



Executive Update



Executive Update (cont'd)

This month's big event is our fifth annual virtual celebration of International Quilting Day.

Newer members may not realize that our first celebration was created as an RCQG-only event on March 21, 2020. It was hastily planned as an entertaining distraction for members, shortly after the world started shutting down, due to the COVID pandemic.

Participants worked on their own projects from home. Throughout the day, they received a variety of emails asking them to send photos or write responses for a chance to win a \$50 gift certificate to a local quilt shop. We asked about UFOs and awarded a prize to the person working on the oldest UFO. The person who used her seam ripper the most times throughout the day also received a prize. We learned why quilting is important to our members.

So, on its' fifth anniversary, it's gratifying to see how far we've come in offering this event. You can enjoy world-class speakers, your choice of concurrent sessions, vendor presentations and a virtual quilt show. And, yes, there will be door prizes!

All of this is free for members of RCQG and our collaborating guilds. Be sure to register to attend if you haven't already. You can do that by [clicking here](#).

The week leading up to IQD will also be a whirlwind of activity – be sure to highlight these dates on your calendars:

- On Saturday, March 9th, join us for a virtual sew day including the specialty breakouts for the Alaska Quilt-along and the Mystery Quilters Anonymous groups.
- Monica has challenged Becky to a soup cook-off, as we plan lunch for Quilts of Valour (QoV) Sew Day on the Monday, March 11th. Our regional QoV representative is also planning a visit to receive the quilts we've made to date.
- Our regular, virtual meeting on Tuesday, March 12th will feature award-winning, Canadian quilter, Collette Dumont, who will be sharing her phenomenal quilts.

Thank you to all of the volunteers who make these events happen for the rest of us to enjoy. Happy Anniversary to all of us!

- RCQG Executive Team



(Virtual) Guest Speaker:

Collette Dumont – Trunk Show



Colette Dumont, of St. Romain, Quebec, will share her trunk show of her amazing quilts.

Colette currently lives on a dairy and maple sugar farm and still finds time to make extraordinarily detailed award-winning quilts.

She began her textile journey making dolls' clothes on a treadle machine at the ripe old age of five. In her late teens she began working in a clothing factory and then in her twenties she opened her own sewing and repair business.

The business closed in 1999 and her passion for sewing was put on hold. Then, in 2010, her quilting journey took off spurred by the purchase of a domestic sewing and embroidery machine.

Make sure to watch Colette's episode on the Quilt Show - # 3111 ... and join us on Tuesday, March 12th to learn just how she accomplishes such impressive works of art!

- Dawn H.



Your Executive needs your assistance!

We are quickly approaching the end of the Guild year – along with our Annual General Meeting. It's the time when we elect our new Executive and ensure the Committees have the necessary help to put on all of the program activities.

We need you! How can you contribute to keep our Guild thriving? Without volunteers, we cannot offer the breadth of program and membership experiences that you've come to expect.

It is always easier, to accomplish tasks when there are 'teams' of enthusiastic helpers, in place. Whether a new or long-time member, these opportunities provide a wonderful way to make new friends! As we know, from the current Executive makeup, many of the positions can be supported by members who do not live in the Guelph region. We have the technology to connect – we just need a little of your time!

To get more information: reach out to the Nominations Chair by clicking [here](#). Thank you!

Show and Share Presentations

The link to the awesome display of member talents for February can be found by clicking on the link below:

[February 2024 Show and Share](#)



Show and Share submissions made from the website are working now! If we missed your submission, we apologize for the inconvenience. Please resubmit.

The website will immediately confirm your message was sent successfully. Susan will confirm she received it when she checks her email within 2-3 days.

We look forward to seeing what you have been working on!!

Hey, Folks!
Just wondering - have you noticed a difference in the newsletter, so far? We're using the 'newest' font in town, called APTOS!
Let me know what you think.
Do you like it?
- Editor

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NEWS FLASH:

We have an unexpected treat: a discount for RCQG members for the entire month of March from Ormkraft ... as part of the International Quilt Day festivities!

Discount offer: Enjoy 15% discount on all Ormkraft brand products on their website.
Use discount code **IQD2024_15**
Ormkraft Online Website: <https://ormkraft.com/>



(In-person) Mingles

February Highlights:

Quilters at the February Mingle shared their enthusiasm for their favourite notions. I've been hearing about the tailor's clapper for a while and I'm a convert now. My blocks are going to have nice flat seams. We heard about the virtues of glue sticks, a kaleidoscope viewer, a quilter's proportion calculator, seam gauges, a variety of rulers, a power tower and much more!

Linda Marshall, and daughter Tina, were happy to re-home some of Linda's fabric at the pop-up shop. They were also delighted to make new friends, visit with old friends, and support two of their favourite charities.

The quilt rack was a busy place for quilt photos, and we can all look forward to seeing the masterpieces at an upcoming Show and Share.

With new library books on hand, there was plenty of inspiration for future projects. Some have started making plans for how they will use the Go! Cutter for a quick start on their next project and to manage their scraps.

The February Mingle was filled with laughter, inspiration, and new and renewed friendships. Thank you to everyone who helped make the day a success!



Looks like Monica has it covered



RCQG Member Kathy Wagner

Coming in March:

Our next Mingle is March 23rd. Featured member, Kathy Wagner will talk about Fall Fair Judging. You'll get the inside scoop in time to prepare entries for the coming Fall Fair season.

As usual, the library will be open; the quilt racks will be available for quilt photos; our outreach programs will have kits available; the Go! Cutter and dies will be available for bookings, and there will be plenty of time for you to work on your personal projects.

I'll put the kettle on! - April T-S

Membership



I so enjoyed February's very busy in-person Member Mingle. More than thirty-one members attended the Mingle festivities, and a few more members dropped by to visit the library and shop the fabric sale. Thank you to Jean Hilborn for manning the membership table with me. There was lots of chatting, laughing, browsing, shopping, and as a bonus, some creative work was accomplished at the Mingle.

Most of the "let's get acquainted" telephone calls from an executive member have been completed. Thank you for your suggestions and support. If we've missed you, please know that you can email membership [at] royalcityquiltersguild.ca to arrange a phone call time. We've discovered that many of our members belong to 2 or more quilt guilds, while others have joined the RCQG as they have no local guild option. Whatever your situation, we would love for you tell others about the RCQG and invite them to attend a meeting.

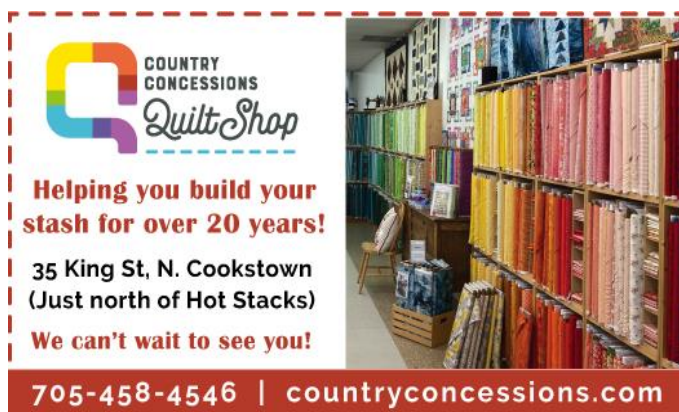
Speaking of new members, please welcome Judy Carrick, Iris Currell, Annie Miksch, Myrna Ferguson, Jean Weller, Jes Findlay, John Schonewille, and Andrea to the guild.

The next Fireside Chat for New Members will be held on Tuesday, April 23rd on Zoom. Please save the date. Invitations will be sent in April.

Please notify membership [at] royalcityquiltersguild.ca of changes to your email, physical address, or telephone numbers. Check the member directory to ensure your information is correct and up-to-date!

Next fall, I will be moving to the position of RCQG's treasurer. Would you be willing to serve as the membership registrar? If you have an internet connection, can maintain a list, and want to help build this wonderful guild, you would be an excellent candidate. If you have any questions about the position and if it would be a good fit for you, please let me know.

- Helen K.



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Library

Linda Marshall, thank you so much for your generosity in donating your library to our guild library. What an incredible number of wonderful books - a lot are new to our library!

Many books have been now added to our inventory and quite a few were borrowed at our Mingle on February 24th. The library was a busy place.

As you may know, there is a table with books and patterns for you to take, in return for a generous donation. At this Mingle, I put 4 totes of Linda's beautiful embroidery books and some of her quilting books on the donation table. I am pleased to tell you that I was able to give Linda the \$60 collected from and she's very pleased to forward those funds to her favourite charity. Thank you to all who donated.

Our Online Library: <http://www.librarything.com/catalog/rcqg>

Instructions on how to use the online library can be found on our website 'Resources' page ... click [here](#) to view.

If you can't attend a full day Mingle, feel free to drop in to return and borrow books. Our library will be available at all in-person events held at Community Living. As always, there will be books and patterns for sale.

- MaryAnne G.



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Workshops

We have booked Brita Nelson for her **'Crumbs to Quilts'** Workshop on April 6th. This class is full.

We had fully anticipated that would be our final one for the year. However, we've learned (from our member calls) that you had another idea, and we are happy to be able to accommodate the requests. See our "News Flash" announcement for the surprise details!



Your Workshop Committee is organizing the new program details for our next Guild year, and we predict that there will be a selection of equally interesting and varied workshops to offer you. Look for the BIG REVEAL at our May virtual Guild meeting. - Ann J.

News Flash – By Popular Demand: A New Workshop with Brita Nelson



The Workshop Committee has booked the **'Disappearing Block Sampler Quilt'** with Brita Nelson for Saturday, May 4th.

This may be short notice, but Brita is available for that date and since we have had many requests for this workshop we have booked it for you!

This 6-hour workshop is planned to start at 10:30 am (ET). The workshop is posted in the Guild On-Line Store with more details.

Community Outreach

Guelph General Hospital

We owe a big thank you to everyone who helped RCQG exceed our goal of delivering 100 quilts to the Sexual Abuse and Domestic Violence Treatment Centre at Guelph General hospital.

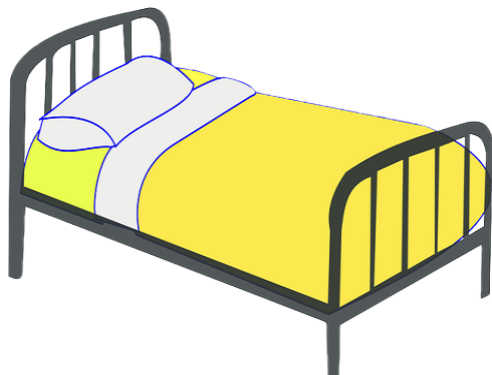
Whether you put together a kit, made a top, quilted a quilt, or stitched a binding we appreciate your contribution!

Thank you also to webmaster Sherri G. for posting photos of the quilts we delivered.



Visit the RCQG website (click [here](#)) and select the bottom tab. You'll be amazed at the new quilts featured within the photo album.

Home for Good



We have had a wonderful response for this effort. Quilters please give yourselves a pat on the back for all your efforts. Our promise to the Lions Club of Guelph was to produce 80 quilts for the campaign with the help of their grant. We are still receiving the last few quilts and are well in excess of 90 quilts.

We are also eagerly awaiting word that all final aspects of the 10 Shelldale location are finished. We plan to have our quilts on site and available at the time of its opening. We will keep you posted when we know more specifics.

Again, many thanks. - Ann J.

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Quilts of Valour

Quilts of Valour program is inviting everyone to another sew day on March 11, 2024, between 10am and 4pm at the Guelph Royal Canadian Legion.

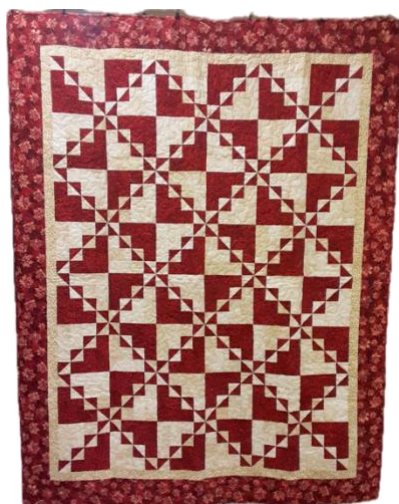
The Legion is located at 57 Parkway South in Guelph. I will have some kits that can be taken home or sewn during the day.

At 11:30 am we will be presenting the quilts we have finished to Deby Wetteges - Quilts of Valour Canada. Through the QOV Canada program our quilts will then move on and be presented to some of our veterans.



This month our lunch will be soup and some sweet snacks. Please bring your own lunch if you have dietary restrictions or would just prefer something else.

Here are a couple of beautiful quilts that will part of our donation.



Looking forward to seeing you on March 11th. Bring a friend.

- Monica F.





International Quilting Day is Saturday March 16, 2024

It is almost here!!! Be sure to register and attend part or all of the day. There will be door prizes drawn throughout the day. There will be discounts offered by some of the vendors. Head over to the website to check out the vendors and what they are offering for discounts and door prizes. See you there!!!

To register (no charge for RCQG members) go to iqdonline.com. Invite a friend to join us for the day. Keynote speakers - Kaffe Fassett, Dana Jones, Laura Coia. Along with our three fantastic keynote speakers we have six concurrent session speakers: Maggie Dillon, Sarah Humphreys, Vanessa Génier, Emily Bailey, Peter Byrne, Michael Smith.

The Virtual Quilt Show at the International Quilting Day virtual celebration will include a special exhibit of International Sister quilts made for the community outreach program at York Heritage Quilt Guild. The blocks are fun to make. Click [here](#) for the tutorial to sew a block. Dig into your wildest scraps and celebrate International Women's Day on March 8 by making your own International Sister blocks! Here are some ideas:

Table or bed runner

Make one row of International Sister blocks set on point. As pictured, the table runner below finishes at 19" x 75.75." Each block changes the length of the table runner by approximately 14." Add or subtract blocks as desired. To make the corner setting triangles for the ends, cut two 8" squares in half diagonally. The setting triangles for the top and bottom are made by cutting 15.5" squares diagonally in two directions. Each 15.5" square yields four setting triangles. Add a 2.5" border to both top and bottom for a table runner finishing at 19" wide.



Lap quilt

To make a lap quilt, make five rows of four International Sister blocks set on point. To make the setting triangles for the corners, cut two 8" squares in half diagonally. The setting triangles sides are made by cutting 15.5" squares diagonally in two directions. Each 15.5" square yields four setting triangles. Add 2.5" borders for a quilt finishing at 61.75" x 75.75".

Stash Busters



Stash Busters will be completing the “Mini Petals” project this month and it’s time to introduce our upcoming project for the months of April and May 2024, called “Balos Beach”.

This is a free download pattern from Benartex – click [here](#) to access the file.



Balos Beach is a very flexible pattern with easy construction. It is Fat Quarter friendly and great for using up directional fabrics or large prints.

The finished quilt measures 55” x 65” if you follow the pattern, as provided. It’s also easy to adjust the size by adding or removing borders, rows and/or columns.

Some Important Notes:

- Although the original pattern suggests 11 fabrics, I made the quilt shown in the photo with just 7 cuts. It is up to you!
- Additionally, I found it necessary to make two corrections, on page 2, of the original pattern:
 - a) The horizontal sashing for block 1b. should be labelled L3, and not L2.
 - b) The two A1 pieces should be cut 6 ½” x 17 ½” and not 6 ½” x 19 ½”.

Give it a try. Have FUN selecting your fabrics. – Mariette D.

Members Share

Some fun information to spend your coffee break perusing – all having to do with the items in our sewing spaces:

1) The Surprising Genius of the Sewing Machine:

<https://youtu.be/RQYuyHNLPTQ?si=Dv1BEKloXCqcWzhK>

2) {Quilting 101} A Guide to Sewing Machine Needles:

<http://threadbarecreations.blogspot.com/2024/01/quilting-101-guide-to-sewing-machine.html>

3) Tips for Adding A Quilt Label:

<https://blog.fatquartershop.com/tips-for-adding-a-quilt-label/>

Reminder: If you have a question about Sewing Machines, Threads or Needles or Other Quilting Hurdles ... submit a request to the Newsletter Editor, with the subject line: “ASK ALY” and look for a response in the newsletter!

Members Share (cont'd)

As I was in Florida (just a stone's throw down I-95), I took the opportunity to drive up to Raleigh, NC for QUILTCON 2024, last week. I was thoroughly entertained by lectures from Mary Fons, pertaining to her recent research adventures in tracking down information on the "The Artist & The Quilt Project", as well as "We Need to Talk About Bertha" (aka Bertha Meckstroth). There was a 'theme' of art world snobbery and quilters embracing their maker skills to demonstrate, resoundingly, that "Quilters are Artists"!

Jacque Gering has long been one of my 'must see' personages. As this year's 'featured' artist, we were treated to a curated sampling of her quilts and a lecture, "**The touch of my hands, the soul of a quilter**". Both mediums highlighted the personal creative journey that she has been on, and the influence of both of her parents on her work and work ethic. The homage series of quilts that she created for her father's 90th birthday was both simple in design, colour and quilting but packed full of meanings. Humour, humility and often tears, led from one experience to another. Her clarity in acknowledging her love of teaching, her proven leadership skills and ultimately, her ability to see herself as an artist brought her into the Modern Quilt movement. Her books and classes are based on keen desire to 'share what little she knows', so that others can grow. As a strong 'cheerleader' and primary leader of the early Modern Quilt movement, it is hard to envision her absence from the stage: but she has announced her retirement from public speaking/teaching (she has a new grandchild arriving in April and wants to create space to enjoy that adventure). This was well worth the drive!

I was also thrilled to meet and chat with a couple of our past speakers, while at the show:



David Owen Hastings was featured in two lectures :

1) In concert with Theresa Dureya Wong - "20 Modern Quilts from around the world" featured quilters from Argentina, Guatemala, Italy, France, New Zealand, South Korea, and Switzerland! The quilt pictures, but more importantly, the stories were captivating.

2) His solo lecture was "Quilt Labels to Love". The message was one we heard resonating in other lectures: your work is your legacy ... make sure you sign your art. David shared his process for getting essential information onto his quilts.

Melissa Marginet was there to conduct workshops (that I didn't get to attend), but I had the opportunity to speak with her while in the Registration area. She mentioned that she had a quilt hanging in the show and I set about to find it – this is her quilt (on the right), "Reflect"!

Stephanie Hackney (Hobbs Bonded Fibers) was in her booth with samples of all the batting on display, of course. I took the opportunity to stop in and thank her for the excellent talk that she'd provided last November – based on feedback I've been getting from members. She apologized for the mostly bare booth: Hobb's factory had a fire last fall and she said they've been putting lots of effort into getting production back to 'normal' levels, so as to not disappoint any customers! Don't worry – they're almost there!

If you ever get the chance to attend a really big quilt conference – go for it! The visual works are eye candy and the enthusiasm everywhere is contagious! -- Cheryl C. (Editor)



Regional Guilds – Upcoming Events

*A Labour of Love
Quilt Show 2024*

Thursday, April 18, 2024 10:00am - 4:00pm
 Friday, April 19, 2024 10:00am - 7:00pm
 Saturday, April 20, 2024 10:00am - 4:00pm

Exeter United Church
 42 James Street, Exeter, ON

Admission: \$10.00 cash

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 10am - 4pm

\$10 admission
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Hamilton Quilters' Guild presents:

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 Fri May 31st, 2024
 10am to 6pm
 Sat June 1st, 2024
 10 am to 4pm

Ancaster Fairgrounds
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Buses Welcome
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Admission \$10
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Quilt Display
 Viewer's Choice
 Quilt Challenge
 Member's Boutique
 Merchant Mall
 Tea Room
 Demonstrations

www.hamiltonguild.ca



D.O.T.S.
 (Dunnville's Own Tiny Stitchers)

Garden of Quilts

Friday May 31, 2024 10am-6pm
 Saturday June 1, 2024 10am-5pm

No. 6 RCAF Museum, 536 Port Maitland Rd., Dunnville

Admission - \$10.00 Children under 10 free

*Food Trucks *Vendors *Boutique *Silent Auction
 *Special Guest - Vanessa Genier of Quilts for Survivors

Contact Debra Rolfe at 289-214-4166 for more information or raffle tickets.



Note: The museum will be open for tours during the quilt show

**Quilts
on the Grand 2024**

Fri., June 7th • 10am to 7pm
Sat., June 8th • 10am to 4pm

Centre Wellington Community Sportsplex
 550 Belsyde Ave E., Fergus, ON

Display of Quilts
 Quilt Challenge
 Contest
 Vendors
 Lunch/Tea

FREE Parking
 Wheelchair Accessible
 Admission \$10

www.grandquiltguild.ca




Advertising

Remember to include and visit your local quilt stores and service providers! We would like to thank all our advertisers for their continued support of our guild, and we need to ensure that we also support them. Clicking on an advertisement will take you to that company's website, so that you can further explore their offerings. If you would like to advertise your business within our newsletter, please contact advertising [at] royalcityquiltersguild.ca

Other Opportunities

Quilt Canada 2024

June 19-22

Edmonton Convention
Centre (Edmonton, Alberta)

This year's theme is
Gateway to Adventure.

Visit the CQA website at
canadianquilter.com for
more details about
everything Quilt Canada
offers.



Cherrywood Challenge 2024

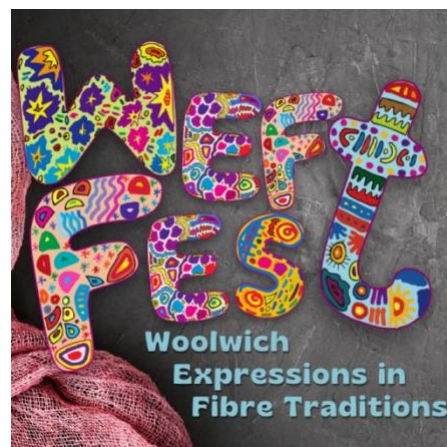
The theme for the 2024 Cherrywood Challenge is *Poppy*. Entries to this juried art quilt contest are due May 15. In Canada, the Cherrywood bundles are available at The Cotton Harvest in Seaforth, Ontario. For more details, and to submit an entry, visit the Cherrywood Fabrics website. Click [here](#).

WEFTFest 2024

Three Sisters Cultural Centre is inviting participants in the 2nd Annual WEFTFest Fibre Arts Festival in St. Jacobs, ON.

The 10-day event runs from May 17-26, 2024. The call for entries is open to non-professionals who would like to display a quilt or two (free); teach a workshop (for pay); offer a trunk show (for pay); or auction your work (fee).

For more details and an application form, visit their website [here](#).





Textile Museum of Canada is located in downtown Toronto – steps away from City hall, Chinatown, and the Art Gallery of Ontario - at 55 Centre Avenue.

Hours of Operation are:
Wednesday to Sunday, 11am – 6pm

Cost of Admission: Adults - \$15, Seniors (65+) - \$10
Youth (6-18) or Students - \$6
Members or Child (under 5) – FREE

Ticket reservations are encouraged.

A current exhibition (until April 28, 2024) is **“The Secret Codes: African Nova Scotian Quilts”**, curated by David Woods and organized by BANNNS (Black Artists Network of Nova Scotia).

The free **“Square by Square Community Quilt Drop-In Session”** on Sunday afternoons (Noon – 5pm) is held at the Learning Hub.

The project is a living testament, an evolving work of art, crafted by participants, with each block representing a personal history and unique story. The intent is to foster unity and personal expression, while connecting people with diverse perspectives. Come visit, while you can – the program ends on Sunday, March 31st



Email addresses provided in the newsletter have been formatted to prevent spam and will appear as: `namename [at] server.com`

To send an email, you'll need to replace [at] with the symbol @ and remove the extra spacing. Refer to your Guild Directory for contact names and related information.