



R.I. Threads

AIDS Quilt Rhode Island

Volume XXIII, Number 1, Spring, 2015

International AIDS Candlelight Memorial, May 17

Quilt Magic moves east from URI to Newport

The 33rd Annual International AIDS Candlelight Memorial will once again be hosted by AIDS Quilt RI/Anna's Workshop, along with co-host Channing Interweave, and will take place at Channing Memorial Church, Newport on Sunday, May 17 at 7 PM. All are invited to this Rhode Island commemoration of the oldest and largest worldwide grassroots HIV/AIDS event.

We'll be privileged to enjoy music provided by two Channing professionals. Edwin M. Milham, a professional baritone, a long-time Channing member and former music director, and John Prevedini, a current member of Channing, composer and graduate student

at URI, will be our guest musicians.

Anna's Workshop, the organization's HIV prevention education program, "moved east" from URI this spring, with activities centering in Newport. The three panels created since World AIDS Day were all in memory of people associated with Channing Memorial Church in the past three decades and were made in Newport.

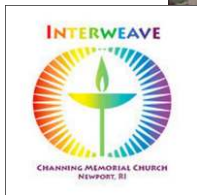
Channing's Interweave group made a panel for psychiatrist Gary Poser, MD, who died in 1992 of HIV related causes. Many may remember Poser for his acting roles with the Newport Players' Guild. He later moved to New York to pursue an acting career. The Channing Youth Group, joined by Channing members and friends, created the panel for attorney Al Fretchette, who died in 1994. Both were active members of the church, with their families, in the 1970s and 1980s. The Salve Regina Social Work Club, the

Salve Alliance and Channing friends made a panel for Evan Davies, who died in 1988. He was the former partner of Channing minister, Rev. Dr. F. Jay Deacon, who requested the panel. The SRU Social Work Club has hosted panel making workshops and Quilt displays on campus annually since the early 1990s.

Channing Interweave is a local chapter of Interweave Continental, a UUA related organization actively working toward ending oppression based on sexual orientation and gender identity.

The International AIDS Candlelight Memorial started in 1983, and is currently coordinated by the [Global Network of People living with HIV](#). It takes place every third Sunday in May and is led by a coalition of some 1,200 community organizations in 115 countries.

In addition to memorializing those we've lost, The International AIDS Candlelight Memorial also supports a community mobilization campaign to raise social consciousness about HIV and AIDS. With 33 million people living with HIV today, the Candlelight Memorial represents an important intervention for global solidarity, breaking down barriers of stigma and discrimination, and giving hope to new generations. The global theme for this year is "Supporting the Future."



AIDS Quilt Rhode Island

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We are not affiliated with The NAMES Project Foundation

Visit us at www.aidsquiltri.org



The Quilt's Mission

Established in June, 1987, in the heart of San Francisco's Castro district, the Quilt began as a response by lesbians and gay men and their friends to the devastation of their community by AIDS. From this beginning, The NAMES Project sought to reach out to everyone affected by the pandemic.

The mission of The NAMES Project Foundation is to preserve, care for, and use The AIDS Memorial Quilt to promote healing, heighten awareness and inspire action in the struggle against HIV and AIDS.

Although our organization is no longer affiliated with The NAMES Project Foundation, we continue to subscribe to this mission, and to carry on the work of the AIDS Memorial Quilt.

We Remember...

...All our much loved and missed volunteers. We will remember you...

Sasha Andreevich
 Ann Antoni
 Henry Antoni
 James Arcaro
 Bobby Arling
 Mykel Askew
 Bill Bagley
 Rev. Alcide Barnaby
 George Barros
 # Jerry Barrow
 David Bedard
 Stanley Blitz
 Rodger Boyd
 Michael Brown
 Chris Burke
 *Thomas Campopiano
 John Candelmo
 Brett Capone
 John Davis
 Emilio DeAngelis
 John DeCosta
 Brian Del Pape
 Lorraine DiPlatzi
 Doreen Sharpe-Dowd
 # Henry Dubois
 Steve Dubois
 Michael Erban
 Sydney Feldman
 Carolyn Flanagan
 Al Fisher, MD
 Juan "Johnny" Gonzalez
 Debora Greene
 Roger Grindstaff
 Jeff Hall
 * Fitzgerald Himmelsbach
 Chris Johnson
 Herb Kaplan
 Nick Karras

Sr. Ann Keefe
 Roland Letourneau
 Jimmy Lipscomb
 Dick Maraziti
 Ernest Martin
 Tracey McGuire
 Richard Metivier
 Pat Milano
 Paul Mitchell
 # Bill Munroe
 Jim O'Donnell
 Tony P.
 Larry Packer
 David Palmer
 Sue Palmieri
 Sara Paneto
 Chris Paradis
 # Steven Pereira
 Tony Ramsey
 Harry Ray
 Ron Reniere
 Dixon Richards
 Courtland Roach
 Mary Sandford
 Jeff Shaw
 Linda Steele
 Meredith Thayer
 Terri Tiernan
 Maggie Valentine
 Ernie Vallante
 Alexandre Villanueva
 Donnie White
 Jan Wood-Thomas
 *Yolanda Pearl
 George Warch
 Roger Young

* Imperial Court of RI
 # Prov Gay Men's Chorus

We remember our deceased volunteers, regardless of cause of death, in each newsletter. Full names are not required. Contact admin@aidsquiltri.org.

Thanks...

...to Steven and Susan Maze-Rothstein for their very generous holiday donation, that will keep Anna's Workshop going for a good long time!

Thoughts...

...of sadness on the loss to the world of Sr. Ann Keefe, who should probably be nominated for sainthood as soon as possible. We worked with Sr. Ann on a couple of occasions at City Arts for Youth in Providence many years ago. She was a tireless and tenacious advocate for all marginalized and disadvantaged people. May the programs she started and fostered on their behalf live on in her honor and memory. That would be the greatest tribute we could give her.

...of joy for Steering Committee member Carl Ferreira and his partner Michael on the twentieth anniversary of their meeting at a Quilt related event in Fall River. See the story below.

A Quilt love story

This is a story that Carl Ferreira posted on his Facebook page on World AIDS Day last year. Carl is an AIDS Quilt RI Steering Committee member and long-time Quilt volunteer and panel maker. His work for the Quilt predates the founding of NAMES Project RI in 1992.



"World AIDS Day 2014 makes 20 years since I first met Michael. I was tending the AIDS Quilt Display at [Fall River] City Hall in 1994, and he came by to ask for information about making a quilt. I supplied it to him, then he left. It wasn't until the following February that we met again at a training weekend for Hope House, (sort of an AIDS hospice). It was there that we made arrangements to get together so I could help him make the quilt for his partner who had passed away. The rest is history. So in a way, today is our 20th anniversary. Here is the first pic that we took together in October 1995 when I was working a Quilt Display in Provincetown."



Winter '14 to Spring '15

Above: Members of Uhuru SaSa URI help dedicate one of two panels that they created for brothers Eric and William Ryan at Graceful Journeys on World AIDS Day '14 at the Alumni Center at URI. With them are family members Kathy Ryan and Pam Sugrue, who requested the panel.

Right: Members of the Public Relations Strategies class of URI's Harrington School of Communication and Media display the Quilt on World AIDS Day in the URI Quad as part of a campaign for on-campus HIV testing.

Lower left: A panel for Joseph Brown of Newport is displayed in the RI State House State Room during the World AIDS Program hosted by the RI HIV Prevention Coalition. Besides the pictured displays, the Quilt also made World AIDS Day appearances at Bristol Community College, Fall River, Beneficent UCC Church, Providence, and the Agape Center's Evening of Poetry and Song, Woonsocket.

Below right: The Salve Regina Social Work Club and Alliance present their panel in memory of Evan Davies created at their annual Anna's Workshop in April. A third workshop was held in May at Channing Memorial Church. All three panels will be dedicated at the Candlelight Memorial on May 17 at Channing Memorial Church, Newport.



**AIDS Quilt RI and Anna's Workshop
and Interweave Channing**

invite you to the

33rd Annual International AIDS Candlelight Memorial



Featuring music by
Edwin Milham and John Prevedini

Sunday, May 17, 7 to 8:30 PM

**Channing Memorial Church
135 Pelham St., Newport**



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