



Threads of Thought

A Quilter's Exchange

We're
43 years old!

Richmond Quilters' Guild, Richmond, Va.

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Website Address: richmondquiltersguild.com



A Few Words From Sherry

Have you had an opportunity yet to attend a real, in person, guild chapter meeting this year? What a buzz of excitement there is! Even the masks we are wearing cannot conceal our huge smiles as we experience the joy of being together again!

So far, I've participated in that joy at Crazy Quilters (1st Tuesday evening, 7 pm each month at Mechanicsville Presbyterian Church, Attlee & Signal Hill Rds., Mechanicsville) and WE Quilt (West End Quilters), 10:30 am, 3rd Tuesday (no Dec meeting), 9000 Martin's Lane, Henrico. Members are almost giddy at being back together and there is extra excitement in welcoming new members who are swelling our ranks and adding their creative ideas. I'll be looking forward to visiting the other chapters - in the near future I hope..... Bits and Pieces, Laurel Hill United Methodist Church, New Market Rd, Varina 7 pm, 2nd Tuesday; Hospitality, Community of Grace Church, 2240 Cranbeck Rd, N. Chesterfield, 9:30 am, 1st Thursday; James River Heritage, Bon Air Christian Church, Buford Rd. N. Chesterfield, 6:30 1st Wednesday; and Piecemakers, New Bethesda Baptist Church, New Bethesda Road, Mechanicsville, 2nd Wednesday at 9:30 am.

It is time for each chapter to choose a member for the nominating committee to meet (online or in person) in December to find candidates for RQG Present and Vice President. These positions must be filled in order for us to continue as a guild. Consider volunteering or if asked, say yes and spend a couple of years getting to better know other members as well as the workings of our organization.

Sherry Whitford

Va. Quilt Museum Current Exhibits

There are some very interesting exhibits now offered at the Virginia Quilting Museum in Harrisonburg. See what's on offer from September 2021 until February 9, 2022:

Hometown Girl: Applique Quilts of Mimi Dietrich

Mimi, born and raised in Baltimore became enamored with Baltimore Album quilts upon seeing them in an exhibit at the Baltimore Museum of Art. She immediately wanted to make one, and ever since she has been stitching, teaching applique, and writing quilting books. This exhibit features examples of her handiwork.

article continues on page 2



"Baltimore Hon," an applique quilt by Mimi Dietrich appearing in the VQM exhibit

Va. Quilt Museum Current

Exhibits (continued from page 1)

Twisted:Quilts by Mary Kerr

For over 30 years Mary has been winning prizes for her quilts, teaching, speaking and writing. This exhibit shows how she has used unfinished vintage textiles in a modern quilt aesthetic.

What the Bees See;Botanical 3D quilts by Andrea Finch

This exhibit combines three different parts of Andrea's life: photography, quilting and botany. She has used all kinds of materials to bring dimensional texture into her quilts. The machine quilted, machine appliqued, machine thread painted pieces are stretched on canvas to support the weight of the stuffed and wired sculptural elements of the designs.

COVID-19 Hope Quilts

These 11 quilts created in Loudon County were made to honor first responders and those who have been lost or affected by the pandemic. The quilts contain 162 blocks made by people of all ages.

The Museum, located at 301 S. Main Street, Harrisonburg, is open Tues-Saturday, 10 AM-4 PM. Closed Sunday and Monday.



Ricky Times in VA

Did you know that Ricky Tims is coming back to Virginia again? No, not to Richmond, but..... to Clifton Forge, of all places. He will present a Master Class Quilt Retreat there, Feb. 17-19,, 2022. The sessions include improvisational patchwork, No-pins precision curved piecing design guidelines, color theory, dyeing basics and more. The event will be held in the newly restored and renovated Historic Masonic Theatre. To register you can check out Ricky's website, or call Teresa Wright at 540-862-5655, ext. 306.

Newsletter Schedule 2021-2022 Guild Year

The deadlines for the coming months:

Feb/ March issue — Jan 10, 2022

This issue should contain the slates of officers for the coming year, both Guild and chapters.

April/May issue- March 14

I love getting photos and news which would be of interest to Guild members, so send them along at any time.

Threads of Thought is published 6 times a year by the Richmond Quilters' Guild. Send news items, inquiries, advertisements and suggestions to the editor, Ann Shibut, at 804 Derby Drive, Richmond, VA 23229 or use e-mail: ashibut@comcast.net. Telephone: 741-1374 or cell, 276-591-8546. Newsletter deadline: 2nd Monday of the month. **For changes of address please notify your chapter treasurer.**

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Chapter News

James River Heritage

James River Heritage chapter had the best attendance so far this year at our November auction meeting. There was a nice array of crafts and goods up for auction and we made over \$650 for our chapter. We also did the drawing for our raffle quilt. With over 800 tickets in the bucket our own Susan Wiedmajer won.



December 1st is our annual potluck, please bring a dish (with serving utensil) to share and your own beverage. It's the end of year collection of quilts for ASK. An ASK representative will be attending our meeting.

The January 5th meeting will be a "Getting to Know You." We have several new members and this is a great opportunity to learn about each other.

James River meets on the first Wednesday of the month from 6:30-8:30pm at the Bon Air Christian Church on Buford Road in the small room on the left.
Happy Quilting, *Frances Engesser*

Piecemakers

Piecemakers Chapter meets on the second Wednesday of the month, beginning at 10 a.m., at the New Bethesda Baptist Church in Mechanicsville. Welcome to our members in attendance and to a new member, Patricia Ankrom, making our October attendance 23. We also had 309 volunteer hours for the month.



Our December 8th meeting will be a Christmas party with a potluck lunch, a gift exchange, and a Quilt-o-Bingo game with prizes to be awarded. There will be a musical performance by a brother and sister duet who play in the Richmond Orchestra and private parties.

On January 12th, Phyllis Reeves, owner and instructor at The Valley Quilter, will present either a half day or a one day class using Deb Tucker ruler tools. This should be a great time to set a new goal for the new year and learn a unique way to make a new quilt.

Alice Sandridge

Hospitality

Happy Holidays , Hospitality quilters! **November** brought another delightful program and workshop featuring our own Haxall Ward. Bags abounded along with fun and creativity!!



December 2nd's gift exchange will be a scrap bag exchange, which can include anything quilting. Shopping in your sewing room is the trend. In preparing each bag the motto is, "Give what you would enjoy receiving." We'll accomplish the exchange with the old favorite "Left, left, Right, Right" story."

January 6th will find Hospitality enjoying a Sew Day which always includes, "chat and chew." It should be a welcome slow down day from the holidays.

Hospitality wishes all chapters a bountiful season of love, gratitude and thanksgiving. In all seasons we are truly blessed.

Hospitality Chapter meets at 10 AM on the **first Thursday** of the month at Community of Grace Church on Cranbeck Road, just off Huguenot.
Peace and Joy To All, *Sandy Collins*, President



**It's really coming.
May it be a better,
happier year than
2021.**

Chapter News

Crazy Quilters

Crazy Quilters meet on the first Tuesday of each month, beginning at 7:00 p.m., at the Mechanicsville Presbyterian Church, at the corner of Atlee Road and Signal Hill Road, in Mechanicsville. All styles of quilting and quilters are welcome!



The next meeting is our Annual Holiday Party, on December 7, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. for dinner, and then our business meeting, program and Show and Tell at 7:00 p.m. Bring a dish to share, your individual meal, or just come for the fellowship, it is your choice! We ask you bring your own beverage and mask for when we are not eating. The program will be our "Yard Exchange", so if you would like to participate, please bring a yard cut of good quality quilting fabric in a plain brown paper bag, and let the games begin!

On January 4, 2022, the meeting will start at 7:00 p.m. as usual, and the program will be building a portable (and economic) design wall, by Jennifer Johnson.

Crazy Quilters also holds monthly mini-retreats on the weekend following our monthly meetings. Upcoming mini-retreat dates are: December 9, 10, and 11; January 6, 7, and 8; and February 3, 4 and 5. The cost is \$10 for one day, \$20 for two days and \$25 for three days. Please contact us for more details, or we will see you there! No reservations are required, you can just show up and bring a dish to share, if you would like to join the potluck!

Jennifer Plate Johnson



Bits & Pieces Quilt Chapter

Sorry, no news was received from B&P chapter for this issue. They regularly meet at 7PM the second Tuesday of the month at Laurel Hill United Methodist Church, on New Market Road.

WE Quilt



In November, WE Quilt will have local artist Sandhi Schimmel Gold demonstrate making a wreath with multiple sized strips of fabric, needle and thread and a small wire wreath frame. This is a demo/workshop members can follow with their fabric strips and/ or finish at home. **No December meeting.** January will be Leslie from AllBrands showing her T-Shirt Quilts and her fine points on making one from start to finish. We regularly meet at St. Martin's Episcopal Church, behind Tucker High School, on the 3rd Tuesday of each month.

Sorry Your editor hates it when there are empty spaces in TOT. The newsletter deadline is a regular one....the second Monday of the month before the upcoming issue, i.e., Nov 8 for the Dec/January issue, and the next ones are always printed on page 2 in the previous issue. When I have not heard from chapter reporters I e-mail reminders and requests for news, usually late on Tuesday. I wait several days for the news to come in. I regret not having info from everyone, but I am not going to nag or beg repeatedly to get it.



Visitors at WE Quilt meetings

You may have read in Sherry's article on page 1 that she has visited in several chapter meetings, including the WE Quilt. There she was pleasantly surprised to see some unusual visitors. Member Katia Simmons has been bringing her therapy cat and her therapy dog to the meetings, and the chapter members have thoroughly enjoyed having them. Sherry says that they are beautifully behaved and sent these photographs.



It must have been an interesting program!

Needlework History Notes from the TOT editor

One chapter in *Threads of Life* entitled Connections and it describes how some textiles become keepsakes, rarely used but “treasured for their sense of connection to a person, a place, a moment in time.” Author Clare Hunter tells how we save these things and pass them on to our children and grandchildren as evidence of whom we have come from, of who we are.

In the last issue the article discussed treasured family textiles illustrated with pictures of two of my family quilts from the 1930s. This time I have some much older pieces I have been fortunate enough to inherit. They are not completed projects, but UFO's: those unfinished projects which most of us have. These pictures prove that even incomplete pieces can be wonderful keepsakes, reminding us of family members long gone.

When looking through some inherited items I ran across an old catalog. Why did anyone keep this, I wondered. Upon opening it, however, I found it had been used to separate silk floss used for an embroidery project. And I also found the unfinished piece. I don't know if it was my great-grandmother or my grandmother who started this. From the 1898 date on the catalog I guess it more likely that my 36 year old grandmother would be working on such a piece, than would my then 15 year old grandmother. I stand in awe of even its unfinished beauty.



Another find was an old clothing label which had evidently been used as a cloth scrap on which to practice embroidery. Turning it over I saw that my grandmother had written on the back "Virginia 3. years old." She had been teaching her first daughter how to do feather stitching! And it was from my aunt Virginia that I had inherited these gems. I am so glad they were saved.

