



November 2023 Newsletter

Executive Update



Belonging to Royal City Quilters' Guild can certainly keep a quilter busy. Each month, a speaker shares new ideas for us to try. Our special interest groups will promote new projects that are too tempting to resist. And many of us will sew for one (or more) of our Community Outreach initiatives. We have our second Sew Day this month for Quilts of Valour – bring a friend to sew with you! There are so many options to choose to fill our days!!

Outside of RCQG, the quilting community seems to be focusing on scrap utilization. The Modern Quilt Guild has designated November 4th as "International Scrap Sorting Day."

Immediately following that, the "Conquer Your Fabric Scraps Summit" will run from November 6-9th. The Summit (it's FREE! – look for details inside this newsletter) features 13 speakers sharing their best ideas for organizing, storing, and using up scraps.

Not to be forgotten – Karen Brown of JustGetItDoneQuilts.com has energetic YouTube videos on using scraps and she tackles the topic of Scrap Management ([click here](#)). It appears we are all suffering from scrap overload!

If you do get your scraps organized, please send Susan a photo for Show and Share ([showandshare \[at\] royalcityquiltersguild.ca](mailto:showandshare@royalcityquiltersguild.ca)). Later in the month, you'll have received many more ideas for getting these bits out of the sewing room and into a unique finished project!

On Black Friday (November 24th), the Mystery Quilters Special Interest Group will be breathless with anticipation as they wait for Bonnie Hunter, the self-described "hopeless scrapaholic", to release the first clue of her annual Winter Mystery Quilt-a-long.

Don't forget to join us on November 25th, as April Temple Spears has planned a fun-filled Mingle, jam-packed with holiday sewing ideas from members – some of whom will share more ideas for using up your scraps.

Read on for more details about the exciting November that awaits!

(Virtual) Guest Speaker: Stephanie Hackney

Batting: What's Inside Matters

Stephanie Hackney, the Director of Sales and Marketing, Craft & Retail Division for Hobbs Bonded Fibers will be joining us to tell us everything we need to know about batting!

Her jam-packed lecture will cover:

- the questions we ask quilters to assist them in narrowing down the many batting choices to what's 'best' for achieving the results they desire;
- the various fiber types, and pros and (potential) cons of each type;
- what we recommend for specific use cases (modern quilts, charity quilts, art quilts, wall hangings, runners, throws, etc.);
- proper use and care of battings and quilts;
- tips and tricks for best results
- bearding: how to prevent it, and how to fix it if it happens
- Show-n Share Links



I'm sure there will be a little bit of fun, too! – Dawn Hunt

Show and Share Presentations



Editor's Note: My apologies for forgetting to add the necessary connections to give you access to this feature, last month ... I've added a reminder to my checklist going forward!

Here are the links (click on each) that will allow you to revisit the beautiful items that our members have been producing and which were showcased at our recent meetings:

1. September Show'n Share
2. October Show'n Share
3. Summer Mystery 2023



Membership



Four new members have joined the Guild since the last newsletter was published. Please welcome Paula Nagy, Cathie Ewert, Judy Laver, and one more new member (name withheld) to the Guild.

Thirteen new members attended the virtual **Fireside Chat** for new members held on Tuesday, October 24th at 7:00 pm. We used a Show and Share format to provide new members with a framework for our chat. We shared stories about our projects and quilting interests, pattern and designer names, and names of instructional courses to improve skills and expand boundaries.

New member Sherri Gillanders gave permission for us to share her pictures and stories:



#1 - Tell Me A Story block

Amy Friend, the author of *Intentional Piecing*, runs a block swap every few months. The pattern used is in her book, and it's called *Tell Me A Story*. The concept is that the focus fabric in the centre and the colourful inner border fabric are used to convey a story. In July, she offered different winter themes, including Pink Christmas. Each block includes a different story, which is sent along with the block to each person in the group. Here's one of mine from Pink Christmas:

"Maurice was pleased - he finished at the top of his class at "Santa School" and was on his way to be Santa for his first Santa gig at the local mall."

#2 - Tag Along

I LOVE Studio 180 tools, and I've taken many classes this year to learn how to use them all. I'm also participating in Tag Along, which is a program where you receive a new block every two weeks, and then attend a class where you walk through how to make it with Studio 180 tools. It's a great way to practice using the tools to make different units. Here's one I made recently. I used to skip any patterns that had flying geese in them, but now that I've learned to make flying geese with the Studio 180 Wing Clipper, I look for patterns with them!



Our next Fireside Chat for New Members will be held on Tuesday, April 23rd on Zoom. Please save the date. Invitations will be sent in April.

Please notify membership [at] royalcityquiltersguild.ca of changes to your email, physical address, or telephone numbers. - Helen Kocmarek

Library



Your library will be available at all in-person events held at Community Living.

Our tote with the “Scrappy Collection” has amazing books for you to borrow. Some of the authors are Kim Brackett, Tara Lynn Darr, Joan Ford, Judy Gauthier, and Bonnie Hunter. Have a look through these books. I’m sure you’ll find a quilt or two that you really want to make.

As always, there will be books and patterns for sale at the November Mingle. - MaryAnne Girouard

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The image shows the interior of a quilt shop with shelves filled with various fabrics and quilting supplies.

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The image features a colorful quilt pattern in the background.

Workshops

Workshops are now open for registration. Don't miss an opportunity to try something different and new. Spaces are limited – sign up now, while you can! Click on this link: [WORKSHOP](#).

- Our first workshop, **Milagro** with Dawn Piasta, has been postponed and we are working to determine a new date that will coordinate with everyone's schedule. Stay tuned, we will advise members of the new date and you may then sign up for the workshop.
- To celebrate Valentine's Day you might want to sign up for the **3D Flower** workshop that is planned with Jackie White. More details are on the Guild website.
- In April we have Brita Nelson doing a workshop for us about **Crumb Quilts**. You might want to consider taking part in Waterloo County Quilters' Guild for their virtual meeting on November 15th to see Brita's presentation about Crumb Quilts. Brita is speaking to our Guild in February, but she will be doing a different presentation about disappearing blocks. We chose to have her do the Crumb Quilt workshop because many of her disappearing block instructions are covered by YouTube videos and you can access them through her blog.

If you have ideas, suggestions or requests for workshops please pass them along. We'd love to welcome any members who would like to get involved, by joining in on the fun of the Workshop Committee.

Contact: [annjeffrey44 \[at\] gmail.com](mailto:annjeffrey44@gmail.com) – Ann Jeffrey

(In Person) Member Mingle



Word Gets Around

At our October Mingle, Guelph Mayor Cam Guthrie dropped into the RCQG Bee Day for a short visit.

Jim, a member of the Guelph Lions Club, told Mayor Guthrie about the Lions' support of RCQG's Home for Good project.

The Mayor wanted to meet the quilters as well as see some of the quilts. His short visit gave Ann Jeffrey (see photo to right), the opportunity to brief him on our outreach initiatives and allowed him to also have a quick chat with Mingle attendees.

We were able to show him a few of the quilts destined for 10 Shelldale Crescent when it opens later this year.

Mayor Guthrie was certainly appreciative of our collective efforts and was thrilled to have the opportunity to study the workmanship of our quilts.

Great job everyone!



Join Us

*For a day of holiday-themed demos,
sewing and fellowship with friends*

Saturday, November 25

From 10 am to 3:30 pm

Community Living Guelph Wellington

8 Royal Road, Guelph

Things to Do

- Your own holiday sewing
- Attend demos of holiday gift ideas
- Chat with friends
- Explore the library
- Drop off/pick up outreach projects
- Browse the Give & Grab table
- Photograph finished quilts
- Use the design wall

If you have any suggestions for small holiday items, to make with fabric scraps, please send them to me!

Our next meeting will be lots of fun. I look forward to seeing you.

– April Temple Spears
(atemplespears [at] gmail.com)

Things to Bring

- Sewing equipment & basic sewing supplies
- Lunch (coffee, tea, water will be supplied)





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HELLO OUT THERE!!

What type of content do you want to see in these newsletter pages?

Do you have something of interest to share?

—

a quilting tip, funny story or joke, a family recipe, or a favourite quilt shop on your travels?

Send me your inputs. This document exists to serve you – how are we doing?

Contact: [rcqg.newsletter \[at\] gmail.com](mailto:rcqg.newsletter@gmail.com)

Community Outreach

We have just successfully completed our annual Community Outreach Bee Day, this past weekend. Thank you to everyone who came out to help support one of our initiatives. – Colleen Hunter

Guelph General Hospital Committee

Congratulations to everyone who has contributed in one way or another, in the making of quilts for the Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Unit at the Guelph General Hospital. We made a delivery last week of 78 quilts, which brings the total contributions for this guild year to 113. This surpasses our goal of donating 100 quilts, each year. It's an unfortunate fact that the need for these comfort quilts continues to grow. We currently have some unfinished quilts that need quilting and/or binding. If you can help with these tasks, they can be picked up and/or dropped off, once completed, at one of the Monthly Mingles.

Home For Good

The Home for Good program has been a great success, and we are so proud of our hardworking quilters. You have been wonderful in the way you have embraced this project. At our October Mingle Outreach Bee Day, we collected some more quilts and were able to arrange some of the final completing details, along with photographing these contributions. If you couldn't bring your finished item last weekend, it can always be turned in to Ann Jeffrey (annjeffrey44 [at] gmail.com), at her home or brought to our next in-person Mingle event at the end of November.

Quilts of Valour

Please join us at the next Quilts of Valour Sew Day event on November 13th at the Royal Canadian Legion on York Road. We will start sewing at 10:00am.

Bring your sewing essentials and enthusiasm. I will be providing both a meat and vegetarian chili along with refreshments. So only bring your lunch if you do not want the lunch provided.

Please bring your sewing machine, neutral thread, and any regular sewing items that you require. Bring and work on any quilt that you will be donating to this program, such as a kit you have previously received but still need some time to finish. You may choose to pick up one of the new kits that will be available on that day, to begin piecing together.

If you know anyone who quilts, please invite them to join us at this event. It is open to members of the community – you need not be a Guild member. Please let me know if you will be attending and or any questions. Contact Monica Ferguson (rcqg.qov [at] gmail.com) if you plan to attend.



Don't know what to sew?

There are FREE resources available on the Quilts of Valour Canada Society website (click on the logo to access):

- a selection of 9-1/2" HUGS Block patterns.
- some free Quilt patterns, including layouts to use the HUGS blocks.
- patterns being offered for sale by featured designers, with proceeds directed back to QoV: Paul Léger, Elaine Theriault, Daphne Greig, Brenda Davidson Payer, and Brandy Maslowski

Or choose a favourite block or quilt pattern that means something to you and in colours that spark joy for you – veterans value your creative efforts and welcome these generous 'hugs' of appreciation!



Due to the global COVID-19 environment, our concern for members' well-being, and liability concerns for the Royal City Quilters' Guild, all in-person RCQG activities are to be conducted according to current Ontario provincial guidelines.

In Flanders Fields

BY JOHN MCCRAE

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie,
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.



It's not just a destination for school children!

If you are in the Guelph area, consider visiting the McCrae homestead (birthplace of Col. John McCrae) at 108 Water St., this coming month!

It's a national historic site and open for public viewing: Closed Mondays, 1:00-5:00pm Tuesday through Sunday

CHARACTER-DEFINING ELEMENTS:

Key features contributing to the heritage value of this site include:

- the rectangular footprint of the main house massed under two distinct rooflines, the original 1850-1860s single-storey portion under a hipped roof, and a later one-and-a-half-storey addition under a pitched roof with the main entry on the gable end;
- its prominent central door with top and side-lights;
- the presence of appendages including an open verandah across the front and shed-like rear additions;
- the stone construction;
- its centre-hall first floor layout;
- evidence of its pre-1875 interior materials, forms and finishes such as mouldings, doorways, plaster walls, floors, staircases, fireplaces;
- evidence of the pre-1875 interior layout and spatial volumes including basement rooms;
- its patterns of access and circulation, including the rear cellarway;
- its siting set back from the street on a grassed and treed lot with outbuildings;
- surviving landscape elements from the 1872-1873 period;
- views across the park to the Speed River;
- the house's setting in a sympathetic residential neighbourhood.

International Quilting Day

International Quilting Day is Saturday March 16, 2024

To register (no charge for RCQG members) go to iqdonline.com

Invite a friend to join us for the day

Check out the days' activities at iqdonline.com

Submit photos of one or two of your quilted creations for the Virtual Quilt Show

Virtual Quilt Show

Would you consider sharing photos of your quilted creations with others? Your creations inspire others and are a joy to view.

The deadline for entry in the Virtual Quilt Show is: **February 3, 2024.**

All those attending International Quilting Day are welcome to submit up to two quilts to the Virtual Quilt Show. The following information about your quilt(s) is required:

- quilt name
- pattern designer or original design
- quilter, if other than yourself
- artist's statement or brief history of the quilt - limit of 50 words
- up to five photos of each quilt - we recommend an overall view of the quilt along with several close-ups of interesting details
- deadline for submission is February 3, 2024

You will be asked to upload your photos in the virtual quilt show section of the IQD website. To be able to do this, you will need to log in to your Google account. If you do not have an account, you may ask someone with an account to submit the photos on your behalf. Check out the International Quilting Day website for more details (click on photo above).



**INTERNATIONAL
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ALL DAY VIRTUAL CELEBRATION
KEYNOTE SPEAKERS
KAFFE FASSETT LAURA COIA DANA E JONES



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Email addresses provided in the newsletter have been formatted to prevent spam and will appear as: `namename [at] server.com`

To send an email, you'll need to replace [at] with the symbol @ and remove the extra spacing. Thanks for your understanding.

Discussion: Scrap Management



Why does sorting scraps deserve its own day?

Fabric scraps often become a core part of the quilting experience – many quilt and sewing projects end with scraps. Making time to thoroughly sort, trim, and organize them is often put aside in favor of starting new projects.

By organizing your scraps, you can more easily find ways to incorporate them into future projects. You never know what fabric gems are nestled in your scrap pile right now!

Taking the time to organize your scraps is a great way to see what you have, be inspired to make something new, and encouraged to use what you have before procuring more. Get more information on the celebration by clicking on the MQG picture!

Editor's Note: Scrap management (can you really manage fabric?) is highly personal – what works for me, may not work for you. But it seems to be an inevitable topic of discussion whenever/wherever quilters gather:

- do you keep scraps?
- what is your minimum / maximum scrap size?
- do you sort by colour or size?
- what are you going to do with those?
- did you bring more scraps home? (my hubby has a good-humoured tolerance of my hobby – at least most of the time)

I tend to keep lots of small (1" is my minimum) cut-off bits – sorted by colour, in baggies, in a larger tote box. Eventually, I'll grab a baggie and sew those tiny bits up into larger slabs of 'crumb' blocks, then store them again, until I have enough to make something useful. The challenge is not letting the bits overtake their designated 'holding' bin, but I admit to keeping them a little longer than I'd like (which ultimately messes with my sew-mojo!)

It's nice to have confirmation that I'm not alone with the management challenge and to be given the opportunity to partake in a broader community discussion on how others are tackling their 'precious' collections! So, consider joining in on the fun proposed by the "Scrap Summit" (click on the icon to register – it's FREE!) There are many individuals presenting, from varied sewing backgrounds, all coming together to discuss scrappy issues – organizational choices, techniques, and tips for working with scraps, projects to stir your creativity! While there's no right or wrong way to approach the issue, aren't new insights always valuable?



Of course, as mentioned in the opening message, you can always explore YouTube videos, blogger websites, magazines etc. to your heart's content. We know that it's just an excuse to PROCRASTINATE! Let's make and share at least one 'useful' scrap project this month (then we can put it all away, neatly, until next year)!

Stash Busters

The Next Project: Quatrefoil from Missouri Star Quilt Company

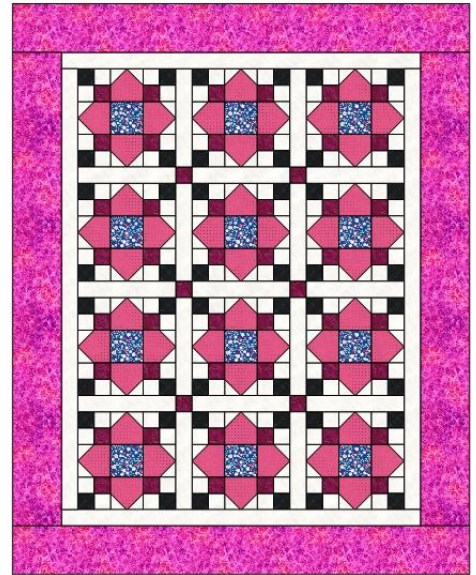
On December 6, the Stash Busters Special Interest Group will begin work on the Quatrefoil Quilt from Missouri Star Quilt Company.

Roxanne Caughill will lead this project.

To learn more about our upcoming project, watch Jenny Doan's video tutorial (click [here](#)). We've used EQ 8 to estimate fabric requirements for additional sizes listed in the chart below.

Stash Busters meets via Zoom from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm on the first Wednesday of the month. Participation in the group is free and we welcome new participants any time. There is no charge to participate.

Please contact [stashbusters \[at\] royalcityquiltersguild.ca](mailto:stashbusters@royalcityquiltersguild.ca) to be added to our mailing list or learn more about the group.



Fabric Requirements			
	Comfort Quilt	Throw (QOV)	Original
Dimensions	56 x 70	70 x 84	84 x 98
Layout	3 x 4	4 x 5	5 x 6
Accent A (black)	1/4 yard	3/8 yard	3/4 yard
Accent B (four patch corners & corner stones)	1/4 yard	1/2 yard	3/4 yard
Petals or house-shaped unit and center squares	One layer cake. If using yardage, .75 for the petals or house-shaped units; .25 yard for center squares	One layer cake. If using yardage, 1+1/8 yds for the petals or house-shaped units; 1/2 yard for center squares	One layer cake. If using yardage, 1+3/4 yds for the petals or house-shaped units; 1/2 yard for center squares
Background & inner border	1+3/4 yards	2+1/2 yards	4 yards
Outer border	1+1/2 yards (This is for a 6-inch border. Consider making a narrower border)	1+7/8 yards	1+3/4 yards

Advertising

We would like to thank all our advertisers for their support of our guild. In return, we try to support them. Clicking on an advertisement will take you to that company's website, so that you can further explore their offerings. If you would like to advertise your business within our newsletter, please contact: [advertising \[at\] royalcityquiltersguild.ca](mailto:advertising@royalcityquiltersguild.ca)

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Member Shares



Editor's Share:

My neighbour was visiting Newfoundland, this past month, on a long-postponed hiking trip. As she was trudging through St. John's, she happened on a quilt store. She's not a quilter, but thought she'd bring me a small token of her travels. Decision made, she ventured into **The East Coast Quilt Shop**.

Imagine her surprise, not only at the vast selection of material, but at finding a couch that was upholstered in a very bright and dynamic patchwork. She was informed that it's quite the popular attraction, for weary tourists. However, when she thought to try it out, she got another surprise – it was already occupied, by the store's resident pooch!

I got quite the chuckle when the picture arrived, accompanied by the text: "What do you think of this idea? This fella thinks every dog deserves a designer loungeer." I don't think she's ever witnessed just how many quilts my dogs have already claimed for their own couch use!

On another note, while I was off on one of my endless computer 'rabbit-hole' investigations, I happened to land in a new-to-me spot: **Dave's Craft Room** (YouTube). The specific topic was his "Epic" Tiny House quilt project, which is so fitting with this month's theme of using up lots of scraps. What really inspired me though, was his perseverance in creating 365 unique paper-pieced tiny homes, over an 8-month period! If you just want to see the final quilt, fast scroll to the end ... it is truly an 'epic' accomplishment!



Quilt Festival Houston:

The show runs from November 2nd to 5th. RCQG congratulates all the winners and especially our past presenters Kathy Wylie and Kestrel Michaud. See all the winners as well as the quilt Karen K Stone (another past presenter) chose for her Judge's Choice award (click [here](#)).



BEAUTY IN THE BROKEN

(71" x 71")

By Kathy K. Wylie of Whitby, Ontario, Canada

Artist's Statement: "In the same way that stars can only be seen at night, there is beauty that is only experienced in hardship. This quilt was inspired by those profound moments of love amid our suffering, laughter in our sorrow, hope in our despair. The beauty in the broken." *Original Design.*

Regional Guilds – Upcoming Events

CQA has published their Call for Entry for their National Juried Show. Entries will be accepted from Jan 3 to Feb 16. The information is posted online. Click the picture to go to the website.



World of Threads Festival 2023

([Brochure – click here](#))

Dates: Tuesday, October 10 – Sunday, December 17

Hours: Monday – Saturday: 10am – 6pm; Sunday: Noon – 5pm

Admission: FREE

Location: Queen Elizabeth Park Community & Cultural Centre, 2302 Bridge Rd., Oakville

Guild Calendar Update



We are eagerly awaiting the new website update and have agreed that until we have a revitalized calendar presence there, that we'll continue to post key activity highlights here, at your fingertips!

Please let me know if you're finding this summation to be a useful tool.
(Editor contact: rcqg.newsletter [at] gmail.com)

Date & Time (ET)	Activity	Location
Wednesday, November 1st @ 9:30 am – 3:30pm	Stash Busters	Zoom Invitation
Tuesday, November 14th @ 7:00pm	Member Meeting (Virtual)	Zoom – A link to the meeting will be emailed to all members and registered guests the day before the Guild's Meeting.
Friday, November 10th and Friday, November 24th @ 9:30 – 11:00am	EQ8 – New User Group	Zoom Invitation
Saturday, November 11th @ 10:00am – 3:00pm	Virtual Sew Day (Remembrance Day)	Zoom Invitation
Saturday, November 11th @ 1:00pm – 3:00pm	Mystery Quilters Anonymous	Zoom Break-out Room (part of above)
Saturday, November 11th @ 10:00am – 12:00pm	Alaska Quilt-Along	Zoom Break-out Room (part of above)
Monday, November 13th @ 10:00am – 4:30pm	Guelph Sews for Quilts of Valour	Royal Canadian Legion, 57 Watson Pkwy S., Guelph, ON
Saturday, November 25th @ 10:00am – 3:30pm	Member Mingle (In Person)	Community Living Guelph Wellington, 8 Royal Road, Guelph
Saturday, November 25th	Newsletter Submissions	N/A
Tuesday, November 28th @ 7:00pm – 8:30pm	EQ9 – Original User Group	Zoom Invitation