

The Common Thread QUILT GUILD

NEWSLETTER

May 2010

President's Message

Linda Won

The "Oh, Baby!" Display, which is planned for the Quilt Show, triggered the memory that I had made a baby quilt when I was pregnant for our daughter, Natalie. Twenty-nine years ago I thought it would be a simple matter of getting baby fabric, batting and a flannel crib size sheet, and then hand sew the three together following the design on the top fabric. With some basting, no pens, no spray, I begrudgingly persevered to finish the quilt. Only to say once completed "never again".

I have learned over the years in many aspects of my life to never say "never". I suspect that there are many of us who would to having to recant these words. After all, "Never Say Never Again" has become a title of a James Bond film and the lyrics of a song in the Fray Album.

It was just three years ago that I took back the words that I would never quilt again. And here I am some 25 quilts later. Another was when I said I could

never be President of the Guild. Now my term as your President is ending already. And a rewarding term it has been.

Eleanor Roosevelt once said "It is not fair to ask others to do what you are not willing to do yourself". And I agree. Although I will play a less predominate roll as your Past President next season, I plan to always be an active member and volunteering where needed. For me, it is a way of giving back; to meet new people, learn new skills, make that connection and just have fun. The Guild needs a vice-president for next year. It is a three year commitment—first year as vice-president, second year as president and the third year as past president. I encourage you to come forward, recant that "never" word and say "I'm willing to do an Executive Committee position".

Next Meeting
May 11, 2010

programme
Janet Hope

The May meeting will be our Annual General Meeting (don't forget we are still looking for a Vice-President). At the May meeting we will also be presenting the Quilt Show Winners Circle.

In June we will be having a by presentation by Quilt Artist Helmuth Renske.

shop of the month
Heirloom Quilts
fat quarters theme
florals

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Executive Team

President	Linda Won
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Past President	Catherine Patterson
Treasurer	Catherine Parkinson
Secretary	Susan Kirkham
Programme	Janet Hope
Workshops	Sylvie Proulx
Library	Del Jazey
Membership	Pauline McNally Wendy Warren
Retreats	Barbara Till
Newsletter	Sylvia Gilfix
Challenge	Yvette Lessard
Webmaster	Sylvia Gilfix
Community Projects	Victoria Van der Linden
Quarters Club	Elizabeth Jones-Villeneuve
Quilt Show Coordinator	Shirley Geiger

To reach members of the executive write to info@commonthread.on.ca



Quilt Show 2010

Shirley Geiger

As I write this, lots of you are madly preparing for the quilt show. Your pictures and write-ups are great, and we can't wait to hang the finished product!

Whether you are sewing, quilting, binding or sewing on sleeves and labels, I hope you finish in time.

The committee is doing their last minute running too. The registrations are in, the programme is in the final stages, ribbons and rosettes are ready to hang for Sunday morning. The merchants are cutting fat quarters and preparing their goods for you to take home. We have a special treat for 1800 attendees to take home with them. Make certain you come to the show to get one for yourself!

THE SHOW IS ON FACEBOOK! We created a Facebook event so that you can invite your friends and quilting buddies to the show. Visit www.facebook.com/home.php?#!/event.php?eid=113401935357585 and send an invitation to everyone you know!

Remember – this show belongs to you. I hope you are able to participate somehow; contributing, volunteering, promoting, or attending gives you the ability to say YES, I was part of the Common Thread show this year!

Library

Del Jazey

A gentle reminder that all books and magazines should be returned to the library at the May meeting. As we will be conducting our annual inventory, nothing can be taken out until the June meeting. Please note that a new membership card will be required to take out books for the summer period.

Quilt Musings

from the typewriter of **Jane Maddin**

Time Management

Are you one of those people who are chronically late? I CAN be on time, but I have to plan ahead to manage that, and I recently had someone who quilts ask me if I was one of those people who tried to pack more things into a time slot than can possibly fit. And I realized that that was precisely what I do. It isn't that I leave things to the last second (well, I do that with some things, but not with everything!) And it isn't that I'm sitting around doing nothing (that one hardly EVER pertains to me.) It is, rather, that I think that I can do just one more thing (or possibly two more and once in awhile, three more!) in that little space of time that is left before I have to be somewhere.

My husband and I had a brand new house built last summer. We, in an effort to save a bit of money, decided to finish the basement ourselves. And we have both drywalled, mudded (or crack-filled, depending on which part of the country you come from), done various kinds of flooring, painted, measured and cut trim before (separately and together) and we have even, gasp!, put up wallpaper together and our marriage has lived to tell the tale. (We took wallpaper DOWN to get the last house ready to go on the market - we will NEVER wallpaper again!)

So we started finishing our basement in the fall. And while we were working on it, people asked us what we would do when we were done. That must have been weighing on my mind, because at the end of January I switched from finishing the basement (which includes my Quilt Studio!!) to finishing quilt tops.

Now that the weather has been teasing us with occasional nice (ie, read amazingly beautiful) days, I have begun to think

about the garden. We moved, remember, and the garden consists of a quickly dug little plot to hastily stick ALL the plants that we moved from Orleans with us (in dishpans) (3 of them!) into the ground in October before the first frost.

And the Quilt Studio is still NOT done. We also, to complicate matters, have booked two vacations (how you can take a vacation from retirement, I'm not sure, but we have managed it!) for just over a week each, with one week home in between.

While we were away on the first holiday, I started thinking that we really only have about a week of work to do on the whole basement. And it would be DONE! How cool would that be? So we came home and I got out the big jug of drywall compound (mud) and started in on the walls in my Quilt Studio. My hubby got the roll of drywall tape out and proceeded to tape seams madly and in between mudding (because you have to wait for the stuff to dry between coats), I laid the floor! (Easiest flooring I have EVER worked with, bar none!)

So the point? I have discovered that no matter how much you want to do something, it is not necessarily possible to finish things in the amount of time you have. My initial plan of having this done by Saturday has faded to having the dry-walling and floors done before we leave on Sunday. My new favourite quote - EVERYTHING takes longer than you think it will!

Next month, I have to organize my (hopefully) finished Quilt Studio - I've been dreaming about that! I'll let you know how it goes! Enjoy the Quilt Show!

Community Projects

Victoria Van der Linden

Community Projects Committee: Victoria Van der Linden, Catherine Senecal, and Barb Donaldson

How does the committee work?

You can sign out a bag of donated fabric to sew into a top or finished quilt; or sign out a quilt top to be quilted; or donate a quilt; or donate fabric and batting—come see us for details. Remember: we will pay for your batting if you quilt a quilt for us. Or contact us ahead of the meeting and we will bring a batt cut to the size of the quilt you have made.

Check out our FREE patterns on the website—look under Pattern Book for all the patterns that have been added since the book was printed as well.

The Common Thread Quilt Guild collects monthly donations of **Cuddle Quilts** for use at the General Campus of the Ottawa Hospital. The tiny at-risk babies look less clinical in their quilt-covered bed, and the families take the quilts home. Barb Donaldson can tell you more about sizes, can show you patterns, and can give you donated fabrics and batting. **Thirty-one** Cuddle Quilts were donated in March. Our goal is to

donate **430** quilts by June 8. To date we have donated **404**; 26 more to go!

We support the **Victims of Violence** outreach program with young child/teen/adult themed Comfort Quilts (40" x 60").

We support the **St. Mary's Community Outreach Centre** with baby/child themed quilts (anything from 30" x 40" to 40" x 60"). The young mothers benefit from counseling and instruction. **Thirty** quilts were delivered in April.

Playtime Summer Contest 2010

Playtime for quilters can mean the time when you just do what you feel like instead of following a list of rules.

Our "Playtime" summer contest will feature a lack of rules. Our pattern sheet contains three suggestions for your convenience only—feel free to make whatever you like.

We will be collecting placemats for Meals on Wheels this summer. The director has given me a list of their requirements:

- 1) any size
- 2) any theme, such as Halloween, Thanksgiving, fishing, or what have you. Don't make Christmas, however, as they receive an ample amount of Christmas decorations every year from various groups.

- 3) any amount
- 4) any time

We will add one more:

- 5) any fabric

As the focus of Victoria's life is to empty the boxes of fabric which the Guild receives as donations, there is one incentive to using some of our fabric: For every placemat that you turn in by October 12, you will receive one chance to win \$50.00, so go ahead and use your own fabric. However, if you sign out anything from the Community Projects table—strips, yardage, or placemat kits—you will receive an extra chance per placemat! That is two chances per placemat to win the money, the power, and the bragging rights! Sign-out will continue at the May meeting. Come play with us.

CUDDLE QUILT SIZES: Check out the new size requirements: for optimum utility, please make your Cuddle Quilts **18" x 24"**, or make them **22" square**. Our battings and backings are cut 24"x 24" to finish 22" square. It is up to you to provide for the 18" x 24".

Challenge *fantasy*

I want to thank everyone for their participation and their support for the past two challenges. Especially, of course **Judy Carey** and our honorary member **Gerald VanderLinden** for setting up the display racks. If Gerald hadn't helped, we would have had twenty-one volunteers holding up wallhangings to display and to vote for. JUST KIDDING.

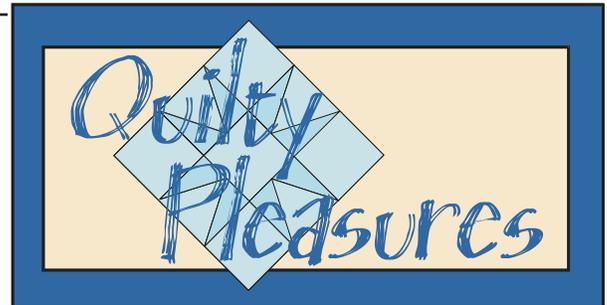
The winners were:

- First:** Rachel Mathews \$50
Second: Nancy Francis \$40
Third: Katelynne Newman \$30
Beginner: Ruthann Godwin \$20

Four **Consolation Prizes** of \$15 each we also awarded to Catherine Parkinson, Michele-Renee Charbonneau, Marjorie Hanson and Jane Maddin.

Thank you again and don't forget the quilt show in May

Yvette Lessard



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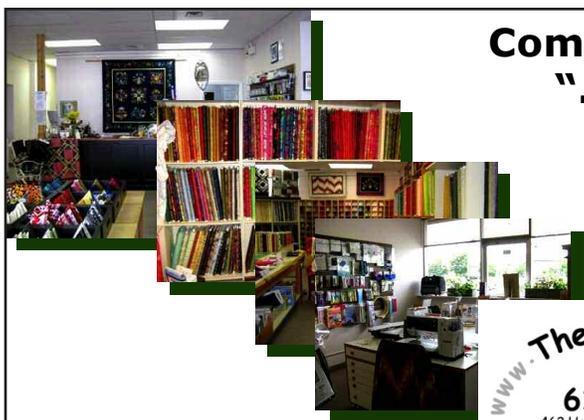
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10:00 am to 8:00 pm on Thursday and 10:00 am to 5:00 pm on Saturday**

If you can't make it in we invite you to visit us on our website: www.therunningstitch.ca

Membership Desk

Wendy Warren and Pauline McNally

Guild Year is from June 1 to May 31. Your membership expires on May 31. We will begin registration for the 2010-2011 year at the upcoming meeting. You may download your application from our web site. **ALL** renewing members must complete an application form. New members registering at the May meeting will have to pay a \$4:00 guest fee as membership year begins on June 1.

THANKS to all the ladies that helped membership over the last 2 years. Without you we couldn't have done it.

We welcome **Nancy Francis** and **Rachel Mathews** to Membership. Nancy will be taking over the duties of membership on June 1 and will represent you on the executive committee. Rachel has stepped up to assist Nancy. They will be looking for additional help in the coming year.

We want to thank all members for allowing us to be your representatives for membership over the last 2 years. It was an enjoyable experience as we were part of a dynamic team of ladies with similar interests and it gave us the opportunity to make new friends.

Thanks to Quilty Pleasures for providing fat quarters for our membership draw.

PS. Please have your **RED** memberships cards ready to show at sign in desk.

Community Projects

LABELS Ladies, even though you are encouraged to be creative in your quilting activities, we ask you to be a conformist when attaching labels to Guild community project quilts! Please follow the guidelines below when labeling your Cuddle Quilt, or any larger quilt:

- 1) Turn the quilt face down. Locate the lower right corner.
- 2) Place the label diagonally across the corner with the words facing you
- 3) Either pin or baste the outside edge of the quilt to the label. Trim the excess label.
- 4) Attach binding to the quilt edge, catching in the edges of the label. You do not have to sew down the long edges.