



Common Thread Quilt Guild

Annual Report

For the year ended
June 30, 2021

President's Report

Considering the ever-changing restrictions with COVID this past year, our guild has managed to have a successful season. The quick actions of tech savvy members of our Executive moved us to the virtual world in the spring of 2020 when shutdowns began. Although we had hoped that we would be back to regular meetings in the fall, it never happened. In June 2020 we decided that we would be virtual in the early fall and then gradually realized that in person meetings would not be returning as soon as we had hoped. By November 2020 we voted to continue virtual meetings for the remainder of the year.

Our Guild Executive decided to keep membership fees at \$35 to ensure that members were interested in what we were offering and that our efforts would not be wasted. Fortunately, our guild was financially able to keep our budget for programming at the same level and all virtual courses offered either broke even or revenue exceeded costs. Membership was over 200.

We have had very good attendance at our monthly Guild meeting and received many words of praise from our members. In fact, our current Executive has decided that we will continue to offer virtual meetings in January and February every year moving forward. This will allow snowbirds and members avoiding bad weather to enjoy an evening of fellowship without leaving their home. Attendance this past January and February were the highest we've ever had. Our Programme Coordinator will be able to offer speakers that we would never be able to afford, from anywhere in the world

Due to anticipated COVID restrictions on meeting in large groups, we have also decided to hold virtual Guild meetings from September – November of this year. Our hope is to have an in-person Guild Meeting in December. We are planning a big social evening with hopefully lots of hugs

Our virtual program has been so successful that we will offer both in person and virtual Workshops and Sew Days. This is an excellent opportunity for our members. Our membership has been advised of the decision in advance of renewing their membership for the fall. Safety first is our motto.

In summary, we are happy to report that the Common Thread Quilt Guild has been able to offer a great program to our members during a difficult time. We look forward to the day when we can gather in our meeting place once again. Our success was a team effort and I was proud to be part of this group this past year.

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Zoom Meeting

Tuesday, October 13, 2020

Annual Report July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020:

The CTQG's Annual Report for the year July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020 was provided to the members via email prior to the meeting and was formally presented by the President, Vicki Ross, during the AGM.

A motion was made by Dorothy De Rose to accept the minutes from the AGM of November 12, 2019, as well as the CTQG Annual Report for the year ended June 30, 2020. This motion was seconded by Joan Bowman. The motion was passed by membership via Zoom poll, with one abstention.

The Financial Review and budget for the upcoming year were presented by the Treasurer, Barb Till. A motion to accept the Financial Review and budget was made by Janice Namiesniowski, and was seconded by Carole Maisonneuve. The motion was passed by the membership via Zoom poll.

There were no questions or concerns raised over the report

Elections October 2020 (Postponed from June 2020 as meeting was cancelled due to Covid-19)

Vicki Ross, outgoing President, made the following motion:

I, Vicki Ross, move that the following candidates seeking nomination be re-elected to their current positions:

Treasurer - Barb Till

Web Site - Carole Laforge

Retreats - Paula Patterson and Wendy White

Community Projects - Carole Maisonneuve and Lynn Strban

Workshops - Sandra Baynes

Sew Days - Cathy Sheldrick and Shirley MacFadden

Newsletter Editor - Catherine Pope and Sonia Latchman

Newsletter Advertising- Joanne Fox

Membership - Laura Evans

Motion seconded by Irene Walker. Motion passed by membership via Zoom poll

Vicki Ross, outgoing President, made the following motion:

I, Vicki Ross, move that the following candidates seeking nomination be elected to new positions

Secretary - Shirley MacFadden
Program - Kirstin Fearon
Workshops - Dorothy De Rose
Membership - Carol Nicholson
Library – Janice Namiesniowski and Judy Loree
President – Gwenne Beck-Pottier

Motion seconded by Lisa Fedak. Motion passed by membership via Zoom poll

Vacant Positions

Vice President

The following outgoing members were thanked by incoming President Gwenne Beck-Pottier

Outgoing Members

Laurelle Callahan - Past President
Pauline McNally - membership
Laura Malo - Programme and Challenge
Marliese Kuhn -Programme
Paulette Beauchamp
Cathy Gaudet - Quilt Show

Meeting was adjourned.

EXAMINER'S REPORT

Updated examiner's report for 2020/21 will be provided before AGM.

Gwenne Pottier, President
Common Thread Quilt Guild
Orleans, Ontario

Dear Madam President:

RE: Examination of Common Thread Quilt Guild Financial Records 2019/20

Pursuant to the provisions of the Constitution of the Common Thread Quilt Guild I have conducted an examination of the Guild's Financial Records. This includes the detailed Profit & Loss Statement, Bank Statements and the financial reports prepared by the committee chairs for the various guild membership activities. These records reflected the Guilds activities during the period of 1 Jul 2019 to 30 Jun 2020. These financial reports prepared by the committee chairs for the various guild membership activities and provided to the Treasurer for action were all examined thoroughly. All entries in the detailed Profit and Loss Statement were verified against the bank statements as well as the documentation provided by the chairs of the various Guild committees. No errors were identified during the examination. As a result of the examination, I have found the Common Thread Quilt Guild Financial records from July 2019 to June 30 2020 to be complete and in good order.

I can provide no recommendations that would improve on the record keeping. Having all of the necessary support documentation available during the examination allows the examiner to have a very clear picture of guild activities and its financial controls.

Please convey my appreciation to your Treasurer, Barb Till as well as all of the various Committee Chairs for their continued excellent efforts in maintaining the highest quality of record keeping for the guild. Their due diligence with accounting for the income and expenses of the guild membership as a whole through its activities reflects very positively on the guild and continues to make the examination task a relatively simple and straightforward process.

Yours Sincerely,



Jack D. Hearfield, Examiner

CC: Barbara Till, Guild Treasurer

Common Thread Quilt Guild Balance Sheet 2021

	2021	2020
ASSETS		
Cash	25,502	19,430
Short-term deposit	16,374	16,000
Total Current Assets	<u>41,876</u>	<u>35,430</u>
 LIABILITIES & EQUITY		
Accounts Payable	75	0
Deferred revenue	1,826	
Total Current Liabilities	<u>1,901</u>	<u>0</u>
Retained Earnings, beginning of period	35,430	38,355
Net Income (loss) for the period	4,545	-2,925
Retained Earnings, end of period	<u>39,975</u>	<u>35,430</u>
 TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	 41,876	 35,430

Common Thread Quilt Guild

Income Statement 2021

REVENUE	Year Ended June 30, 2021	Year Ended June 30, 2020
Advertising	1,863	2,288
Fundraising	0	1,842
Guest fees	56	120
Guild pins & badges	189	108
Interest	374	0
Library	185	79
Membership	7,035	9,240
Retreats	0	7,221
Sew days	0	570
Shop hop	0	840
Workshops	5,936	1,867
Total Revenue	15,638	24,175
Bank charges	56	156
Community projects	883	1,895
Equipment lending		974
Fundraising		1,134
Guild pins & badges	119	85
Library	51	1,019
Membership	215	50
Office & general	1,733	1,557
Programme	3,287	3,633
Quilt show		780
Rent	-307	5,500
Retreats		6,156
Sew days		480
Shop hop		1,185
Website	275	279
Workshops	4,781	2,217
Total Revenue	11,093	27,100
NET INCOME(LOSS) FOR THE PERIOD	4,545	-2,925

Vice-President's Report

The position of Vice President was vacant until January. I stepped forward because I believe in the Guild and its continuing importance in supporting a quilting community. The role of Vice President is to support the President while learning from her to take on the role the following year. Gwenne Pottier included me in many aspects of the Guild to achieve this education in a condensed time.

The Vice President takes the lead on recruiting for the Executive for the following year. This task, which could have been extremely difficult without face-to-face conversations, was made easier with many of this year's Executive offering to return for another year. Recruitment via the Newsletter, appeals at Guild membership meetings and informally at virtual sew days was successful in filling all positions except, once again, that of Vice President. I hope that someone will follow my lead and step forward during the year.

Laura Evans

Committee Year End Reports:

Membership

Committee Chairs: Carol Nicholson and Laura Evans

There were 203 members of the Common Thread Quilt Guild in 2020-2021, including 19 new members.

Twenty-one members received free memberships due to their participation on the Executive the previous year.

All meetings were held virtually this year.

Programme

Committee Chair: Kirstin Fearon

The aim with programme during this reporting period was to continue to offer a variety of topics, to foster fellowship among quilters, and promote the art of quilting. As the COVID pandemic hit, we had to pivot like many guilds to the virtual world and our membership embraced Zoom! Thank you for your attendance and I hope you enjoyed our monthly roster.

This year's programme was as follows:

- September: Johanna Masko is a Toronto based quilting instructor and designer. This was her first ever pandemic-era remote guild presentation! Johanna shared a lively run-down of some of her favourite quilting things: tips, tools, hacks, books and more. She shared her top 5 quilting books: *The Quilter's Album of Blocks and Borders* by Jinny Beyer • *Treasury of American Quilts* by Cyril Nelson and Carter Houck • *Liberated Quiltmaking* by Gwen Marston • *Liberated Medallion Quilts* by Gwen Marston • *Quilts* by Denise Schmidt • *American Quilts: the democratic art* by Robert Shaw
- October: Melissa Marginet is a Manitoba based quilter and shared her creative journey from growing up next door to a creative and resourceful grandmother in rural Manitoba to how I became addicted to quilting and ending where I am now. A trunk show filled with quilts and stories.
- November: Edith Choiniere from Quebec joined us. Edith is a designer and creator and she shared her Quilting Journey, her technique and process for designing a project, inspired from and learning with indigenous teachers.
- December: Mary Elizabeth Kinch is another Canadian quilter, where she shared an entertaining look into "real life" quilting where she revealed inspiring ideas, the lessons she has learned (some of them the hard way), and several sacrosanct rules that can, and should, be broken. Learn about the chaos theory of quilting, fabric shockers, industry secrets – did you know fabrics can "explode", approaches to borders and bindings, and other brilliant quilting insights.
- January: Mary Fons came to Ottawa – virtually of course. If you have ever been to a lecture of Mary's or crept on Facebook or blog, you know she is an enthusiastic quilt nerd. She shared her Trunk Show: Extreme Home edition and it delighted our members.
- February: Karen Brown is another great Canadian quilter. She built her YouTube channel in just 3 short years to over 200K subscribers and can be found at Just Get it Done quilts. Karen helped us all embrace the type of quilter we want to be – and Be the Best Quilter you can Be.

- March: Krista Hennebury aka poppyprint (on Instagram) joined us from BC, well known for her work in modern quilting and improvisational work. While improvisational work can seem to be willy-nilly, Krista shared her tips and tricks for accuracy in piecing.
- April: Kathy K. Wylie is a multiple international-award winning quilter specializing in appliqué, quilt design, domestic machine quilting and English Paper Piecing techniques. She has lectured and taught all over the country at guilds, shops and quilt shows and now offers online workshops and presentations. Kathy sent her video on the Time of Our Lives; her CQA Best in Show winning in Ottawa in 2019. She is a fantastic speaker and always a hit with our members.
- May: Kellie Willey has been quilting for 11 years and is passionate about making miniature and small-scale quilts. She enjoys taking large traditional patterns and miniaturizing them using various methods. Kellie has won many awards for her little quilts and we heard tips and techniques that will take the fear out of miniature quilting. We also had a front row seat (from your computer) to view several of her little quilts up close
- June: Jacquie Gering was scheduled to present a trunk show but was unfortunately sick and unable to join us. She will be rescheduled in the future. Guild members spoke of their work with Quilts of Valour, Victoria's Quilts Canada and our own Community Projects work.

The Guild is always welcoming programming suggestions. Sew & Share turned virtual and we kicked it off in November and became a mainstay throughout the virtual year. This popular activity during the latter part of the meeting allows members to showcase their creations. Virtual programming will continue in the new year.

Community Projects

Committee Co-Chairs: Carole Maisonneuve and Lynn Strban

During this challenging year the members of this guild continued to provide quilts for those in need by donating quilting services, supplies, quilt tops or completed quilts, in support of the following charities.

- **Cuddle Quilts: 417** cuddle quilts given to the Ottawa Hospital General Campus (N.I.C.U) and Post-Partum Nursery as well as the Montfort Hospital, for “at risk babies”, between September 2020 and June 2021;
- **Interval House: 15** quilts were delivered for the women and children sheltered there;
- **Cornerstone Housing for Women: 33** quilts were delivered for women sheltered there;

- **Carty House for Refugee Women:** 12 quilts were given to Carty House;
- **CHEO Long Term and Frequent Visitors Charity:** 25 quilts were given in the latter part of 2020-2021 year as a direct result of the COVID-19 restrictions.
- **YM/YWCA T.R.Y. Program:** The TRY program provides low cost housing with support for women, men and their children who are homeless or at risk of being homeless. We were able to provide 67 quilts to them;
- **The Miriam Centre:** 21 quilts were given to help young mothers/ families;
- **The Perley Rideau Health Care Centre:** 27 wheelchair quilts provided to the Perley in support of seniors;
- **Osgoode Nursing Home:** 26 wheelchair quilts were delivered this year in support of seniors;
- **Forrest Valley Terrace Nursing Home:** 33 wheelchair quilts were delivered this year in support of seniors;
- **Infant and Child Development Program of Algoma Public Health:** 10 quilts were given;
- **Chernobyl, Belarus:** 19 Quilts from our guild were sent to Victoria Vanderlinden and then via Mary Bernard of Brockville for use in the orphanages and affected communities.

Only through the continued generosity of this membership are we able to support all the charities listed above, especially during a “pandemic”. This shows that the “community heart” of this guild is extremely strong, and thrives. Community Projects would like to thank all its members (and non-members) for their continued “community support”.

Quilt Show 2020

No Quilt Show was held this year. Ottawa Valley Quilt Guild was hosting this year (May 2021) and decided to cancel due to COVID just as we had in May 2020.

Catherine Pope was elected as Quilt Show Coordinator for our May 2022 show.

Workshops

Committee Chairs: Sandra Baynes and Dorothy De Rose

We had a total of 138 participants in nine workshops.

Interwoven Art, with Melissa Marginet, October 21 and October 28, 2020; cost C\$420

16 participants

Paper piecing with Freezer paper, with Leanne Parsons, November 7, 2020; cost C\$760.04

21 participants

Modern Quilting with your Walking Foot, with Melissa Marginet, December 5, 2020; cost C\$603.75

23 participants

Texture into Sudoku, with Jennie Rayment, January 16, 2021; cost 425 GBP (C\$769.45)

21 participants

Speed date with Improv, with Krista Hennebury, March 27, 2021; cost C\$700

20 participants

Quilt as you Go , with Marie-Claire Charette, April 17, 2021 and April 24, 2021; cost C\$587.49

10 participants

Circles, Circles and Gentle Curves, with Susan Madu, April 18 and 25, 2021; cost C\$418.10

17 participants

BeColourful, Happiness 2.0, with Melanie MacDonald, May 1, 13 and 29, 2021; cost C\$193.75

5 participants

BeColourful, Happiness 2.0, with Melanie McDonald, May 2, 17 and 30, 2021; cost C\$193.75

5 participants

Retreats

Committee Chairs: Paula Patterson and Wendy White

This past guild year, 6 in-town retreats were initially scheduled.

October 16-18 and 23-25, 2020

January 22-24 and 29-31, 2021

April 22-25 and April 30-May2, 2021

But due to the COVID19 Pandemic, all retreat dates were cancelled.

Guild Challenges

Committee Chair: Kirstin Fearon

The guild held or participated in the following quilt challenges:

A Quilty Road Trip Laura Malo designed an original quilt design specifically for the guild. It was a medallion mystery quilt which offered a variety of options. Due to Covid-19, the reveal of these quilts was held in the fall through the facebook group virtually; we had 4 participants and the winner of \$100 was Suzanne Martin.

Canadian Quilter Association (CQA) Member Guild Challenge

Our guild again participated in this challenge, Dorothy DeRose's "My Life's Adventure" represented Common Thread at the national quilt show.

This year's challenge was to reflect on the pandemic and make a quilt to represent the impact to our lives. Each month, the members were prompted to organize scraps, select patterns, create a design, understanding colour value, accurate piecing, pressing and how to take great quilt photos. We had 14 people send in their quilt photos. First place, Laura Malo with her quilt Log Cabin 2.0 won a membership to next year's guild (a \$35 value) and a \$25 gift card. Second place, Barb Zabchuck with Little bitty houses, won a \$25 gift card and, third place, Joan Ramsey-Burn with Happy Day, won a \$25 gift card.

Website

Committee Chair: Carole LaForge

Our website continues to evolve and be a good communication tool to guild communities. We update our calendar to provide our membership reminders about retreats, workshops, sew days and guild meetings. Due to the ongoing pandemic, many activities are now virtual. The guild has also added online registration to benefit everyone that wants to participate in our guild activities.

The average monthly sessions is 474 by new and returning guests and the page views average over 962 per month. Our web site is mobile friendly and is viewed on different types of devices. Approximately 60% of the visits were from desktops, 9% from tablets and 31% from mobile phones. There's an average of 65% of new visitors to our website.

Library

Committee Chairs: Janice Namiesniowski and Judy Loree

Due to the COVID pandemic restrictions and virtual Guild meetings, we implemented "Library Days", started December thru June, but in fact only Dec and March we were able to hold gatherings (maximum of 10 people.) The "Library Day", the third Tuesday of the month at MIFO, 3:00-6:00pm, enabled members to return and sign out items from the CTQG collection. Overdue fees were waived due to pandemic and the uncertainty of meeting. Attendance was sparse, Dec 4 and Mar 18, but it was a new format and only held twice. Thanks to Sharon Kes, a faithful volunteer. No new books were purchased as the storage cupboard is at its maximum capacity.

The annual book inventory was held in the summer of 2020 and items culled that had not been signed out since 2016. The annual used book/pattern sale was held at the garage of Vicki Ross in the Fall of 2020.

Newsletter

Committee Chairs: Co-Editors - Sonia Latchman and Catherine Pope

The newsletter was published 11 times during the year: a special summer edition in August 2020 to keep members up to date because of Covid, and then the 10 regular monthly editions from September to June. For each edition, the newsletter was posted to the website and then a notification was sent to the membership with a link to the newsletter on the website. New features this year included the addition of 1) a map illustrating the location of our CTQG newsletter advertisers (this started in the October issue), and 2) a newsletter quilting quiz (in select issues), and for each quiz, a randomly drawn respondent was awarded a prize of 15 sewing clips.

Newsletter Advertising/Billing

Committee Chair: Joanne Fox

The regular newsletters contained between 14 and 18 paid advertisements per issue. The Summer 2020 issue contained 25 ads, and these were provided to the 2019/2020 advertisers as a bonus, i.e., not charged.

Fat Quarter Draws

No fat quarter draws were held this year as it could not be organized with all virtual meetings

Shop of the Month

The Shop of the Month co-ordinators - Denise Stewart

This year all Shops participated using Zoom, some offering prizes and discounts to our members.

The Shop of the Month stores were:

Meeting	Vendor
September 2019	Maker Savvy Textile Arts, Kanata
October 2019	Quilty Pleasures, Orleans
November 2019	Sew Jo's, Ottawa
December 2019	Quilt Fabrics, Finch, Ontario
January 2020	Paisleys Quilt Shop, Ottawa
February 2020	Quilters Barn and Gifts, Russell, Ontario
March 2020	Mad About Patchwork, Ottawa
April 2020	Atelier Quilts and Coton, Gatineau, Quebec
May 2020	HyggeligtFabris, Perth, Ontario
June 2020	Quilt Bees, Van Kleek Hill

Sew Days

Committee Co-Chairs: Shirley MacFadden and Cathy Sheldrick

This year Sew Days were held virtually and were free to attend.

16 people joined our first Zoom meeting in November, but the numbers quickly swelled, and we averaged 35 – 40 people per session.

Due to the social response and need expressed by attendees, additional Sew Days were held twice a month from January thru May and once in June.

The Accuquilt dies were made available to members in March, and will continue to be loaned out until we are able to meet in person.

Sew Days became a social outlet for many of our members, and it was wonderful to see faces from well beyond Ottawa's boundaries.

Shop Hops

No shop hops were held this year due to COVID.