

RCQG November Newsletter

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Royal City Quilters' Guild

The Zoom link will be emailed on Monday, November 9 to the membership.
If you don't have a good internet connection, you can always call in to hear the meeting over the phone.

The phone numbers will be listed in the email with the Zoom link.

November Program - Sponsor Showcase

Get a front row seat as some of the sponsors who advertise in our monthly newsletter showcase some of their favourite tips, tricks, and new products.

There will be presentations by:

Jo from Make One - Guelph

Alma from Sew Fancy - Guelph

Alexandria from Royal Quilts - Niagara Falls

Caroline from Caroline Quilts - Cambridge

Social Time

Have you tried joining social time at the end of the Guild meeting? In October, one Guild member said: "I really enjoy the social time. Sometimes I get to talk to members whom I know and miss seeing. It's nice to check-in with them. Other times I get to meet someone new whom I might not have met at a Guild meeting, and that's really nice too. This month we chatted about Thanksgiving, and a granddaughter's COVID wedding, and what we're currently sewing. It felt nice to connect."

To join, just stay on the Zoom meeting after the program is over, you'll be automatically placed into a room with 2-5 other members of the Guild. You can introduce yourselves to each other, and then have time to chat and check-in. If you need a topic of conversation to get started, one will be provided. It's a great way to meet new members, and to connect with each other. Give it a try!

Show and Share

If you'd like to participate in the show and share at the November online meeting, please email a photo of your quilt (and you!) **BY 7PM THE NIGHT BEFORE THE MEETING** to Susan Thompson (ShowAndShare [at] royalcityquiltersguild.ca) Include 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.

Video of Guild Meeting

The Guild meetings will be recorded. If you can't make the meeting during the scheduled time, you can watch it later. The video link will be emailed to the Guild after each meeting.

NOTE REGARDING EMAIL ADDRESSES:

Since the directory has not yet been published for 2020-2021 the email addresses for people mentioned in the newsletter will be included this month.

In order to prevent people from receiving spam, their email addresses have been written in the following format: name [at] domain.com

To send an email to that person you will need to replace [at] with @ and remove the spaces, like this: name@domain.com



Member Spotlight

Guild Member: Anne Peters

Anne has been sewing all her life. Anne's mother taught her to sew, and she sewed her own clothes as a child. There were years when she was raising her family that Anne didn't have much time for sewing, but she returned to it about nine years ago because of her granddaughter.

Anne's family waited five years for her granddaughter Maddy to arrive in Canada through international adoption. During one conversation over skype when Maddy was two years old, Maddy told Anne that she loves the colour red. Anne decided that she would make Maddy a red quilt to welcome her to her new home and family. Anne had never made a quilt before, and found a pattern in a magazine. The project was quite a challenge since she didn't know about 1/4 inch seam allowances, or have much to go on other than what was included in the magazine pattern. It took Anne three years to finish the quilt, just as it took Maddy three years to finally arrive in her new family. The timing was perfect and Anne was able to welcome Maddy with her own quilt.

Anne made a total of five quilts before she really started to explore her love of fabric dyeing. She dyed her own fabrics from the beginning using old sheets. Six years ago she decided that if she was going to dye fabric she really wanted to understand it. So she committed herself to learning. She did some research and discovered an amazing instructor in the United States named Carol Soderlund. The first year attending a course with Carol was a bit of a stab in the dark for Anne. Not really knowing what to expect, Anne booked a plane ticket and went off on an adventure to learn about dyeing from the best instructor she could find. It turned out to be a wonderful experience, and Anne has returned to further her learning each year.

After graduating from dyeing old sheets, Anne used prepared for dyeing cottons, and recently she has turned her focus to recycled fabrics. Over the years she discovered a love of obscure fabrics and half-finished projects. She scours thrift shops for interesting fabrics and old embroidery projects. She takes pity on the unloved projects that someone once started. She feels called to take them home and make something beautiful with them to give them a new life. Half-finished pieces in particular are her love.

Anne is drawn to dyeing fabric because of her love of the fabric itself. She has a huge respect for fabrics that didn't just come off a roll that has been shipped by a huge factory that made thousands of yards of identical material. She loves the challenge of finding a fabric in a thrift store, and taking it home and trying to figure out what it's made of, and how it will take colour. Often she burns it to help determine the raw materials used. She said it's been fun to develop her eye and feel for various fabrics, and figuring out their origin.

Maddy is now thirteen years old, and she has learned the love of sewing from her Grandmother. When Maddy was seven Anne started to teach her to sew. She got Maddy a little sewing machine for \$20 at a thrift store, and the two of them would collect interesting scraps for Maddy's scrap bag. Anne remembers Maddy sitting on her lap at the machine during an early lesson. Anne was telling her about the "danger zone" around the needle, and as Anne pointed it out she pricked her own finger on the needle. She laughs at the memory of the lesson that was all too real. Maddy and Anne still sew together, and Maddy loves sorting scraps and sewing them together.

After she told her story, I asked Anne if there was anything else that she wanted to share with members of the Guild. She said that the first piece of advice she has is to take on design challenges. She likes making minis and finds it fun to turn just about any challenge into a mini. She is saving up her minis with the hope that our next RCQG Quilt Show will be around the corner once the pandemic is over. She hopes that other members of the Guild are finding ways to have fun with their love of fabric. She also encouraged members of the Guild to join a Special Interest Group. Anne is part of the Modern group, and says that's where she has met the most people and has built wonderful relationships.

You can follow Anne on Instagram: [@dye4fun](#)

Bee Month Update

October was Bee month with a virtual Bee Day held on the 24th. A huge thank you to everyone who participated and helped make quilts for the Wellington Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Care and Treatment Centre at the Guelph General Hospital. We sewed for such a worthwhile organization and had fun in the process!

At the November Guild meeting we'll be holding the draw for the hand dyed fat quarter bundle so generously donated by Scott Schau. At that time we'll announce the number of quilts and quilt tops handed in during the month of October. We'll also share a slideshow of the quilts made.

To everyone who sewed kits, sewed their own comfort quilt projects, participated in Bee Day and quilted the quilts for us. You're all amazing and the quilts look awesome. We can't thank you enough.

~Katrina and the Community Outreach Team

Community Outreach Bins:

Trish's House: 12 Trillium Court, Guelph

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

COMMUNITY OUTREACH WEBSITE

COMMUNITY OUTREACH PHOTO GALLERY

Block of the Month - November 2020 Disappearing Pinwheel

Fabric Requirement:

1 white fabric: 9 3/4 x 9 3/4 inches

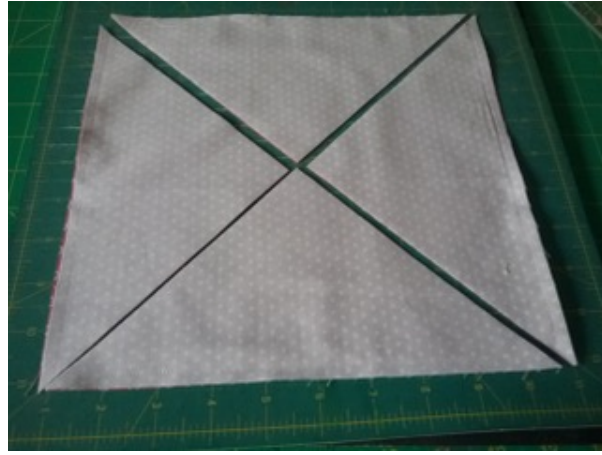
1 other colour fabric: 9 3/4 x 9 3/4 inches

Colour Choices:

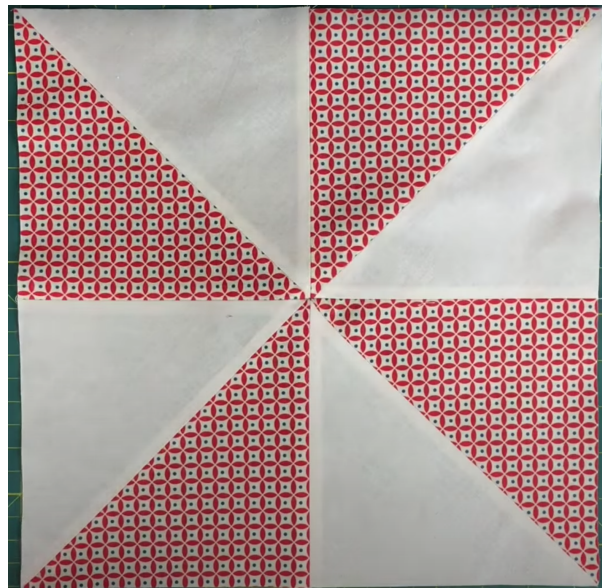
White plus a colour of your choice.

Instructions:

1. Please read through all the instructions before starting.
2. Cut two (2) pieces of fabric 9 3/4 x 9 3/4 inches. One should be white and the other a colour of your choice. This is going to be a scrappy quilt!
3. Place fabrics right sides together and sew all around the outside with a 1/4 inch seam.
4. Cut corner to corner on both diagonals to make four (4) 6 1/2 half square triangles. Trim if necessary. (See photos 1 and 2)



5. Arrange blocks to make a pinwheel (photo 3) Sew blocks together making sure that all points align in center. At this point the block should measure 12 1/2 inches.



6. Measure and cut 3 into equal parts. Turn and cut 3 equal parts again. You now have 9 blocks (photo 4).



7. Arrange small blocks to make large block (photo 5). The finished block will be approximately 11 inches. Please do not trim.



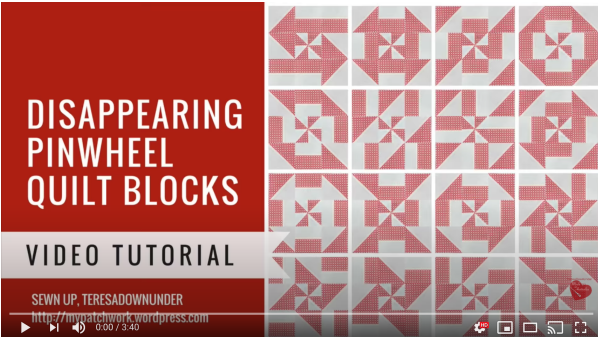
8. This is a fun block to make. Please drop off your blocks in either of the Community Outreach bins.



Happy sewing!

Here is an excellent tutorial by Teresa DownUnder.

<https://youtu.be/4nbaUAfLIBE>



Guelph is the Royal City

26 Macleans Magazine, October 15, 1940



City Hall Square, Guelph, Ontario.

The Royal City

By FREDERICK EDWARDS

The story of Guelph, Ontario, big little city which has nurtured an extraordinary line of distinguished sons

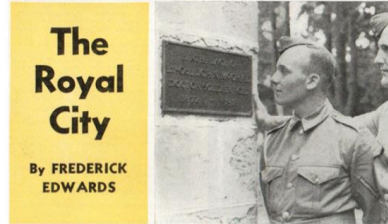
ON THE EVENING of Monday, April 23, 1827, a group of half a dozen men passed their way through rain-soaked bush beneath dripping trees to a chosen spot in the forests of what now is Wellington County, Ontario, and passed at the foot of a towering maple. Their leader was John Galt, a tall, hawkish, cravat-wearing Scot turned pioneer, administrator of the affairs of the Canada Company. Galt had a shrewd eye made against the trunk of the sturdy tree, cut out a bright segment of living wood, then hauled the one to a companion, who swung it in his turn. When the principle in this method of staking claims had been made plain, the men took to their work, and in a few minutes the high, new forest, humped and finally fell to earth. That was the beginning of the City of Guelph.

Today, one hundred and thirteen years from that wet April evening, Guelph is a beautifully located, orderly prosperous agricultural-industrial community with an urban population of 22,000 and an additional 2,500 still living in its suburban areas. The claim is made for Guelph that, proportionally, it is the population centre of the province. Board of Trade publicity calls it "The Main Street of Ontario" crossing the city's midline between Lake Erie and Ottawa, and between Lake Huron and Lake Ontario. King's Highway No. 6, running north and south, and No. 7, running east and west, intersect in the middle of the town.

Here is an up-hill-and-down-hill country. Guelph itself boasts an altitude of 1,170 feet, one hundred feet higher than the Muskoka region. The land is luxuriantly fertile. Wellington County has never known a crop failure, and from its earliest beginnings the district has been famous for its fat livestock, especially cattle and sheep, and its root and crop, especially potatoes and turnips. The Ontario Provincial Winter Fair, held annually at Guelph, is one of the oldest in Canada.

Industrially, Guelph prides itself rather on the diversity of its manufactured products than on the importance of any one of them. Some of the Guelph firms have been there for a long time, and many of them are making articles of national renown. The Board of Trade has around sixty-five separate industrial establishments, but all of these have their twenty average better than one hundred employees the year round, and one or two of the firms with the larger staffs are working now on war orders, consequently have higher than normal payrolls. Board of Trade officials will tell you, with sincerity, that it is Guelph's tariff policy not to encourage establishment in the community of large industrial units employing thousands of workers, but instead to go after a larger

Continued on page 27



Upper: Memorial plaque at the birthplace of Lieut.-Col. John McCrae, famed soldier-poet.
Lower: Air Force men receive training at chefs at the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph.

Have you ever wondered where the nickname "The Royal City" came from? Here is an excerpt from an article in Macleans' magazine from October 15, 1940 that tells the history of Guelph. It explains the founding of Guelph by John Galt: "Guelph was named in honor of the British Royal House, and it was founded on St. George's Day, a typical John Galt gesture. In his memoirs the founder wrote that he had chosen the name, and the date, "in compliment to the Royal Family, both because I thought it auspicious in itself, and because I could not recollect that it had ever been used before in all the King's dominions."

The article also mentions many familiar names in Guelph from John McCrae, Edward Johnson, and Bishop Macdonnell, to Downey, Cutten, and Macdonald. During the early spring lockdown I spent a lot of time walking the trails of the old reformatory at the corner of Watson Rd and York Rd (also known as the Yorklands). It was interesting to read about the history of that prison, and how it was on the cutting edge of prison reform at the time.

<https://archive.macleans.ca/article/1940/10/15/the-royal-city>

Note that from a contemporary point of view this article has some flaws. For example, it mentions the longevity of the "Anglo Saxon race" and fails to mention the contributions of any women, save one. Despite these, it is an interesting historical document.

Saturday Sew Days

Do you miss sewing with friends? So do we. Come and join our virtual sew days on the Saturday after our guild meetings starting Saturday, November 14.

This is a sewing day to do what YOU want. You can work on the pattern that the Wednesday Stash Busters are working on if you wish (starting in December). If you want to work on something for Community Outreach, they have kits available for you. Work on whatever happens to be under your needle, or pull out that UFO you've been meaning to get to. If you don't feel like sewing that day you're also welcome to grab your favourite beverage and chat with your friends. We all need more "people contact" in our lives.

This is open to all members at all skill levels. This is a drop in/drop out day. Come when you can, stay as long as you like. It's a day for YOU to do what you want. Sounds like fun, right?

Zoom invitations will be sent a day or two before the meeting to all Guild members. This is open to every member and no RSVP is required. I am looking forward to sewing with you.

If you would like more information, please email Alyson Anker: [alyson.anker \[at\] gmail.com](mailto:alyson.anker@gmail.com) A co-host (or two or three) is needed, so please let Alyson know if you're able to assist.



This quilt is Boxy Stars, a [free pattern from Bonnie Hunter](#).

Membership

At last count, the Royal City Quilters Guild members had 93 returning members and 42 new members for 2020/2021. Sandy McFadden, Jane Aubrey, Cindy Stoate, and Nancy Nix joined us for the October meeting. **Sandi Dueckman and Ann Blackmore** are the most recent members to join our Guild. There is always room to welcome anyone with an interest in quilting to our guild. Some of our new members are fairly new to quilting, while others report to me that they are members of one or more guilds.

The RCQG Directory is being edited, and you can expect to have your copy emailed to you by the middle of November. If you need a paper copy of the directory, please contact Helen Kocmarek (membership [at] royalcityquiltersguild.ca)

Be kind to yourself. Make some time to enjoy what you love. - Helen Kocmarek

October Program Highlights

In October we heard from Sharon Blackmore who came to us from Airdrie, Alberta. (<https://www.loveshackquilts.ca/>)

She shared with us the three design concepts she uses to make sure she loves every quilt she makes: Variety, Value, and Rest.

By studying each of these elements in quilts you love it can help you identify what you like and dislike in a quilt. Then you can apply what you've learned to your own quilts. Sharon likes making quilts where the pattern seems to be shattered, like there is dappled sunlight shining on them.

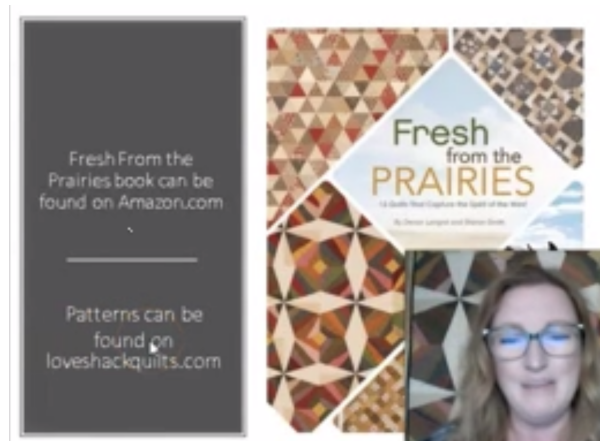


VARIETY - Figure out whether you like lots of variety in colour and fabric choices, or very little. In a two-tone quilt would you prefer that each red and white be a different fabric for lots of variety, or do you like to use a consistent background fabric throughout for unity? Do you even like two-tone quilts?

VALUE - Squint your eyes at a fabric to figure out it's light/medium/dark value. Do you like high contrast choices to be side-by-side, or do you prefer some mid-values to be neighbours in order to blend the look?

REST - Think about where your eyes can rest when looking at a quilt. Rest can be achieved by choosing similar values. Rest can be achieved through repetition in a pattern, colour, or fabric. Rest can be achieved with sashing, framing, and border choices. Did you like Sharon's rogue block in Curiosity Kills (above)? The rogue block reduced the variety by repeating the background fabric to frame the block. Rest can be customized and you can dial it up or down through your use of variety and value.

She encouraged us to think about quilts that we love, and to try to invoke the same feeling in our own quilts. By studying the variety, value, and rest in quilts you love and hate you'll learn to adjust each of these elements to make quilts you love.



Workshops

RCQG has made arrangements for Guild members to receive a 40% discount on Sharon Blackmore online courses and patterns. Please visit loveshackquilts.ca for more information and refer to the email you received to the RCQG email listserv for the discount code.

A Custom Edge-to-Edge Walking Foot Quilting class is scheduled for January 23 and is open for signing up in the RCQG online store. You can use the comfort quilts you're making to practice and develop your walking foot quilting skills. Secure your seat before the class fills!

To read more, and to sign-up: <https://royalcityquiltersguild.ca/rcqg-workshops/>

Library Updates

This month's library selections are quilty fiction:

The Runaway Quilt by Jennifer Chiaverini

When Sylvia Compson discovers evidence of her ancestors' involvement with the Underground Railroad, it raises the historical issue of the use of quilts as a method of signalling fugitive slaves.

<https://catalog.guelphpl.ca/polaris/search/title.aspx?ctx=1.1033.0.0.5&pos=1>

Murder, Plain and Simple by Isabella Alan

With her snazzy cowboy boots and her ornithophobic French bulldog, Angie doesn't exactly fit in with the predominantly Amish community in Rolling Brook, but her aunt's quilting circle tries to make her feel welcome as she prepares for the reopening of Running Stitch.

<https://catalog.guelphpl.ca/polaris/search/title.aspx?ctx=1.1033.0.0.5&pos=1>

The Quilt by Gary Paulson

A six-year-old boy goes to spend the summer with his grandmother Alida in a small town near the Canadian border. When his cousin Kristina goes into labor, the house fills with women come to help and to wait, and to work on a quilt together. This is no common, everyday quilt, but one that contains all the stories of the boy's family. (GPL only has this on audiobook)

<https://catalog.guelphpl.ca/polaris/search/title.aspx?ctx=1.1033.0.0.5&pos=1>

[Guelph Public Library Catalogue](#)

Special Interest Group: Modern Quilting

Each month we highlight a Special Interest Group within the Guild that is currently accepting new members. Last month you learned about the EQ8 group, and at the November Guild meeting you will learn about the Modern group.

Special Interest Group: Modern Quilting

Meeting date and time: First Thursday of the month (next meeting is Thursday, November 5, 2020), 7-8:30pm

Meeting place: Zoom

Cost: None

Contact information: Katrina Baklarz (kjbaklarz [at] gmail.com)

What they do: Individuals who share the desire and the intent to explore the Modern Quilting movement – specifically, what makes a quilt ‘modern.’ Adaptive techniques, improvisation, negative space, bold graphics, etc. are being studied through group challenges and quilt designs.

See the RCQG Calendar for all Special Interest Group meetings:

[RCQG Calendar](#)

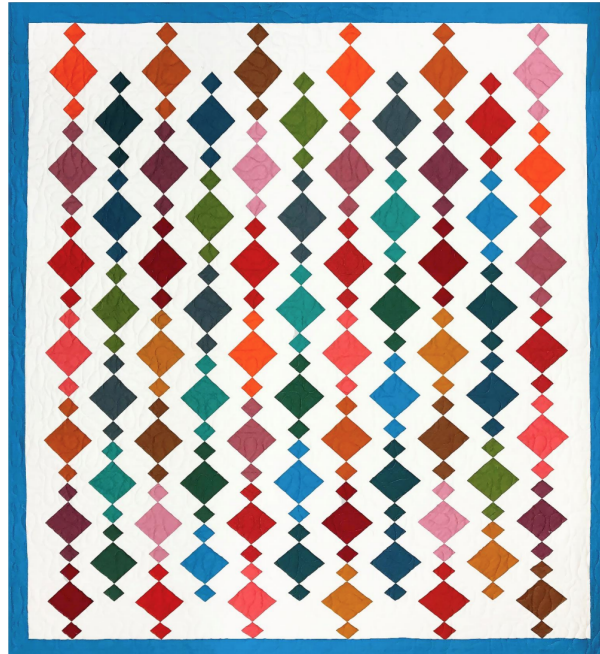
Stash Busters

Nancy Boon, a member of RCQG’s newest Special Interest Group, has chosen Beads by Donna Jordan of Jordan Fabrics for the December/January Stash Busters project.

The free pattern is available online at

https://cdn.shopify.com/s/files/1/0618/3677/files/Beads_double_revised.pdf?v=1598031130

There’s a video tutorial at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hfkq9PcLdHM>



Nancy will demonstrate how to make Beads at the December 2nd Stash Busters meeting which runs from 9:30am to 3:30pm. Email [stashbusters \[at\] royalcityquiltersguild.ca](mailto:stashbusters@royalcityquiltersguild.ca) if you would like to join the fun.

The quilt in the free pattern finishes at 77" x 89". If you would like to make a lap-sized quilt finishing at 54" x 66", the fabric requirements are:

- A variety of fat eighths, fat quarters, or quarter yard cuts totalling 1 yard
- 2 ½ yards background fabric
- 7/8 yard border fabric

Instructions for the smaller size will be available to any interested participants at the sew day.

RCQG's Community Outreach Team will provide kits for Stash Busters projects to interested RCQG member participants. If you'd like to sew from the RCQG's stash, by November 15 please send an email to Katrina Baklarz ([kjbaklarz \[at\] gmail.com](mailto:kjbaklarz@gmail.com)). She and the Community Outreach team will arrange for you to pick up a lap-sized Beads kit at one of the Community Outreach bins around town before the end of November. When you finish your top, you can turn it in to the same bin or request batting and backing to quilt it.

International Quilting Day - March

International Quilting Day is the third Sunday in March. Last year we had a wonderful day of virtual quilting with gift card giveaways from local quilt shops who advertise with us. If you're interested in helping to plan the festivities for this year, please contact Michele Kurtz.

RCQG Newsletter

This and past issues of the newsletter are posted on the RCQG website: <https://royalcityquiltersguild.ca/newsletter-archives/>

2020-2021 RCQG Program

Click on each link to visit their websites:

November - Sponsor Showcase (tips and tricks from our local quilt shops)

[December - Karen K. Stone](#)

[January - Pat Speth](#)

[February - Barbara Black](#)

[March - Elaine Quehl](#)

[April - Melissa Marginet](#)

May - Johanna Dermenjian (World War II and Quilting)

[June - Rhonda Dhort](#)

A short video of the program for the year is available [here](#).

Show and Share from October

Patricia Donovan
Days Gone By



Kathy Wagner
Covid Stars by Snowy Days Quilting
Home Grown by Nancy Halvorsen



Becky Fielder



Bonnie Hunter's
2019 Mystery
Quilt "Frolic"
Quilting by Rose Parr

Joan Hug-Valeriotte
Australian fabric crumb place mat



Joan Hett
Life's a Beach, Ribbons, Winter's Lane



Joan Hett
It All Comes Together



Pamela Eng
Friendship Star Quilt
(Sarnia Quilt Guild)



Diane Black



Bonnie
Hunter's 2019
Mystery Quilt
"Frolic"

Susan Thompson
comfort quilt



Beverly Matson





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Advertise in the RCQG newsletter.

Questions or comments about the newsletter?

Email: 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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