

BLOOMINGTON QUILTERS GUILD NEWSLETTER

[Bloomington Quilters Guild](#)

PO Box 5802

Bloomington, IN 47407

February 2017

“R” Is for Retreat!

By Kathy Sheehan, BQG President



Greetings,
Quilters!

I just finished packing my bags for the Winter Retreat at Spring

Mill State Park. Solo quilters, mother-daughter teams, and best friends all come together to share their love of quilting, learn new techniques, make new friends, discover differences, and celebrate commonality as quilters. Oh...and eat the great cuisine at the buffet! I can't wait!

There is always excitement and energy in the air as the quilters arrive. Soon, sewing machines, surge protectors, lights, fabrics, rotary cutters, and mats are set up. It isn't long before we are all happily engaged in sewing or cutting or pressing or chatting with old friends and new. I love seeing what others are working on and the “ta da!” moments when a quilt top comes together in a finished project. Sewing is done whenever desired—morning, noon, or late into the night without the distractions of the responsibilities of home. It's a very happy indulgence!

A retreat allows you—just for a moment—to put away your cares, leave the worries of the world behind (especially wifi and TV), and let the world fend for itself. I hope you

find enjoyment and make memories (as well as quilts) in this year's escape to Spring Mill.

Happy Quilting!



Challenge Quilt (Maryam Othman)

A Reminder

Just a reminder that our challenge quilt this year is “Your Favorite TV show or Movie.” It is up to you on how you want to interpret the challenge. Hopefully you have started on your challenge, as it is due in four months. Please bring it to our June meeting. The rules are:

- ◆ It has to be quilted.
- ◆ Total length of all four sides is not more than 100 inches.
- ◆ The quilt is something that you completed this year.

We will pick three winners based on the votes from members at that meeting. Good luck! I have been shopping for cool gifts to put together in the gift baskets.

Raffle Quilt (Becky Wilson)

Tickets at IHQS

The guild will have a table set up at the Indiana Heritage Quilt Show to sell raffle tickets. Table volunteers can sign up at the February guild meeting. We will need two people for each two-hour block. Please be thinking about times that would work for you.

Don't forget that Valentine's Day is coming up soon. This is a wonderful opportunity to send that special friend a chance at winning the beautiful raffle quilt.



The Bloomington Quilters Guild is a 501(c)3 organization. The purpose of the BQG is to develop an appreciation of the history of quilting and quilters and promote continuation of the art in our community.

We welcome guests to our meetings! Meetings are on the first Tuesday of each month at the North Central Church of Christ, 2121 N. Dunn St.

6:00 pm: Doors open

6:30 pm: Show and tell

7:00 pm: Program

Next Meeting: February 7

Quilts from the Heartland Show (Pat Surra & Kathy Kessler)**November 10 & 11: It's Not Too Early to Get Ready!**

Only nine months to go before our guild's triennial (every three years) quilt show. It will be here before we know it. We hope that many of you are working on quilts you want to enter into the show. There is no fee to enter a quilt in the show, and it will not be critiqued by a judge.



A new award is named in honor of long-time guild member Nola King.

Two awards will be given out at the show. A Viewer's Choice Award will be voted on by the attendees of the show, and this year we've also

added the Nola King Hand-Quilting Award. Nola King was a long-time member of the guild who not only hand-quilted her quilts, but also hand-pieced them.

For those of you working on quilts for the show, here are a couple of things you can do ahead of time to get them show-ready. Quilts will need to have a four-inch sleeve on the top of the quilt for hanging. This sleeve does not have to be permanent. You can even baste or use safety pins to hold it on. The quilt will also need to have a label on it. The label should have a minimum of your name and the name of the quilt.

Vendor Mall and Treasure Shop

In addition to the quilt display, we will have a Vendor Mall and a Treasure Shop. The Treasure Shop is the main money-maker for our guild, so keep those fabric, books, patterns, notions, craft items, etc., donations

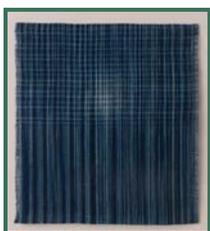


coming in. Just a reminder that donation boxes will be in the back of the room at the guild meetings.

If you donate quilting fabric, please premeasure the fabric, write the yardage on a small piece of paper, and staple it to the corner of the fabric. You can also use safety pins, but no straight pins, please. Any scraps of fabric smaller than a fat quarter or ¼ yard can all be put in a baggy for the swimming pool.

The boxes will be labeled Yardage, Fat Quarters, Pre-cuts (charm packs, jelly rolls, layer cakes, etc.), Small Scraps, Quilting Notions, Books and Craft Items. Please try to separate your donations accordingly. If you have any questions or cannot bring your donations to one of the guild meetings, please contact Tara (812-272-7422) or Patsy (812-322-2174) and someone will pick them up. Thank you!

We are looking forward to working with everyone to make this another successful quilt show.

Programs (Lisa Dodson)**Great Programs Coming Up in February!**

Roland Ricketts will present a lecture on February 7 titled, "Going Blue," which has nothing to do with politics. Rowland uses natural dyes

and historical processes to create contemporary textiles that span art and design. Trained in indigo farming and dyeing in Japan, Rowland received an MFA from Cranbrook Academy of Art in 2005 and is currently an assistant professor in textiles at IU's Henry Radford Hope

School of Fine Art. His work has been exhibited at the Textile Museum (Washington, DC), the Cavin-Morris Gallery (New York), and the Douglas Dawson Gallery (Chicago). He has been published in *Textiles Now*, *FiberArts*, *Selvedge*, *Surface Design Journal*, and *Hand/Eye Magazine*.



Robbi Joy Eklow will present a lecture on February 28 titled, "Goddess of the Last Minute." Robbi enjoys working with fiber and

uses it as a way to introduce herself to people. She makes art quilts from cotton fabrics that she dyes herself using bonded appliqué and free motion quilting extensively on the surface. Robbi enjoys lecturing and teaching to share her techniques and to encourage others to find their voice through fiber.

The guild will not meet in March.

The February 28 meeting is scheduled to share an instructor with IHQS and will take the place of the March meeting. As usual, the meeting will be at the North Central Church of Christ; doors will open at 6:00 pm.

Feature (Pat Surra)

The Life Story of a Treadle Sewing Machine



There's been a lot of interest on the quilting and sewing blogs about vintage sewing machines. People

love to post pictures on Facebook of their fabulous vintage machine, purchased at a garage sale for only \$20. Bonnie Hunter of Quiltville fame is a collector of vintage machines and blogs about them quite often. One of our speakers at the guild last April, Sue Nickels, gave a program that was full of the history of the

White sewing machines since the company did not document serial numbers and year of manufacture as the Singer Company did. If you find a vintage Singer, it is not difficult to look up on the internet the year it was "born." The serial number on my family treadle

machine is 20692, which, according to Glenn at Klaibers, makes it one of the earliest machines made by Thomas White in 1859 to 1865. Wow! Imagine if this treadle sewing machine could talk. It was born before the Civil War! The bobbin mechanism has been switched from what would have been a "shuttle" bobbin to a rotary bobbin, much like the featherweights and Singers of the 20th century. The cover plate has a patent date of 1900, so it must have been around the turn of the century that the machine was updated.

So I am left to imagine where this machine has

been in the 150 or so years of its existence. My grandmother, Jesse Jenkins Harmon, was on a covered wagon with the settlers who were given land in the Oklahoma Land Rush of 1889. I have pictures of the family in front of the sod hut on the Oklahoma prairie from this era. My imagination puts this treadle machine in that sod hut, sewing garments and necessities for the family living as settlers out on the Okla-



homa prairie. The machine made it from Oklahoma to Kansas and, finally, to California, where my first memories start. It was my mother's sewing machine and the one I tried to learn to sew with, but I could never get the hang of the treadle rhythm.

Now this fabulous piece of history is ready for some new life. It is time for a new belt, a little cleaning and oil, and a new needle. This is the year that I want to see if I can master the rhythm of the treadle! Sew on!

The New York Times, Jan. 7, 1860

The time saved in manufacturing different articles of clothing [by using a sewing machine] is an important item. The sewing upon a gentleman's shirt can be accomplished with ease in one hour upon a first-class sewing machine. It would take 14 hours of close and weary application to do the same by hand. A pair of pantaloons can be made in one hour by the machine, that would take a smart seamstress five hours to make. A frock-coat requiring 17 hours of constant work by hand, can be made with a machine in three hours. Seams of considerable length are ordinarily sewed with the best machines, at the rate of a yard a minute, and that too in manner far superior to hand sewing, besides being more healthy for those engaged.



sewing machine. So I decided to do some research about the old treadle sewing machine I inherited from my mother, who inherited it from my father's mother.

My treadle machine is a White. Thomas H. White was only 22 when he started manufacturing sewing machines in 1858 in Templeton, Massachusetts. By 1866, the company had moved to Cleveland, Ohio. It is very difficult to trace the age of the

January Guild Meeting



This Community Quilt by Linda Kelsey will keep someone in need warm and comfortable.



Donna Hogle's Community Quilt is just the right size for a new baby—and bright and cheerful, too!



Laura Brown-Cano shows her many talents during Show and Tell.



Heather Givans, owner of Crimson Tate, speaking on the topic, "From Artist to Designer—Perspectives on Modern Quilting."

IHQs (Susan Brewer)**Indiana Heritage Quilt Show Coming in March****Volunteers Needed!**

IHQs has a great show planned for March 2, 3, and 4. As usual, the show can't go on without our wonderful volunteers. Click [here](#) for online sign-ups or you can just go to <http://www.ihqs.org> and click on the "Volunteer" tab. Each volunteer receives a free one-day pass to the show—a \$10 value.

For those who may not have internet access or have difficulty, I can be reached on my cell phone at 812-322-6956. Leave a message and I'll call you back.



A display of Studio Art Quilt Associates (SAQA) quilts from the 2016 IHQS.

Follow Us!

You can get all the latest information about the March 2-4 IHQS by signing up for the mailing list at <http://www.ihqs.org>. And you can follow IHQS on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/IndianaHeritageQuiltShow>.

Special IHQS Exhibits

See two special exhibits at the show or ride the shuttle from the show to the community exhibits around Bloomington. You'll love this year's lineup of special exhibits.

At the show:

- ◆ **Inspired by the National Parks** includes fifty-nine parks featuring a trio of quilts for each, a total of 177 quilts.

- ◆ Karen Hampton of **Hampton Art Studios** will display pieces featuring many innovative techniques and materials.

Community exhibits:

- ◆ **WonderLab** will feature an exhibit of BQG's own very talented Julie Higgins.
- ◆ The **Farmer House Museum** will present a special exhibit, "Dolls and their Quilts," as well as quilt, sewing, and textile items from their permanent collection.
- ◆ IU's **Mathers Museum of World Cultures** will host an internationally recognized exhibit, "Quilts of Southwest China."
- ◆ **Wylie House** will display antique quilts and, as a special feature, Teri Klassen, quilt historian and folklorist, will give a talk Friday, March 3, at 2:00 p.m., "Polk's Fancy: A Southern Indiana Quilt Pattern of the Mexican War Era."



A quilt from the 2016 Young Quiltmakers exhibit.

IHSQ Workshops Still Available

There are five great, nationally recognized, award-winning instructors included in this year's line-up. Each teacher will have a full-day class, March 2-4. There's also one special half-day class. Class descriptions, supply lists, and registration are all on the website, <http://www.ihqs.org>.



One of many quilts displayed in the Silver Anniversary exhibit.

- ◆ Susan Cleveland – piping, double point Dresden, big thread appliqué
- ◆ Robbi Joy Eklow – fused art deco, free motion quilting
- ◆ Pepper Cory – quilt marking, drunkard's path, and sashiko quilting
- ◆ Bill Kerr – color value, curves, large-scale prints, modern composition
- ◆ Jamie Wallen – traditional, nontraditional, and stylized quilting designs
- ◆ Linda Scholten – caring for your vintage featherweight (half-day Thursday only)

Mystery Quilt (Becky Lomasney)**Mystery Quilt Station 5 Coming Up!**

In the November issue of the newsletter, we introduced the mystery quilt and provided instructions for Unit 1. The December and January issues provided Units 2 through 4. Now get ready for Unit 5! The June

issue will include the final instructions for putting it all together. I hope you have fun with this! Let me know if you have questions.

Editor's Note: Please understand that this design is for guild members only. Do not copy it or distribute it to non-members. Becky Lomasney reserves all rights and is planning to market this design via her business, "Mustard Seed Quilts."

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Unit #5**Cutting:****Queen size quilt**

From Fabric A cut:

(112) 4 ½" squares

From Background fabric cut:

(224) 2 ½" squares

Lap size quilt

From Fabric A cut:

(60) 4 ½" squares

From Background fabric cut:

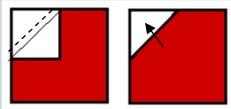
(120) 2 ½" squares

Assembly:

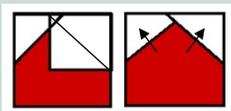
1. Draw a line on the diagonal of one Background 2 ½" square.
2. Place the square on the top left corner of a Fabric A 4 ½" square.

Sew on the line.

3. Trim ¼" to the outside of the sewn line.
4. Press toward the Background triangle.



5. Draw a line on the diagonal of one Background 2 ½" square.
6. Place that square on the top right corner of the patch made in Step #1.
7. Sew on the line and trim ¼" to the outside of the sewn line.



This unit should measure 4 ½" when complete. Repeat until you have (112) units for the queen quilt or (60) units for the lap quilt.

Member News (Ann Birch)**Olcott Caps**

We all know that quilters are multi-talented so here's another opportunity to use your skills for someone in need. RJ Trubitt (812-339-0945) is collecting knitted caps for the [Olcott Center](#). The center provides education and support for cancer patients. The caps are used by patients who have lost their hair because of cancer treatments. Below are the instructions for the caps.

1. Use very soft yarn, such as Soft Secret by Yarn Bee from Hobby Lobby. Round needles are recommended.
2. Cast on 70 stitches.
3. Knit for 10 inches. The bottom will curl up nicely a little.
4. Knit off.
5. Run a thin ribbon around the top edge and pull tight together. It's nice to leave some ribbon hanging down.
6. Sew up any holes at the top of the hat.

The Olcott Center thanks you! Please contact RJ if you have made caps you'd like to donate.

Community Quilts (Ann Birch)**Baby Quilts**

We'd like to highlight baby quilts this month, specifically for the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program. Each new mom who comes into the WIC clinic gets one of our quilts to wrap her baby or toddler in. Our contact at WIC, Jennifer Hildebrand, says the quilts are much appreciated and to please keep them coming! The suggested size for a baby quilt is 30 x 40 inches or similar. For a toddler or crib quilt, the suggested size is 36 x 52 inches or similar.



BQG 2016-2017 Executive Board

President: Kathy Sheehan, 720-284-1757, president@bloomingtonquiltersguild.org

President-Elect: Dedaimia Whitney, 812-327-2454, pres-elect@bloomingtonquiltersguild.org

Treasurer: Pat Surra, 916-768-3492, treasurer@bloomingtonquiltersguild.org

Secretary: Molly Gleeson, 812-339-2469, secretary@bloomingtonquiltersguild.org

Standing Committee Chairpersons

Membership: Janice Arvesen, 812-325-4191, membership@bloomingtonquiltersguild.org

Historian: Betsy Glassey, 812-336-3009, historian@bloomingtonquiltersguild.org

Programs: Lisa Dodson, 765-813-0311, events@bloomingtonquiltersguild.org

Programs Elect: Laura Brown-Cano, 812-360-6206, events@bloomingtonquiltersguild.org

Newsletter Editor: Ann Birch, 989-430-4075, news@bloomingtonquiltersguild.org

Web Manager: Katha Soens, 317-529-2286, webmanager@bloomingtonquiltersguild.org

Community Quilts: Twin Lakes Stitchers Bee; Ann Birch, 989-430-4075, community@bloomingtonquiltersguild.org

Sunshine: Beth Gerth, 812-272-2245, sunshine@bloomingtonquiltersguild.org

Bobbie Mentzel, 219-928-8823, sunshine@bloomingtonquiltersguild.org

Special Committee Chairpersons

Fall Retreat: Carol Evans, 317-272-4634, fallretreat@bloomingtonquiltersguild.org

Fall Retreat Assistants: Dorothy Arnold, 631-901-7744, fallretreat@bloomingtonquiltersguild.org

Betsy Glassey, 812-336-3009, fallretreat@bloomingtonquiltersguild.org

Winter Retreat: Martha Nord, 812-339-7403, winterretreat@bloomingtonquiltersguild.org

Nola Hartman, 812-339-8589, winterretreat@bloomingtonquiltersguild.org

Raffle Quilt: Becky Wilson, 812-650-0461, raffle@bloomingtonquiltersguild.org

Challenge Quilt: Maryam Othman, 812-824-2457, challenge@bloomingtonquiltersguild.org

Quilt Show: Pat Surra, 916-768-3492, showentry@bloomingtonquiltersguild.org

Kathy Kessler, 812-322-4934, showentry@bloomingtonquiltersguild.org

Additional Contacts

Mystery Quilt: Becky Lomasney, 812-876-8486, mystery@bloomingtonquiltersguild.org

Chicago Bus Trip (Dedaimia Whitney)

Sign Up for the Chicago International Quilt Festival



The Bloomington Quilters Guild will partner again with the Quilt Connection Guild of Greenwood on a trek up to the [Chicago International Quilt Festival](#) on Friday, April 7. The bus will leave at 7 a.m. and return about 11 p.m. with a one-hour stop for dinner on the trip home.

The per-person cost this year will be \$70 for Bloomington and Greenwood guild members and \$75 for nonmembers. This price pays for a bus seat and a ticket to the show.

Registration will open at the Bloomington guild meeting in February and continue through March. You can register either at these meetings or [online](#) through the website.

There is a “fast food” type food court at the quilt show, but if you

have special food requirements, it may be a good idea to pack a lunch. Last year we stopped at a food court mall for dinner, and there were several reasonably healthy options.

At the moment, registration is restricted to guild members only. If the bus does not fill, we will open remaining seats to nonmember guests. Any questions can be directed to [Dedaimia Whitney](#), 812-327-2454.

Ann Birch

Calendar

Events

Winter Retreat, January 19–22

February Guild Meeting

Doors open at 6:00 pm for the guild meetings on February 7 and 28 at North Central Church of Christ.

February Board Meeting

The board meeting will be at 6:00 pm on February 14. Contact a board member for more details.

March Newsletter

Articles for the March newsletter are due Feb. 17 to Ann Birch, news@bloomingtonquiltersguild.org, 989-430-4075.

Visit our website:

<http://www.bloomingtonquiltersguild.org/>

Check out our Facebook page:

Search for “Bloomington Quilters Guild.”

From your editor:

Please let me know if you have photos, ideas for articles, or member news related to quilting. Did you win a ribbon at a quilt show? Do you have a quilting story? Give me a call or email me, and I'll be happy to talk to you about incorporating it into the newsletter.

Ann Birch

989-430-4075

news@bloomingtonquiltersguild.org

Many thanks to the photographers who provided photos/illustrations for this issue: Kathy Sheehan, Betsy Glassey, Kathy Kessler, Pat Surra. Any photos/illustrations from other sources are used with permission or are in the public domain.

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