

The Common Thread QUILT GUILD

NEWSLETTER

November 2009

President's Message

Linda Won

Our 2008 Quilt Show was the first quilt show I ever attended. With the encouragement of my Monday night mini group, I also showcased my first quilt in the beginner category. Some of you may remember it—the queen size log cabin in burgundy and cream tones, titled “I can’t do Random”. The quilt meant a lot to me for I learnt so much in the process, I made new friends and making it was great therapy during a difficult time at work. To my surprise, it won 2nd Place. I concluded there must be a whole society of quilters out there that can’t do random.

The quilt is now in Newfoundland on my sister, Cynthia’s bed. She was overwhelmed when she received it and from the feedback I know she cherishes it. Cynthia is the sister, who very patiently listening to me talk about quilting, quilting, quilting and very innocently once asked “how many quilts do you plan to make?” Luckily for me, my husband and I come from big families. And with the exposure I am getting to the charities our guild supports, I really don’t

think the number of quilts I make will be a problem. My wallet—maybe!

My sister, Doris, on her 60th birthday this summer opened her bed and breakfast business in Trout River, Newfoundland. This has been a dream of hers her entire adult life and I am so proud and happy for her and her husband. So, I plan to make my second queen size quilt for her. The fabric has been purchased, cut and is ready for assembly ... and it fits perfectly with our Quilt Show theme “Gifts from the Heart”. There, I have stated my commitment. Now I just have to follow through in time for the 2010 Quilt Show.

If you would like to share a short story that goes along with our quilt show theme, “Gifts from the Heart”, send it along. I am sure the membership would love to read it as well.

Next Meeting
November 10, 2009

programme
Janet Hope

In November we will be having our Christmas social. This will give us all a chance to finish off last minute gifts and actually have them out in the mail on time!!!

shop of the month
Dragonfly Fabrics

fat quarters theme
Canada — red and white fabrics

workshop reminder

There is a lot of interest for the Fuji Wa workshop and seats are limited. See Sylvie at the November meeting.

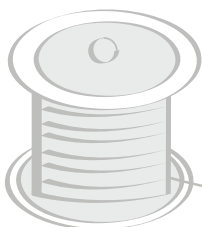
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Executive Team

| | |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| President | Linda Won |
| Vice-President | Susan Baker |
| 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



Announcements

Fundraising Event

During NOVEMBER and DECEMBER we will be collecting toothpaste, toothbrushes and other toiletries for the Gloucester Emergency Food Cupboard.

The mission of the GEFC is to help families that find themselves in an emergency situation. They provide these families with an emergency food supply to help them through the crisis.

The food cupboard does not have a budget for purchasing non-food items such as toiletries so they rely on special fundraising events such as ours to provide these families with the little extras that sometimes mean so much. For instance through one of our events they were able to provide every client with a toothbrush and toothpaste as a little extra during the holidays.

You may drop off your donations at the sign in desk during the November and December guild meetings.

Cottage Industry Summer Contest 2009

Here are the stats: **twenty-one** participants in the Cottage Industry summer contest have produced **24 items**: that's 17 finished quilts and 7 tops! A draw from the names will be held at the November meeting. The lucky maker of a quilt will receive \$50.00 to invest at her favourite quilt store, and the maker of a top will receive \$10.00.

Thank you to everyone who has turned in 8" strip pieced blocks and 7" batting squares. We have received over 1,000 so far, enough for five of the 11 Mission quilts with plenty to spare for our other charities.

The prize for the most blocks turned in made with our donated fabric goes to **Lois Waara**: 329 blocks!

Quilt Show Pledge

Catherine Patterson

I am taking the pledge to make a 'Gift from the Heart' quilt to be hung in the May 2010 show. I know it will be ready in time because I'm making it as a Christmas 2009 gift for my Father and I want to have it to him in early December so it can be enjoyed over a longer period.

The reason I want to deliver this Christmas throw soon is that my father has Alzheimers and this is going to be his first Christmas in care. Although he isn't too aware of his surroundings my mother spends a good portion of each day with him and I imagine the quilt on his bed will bring a lot of cheer to her life. And it can't help but bring cheer to the care givers as well. Quilts work like that. So, once again, I am interrupting the making of my own quilt to push ahead on my gift from the heart to my parents and with luck it will turn out well enough to hang in our show.

Quilt Musings

from the typewriter of **Jane Maddin**

I like to buy quilt magazines. In fact, I like to buy them so much that I have often discovered that I have more than one copy of the same magazine... This happens because, in my former life, I might buy the magazine and leave it in the bag for a few days (or a week or two) due to being busy. (We could call it due to disorganization, but why be cruel?)

Then I would be at a store that sold magazines and I would see one that didn't look familiar and buy it. After awhile ALL the covers look alike — like those romance novels (called bodice rippers) with the pictures of the topless men on them — how could you possibly remember if you had read THAT particular one. (In fact, you might get most of the way through the book before you would realize that you HAD read that particular one before...) Okay, I digress.

Back to the quilt magazines. Here's the point (such as it is.) Do you find it difficult to decide if you do or don't like a pattern, if you don't like the colour combination that they used in the magazine? And I have the opposite problem too. If I really like the colours, I find it difficult to decide that I wouldn't like to make that particular pattern... (I'm not keen on curves for some reason — I think I have an allergy to that much work!)

That's why I (especially) like magazines that have a small piece of the quilt done in different colours after they describe all the steps to the main one. (Although I will admit, if I didn't like the original colours, I quite often have difficulty getting my head around the colours in the second offering as well.)

I am also not a fan of Hallowe'en. Oh, I liked it well enough when I was a kid, but I seem to have gone all humbug about it

now. And so I don't make Hallowe'en quilts. Too much work for something that I would only put on the table or the wall for a short time, especially as I'm not enjoying the time it would be out. (I do have some Christmas things, which I enjoyed making, enjoy using, and regret putting away in January). I like autumn, and the fall colours, it is just Hallowe'en that I have gone all humbug over.

I have a quilt magazine that has a quilt in 'my' colours on the cover. I just love it. Blues and browns. So pretty! It even has some plaid fabric (which I just love to incorporate into a quilt).

When I opened the magazine, imagine my horror to discover that the blocks which I thought of as Snowballs, are actually PUMPKINS — the thing is a quilt covered with pumpkins. My first thought with pumpkins is Jack o' lanterns and I put the magazine in the appropriate magazine holder with some regret and a sigh. I don't do Hallowe'en. But now that I am thinking about it, could the whole thing be a Thanksgiving Quilt? The magazine was, no doubt, published in the States, I likely bought it after Canadian Thanksgiving and before Hallowe'en, which I was already starting to Humbug about last year when I found the magazine. But maybe they weren't aspiring Jack o' Lanterns, maybe they were the basis for pumpkin pies?!?

Perhaps I'd better go and dig that magazine up and see how many rusty browns I have in my stash; perhaps that pattern is right up my alley! Have a great time quilting now that Hallowe'en has passed for another year!

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.

1. The Common Thread Quilt Guild collects monthly donations of *Cuddle Quilts* for use on the isolettes at the General Campus. 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. **Two hundred and twenty-five** were turned in at the September meeting. **A big thank you to Kay Williams for the donation of 196!**

Remember how we had to cancel the December meeting last year due to winter weather? Anyone wishing to give Christmas Cuddle Quilts must turn them in at the November

meeting. We already have a dozen, so feel good about that if you meant to make one but didn't have the time!

.....
SIZE MATTERS: 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".
.....

2. We support the *Victims of Violence* outreach program with young child/teen/adult themed Comfort Quilts (40" x 60".)
3. 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.

New for 2010

We have committed to making eleven 65" x 80" single bed quilts to donate to the *LifeHouse* program administered by the Ottawa Mission. These quilts are not given away to their clients, but are there to decorate the rooms and make them a happier place for the men enrolled in the five-month program.

How to help

We now have the last two kits ready to be assembled for the Mission: you get 99 striped squares, 99 batting squares, and 99 backing squares ready for you to quilt, join, and clip the seams. The target for donation is December. **Seven of the eleven quilts promised have been completed. Can you help with the last two?**

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.

Membership

Pauline McNally and Wendy Warren

Guild pins will be available at membership desk for \$5:00. Guests are always welcome to attend guild meetings. Guest fees are \$4:00. Membership fees remain at \$30:00. To date our total membership is 195.

Come May 2010 both Wendy and Pauline will be retiring from membership duties. Membership is part of the Executive Team and therefore plays an active part in Guild decisions. The Membership portfolio gives you the opportunity to be part of a team and to make new friends.

Team work has added benefits. Two years ago we both volunteered to help with membership not knowing each other. We soon formed a partnership and find it works very well. We find sharing duties gives us the freedom to travel and carry out our personal obligations while letting us be active participants in the guild administration. If you would like more information concerning the Membership Portfolio see Wendy or Pauline.

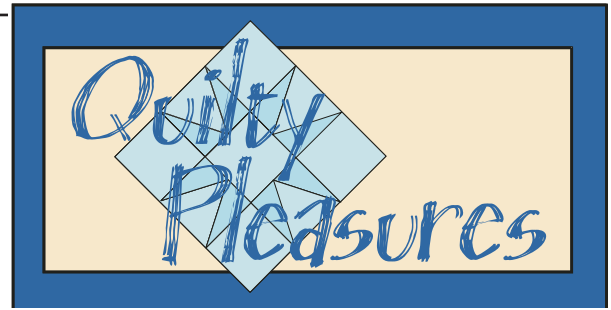
Challenge

Fantasy

ONE of my FANTASIES is ...sitting in my yellow mustang and Gerard Butler (300) sitting in the passenger seat. WOW that is a fantasy. But this is not what I'm going to do.

So far we have sold 36 fabric bags, 4 more to go. I hope we can sell these, please help us get to 40. Judy and I should be at a table again as there are still some fabric to be picked up.

Next month I'll tell you about **Catherine Patterson's** fantasy. LET ME KNOW YOURS



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ROAD TRIP

Textile Museum of Canada

Wendy Warren

My husband and I recently made a weekend trip to Toronto to celebrate our anniversary and to see the "Jersey Boys" musical, the story of Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons – very entertaining! I had forgotten how many wonderful songs they produced until this show reminded me ... apparently they are among the top 5 selling groups of the 1960s—the other four are the Beatles, Supremes, Elvis Presley, and the Rolling Stones. Pretty good company!

However, the point of this story is that while my husband visited the Hockey Hall of Fame, I made a trip to the Textile Museum of Canada to see the exhibit "Kaleidoscope". These antique quilts from the collection of Carole and Howard Tanenbaum are amazing! The exhibit includes crazy quilts, log cabin quilts, and many other pieced and appliquéd quilts. There is one signature quilt from New Hampshire in which some of the blocks include the age of the signer and the year that she signed the quilt. It was a truly magical and humbling experience for me to notice "Lucy Sawyer, 1890, age 96" and "Sarah Ann Sawyer, age 98, 1887"—these blocks were signed by women who were born in 1794 and 1789 respectively!

This is a great little museum in downtown Toronto and often has something of interest for quilters (I saw some Kaffe Fassett quilts there a few years ago). These 43 antique quilts are on display until March 21, 2010 and are well worth a visit.

You can read more about the museum and its other exhibits at www.textilemuseum.ca

Quilt Show 2010

There was a great response to the quilt show challenge last month. Many of you told me about a quilt you intend to make, or have made, as a gift, and that you intend to enter it into the quilt show. I would love to share your stories, but in order to be part of the quilt show challenge, YOU need to write it up/talk it up! Please send your stories to newsletter@commonthread.on.ca, or you can hand me your submission at a meeting. You can also let me know at a guild meeting if you want to verbalize your commitment.

I recently attended a weekend retreat, and was able to see some quilt show entries in the making. I know some will be part of the 2010 quilt show, and there are others that will be displayed in 'whichever show is after the date I finish'. (There are some very complicated quilts being constructed out there!) Whichever group your quilts fall into, I hope that you will share them with others. Everyone deserves a chance to 'ooh and aah', and every quilt deserves the praise!

Mark your calendar!!!

November 23 - 28, 2009

Julee's Pyjama Sale

Buy one item/metre at regular price and get a second item of same or lesser value at 85% off

... but ...

to get this discount you must come into the shop wearing P.J.s, curlers and bring a non perishable food item for the food bank. Its a hoot...lots of laughs, great buys, good fun and many friends

With the coming of Christmas this year, so comes the end of another chapter in the Osgoode Village history as I will be retiring and Julee's will close its doors for the last time.

I just wanted to take this opportunity to thank you for your friendship and support. It has been an honour serving you.

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THE COMMON THREAD QUILT GUILD NEWSLETTER

| Calendar of Events 2009 to 2010 Season | | |
|--|-------------------|---|
| November 10, 2009 | Regular meeting | Program: Christmas Social Shop of the month: Dragonfly Fabrics Fat quarter theme: Canadian, red and white |
| November 21, 2009 | Workshop | Chop Suey with Joan Ramsay Burn |
| November 27-29, 2009 | Retreat | NavCan (Cornwall) |
| December 8, 2009 | Special workshop | Fuji Wa with Helen Fujiki |
| December 8, 2009 | Regular meeting | Program: Helen Fujiki Shop of the month: Quilty Pleasures Fat quarter theme: holiday fabrics |
| January 12, 2010 | Regular meeting | Program: TBA Shop of the month: Aunt Beth's Quilt World Fat quarter theme: snowflakes and snowmen |
| January 23, 2010 | Workshop | Reversible Quilt with Joan Ramsay Burn |
| January 29-31, 2010 | Retreat | In-town |
| February 9, 2010 | Regular meeting | Program: TBA Shop of the month: Sew Inspired Fat quarter theme: bright and funky |
| February 27, 2010 | Workshop | TBA |
| March 9, 2010 | Regular meeting | Program: TBA Shop of the month: Running Stitch Fat quarter theme: green or blue Challenge quilts due by 9:00 |
| March 19-21, 2010 | Retreat | In-town |
| March 27, 2010 | Workshop | TBA |
| April 13, 2010 | Regular meeting | Program: TBA Shop of the month: The Country Quilter Fat quarter theme: children's fabric Voting for Challenge quilts |
| April 21, 2010 | Workshop | TBA |
| May 7, 8, 9, 2010 | Quilt Show | Gifts from the Heart |
| May 11, 2010 | Regular meeting | Program: TBA Shop of the month: Heirloom Quilts Fat quarter theme: florals |
| June 8, 2010 | Regular meeting | Program: TBA Shop of the month: Sew For It Fat quarter theme: Asian |