



Royal City Quilters Guild

P.O. Box 30039, 2 Quebec Street, Guelph, Ontario N1H 8J5

Monthly Newsletter

December 2004 / January 2005

President: Sue Keuhl 826-7914 **Vice President:** Maureen Kay 843-1778
Secretary: Shelly Palframan 824-0768 **Guild Treasurer:** Helen Meyer 855-6597

December and January Meetings

Tuesday December 14, 2004 and Tuesday January 11, 2005
Westwood United Church, Willow Rd., Guelph

6:45 Doors Open
7:15 Opening Remarks
7:30 Program
8:30 Break (Bake Sale in December)
8:45 Show and Share

Meeting Checklist

- | | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| ✓ Name Tag | ✓ Quilt Bee Block | ✓ Candle Ornament |
| ✓ Bake/Deli Item | ✓ Show and Share Items | ✓ Zehrs/Ultra Tapes |
| ✓ Money for Shopping | ✓ Block of the Month | ✓ Cup or Mug |
| ✓ Cathedral Windows | ✓ Library Books | ✓ Newsletter Submissions |

These members have kindly offered to bring treats for December

**Audrey Vrooman, Sandy Campbell, Florrie Lonsdale, Mary Howlett Nero, Gloria Longshaw,
Audrey Steele, Ann Reynard, Susan Johnston, Liz Bayne and JoAnne Oldridge**

These members have kindly offered to bring treats for January

Margaret Austen, Sara Penny, Shelly Palframan, Sherron Valeriote, Susan Birkholz and Gail Brown

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December Greeters

*Kay Valeriote and
Lana Phillips*

January Greeter

Cindy Schwan

A Message from the President

Sue Keuhl (821-7914)

"Colour with Courage"

This year's program theme is really starting to intrigue me. We have had some great, inspiring speakers. In harmony with our program this year, are the exciting workshops that our Workshop Committee has planned for us. I can hardly wait to see the vibrant quilts to come out of the John Willard workshop. What courage it must have taken to go beyond our norm and dive into vibrant colours and spontaneous geometrics. Using colour with courage can make many of us feel very uncomfortable. In fact, many of us would rather call this year's theme "Fear Factor: Beyond Beiges" That would describe myself. Within my own fabric stash is an amazing assortment of neutrals. From off white, to taupe, to butterscotch, to sand, to conservative browns...I've got them all!

Recently, it was my pleasure to join Guild members Sharon Beach and Isobel King on a shopping mission to pick out the fabrics for our Guild Quilt, which will be the backdrop on the stage during our monthly gatherings. Our task was to pick out jewel tones. Well, there couldn't have been three people with more diverse colour preferences. Despite the odds, we came up with an amazing selection of fabrics that we felt fit the prerequisite of being a jewel tone. It was amazing to see all the different fabrics each one of us came up with. When all the fabrics were cut and piled, I was amazed at the array of colours on the table. All were beautiful in their own right but what business did we have putting these colours together in a quilt?! Quietly, I thought to my self "Oh, oh, I'm really not sure about this!" One of my fellow shoppers even mentioned later that she suspected I was a little worried about how the colours would pull together.

The very next day I was on a plane to Cuba. I was fortunate to have a window seat as in the final hour of the plane ride we flew into the most amazing sunset. Unlike anything that I have seen, the colours in the sky were the colours of the rainbow. Within the painted sky, I could see the fabrics that we chose the night before. It was an exciting moment to see how fabric could be translated to the sights of our world around us. This part of colour really intrigues me. As quilters, we have the chance to stretch our imaginations and skills to translate the world around us in gloriously coloured fabrics.

During the Quilt Bee day for our Guild Quilt, I was amazed when I saw all the packages of prearranged fabric. There wasn't a single coordinating fabric!!! Oh dear, I thought...but as we started to sew up each block, the colours played off of each other like poetry. Isobel King and Maureen Kay who assembled the packages really taught us something about having courage with colour. Now I want to step out of the box and learn more!

Sifting through my book collection, I found some great books on colour. The best quote I found was from 'Color Harmony for Quilts' by Weeks Ringle and Bill Kerr (Rockport Publishers, ISBN 1-56496-919-3). They say "There are no bad colours. There are, however, successful and less successful combinations of colours. The successful ones are those that reinforce an idea, bringing a quilt to life." Bringing a quilt to life through colour to express a thought or emotion is something to strive for.

Another inspiring book I found was "Contemporary Quilts" by Sandra Meech (B T Batsford, ISBN 0-7134-856-5). Some of us were fortunate to enjoy Sandra's workshop a few years on borders and design. She keeps a sketchbook for ideas and colours. Much of her work is inspired by the various landscapes seen in her travels. Her book gives great direction on how to break down your thoughts and visions from your travels. I must say, one of my most favourite vacation colour combination is light blue skies and sandy beaches. Someday, I know I have to translate this impression into a quilt.

Sandra also reminds us that "Often the best sources of inspiration are on our own doorstep. Perhaps it is a plant in the garden that gives pleasure year after year or a particular view enjoyed in every season, showing nature at it best and worst." Some great, inspiring books about quilting and colour in our everyday world come from authors Kaffe Fassett (Passionate Patchwork, Welcome Home) and Jean and Judy Wells (Through the Garden Gate). Whether it is Delft pottery, hatboxes, or gardens; we can courageously use colour in our quilts to express the wonderful sites around us.

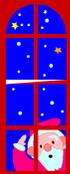
At the time of writing, snow is expected to arrive later in the day. Soon our world will be covered in a quilt of white snow. Our minds will be preoccupied with holiday activities. When we return in January, we will be treated to a great program by Helen Hughes and Elizabeth Litch on colour. I look forward to seeing how the rest of our programs will touch our imagination. In the meantime, maybe a few of these books on colour will find their way onto your Christmas list?

I wish you and your loved ones a happy and healthy holiday season.

Sue Keuhl



PROGRAM
 Maureen Kay (843-1778) and
 Sharon Beach (836-4639)



ASK A QUILTER
 Liz Bayne (763-6337) and
 JoAnne Oldridge (821-3112)

Rosemary Plummer

December's program features Rosemary Plummer. Rosemary comes from New Hamburg and is a member of the Waterloo County Quilter's Guild. She became interested in quilting after visiting the annual Mennonite Relief Sale and thought 'this can't be too difficult'. Twenty five years ago she became hooked on quilting and quilts. Most of Rosemary's glorious quilts are originals. Rosemary drafts her patterns and then makes her quilts. She regards Ruth Mac Dowell's curved piecing as having a big influence in her quilting. We will particularly enjoy Rosemary's selection of Christmas quilts -- one of her favourite themes. Rosemary's work has been featured in Quilt Canada.

Helen Hughes and Elizabeth Litch

Two colourful characters, Helen Hughes and Elizabeth Litch will talk about the choices we make when planning quilts or wall pieces. They will discuss the five steps to colour:

1. Assessing the environment
2. Being inspired
3. Being personal
4. Being brave
5. Taking small steps

Join us for this exciting meeting!



Dear Expert Quilter,

I am recent convert to quilting, but have been a sewer for years. My question revolves around the multitude of thread types available at Quilt Shops. What type of thread should I be using?

Thank you,
Suzie Sewer

Dear Suzie Sewer,

We recommend you match the fibre content of the thread with the fabric you are using in your quilt. Since most quilters use 100% cotton fabrics for their quilts, your best choice for thread type would also be 100% cotton. Matching fibres types will assist with even wear, especially with a "working" quilt which will undergo many washings in its lifetime. However, if you are creating art quilts, the choice for decorative threads is very extensive, such as, rayon, metallic, and blends.

Ellie Expert

Mini Demos

There will be no Mini Demo at the December meeting so that we can all charge the Bake/Deli table at break time. The January Mini Demo will be paper piecing. If you have any technique that you would like demonstrated or one you would like to demonstrate, please contact Liz Bayne or JoAnne Oldridge at the Guild meeting.





FROM THE LIBRARY

by Barbara Jordan (837-0818)

You've waited all year, you've been good, it's time to reward yourself....and do a little Christmas shopping at the same time! The annual bake and deli sale will be held during the break at the December meeting. Any and all items are welcome - your favourite baked goods, pickles, preserves, jams, jellies, candies, chocolates, quilting or Christmas items. Please, price all contributions and label any items containing nuts. There will also be a book sale of discarded library books and old magazines. **To be fair to everyone, the Bake and Deli Sale starts at the break.**

So where's the fabric, you ask? This year look for pre-priced fabric packages, and for those looking for strips, scraps and "gotta haves" for the scrap workshop or for "stash enhancement", look for fabric at the silent auction table. **Bidding starts at 6:45, and winning bids will be announced after the break.**

Remember, you can never too much fabric or baked or deli items so bring lots of money! All proceeds from the sale go to the library for the purchase of new books.

New Items in the Library

Contemporary Quilts by Sandra Meech

Every Quilt Tells A Story by Helen Kelley

Fast Fun & Easy Fabric Boxes by Linda Johansen

Thanks to Andrea Curtis and Cheryl McMinn-Brown for suggesting these titles for the library. It's your library too - if there is something you'd like to see, please contact me.

And finally, congratulations to Frankie Poxon, Jackie James and Cynthia Gedye, winners of our November raffles. What a great response! A total of \$247 was raised for library purchases! This is an event we will run again.



A Book Review

By Norah McGuire-MacLeod

Quilting Back to Front

ISBN - 1-57120-164-5

Author: Lorraine Scouler

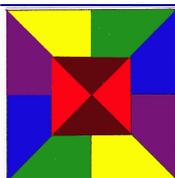
How many times have you heard "I don't know what quilt design to use". Lorraine Scouler's book will give the quilter a great new approach to quilting your quilts. *Quilting Back to Front* covers both hand and machine quilting. The design of the fabric for the backing is used as the quilting pattern. No need to regard the backing as just the bottom layer of the quilt sandwich. There are many wonderful fabrics with inspirational designs just waiting to be outline stitched. No more worries about the quilting design not fitting, or the inability to mark the dark fabrics.

Lorraine's book explains what makes a good back to front fabric, and gives many examples for the quilters. The author explores the hidden potential of fabrics and helps you adapt them to a your quilting projects. Lorraine explains how important scale and continuity are when deciding on a backing. She offers common-sense answers to questions such as how to audition fabrics, how to piece backs for continuous quilting, and how to connect isolated motifs. Quilting "back to front" allows you to save time and add pizzazz to the most ordinary quilt top.



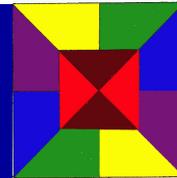
Welcome!

The executive would like to welcome Gail Brown into the position of Social Convener. Thank you Gail, for taking on this important position.



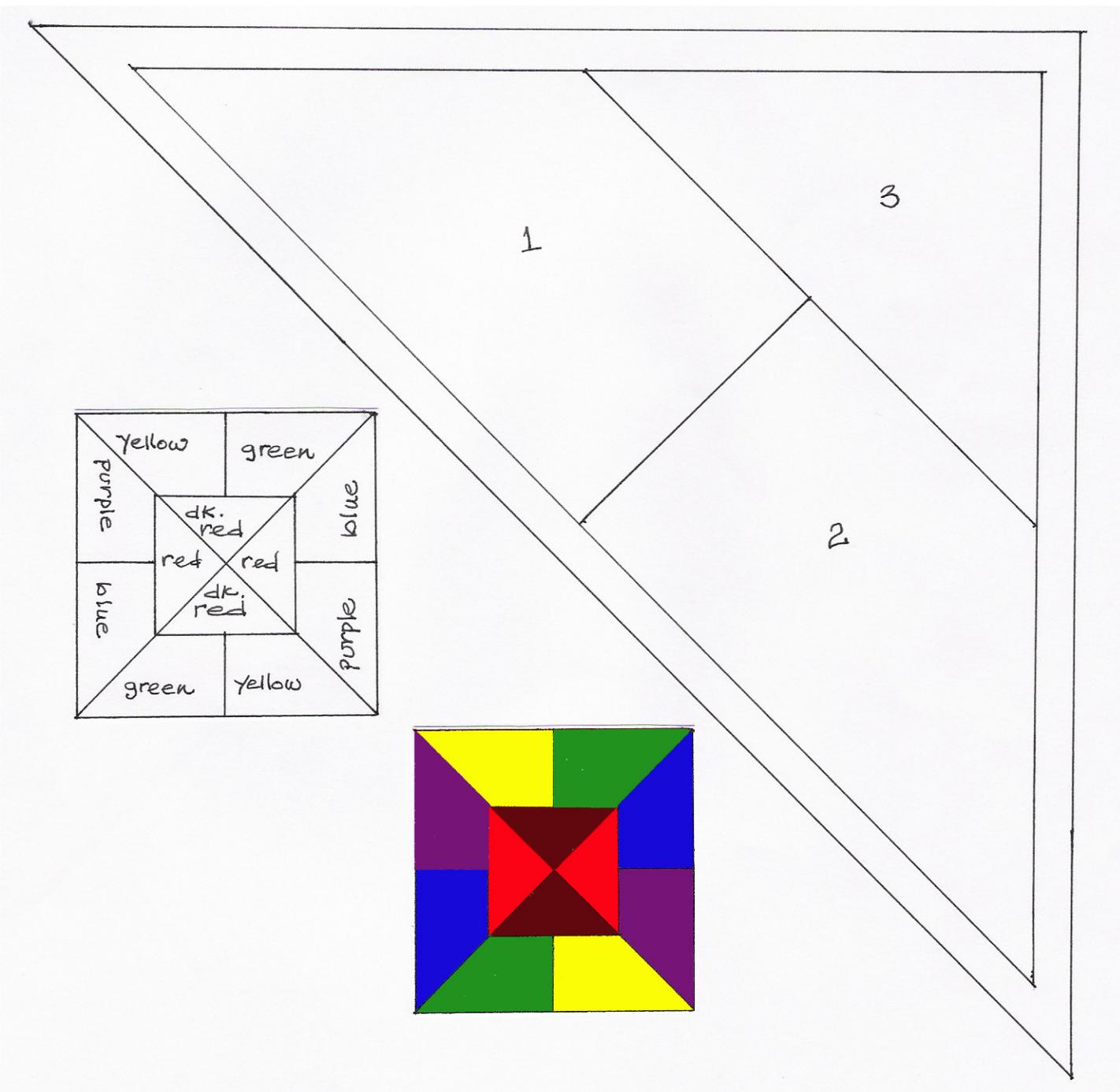
BLOCK OF THE MONTH

Andrea Curtis (821-3576) and Judy Taylor (822-3985)



January Block of the Month

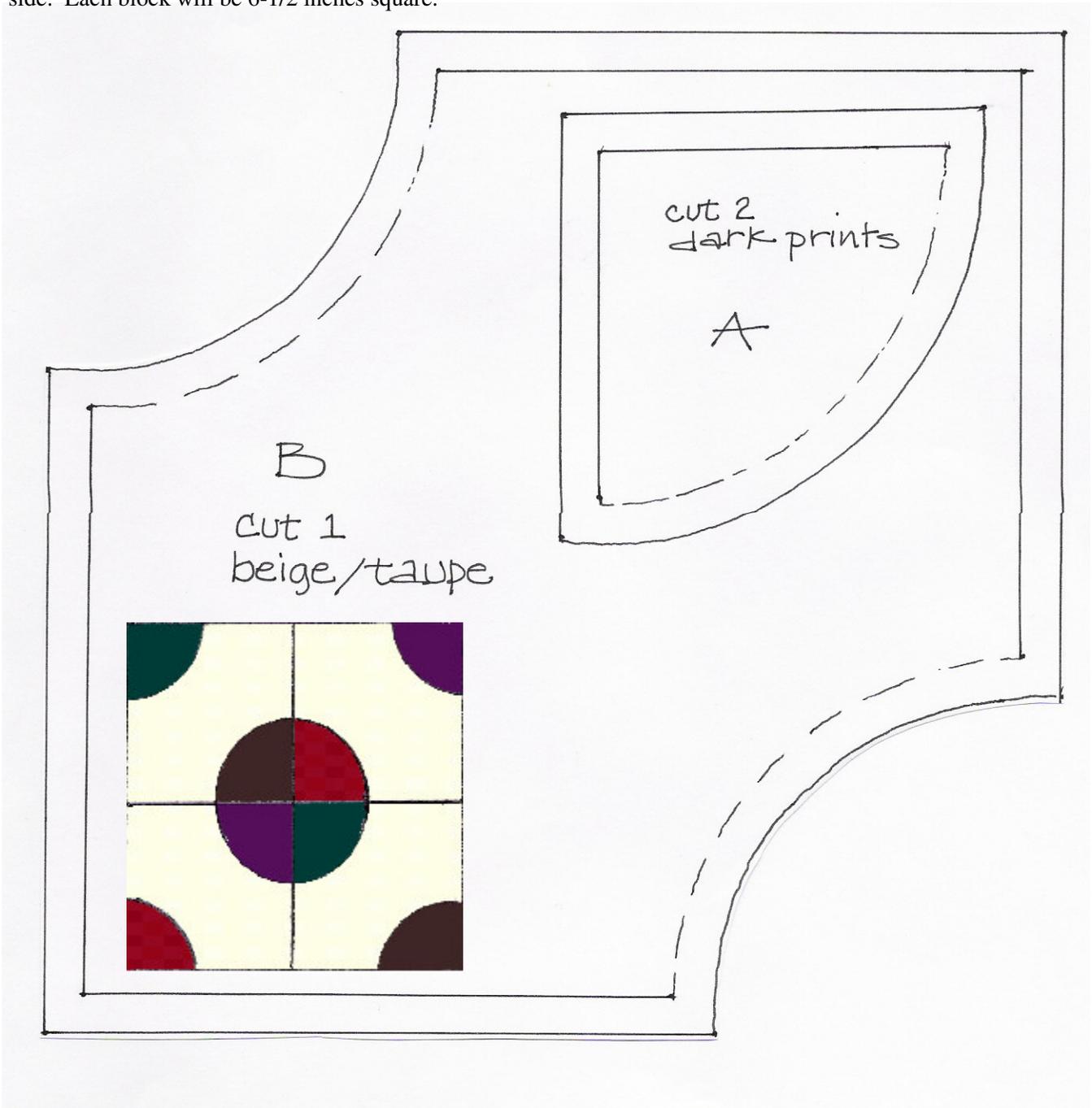
For this block, please use solid fabrics or tone on tone. Photocopy the pattern 4 times. You will need dark red, red, green, blue, purple and yellow. The two reds go opposite each other in the centre of the block. The other colours go around the edge - diagonally opposite each other. See the diagram below. This block is paper pieced. You can also make it by cutting out the pieces and adding one quarter inch around the edge of each piece. The finished block will be 8-3/4 inches square.

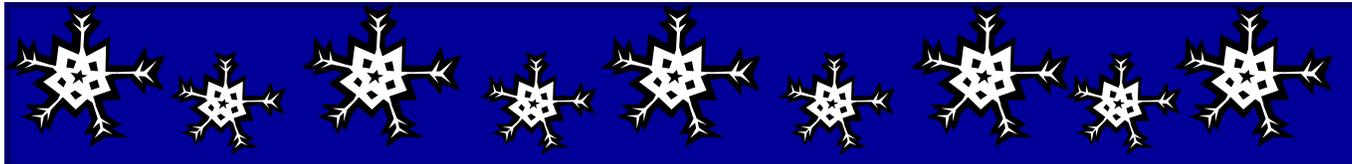




February Block of the Month

For this month, practice putting together curves. There are two templates. For the “B” template, please use beige, or taupe, tone on tone. For the A template, use dark prints. It isn’t necessary to use the same dark print on each side. Each block will be 6-1/2 inches square.





Cathedral Window Ornaments

Maureen Kay spoke with Beverley Broughton of the Salvation Army and she is thrilled at the prospect of receiving the Cathedral Window Ornaments we had so much fun creating at the last meeting. Please find that half hour to finish up your ornament and bring it along to the December meeting. The Salvation Army Baskets are being filled at the end of that week and your creative window will be joyously received.

Guild Quilt Blocks

Those fabulous New York Beauty blocks for the Guild Quilt should be completed and brought to the December meeting please. Stay tuned for more information regarding the piecing of the blocks and the quilting of the quilt in the new year. Does this mean we get to have another Pot Luck?

Calls For Entry

Many events for the 2005 season have early calls for entry dates. More information regarding these events can be found on the CQA website. The following is a list of the Calls for Entry and their deadline dates:

Oakville Festival of Fibre Arts

Entry deadline: January 31, 2005

CQA/ACC National Juried Show

Entry deadline February 14, 2005.
Entry form available on CQA website.

Greenwood Gallery

Entry deadline March 1, 2005

The Grand National

Entry deadline - April 1, 2005

Waterloo County and Area Quilt Festival

7th Annual Youth Quilt Block Challenge
Ontario Juried Quilt Show
Entry deadlines - April 1, 2005

International Plowing Match 2005

Entry deadline August 2005

Block of the Month Prizes

Block of the month prizes are generously donated by various stores in the area. The Guild appreciates these donations and wishes to acknowledge the following businesses for their contributions throughout the year.

Greenwood Quiltery
Len's Mill
Reichard's
Sew Little Time
Triangle Sewing

Calendar of Events 2004/2005

Greenwood Quiltery and Gallery

Judy Taylor Exhibit "Joolz"
November 11th - December 30th, 2004
275 Woolwich Street
Guelph, Ontario
(519)-822-2790
www.greenwoodquiltery.com

The Quilt Gallery

1441 King St. St Jacobs,
Country Mill, 3rd Floor
Winter 2005
Private collection of Carolyn and Brent Dysart
Hours: M-Sat 10-6pm, Sun Noon-5pm
Waterloo County & Area Quilt Festival
1-888-804-7909 or www.quiltcapitalfestival.com

Oakville Festival of Fibre Arts

Common Threads Exhibition of Fibre Arts
The Gallery, Sheridan ITAL
1430 Trafalgar Road, Oakville, On
May 12th - May 29th, 2005
www.oakvillearts.com/fibrearts.htm

Membership Update

A reminder to please keep your membership information up to date. After the publication of the membership book, all membership changes will be listed in the newsletter, so that you can make any changes in your book. Please pick up your membership booklet at the membership table. If you make any email changes, it is very important to send Cindy Schwan (realschwans@yahoo.ca) your new email address. If you have just recently set up an email account and you would like to try receiving your newsletter by email, please send Cindy an email. You will receive your newsletter by post until you are satisfied that you are able to receive and print your newsletter.

Volunteers for Homewood

We are still looking for more volunteers for Monday nights from 7 pm to 8:15 pm at the Homewood. Small projects are completed by the patients. Please see or call Cindy Schwan (836-5319) for more information.



Inclement Weather

In case of inclement weather, members who receive their newsletter by email, should check for a message regarding the cancellation of the meeting. Members who receive their newsletter by post will be phoned if the meeting is cancelled.

Next Executive Meeting

There is no Executive meeting in December. The next meeting of the RCQG Executive will be held Tuesday, January 18, 2004, at the Co-operators Building on Macdonnell Street. We start promptly at 7 pm and finish at 9:30. Please review your November minutes prior to the meeting.

Editor's Note

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

Thank you to all who submitted information for this newsletter. Newsletter submissions may be emailed or given to me at the Guild meeting. The deadline for the next newsletter is the January Guild meeting

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

