

# $\underset{\text { Susan Baker }}{\text { President's Message }}$ 

Spring has arrived and shortly summer will be upon us. Spring is a time for new beginnings; grass, leaves on the trees and beautiful flowers to brighten everything after the winter months. Also at this time every year the membership of the Common Thread Quilt Guild welcomes a new president, executive committee and new members.

At our recently held Quilt Show another new beginning took place. The first joint quilt guilds meeting in our region took place. We had eight guilds represented. During a two hour meeting we were able to meet our counterparts, discuss differences and similarities of how each of the guilds operates and share programme ideas and workshop topics. I found it very interesting to learn that we are similar in so many ways yet each is unique. I was most impressed by the willingness to share. All of us will benefit from this effort. We all agreed that this meeting was a success and have planned to come together again next year. Contacts from other guilds were unable to attend but hopefully in
the future we will have greater representation. With such a positive response I feel certain that participant numbers will increase in the future.

For me personally, I look forward to the beginning of new friendships, the making of quilts as I learn the skill of quilt making from opportunities provided by the guild and new challenges as I take on this position. As each individual piece of fabric is beautiful and unique but when put together in a quilt something even more beautiful and unique appears. Our guild is the same, each member is beautiful and unique but together we do great things. I have learned this past year that the Common Thread Quilt Guild is very generous when it comes to the giving of time and donations. On behalf of all recipients I thank you.

I feel that I am on the "cutting edge" of something great and thank you for welcoming me into your quilting family. I wish you all a great summer and look forward to seeing everyone in September.

## Next Meeting

June 8, 2010

## programme anet Hope

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

## shop of the month <br> Sew For It

fatquarters theme
Asian

## in this issue

Quilt Musings 3
-Community Projects 5

## THE COMMON THREAD QUILT GUILD NEWSLETTER

| Executive |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| Team |  |
| President | Susan Baker |
| Vice-President | Vacant |
| Past President | Linda Won |
| Treasurer | Catherine Parkinson |
| Secretary | Susan Kirkham |
| Programme | Janet Hope/ Sherrill Crowder |
| Workshops | Sylvie Proulx |
| Library | Del Jazey |
| Membership | Nancy Francis/ Rachael Matthews |
| Retreats | Barbara Till |
| Newsletter | Andrée Faubert |
| Challenge | Johanna Macdougall |
| Webmaster | Christine Scharff |
| Community Projects | Victoria Van der Linden |
| Quarters Club | Cathy Newman |

## Library

We have an abundance of books! We have taken some of the older ones out of inventory and will have them for sale at the meeting. We will be selling them for a nominal price so bring a bag to carry your riches home. The sale table will be in the main meeting room. Any books taken out in June for the summer will be with a current membership card only.

## 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.

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


# THE COMMON THREAD QUILT GUILD NEWSLETTER 

# Quilt Musings <br> Organizing that PERFECT Quilting Space 

from the typewriter of Jane Maddin

As I sit writing this it is nearly June, and I have to tell you that my discovery in April that everything takes longer than you think it is going to, is, indeed, correct! The Quilt Studio (this is the report!) is STILL not quite done! The walls are painted! The ceiling is mudded. My hubby has to sponge the ceiling (that's tomorrow's plan) and then $I$ will paint it (also, hopefully tomorrow.) The flooring is done. We have put the trim up around the doors AND the baseboards and crown molding have to be purchased, cut and installed.

However, I could NOT wait to start organizing the Studio. I have a quilting friend who posted pictures on Facebook of her Quilt Studio as she improved it. (As it is in her basement, she calls it her Dungeon!) So I emailed her to get ideas. And she suggested that $I$ think about the room as if it were a kitchen. The triangle between the sink and the fridge and the stove, should be matched by a triangle between the sewing machine, the cutting table and the ironing board. And she further suggested that $I$ have a look on the internet for ideas, which I did!

My husband found it difficult to figure out why $I$ wanted to get it organized WHILE $I$ was in the process of mudding and before $I$ had it painted. I think I explained last newsletter that mudding is a slow process (for me anyway!) You mud, then you wait for it to dry (overnight, at least) and then you mud some more and you wait some more, and so forth. It often takes three coats of mud before a seam is covered and occasionally it takes 4 or 5. I find that $I$ get bored and I lose what little enthusiasm I had for the job before I even get started (one of the reasons why it took so long to get TO the mudding in the first place!), so I need to play 'mind games' with myself.

I have to have rewards! And who doesn't like rewards!? The long term reward of a perfect Quilt Studio is all very well and good (and now that I am nearly finished, that one works really well for motivation!) But at the beginning I need rewards to get me started on the job and keep me going!

And the reward for starting to mud the Quilt Studio was that I could take all the things that don't belong in there out, and do the flooring. (And, yes, I was asked what I was thinking laying the floor before the mudding and the painting were finished!) But once the flooring was down, I ORGANIZED the Quilt Studio.

So I have the PERFECT triangle. The Cutting Table is smack dab in the middle of the room, where $I$ can walk ALL around it cutting fabric. (Or filling that flat tray, called a hawk, that holds mud - but that is a purely temporary use for the Cutting Table.) The ironing board, with its permanent frame, with storage under it for bins, is under the window and near an outlet. I'll put a shelf up for the iron to sit on, as soon as $I$ find the brackets again! And my Sewing Machine completes the triangle, near the Design Wall (which consists of a flannelette sheet!) on its rolling sewing table! Of course, the Design Wall is not there yet AND the Sewing Machine has a piece of plastic on it to keep the dust out of it while the ceiling is being sponged, but that's not the point!!!

No, the point is that it is a PERFECT set up or it will be as soon as I paint the ceiling and my hubby and I put up the trim! But it won't be so long before all these renovations are a distant memory. So there is my promised report on the Quilt Studio, soon to be finished completely and in full use. Enjoy your summer - get lots of Quilting done!



## $\underset{\text { Vicoriavan dect inden }}{\text { Comity }}$ Projects

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

## Oh! Baby

Forty quilts were submitted for the special exhibit of baby/child quilts hung at our quilt show. Thank you to the members who took the time to bring in their treasures with photographs and stories attached. I hope everyone had a chance to enjoy the display of these "gifts from the heart" at the show.

## June 2010 Community Projects

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.

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 quiltcovered 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. Our goal: $\mathbf{4 3 0}$ We reached our goal and surpassed it in May! Bring
your Cuddle Quilts to the June meeting and they will be delivered as usual. We will begin cutting batts and backs for you again in September when the new season begins.

We support the Victims of Violence outreach program with young child/teen/adult themed Comfort Quilts (40" x 60"). Twenty-seven quilts were delivered in May for a total of 66 in 2009-2010.

We support the St. Mary's Community Outreach Centre with baby/child themed quilts (anything from $30^{\prime \prime} \times 40^{\prime \prime}$ to $40^{\prime \prime} \times 60^{\prime \prime}$ ). The young mothers benefit from counseling and instruction. A total of 51 quilts were delivered in 2009-2010.

A special donation of 22 Comfort Quilts ( $40^{\prime \prime} \times 60^{\prime \prime}$ ) will be made to the Children's Aid Society in June. We twinned with the Ottawa Valley Quilt Guild who provided 30 baby quilts. All the quilts will be given to children as they are adopted/ fostered, to be their very own.

CUDDLE QUILT SIZES: Check out the new size requirements: for optimum utility, please make your Cuddle Quilts $\mathbf{1 8 " ~}^{\mathbf{x}} \mathbf{2 4} \mathbf{4 "}^{\text {" }}$, or make them 22" square. Our battings and backings are cut $24^{\prime \prime} \times 24^{\prime \prime}$ to finish $22^{\prime \prime}$ square. It is up to you to provide for the $18^{\prime \prime} \times 24^{\prime \prime}$.

Remember the 12 single bed quilts given to the Ottawa Mission in February? If you add all our quilts together, this year we gave $\mathbf{1 5 1}$ quilts and 435 Cuddle Quilts.

Thank you for your time, talent and generosity!

## 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
continued on page 6

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!

We have 20 more kits for the June meeting. Come play with us.



Fabrics
Notions
Books, Patterns, \& Classes
Sewing Machines \& Sergers

2211 St. Joseph Boulevard, Orleans, Ontario K1C 7C5

Tel.: (613) 834-3044


