

# West Suburban Quilters' Guild Newsletter

## Volume 44 Issue 6

### Meetings

Meetings are held the 2nd Wednesday of the month, with the exception of a couple Tuesday meetings. See the schedule in this newsletter.

**Meetings begin at 7:00 PM**

**Social time begins at 6:00**  
**Brookfield Lutheran Church**  
**18500 W. Burleigh**  
**Brookfield, WI 53045**

### Website

Follow us on the website at <http://www.wsqg.net>

WSQG\_Mbrs\_Only!!

Submit items to Cathy Helgeson at [clhqilts@yahoo.com](mailto:clhqilts@yahoo.com)

### Facebook

Please check the WSQG Facebook page. This is a closed group. Contact Cathy Helgeson to join the page.

### Newsletter

Submit items for the newsletter by the 25th of the month to Judy Valentino at [judyv1954@sbcglobal.net](mailto:judyv1954@sbcglobal.net)

The newsletter will be published on the [WSQG.net](http://www.wsqg.net) website. An email, with a link to the website, will be sent to membership when the newsletter has been published.

### President's letter

Greetings!

The WSQG Board of Directors met on April 21<sup>st</sup>. Per our Bylaws, the Board of Directors consists of elected Officers and Chairs and Co-Chairs of Committees and the WSQG Quilt Show. This was a bittersweet gathering for me, as this was my final Board Meeting as Guild President. I have been honored to serve with an awesome group of volunteer leaders (and yes, each is a leader) these past two years – years that included a Quilt Show (always a major undertaking) and the Covid 19 Pandemic. We have managed not only to survive, but in many ways, to thrive.

We are gearing up for the **Quilt Show in March 2022**. We have mastered Zoom meetings. We have also had the inevitable member decline during this very difficult time, yet we have also welcomed new members! We've continued to issue challenges and work on a variety of charitable projects, including walker bags, pillowcases, fidget quilts, and more. We've also made nearly 20 bed quilts, already delivered to the newly renovated "Old Main" Home for homeless veterans at the Veteran's Administration at Wood, WI. (Quilts are still welcome!)

In so many ways, it's been an incredible year!

Our last meeting of this year, and our **FIRST** meeting **TOGETHER** will be May 12<sup>th</sup> and we will meet in person at our old home at Brookfield Lutheran Church, 18500 West Burleigh Rd., Brookfield, WI 53045. We will gather at 6:00 pm, with our meeting starting at 7:00 pm. We are expected to abide by Brookfield Lutheran's Covid policies; masks are

encouraged and the room will be set up for social distancing. Our regular food sharing will not be allowed. We will have bottled water, and you may bring individually bottled beverages and wrapped treats, and you may bring individually wrapped items to share if you like. This is a celebration of coming back together, so consider “party treats” to share. Those who have not signed the Church’s Covid liability waiver will be asked to do so. We will not have a speaker – the program is US! Bring as many items as you like for our SUPER SHOW & TELL. **I can’t wait to see all of you and the wonderful work you’ve accomplished during the last year! I have missed you very much!**

A highlight of this meeting will be the election of the 2021-2022 WSQG Board of Directors. We will also be seeking to fill openings on several Committees.

**Here is the proposed Board for the coming year:**

<b>President</b>	<b>Wendy Bannister</b>
<b>VP/Membership</b>	<b>Donna Bilda</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>vacant</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Judy Valentino</b>
<b>Programs</b>	<b>Laura Heldt</b> <b>Co-Chair vacant</b>
<b>Block of the Month</b>	<b>vacant</b>
<b>Charity</b>	<b>Mary Margaret Wacker</b>
<b>Door Prizes</b>	<b>vacant</b>
<b>Hospitality</b>	<b>Martha Lennon and Betty Breen (and one vacancy)</b>
<b>Show &amp; Tell</b>	<b>vacant</b>
<b>Newsletter</b>	<b>Judy Valentino</b>
<b>Nominations</b>	<b>vacant</b>
<b>Sunshine</b>	<b>Patty Martin</b>
<b>Directory</b>	<b>Donna Bilda</b>
<b>Facebook</b>	<b>Cathy Helgeson</b>
<b>Photographer</b>	<b>Cathy Helgeson</b>
<b>Church Liaison</b>	<b>Darlene Savatski</b>
<b>Media Liaison</b>	<b>Cathy Helgeson</b>
<b>Web Page</b>	<b>Cathy Helgeson</b>
<b>History</b>	<b>Elrid Johnson</b>
<b>Quilt Show</b>	<b>Mary Weber</b>
<b>State Fair Liaison</b>	<b>Vicky Spiering * 6<sup>th</sup> year</b>

You should have received an e-mail from Patty Martin seeking volunteers for vacancies on the 2021-2022 Board of Directors. Please consider serving your Guild in one of these roles. It’s a great way to develop friendships and get to know members in ways not possible on Zoom or

even at monthly meetings. I can attest that the relationships developed lead to knowledge, experience and connections that contribute to quilting and other expertise, as well as resources and support beyond expectation! It's also fun to work together! I know it's a cliché, but as a volunteer, I have received so much more than I have given, and have developed friendships that will be part of my life as long as I live.

For even more opportunity, watch for details and requests for your assistance on **Quilt Show 2022** from our amazing Chair Mary Weber. We are so fortunate to have a historic quilt show that is well known across the State of Wisconsin AND the Midwest and has a reputation as a high quality event. I hope that you are working on quilts to enter, including the Guild challenges and blocks of the month, which will be special categories in the show.

**NOTE:** If you have NOT been receiving my e-mails and/or know someone who should be on the list, please send me name and e-mail address. During this time I wish to work on inviting lapsed members to rejoin, and potential members to join us as we get ready for an exciting coming year and planning for our 2022 Quilt Show. Since last March our membership has dwindled, and the Covid pandemic has made gathering as a group difficult and less fulfilling than in the past. There is light at the end of this tunnel, and we are moving forward toward another exceptional Quilt Show in March 2022, with Mary Weber as Chair. We need as many quilters as possible to participate in the success of this Show, and in the richness and success of our Guild, which will be celebrating its **40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2022!**

The Raffle Quilt is pieced and has been delivered to MaryJo Busch for quilting. (Thanks MaryJo!!) MaryJo has also offered to take photos once the quilt is finished.

Once again, we will need everyone to be involved in the Show, both advance work and on the days of the Show. I know this is repetitive, but it is sooo important. We hope that you are all working on quilts for the Show – yes, it's a year away, but after the tough year we've had, every bit of help is needed! We will need help selling raffle tickets, making quilts for the show, serving on committees to help prepare for the Show, and contributing in every way possible to make this a really successful Quilt Show. And let me add that while it's a lot of time and effort, it is also a great deal of fun and satisfaction, working together with Guild members, forging and strengthening friendships along the way. Our Show has a great reputation, and its stature, along with the experience gained by participating in its production, adds to our individual quilting experience, expertise and reputation. I have had people from around the Midwest, when learning that I am part of this Guild, mention the Show and comment that I must be an "exceptional quilter if you are part of the West Suburban group." Enjoy the camaraderie inherent in working together, and the pride in accomplishment by being part of the team. Thanks in advance to each of you for your contributions!

We have several quilt challenges that have been issued, (and these challenges will result in special exhibits for the Quilt Show.) See the details on Challenges elsewhere in this newsletter. Don't forget the President's Challenge. This, too, will be a category at the Quilt Show.

Enjoy the sunshine and the Spring weather, and be well. I hope to see you all on Wednesday, May 12<sup>th</sup> at our "Welcome Home" gathering at Brookfield Lutheran. And don't forget your quilts!

Warm regards,

Karen

### **Vice President and Membership Chair Note:**

Welcome to spring. As we ventured through a challenging year together by moving our meetings to the online Zoom meetings due to this lengthy pandemic. Gratefully the May will be in person at our normal location. We look forward to seeing everyone again in person or in Zoom meetings. And now it is time to renew, the renewal form is included with this newsletter.

We also have our annual elections for the open positions for the coming year, I ask you to volunteer in a role to help our Guild stay relevant and energized!! And please share what you would like to learn about, see, and have workshops in our WSQG. We are a strong and energized Guild because of your contributions, Please step up.

As we end a very unusual year of cancelled Quilt Guild Meetings due to this lengthy pandemic it is time to renew your WSQG membership. The membership renewal form is attached to this newsletter. We also have our annual elections for the open roles for the coming year, I ask you to volunteer in a role to help our Guild stay relevant and energized!! And please share what you would like to learn about, see, and have workshops in our WSQG. We are a strong and energized Guild because of your contributions, Please step up.

Wendy Bannister  
Vice President and Membership Chair

### **Meeting Minutes**

#### ***Meeting minutes April 2021***

After some technical difficulties, Our Zoom meeting began at 7:30. MaryJo displayed the finished raffle quilt top and our meeting on May 12 will begin at 6:30 in Brookfield Lutheran Church. Pot luck won't be allowed, but members may bring their own wrapped dinner and bottled water.

Speaker Julia McLeod shared her quilting journey, which began in menswear. Her favorite technique is foundation piecing on muslin - which stays in the quilt and offers a lot of stability.

It's time to renew your membership and the form is attached to the newsletter. Please renew at the May meeting or send your check to Donna.

The program committee is in need of a new chairperson for next year. Mary Margaret will be joining Joy on the charity committee. There are a number of committee chair positions open and three officers have reached their term limits.

Quilt show: The committee is refining the definitions of some categories for the ribbon process. The raffle quilt top is finished and is in the process of being quilted. During the summer break, the completed quilt will be photographed and raffle tickets will be printed. The goal is to have everything ready for distribution in September.

Please send newsletter items to Judy on or before the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month.

Please send website items to Cathy H.

The April clue for BOM is 'add a tool'. This may be scissors, pruners, trowels, plant name tags, etc. Please bring your blocks for the drawing: Pot of Gold, 3D scrappy pinwheel, crazy little strings and woven leaves.

Thank you to Donna for helping get the meeting started. Thanks to our speaker Julia and all our participating members for your patience with the technical difficulties. The meeting ended at 9:02pm.

*Submitted by MaryJo Busch*

### **Board meeting minutes 4/21/2021**

In attendance: Karen H, Patty M, Judy V, Mary W, Mary Margaret, Donna B, Wendy B, Cathy H, Elrid J, and MaryJo B.

Nominating is the first and most important discussion. The slate is nearly full and voting will take place in person during the May meeting.

Charity projects: a film crew is interested in photographing group work and a sewing studio or two.

Our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a guild is 2022. The board hopes to focus on membership building. Possibilities include contacting previous members and openly inviting visitors and friends to join.

Quilt Show: discussed category definitions, raffle quilt is in progress and will be photographed. Raffle quilt license will be renewed in May, tickets will be ready for distribution in September. We will purchase a portable rack for displaying the raffle quilt. Also under consideration is that since we had only 200 visitors to the 2020 show, we will allow members to display (again) any item that was in the 2020 show that did **not** win a ribbon.

*Submitted by MaryJo Busch*

## Treasurer's Report

Balance is \$8538.11

Submitted by Donna Bilda

## Block of the Month

Hello Quilters –

I hope this finds you healthy and sewing away as we currently have two exciting BOM challenges taking place.

They are as follows:

- The BOM shoe challenge
- The BOM mystery basket challenge
  - January mystery release – Add background filler to your pot. (Greenery/wheat/?)
  - February mystery release – Add tall/spiky flower(s) of your choice (i.e.; Iris/ Blazing Star Liatris/Lupine)
  - March mystery release – Add circular flower(s) of your choice (i.e.; Allium/Globe thistle/Dahlia)
  - April mystery addition 'add a tool'. This may be scissors, pruners, trowels, plant name tags, etc. to be released at meeting...stay tuned.

You will find the detailed instructions for both of these challenges in the recent newsletters.

Sew...be sure to stitch along with us and share your creation at each guild zoom meeting. We look forward to seeing your progress. Let go ladies – We want to see some shoes/boots/flip flops and of course, those baskets at show-and-tell!!!

Happy Stitching Everyone!

Your Block of the Month Team

A quick reminder to our block of the month participants – we postponed the drawings for the following blocks:

- Pot of gold
- 3-D scrappy pinwheel
- Crazy little strings, and
- Woven leaves

We will draw the winners of these blocks as a celebration when we are able to reconvene back together. Sew...be sure to complete and bring your blocks for the celebration. Please note...if

you want to participate in the above exchange – it is your lucky day! We do have a few remaining kits available. Please contact Vicky Wolf for BOM kits.

## Program Committee

May 12 **IT IS ALL ABOUT US!**

**Bring your Show and Tell, blocks from the Block of the Month and bring your own wrapped dinner or wrapped treat.** The church is following rules to keep us safe and that does not allow us to do a Potluck.

Also remember to bring any items for the charity committee that you may have made in the past year, Walker bags, Pillowcases, Fidget quilts, quilts for veteran's home all still being accepted. And Karen is still collecting menstrual products for those in need.

In the April meeting, Julia McCleod gave an amazing zoom talk about quilts made from everything but cotton. She was so interesting, charming and engaging. I'm already scouring eBay for silk kimono scraps!

Here are various ways that you can stay in touch with her.

[Juliamcleodquilts.com](http://Juliamcleodquilts.com)

[Juliamcleodquilts@gmail.com](mailto:Juliamcleodquilts@gmail.com)

Facebook- Julia McCleod Quilts (I left a very positive review on her page.)

Instagram- @juliamccleodquilts

Mary Margaret Wacker

## Our History!

### 2022--COMING ATTRACTIONS

Next year will be a busy year for our guild. Not only do we have the quilt show but we can also celebrate the 40th anniversary founding of our guild. West Suburban actually goes back farther than 1992. Our guild developed from a quilting class (preceded by stitchery and sewing classes at the Brookfield Recreation Department in the late 70's and early 80's) conducted by Dorothy Manache, our Founding Mother. It was Dorothy who suggested the quilt class form a guild and a meeting was held at the Security and Savings and Loan at Ruby isle in June of 1981. We met in the lower level of the Brookfield City Hall and by March 1982 had 40 members. Cheryl Zorn was our first president. September of 1983 we had our first newsletter written by Ann Williams, our second president. This newsletter was distributed at meetings originally as our treasury balance was only \$508.67. How far we have come! This is A Peek into our Past, 40 years ago!

Elrid Johnson

## Charity Committee

There are still many needs. We are still seeking Walker Bags for persons with walkers. It is included in this newsletter. Fidget quilts are desired for older adults as well. And Karen Hendrickson is still collecting menstrual products for homeless women, as well as masks of all sizes, but especially small sizes for children and women. Karen will be happy to pick up Menstrual Product or finished items from your porch or curb – just call Karen (414-358-9501). Mary Margaret (414-587-6008) will be available in Feb to arrange pickup or drop off of VA homeless quilts and Christmas pillowcases for children.

## Veterans Quilts:

When we committed to making quilts for the Old Soldiers Home, I wasn't sure what the turnout would be. I should not have worried! To date we have 21 quilts with more promised in the coming weeks.

The residence is planning to open in early March so we'll get the quilts delivered asap and then bring them another batch as they come in.

The article about our project on the VA website has worked its magic. A sewing group has volunteered to help out with donating quilts, a woman from Spectrum wants to do an article on our guild and a veteran who read the piece brought me a beautiful quilt made by his mother in law.

In exploring the Old Soldiers Home website, it mentioned that there will be a section for female veterans as well. Eventually, they hope to house families too. At this point, I'm guessing that lap size, twin size and larger will all be accepted and used.

[https://www.milwaukee.va.gov/features/Handmade\\_quilts\\_to\\_greet\\_new\\_residents\\_of\\_Old\\_Main.asp](https://www.milwaukee.va.gov/features/Handmade_quilts_to_greet_new_residents_of_Old_Main.asp)

Thank you, also, to all those who have added pillowcases to Operation Sweet Dreams for the children of All People's Church in Milwaukee. I was talking with my friend who works with the church and I asked her what else we could provide. She suggested kid size quilts or fleece blankets, fleece scarves, hats and mittens. Her thought was that the fleece was easier for people to wash than knitted items.

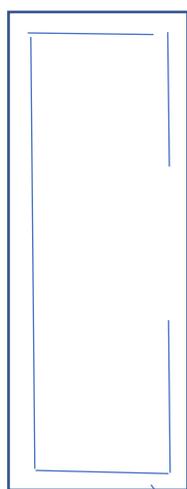
I have always said that quilters are among the most generous people I know. Thank you for proving it time and again!

My husband and I took a tour of the grounds of Milwaukee's Old Soldier's Home. If you're curious about where the quilts for veterans have been going, this might be enjoyable for you as well. It's an audio tour app that you need to download to your phone. <https://www.savethesoldiershome.com/tour>

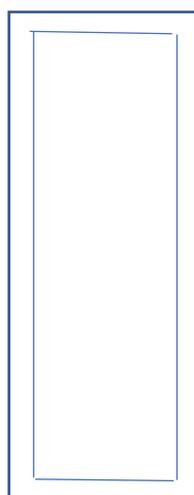
Mary Margaret Wacker

## Walker Bags:

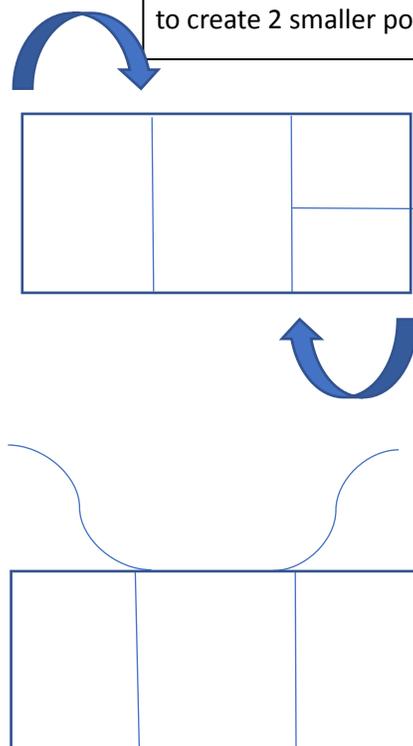
1. Start with 2 pieces of fabric 42 x 16. Place right sides together and stitch around the edges using a 1/2 inch seam allowance. Leave an opening to turn the fabric right side out.
2. Trim corners and turn right sides out. Top stitch entire outer border of fabric piece 1/8 to 1/4-inch, stitching closed the opening. (similar to making a table runner)
3. Bring sides in and stitch along the edges to create 2 eight-inch pockets at each end. Sew a seam on one pocket to make 2 smaller pockets
4. Stitch 4 pieces of ribbon (bias tape, or twill tie) 12-inch-long to the back edge of the bag just above the pockets to make ties to attach to the walker. The long ties will make the bag adjustable to different size walkers.
5. If using thinner fabric (quilting cotton), you may need to add fusible interfacing/fleece or batting between the layers to stiffen the bag. If you have heavier fabric (home décor, canvas, denim) you shouldn't need this. The finished bag should be approx. 15 x 25 inches.



1. Stitch a 1/2 inch seam leaving an opening to turn right side out.



2. Turn piece right side out, press and topstitch close to the edges, (stitching closed the opening)



3. Bring ends in to create 2 eight-inch pockets. Stich one pocket in half to create 2 smaller pockets

## Sunshine

If you know of anyone who needs a little sunshine please notify either myself or Patty Martin.

## Quilt Show

I hope everyone is getting as excited as I am about our next quilt show in March. The dates will be March 11 and 12, with setup on March 10.

We have several vendors pending but if anyone has a favorite that you'd like me to contact please let me know [Quiltie704@yahoo.com](mailto:Quiltie704@yahoo.com).

The raffle quilt construction is complete and it is currently being quilted. It is absolutely stunning and I know the raffle tickets will practically sell themselves.

At our May meeting we will be discussing a few important items concerning the quilt judging categories so I hope you all will attend.

Only 11 months until show time!!!

Mary Weber



## Raffle Quilt

The Raffle quilt group has now met for 4 full Saturday's of sewing. The quilt top is finished and has been turned over to MaryJo Busch for the quilting.

## President's Challenge

It has become tradition for WSQG Presidents to issue a Quilt Challenge once during their term, and for the quilts submitted in that challenge to be a) voted on by members, with honors given within the Guild and b) hung together at our Quilt Show, voted on by viewers, with 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place ribbons given in the President's Challenge category. Many of you may recall that at the last Show, then President Patty Martin's Challenge was to create a quilt based on a song. They were wonderfully done and very creative. This is a great opportunity for you to "stretch" a little and have some fun.

This year, my Challenge to you is:

Create a quilt that incorporates your birth flower or birth stone or both. The depiction of these symbols can be literal or suggested, but we should be able to identify what they are and I am asking that your label indicate the name of your birth flower and birth stone.

The size of the quilt should be 36" square, and it must be three layers, quilted (by you or someone else), bound and have a 3" hanging sleeve.

Here is a list of Birth Flowers and Birth Stones:

January	Carnation (or Snowdrop)	Garnet
February	Violet (or Primrose)	Amethyst
March	Daffodil	Aquamarine
April	Daisy (or Sweet Pea)	Diamond
May	Lily of the Valley	Emerald
June	Rose	Alexandrite
July	Larkspur (or Water Lily)	Ruby
August	Gladiolus (or Poppy)	Peridot
September	Aster (or Morning Glory)	Sapphire
October	Calendula (or Marigold)	Opal
November	Chrysanthemum	Topaz (or Citrine)
December	Holly or Poinsettia (or Narcissus or Orchid)	Turquoise (or Tanzanite)

Most of all, let go and have a great time! Call me if you have any questions: 414-358-9501.

Creatively yours,

Karen

## West Suburban Quilters' Guild 2021-2022 Membership and Renewal Form

Dues for next year, \$30.00, are to be paid not later than May 31, 2021.

**Bring to the May Meeting** or complete the form below and return to: West Suburban Quilt Guild,  
% Wendy Bannister, 7926 S Wildwood Drive Apt 7, Oak Creek, WI 53154

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Street  
Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Birthday:(mo) \_\_\_\_ (day) \_\_\_\_\_

email \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Receive Newsletter via email

\_\_\_\_ Receive Newsletter via US Mail

*(NOTE: This option requires that you provide pre-addressed, stamped envelopes for each month)*

If you prefer to receive the newsletter by US Post, but also have an email, please also give us your email address so that we may pass along other important information.

Suggestions for future programs (topics, speakers, workshops, etc.)