



October 2023 Newsletter

Executive Update



September was a whirlwind of activity for Royal City Quilters' Guild. We had our first meeting of the year; our first Member Mingle; and our first Quilts of Valour Sew Day! Read all the latest news throughout the rest of the newsletter.

At our most recent Executive meeting, we worked on the budget for the coming year. Watch your email for your copy of the budget in the coming days.

The Executive will use it to guide our decision-making throughout the year.

Are you ready for October? It is sure to be another busy month. Irena Swanson will talk to us about efficient methods to make fast and accurate quilts.

New members are invited to a Fireside Chat on October 24.

The Alaska Quilt Along begins on October 21.

Our Community Outreach Bee Day is on October 28.

The Mystery Quilters are abuzz about one of their favourite mysteries, which will begin on Halloween.

Happy Thanksgiving to All!

We hope we will see you at a Guild event soon!



Guild Calendar Update

A year ago, RCQG moved all our mailing lists to rcqg.groups.io – a multi-featured platform that facilitates group collaboration. Now, we’ve moved our events calendar there, too.



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1. To access the Guild calendar, click [here](#) to go to the website.
2. Scroll down to find the blue button called “Calendar & Discussions” and click.
3. You’ll be directed to the Groups.io Information page where you can:
 - a) Click on Log In, and
 - b) If this is your first time, logging in, click on the blue link that says: “Forgot your password or don’t have one yet?” to receive a new link. Follow the instructions in the email you will receive, to access.

Here’s a quick glance at the month ahead:

Date & Time (ET)	Activity	Location
Wednesday, October 4th @ 9:30 am – 3:30pm	Stash Busters	Zoom Invitation
Tuesday, October 10th @ 7:00pm	Member Meeting (Virtual)	Zoom – A link to the meeting will be emailed to all members and registered guests the day before the Guild’s Meeting.
Friday, October 13th and Friday, October 27th @ 9:30 – 11:00am	EQ8 – New User Group	Zoom Invitation
Saturday, October 14th @ 10:00am – 3:00pm	Virtual Sew Day	Zoom Invitation
Saturday, October 14th @ 1:00pm – 3:00pm	Mystery Quilters Anonymous	Zoom Break-out Room (part of above)
Saturday, October 21st @ 10:00am – 12:00pm	Alaskan Quilt-A-Long	Zoom Invitation
Tuesday, October 24th @ 7:00-8:00pm	Fireside Chat	Zoom Invitation
Saturday, October 28 th @ 10:00am – 3:30pm	Member Mingle (In Person)	Community Living Guelph Wellington, 8 Royal Road, Guelph
Wednesday, October 25th	Newsletter Submissions	N/A

(Virtual) Guest Speaker: Irena Swanson

Tube Piecing – Beyond Bargello

Irena Swanson has been developing her tube piecing methodology for several years. She has used it to make many varied projects quickly, efficiently, and accurately. She's written countless articles and books on her method. In her *Easy Geometric Quilts with Tube Piecing*, she breaks down the basic steps so that others may follow her passion. Bonus, you do not need to buy any new gadgets!!!

Irena will encourage you to experience quilting from a new point of view: it is often about cutting large constructions down rather than building from small pieces up. Tube piecing is an enhanced version of strip piecing and permits the maker to conquer more unusual shapes, like triangles and parallelograms.

Visit her [website](#) for more information, inspiration, and access to her books.

When Irena isn't quilting, she is the head of the Mathematics Department at Purdue University.





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Membership

Ten new members have joined the Guild in the last month. Please welcome Giselle Tregunna, Glenda Bilinsky, Marilyn Grubb, Nina McTeer, Linda McLaren, Alison Buchanan, Kathleen Clarke, and 3 other members who prefer to remain anonymous. The Guild has passed the 150-member mark!

Attention to all new RCQG members! Save the date for our **New Members' Virtual Fireside Chat on Tuesday, October 24th at 7:00 pm**. This is an excellent opportunity for you to meet one another, along with some of the Guild's executive team. Bring your questions. This is your chance to discover more about the Guild's activities and to share what your interests are, as well. An invitation will be sent to all new members, closer to October 24th. I hope you will be able to attend.

The virtual sew days on the second Saturday of each month and the special interest groups that meet on-line provide an opportunity to ask and answer questions about quilt-making techniques and tools. I want to encourage the members that live in the Guelph vicinity to attend the in-person Monthly Mingles or Quilts of Valour sew days. Regardless of the meeting format, these gatherings allow you to meet others that share your specific interests.

Please notify membership[at]royalcityquiltersguild.ca of changes to your email, physical address, or telephone numbers, as the new Directory of Members will be published in October. – Helen Kocmarek

The 2023-2024 Guild year membership fee is \$45. The membership fee is reduced to \$35 for members who join in February.

A guest pass for the monthly membership meeting is \$10. Guest participants in a QOV community outreach bee day receive a complimentary guest pass for a membership meeting.

Visit our [Membership page](#).



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By appointment only

(In Person) Member Mingle: Community Outreach Bee Day

Next Mingle Date: October 28, 2023 Time: 10 am to 3:30 pm

Where: Community Living Guelph Wellington,
8 Royal Rd., Guelph
(Please park in the north parking lot).



Our first Mingle (September) was a success – a nice start to the year! I confess that I spent a lot of time chatting, which cut into my sewing time. I had a great time meeting new people and reconnecting with old friends, so it was time well spent!

Our guest speaker, Sherry Friskney, had a fabulous trunk show of bags and purses. She showed us different styles of bags, made of different materials, equipped with different hardware, and made with a variety of stabilizers. I've been afraid to try installing a zipper, but Sherry assured all of us that she knows a shortcut or two to make zippers easy. She is even willing to share the shortcuts with the rest of us! Watch for her handouts in the Files section of groups.io.

The Grab and Go table was a treasure trove of goodies. Be sure to bring any items you have that are too good to toss to the next Mingle. The rest of us will be happy to help you re-home them.

Roxanne Caughill brought along her prize-winning butterfly quilt which we put on a quilt rack for photos. Seeing her finished quilt, decked out with her ribbons, has convinced me to commit more time to my butterfly quilt, too. Reminder for the next Mingles, we'd love to see your quilts and to continue fostering the spirit of inspiring others to address their works-in-progress!

I'd like to thank everyone who pitched in to make this day a success. MaryAnne Girouard deserves a special shout out for above-and-beyond help with setup.



On October 28th, we will Mingle with others, as we work on one of our community outreach projects. There is no charge to attend the October Bee Day Mingle. Please RSVP to Colleen ([colleenhunter9\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:colleenhunter9@gmail.com)) so she knows to expect you.

November's Mingle will have a holiday flavour. I'm looking for some of Santa's favourite elves to demonstrate quick and easy holiday-themed projects on November 25th. Please email me at ([atemplespears\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:atemplespears@gmail.com)) to discuss your ideas.

I look forward to seeing everyone again soon! -- April Temple Spears

In-Person Mingles – Things to Do & Things to Bring

What you can do:

- Community Outreach representatives will be on site with available project kits for the Hospital and Quilts of Valour
- Sew a project for one of our charities
- Have a coffee or tea and chat with friends
- Use the display wall for your block layouts
- Bring a finished quilt to Hang on the stand for a picture for Show and Share
- Take time to view the newly refreshed Library
- Browse the Grab and Go table



What you will need to bring:

- Your sewing equipment and basic sewing supplies needed (neutral thread, scissors/rotary cutters, seam rippers etc.)
- Lunch (coffee/tea/water will be supplied)

Questions about the Sewing Bee activities? Contact Colleen Hunter at: [colleenhunter9\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:colleenhunter9@gmail.com)



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Due to the global COVID-19 environment, our concern for members' well-being, and liability concerns for the Royal City Quilters' Guild, all in-person RCQG activities are to be conducted according to current Ontario provincial guidelines.






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Workshops

Workshops are now open for registration. Don't miss an opportunity to try something different and new. Spaces are limited – sign up now, while you can! Click on this link: [WORKSHOP](#).

	<p>Milagro</p> <p>Dawn Piasta will be teaching application and blending of colours using Inktense Pencils and Blocks to create small pictures. She will also introduce the Apliquick method of applique. This workshop will be Saturday, November 4, 2023, from 10:30am – 5:00pm</p>
	<p>3-D Flowers</p> <p>This workshop will be presented by Jackie White on Wednesday, February 14, 2024, from 10:30am – 5:00pm. This flower creation can be 3” to 6” off the wall. This workshop is suitable for all levels of quilters.</p>
	<p>Crumbs to Quilts</p> <p>Brita Nelson presents this class on Saturday, April 6, 2024, from 12:30 – 4:00pm. She will demonstrate how to turn the tiniest scraps into a beautiful quilt.</p>

Have you
 signed up yet?

 It's FREE for members!
 Act today!

**INTERNATIONAL
 QUILTING DAY**
 ALL DAY VIRTUAL CELEBRATION
KEYNOTE SPEAKERS
 KAFFE FASSETT LAURA COIA DANA E JONES





SATURDAY 16 MARCH 2024
ADMISSION: \$25
 ADDITIONAL SPEAKERS - VENDORS
 PRIZE DRAWS - VIRTUAL QUILT SHOW
 FOR MORE DETAILS & TO REGISTER:
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Community Outreach

Please join us for the annual Community Outreach Bee Day being held on October 28, 2023, at the Community Living Guelph Wellington, 8 Royal Road Guelph from 10 to 4:30. **There will be no charge to participate.** Please bring your sewing machine, neutral thread, scissors, any other sewing supplies you may need as well as your lunch and any snacks. There will be quilt top kits to sew for the Guelph General Hospital Committee and block kits to prepare for Quilts of Valour Committee.

Guelph General Hospital Committee

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the completion of the 87 quilts we have ready to donate to the Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence unit at the Guelph General Hospital. We currently have 17 completed quilt tops that require quilting along with 2 that require binding. If you can assist with either quilting or binding, please contact Trish Pequegnat at [ipequegnat\[at\]rogers.com](mailto:ipequegnat[at]rogers.com) to arrange a pickup location.



We are currently seeking new members to join this committee. If interested, please contact Colleen Hunter at [colleenhunter9\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:colleenhunter9[at]gmail.com).

Home For Good

The Home for Good table was busy during the September Mingle. We received a dozen completed quilts and half a dozen quilts ready to move to the next phase. Quilters sewed on labels and sewed down bindings throughout the day.

Sue Turnbull came all the way from Ottawa to hand deliver a bright, cheerful plaid quilt. It was her first quilt-as-you-go quilt and she did an amazing job (picture at right).

At present this program has already delivered 42 quilts and there are 27 quilts ready to be delivered when the third facility opens. We have 9 quilts currently out for quilting and 8 out for binding. That brings us to a total of 86 quilts and we are aware of a few more that have been promised and should arrive shortly. Considering that we embarked on this program only this Spring, this is an enormous accomplishment.

Congratulations to all our quilters, both in the Guild and further afield. Thanks also to the Guelph Lions Club for their support of this initiative. --- Ann Jeffrey





I would like to thank everyone for joining me on our first Quilts of Valour sew day Sept 25, 2023 at the Guelph Canadian Legion. We had a good turnout of enthusiastic members who supported this program by working on quilt kits and blocks.

The Legion donated an excellent workspace with enough room to spread out and an electrical capacity to handle all our machines and irons. This sew day has spawned at least 8 new quilts for the QOV program. Here is one example: a Stashbusters / QOV project kit which Roxanne completed the top and then finished with long armed quilting, as well.



I look forward to seeing everyone at the next sew day on November 13th, 2023 at the Guelph Legion 57 Watson Parkway South, Guelph.

Visit our website for added information and to see photos as we make progress: Community Outreach/Quilts of Valour.

- Monica Ferguson

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Mystery Quilters Anonymous at RCQG

WANT TO JOIN A SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP?

There's never been a better time to get involved – so, what are you waiting for? For more information on ALL the groups active in our Guild, click on this link:
RCQG Special Interest Groups

This group is for quilters who enjoy an adventure into the unknown.

Instructions for mystery quilts are released a step or two at a time for quilters who don't know how the final project will look.

For quilters in this group, the mystery is a big part of the enjoyment. If you like mysteries, join us! Who knows the twists and turns that await!?!?!?

The next big mystery is about to be revealed! Join us during our virtual sew day on October 14th. We will meet 1:00 – 3:00pm.

Contact us at: [mqa\[at\]royalcityquiltersguild.ca](mailto:mqa[at]royalcityquiltersguild.ca)



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Member Shares

Sue Turnbull decided to bring more than just one quilt to Guelph, when she drove down from Ottawa to attend the September Mingle.

This purple beauty was dropped off at Hospice Wellington, in memory of her mother, who had stayed there.



Regional Guilds – Upcoming Events



Waterloo County Quilters' Guild

2023 Quilt Exhibit
October 13 & 14, 2023
Friday & Saturday
10 am to 5 pm

Quilters clockwise from top right:
Dorothy Holdenmeyer, Marg Notar,
Miriam Bauman, Kathy Bissett, Dale
McMillan, Trudy Dey

Manulife Sportsplex
2001 University Avenue East
Waterloo, Ontario

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Waterloo County Quilters' Guild
October 13 – 14 Times: 10AM-5PM \$10/person
Location: Manulife Sportsplex at RIM
2001 University Avenue East, Waterloo, ON

Twisted Stitches Quilt Guild
October 28-29 Times: 10am-6; 10am-4pm \$10/person
Location: Audley Recreation Centre
1955 Audley Road, Ajax, ON

Suggestion:
Some of the information here has been obtained from the Canadian Quilters' Association. Before making a long-distance trip, check show details on the appropriate guild's website.

CQA has published their Call for Entry for their National Juried Show. Entries will be accepted from Jan 3 to Feb 16. The information is posted online. Click the picture below to go to the website.

