

# January Newsletter RCQG

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## **Royal City Quilters' Guild January, 2020**

NEXT MEETING:  
Tuesday, January 14, 2020  
Three Willows Church  
577 Willow Road, Guelph

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**Reminder to bring:**  
Name tag  
Cash for 50/50, workshops  
Comfort quilts and BOMs

## January Program



In January, we will welcome Celeste Champion and her presentation "The Bolt and the Beautiful" about her passion for shweshwe cloth of South Africa. Through her projects and travel tales, Celeste will give us a history of this wonderful fabric and how it defined a people and how it used in culture. Celeste's love for this fabric and it's history is evident in how passionately she talks about this fabric and how much she wants to bring it to the rest of the world.

<https://meerkatshweshwe.com/>



## **Member Spotlight**

**Guild Member:** Hazel Switzer

**Quilt Title:** Untitled

**Pattern:** Woolworth's Applique Kits / original design

When Hazel was a child her mother would sew the family's clothes. Hazel much preferred playing outside than to be inside sewing, but when she turned 14 her mother announced that clothes would no longer be made for Hazel, and she must learn to make her own. Although learning to sew was forced upon her, Hazel grew to enjoy it.

Hazel's first quilt was made on a sailboat. She and her husband, Murray, moved to Los Angeles for his work in 1986 and they took their 44-foot sail boat with them. Four years later, his job changed and the only way their sailboat was getting home was to sail it from California back to Canada. They loaded up the boat and set sail in January 1990 for a trip home that would last until 2002. Hazel and Murray took up some hobbies on the sailboat since they had lots of time on their hands: he decided to teach himself the banjo, and Hazel decided to take up machine sewing, knitting, and cross stitching.

They sailed through the Panama Canal and arrived in Puerto Rico where they were excited to visit Big K and Woolworths for the first time since they'd left L.A.. The Woolworths was closing and Hazel bought nine appliqué kits for 12x12 blocks.

Hazel and Murray set sail for Trinidad where they planned to wait out the hurricane season, and by the time they arrived in Trinidad all nine appliqué blocks were complete. Hazel wasn't sure what to do with those completed blocks, and decided to try to turn them into a quilt. She bought fabric in Trinidad and Murray built a frame that she set on some chairs in an upstairs room of the yacht club where she sat for the next four months hand piecing and quilting the blocks. She was surrounded by sailors and lots of other company, but never had any offers of help. She continued to work on the quilt in various ports and once it was finished they used the quilt on their bed for the next nine years they lived on the boat.

In 2002 they returned to land and moved to Rockwood. Hazel decided that joining the RCQG would be a great way to meet people in her new community, and to learn about quilting through workshops rather than trial and error. She has loved being involved in the Guild and developed a fast friendship with Nancy McNab (RCQG member) who has also taught her much over the years. According to Nancy, every quilt Hazel makes must have a purpose - Hazel likes to know that her work will be valued and will have a home when it's complete. Hazel moved to Penetanguishine in December to be closer to her siblings, always ready for another adventure!

## Community Outreach

### **COMFORT QUILT SIZE**

**Front Dimensions:** 50" to 54" width by 60" to 66" length

**Backing & Batting Dimensions:** 60" width x 72" length

**Binding Requirements:** 2.5" wide x 264" length (or 7 strips 2.5" wide by WOF)

**Preferred Material:** Cotton or flannel

[Click here to visit the website for more details.](#)

## **Block of the Month - Flower Power**

Community Outreach wanted something cheerful and playful to brighten our cold January days. There will be kits available at the January Guild meeting or use your own fabric. This is a great scrap buster block!

### **Fabric requirements:**

**Flower fabric:** Use bright colours. Cut eight 4-inch squares and four 5-inch squares.

**Background fabric:** White or white-on-white, cut four 5 inch squares

**Flower centre fabric:** light green, cut four 2¼-inch squares

### **Sewing instructions:**

1. Make eight half-square triangles using the background 5-inch squares and flower fabric 5-inch squares. Draw a diagonal line on the wrong side of the white square. Place the white square and the flower fabric square right sides together. Sew a scant ¼ inch on either side of the diagonal line then cut on the diagonal line. Press to the dark side. Trim to 4-inch blocks.

2. Make four centre blocks (stitch and flip corners): Draw diagonal lines on the back of the four green squares. Place a green square on one corner of a flower fabric 4-inch square, right sides together. Sew on the diagonal line and trim the excess fabric. Press to the dark side.

3. Arrange as in the picture and sew together to make a flower block. The unfinished block is 14½ inches square.

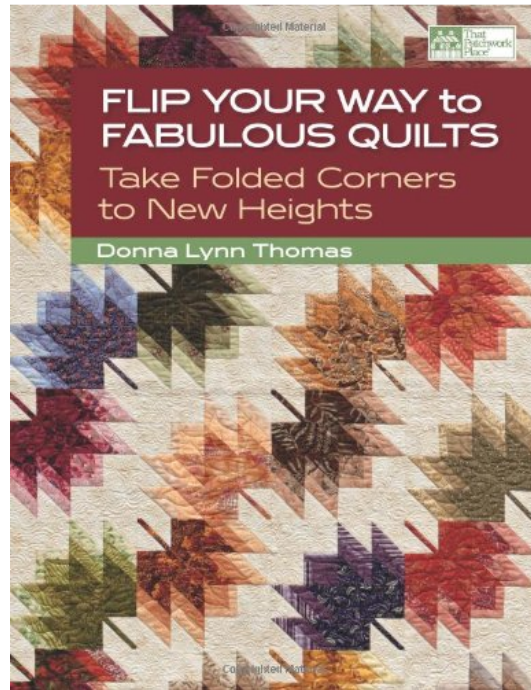
Happy sewing!



### **December Program Highlights**

Thank you to everyone for making the December potluck and garage sale a huge success. The garage sale raised approximately \$700 for the Guild. The funds will be used for a variety of Guild projects. Sixteen placemat donations were gratefully received by Meals on Wheels, and the foodbank donations were appreciated. The quilt raffle winner was Maura Laplander - Congratulations, Maura!



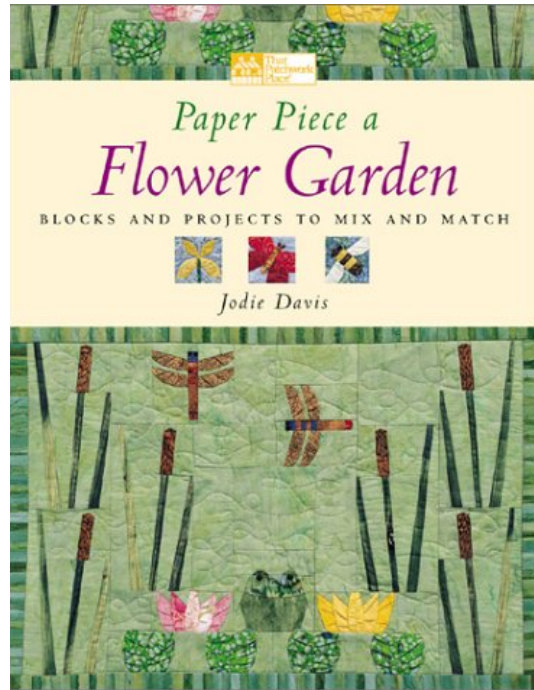


## Library Update

It's a new year, so why not try a new quilting technique? Borrow a library book to learn a technique you have never tried.

[Flip Your Way to Fabulous Quilts: Take Folded Corners to New Heights](#)

Donna Lynn Thomas makes brilliant use of the easy folded-corner technique to create striking quilts that only look complex.



Paper Piece a Flower Garden

This book by Jodie Davis gives blocks and patterns that can be mixed and matched.

**Snapd Guelph**



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The RCQG was highlighted in Snapd Guelph in December.  
[Check out the photos and article.](#)

## **Guelph Black History Society**

# Raffle Tickets Now Available



Isobel King hand pieced this beautiful Mariner's Compass Quilt, and Rose Parr long arm quilted it. It's being raffled by the Guelph Black History Society as a programming fundraiser.

Tickets are 1 for \$5 or 3 for \$10. The draw will take place on February 29. Tickets are available for purchase at all Black History Month events or [online](#). For more information contact: [info@guelphblackheritage.ca](mailto:info@guelphblackheritage.ca)

## **Program Volunteers**

Many hands make light work. Volunteers are needed each month to help our guest speakers set up before Guild meetings, and to take down afterwards. If you are able to help, please contact Patricia Donovan, or just come ready to help.

## **Workshop Information**

Come and visit the Workshop team to see samples and sign up for a workshop or two (cash or cheque accepted). If you have any suggestions for future workshops, please let us know.

### **UPCOMING WORKSHOPS:**

**Pockets to Go**, Jackie James - Sat, Jan 25 / \$25

**Magical Pinwheels**, Sherri Hissy - Wed, Mar 11 / \$60

**Hummingbird in Flight**, Kerry Burke - Sat, May 30 / \$50

## Show and Share Changes

Thank you for being so willing to make changes to Show and Share in November. Any suggestions for improvement are welcome.

As a reminder, here are the new guidelines to make the process safer and more streamlined:

1. Complete a Show and Share form during the break or bring a completed form with you (available at the table beside the left wall, or via the newsletter link below).
2. When Show and Share is announced, line up along the left wall with your quilt and completed form.
3. When it's your turn, hand your quilt to the assistants who will hold it up on stage.
4. **Do not go up the stairs.** The microphone will be moved away from the stairs on the main floor of the hall.
5. Share the story of your quilt.
6. **Do not climb the stairs** for your photo. Walk towards the green X that will be marked on the floor so the historian may take your photo. The assistants will meet you with the quilt.
7. Give your Show and Share form to the Historian. This is important so that you can be included in the next newsletter.
8. The next person may begin as soon as the previous person is getting their photo taken and an assistant takes your quilt up on stage.

[Download Show and Share Form](#)

**Show and Share from December**



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Three beautiful finishes from the "Painless Paper Piecing" workshop.



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Charlene Speers - "Sunflowers in Fall"



Joan Hett - "Jungle Book" by Harebrained Happenings Jungle Walk pattern



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Jean Hilborn - "Seminole Work"



Sharon Neve-Gray - "Easy Peasy" from a photo found online



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Sharon Neve-Gray - "Rising Star" by Missouri Star Quilt Company. Long arm quilted.



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Mary Hopkins - "Leaves" Original design. Woven and applique. Domestic quilted.



Wendy Oskam - "Hockey Quilt"



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Wendy Oskam - "Liberty Fields" (Material Obsession) by Kathy Doughty. Hand quilted by women who live in Wendy's mom's building.



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Diane Kirk Benincasa - "Burgundy Blocks" inspired by RCQG scrap bin.



Katrina Blakarz



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Katrina Blakarz



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Katrina Blakarz



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Christmas Tree with lights. borders and binding by Pat Gadsby, long armed by Mary Hopkins



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Judy Parker - "On the Wild Side" jacket design from 1990 pattern Heartwarming Jacket matching bag from Quilts and More Magazine summer 2019. Domestic quilted.

## Upcoming Events

Click on the buttons to open the event calendars.

[RCQG Calendar of Events](#)

[CQA Events List \(Ontario\)](#)

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<https://quiltshoptour.wixsite.com/hillsandvalleys>



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Advertise in the RCQG newsletter.

**Questions or comments about the newsletter?**

Email: [newsletter@royalcityquiltersguild.ca](mailto:newsletter@royalcityquiltersguild.ca)

Any member of the Guild may submit content for the newsletter by sending it to the email address above.

Please note that submissions may be edited for clarity and length.

Newsletters are published on the first Tuesday of the month, one week before the RCQG meeting.

All content must be received on the Sunday nine days before publication.

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**Our mailing address is:**

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