



**Common Thread Quilt Guild**

# **Annual Report**

**For the year ending  
June 30, 2023**

**Presented at the AGM, November 14, 2023**

## **President's Message 2023**

Laura Evans

2022-23 was a year of recovery and amnesia with a bit of post traumatic syndrome. We as society, and as a Quilt Guild, were emerging from Covid-19 lockdown isolation. Were we to return to life as it was before the pandemic or adapt to new protocols and new ways of doing things? With true quilters' style, we pieced together what works for us.

I congratulate all the members of the Common Thread Quilt Guild and especially those who played leadership roles. You have shown that the Guild matters. We share our enjoyment of quilting in person and virtually. I think of Sew Days and Retreats as times we connected/reconnected. By the increasing attendance at our monthly meetings, I know that friendships have once again flourished. We took part in the popular Upper Canada Village's community quilt display. It took planning, collaboration and the generosity of time to make these all happen.

The huge number of quilts of all sizes donated to our Community Programmes shows that we care about others too. Thank you to all who thought of the women in shelters, the seniors in residences, the newborn babies. Their lives are warmer and more beautiful because of you.

Behind the scenes our Guild is well managed. We have secured MIFO for another year as well as booking Notre Dame des Champs for activities coming up. The City of Ottawa has been a good support for us. We are financially sound and I thank our Treasurer for her clear money management.

The Executive met monthly, except for the night of the spring ice storm. Zoom has served us well. This format allowed us to welcome Executive members whether they were in Florida, Arizona or Orleans! Just as we appreciated having our monthly members meeting on Zoom for January and February, so too have virtual Executive meetings been effective without the driving.

I have enjoyed being President of our Common Thread Quilt Guild. I encourage everyone to get involved in one way or another with the Guild. By participating I have gotten to know more of you and shared some of your quilting story. Now I look forward to supporting Diane Grover as she takes over as President.

## **Annual General Meeting (AGM)**

Tuesday, November 15, at 7:30pm

At MIFO, Ottawa

Diane Grover, Vice President, Common Threat Quilt Guild called the Annual General Meeting to order. She is filling in for the President who is away. Diane reminded members that they had received an electronic copy of the Annual Report and Financial Document two weeks before the meeting. She reviewed the highlights of the report. There were no questions from members. Joan Blois moved that the Annual Report and Financial Review be accepted as circulated. Seconded by Janice Namiesniowski. Passed.

Business Meeting adjourned.

## **Guild Executive Election**

Tuesday, June 13, 2023

At MIFO, Ottawa

Laura Evans, President, called the Business meeting to order and welcomed all members present. She presented a rose as thanks to outgoing members, some who have served for many years:

Sandra Baynes	Gisele Pilon
Shelley Campagna	Cathy Sheldrick
Shirley MacFadden	Pam Simons
Carole Maisonneuve	Lynn Strban
Carol Nicholson	Wendy White
Paula Petterson	

Diane Grover, Vice President, presented the following slate for the 2023-24 Common Thread Quilt Guild executive and Committees:

President	Diane Grover	changed position, was Vice-President
Vice-President	vacant	
Past President	Laura Evans	changed position, was President
Secretary	Leslie Pelletier	NEW
Treasurer	Libby McRobbie	returning
Quilt Show	Janice Namiesniowski	returning
Library	Janice Namiesniowski & Judy Lorre	returning
Retreats	Anne Lacasse	NEW
Newsletter - Editor	vacant	
Newsletter - Billing/Advertising	Roberta Ronayne	returning
Membership	Susanne Martin	returning
Community Projects	Lynn Bradley & Maria Fleming	NEW
Programme	Rhonda Thibault & Susan Thibault	returning
Workshops	Laura Malo	NEW
Sew Days	Lynn Bradley	NEW
Website Administrator	Sonia Latchman	returning

### **Non-Executive**

Fat Quarters Club	Del Jazey & Susan Baker	returning
Challenge	Diane Grover	returning
Shop of the Month	Lisa Fedak	returning

There were no nominations from the floor. The slate was acclaimed by the membership. The new Executive was welcomed by a round of applause.

The Business meeting was adjourned.

Note: The position of Newsletter Editor was filled by appointment in August 2023 by Marian Burke.

## Financial Report for 2022-23

Treasurer: Libby McRobbie

Note: The following Financial Statement for 2022-23 is presented as a true statement. The entire statement and supporting documents were sent for external Review and were not received in time to be circulated. The Reviewers statement and any changes that are required to meet good accounting standards are not reflected in this statement and will be presented at the Annual General Meeting.

The Final Reviewed Financial Statement will be posted on the Guild website.

### Balance Sheet 2023

	2023	2022
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Cash	<b>23,181</b>	28,166
Short-term deposit	<b>16,556</b>	16,479
Prepaid rent	<b>5,280</b>	0
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>45,017</b>	44,645
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>		
Accounts payable	<b>610</b>	0
Deferred revenue	<b>3,120</b>	3,324
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>3,730</b>	3,324
Retained Earnings beginning of period	<b>41,256</b>	39,692
Net Income (loss) for the period	<b>31</b>	1,629
<b>Retained Earnings, end of period</b>	<b>41,287</b>	41,321
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>	<b>45,017</b>	44,645

## Income Statement

	Year Ended Jun 30, 2023	Year Ended Jun 30, 2022
<b>REVENUES</b>		
Guest fees	245	15
Guild pins and nametags	400	216
Library fines and fundraising	250	343
Membership	7,070	7,735
Newsletter advertising	2,048	1,900
Quilt Show	0	19,327
Retreats	12,946	4,881
Sew days	322	416
Fundraising	1,838	550
Term deposit interest	77	105
Workshops	2,839	5,108
Misc income	211	0
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<u><u>28,247</u></u>	<u><u>40,596</u></u>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Bank charges	24	90
Challenge (includes prizes)	225	0
Community Projects	1,704	1,572
Equipment Lending	420	0
Guild pins and nametags	509	119
Insurance (via CQA)	311	0

Library	<b>196</b>	88
Membership	<b>318</b>	199
Newsletter	<b>0</b>	0
Office and general	<b>1,452</b>	1,383
Programme	<b>3,523</b>	4,800
Quilt show	<b>(250)</b>	15,548
Rent	<b>3,720</b>	4,299
Zoom	<b>113</b>	0
Retreats	<b>10,467</b>	5,634
Sew days	<b>413</b>	493
Fundraising	<b>1,220</b>	450
Website	<b>81</b>	118
Workshops	<b>3,769</b>	4,173
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>28,215</b>	<b>38,966</b>
 NET INCOME (LOSS) FOR THE PERIOD	 <b>31</b>	 1,630

## **Membership Committee**

Chair: Susanne Martin

This year saw a count of 213 members of the Common Thread Quilt Guild for 2022-2023 term, 169 returning members and 44 new members. Twenty-eight members received free membership through their Guild Executive or Quilt Show Executive efforts attributed to the prior year (2021/22).

A number of membership updates were undertaken this year: easier e-transfer instructions assisting half of the membership to join or renew online; 9 new members joining in May and June were granted membership through to June of the following year; and the Membership rate for next season is \$40.00 with guest fees remaining the same. Both the application and website were updated.

Monthly attendance at the eight MIFO center on-site meetings averaged 80 members plus 6 guests. Larger member turnouts were experienced in the spring months but still holding slightly under 100 people. January and February remain as zoom meetings.

Many thanks to those members whom assisted at the membership table this year. And heartfelt Thanks! to Quilty Pleasures Quilt Store in Orleans for giving four fat quarters and friction pens for each months' door prizes to members and guests attending the in-person meetings.

## **Programmes**

Committee Chairs: Susan Thibault & Rhonda Thibault

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. This year we returned to in-person meetings at MIFO except Zoom was our method of presentation for January and February! Thank you for your attendance and I hope you enjoyed our monthly roster.

This year's programme was as follows:

- September:

### **Marie-Claire Charette**

Marie-Claire Charette, a.k.a. La Quilting Coach, spent most of her professional career to assist managers and executives develop their leadership skills. Marie-Claire invests time in her other passion which is sharing her love of quilting. What she has discovered is that her two passions complement each other. In her opinion, quilting can be more than a quilt on a bed but a path to self-discovery, building strong relationships and even healing.

- October:

### **Cathy Price and Carol Darou**

Cathy and Carol have been quilting for over 15 years, and love showing their quilts. They are both members of the Lanark County Quilters Guild and enjoy being involved in various ways and taking

advantage of everything a guild has to offer. Their trunk show was QUILTS!! They shared many examples of their quilts and discussed their different styles.

- November:

**Michael Rikley-Lancaster | Executive Director/ Curator**

Michael is the Executive Director/Curator of the Mississippi Valley Textile Museum.

Michael presented a “trunk show” of quilts and coverlets from the Mississippi Valley Textile Museum artifact collection. He was accompanied by Master Weaver Roberta Murrant. They presented each artifact and talked about ways to identify the age/ era of the artifact with fun engaging discussion with participants.

- December:

**Guild Christmas Social**

- January: via Zoom

**Johanna Masko**

This month our speaker was Johanna Masko. She shared with her practical modular quilting techniques to complete even very large quilts, on your own, at home. Efficient construction techniques that speed the creative process while also preserving a high level of craftsmanship are a focus in Johanna’s work.

- February: Via Zoom

**Berene Campbell**

THE SANCTUARY OF MADNESS

Berene Campbell discussed how recent current events have driven her to work harder than she has ever worked before in an attempt to find light at the end of the tunnel. In the process she found not only light, but huge personal growth and wonderful community as she scattered seeds of love and hope both far away and right in her own back yard.

- March:

**Cathy Hamilton**

Cathy Hamilton is an award-winning quilter, born and raised south of Ottawa. She is the manager at Sew-Jo’s and also teaches embroidery software, quilting and sewing classes for them as well as creating patterns.

Cathy presented a trunk show of some of the many quilts she has created, starting with the one she made as a teenager.

- April:

**Grace Noël**

Grace Noël is an Ottawa-born surface pattern designer who currently lives in Almonte, Ontario.

Grace is frequently inspired by nature and vintage items, and shared with us her love of creating surface patterns for fabric, wallpaper, apparel, and home décor products.

- May:

**Jennifer Houlden**

Jennifer is a textile artist by passion. She creates one-of-a-kind art quilts, modern & traditional quilts, memory quilts as well as design patterns and custom quilts. In 2011 she developed her own label, Quilts by Jen and began teaching, lecturing, designing and creating for herself and others.

Colour, texture and movement are elements that make art come alive. She uses both traditional and non-traditional techniques as well as a variety of textiles, fibres and other embellishments. She shared with us many of her quilts while she discussed the use of colour and values.

- June:

**Kirstin Fearon**

Kirstin has been quilting for more than 25 years and is a member of our guild. She shared some of her quilting journey, doing some studying to prepare to be a quilt judge and some of the things she has learned. She shared what judges look for when reviewing quilts. And finally, she had some of her quilts, live – for us to critique along with her.

**Guild Challenge**

Coordinator: Diane Grover

The Guild Challenge was “A Sign of the Times” which asked members to make a small quilt using symbols, colours, numbers associated with their astrological month sign and their Chinese birth year animal. Resources were provided on line and hard copies to spark ideas to combine elements of both. Quilts were presented at the May meeting with a participation prize awarded.

**Shop of the Month**

Coordinator: Lisa Fedak

Company Name	Month Book
Sew-Jo's	13-Sep-22
Quilters Barn and Gifts	11-Oct-22
Quilt et Coton	15-Nov-22
Happy Wife Quilting	13-Dec-22
Stitch by Stitch	10-Jan-23
Mad Moody Quilting	14-Feb-23
Quilty Pleasures	14-Mar-23
Paisley Quilt Shop	11-Apr-23
Ron's Fabrics	09-May-23
Watergirl	13-Jun-23

**CTQG Library**

Co-Librarians: Janice Namiesniowski and Judy Loree

The Common Thread Quilt Library currently has a catalog of 417 quilt books, 214 quilt magazines, 11 quilt rulers and 15 quilt themed fiction novels. The library is available to all current CTQG members, at the beginning the evening on the monthly Guild meeting. The actual books/magazines are held in a locked cupboard at the MIFO centre. It must be set up on tables and put away each evening,

and takes 3-4 people to do so. The library is set up and open from 6:30-7:20pm. Members may take out up to 4 books and 4 magazines for one month. Late fees are \$1 per item, and members are responsible for the replacement cost of a lost book. The total sum of overdue fees collected amounted to \$118.00, this goes towards new books. Attendance, while not actually counted was fairly steady over the hour of operation; with a goodly number of books taken out each month.

In April 2023 a Book Culling / Inventory was performed. Any library item that had not been checked out since 2018 was removed from the inventory. A total of 166 books, 8 novels and 75 magazines were removed. This resulted in much needed space in the library cupboard for future purchases of new books. The magazines were placed on the Guild on the "Quilter's Recycling Table" and all were taken. At the June meeting, a Book Sale was held for the culled books, the Book Sale made \$132.00, which will be put towards purchase of new books.

The library takes donation of books but no magazines. Magazines are declining in popularity for check out. Donation books must be with 10 years of publication for acceptance (logic being current literary value.) From the books donated, 64 were added to the library catalogue; at zero cost to the guild. Of note; we did not spend the all of the allowed library budget (only \$31.30 of \$500) due to lack of storage space in the library cupboard. Post Inventory/culling now gives us this room.

In conclusion, the CTQG Library is an appreciated resource to our Quilting Membership. It was a great year.

### **Community Projects**

Committee Co-Chairs: Carole Maisonneuve and Lynn Strban

As in past years, Community Projects continues to be supported by the generosity of its members. Lynn and I would like to take this time to thank all its members (and non-members) for their continued support. You have changed lives in a positive way by:

- \* donating your quilting services,
- \* donating your time to the making of quilt tops,
- \* assisting us in the activities of "kit preparations" and,
- \* occasional fabric donations.

During this past year Community Projects added two new charities to the list of those that we donate our quilts to. These new charities are 1) the Psycho-Social Oncology Program, Cancer Clinic which is part of T.O.H and the Montfort Hospital NICU.

Below is a summary of where the quilts received, during this past year (September 2022 – June 2023), were delivered:

- 308 Cuddle Quilts to the Ottawa General Hospital NICU and Post-Partum Nurseries,
- 50 Cuddle Quilts to the Montfort General Hospital NICU,
- 38 Bed Quilts to Interval House to the women and children sheltered there,
- 29 Bed Quilts to Cornerstone Housing for Women sheltered there,

- 21 Bed Quilts to Carty House for Refugee Women,
- 20 Children/Youth Bed Quilts to CHEO Long Term and Frequent Visitors Charity,
- 99 Bed Quilts to the YM/YWCA T.R.Y. Program: The TRY program provides low-cost housing support for women, men and their children who are homeless, or at risk of being homeless,
- 8 Baby Quilts to the Miriam Centre. They help young mothers/parents,
- 27 Wheelchair Quilts to the Perley Rideau Health Care Centre in support of seniors,
- 35 Wheelchair Quilts to the Osgoode Nursing Home in support of seniors,
- 4 Bed Quilts to the Hospice Care of Ottawa to support clients in palliative care,
- 11 Lap Quilts to the Psycho-Social Oncology Program. This program is part of the Ottawa Hospital Cancer Centre.

### **Retreats**

Committee Chairs: Paula Patterson and Wendy White

This past guild year, we were able to hold all 6 “in-town” retreats at the Notre-Dame-des-Champs Community Centre, 3659 Navan Road.

All retreats were back to normal with homemade meals.

The number of participants and dates were as follows:

- 27 – October 21-23, 2022
- 30 – October 28-30, 2022
- 26 – January 20-22, 2023
- 23 – January 27-29, 2023
- 21 – April 21-23, 2023
- 31 – April 28-30, 2023

### **CTQG Workshops**

Co-Chairs: Gisele Pilon and Sandra Baynes

This year only the Pet Portrait workshop was virtual, everything else was in person.

The following workshops were presented:

Pet Portrait (virtual)

Nov 19 & Dec 3, 2022

Instructor: John, Art East Quilting

14 participants

Barn Quilts

February 25, 2023

Instructor: Karyne Besso

15 participants

Square Peg – Round Hole

Instructor: Paul Leger  
March 18, 2023  
9 participants

Learning the Art of Sashiko  
Instructor: Kirstin Fearon  
April 1, 2023  
10 participants

Quilting with Rulers  
Instructor: Tara Starzomski  
May 6, 2023  
6 participants

Crumb Quilts  
Instructor: Chantal Richard  
May 31, 2023  
10 participants

### **Sew Days**

Cathy Sheldrick and Shirley McFaddon

No Frills Sew Days provide an opportunity to work on projects in the company of others. During in-person Sew Days, any member is welcome to come use the Accu-Quilt GO cutting machine and dies. Sew Days were held monthly from October to June. November, April, May and June were held in-person at the Notre Dames des Champs community centre. The other months were hosted on zoom.

### **Fat Quarters "Club" Draws**

Coordinators: Del Jazey and Susan Baker

Fat Quarters had good participation this past guild year. It was fun to have members drop by for a chat while donating their fabric. We look forward to next year!

Remember to check the website or newsletter before each meeting to view our theme and bring a Fat Quarter.

### **Newsletter**

Editor: Pam Simons

The Newsletter was published 10 times, monthly from September to June, and was e-mailed to each member and posted on the Guild website.

### **Newsletter Advertising**

Coordinator: Roberta Ronayne

In 2022-23 our Guild was fortunate to have the support of this year of 22 advertisers contributing to our monthly newsletter. Included in this list are five (5) new advertisers: Ron's S Fabrics, Auntie Em's, Stitch by Stitch, Mad Moody Quilting Fabrics and Happy Stitch Quilt Co. The majority of all advertisers retail quilting fabrics and supplies. Five (5) offer longarm services. With the growing list of advertisers and the help of our Webmaster, the last page of the newsletter was updated to include a full list of advertisers and a regional map of their location. Guild advertising rates remain unchanged and the majority of advertisers pay by e-transfer. Going forward, the Guild will continue to solicit interested advertisers.

### **Website**

Committee Chair: Sonia Latchman and Shelley Campagna

Our website continues to evolve and be a good communication tool to guild communities. We regularly update our calendar to provide our membership reminders about retreats, workshops, sew days and guild meetings. The website also offers valuable information about membership, community projects and resources available to members such as the library inventory, the monthly newsletter, a map (and list) of our advertisers, and more.

The average monthly sessions were 453 by new and returning guests and the page views averaged 944 per month (down from 474 and 962, respectively, last year). Our web site is mobile friendly and is viewed on different types of devices. Approximately 55% of the visits were from desktops, 9% from tablets and 36% from mobile phones (as compared to 60%, 9% and 31% last year).