

# RCQG April 2023 Newsletter

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## April Newsletter

Royal City Quilters' Guild  
Guelph, Ontario, Canada

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## President's Message

Hello RCQG Members,

I am looking forward to our April membership meeting! Glenna Banda, Executive Director for the United Way, will join us for a brief presentation about the "Home for Good" campaign. This exciting project will reduce the number of chronically homeless in Guelph by providing 72 permanent supportive housing units as well as support programs around mental health, wellness, and food security.

The Guild Executive is expanding our reach into the community by launching an initiative to provide a quilt for each person who will be getting a new apartment through this program. These individuals are among Guelph's most vulnerable, and we look forward to supporting this important project with beautiful quilts made by our members. There are many ways you can contribute to this project. Please read on for more details or visit the Community Outreach section of the Guild website (click tab below).

Our April speaker is Mary Elizabeth Kinch who will let us in on the secrets of small block and small pieced quilts. I love working with small pieces and so do many of our members. I can't wait to see what new inspiration she has for us.

Our August 23 Spring Fling is quickly approaching. The planning committee has been busy arranging for a fun-filled day during this full-day in-person event. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend. Read more about the event and what you should plan to bring later in the newsletter. So that we can save a place for you, RSVP by clicking the green tab at the end of the article.

Have you been following the CQA Quilt Along, "Sea You in Nova Scotia?" RCQG member, Dawn Piasta designed a quilt featuring favourite highlights of Atlantic Canada with a dose of inspiration from the works of Maud Lewis. You do not need to be a CQA member to participate. Find the information below or visit the Guild website to learn more.

I cannot close this month's President's message without thanking the people who made International Quilting Day 2023 a success. You saw some of them as presenters, but there was a lot of support behind the scenes as well. We have a list of supporters elsewhere in the newsletter. Please take a moment to thank the people who made IQD 2023 possible and mark your calendar for IQD 2024 on for March 16, 2024.

Have a great month!

Becky Fiedler

[Royal City Quilters' Guild Website--Home for Good](#)

## **Guild Meeting**

**Next Guild Meeting:  
Tuesday, April 11, 2023  
HYBRID  
7:00pm EST at Lakeside Church**

### **At the Next Meeting**

- If you have fabric to donate to our new "Home for Good" initiative, there will be a contribution bin at the next meeting.
- Packages of 8-inch newsprint square will be available to start making sting blocks at home (see tutorial below). Tickets towards prizes will be awarded for every string block submitted on April 23rd.
- The library will be having a book sale to raise funds for future purchases.

## **April Programme**

### **PROGRAMME FOR 2022-2023**

Read about the full lineup of speakers and watch the sneak peek video.

[Read More>>](#)



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## Mary Elizabeth Kinch

Mary Elizabeth Kinch is a professional quiltmaker, designer, teacher, speaker and co-author of two best-selling books, *Small Blocks, Stunning Quilts* and *Small Pieces, Spectacular Quilts*. Small pieced quilts make her weak at the knees. She has been a featured guest on *The Quilt Show* with Alex Anderson and Ricky Tims and her work has been shown at international quilt shows and juried into AQS Paducah and Quiltcon. Recently, at the Vermont Quilt Festival, her quilt "Grand Feathers" won a first-place ribbon and her quilt "Fallout" won Best Quilt Outside USA as well as a Purple Ribbon for Exceptional Merit. Her work has been featured in many international quilting publications and she is a frequent writing contributor to Curated Quilts Magazine.



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## **SHOW AND SHARE**

### **Zoom Meetings**

For April, bring your quilt to Lakeside Church or email photos of your quilt (preferably with you in the photo too!) to Susan Thompson (showandshare [at] royalcityquiltersguild.ca ). Include your name, the name of the quilt, the pattern, and the quilter. During the meeting Susan will project the photo for all to see and you'll be asked to speak about it.

**Deadline for photos:** 7pm on the Sunday night before the meeting.

## **MEETING ACCESS**

The Zoom link will be emailed to all members and guests on the day before the Guild meeting by Helen Kocmarek.

## **MEMBERSHIP AND GUEST PASSES**

To renew your membership or purchase a guest pass visit the [RCQG store](#).

## **VIDEO RECORDING**

If you miss the meeting, don't worry! The Guild meeting will be recorded and the link emailed to the membership within about 24 hours.

## **ZOOM, ZOOM!**

Please update Zoom before the meeting. Visit the [RCQG Zoom How-To](#) to learn how to update Zoom, and for a Zoom video tutorial.

## **NEWSLETTER**

The newsletter ends with the RCQG Sew Safe Policy. If you are unable to view the entire newsletter, visit the [RCQG Newsletter Archives](#) to see the full version. If you would like to advertise in the newsletter, please get in touch with Cathy Buchanan at [advertising \[at\] royalcityquiltersguild.ca](mailto:advertising[at]royalcityquiltersguild.ca)

## **EMAILS**

Any email addresses listed in the newsletter are written in the following format to prevent spam:

namename [at] server.com

To send an email, replace [at] with @ and remove the extra spacing.

All addresses are also available in the Guild Directory.

[Royal City Quilters' Guild Website](#)

**Come to the Spring Fling**



You are cordially invited to attend the RCQG's Spring Fling Celebration, a day of fun and fellowship on Sunday, April 23, 2023, at the Community Living Guelph Wellington, 8 Royal Road, Guelph. Please click the tab below to RSVP for this event.

**9:30am-12:30pm                      STRING SEWING**

A morning String Bee session will include a demonstration of string block sewing, a fantastic way to use up the fabric scraps you've been collecting. Bring a sewing machine, a small cutting mat, supplies for piecing (rulers, rotary cutters etc.) and fabric for strings. Be sure to RSVP early to reserve a sewing space.

The string blocks will be used to make quilts for the Home for Good initiative. See the article in the Community Outreach section of the newsletter for more information on this program. There is also a tutorial below for making the blocks.

Please attend even if you wish to work on something else, such as handwork.

**12:30-1:00pm                      LUNCH**

We break for a lunch from Pita Pit that includes a selection of wraps. Or, bring your own lunch if you prefer.

**1:00-4:00pm                      32nd ANNIVERSARY PARTY**

If you can't make the morning session, please be sure to attend the anniversary party in the afternoon. The afternoon events will include social mixer games, member's quilts on display, and a penny-sale table of member-donated prizes.

An anniversary cake and other refreshments will be included. Also, a quilt stand will be available for photo ops with your quilts.

Please bring:

- three (3) fat quarters of spring-themed fabric for one of the games,
- and one (1) small to medium-sized quilt or project for use in Quilt Bingo and to display.

We are looking for additional donations prizes. Do you have new or almost new items that you would like to donate to the prize table? Perhaps a jelly roll, a package of 10-inch squares, charm square package(s)? A duplicate ruler, hand-made novelties, a handy tool? Contact Cathy Buchanan, at advertising [at] royalcityquiltersguild.ca with your prize donation.

More information about the Spring Fling Celebration will follow in the next few weeks. We hope you can join us on April 23rd !

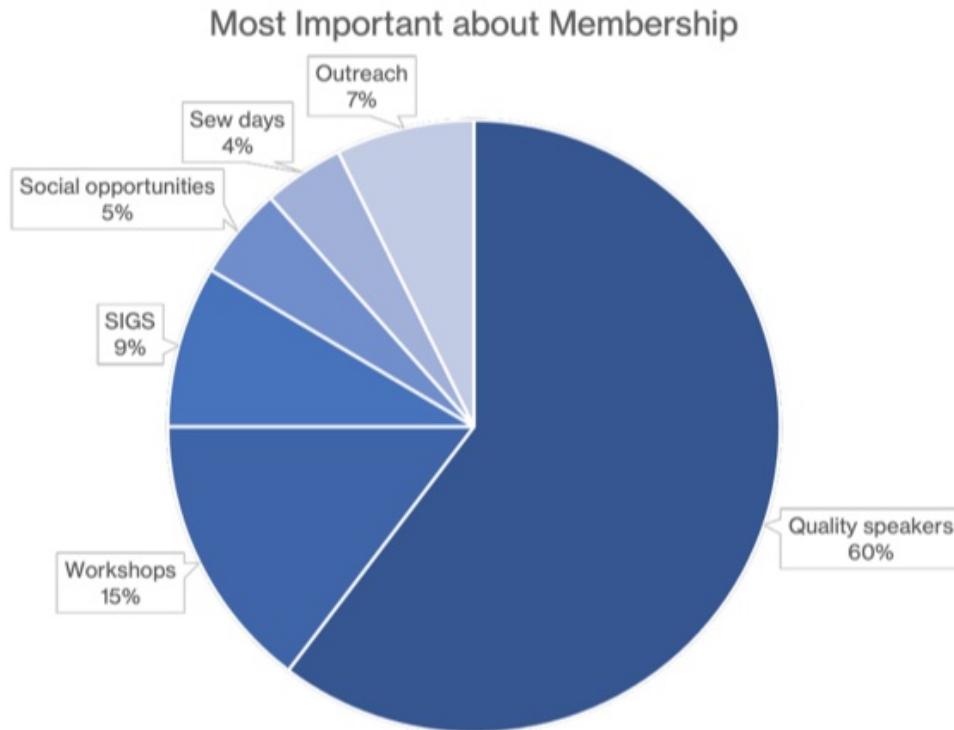
Sincerely,  
The Spring Fling Planning Committee

[Spring Fling RSVP](#)

## **...and the Survey Says**

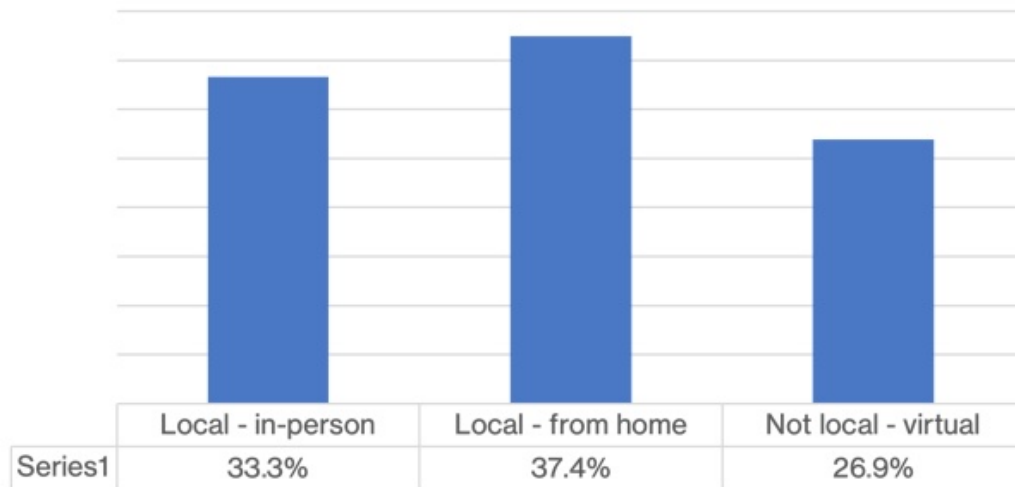
Thank you to everyone who responded to February's Guild Member Survey. We had a whopping 87% response rate. High response rates generally give greater confidence that the answers collected are representative of most members' attitudes and impressions. We had respondents from each segment of our membership including those who attend virtually, those who attend in-person, and those who prefer to watch meeting recordings. Paired with other data, like attendance numbers and monthly feedback, this gives the Executive solid information on which to base decisions.

The survey asked, “What is most important to you about your RCQG membership?” Sixty percent of our members answered, “having high-quality speakers at our meetings.” Skill-building workshops came in at a distant second at 15 percent followed by special interest groups (9%), outreach (7%), social opportunities (5%) and sew days (4%), in that order. The Executive will use your input as we set priorities for the coming year.



In the survey, members also told us that, when given a choice, 34% generally chose to attend in-person meetings; 44% generally chose to attend virtually; and 22% generally chose to watch meeting recordings. Both local and non-local members attend meetings from home. In the survey, we learned that there are as many local members who choose to attend from home as those who choose to attend in-person. And, of course, our non-local members attend virtually as well.

## % of Members Attending by Meeting Format



Next month's newsletter will contain more responses to last month's survey. The survey results have already started to guide the Executive's decisions. In the coming months, we will continue to rely on what our members told us in the survey.

## Membership Report

The membership count now stands at 201 members. Please join me in welcoming Susan Birkholz, Hannah Barlow, Manuela Tudor, and Joyce Pflug (returning) to the Guild. I look forward to the opportunity to socialize and meet many of our members at the Spring Fling and RCQG Anniversary Celebration on Sunday, April 23rd. Come out and get re-acquainted with old friends, and meet our newer members that joined during the peak of the pandemic lock down years and more recently.

For those of you interested in meeting attendance statistics, 83 members attended the membership meeting in March featuring Paul Leger. The final tally of video views for Kestral Michaud (February) was 98.

An updated version the RCQG Information Handbook and Directory of Members will be published this spring. If you have corrections and updates to your home address, phone number, and preferred email address, please email: membership [at] royalcityquiltersquild.ca

Helen Kocmarek

## **Membership Fees**

For the 2022-2023 Guild year, the membership fee will remain unchanged at \$40. The membership fee for people who join in February will change to \$30 from \$25. Guest passes will change to \$10 from \$5.

These fee changes are keeping in line with other Guilds in the area.

## **Library Update**

**SALE! SALE! SALE!**

Many of our library books will be available for borrowing at the April meeting, but there will be a sale table.

Please support the sale as the monies received will be put towards the library.

Members can borrow books by showing their current membership card and signing the card in the front of the book. We do not have library cards this year. Books are to be returned at the next in-person meeting in May. Borrowing books shows your support of the library!

Some books that were borrowed in March 2020 have not been returned. Please return any books you have at home ASAP.

Thank you!  
MaryAnne Girouard

## **ADVERTISING**

We would like to thank all of our advertisers for their support of our guild. In return, we try to support them.

By clicking any advertisement, you are immediately connected to the corresponding website.

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## Community Outreach



We have a new outreach to the Guelph community. Spearheaded by the United Way, the "Home for Good" campaign is a Guelph initiative to reduce chronic homelessness by 50%. The campaign has raised money to complete three projects that provide permanent supportive housing units for 72 of Guelph's chronically homeless individuals. Each resident will have a small, individual apartment (bed, private bathroom, kitchenette) with nearby support services to address mental health issues, wellness, and food security.

The "Home for Good" campaign includes three community projects:

- Kindle Communities Apartments is a 5-storey facility with 32 400-square-foot units and shared space fully integrated into the Shelldale community.
- Grace Gardens, formerly Parkview Motel at 721 Woolwich Street, is a newly renovated site providing 32 individual units as well as support services for tenants.
- Bellevue Support Housing addresses the housing and support needs of youth who are experiencing homelessness. Located near downtown Guelph, this project converts an historic property into eight units, each with its own bathroom and kitchenette.

Consistent with RCQG By-laws to provide quilts as needed in the community, the Executive has approved an initiative to provide quilts for the new residents of the Home for Good communities. Visit the guild website for more information about the quilts we are seeking for this project and how you can help. Contact president [at] royalcityquiltersguild.ca with any questions. The "Home for Good" website is linked below.

[HOME FOR GOOD WEBSITE](#)

## **MAKING STRING BLOCKS**

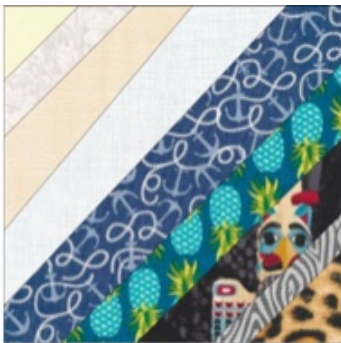
String quilts are fun to make and use some of the last bits of a quilter's scraps. One way to contribute to quilts for The Home for Good Campaign is to donate string blocks. Volunteers will then assemble the donated blocks into colourful quilt tops for the project. So donated blocks can easily be assembled into quilt tops, we are asking makers to use the following guidelines to direct their efforts.

Use an 8" square of newsprint paper as the foundation for your block. Outdated store flyers and some annual reports from corporations are perfect for this purpose. You can pick up your first 10 papers at the Membership table during the April meeting.

Shorten your stitch length and sew the strings diagonally to the paper. This makes the paper easy to remove and keeps the seams from pulling apart. Carefully trim the block to a generous 8" square. Leave the paper in the block. This protects the bias edges until the block is sewn into a top.

We recommend three colour schemes for any blocks you contribute:

- Colourful scrappy (anything goes)
- Sunshine and shadow (dark on one half and light on the other half). Notice that the division between light and dark is not exactly equal. It is important to keep bulky seams out of the corners for ease in assembling blocks into quilts.
- Monochromatic (one colour, any colour, with fabrics ranging from light to dark shades)



**Sunshine and shadow**



**Monochromatic**



**Colourful scrappy**

You may bring completed blocks to the Spring Fling on April 23 and to any Guild meeting at Lakeside Church.

[Tutorial on String Blocks](#)

## **COMMUNITY OUTREACH COMMITTEE**

### COMMUNITY OUTREACH PHOTO GALLERY

#### **Community Outreach Bins for pick-up and drop-off**

**Trish Pequegnat's House:** 12 Trillium Court, Guelph (ipequegnat [at] rogers.com)

**Cyndy Maltby's Office:** Tacoma Engineers, 176 Speedvale Ave., Guelph 8am to 4pm, Monday to Friday.

### QUILT SIZES FOR COMMUNITY OUTREACH



Visit our **NEW** Location

**35 King St, N. Cookstown**  
(Just north of Hot Stacks)

We can't wait to see you!



705-458-4546 | [countryconcessions.com](http://countryconcessions.com)



# Buy the Bolt

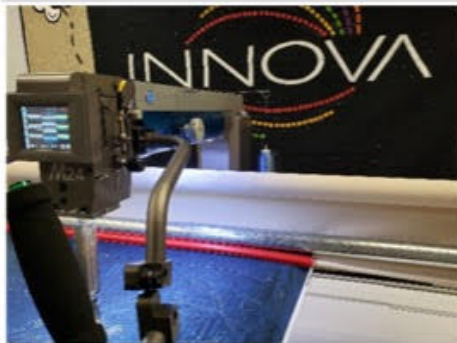
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This quilt shop tour consists of visiting four quilt shops. If you get your passport stamped and purchase the required fabric for \$13.99 at all four stores, you receive a free pattern for "Rubick Cube."

Plan your fun by clicking the link below.

[Hills and Valleys Quilt Shop Tour](https://quiltshoptour.wixsite.com/hillsandvalleys)

## Workshop Report

The first half of Paul Leger's workshop on Square Peg, Round Hole was enjoyed by participants on March 25, and the second half is scheduled for April 1. We hope to see a completed one for Show and Share soon.

Our workshop with Krista Moser about "Design Possibilities of the 60 Degree Diamond Ruler" on April 29 is fully booked. If you are registered in this class please check your emails as we get closer for one with a subject line "Krista Moser workshop". That is how I will communicate to you any supply list or instructions that come from her as well as the zoom link when it is available.

If you want to put your name on a waiting list in case someone cannot attend, please contact Ann Jeffrey at [annjeffrey44 \[at\] gmail.com](mailto:annjeffrey44@gmail.com).

Finally, if you have know of a great workshop, please send your suggestions to Ann Jeffrey.

## **Workshops**

## **WORKSHOPS FOR 2022-2023**

The lineup of workshops was also announced in May and registration opened July 15. [Read More>>](#)

### **SNAPSHOT OF WORKSHOPS:**

**Instructor: Paul Leger**

**Class:** Square Peg, Round Hole

**Cost:** \$25

**Dates:** Saturday, March 25, 2023, 10:30 am to 1:30 pm (ET) (Part 1 of 2)  
and Saturday, April 1, 2023, 10:30 am to 1:30 pm (ET) (Part 2 of 2)

**Location:** Online via Zoom

**Website:** [paullegerquilts.com](http://paullegerquilts.com)

**Instructor: Krista Moser**

**Class:** Design Possibilities of the Diamond Ruler

**Cost:** \$35

**Dates:** Saturday, April 29, 2023, 11 am to 5 pm (ET)

**Location:** Online via Zoom

**Website:** [kristamoser.com](http://kristamoser.com)



## Stash Busters Simply Woven



In April and May in StashBusters, we will be making The Simply Woven Quilt.

### FABRIC REQUIREMENTS:

#### **Small Throw** 48" x 60"

1 yard background fabric

2 1/4 yards of assorted 2 1/2" strips

#### **Medium Throw** 60" X 72"

1 1/2 yards background fabric

3 1/2 yards of assorted 2 1/2" strips

#### **Large Throw** 60" x 84"

1 5/8 background fabric

4 yards of assorted 2 1/2" strips

[Tips for Making the Simply Woven Quilt](#)

[Simply Woven Quilt Original Instructions](#)

## **RCQG Calendar**

The Guild has lots of online offerings, from Stash Busters, to Special Interest Groups, and workshops.

Find all the happenings by clicking the green button.

[RCQG Calendar of Events](#)

## **News from CQA**



To celebrate Quilt Canada in Halifax, RCQG member Dawn Piasta has created a wonderful project for you to create. Check out the CQA Quiltalong by clicking on the tab below.

## Quilt Along with Dawn Piasta



RCQG member Dawn Piasta is this year's designer for the free CQA Quilt Along, *Sea You in Nova Scotia*. Learn more about Dawn and the project under the Activities menu of our website.

[Dawn Piasta CQA Quiltalong](#)

## International Quilting Day

The feedback from International Quilting Day attendees has been overwhelmingly positive!

Thank you to the RCQG members who made the day possible:

**Presenters:**

Mary Hopkins  
Jackie James  
Dawn Piasta

**Technical Assistants:**

Lew Aubrey  
Marianne Denis  
Helen Kocmarek  
Süz Warkentin

**Keynote Question Moderator:**

Ann Jeffrey

**Vendor Presenters:**

Alma Laidlaw from Sew Fancy  
Caroline Berch from Caroline Quilts

**Prize Sponsors and Discounts:**

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**Planning Committee Members:**

Jane Aubrey  
Becky Fiedler  
Flo Pringle  
Stephanie Sinden

Please contact president [at] royalcityquiltersguild.ca if you would like to suggest a keynote speaker for International Quilting Day 2024.



## Neighbouring Guilds



## **QUILT SHOWS:**

April 15-16, 2023: **A Million Little Stitches**, Newmarket Community Centre, 200 Doug Duncan Drive, Newmarket

April 20-22, 2023: **Piecemakers Quilt Show**, Pyramid Recreation Centre, 317 James St. South, St. Mary's

April 29-30: **Reflections of Georgian Bay**, Tiny Township Community Centre, Tiny Township

May 6-7, 2023: **The Sunshine Quilt Show**, Trillium Manor, 12 Grace Ave., Orillia

June 2 – 3, 2023: **Pinetree Quilters Guild of Muskoka**, Bracebridge Memorial Arena, Bracebridge

June 2 – 4, 2023: **Quilts Kingston Show and Sale**, Limestone QG / Kingston Heirloom Quilter, Royal Kingston Curling Club, 130 Days Road, Kingston, Ontario

June 10 & 11: **Stitching Among Friends Quilt Show**, Alliston Curling Rink, 52 Albert St., Alliston

July 8 -- 9: **Quilt Show by the Prince Edward County Quilters' Guild**, Wellington & District Community Centre LeHigh Arena, 111 Belleville Street, Wellington, Ontario

## **GUILD MEETINGS:**

YORK HERITAGE QUILTERS' GUILD

WATERLOO COUNTY QUILTERS' GUILD

GRAND QUILT GUILD

MISSISSAUGA QUILT GUILD

REGION OF YORK QUILTERS' GUILD

SARNIA QUILTERS' GUILD

## Show & Share

By clicking the button below you can view the entire Show & Share gallery from the last Guild meeting.



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Dianne Black with her colourful Ohio Star quilt made with Shweshwe fabric.

[Show & Share Powerpoint](#)



Advertise in the RCQG newsletter.

**Questions or comments about the newsletter?**

Email: newsletter [at] 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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