



Royal City Quilters Guild

P.O. Box 30039, 2 Quebec Street, Guelph, Ontario N1H

Monthly Newsletter

December 2003/January 2004

President: Jackie James 824-1342
Secretary: Sandy Campbell 1-519-653-9851

Vice President: Sue Keuhl 826-7914
Guild Treasurer: Dianne Cook 855-4929

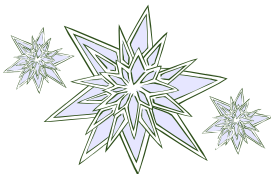
DECEMBER MEETING

TUESDAY DECEMBER 9, 2003

JANUARY MEETING

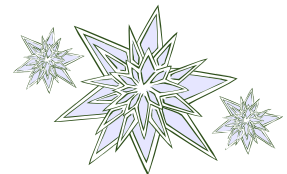
TUESDAY JANUARY 12, 2004

Westwood United Church, Willow Rd., Guelph



6:45
7:15
7:30
8:30
8:45

Doors Open
Opening Remarks
Program
Break / Bake sale
Show and Share



MEETING CHECKLIST

- ♥ Bake or Deli Item
- ♥ Coins for sale items
- ♥ Show registration form
- ♥ Friendship Ornament (Dec)
- ♥ Museum show entry form (Dec)
- ♥ Show and Share items
- ♥ Fees for workshops
- ♥ Submissions for the February Newsletter
- ♥ Block of the Month
- ♥ Special projects

December Treats will be brought to you by

Laurenz Davies, Katrina Gordon, Marie Harper,
Susanne Johnson, Donna Lesar, Pat Liptrap,
Gloria Longshaw, Florrie Lonsdale, Suz Sharp,
Marguerite McRae, Audrey Steele

Greeters for December are

Debby Clark, Dorothy Price, and Karen Heal

January Treats will be brought to you by

Sandra Thomas, Dorothy Price, Debby Clark
Lynne Wagner, Pat Webwood, Sherron Valeriot,
Carol Cousins, Remy Heard, Grace Rasmussen,
Julie Cradder Thompson, Susan Knabenschuh

Greeters for January are

Carol Cousins and Susan Knabenschuh



*Wishing you all
the quiet beauty of
this peaceful
holiday season*

INDEX

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------|
| Program | page 3 |
| Ornament | page 3 |
| Workshops | page 3 |
| Library. | page 4 |
| Block of the Month. | page 5 |
| Member Services. | page 9 |

VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Sue Keuhl (826-7914)

Is it working yet?

As December approaches, it is fair to say we are now settled into to another great quilting year with Fall under our belt. We have had some fabulous programs and quite a few opportunities to create and quilt together. Aside from learning about quilting, have you had time to get to know a few more names and faces in the Guild?

Historically, quilting has been a social as well as creative activity. Many quilters would come together around the quilt frame and share stories, recipes and thoughts while completing the top. In modern times, it is very easy to be an anonymous quilter. Knowledge that used to be handed down through generations, may now be learned from books, magazines, the internet and television shows. Fabric can even be mail-ordered! We can now shop in our nighties and fuzzy slippers!

For some of us, this lifestyle is top notch. For others, it is a necessity. For those of us who come to the Guild, the opportunities to network and learn from each other are endless. In fact, some moments are priceless. Do you remember the Feedsack women who visited us in October? Not only was their quilting spectacular but their friendship around their quilting was something of a marvel. Sometimes, through our Guild, we can learn far more than quilting.

Back tracking for a moment, when I first joined the Guild, I had quite a different view. I thought how wonderful it would be to join a group where I could be completely anonymous again! I sat in a section all myself and made sure the seats around me were unoccupied. When break time came, I would hurry, grab my library books, sit down and wondered why everyone was taking such a long break! Maybe you can relate? Perhaps you are new to the Guild and this describes the way you attend meetings. Maybe you are a seasoned member and find yourself in the position where many names and faces are unfamiliar. That's were the Development Committee comes into play....

A few years ago, we began to notice an increase in attendance at our meetings. Membership numbers were steadily growing. We were concerned that our Guild would lose our warm and friendly reputation. The Executive put together a Think Tank session which was held in May 2002. We thought the discussion would gravitate around cut and dry items such as lighting, microphones, parking, library sign outs and other procedures. What surprised us is that the over all finding was that something called "Guild Spirit" was the key issue. The perceived cure was to find ways to encourage members to interact and socialize. The aftermath of the Think Tank session was a survey and creation of the Development Committee to carry out suggestions. Our goal was to encourage new members as well as help existing members feel just as welcome. A tall order and a great challenge!

We quickly took care of the easy suggestions. We made an investment in a new microphone and tables for displays. Greeters were enlisted to make everyone feel at home when they walk through the door. Then we took on the challenge of creating Special Interest groups to encourage members to socialize and meet fellow quilters. Throughout the past year, members of the Development Committee met at each other's homes, batted around ideas and came up with action plans. This fall, we unveiled the Special Interest groups called Tanners, Border Patrol and Block Buddies. We also hosted the Quilt Bee Day (see page 8). Through these activities, I can see many new friendships forming with lots of laughter and great conversations. I am also starting to learn things about quilting that I can't read from a book. My quilting life has been enriched by all the new contacts and experiences that I have enjoyed this Fall.

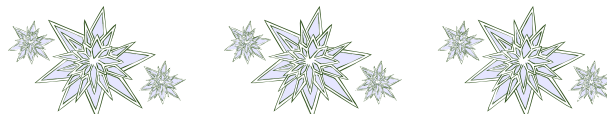
If you haven't been able to participate in any of these groups, we certainly understand. Fall is a very busy time. Sometimes, just making it to Guild night is tight. Here are some other opportunities to mix and mingle with other members...

- ♥ Sign up to be a greeter. We need a few more volunteers in the Winter months.
- ♥ Sit next to someone you don't know and introduce yourself. Forget about leaving that blank seat between you.
- ♥ Wear your name tag!
- ♥ Volunteer to help with our Museum show.
- ♥ Attend the opening night of our Museum show. Enjoy the quilt display with your fellow Guild members!
- ♥ Make a Christmas ornament with the pattern in this newsletter. You will take one home made by someone else. A special keepsake for your tree.
- ♥ Participate in Block of the Month. Be a part of the excitement!
- ♥ Sign up for a Workshop in the New Year. One of the best ways to get to know fellow members. Workshops are a time of great learning and sharing.
- ♥ Think about volunteering on a committee next year. Christine Whitehouse, our past president, will soon be looking for volunteers.

Lastly, perhaps you are like myself and make resolutions in January to finish UFO projects. Perhaps, a new goal may be to meet at least 3 new Guild members. Quilters are special people. What a wonderful network of creative people we could become!

All the best to you and your loved ones during the holiday season!

Sue Keuhl



PROGRAM

Maureen Kay (843-1778)

December's Program

The Underground Railroad By Isobel King

Isobel will be sharing the stories and quilt blocks from the underground railroad that brought slaves to Canada from the United States. We will see the quilt that is the result of Isobel's research and will enjoy the privilege of seeing her outstanding piecing and quilting. A great story to be able to tell at the beginning of the season which traditionally brings us messages of peace, joy and hope.

January's Program

"Sew Healthy" By Donya Dales and Sue Crutcher

We all want to stay healthy to be able to do what we love so much - sewing, stitching and quilting. We have invited two experienced people to help us with this.

Donya is an ergonomist, and will be doing a presentation on the positioning and movement of the body in relation to sewing and quilting. Sue Crutcher will share ideas for the design and organization of a sewing area or room.

Feature Workshop

Our next workshop is

Colourwash by Maggie Vanderweit

Learn a practical hands-on approach to colour value and colour theory using the quilting technique of 'colourwash' or 'watercolour.' Participants will create a small wall hanging by manipulating 2" fabric squares to achieve the desired effect of design and colour flow. The date of the workshop is January 24, 2004.

Poinsetta Ornament

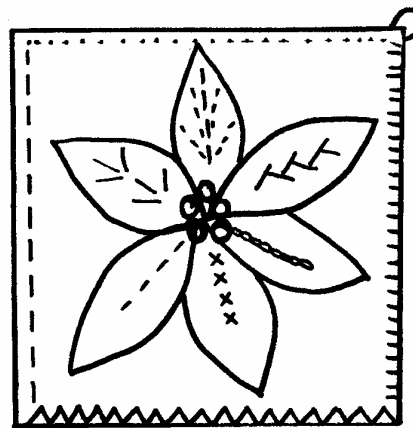
This is a quick and easy ornament that is pieced together leaving raw edges exposed. You may sew it by hand or machine. If you have any questions please call Maureen at 843-1778 or Sharon at 836-4639.

You will need:

One 5 inch background square of holiday fabric in green, white or other colour to contrast with the flower, one 5 inch square of felt for backing, small scraps of fabric for flowers in red, or your favourite poinsettia colour, beads or small buttons, thread or embroidery floss to match background colour, and 2.5 inches of ribbon or yarn for the hanger.

Instructions:

Pin or tack the loop of ribbon or yarn to one corner of the felt. Place the square of background fabric wrong side down on top of the felt with the ribbon sandwiched in between. Stitch around outer edges by machine or hand, using decorative stitches if desired. Cut 6 petals from flower fabric using the pattern below, and arrange them on the background fabric to form a flower. Petals are sewn down the centre of the petal in a plain or decorative stitch and are not appliquéd. Add 3 to 5 beads or buttons to center.



This picture is much smaller than the actual ornament. Example shows different ideas for decorative stitching.


FROM THE LIBRARY

by Barbara Jordan (837-0818)

Congratulations to Jane Berberich, winner of our November raffle for Omingrid's new foldaway portable cutting & pressing station! Thank you to everyone who bought tickets. We made a total \$158.85 for the library.

For those turning in Zehrs and Ultra grocery tapes, would you please circle the total in pen instead of highlighting it? The highlighters are erasing the tape total, especially on the coated paper some stores use. For those who use the debit method of payment, the checkout person often will do the circling for you, nothing further is required.....just remember to bring in the tapes!

Thanks to Cindy Stoate, we now have a copy of "The Country Love Quilt" by Benner and Penner at the library. We will gladly accept any books you'd like to donate. We also welcome your suggestions.



Bake and Deli Sale With Fabric and Books Thrown in for Good Measure

It's that time again! Bring your change, loonies & toonies for the annual bake sale to be held during the break at the December meeting. Every contribution is appreciated, bring as much as you can, it all goes to a good cause! Don't forget your prize winning jams, preserves, pickles, candies, and Christmas items. Of course, baked goodies are always a big hit! Price all contributions and label any items containing nuts.

There will also be a book sale and as an added bonus, **fabric!** Everything is priced to go, books will be \$2, magazines 4 for \$1 and ziplock bags of fabric for \$2. Andrea Curtis has generously donated fabric from her stash for this sale. Andrea's donation inspired me to add some fabric from my stash so you'll find a variety of 100% cotton with some flannels and batiks. ***To be fair to everyone, the sale starts at the break.*** All proceeds from the sale go to the library for the purchase of new books.

A Book Review

By Nora McGuire-MacLeod

That Dorky Homemade Look
Quilting Lessons from a
Parallel Universe
by Lisa Boyer
ISBN:1-56148-357-6

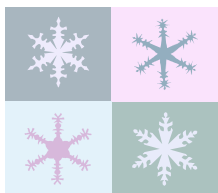
Lisa Boyer is the author of this easy to read pocket book. She starts her book off by outlining the steps necessary to make a quilt according to the current Dorky Homemade Quilt Guidelines. Excerpts from the book follow:

1. Pretty Fabric is not acceptable. Go right back to the quilt shop and exchange it for something you feel sorry for.
2. Realize that patterns and templates are only someone's opinion and should be loosely translated.
3. When choosing a colour plan for your quilt, keep in mind that the colours will fade after a hundred years or so.
4. Plan on running out of border fabric when you are three-quarters of the way finished.
5. You should plan on cutting off about half your triangle or star points. Any more and than that is showing off.
6. If you are doing applique, remember that bigger is dorkier.
7. Throw away your seam ripper and repeat after me: "Oops. Oh well, no one will notice."
8. You should be able to quilt equally well in all directions.

And lastly -

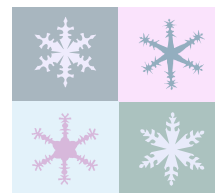
9. The most important aspect to remember about Dorky Homemade quilting is that once you have put your last stitch in the binding, you are still only half-finished. The quilt must be conditioned. Give it to someone you love dearly.

Lisa Boyer writes about her experiences, as seen through the eyes of a quilter. For anyone who wants to laugh quietly and have their families ask "what's so funny", this book is a must read for you.



Block of the Month

By Evelyn Lane (763-4682)



The blue and gold Remembrance Stars looked wonderful! Although they were all the same colours, the different prints made them vibrant and interesting. I really love our next Block of the Month, the December Star, and am excited at the thought of seeing all your blocks together at the next meeting. Since there is no January Newsletter, both the January and February Stars are in this issue. Suggested colours for the January Snowflake Stars are blues and white, and for the February Star, the traditional reds and white. Please remember to use pale backgrounds as usual. I will be away in warmer climes for most of January, so if you have any problems with either of these blocks call Marilyn McKague (824-0323) or Marion Osborne (821-5445)

Evelyn

Participation winners for November were

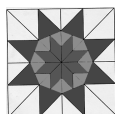
Marion Osborne Evelyn Lane
Marie Harper Lois Frederikse

Prizes donated by Reichards of Elmira

Those lovely November Blocks won by:

Velva Rowsell

January Snowflake Star Instructions



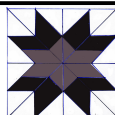
To Paper Piece Stars

- Trace or copy four each of Sections A & B
- Cut out leaving 1/4 inch seam allowance around all sides of each section.
- Stitch on stitching lines, using your choice of wintery fabrics and colours.
- Sew sections A's to section B's making four quarter sections.
- Sew all four quarter sections together on stitching lines matching joins.

To Make Templates

- Make a copy of each of sections A & B. Label each piece; A-1, A-2 etc., B-1, B-2 etc.
- Cut out each part of section A and B; numbers 1-6
- Paste onto blank paper and add 1/4 inch seam allowance on each piece. Cut out numbered pieces.
- Use these templates to cut fabric pieces.
- Sew together as numbers: i.e., sew A-1 to A-2, add A-3, and so on. When all four sections A have been sewn, sew B sections.
- Sew A's to B's to make four quarter sections as shown in diagram 1. Sew the four quarter sections together to form block

February Star Instructions



To Paper Piece Stars

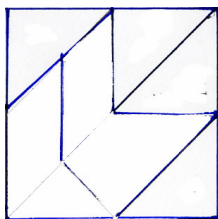
- Trace or copy four each of Sections A & B
- Cut out leaving 1/4 inch seam allowance around all sides of each section.
- Stitch on stitching lines, using your choice of fabrics and colours
- Sew sections A's to section B's making four quarter sections.
- Sew all four quarter sections together on stitching lines matching joins.

To Make Templates

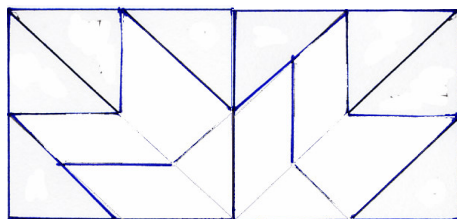
- Make a copy of each of sections A & B. Label each piece; A-1, A-2 etc., B-1, B-2 etc.
- Cut out each part of section A and B; numbers 1-4
- Paste onto blank paper and add 1/4 inch seam allowance on each piece. Cut out numbered pieces.
- Use these templates to cut fabric pieces.
- Sew together as numbers: i.e., sew A-1 to A-2, add A-3, and so on. When all four sections A have been sewn, sew B sections.
- Sew A's to B's to make four quarter sections as shown in diagram 1. Sew the four quarter sections together to form block

January Snowflake Star

February Star

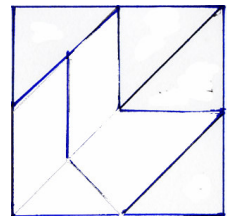


Make 4



Sew 2 together twice

Colour Legend
(suggestions only)
B - background
R - Reds for valentines
W - white if desired



Quilt Bee Day

Sue Keuhl (826-7914) koolhouse@sprint.ca

A fabulous and very productive day! Twenty five of us met on November 1st to make Lap Chair Quilts for Seniors in Wheelchairs. We were fortunate to use material donated from Guild members. Thank you to everyone who made a donation. It was a lot of fun cutting and arranging all the different fabrics together. We had one rule for the day: No Ugly Quilts! We were successful in creating over 50 lap quilts. Beyond our expectations! They were all stunning!

Our day began with a walk about for the early risers. The rest of us strolled in with supplies on hand. We worked diligently all morning and were treated to a Yoga break led by Maureen Kay. After a productive morning, we rewarded ourselves with the most fabulous Pot-Luck lunch ever! It was so TREMENDOUS! Our plates were full and seconds were mandatory.

After lunch, we began the ambitious task of backing the quilt tops with fleece. What excitement it was to see the first one completed! At the end of the day, it was difficult to pull a few people away from their sewing machines. We took a group photo with all the lovely quilts. Please see our photo display at the December meeting.

It was a day of laughter and bonding. We all learned so much by working with others. Everyone pitched in to meet our common goal. It was a very special time for all of us.

If you have taken some of the quilts home to finish, please return them to the December Guild meeting. If you know of a facility in the Guelph area who would appreciate receiving some of these quilts, please contact us. We would love to hear your suggestions.

A sincere thank you to the Development committee members in the planning of this event. It was a team effort from start to finish. Our shopping trip for the fleece was unforgettable! Special thanks to those who lent an extra hand during the bee to keep the day going. Your efforts made the day a pleasure and a joy!

Special Interest Groups

Sue Keuhl (826-7914)

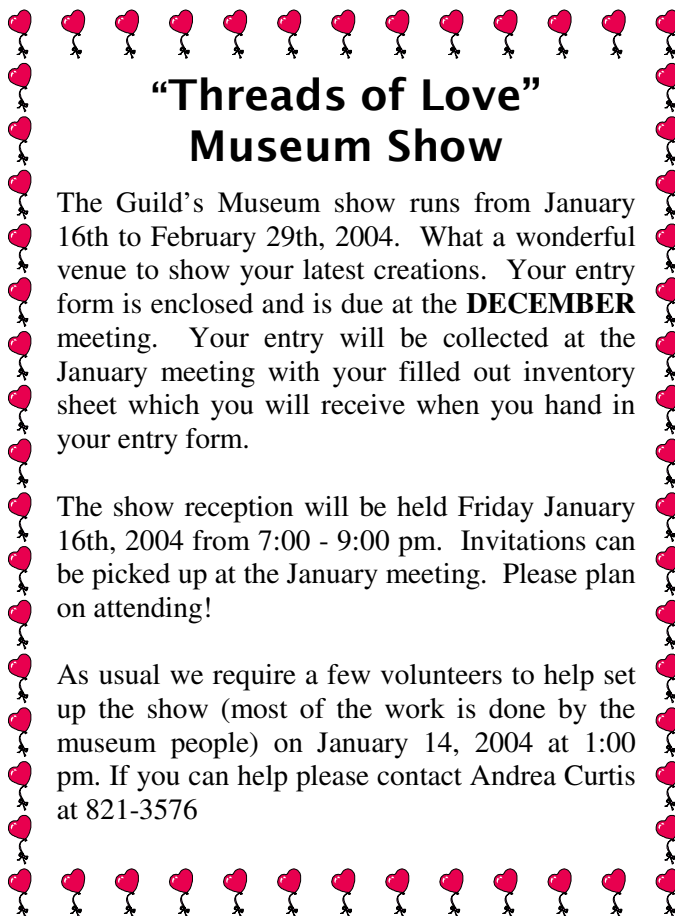
All special interest groups are under way. We will start to plan for the 2003-04 quilt year soon. If you have an idea for a new group activity, please contact us. If you would like to co-ordinate one of these activities, we would love to hear from you!

Tinners: Bring your tins in for the next rotation.

Border Patrol: We are done! Bring the finished product in so we can all take our tops home and finish them for Christmas. Stay tuned for further information on a get together in January to show our finished quilts and socialize.

Please contact Sue Keuhl if you would like to co-ordinate the next Border Patrol after the holiday break. No experience necessary! We will train!

Block Buddies: Next meetings are December 16th and January 20th. Contact Sharon Beach at 836-4639 or sardine@sentex.net if you have misplaced your instructions.



"Threads of Love" Museum Show

The Guild's Museum show runs from January 16th to February 29th, 2004. What a wonderful venue to show your latest creations. Your entry form is enclosed and is due at the **DECEMBER** meeting. Your entry will be collected at the January meeting with your filled out inventory sheet which you will receive when you hand in your entry form.

The show reception will be held Friday January 16th, 2004 from 7:00 - 9:00 pm. Invitations can be picked up at the January meeting. Please plan on attending!

As usual we require a few volunteers to help set up the show (most of the work is done by the museum people) on January 14, 2004 at 1:00 pm. If you can help please contact Andrea Curtis at 821-3576

Services Provided by Guild Members

Sharon Beach
836-4639

Sharon has hand dyed, preshrunk, colour fast fabrics available for quilts and garments, in fat quarters, fat eighths, half metre pieces or other sizes by special order. Available at Greenwood Quiltery or by calling 836-4639.

Sandra Thomas
823-0096

Sandra is an experienced dressmaker, quilter, weaver and needleworker. She offers an array of classes which include paper piecing, machine quilting and appliqué, crazy quilting, curve piecing, 3-D Baltimore appliqué, Sashiko and more. Sewing and quilting classes for beginners and advanced levels that includes wearable items such as jackets and vests are available. Sewing and quilting classes are also offered for children and teens. Sandra gives Trunk shows of garments and quilts for guilds, and accepts commissions for quilts and garments. Catered fun-filled weekend retreats are available at her home.

Kay Valeriotz
766-9313

Kay will machine quilt tops for you with a long-arm quilting machine. Please call for more information

Maggie Vanderwejt
846-0526

Maggie gives classes on colour wash, machine quilting, fabric painting, paper-piecing, beginning or intermediate machine piecing, EQ4 computer programs and surface collage. She has for sale rovings, hand-painted fabric, threads, original traditional and art quilts. Maggie is available for Trunk shows, and guild lectures. She will machine quilt for you and commissions are accepted.

Sew Little Time

Norah McGuire-MacLeod
1653 Franklin Blvd.
Cambridge, Ontario
Phone: (519) 220-1248

Sew Little Time offers quilters more choices of fabrics at great prices. Come and look at the wonderful collection of 100% cotton fabrics (Marbles, Northcott, Tone on Tone, Flannels etc.) patterns and notions available. Beginner and Intermediate classes are available. *Open: Monday to Friday 5-8pm, Saturday 10-4pm* Email: sewlittletime@sentex.net

Greenwood Quiltery

Joanne Greenberg
77 Suffolk St. W.,
Guelph, Ontario
Phone: 519 822-2790

Greenwood quiltery offers a wide selection of interesting fabrics including flannels, tone on tones, wide backing, brights, seasonal fabrics and over 200 batiks. Workshops range from beginner to advanced and are taught primarily by our very own guild members. *Open Monday to Wednesday and Saturday 9:30-5pm, Thursday and Fridays 9:30 - 6 pm, Closed Sundays*

Sew Fancy Inc.

Alma Laidlaw and Caroline Heinbuch
87A Main St. N, Campbellville, Ontario
(on Guelph Line just over the 401)
Phone 1-800-SEW-FANCY
www.sewfancy.com

Sew Fancy Inc., sells specialty sewing supplies for smocking, needle tatting, heirloom, hand and machine embroidery and quilting. Also available are equestrian patterns and fabrics are for horseback riders. Classes are offered in the related areas and positions are available for teachers who would like to share their skills and techniques. *Open Wednesday to Saturday 10-5pm, Sunday 1-5pm.*

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteers are needed to teach quilting projects at Homewood Health Centre in the Eating Disorder Program. Classes are held Monday evenings from 6:45 to 8:30. Projects are simple and the rewards are great. Students are appreciative and excited to learn new quilting techniques. For more information please contact Jane Berberich at 821-9337 or Jocelyn Anderson at 836-5521.

QUILTERS' CALENDAR 2003/2004

The Quilt Gallery

1441 King St. St Jacobs,
Country Mill, 3rd Floor
October 7 - Dec. 31, 2003
Resident Artist: Maggie Vanderweit
Hours: M-Sat 10-6, Sun Noon-5
Waterloo County & Area Quilt Festival
1-888-804-7909 or www.quiltcapitalfestival.com

Threads of Love Quilt Exhibit

January 15—February 29, 2004
Royal City Quilters Guild
Guelph Civic Museum
6 Dublin St, Guelph, Ontario

The Quilt: A Breast Cancer Support Project

Entry form deadline January 30, 2004
Quilt Project due February 27, 2004. E-mail entry form:
callforentry@thequilt.com or check
www.thequilt.com

Quilt Fever 2004 : Etobicoke Quilter's Guild Show

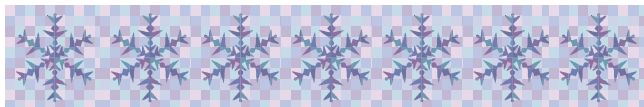
March 26 - 8, 2004.
56 Neilson Drive, Toronto, Ontario
Fri 10-8pm, Sat 10-6pm, Sun 10-4pm
www.etobicokequiltersguild.com
Admission \$4.00

Piecemakers 2004: Huron-Perth Quilters Guild / The Stonetowne Quilters Guilds Show

April 22 - 24, 2004
St. Marys Community Centre
James St. South, St. Marys, Ontario
Thurs 10- 5pm, Fri 10-9pm, Sat 10-5 pm
Email: lindamr@porchlight.ca

Waterloo Quilt Festival: 9th Annual Juried Quilt Show

May 20 - 30, 2004
Deadline for Entry, April 1, 2004
For More information call
1-888-804-7909 or visit
www.quiltcapitalfestival.com



Guild members would like to express their deepest sympathies to Jackie James on the recent loss of her husband Ralph. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family at this time.

You're One in a Million - Well Maybe One in 21 Million!

According to the Quilting in America Survey for 2003 there are more than 21 million quilters in America. You are considered a dedicated quilter if you spend more than \$500 a year on quilting supplies (hmmm - do you have to do anything with those supplies?).

The dedicated quilter's profile looks something like this:

- 99% are female
- The average age is 58
- Well educated (76% college grads)
- Affluent (> \$80,000/year income)
- On average spends almost \$2,000/yr on quilting
- Has been quilting for 12.3 years
- Owens 2-4 sewing machines

Apparently dedicated quilters have on average over 5,000 dollars worth of quilting tools and supplies and have almost 3,000 dollars worth of fabric in their stashes. We also buy an average of 100 yards of fabric annually.

The message in all of this - the year is almost up - if you haven't bought your 100 yards of fabric - get out there, there is still time. What a wonderful excuse to buy fabric!

Next Executive Meeting

The next meeting of the RCQG Executive will be held Tuesday, January 19, 2004, at the Co-operators Building on Macdonnell Street. We will start promptly at 7 pm and finish at 9:30. Please review your November minutes prior to the meeting.

Meeting Cancellation / Inclement Weather

If you would like to receive meeting cancellation notice by email please send the newsletter editor an email (address below) from your current email address. Members without email will be called when the decision has been made.



EDITOR'S NOTE

Cindy Schwan (836-5319) realschwans@yahoo.ca

Thank you to those of you who have given articles for the newsletter. All submissions are really appreciated. Deadline for the next newsletter is January 12, 2004. My thanks to Sue Keuhl, Audrey Steele and Barbara Louise Johnson-Krause for help with the newsletter.

