



Threads of Thought

A Quilter's Exchange

We're
43 years old!

Richmond Quilters' Guild, Richmond, Va.

Vol. 43, No. 1 April-May 2021

Website Address: richmondquiltersguild.com

A Few Words From Sherry

Soon after this newsletter reaches you, we will experience our first Zoom general membership meeting, complete with a program by Barb Eikmeier of Kansas. So far about 70 members have signed up for the event. That is a great response to a new avenue for being together so don't let anyone tell you that quilters aren't adventurers at heart! We have also begun holding informal chapter meetings via Zoom. Members have been delighted to see each other's faces, visit a bit and share show and tell. With chapter and guild activities pretty much at a standstill, there is not a lot of business to transact.

As your president, I receive emails or phone calls from those who have questions about quilting, want to join the guild or need a way to pass on a loved ones' quilts or quilting supplies. It is a joy to see supplies that are no longer useful to one quilter become the genesis of many quilts for those whose lives they will enrich with warmth and beauty. It is also inspiring to see the beautiful products our members create. BUT, it is making me more mindful to be a bit more realistic in what I keep and what I pass along to others to use in their creations, because there are ONLY so many hours in a day, so much energy in this body and so much focus in this brain. Let's remember to share the wealth while we can enjoy seeing what it achieves. Because even though "The one who dies with the most fabric wins," she still dies, and that is no one's favorite four letter word!

ZOOM TIPS: It doesn't hurt to be reminded to mute your microphone (the host can mute everyone if this is suitable for the occasion) so that the sounds in your household are not distracting.

Also, if you have a question during the speaker's presentation, go to chat and type it in. At the end of the program all these questions can be addressed.



Barbara Eikmeier, our program speaker

Spring Meeting via ZOOM

Those of you have signed up for the March 20, Spring Meeting will enjoy a program from Barbara Eikmeier in Lansing, Kansas. What a great way to begin meeting together once more! Barbara is a quilt maker, teacher, fabric designer, pattern creator, mother and grandmother. She has written four quilt books. Her program, "It's all in the Sashings," promises to be inspiring. She'll give suggestions for something other than plain strips between our blocks.

There will be a very brief business meeting as well marking the beginning of the Richmond Quilters' Guild's forty-third year.

RQG Board Minutes... Zoom Meeting, February 21, 2021 2 PM

Sherry Whitford called the meeting to order at roughly 2:15 PM. Present were Sherry Whitford, Jan Humphreys, Sandy Collins, Linda Thompson, Bobbie Stein, Ann Shibut, Jennifer Plate, Michelle Pease, Nancy Buckland, Barbara Vonada, AnneWright, and Regena Young.

Sherry has forwarded the Zoom registration bill of \$118.05 to the Treasurer for payment.

There were no motions made nor votes taken at this meeting,

There was discussion about the mechanics of using Zoom for chapter meetings, i.e., additional administrators etc. for this. Problems using Zoom were also brought up, with suggestions for solutions. Crazy Quilts chapter is planning to have a Zoom meeting shortly, and Hospitality will have their April meeting via Zoom. The Guild spring meeting also will be via Zoom. An announcement regarding the speaker and plans has been sent to all members already. Closer to the date an invitation will be sent; members need to respond to that and only those planning to come will be sent the link to join the Zoom meeting. Regena Young suggested having some one monitor chat to collect questions for the program presenter in one batch.

There was discussion about paying members who present Guild programs and it was the consensus that the Guild needed a written policy about this.. Jennifer Plate volunteered to write a proposed policy to be discussed and voted upon at the next Board meeting.

Nancy Buckland said that she has reserved her church for September 18 for a fall meeting, in case a “live program” is possible at that time. (This is a date corrected by Nancy subsequent to the meeting after checking her notes.)

The next Board meeting will be on June 6, via Zoom. The meeting was adjourned at 3:15.
Ann Shibut, Secretary

Newsletter Schedule 2021-2022 Guild Year

The deadlines for the coming months:

June/July issue — May 10, 2021

Aug/Sept issue — July 12, 2021

Oct/Nov issue — Sept13, 2021

Dec/Jan issue — Nov 8, 2021

Feb/ March issue — Jan 10, 2022

This last is the issue for slates of officers for the coming year in the chapter new if we are back to regular meetings. 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.**

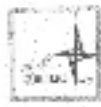
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Chapter News

Crazy Quilters

This chapter has continued making charity quilts, and has been donating them to Hilliard House, a short-term shelter for families and teens in Henrico Chapter. You can Google it to find out more.



Bits and Pieces

While Bits and Pieces has not had in-person meetings, we have continued to collect charity items throughout the months.



November/December - We collected about 24 baby quilts for donation to VCU Neonatal intensive care unit to be used to cover the isolates from the bright light and for baby to take home.

February - We collected 39 fleece blankets for donation to the VCU Massey Cancer Center for adult use.

Throughout the year, we continue to collect fabric, distribute kits to complete and then donate for pillowcases to the children's hospital, NICU baby quilts, full sized quilt tops for the Lutheran World Relief mission, as well as donating dog and cat beds to animal rescue, along with dog scarves! We are also collecting quilt blocks for kits that will be for sale at the Richmond Quilt show to benefit the charity booth. Our members also continue to donate many masks, miscellaneous items and quilts personally on their own.

Anna Williams

James River Heritage

From my windows I can see subtle signs of spring approaching in my yard. The daffodils have sprouted and with that the promise of warmer weather is ahead.

Our meeting in person is still on hold, a virtual meeting for April is in the works.

A mystery quilt was started this month. Check your email for the instructions.

Happy Quilting,
Frances Engesser



Hospitality

The April meeting of the Hospitality Chapter will be greeting one another on Zoom!



Thanks to Richmond Quilt Guild's purchase of a Zoom subscription and President Sherry Whitford as the host, we will be able to have our first meeting in a year on Wednesday, April 7th at 10 a.m.

Hospitality members will receive an email with an invitation to the meeting, in the same way we have been invited to the Spring Guild meeting. So Hospitality members be checking your email beginning March 21st. Show and Tell here we come!
Sandy Collins, President

Piecemakers

President, Jan Humphreys

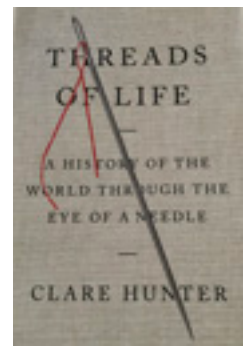


WE Quilt



Needlework History Notes from the TOTeditor

For the past couple of years I wrote a series of article for *TOT* based on information from a book about colors given to me by my middle granddaughter. This past Christmas my youngest granddaughter (who works at the Valentine Museum) gave me a book purchased in their gift shop which has inspired me to write about it. The book, by Clare Hunter, is *Threads of Life: A History of the World Through the Eye of a Needle*. As the title indicates the book tells in an entertaining way how “the language of sewing” has been used through the ages to make women’s voices heard... and in some cases, men’s voices as well. Since it deals with all forms of stitchery not everything relates to quilting and quilters, but I learned some



small section of the tapestry

and work has been treasured for centuries. Actually, it is not a tapestry, but an embroidery. Limited by having only four colors to work with — red, blue, green and yellow, — and limited amounts of yarn, the stitchers used only four kinds of stitches to create this work which includes 632 men, over 200 horses, 55 dogs, more than over 500 other animals and birds... and only 6 women.

Internationally known stitcher and quilter, Pam Holland, became very interested in the Bayeux tapestry and has been working to recreate it as a quilt. If you search the internet you can find where she tells of how she has gone about this for the past 7 years! It is fascinating. She has done deep research into this amazing creation whose maker(s) are unknown, has visited the tapestry and studied it in depth and has documented all of this for us to read about, learn from, and generally be amazed at all she has accomplished so far... at the same time maintaining until Covid interrupted it, a full schedule of traveling the world to teach quilting, applique and design. She offers photographs of the work done so far. Check it out. (Search for Bayeux tapestry + Pam Holland)



Pam's drawings as she works on her reproduction

Next issue I'll tell you what I learned from *Threads of Life* about Isaac Singer... the man who brought the sewing machine into just about every home.

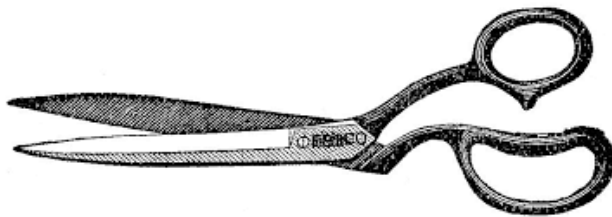


Celebrating 25 Years

The Virginia Quilt Museum in Harrisonburg is celebrating its 25th birthday (which was in 2020) in 2021. To mark this noteworthy occasion the museum is featuring an exhibit of a mixture of quilt -- one added to the collection from each year since opening its doors in 1995. There are historic as well as contemporary quilts, so come and see this display as well as others at the Museum. It is open Tuesday through Saturdays, 10 AM to 4 PM.



Celestial Harmony is one of the quilts in the 25th birthday exhibit



Tips About Cutting



1. Always cut the largest pieces of fabric in a project first. You'll find out quickly if you are going to run short, instead of having it an unpleasant surprise at the end.
2. Don't cut too many layers at a time. When you do stack, press one fabric first. Then, place the second on top of it and press again. Repeat as many times as you feel comfortable cutting. This helps the layers cling together.
3. When you do cut layers, and find that your fabric or your ruler slipped and some of the pieces are not exactly right... correct the mistakes then. If you cut a bit too large, trim off the sliver. Pieces that don't align will ruin the project in the end, so don't let one mistake multiply.
4. Use tape or sticky notes on the ruler to mark the line you are using. This makes it easier to be sure you are cutting the width you mean to cut.
5. Be as accurate as you can be so everything fits the first time. Carpenters have the age old quote, "Measure twice, cut once," and this holds true for quilters as well.