treasurer**..... Vicky Laws  
[treasurer@riverwalkquilters.com](mailto:treasurer@riverwalkquilters.com)

**Contracts**..... Sandy Doubek  
[contracts@riverwalkquilters.com](mailto:contracts@riverwalkquilters.com)

**Program/Workshops**... Lisa Noonan  
[programs@riverwalkquilters.com](mailto:programs@riverwalkquilters.com)

**Membership**..... Sharon Goodman  
& Joan Carter  
[membership@riverwalkquilters.com](mailto:membership@riverwalkquilters.com)

**Special Events**..... Celeste Akre &  
Susan Akre  
[specialevents@riverwalkquilters.com](mailto:specialevents@riverwalkquilters.com)

**Philanthropy**..... Rebecca Williams &  
Dana E Elliott  
[philanthropy@riverwalkquilters.com](mailto:philanthropy@riverwalkquilters.com)

**Library**..... Lenore Hrejsa &  
Jill Seaworth  
[librarian@riverwalkquilters.com](mailto:librarian@riverwalkquilters.com)

**Public Relations**..... Sandy Alfaia  
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**Hospitality**..... Nancy Lindberg &  
Lois Skooglund  
[hospitality@riverwalkquilters.com](mailto:hospitality@riverwalkquilters.com)

**Newsletter** ..... Nancy Sturgeon  
[newsletter@riverwalkquilters.com](mailto:newsletter@riverwalkquilters.com)

**Website**..... Sue Damitz  
[website@riverwalkquilters.com](mailto:website@riverwalkquilters.com)

**Small Quilt Auction**..... Sandy Alfaia &  
Kathy Herbach  
[smallquiltauction@riverwalkquilters.com](mailto:smallquiltauction@riverwalkquilters.com)

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

## SPECIAL EVENTS

Celeste & Susan Akre

[specialevents@riverwalkquilters.com](mailto: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!**

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## PROGRAMS

Lisa Noonan

[programs@riverwalkquilters.com](mailto:programs@riverwalkquilters.com)

**Tuesday, March 11 at 7 p.m.  
lower level, Grace Methodist Church**

## TRADITIONAL Quilts & Fat Quarters Monique Dillard



Monique Dillard of Rockford, IL, was taught hand work and sewing at a young age. She parlayed her math degree in into a genuine understanding of the need for

an accurate 1/4" seam, squared blocks and precise cutting.

**March program continued—**

Monique taught at a local quilt shop for 15 years before starting her quilt design business, Open Gate, which steered her toward a national audience. She now teaches across the US. Monique has produced over 76 Open Gate patterns and 3 rulers (Fit to be Square®, Fit to be Geese®, and Mini Fit to be Geese®). She has also partnered to co-author 3 block-of-the-month (BOM) books. Monique finds inspiration for her designs everywhere and is inspired by fabrics, textiles and tapestries. Several trips to Europe have resulted in beautiful quilt designs and her 2010 fabric line Olde World Style with Maywood Studio. In 2011 Monique had her first *Fat Quarter* book published by C&T Publishing.

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**Tuesday, April 8 at 7 p.m.  
lower level, Grace Methodist Church**

**PHILANTHROPY Pillow Case SEW-IN**

If you can bring your sewing machine, iron, or ironing board to this fun meeting, contact Dana or Becky at [philanthropy@riverwalkquilters.com](mailto:philanthropy@riverwalkquilters.com).

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**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 wanting to try new things, 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, she was challenged to become more creative. Since then she's been having a great time living her passion. She exhibits and sells her fiber work in fine art exhibits. Pat says she wants to help others realize their desires to create their personal art.

**PAT BISHOP Workshop**

**Innovative Art Quilt 2-Day workshop  
Wednesday & Thursday, May 14–15**

**\$75/2 days + \$15 optional lunch both days**

The first day will be learning Pat's **piecing technique for the background**. The second day will be



devoted to **appliqué**. Learn two new techniques in one class! Please sign up by the April meeting to avoid cancellation of this class.

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

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**INVISAFIL THREAD** by Nancy Sturgeon

I've been reading about this 100-wt polyester thread (same weight as silk) made to be used either in your bobbin for quilting or in hand appliqué and machine appliqué. It comes in about 30 colors, and the reviews I've read are good. I did check my Sue Nichols book on **raw edge** machine appliqué and found that it is not appropriate for this technique as it doesn't cover the edges of the appliqué pieces adequately. Sue recommends a 40 or 50 weight thread. FYI—thread gets smaller in diameter with larger weight numbers, i.e. 100-weight is much thinner than 30 weight thread.

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**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.*

## MEMBERSHIP

Sharon Goodman & Joan Carter

[membership@riverwalkquilters.com](mailto:membership@riverwalkquilters.com)

In February one new member joined the guild. We welcome Sandy Johnson of Naperville. Our current membership total is 127.

Please volunteer to help new members feel at home at our monthly meetings. Sharon has contacted each member who joined in 2013 to see if any would like a guild "big sis." She was able to match up 5 new members with 4 experienced guild members. Thank you to "big sis" Sandy Alfaia, Margaret Donahue, Kathy Herbach, and Cindy Padgett for volunteering.

**MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS** will be accepted at our April 8 guild meeting. The fee of **\$35.00** covers the fiscal year July 1, 2014–June 30, 2015. *An additional fee of \$12.00 is required to have the newsletter (12 issues) printed and sent to you by US mail.* Please make **checks payable to "Riverwalk Quilters Guild."** *Unfortunately, there will be a late fee of \$5.00 for renewals received after July 1, 2014.*

The **renewal/member information form on page 8 must be included with your payment.** Please fill it out, and mail it with your \$35 check. Riverwalk Quilters Guild, P.O. Box 5092, Naperville, IL 60567 or bring them to the next guild meeting. Forms will also be available at the membership table at meetings. **Please fill out the form in total. Do not write "Same."**

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### **NATIONAL QUILTING DAY is MARCH 15!**

How are you going to celebrate? Take some time to work on a quilting project and enjoy the day. It would be great to finish a UFO in honor of this day.



### **RQG RAFFLE QUILT Ticket Sales & Travel Itinerary**

This is a photo of the body of our latest raffle quilt. The wide border not pictured consists of hand turned appliqué in a floral design. Nancy Lindberg is the chairwoman.

We also 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 W.

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### **Downsizing Our Projects**

Nancy Sturgeon

After attending our last RQG meeting and hearing Cheryl Sleboda's take on her 6" x 6" quilt a week project, I have decided that I too should downsize my projects. If I see a pattern I like, I don't have to make it into a full sized quilt or even a lap quilt. I can make it fit into my wonderful 36" hanging spot in my kitchen where I can enjoy it and later rotate it with others in my lineup. I certainly will not make one of these a week, but maybe if I concentrate on 36" projects rather than twin or queen or lap-sized ones, I will get some of my ideas made in fabric not just in my dreams! After all I have a huge drawer in my sewing room filled to the brim with patterns for quilts I want to make, and my fabric stash is not small either! Bigger is not always better.

## ON WITH THE SHOW!

### naperville quilts 2015 QUILT SHOW

Have you ever thought of how a quilt show benefits our guild? It is a source of revenue that we use to pay for our outstanding speakers and teachers. Our member dues alone will not support the high quality teachers we want to bring to our guild. If we do not have a show, we will have to supplement our income with raffle baskets at meetings, more rummage sales, and other ways of earning money to pay for our expenses and speakers. A show is a wonderful way in which we can share our own quilted projects with our members, family, friends, and members of the Chicago area quilting community. It is a way for our guild to attract new members who will contribute ideas and talent to our guild. Since our first show in 2013, we have enrolled 31 new members. A show is a great way for our members get to know each other, and it gives us goals for finishing our projects. A show encourages us to try new techniques that we have viewed on the quilts on display. A show lets our community know that we are an outstanding club in town. If we don't have a show, most quilters in the area won't know about us. In order for us to have a quilt show in 2015, we need a chairman or two. Won't you volunteer to guide us through another great quilt show? The basic plans have been made and recorded. Some of the previous committee members have agreed to extend their job to the 2015 show. All you would need to do is coordinate the efforts of a committee. If you have good committee members, the show should run smoothly. Won't you lead us? Without a volunteer or two as chairwomen, there will not be a naperville quilts! 2015. That would be a real shame.



## Small Quilts, Creative Process

Lorraine Nemo

Fortunate were the members at February guild who enjoyed hearing the journey of Cheryl Sleboda as she grew from teenage sewer to accomplished quilt artist. We were impressed with her constant effort, persistence and commitment to a set plan of practicing her art.

Who among us has not felt we just didn't have time for quilting? Cheryl found a way to discipline herself, take on small, achievable projects, and then evaluate what she learned, what she liked, and move on from there.

Cheryl's POA (plan of action) reminded me of a book I own, *The Art Quilt Workbook*. This excerpt echoes Cheryl's lecture topics.

*Regardless of where you find inspiration, or how you translate this inspiration into fabric-art, the most important thing is to do the work. Find your personal style, your voice, create!*

Cheryl and some of our other speakers like Ellen Ann Eddy are willing to experiment and not be held back by negative thoughts or the possibility that their project won't work out. As we move ahead as quilters or quilt artists seeking our own voice, we should remember the following from *The Art Quilt Workbook*:

*Unsuccessful attempts are learning experiences. Every single thing you create, successful or unsuccessful, offers an opportunity to grow. Give yourself permission to discard, throw out, chop up, or otherwise destroy or transform unsuccessful pieces so they will no longer stare at you reproachfully from the corner of your studio!*

Be inspired by Cheryl! Her unique style emerged from her commitment to doing the work. Let's encourage each other as we explore our own personal paths on the marvelous journey of quilting!

**Cheryl is on Quilting Arts TV channel 20 Thursday afternoons in Naperville.**

## My First Steps With Appliqué

Nancy Sturgeon

I am finally trying appliqué, having taken the David Taylor class and the Sue Nickels class at RQG. Since I have spent most of the last 40 years hand stitching needlepoint and cross stitch projects, I am ready for machine appliqué—**raw edge!**



I purchased Sue Nickels' book *Stitched Raw Edge Appliqué*. She and her sister Pat Holly are award-winning masters of raw edge appliqué, and his book gives every detail you will ever want to know about raw edge appliqué. The book includes quite a few nice patterns too.

I also checked out Houston award winner Sharon Shamber and her daughter Christy Fincher's appliqué book (*Piece by Piece—Machine Appliqué*) from our RQG library. They give instructions for both machine appliqué and raw edge machine appliqué in which Sharon recommends ironing a freezer paper appliqué shape cut to the **right** side of the appliqué fabric and adhering this to the background with a washable school glue stick. As she heat sets the glued appliqué to the background with a medium temp iron, she gently lifts off the freezer paper pattern. Sharon suggests using a very small iron. I tried this and it worked well getting into small places without disturbing the other appliqué pieces around it.

Using the Sue Nichols method, I have ironed a fusible to all my pieces, cut them out, positioned them onto my backing fabric and ironed them to it. I have set my machine to a blanket stitch 2.5 wide and 2.0 long and have tested this stitch on

a scrap. I am working on my project from a previous the RQG class by Terry Clothier Thompson. One thing that this pattern did not include was a master of the final pattern to use in placement of my pieces. Instead I folded my background in half and half again and then along both diagonals. I had also reduced the size of my appliqué pieces. Sometimes smaller is better! When I stitched my appliqué pieces in place, I found that having a heavily starched background fabric worked well. I also used a good light focused on the stitching area as those blanket stitches are really small. The gentle curves are great for a beginner. So far all looks good. I still have an appliquéd sawtooth to figure out and complete. Then the quilting!

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### **FINISHED!** by Nancy Sturgeon

Finished is Bonnie Hunter's (Quiltville.com) word of the year, and I am trying to take this to heart. What I have found is that if I concentrate on one project at a time, I will get it finished in a reasonable amount of time, but if I race from one incomplete project to another spinning my wheels, nothing ever gets finished. What about you? Will you actually finish some things this month or this year? Drag out that class project that is gathering dust on your shelf or the holiday gift you never completed in time for the event. Finishing something is a real upper—just what we need as this winter drags on and on and on and on...

**Riverwalk Quilters Guild**

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

Website: [www.riverwalkquilters.com](http://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

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**UPCOMING MIDWEST EVENTS**

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**Pride of the Prairie Quilt Show**

**March 8–9, 2014**

Richland Grade School, Crest Hill, Illinois

[www.prideofprairie.org](http://www.prideofprairie.org)

**Hands All Around Quilt Show**

**March 28–29, 2014, Bloomington, Illinois**

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

**String-A-Long Quilt Guild Show**

**March 29–30, 2014, Valparaiso, IN**

[csun52@hotmail.com](mailto:csun52@hotmail.com)

**Wisconsin Museum of Quilts & Fiber Arts**

**Modern Perspectives Exhibit**

**through April 6**

[www.wiquiltmuseum.com](http://www.wiquiltmuseum.com)

**43rd Kalona IOWA Quilt Show & Sale**

**April 24–26**

[www.woodinwheel.com](http://www.woodinwheel.com)

**First Annual Quilter’s Retreat**

**May 12–15**

**Boyne Highlands, Michigan**

**contact Crystal Blumke at 231.526.3849**

**or [cblumke@boyne.com](mailto:cblumke@boyne.com)**

*Expressions in Threads*

208 S. Cody Rd., LeClaire, IA

(563) 289-1447



**10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

**Grand Re-opening Event**

**April 2–April 12**

**10 DAYS of SAVINGS**

Fabrics\*Notions\*Janome

Machines\*Patterns\*Thread\*

Batting\*Stabilizers\*Interfacing\*Fusibles\*Templates

Check our Website for Details:

[www.expressionsinthreads.com](http://www.expressionsinthreads.com)

**April 5 – Special Event**

**Lecture/Demo/Trunk Show—new Janome 15000**

**10:30 & 1:30 Reservations Required Cost: \$5**

**LeClaire is about 150 miles from Naperville.**

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**IS THIS YOUR QUILT?**

Someone donated it to be quilted for charity, and I picked it up at one of my groups and can't remember where.

I volunteered to quilt it. Please let me know. Thanks. Contact me, Nancy Sturgeon at [newsletter@riverwalkquilters.com](mailto:newsletter@riverwalkquilters.com)

**What a beauty it is!! Lots and lots of cutting and piecing.n**

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? (1<sup>st</sup> 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)*