RED ROCK QUILTERS GUILD NEWSLETTER
SEPTEMBER/AUGUST 26



Next Guild Meeting

September 8th
9:00 am – Noonish
Program Karen Eckmeier
Wiggles and Waves
Christ Lutheran Church
Zoom Info
Topic: RRQG Membership Meeting
https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85430463377?pwd=22bS3d4u2wiZjmTpJ04k6ytoLh9hQb.1

Hospitality Signup Link

RRQG Hospitality Sign Up

Next Guild Board Meeting

Monday Aug 31 9:00 AM
Agenda will be sent prior to meeting
Zoom Info
https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83000413578?pwd=XrzfHDyLOhdu6RC8zi730LzuX4lrAe.1

Group Sew

9:00am-1:00pm
Aug 24th, 2026
Christ Lutheran Church
We have irons, ironing boards, a large cutting mat, and several extension cords. Bring your own project or come and chat/assist someone else.

Food Bank Donations

There is a shopping cart at Christ Lutheran Church for local Food Bank donations. If you have any non-perishable food items, the local food banks would appreciate them

President's Message

Submitted by Darcey Baker Philpot

Are you looking forward to our monthly meetings resuming as much as I am? Our programs chair, Polly Bauer, has an outstanding line-up of programs and classes for your enjoyment and education. If you have not already done so, I encourage you to sign up for the Faces class being taught by Susan Edmonson on Wednesday, September 30th. This class will be held via Zoom. The benefit of Zoom is that you can attend from the comfort of your own quilting space, with all your quilting supplies readily at hand. This eliminates the dreaded realization that you have left something important at home.

Susan will be teaching her simple fusible appliquilt techniques. As a bonus, you can enter your creation in this year's President's Challenge at the library quilt show. I chose Self Portrait as this year's theme, never dreaming there might be a class to help with the creative process. What fun it will be to see what everyone has created. Polly will have a sample of the quilt kit at our guild meeting on September 8th, so you can see firsthand what you will be working on.

Between vacations, Jen Theroux has been updating our website. Lori Feine has collaborated as well. It's a huge task. I have been lucky enough to get a sneak peek of Jen's efforts. Let me just say, "Expect to be blown away!" We are hoping for a late fall launch, so stay tuned.

Did you read Lori Feine's updates on the library quilting events held this summer? Lori and her team, Deb Payne, Wendy Lopez, Karen Gieske, Patsy Kittredge, Joyce Bethune, Mary Dean, Maryann Kenney, Linda Hollenbeck, Beth Hudson, Julie Carey, and Angela Thomas did an outstanding job with this inaugural event. You never know, maybe one of the participants will join our guild in the future and tell how they were introduced to quilting at a library event.

I hope you have all enjoyed a creative summer of quilting. I know some have attended classes and retreats, and one member has a quilting cruise scheduled soon. Show and tell should be lots of fun on September 8th.

Warmly,

Darcey

PROGRAM COMMITTEE NEWS

Submitted by Pauline Bauer

It's been a busy summer lining up some fun work-shops and programs for this year. I appreciate everyone's feedback and help in getting a schedule lined up. Feedback is the best way for me to help line up what you want to see.

We have also upgraded to remote sign-ups for classes and a shared google drive thanks to Deb. As always you can pay in person with cash/check or mail check.

September

Karen Eckmeier from The Quilted Lizard will be doing a zoom program titled "Wiggles and Waves". http://www.quilted-lizard.com/workshops.htm



Inspired by the textures, lines and colors found in nature, Karen shares her love of curved piecing and collage, and how it led to the creation of her layered topstitching technique. Wild curves and dramatic angles may look difficult to do, but the process is really easy and quite relaxing!

So, sit back and let Karen inspire you during this presentation on how to use topstitching technique to create wiggles & waves, twists & twirls, logs & leaves, Accidental Landscapes™ and even waves to wear.

September 30

Susan Edmonson from Susan Edmonson Designs will be doing a workshop via zoom titled "Faces". https://www.susanedmonsondesigns.com/

Susan Edmonson is an award winning quilt maker who started this journey in 1981 and today continues to wow her audiences with her unique artistry. She has designed quilt patterns and kits for two national stores as well as her own pattern line.



This original pattern is designed to make creating faces in a quilt much easier! With all the basics and patterns to trace and mix and match it is really fun to sew. Simple fusible appliquilt techniques are covered

This ties in well with Darcey's President's Challenge this year of Self Portrait

There is still time to sign-up for the class! The time limiting factor is the patterns have to mailed to us. You can sign up at the meeting on 9/8 or via square link. I would like to cut off registration on 9/15.
Registration Link: https://square.link/u/HG4oRWQE

This is a Zoom class from your sewing room from 9-3:30 allowing ½ hour for a lunch break

Zoom link will be sent to attendees prior to class

October

Program- *Veronica Sandoval* will be presenting "Thread is not just Thread"

Featherweight Maintenance will follow the meeting from ~12:30-4:30. This will allow a lunch break for both presenter and student. A supply list will be sent out prior to class. This class requires registration and we are **FULL.** Thanks to all that have signed up!

November

Program-*Karen McTavish* from McTavish Quilting Studios & Fabric will be doing a zoom presentation titled "How do I Quilt that". https://www.mctavishquilting.com/

Karen has worked as a longarm quilter since 1997. She has many national/international awards and is respected as an accomplished fiber artist and as one of the innovators of the machine quilting industry.



won

Karen is known internationally as the creator of a style of quilting referred to as "McTavishing." She teaches quilting throughout the US and abroad. If you are not familiar with her work please check out her website.

December-Holiday lunch

2027

March

Program-Theresa Benson from the AI Quilter. Her program is titled "The future of quilting is human." https://theaiquilter.com/class/the-future-of-quilting-is-human



Every generation of quilters faces new tools—rotary cutters, longarms, even fabric pre-cuts—that felt scary at first. AI is just the latest tool in the kit. In this candid, thoughtful talk, Theresa Benson explores how makers can embrace innovation without losing their voice of values. She breaks down common fears about AI, shares inspiring examples of intentional tech use, and offers a vision for a future where technology supports-not replaces-the human heart of quilting and craft.

"I help makers, guilds, and creative businesses work smarter with technology fabric and the process of building something from curiosity forward."

Bag Making

Karen Barrow has agreed to do a presentation and workshop on bag making. We are still working out the details. Look forward to this over the winter months. Thank you Karen for sharing your talents with us!

Potential Bethanne Nemesh In-Person Work-Shop



We have an opportunity to host Bethanne Nemesh from White Arbor Quilting to do a workshop and/or presentation this winter. She is a very talented quilter and artist. If you are not familiar with her work check out her website https://whitearborquilting.com/

She will be in Phoenix and we would only have to cover travel from there. I have also had members offer to host her in their home. So Thank you for that.

The class would likely be a 6 hour machine quilting workshop for ~ $80. We need ~ 10 participants to make the class financially feasible. I have created a very short survey to determine interest before moving ahead with this. Please complete at link below. https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/YGYKL8F

Block of the Month



The survey for Block of the Month and field trips is still open. If you want to provide any input you can still do so.

From the results so far it seems there is a big interest in doing a BOM starting in January 2027. So more to come.....

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/JBR7FSJ

This is a possible choice for BOM, the Sedona Quilt by Sew Kind of Wonderful
https://sewkindofwonderful.com/products/sedona-1

The reason it was chosen is the blocks can be put together in 3-4 different ways to make different versions of the project, there are short video tutorial for each month, and possibly learning a new ruler technique.

Decision of pattern will be wholly up to the participants doing Block of the Month. If you have other suggestions please feel free to send them to me.

Sorry for such a long Newsletter but wanted to get as much information out as I can!

Spotlight on Members – Barbara Kess

We're delighted to welcome Barbara Kess to the RRQG community. She brings a lifelong love of sewing, a spirit of curiosity, and plenty of enthusiasm for learning new techniques.



Her sewing journey began in childhood, when her mother taught her how to sew clothes. In her twenties, she expanded her skills by sewing draperies for homes and even piecing a flying geese wall quilt. Then a career in technology took center stage, and sewing was put on hold for many years. After retiring in 2024, she happily returned to her creative roots.

Although she considers herself fairly new to quilting, she is eager to experiment with different styles and techniques. She has taken classes to discover what quilting has to offer and is enjoying the process of learning along the way.

Her first two quilts were longarm quilted by a talented quilter in Flagstaff. As she gains confidence, however, she is beginning to do more of the quilting herself. This summer she completed a tote bag, quilting it with a clamshell ruler. She also recently finished a machine-pieced fabric picture from a Vicky Conley class and quilted it herself using a walking foot and freestyle lines.

When asked about her stash, she laughs that it is minimal. After giving away most of her previous fabric collection, she is starting over—perhaps with a fresh opportunity to build a stash filled with bright colors, including one of her favorites, periwinkle blue.

Outside of quilting, she enjoys spending time with her husband, organizing and decluttering her home, entertaining, taking care of her health, and staying connected with friends and family. She and her husband have been married for 45 years. Their family includes a stepson, two granddaughters, and two great-grandchildren, all living in Nebraska.

Her professional background is equally interesting. She spent 27 years at a large technology company in Redmond, Washington, working in project management, people management, and technical documentation. Before that, she taught and conducted research in Lincoln, Nebraska, while earning a PhD in computer science.

Nebraska was home from birth through her early career. She was born and raised in Omaha and spent about 20 years in Lincoln before moving with her husband to Redmond, Washington. In 2016, they made a pre-retirement move to Sedona, where she continued working from home until retiring from the tech industry. She has now called Sedona home full time for almost 10 years.

So, how did she discover RRQ? Through conversations at Odegaard's while taking classes there. We're glad those conversations led her to us!

Please join us in welcoming this enthusiastic new quilter to RRQG. We look forward to seeing where Barbara's quilting journey takes her—and, of course, to seeing what bright and beautiful creations come next!

Quilt Show Tidbits

It's time to start planning our next quilt show!

Save the Dates

The 2027 Quilt Show will open on **Monday, January 11, 2027**, and close on **Saturday, February 27, 2027**. This year's show will be slightly shorter than in previous years because the New Year's Eve/New Year's Day holiday falls during the usual setup weekend.

Please mark your calendar for the **Opening Ceremony on Monday, January 11, at 11:00 a.m.**

What Will the Show Include?

That's where you come in! Our first quilt show planning meeting will be held in late September, when we'll begin deciding which activities to offer. Possibilities include **Palooza, a boutique, lectures, and other special events**.

At the September Guild meeting, we'll be asking for your input and, more importantly, your support. For example, would you be willing to make items for a boutique and/or volunteer to work during the boutique?

These special activities can only happen if our **Guild members are willing to support them**, so please give some thought to how you might participate.

More Information Coming in September

The full quilt show calendar will be updated in September. This will include important dates such as when applications will be available, application deadlines, intake dates, and more.

Join the Quilt Show Committee

We have lost several members of our previous committee and need to fill a few positions. If you're interested in helping with the quilt show committee, please let **Lori Feine** know.

As always, if you have questions about the quilt show, please contact Lori.

We're looking forward to another wonderful show—and we hope you'll be part of making it happen!

2026 Summer Reading program

Submitted by Lori Feine

What does a reading program have to do with the Guild? This summer, the **2026 Summer Reading Program** sponsored two youth quilting events—one in June and one in July at the Community Library Sedona.

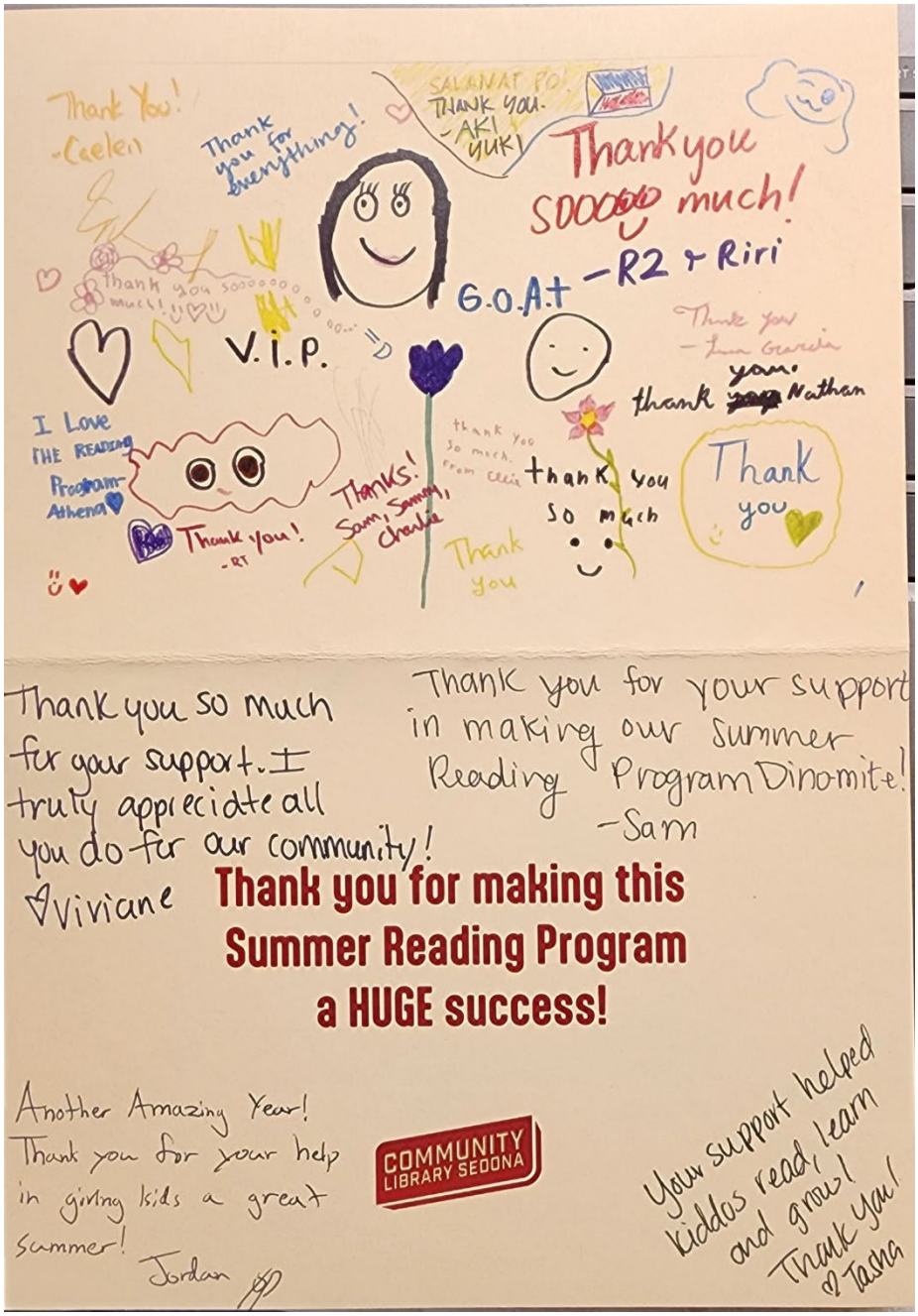
The goal of these events was to introduce youth to the art of quilting and sewing and give them an opportunity to create something of their own. In June, we welcomed **11 youth and 5 adults**, and in July, **8 youth** participated.

We have invited all of the young quilters to display their creations at our next quilt show. We hope they will be proud to share their work and that their experience will inspire them to continue exploring the wonderful world of quilting!

We received a very cute thank-you note from the youth who participated. **Enjoy!**






Thank You!
-Caelen
Thank you for everything!
Thank you SOOOOO much!
-R2 + Riri
G.O.A.t
V.I.P.
I Love THE READING Program- Athena
Thank you! -RT
Thanks! Sam, Sammy, Charlie
thank you so much
Thank you
Thank you
-Nathan
Thank you so much for your support. I truly appreciate all you do for our community!
♡Viviane
Thank you for your support in making our Summer Reading Program Dinomite!
-Sam
Thank you for making this Summer Reading Program a HUGE success!
Another Amazing Year! Thank you for your help in giving kids a great summer!
Jordan
COMMUNITY LIBRARY SEDONA
Your support helped kiddos read, learn and grow! Thank you!
♡Tasha

Quilts of Valor Presentations

Submitted by Mary Dean

Over the summer we presented 4 Quilts of Valor. We have a few more awards in the works and are working hard to get more quilts made.
These nominations were the results of an event in Flagstaff called a Stand Down; it's a veteran's services event. We'll be attending one in Williams in September.
If interested in helping out or making a donation to Quilts of Valor Foundation please contact
Mary Dean
623-910-5406
mkedean@outlook.com



Lt. Col. Oliver Cole 104 Years Young was awarded a Quilt of Valor on July 23, 2026 at The Bluffs in Flagstaff Mary Dean, Margaret Connery, Liz Kolplitz, Ross Bergstresser (the Commander of the Arizona American Legi on) were in attendance.



E4 Buck Williams was awarded his Quilt of Valor on June 29, 2026 in Williams Mary Dean, Mary Radtke and Julie Carey were in attendance.

E4 Jerry Plumley was awarded his Quilt of Valor on July 5, 2026 in Flagstaff



E5 Ed Skowronski was also awarded his Quilt of Valor on July 5, 2026 in Flagstaff



Champ Update

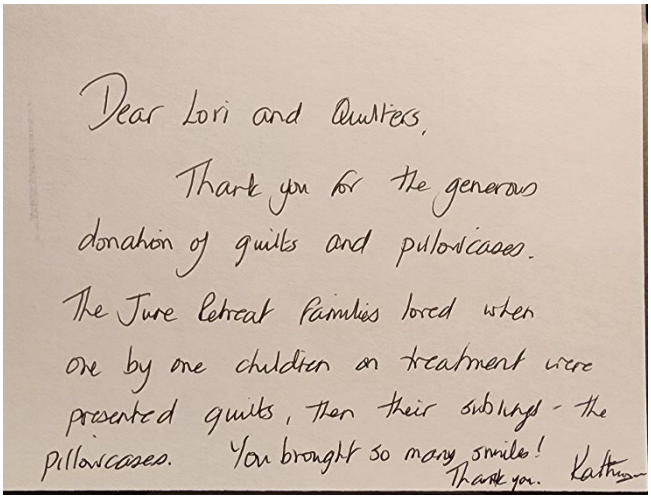
Submitted by Lori Feine

In June, CHAMP held a retreat for families of children undergoing cancer treatment. For those who may not be familiar with CHAMP, it is a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting these families throughout their cancer journey.

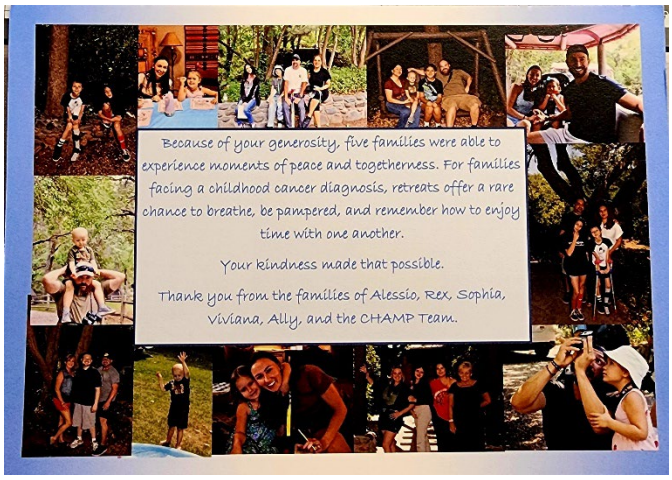
Our Guild proudly supports CHAMP by donating **quilts to the children receiving treatment and pillowcases for their siblings**.

This time, **Joyce Bethune and Karen Gieske** represented the Guild at the retreat and presented quilts to five participants.

We're grateful for the opportunity to support CHAMP and the families they serve. Enjoy a few photos from the event, along with the **thank-you card we received from the organization**.


Dear Lori and Quilters,

Thank you for the generous donation of quilts and pulowcases. The June retreat families loved when one by one children on treatment were presented quilts, then their siblings - the pillowcases. You brought so many smiles! Thank you. Kath

















Show and Tell from the May Meeting












EXIT






EXIT


EXIT




EXIT

Upcoming Quilt Shows – If you hear of any other local or nearby shows send an email to Karen Gieske (kagweasel@gmail.com) and I will include the info in the next newsletter.







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