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Hello Everyone!

I hope you had a spooktacular October and a lovely Thanksgiving. It's my favourite time of the year!

We had a great October guild meeting with Jen Houlden's artistic display of quilts from her trunk show and a fun workshop the next day. The Community Quilting and Library sales were big draws. Thanks to everyone who supported these efforts as well as donating to Nonnina's Table and taking quilt tops home to finish for CQ. Bring your

cash to the November meeting for another CQ and Library sale!

Are you ready for our big Quilt Show on November 11 and 12? Taps will be played at 11:00 am on November 11 to honour Remembrance Day. Inside the show, there will be a wonderful array of quilts, a full marketplace of quilt shops and other stalls ready to welcome you, guest lecturers, a toonie sale (bring cash!), and much more. Thanks to everyone who has volunteered to help (*we still need you!*), submitted a quilt(s), or generally been involved. Advance ticket sales are on now. Please see the [home page of our website](#). More details are further along in this newsletter.

Here's a reminder about upcoming meetings – November, January, April, and May will be in person at Toronto Botanical Garden on the 3rd Tuesday of the month. Parking is free on guild meeting nights. February and March will be virtual meetings. There will likely be a joint meeting with Toronto Modern Quilt Guild in June. Mark these days in your calendar!

January is our Annual General Meeting where we elect our directors and

(Continued on page 2)



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Visit us at
www.yhqg.org

York Heritage Quilters Guild
PO Box 35510
2528 Bayview Avenue
North York, ON M4P 2Y4

WE NEED YOU!

It is said that it takes a village to raise a child. Well, it takes a guild to put on a successful quilt show. There are still some empty spaces on our volunteer schedule and we need you.

Please, right now, [click this link for our online volunteer sign up form](#). You will see where we still need help. [Read through the various job descriptions](#), then [complete our volunteer sign-up form](#) for whichever job(s) suits you.



Please be as generous with your time as you can. And, if you have an extra pair of hands at home that can help with set-up or take-down, why not turn this into a family activity? ;)

Volunteering has so many personal benefits: giving back to the guild, meeting new people, free entry with four hours of donated time, and even the opportunity to win spectacular bundles of fabric at the draw during our January meeting!

A CELEBRATION OF QUILTS XIV

Page 2



Our first in-person quilt show since 2017 is just around the corner. The committee is busy with last minute details and looking forward to hosting hundreds of visitors.

New this year is "**Quilter's Journey Passport.**" You'll find it inside the pamphlet that you'll receive at the welcome table after you've handed in your ticket or paid the entry fee. The passport identifies seven different activities going on at various locations throughout the building, such as our Quilt Display in the Floral Hall (that's where we have our meetings) and the Vendor Marketplaces both in the Garden Hall and upstairs in the Studios. But there are other locations too, so read your passport carefully and ask a volunteer if you are unsure. As you visit the various locations, get your passport stamped. Then, when you have all the spaces stamped, drop your passport into a box as you exit for your chance to win one of four door prizes—\$50 gift certificates for Len's Mills, one of our show sponsors.

I'd also like to thank our Show Committee for all their efforts over these past many months. They were ready to put on a show in 2020 but have patiently waited out the storm and geared up for 2022. My gratitude to Anne M., Leslie B., Irena H., Janet P., Chriss C., Jan R., Bev S., Joy T., Wendy D., Brandie W., France B., Lori D., Barb K., and Heather B., and to Jacintha B. and Deb L. who spread the word on our website and newsletter.

(Continued from page 1)

officers. Our wonderful executive team is mainly staying in place but there are some important roles to fill: Bookkeeper, Treasurer and Vice President. Please speak with Anne McLauchlan or me if you want to find out more about and get involved. And don't worry if you're new to quilting or the guild. I can attest it's doable, and a great way to meet nice people!

Our membership list for this guild year will be shared later in November. Thanks to Joanne Laing for getting it ready. Just a reminder that contact details are for personal use only and shouldn't be shared outside the guild.

Our Virtual Tuesdays offer lots of great social time and shared resources. The next meeting is on November 8 at 7:00 pm and the Zoom link will go out the weekend before.

It's hard to believe, but planning is already underway for our International Quilting Day in March. It's a joint effort with the Waterloo and Royal City guilds, so it's a great opportunity to meet more great quilters! Lucy Garvin is coordinating this event on behalf of the guild, so please let her know if you would like to help.

The Tula Pink Butterfly Quilt challenge has wrapped up and we hope to see some beautiful butterflies during IQD. Take care, and keep on quilting!

Heather Briant—President
yhqg.president@gmail.com

A CELEBRATION OF QUILTS XIV

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TBG Bloom Café

A variety of beverages, light lunch items, and baked goods will be available during the show at the TBG Bloom Café located in the Moriyama foyer on the second level. It's the perfect place to grab a snack while you rest and recharge.

Please note the café's operating hours during our show:
Friday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. & Saturday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

A Celebration of Quilts XIV Vendor Marketplace

What a fantastic lineup of quilt vendors we have lined up.

- [Ann's Fabrics & Sewing Centre](#)
- [Barb's Custom Quilts](#)
- [Canadian National Fabric](#)
- [DesBarres Chocolate](#)
- [Fabric Spark](#)
- [Hyggeligt Fabrics](#)
- [Kalidoscope of Quilts](#)
- [Kallisti Quilts](#)
- [Kawartha Quilting and Sewing](#)
- [Meerkat Shweshwe](#)
- [Ormcraft](#)
- [Quilter's Nine Patch](#)
- [The Cotton Harvest Quilt Shop](#)
- [The Quilted Ruby](#)
- [Watergirl Quilt Co.](#)

Guild Shop at Celebration of Quilts XIV

Friday, November 11 & Saturday, November 12, 2022

The Guild Shop provides a great opportunity for YHQG members to show and sell their "one of a kind" creations to show attendees, just in time for holiday gift giving! Any member who has a quilt hanging in the show is eligible to submit items for sale in the shop. You set the price and the guild retains 15%, so there's a nice fundraising element as well! New for this year, CQ is looking for donated items to sell in the shop.

The Guild Shop is an extension of the beautiful quilt display that's a showcase of our members' work. If you are showing a quilt in the display area, why not consider selling some of your creations in the guild shop. Email your request to participate and/or submit your completed inventory sheets directly [Joy Takahashi](#).

The shop is organized in categories—baby, kitchen, holiday—so items should fit into one of these groups and must be quilted or "stitched". Quilted items include small baby quilts, wall hangings (less than 30" x 40"), table runners, placemats, postcards etc. Non quilted items might be things like bags, oven mitts, pincushions, needle cases, aprons, fabric toys, holiday ornaments, etc. If you have a quilt 30" x 40" or larger, you can choose to price it and hang it in the display area. If it sells, the transaction will be processed in the shop, with 15% going to the Guild.

Important dates: Tuesday, November 1—last day to submit inventory sheet(s)

Thursday, November 10, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm—bring items to the shop

Saturday, November 12, 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm—pick up unsold items

[Visit the YHQG website for more information about the guild shop.](#)





Meetings from September through January will be held at the Toronto Botanical Garden. Our February and March meetings will be held virtually through the Zoom platform.

Doors will open at 6:45 pm. the meeting will begin at 7:00 pm, and run until 9:00 pm.

Invitations to the February and March meeting, which includes the link to the meeting, will be sent out a few days prior to each meeting.

Meetings will not be recorded this year.

If you need assistance to join the Zoom meeting, please contact one of the following people:

Apple users (MAC, iPad, or iPhone) user, please contact Chriss Coleman at either 289.383.0555 or quilts@chrisscoleman.ca

PC users, please contract Sandra Yen at 416.523.0488 or oudaze@hotmail.com

If you are unfamiliar with Zoom and its controls, you can view the [YHOG Zoom Orientation video](#) prior to the meeting. And if you still have questions, join the meeting early and one of our Tech Team will be happy to help.

Prior to joining the meeting, we ask that you turn off any computer notifications you have (on your email account, for example) so we won't have dinging and donging going on during the meeting.

Once the meeting begins, please mute yourself to eliminate background noises.

November 15

Marie-Claire Charette Picking up the Thread between Quilting & Coaching

Website: www.LaQuiltingCoach.ca

Marie-Claire Charette a.k.a. La Quilting Coach, has spent most of her professional career assisting managers and executives to develop their leadership skills. Now semi-retired, Marie-Claire invests more 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.



Tuesday, December 13

Potential Event: **Holiday Happening**

There is no guild meeting or Virtual Tuesday event planned for December.

While we were meeting virtually during the past two years, the guild hosted a virtual event in December to provide a forum for members to connect and socialize during the holiday season. The executive is in favour of this event, but this group and many others in the guild are focussed on November's Quilt Show and do not have the bandwidth to plan an additional event. If anyone is interested in taking on the leadership role for a virtual Holiday Happenings (planning, coordinating volunteers, hosting - with tech support provided by Chriss - thank you!, prizing, games, all with templates from prior years available) or even just hosting a more casual virtual sew along and social event that evening, please let Heather Briant know this week by Thursday, Nov 4.

Tuesday, January 17

Annual General Meeting & Community Quilting

The guild will hold its Annual General Meeting at the start of the meeting on January 17. Our president will lead us through all the guild's business and we will approve a new slate of Directors and Section Chairs.

Following the short business meeting, Community Quilting will have a hand-sewing activity for us to participate in while munching on delicious cookies.



February 21

Linda & Carl Sullivan
Tips for Precision piecing

Website: www.colourwerx.com

Stop being frustrated by your inaccurate 1/4" seam allowance or struggling to finish your pieced blocks to the correct size. In this one hour lecture Linda shares her best tips and tricks for fabric preparation, setting your machine up for stitchin' success, perfect pressing practices, favorite thread/needle choices and most importantly, tools and techniques for fine tuning and achieving your best 1/4" seam allowance.

A true believer that most of our 'piecing issues' can also be overcome while creating the quilt, she'll also demonstrate how to work your way through inaccurate seam allowances, persnickety seam intersections and a variety of other 'potential piecing hazards' to achieve beautiful results !



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Covid Hours: Tuesday & Thursday: 12 Noon to 5.00 pm

Saturday: 12 Noon to 4.00 pm

Normal Hours: Tuesday to Friday 9.00 am to 5.00 pm

Saturday 9.00 am to 4.00 pm

Library Donations

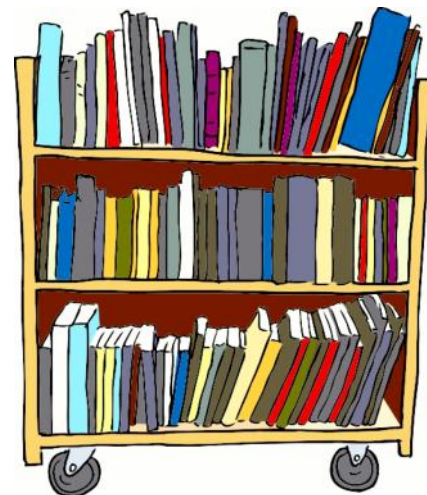
Due to our generous members and friends and until further notice, no books published before 2015 will be accepted. We simply don't have the storage space. This includes magazines. We will let you know when we can accept more pre-2015 donations. Many thanks to those of you who have donated—we do appreciate it.

Quilting Arts Magazine Sale!

There will be another library sale at the November meeting on the window side (south side) of our meeting room. We received a donation of *Quilting Arts* magazine issues #1 through #98 covering Winter 2001 through April/May 2019. They are in magazine holders with approximately 15-20 copies in each holder. Each holder is labelled on the front showing the issues numbers and dates of the issues it contains. If you would like to complete your home library, come prepared with your missing issue numbers or dates to help you find what you need. Each issue will be sold for \$5.00.

There will also be books for sale. Please come prepared with small change!

Shirley Stalford
Library Chair



Remember to set your
clocks back an hour on
Sunday, November 6...
an extra hour of quilting!



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Location

Check your workshop registration for location. Most of our in-person workshops will be held at the Toronto Botanical Garden. Virtual workshops will be held on the Zoom platform.

Workshop Hours

9:30 am to 3:30 pm, unless otherwise noted

Registration

Please note that workshop space is limited. Please sign up early. Your registration is not confirmed until payment is received.

Fees

Payment may be made by cheque, cash, [credit card \(Square\)](#) or by e-transfer to treasurer.yorkheritage@gmail.com.

Some workshops require a kit fee, which is payable with the registration fee. Kit requirements and fees are to be confirmed by the October meeting.

Cancellation fee is \$25.

Workshops Chairs

Leslie Batt

Lillian Perivolaris

I am delighted to report that a small but enthusiastic group had the pleasure of enjoying our first in-person workshop with Jen Houlden on October 19. The Icons on the Landscape class was fantastic! Four different designs were taught. Jen is an extremely skilled teacher. The two-day Zoom class, Mini Bargello Sunflower, was also excellent.

Next up is Marie-Claire Charette with her Quilt-As-You-Go Zoom class that will take place on two half-days, November 19 & 26.

Send any questions to workshops1819@gmail.com.

Marie-Claire Charette

www.laquiltingcoach.ca

Seven Quilt As You Go Techniques

When:

Saturday, November 19 and
November 26 (two half-day sessions)

9:00 am to 12:00 pm

Where: Zoom

Skill level: All

It is hard to squeeze a big quilt through the opening of a sewing machine but you can quilt it section by section and then assemble your quilt.



In this workshop, you will learn the advantages of each of seven QAYG techniques, how to choose the best technique to achieve the result you want, how to adapt a regular pattern into a QAYG and get stunning results.

At the end of the workshop you will have made a sample of each of the techniques so that you can make a binder for future reference.





Linda Sullivan
www.colourwerx.com

Colourbugs & Curves

When: Saturday, February 25
9:30 am to 3:30 pm

Where: Zoom

Skill level: All

Two techniques in one workshop! Both techniques come together in one workshop while working on this cute ladybug quilt!

In part one, Linda will guide students through her liberating and fancy-free slash 'n sew improv technique while making cute colour bug blocks. No 1/4" seams to follow, no rules, and stress free piecing.

Then in part two, she'll guide students through sewing perfect curves with her handy tips and tricks. After a few practice blocks, students are guaranteed to conquer their fear of sewing curves with no tears.

Pattern is included and will be shared a week beforehand.



Linda Sullivan
www.colourwerx.com

Strippin' & Stitchin' with Paint Box

When: Tuesday, February 28
9:30 am to 3:30 pm

Where: Zoom

Skill level: All

Easy strip piecing and triangles, combined with Linda's tips and tricks, allow students a stress-free project to perfect their 1/4" seam and cut the triangle shapes while making this fun and exiting new strip quilt.

Additionally, pulling together the supplies for this workshop couldn't be easier: just one 2 1/2 " strip roll plus two one yard cuts of coordinating fabric is all that is needed for this 48" x 48" quilt!

Pattern is included and will be shared a week beforehand.



WORKSHOPS

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Valerie Goodwin
ValerieGoodwinArt.com

Mapping Personal Places

When: Tuesday, March 28
9:30 am to 4:30 pm

Where: Zoom

Skill level: All

This workshop is all about learning to make a simple stitched map of a place that is special to you—*where you live*.

To make this map, you will use simple hand & machine stitches combined with silk organza, opaque fabric, and a bit of paint. You will create a small fibre art map that is 8" x 8" to 11" x 11".

Also covered, will be how to use the internet to find maps that will serve as your starting point. As we go along, you will see the potential of variations on the techniques I will teach you.

Some prep required, including sharing a map with Valerie in advance. So register early!

Places to find maps online:

[Snazzy Maps](#)

[Mappery](#)

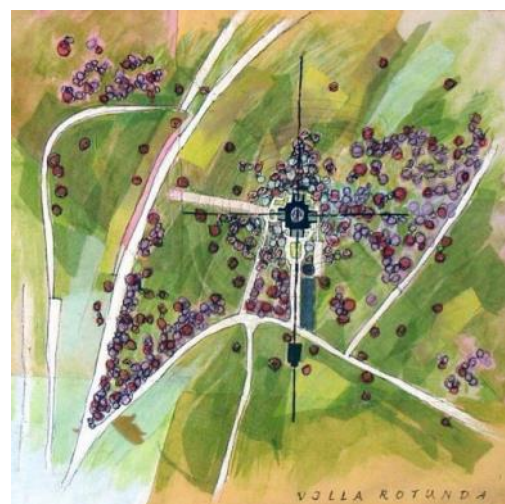
[Google Maps](#)

[Cadmapper](#)

[Google Earth](#)

[Stamen](#)

Some cities have their own GIS map sites. Try a Google search like GIS + Ontario or GIS + Toronto.



Workshop Registration is Open!

To register or enquire about any of the workshops, please email

workshops1819@gmail.com

Or visit us at

www.yhqq.org

Spaces are limited, so register early!

Some workshops require preparation or special supplies. Details will be sent to you after you register,

Register early so you can be ready!

GUILD CALENDAR

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Guild Calendar November 2022

Day	Date	Time	Activity
Monday	Weekly	9:00 am—3:00 pm	In-person CQ Sew-Along at Stan Wadlow
Tuesday	Weekly	9:00 am—3:00 pm	In-person CQ Group at East York Community Centre
Tuesday	Weekly	10:00 am—12:00 pm	Zoom CQ Sew-Along
Saturday	Weekly	10:00 am—12:00 pm	Zoom Sew-Along
Tuesday	November 8	7:00 pm—9:00 pm	Zoom Virtual Tuesday
Tuesday	November 15	7:00 pm—9:00 pm	Monthly Meeting In Person at TBG Marie-Claire Charette Picking up the Thread Between Quilting & Coaching
Saturday	November 19	9:00 am—12:00 pm	Zoom Workshop: Quilt As You Go Techniques (Day 1)
Tuesday	November 22	7:00 pm—9:00 pm	Guild Executive meeting
Saturday	November 26	9:00 am—12:00 pm	Zoom Workshop: Quilt As You Go Techniques (Day 2)



Please encourage your friends, family and neighbours to attend.
You can email the postcard to them.

COMMUNITY QUILTING

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Community Quilting Projects

- Prepared tops for quilting
- Block kits for piecing in three pattern choices
- Quilting kits of top, batting, and backing fabric
- Slab block kits/make your own

We have pick up/drop off locations around the city. Please call first to arrange a mutually convenient time.

North: Finch & Bathurst

Leslie Batt
416.221.5437 or cell 416.805.3237

Central: Yonge & Lawrence

Anne McLauchlan
416.817.1665

Midtown: Avenue Rd & Eglinton

Wendy Dines
416.486.8378

East: St. Clair & Kingston Road

Irena Hopper
416.320.5024

Community Quilting Groups

Join a virtual CQ sew-along on Tuesday or Saturday mornings. Zoom links are sent out to all members each week. Or join us in person on Mondays at Stan Wadlow Community Centre or Tuesday at the East York Community Centre. Check your email for registration information.

Community Quilting Chair

Anne McLauchlan

Our October meeting brought a wonderful haul of finished tops (some with backs and binding!) and quilts for our Community Quilting program. We'd like to thank all of our generous members, with particular thanks going to Rose A, Jacintha B, Deborah F, Del H Barb K, Gail L, Karen M, Judy M, Lee O, Bev S, Daniela T and Phoebe V. If we've missed naming you in this listing, please accept our thanks!

We also recognize the generous members of the guild who've donated items for sale in the guild shop at this November's Quilt Show. Our batting fund thanks you!

We also want to thank the many members who took home kits and quilt sandwiches from the October meeting, to finish for us. We couldn't run this program without you!

CQ raised over \$1,400 at its sale at the October 18th meeting. Thanks so much to everyone who indulged in retail therapy, and thanks to Bev S and her team of salespeople for all of their work. **The sale will continue in November. Bev promises more wonderful fabric finds, including silks!**

Community Quilting holds the following events each week.

Monday

In person meeting at Stan Wadlow Clubhouse, 373 Cedarvale Avenue, East York

Time: 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

If you're new to the group, please contact B.J. Reid at bjr.reid@yahoo.com to let her know you'd like to join the group

Tuesday

On-line from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Zoom invitations go out to all guild members, and any member can join in at any time.

In person meeting at East York Community Centre, 1081-1/2 Pape Avenue, East York

Time: 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

If you're new to the group, please contact Anne McLauchlan at annemarie.mclauchlan@gmail.com to let her know you'd like to join the group

Saturday

On-line from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Zoom invitations go out to all guild members and any member can join in at any time.

You don't have to attend CQ meetings in order to support our CQ efforts. Pick up a quilt sandwich or top kit (designed and cut by the wonderful Bev Stevens) at our monthly guild meetings or from one of our drop off locations, or donate a top or quilt made from your own stash. Fabric donations are also welcome!

CQ Drop Off Locations

If you have finished items (tops or quilts) which you'd like to get to CQ, but can't make it to a meeting, you can drop them off at any of the following drop off locations (call first to make sure someone will be there to accept them).

thank
you!

COMMUNITY QUILTING

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Nonnina's Table!

Nonnina's Table is an organization which provides meals to people in need who live in the Scadding Court Community Centre area. At Thanksgiving they provide turkeys and food baskets, and in December they provide food and gift baskets.

For the past several years, York Heritage has been supporting Nonnina's Table by providing quilts for children, teens and adults; personal care supplies; and toys for their gift baskets.

This year, Nonnina's Table has particularly requested personal care supplies (toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, shampoo, etc.) and quilts, with a bit more emphasis on larger quilts for adults and teens.

Donations of these items will be accepted at the November guild meeting.

Financial donations can also be made through the Scadding Court Community Centre website (just specify in the comments section that the donation is for the benefit of Nonnina's Table).

If you have any questions about whether or not a particular item is appropriate for donation, please [contact Anne McLauchlan](#).



CQ Fabric & Notion Sale

Bev Stevens will have more stunning fabrics, including silks, on offer at our November meeting. So don't forget your wallet and score some amazing deals! In the process, you'll help fund the CQ Batting Fund—win/win!

MEMBERSHIP

Welcome to our newest members who have just joined us.

Reminder: Please pick up your hot pink membership card as well as your badge at the membership table just before entering the meeting.

See you in November!

*Joanne Laing
Membership Chair*



VIRTUAL TUESDAY

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The second Virtual Tuesday (aka Scraps & Scrappy) was held on October 11. Jane C led us through the pattern/tutorial for the Plaid-ish Scrap Quilt by Kitchen Table Quilting hitting two topics at once: evaluating colour values and using up scraps and crumbs. Then Rosemary M told us about unconventional and less expensive sources for some common quilting tools.

At our next meeting on Tuesday, November 8, Brandie W will show us the basics of Kawandi quilting and share resources about it and other similar techniques.

All guild members are welcome to attend Virtual Tuesday Zooms at any time. The link will be sent in the regular YHQG email on the Saturday preceding the meeting. If you wish to receive the more detailed recap of each meeting, including additional links and resources and advance preparation for the next meeting, please send an "I'm In" email to yhgg.virtuالتuesday@gmail.com.

Lori & Brandie
Virtual Tuesday Co-Hosts



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Mississauga, ON



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quiltedmemories.ca



Joan H-V

What got you started in quilting?

I wanted to make a doll blanket quilt for my oldest daughter when she was two. I could sew the patches together, no problem. But I had no clue how to make it “puffy.” I saw an ad for a hand-quilting class in High Park in Toronto at Colborne Lodge, that was given by one of the interpreters—with the long dress, in the kitchen, the wood stove and the flat irons, and working on unbleached muslin. I took the course. I took the baby with me and a friend took her baby. We took this class once a week for about a month. That’s when I was hooked on the three dimensionality of quilting. And not just the three dimensionality, but also the meditative quality of hand quilting.

What is your favourite quilt that you have made?

I would say it is the Tessellating Leaves in autumn colours that I made back in the late 90s. I chose the colours and bought the fabrics in California when I was living there because I was missing autumn very much. And I was missing my mother who was in her nineties. So, I made this for her. It was a tessellation that looked like maple leaves. You basically took a bite out of one side of a block and moved it over to the other side of the next block to make a maple leaf so that you have rows of whole leaves, but there’s no space between them. I got it back from my mother after she died.



What is your favourite quilt that you have NEVER made?

I’ve got so many quilts in my head that I’ve never made that I could die before I get to any of them. I have a quilt in mind now to make for my daughter from fabric that I dyed—a summer quilt. I was at her place and picked up a bunch of eucalyptus leaves to use as masks when I spray-dyed the fabric on the lawn, so it looks like there are random eucalyptus leaves on the fabric. I have different shades of blue because I dyed the fabric at different times. But they are all between royal blues and navy blues, some of them are Shibori, and some of them are just hand dyed. Those ones with the leaves on them are especially for her.



I’d like to do some modern quilts. I’m doing a quilt now using dense quilting on the background. It’s a sugar-bag quilt that my cousin’s widow brought me. She had started a Dresden plate on sugar-bag backgrounds in Cape Breton when she was 17, fifty years ago, and she brought it to me in pieces. She had made five Dresden plates and had appliquéd two of them to a couple of sugar bags. I had a collection of sugar bags, some of them from Walter R (*guild member*), so I took them out, finished the background for the top, and made the backing out of more sugar bags. I decided that I would do it with a ghost quilting of medallions for the Dresden plates and then I made columns on it. I did ruler work in the columns. When it’s finished, I’ll give it back to her as a gift. She just said, “I don’t want it. I’m done with it. You do what you want with it.” But I figured that if she really doesn’t want it, one of

her kids will. So, it will go back to her anyway. I don’t know if I should call it a vintage quilt or a modern one—a little of both, I guess.

Do you have a **WHAT WAS I THINKING?!?** quilt?

Oh yes I do! It never got made. It was a mystery quilt from France Patchwork and all the measurements were in centimeters. I struggled and struggled to make one block trying to do the calculations back and forth until finally I realized that they had converted an American traditional pattern in inches into centimeters. So, I could have just as easily used one and a half inches instead of whatever centimeters that was. I did buy a centimeter ruler and a centimeter cutting mat. Then I realized that the blocks were very tiny. There was no way I was going to make that thing bed sized with so many pieces and blocks that small. I just said “no, don’t think so!” It’s still sitting on the shelf with all the fabrics I pulled for it. I might do something that might end up being a wall hanging with it but I’m not going to make the whole quilt for sure.

How long have you been a YHQG member?

I don’t know. I think maybe when I came back from California, which would have been in about 2000. I started up the East Toronto Quilters’ Guild in about 1982 or 1983 and later became President after holding other positions such as Program. I remember showing in an East Toronto Guild show in 1999 when we were still in California. I sent everything to Irena H (*guild member*) in boxes for the show knowing that, by the end of the summer, we would have moved back to Canada. So, she held on to them for me until I got home. I think after that, I got on the waiting list for York Heritage. When I was in California, I didn’t have a work permit, so I had a lot of time on my hands. I did some volunteering, but I also took a lot of art quilting classes. Just lots of quilt classes, including computer quilting and Adobe Illustrator. I hate computers with a passion, but I must use them, so I

(Continued on page 15)

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

(Continued from page 14)

learned how to do what I need to do on them. I don't go to them with joy and happiness. I go to them as "I have to get this job done." I am trying to learn EQ but really I tear my hair out a lot of the time.

Why did you join the guild?

For the learning opportunities and the fellowship. When I went to California, I went straight to the nearest quilt shop and said, "where is your guild and when do they meet?" That group of ladies became my friends for the four years that we were there. Instant friends! We had lots of opportunity to learn in small groups and from international speakers. It was great. That was the Flying Geese Quilters Guild in Irvine, California.

What do you like best about being a YHQG member?

The fact that we have many members and that we have workshops and speakers who come from away. Because they were large enough, they could afford speakers who were internationally known. In East Toronto, we couldn't afford that.

Have you ever volunteered to be on the Executive? If yes, what capacity?

Well, I was on the executive of the East Toronto Guild. For York Heritage I took care of the Block of the Month one year, using the blocks in the book "Selina and the Bear Paw Quilt" for each month, as well as being Quilter of the Month in 2003. I have another job/vocation that is very unpredictable. I am an Ontario certified teacher and a certified California Studio teacher. I go to the film sets to teach the children who are child actors because they have to continue their schooling for 2-3 hours a day. The Ontario kids need an Ontario certified teacher. The American kids need an American certified teacher and the California kids need a California certified teacher who is also a studio teacher. There aren't very many of us. It's a freelance job and you get calls saying, "can you be there by 8 o'clock tomorrow morning?" You have no idea how long you are going to be there. You can be there until midnight, depending on the day and how many kids you get. You could be working with several different kids at staggered hours and you could be there for 12 or more hours. So, I just decided I couldn't juggle. I couldn't promise to be somewhere any time unless it was on short notice. I do volunteer work here and there for the guild, just not on the executive as I can't promise to be there for the meetings. And then I moved to Guelph—more than once. The last time permanently in 2007. I remember when I was living in Guelph in 2004 and working in Cambridge, I was asked to come in and be Speaker of the Month. I came in after school from Cambridge and then had to drive back in a snowstorm that night. I then decided "not doing that again!"

Do you have a quilt currently on your bed?

Actually, I have two beds. One of them has a white whole cloth summer quilt that I long armed in a grid pattern with sunflowers in it. On the other bed, I have a hand crocheted coverlet by my great aunt from Italy. This is the first year that I've actually taken it out of the box and the tissue paper and put it on the bed because it was so hot this summer and I was trying to go without air conditioning as much as possible. That, on top of a sheet, is perfect.



Favourite fabric, thread, tool, etc.?

My Innova M24 long arm is my favourite tool. In the picture is a client's quilt called Northern Lights.

How many sewing-related machines do you have?

Four. The long arm, a Singer Featherweight, a Janome 6600, and an old Elna portable that my mother-in-law bought for me when I got married 50 years ago. I wish I still had my mother's Elna portable Green Grasshopper like Del H (*a YHQG guild member*) has, but the resistor went on it and you couldn't control the speed anymore. When we moved to California, I took it to a sewing shop, hoping that they could fix it, and they said they couldn't get the parts for it. I left it with them, hoping that they could eventually get the parts for it, but when I called them a couple of months later, because I had found a place in California that could repair it, they said, "oh, we threw it out."

Do you have a sewing room or dedicated space? What's the best thing about it?

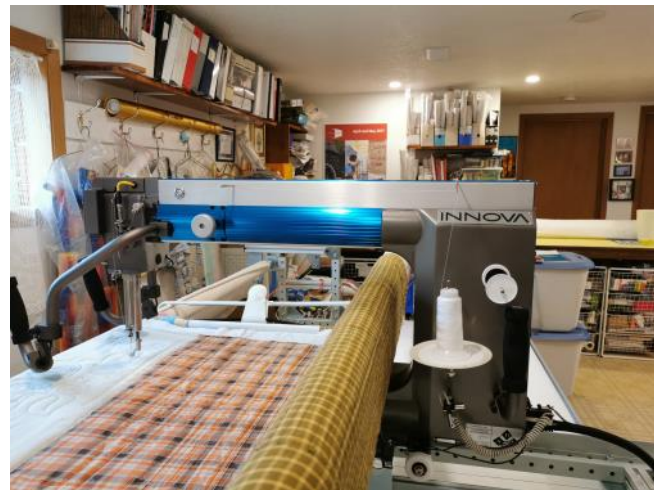
Yes, I have the rec room in our raised bungalow. It's big, well-lit, and has a wood fireplace in it! My favourite routine, especially in the winter, is to go down and start the fire, and then go to the long arm machine.



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How do you organize all your quilting-related stuff?

I have the Ikea wire baskets underneath the 10-foot long cutting table stacked 4-high for sorting commercial fabrics. Then I have two 1930s Knechtel Kitchen Cabinets. I have my mother's and then I found another one in the basement of a house when we were looking for houses. It had been abandoned by whoever had cleaned out the house, so I bought it and brought it home. I have the two side-by-side, and I use that for my hand-dyed fabrics and for tools. It has two big flat drawers in it. One is full of organza and tulle. When I cut up remnants, if they are bigger than my hand and smaller than a fat eighth I cut them into squares or strips and keep them in stacked pizza boxes and plastic containers. I also have big plastic bins, two of which I use as a standing desk, right beside my machine. It has things in it that don't fit in the other spaces. The extra set of leaders for my machine is in there as well as crochet cotton and a big bag of 1960s fabric samples that I got from Anne C. Bawden. I would like to do something "vintage/modern" with these samples. It's on my list!



Do you have any funny or interesting (or embarrassing) quilting related stories to share with our members?

I had a Storm-at-Sea queen-sized quilt on display at a solo show in St. Jacob's for which I had hand-dyed some of my mother-in-law's heavy cotton bedsheets. Someone remarked that the quilt hadn't been lit very well as it seemed to have a spotlight on the middle of it and the edges were in shadow. I had to tell him that it was the quilt, not the lighting. I had purposefully used the brighter values in the middle of it to create that effect.



What quilter do you admire most or follow-on social media?

I don't follow anyone on social media. I find that social media is such a time-sucker; I'd rather be at my sewing machine. If I need to look somebody up, I will to see what kind of work they do. [I have a website](#), but I don't do Instagram. I rarely put anything up on Facebook and I only go on it when I receive a notification that someone has messaged me. It takes too much time away from being creative.

Have you ever worked on group quilts?

Oh yeah. One of the first quilts I ever made was a group quilt for the nursery school that my kids were in. We did a great big strip quilt with strips 3 or 4

inches wide around a center medallion all the way out until we had a lap quilt and then quilted it by hand. People donated the fabrics and I did all the piecing. As a group, we quilted it. There were many group quilts that I contributed blocks to, but I have not organized very many of those myself.

Do you take quilting-related classes?

Yes, I took a number of YHQG workshops with Maggie Vanderweit, Dwayne Wanner, Bethany Garner and Penny Berens, for instance, but less often now because I'm weary of coming away from a class with another UFO. I'm finding that even though I think I know the technique that's going to be taught in the class and I that don't need the class, if I do happen to take it I usually learn something anyway—one way or another, or a new tool or new technique somewhere along the line. I did take several online classes during the pandemic—one of them from Katie Pasquini Masopust and another one was "Creative Jumpstart" with Natalie Kalbach. Basically, she had a different 10-minute video every day from a different multi-media artist and all the different techniques that they used. I did that faithfully for about six weeks and I learned a lot of new techniques. I did some printing on my own on a jelly pad from having learned those techniques. Actually I made art piece from some of those techniques that I submitted to SAQA (*Studio Art Quilt Associates*) for the Microscapes competition. The inspiration was a slide of micro-organisms. When I finished it and submitted it, I really didn't like it much for my own taste, but that's what it called for. It didn't get in but, when I had my own show last year, it sold! So, I thought, hey, one man's treasure!

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What's in your UFO box?

Right now, I'm trying to finish a lot of UFOs. To me, finishing includes putting on the label and binding and photographing it before it goes out the door. I have a photograph of a big aloe plant that I took in San Juan Capistrano that I'm trying to do according to the method that Katie Pasquini gave us to use in lesson three of her course. I had not been able to finish it, partly because I couldn't decide if I really wanted to use her method or if I wanted to do something different. Because I was trying to do it paper-pieced, which is how she did it, that meant that I had to use EQ8 to make the paper piecing patterns from the photograph. It was very complicated and I did that twice before I ended up with what I think will work and it's still not finished. I just started doing the sewing, but I'm still adjusting the EQ pattern so that it will work, as I go along.



Do you have a quilting adventure?

Yes, I just came back from the European Patchwork and Textile Art Conference in France. I've only been there once before, about six years ago. I find that they have the whole range of everything you could want from traditional American style appliqué and traditional piecing to wonderful modern quilts and 3D textile art. I saw a lot of modern quilts that I loved. I get ideas for techniques that way. In fact, they were highlighting Hispanic countries this year and one of the young women was from Mexico. She made a series of wall-hangings eight feet tall, using eight-foot long strips of linoleum on which she had carved tree trunks and used a professional printer's press. What really got me was that her backgrounds were simple small squares of heavy cotton in various shades of yellow, representing an autumn background, with the black tree trunk and branches printed on it. I looked at that and I said "okay, I have a bin full of linen-cotton blend sheets from my mother-in-law that I have not been able to use up yet and I think I could dye those and I would have enough of them to make a large piece for a simple background and do some, print work on it or paint work or appliqué work on it. Any appliqué I do now is machine appliqué. I physically can't do the hand appliqué anymore, although I love the results of needle-turn appliqué.

What do you want YHQG members to know about you?

You can always learn. I'm always learning. My art has metamorphized from traditional bed quilts to art quilts and everything in between. I don't do very much in the line of 3D, except that the quilting itself is 3D, but I don't do sculptures or installations or anything like that. It has morphed as my goals for quilting have morphed. Originally, it was to cover the beds and then cover the walls and then to give as gifts. But then basically it turned into art! I do it for the love of it! I just love it. I guess because it is creative and it lets me make beautiful things. When my mother taught me how to sew and I made my own clothes in high school, I didn't know that I was "expressing myself" when I picked my own fabrics and made my own clothes. I had no clue what that was all about. I never ever dreamed that I would be able to call myself an artist, but over the years, it has come to that. I am a quilt artist now.





NEXT ISSUE

Submissions for the next issue should be sent to yhqgNewsletterEditor@gmail.com no later than **Friday, November 25.**

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