

## $\underset{\text { Linda Won }}{\text { President's Message }}$

Did you enjoy June's programme-the trunk show with the Lanark County Quilters? I certainly did! So much so, that I made a point of attending their quilt show in August called "Quilts on the Tay". It was a wonderful venue at the St. John Catholic High School in Perth, with lots of space to showcase some 200 traditional and contemporary quilts, wall hangings, wearable art, and challenge pieces, including a special display of quilts by 30 of Canada's best-known quilters from across Canada called "Kamloops to Halifax". As well as the usual Merchant Mall, I got to also shop at their Member Boutique and talked to the gentleman who was working at the Sewing Machine Clinic. When my back couldn't take the standing any longer, I got to sit and enjoy a lovely cup of tea with fresh baked pie. Oh! My!

It was a great day to take pleasure in another guild's success and think about what is up and coming for us. The Executive Committee has been busy. Barbara Till has planned four retreats this year-NavCan in November and three in-town events. Workshops are being scheduled and Programme nights lined up, one featuring Helen Fujiki in December. Yvette Lessard remains steadfast in keeping the secret of what will be this year's Challenge and when you least expect it, we have some surprises in store for you. However, our main focus this year is our own quilt show with its theme "Gifts from the Heart". The Quilt Show Committee is already working hard knowing that our membership will be ready to showcase their work.

## Next Meeting

September 8, 2009

## programme апееt Hope

Mary Ewing and Jane Leblanc will do a trunk show and presentation about the Quilts of Valour.

## shop of the month Julee's Homecrafts

 fat quarters theme Local Fall Fairs-Navan, Metcalfe, Richmond, Carp etc.-heritage fabricsin this issue
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| Executive |  |
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| Team |  |
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| Workshops | Sylvie Proulx |
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| 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

## Treat of the Month!

Just when you thought we had all the possible fun built into our meetings you find out that our fun-loving executive has come up with even more. Led by our illustrious Past-Past-President Cathy Sheldrick we have schemed up a goodie-giveaway we call 'Treat of the Month'.

Here's how it works:
We will select four months, randomly, to designate as Treat of the Month. These months will be kept a surprise for the members, you just won't know until you walk in the door and find you have won a prize.

The Shop of the Month will be providing (at our cost and maybe a bit of discount thrown in by the Shop) something they think will be fun, useful and/or interesting for people who quilt, as member of the Common Thread tend to be, and if you attend the meeting you get one!

We hope this will prove to be popular so be sure to tell us if you like the programme and be sure to turn up at meetings because that's how you get a prize.

## Cottage Industry Summer Contest 2009

## YOU STILL HAVE TIME TO ENTER-THREE KITS LEFT!!!

Last year, the summer contest produced 19 finished quilts and 26 tops! The contest this year will be run along the same lines: sign out a bag of fabric along with the pattern sheets. A finished top or quilt must be returned by the October meeting to win $\$ 50.00$ (quilt) or $\$ 10.00$ (top) at your favorite quilt store. This year, you can even return blocks and win $\$ 10.00$ ! Full rules and the patterns are available on the website. To win, you must register and use our fabric! (Of course, all quilts or tops turned in will be gratefully received and used for one of our outreaches.)

## Quilt Show 2010

Shirley Geiger
Did you notice yet? There is a Quilt Show link on the Common Thread website. That must mean this a quilt show year! It is months away (May 2010), but in quilter's time that means you better start thinking about your entries NOW! It always amazes me how I can know the date of the show years in advance, but still end up pressured to finish the quilts on time!

We want you to use the website to keep up-to-date. You can easily check the link to verify show dates, times, etc. Deadlines will be posted. Next month we will have the categories and quilt sizes up. Bookmark it and check in monthly.

This year, the theme of the quilt show is Gifts from the Heart. We'll make special mention of quilts that are gifts-whether given to Community Projects, friends and family, or gifts to ourselves. There will be a fun challenge issued next month related to the theme, something to urge you to enter your quilts -we need quilts to put on a quilt show!

So please, start working on your quilts. Your efforts will make our show a success.

## Retreats

Barb Till
I hope you are having a great summer despite the weather!

While it's a bit warm yet to be thinking about weekends of marathon sewing, the truth is, initial planning has started.

Our first retreat is October 16 18th. As with our last few in-town retreats, meals will be provided. Cost is $\$ 55.00$ and you can sign up at the September meeting.

Tentative plan for meals: Friday dinner
Moroccan stew, couscous, green salad

Saturday lunch
cold cuts and salads

## Saturday dinner

lasagna (both meat and vegetable), green salad,

## Sunday lunch

Quinoa salad and any left-overs you fancy

We'll have fruit and muffins for snacking. Bottled water will be provided and there will also be wine for dinner. If you prefer soft drinks, please bring them yourselves.

I'll also be taking names for the NavCan retreat in November; we've booked Nov 27-29th-the cost is $\$ 270.00$ (last year's cost was $\$ 266.20$ ); we'll need a $\$ 50.00$ deposit; full payment is due Nov 10th, 2009.

## $\underset{\text { Whrwie Poulk }}{\text { Works }}$

Hello everyone. We have an exiting year ahead with 7 planned worshops, the first one October 24—Appliqué Techniques with Vicky Van der Linden. Come and learn about the different ways to appliqué by hand and machine.

## Special Workshop!!!

On Tuesday December 8, we're offering a workshop with Helen Fujiki who will be our program presenter at our guild meeting that evening. Helen specializes in Asian inspired quilting. Here's how she describes her Fuji Wa workshop:
"Fuji Wa" is my style of combining patchwork, panels, and appliqué (Broderie Perse and conventional machine and hand appliqué) to create Asian inspired hangings. The whole system provides you with an unlimited amount of freedom to use techniques you love to do! You get to cut loose! No rights and wrongs if it is what you want to express.

Note that this workshop is for experienced quilters. If you want more information on Helen and her technique, then browse her web site and be prepared to be inspired: http://helenfujiki.com/ Welcome.html.

# 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 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.
2) We support the St. Mary's Community Outreach Centre with baby/child themed quilts (anything from $30^{\prime \prime} \times 40^{\prime \prime}$ to $40^{\prime \prime}$ x 60 "). The young mothers benefit from counseling and instruction.

## NEW FOR 2010

Some members like to donate a complete quilt. Some members like to donate fabric. The bags of fabric that are available at the Community Projects table are the starting point for the majority of the quilts that we give. We do not spend your money on fabric-we use what comes to us. Over the years, we have assembled quite a selection of male-themed fabrics and colours which we would like to use to make eleven $65^{\prime \prime} \times 80^{\prime \prime}$ single bed quilts to donate to the LifeHouse program administered by the Ottawa Mission.

SIZE MATTERS: Check out the new size requirements for cuddle quilts. For optimum utility, please make your quilts $18^{\prime \prime} \times 24^{\prime \prime}$, or make them $22^{\prime \prime}$ 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 $18^{\prime \prime} \times 24^{\prime \prime}$.
2) We support the Victims of Violence outreach program with young child/teen/adult themed Comfort Quilts ( 40 " x 60".)

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.

## WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP:

1) Go through your stash and donate home-spun woven fabric for ragg quilts.
2) Go through that stash and donate male-themed or coloured fabrics. Go aheadbe sexist and give us dull colours, fall colours, geometrics— anything that looks like grampa's pajamas!

# Laurentian Quilters' Guild Quilt Show 

September 25 to 27
12, Chemin des Skieurs Saint-Sauveur, Québec

- Over 100 quilts
- Olympic challenge with a guild from British Columbia
- Raffle quilt
- Tea room, craft table, vendors and demonstrations

Admission $\$ 5.00$

## Times

Friday-10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday-10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday-10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

## From the Membership Desk

Wendy Warren and Pauline McNally
We will be set up in the lobby to accept registration for 09/10 membership year.

If you were a member last year and there are no changes to your personal data then you do not need to complete a registration form.

The ladies at the desk will accept your cheques or cash, and ask you to verify data and initial before your name confirming that you agree to an audit review of the books rather than a full audit.

You will then be issued a receipt and new membership card.
Please have exact change or a cheque ready. Membership is $\$ 30.00$. A extra fee of $\$ 10.00$ is charged if you choose to have newsletter mailed;

Guests are always welcome to attend guild meetings. Guest fees are $\$ 4.00$.

Note: When signing in please have your new red membership card ready......to avoid delays.


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

Tel.: (613) 834-3044


## Frances O'Neill <br> Quilter

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Your membership team
Wendy Warren and Pauline McNally

## THE COMMON THREAD QUILT GUILD NEWSLETTER

# Quilt Musings for September 2009 

from the typewriter of Jane Maddin

How long does it take you to pick out the fabric for your quilt (or whatever project you are about to work on)? I have been thinking about this lately. Perhaps I'm not typical - it takes me quite awhile, and this was driven home to me at the beginning of the summer. A very dear friend of mine has a wonderful husband who has plumbing skills (hey, a guy with 'skills' is a pearl beyond price!) and she lent him out to my husband (who has a different skill set - one that, unfortunately doesn't include plumbing!) and I when our house was on the market this past April. The payment is always some kind of trade - and since I quilt, I try to steer the payment from sewing (which is not my favourite or forte) to quilting which I LOVE to do.

So the 'fee' was decided upon - 6 quilted placemats. So we needed to buy 6 batik fabrics, 3 lights and 3 darks, and we had a sample of a colour that went with her kitchen - how hard could that have been, right?

When I pick out fabrics I have (so far) always gone into the fabric shop with the pattern that $I$ intend to do. I don't very often purchase fabric just because I like it - needless to say, my stash isn't very large, as these things go. And I always have an idea of the colour that I want the finished product to be. (This isn't always the colour of the finished quilt, mind you. Sometimes I get into the fabric shop and fall in love with some other colour, and the quilt changes right before my mind's eye...)

So, once I'm in the shop, with my pattern, I find ONE fabric that I love. And then I match the other fabrics up with it. Once in awhile this means that the fabric that I love doesn't end up in the quilt. I pull bolts, I make little piles
on the cutting tables, $I$ put them in 'order', and then I move them around. Sometimes the piles of bolts get to be REALLY tall, and sort of 'woven' so I can make sure that the colours aren't going to clash between pieces.

At no time have I ever had ANYONE who works in a Quilt Shop betray the teensiest bit of impatience with this process. (Which has led me to believe, possibly erroneously, that this is not an uncommon process...) My friend began to lament that her placemats were NEVER going to happen - we just weren't going to be able to find 6 fabrics that 'worked'! I assured her that we would find the perfect match, we would just pull some more bolts out (including some that we had put back, because they didn't 'work', but we had changed some other colour, and maybe they would 'work' NOW!)

You know how time seems to speed by when you are doing something you enjoy?
(Picture one week on a wonderful cruise ship visiting beautiful tropical beaches, with perfect turquoise water and white sand beaches, as opposed to two hours in the dentist's chair having a root canal!)

I don't know how long it took as I LOVE choosing fabric and I had faith that we would indeed find the 'perfect' match before we left the store. In the end, we did find a beautiful combination, I bought some 'extra' for my stash AND I'm pleased to report that the placemats are done, delivered, and I've seen them in her kitchen and the fabrics were PERFECT!

Happy fabric shopping! Yours in quilting, Jane Maddin.

## THE COMMON THREAD QUILT GUILD NEWSLETTER

## Cuddle Pillows

An ongoing project for our guild to provide a comforting padding for under IVs and as pillows for small heads for CHEO.
The pillows are easy to make, and a great way to use up leftover scraps of batting and soft materials of washable fabrics such as: flannel, fleece and $100 \%$ cottons. They can be cotton on one side and flannel on the other, or all cotton, or all flannel or fleece.
They can take many shapes and sizes. Rectangles and squares are best suited, in sizes from 7"x12" to 12 "x16", or 9"x9" to 16 " $\times 16$ " respectively.
The larger they are, the more batting you should use. This means batting should be doubled or tripled to give them some bulk.
Place the fabric, right sides together, lap batting on top, stitch around three sides, turn right side out and sew the fourth side. Then tack every couple of inches, with machine stitching length set on "0" and a small zigzag. Please note: there can be no seams in the middle of the pillow.

## Good Sam Club

We are still collecting denim for quilts for the Adolescent Unit at CHEO so bring in your old jeans, skirts, vests and shirts or any fabric that you would like to get rid of and you think they might like!

The following is a letter received by our president. We are passing on the information and you can decide for yourself if you would like to participate.

Dear Quilters,
Who doesn't love a good quilting story?
I sure do-and that's why I am in the process of developing a book filled with quilt stories that represent the voices of quilters from the many guilds currently operating in Ontario. I hope you will share your favorite quilting story with me so I can share it with hundreds, perhaps thousands, of other quilters in Ontario.

Individually, we quilters are as unique as snowflakes, but together, our passion for quilting makes us all so much alike.

When I began researching my idea for this book, I discovered that there are more quilt guilds existing in Ontario than I had realized. As a quilting enthusiast and closet stash-collector J, as well as a professional writer, I've been bitten by a "need bug:" a need to know more about the many other quilters around me, and a need to introduce us all of us to each other through the stories we have to tell. (And, yes, every person does have a story to tell.) Our stories are our voices, and through them, we can connect with each other, no matter the distance that separates us.

What are my requirements?
I am looking for stories that are happy, sad, hilarious or just plain entertaining.

Your story can be about you, a quilt you made for yourself or a family member or a friend, your stash, your quilt guild, a quilting event you attended-just as long as the theme remains centered on quilting.

You can write a couple of paragraphs, or you can write a few pages.
You can send your story to me via email or through regular mail, whichever is more convenient for you. I have included both my mailing and email addresses below.

I thank you in advance for participating in this exciting project, and I look forward to reading your story!

Donna M. Marrin
8 Fry Court
Markham, Ontario L3P 4G9
donna.marrin@staples.ca
www.markhamvillagewriters.com


Upon presentation of this ad, you will receive $\mathbf{1 0 \%}$ off any quilting services.


## Fat Quarter Club

At each meeting you will find the Fat Quarter Club table. It's a fun, monthly opportunity to build your stash, (or give a little away) and win a batch of fat quarters with a changing theme. All you have to do is bring a fat quarter that relates to the monthly theme and when you bring it to the Fat Quarter Table, Sue Ann, Liz or Cathy will give you a ticket for the draw. One ticket per fat quarter. What you do with all those fat quarters is up to you, but.... if you are a winner and make at least a lap quilt or larger out of those fabrics, then bring your creation to the June 2010 meeting for display and there will be another draw for a $\$ 25$ gift certificate! It's win! win! win! And fun! fun! fun! Winners from the previous May/June can enter into the June 2010 draw too. It will be exciting to see the finished quilts!

This year's themes are a celebration of Ottawa's Culture and Festivals.

## September

Local Fall Fairs: Navan, Metcalfe, Richmond, Carp etc.-
heritage fabrics

## October

Canadian Folk Music Awards—musical fabrics

## November

Remembrance Day—Canadian, red and white

## December

Holiday Celebrations—holiday fabrics

## January

Winterlude-snowflakes and snowmen

## February

Caribe-Expo (Ottawa Carribean Festival)—bright and funky

## March

Ottawa Irish Festival and Bluesfest-greens and blues

## April

Ottawa International Children's Festival/CHEO Telethon—children's fabrics

## May

Canadian Tulip Festival—florals

## June

Ottawa Dragon Boat Race-Asian

Challenge
Thanks again to everyone for making last season's challenge a success! Now it's time for another challenge. At the September meeting I'll be sitting at a table (hopefully with Judy Carey) taking names. I'll be making up 40 bags of fabric, at $\$ 12.00$ ea. Last year we sold 38. Fabric bags will be handed out at October meeting.

The prizes will be the same: first-\$50.00, second-\$40.00, third- $\$ 30.00$ plus four consolation prizes of $\$ 15.00$ each.

Wall hangings will be due by 9pm, March 9 meeting. Rules will be in fabric bags plus they will also be listed in October's newsletter

## Library

I'm looking for input on what books would interest guild members. If you have any suggestions, please contact me (Del Jazey) via e-mail from the website or talk to me at a meeting.

## Victoria's Quilts Canada

invites you to join us for our annual

## Quilt-a-Thon

Meet old colleagues, make new friends, and enjoy the cooperative spirit as we cut, press, and sew our way through many quilts. Last year, we made well over 130 quilts, and this year we're hoping to surpass that number.

When: Saturday, October 17, 2009 Check-in at 8:30 a.m.

Where: Orleans United Church 1111 Orleans Boulevard Orleans, Ontario

Cost: A $\$ 12$ fee will help defray the costs of purchasing quilting supplies for the event. Lunch will be provided.

How: Fill in the registration form on our website at www.victoriasquiltscanada.com and submit it online, or print it out and send it, with a cheque for $\$ 12.00$ to: Victoria's Quilts Canada, 454-1568 Merivale Road, Ottawa, Ontario K2G 5Y7

If you are a member of Victoria's Quilts Canada, you may give your registration form and fee to your group leader.

Remember: Registration closes October 2. Registration is limited and will be awarded on a first come, first served basis.

For more information, please contact Victoria's Quilts Canada at (613) 843-9212 or visit our website at www.victoriasquiltscanada.com.

## Russell Fair Competition

Local agricultural fairs always include a quilt competition. The Guild sponsors a class at the Russell Fair held September 1113, 2009. There are many other quilt categories to enter in as well. Call the secretary Allen Anderson at 613-445-2155 to order an entry book. Talk to Victoria VanderLinden if you have any questions.

## Special Sponsored by the Common Thread Quilt Guild

Pieced and/or Appliquéd bed quilt, minimum perimeter 240"; any quilting method: hand, domestic machine, or longarm. Written credit for design and quilting required. Prize money: \$50.00, \$35.00, \$15.00. Entry forms must be in the hands of the Fair Secretary by Friday, September 4, 2009. Entries must be dropped off Wednesday September 9 between 6 and 8 PM, or Thursday September 10 between 8 and 9 AM.

NOTE: the deadline for submissions from our Guild has been extended to accommodate our meeting date on September 8. Bring your quilt, entry fee and information to the meeting and Victoria will deliver it all.

