



## Patchwork Press

A newsletter for the Durham Trillium Quilter's Guild

[durhamtrilliumquiltersguild.ca](http://durhamtrilliumquiltersguild.ca)

[dtqguild@gmail.com](mailto:dtqguild@gmail.com)

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February 2026

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### President's Message

Debbie W.

Now that the holidays are over for this season, most of us are staying in out of the bitter cold we are having and we are joining in our sew days getting things done.

Jacqueline has ensured that we have lots more sew days in February, so Show and Share should be amazing at our next meeting.

We are still looking for members to take on some positions on the executive, we are in need of the officers positions especially. There is lots of support if you decide to take on a position. As a Guild we need a full slate of officers to keep the Guild running. If you have any questions you can speak to myself or Laura B and we can let you know what is involved. Serving on the executive is a great way to get to know folks better as well as supporting the Guild.

Enjoy the beauty of this winter season!! See you at our February Zoom meeting.

Warm Regards

Debbie W

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## Vice President

Debbie K.

Hello My Friends,

Happy New Year. I was remiss last month, and honestly very overwhelmed with the amount of items I had on my plate, so I forgot the deadline for my newsletter article. I also had a bit of a mind burnout and could not think of anything to say until well after the deadline. I apologize to our Newsletter convenor and you for not getting the article done in time.

Well, this month we have had a bunch of interesting weather. The great thing about very cold temperatures and huge snow dumps....we have sewing rooms and a stash of fabrics that remind us of sunny days, inspires creativity, and we have the skills to turn all that into wonderful works of art that help keep people warm. Having a good heater in my room truly helps me want to be in here as it does get a bit chilly in here without it. Yet another project added onto my list, work on getting flooring into this area and finishing the walls properly. That will definitely be a summer project as I will need to pack up my room and move everything out. My driveway may become my holding area for a bit. For now, a heater and time to plan the project.

I found December's and January's speakers very informative and inspiring. Many ideas passed on and the implicit permission to play with our ideas and fabric to create the wonderful things hanging around in our minds. What I liked was how they started out with an idea and it was allowed to morph into something unplanned and beautiful. Just by asking themselves "what if" ....I have been doing that lately and I am finding I am completing more quilts this way. Also, a shout out to the ladies who attend the Zoom Sew Days. You have passed on such great ideas and helped so many. I would like to say thank you to Joanne B for her advice to me to increase my stitch length to 3 when quilting. What a difference it has made for me, and I am flying through quilting projects on my domestic machine now. I have finished 5 quilts and 10 table toppers in a month. Thank you again Joanne B and all the ladies who attend the Zoom sew days.

February has lots to celebrate in it. Valentines Day, Family day (16<sup>th</sup>), Chinese New Year – Year of the Fire Horse (sound like it is a buckle your seat belts and enjoy the ride kind of year), and the winter Olympics from Milan, Italy. Definitely going to plan out sew times around watching some of the Olympics. Jacqueline H has planned out quite a few Sew Days for February so check out farther down the newsletter and on the website for the specific dates and times.

This past month some of our members have had the hard task of saying goodbye to someone they love. I send out my condolences to them and wrap them up in a huge hug and love. Many of us have had to walk that path and, while we cannot know exactly what you are feeling, we have empathy for you. Know that you do not walk this path on your own.

Well, the course I am doing is going to start soon so I should wrap this up. Have a great sew time and I look forward to seeing your creations in the Show and Share in February. Take care, enjoy the sunshine, stay warm, and know that you are wanted, loved, needed and cared for exactly as you are.

Debbie K VP

And- we are sharing with you different positions that are coming available for the next year in the Past Presidents article. This will help you decide which one you would like to fill so the Guild can continue for the next years. Thank you.

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## **Past President**

Laura B.

Hello fellow quilters!

This newsletter continues our description of the volunteer positions on the guild executive that will need to be filled for 2026-2027. I also still need a guild member who is not part of the executive to help me talk to guild members about filing roles on the Executive. If you are willing to help, please contact me by email (or by emailing the guild at [dtqguild@gmail.com](mailto:dtqguild@gmail.com)).

Here is a list of the positions that need to be filled. Per our constitution, officers must have been a member in good standing for at least 12 months, and to be another executive position, you must have been a member in good standing for at least 8 months. Please consider volunteering for the executive so that our wonderful guild can keep running. We cannot run the guild without the volunteers on the executive!

- President (Officer)
- Vice President (Officer)
- Secretary (Officer)
- Treasurer (Officer)
- Program
- Membership - we have one volunteer for this position
- Library
- Retreats
- Workshops
- Publicity/Advertising
- Mystery / BOM
- Community Outreach
- Fabric Basket
- Technology

Last month I included "job descriptions" for the key positions of President, Vice President, and Secretary. This month includes job descriptions for Treasurer, Program, Library, Retreats, and Workshop.

Treasurer:

The Treasurer position is an Officers position and is key to the function of the guild. We need a person with some experience tracking finances to volunteer for the Treasurer position this year. This is a minimum of a 2 year commitment. As Treasurer, you track and manage the guild's funds. If people spend money for the guild, they submit receipts and a request for reimbursement to you, and you are responsible to track it, write a cheque, and obtain a second signature from the other guild officers. You track income coming in as well (e.g., membership fees, fees to participate in workshops or other guild

activities). You track spending based on category (e.g., is it membership income, retreat income or spending, etc.) and provide summaries to the executive. You also prepare summaries of past year spending for the budget and annual general meeting. Finally, you prepare the paperwork for a volunteer to do a verification of the guild's financial tracking. As this is an Officer's position, we MUST have a Treasurer to continue the guild.

#### Program:

The Program convenor is a voting position on the executive. This convenor is responsible to coordinate the program for our meetings. This may include arranging speakers from outside or inside the guild. The Program coordinator is responsible for ensuring the contracts are signed (if required), payment is requested from the treasurer in advance of the meeting (if payment is needed AT the meeting), arranging with Technology convenor for what the speakers need during the meetings, and introducing the speakers at the meetings. In order to ensure that the Program coordinator has sufficient time to prepare for meetings, the program coordinator usually arranges the meeting content in advance. Therefore, the 2026 year should already have speakers for September, October and possibly November, so the new position would not have to coordinate speakers for meetings until the December 2026 or January 2027 meeting. This is a 2 year commitment. This is not a required position to run the guild, but without this position filled, the guild meetings will be quite short and boring.

#### Library:

This convenor is responsible for managing the guild's library. The library will remain in storage at the church where we meet, so transporting the books is not required. The library convenor is responsible to purchase new books per the guild budget, and can do this based on requests from membership. They would also track who borrows books and provide gentle reminders if books are not returned on time. An annual inventory of the books is also required. If desired, the library convenor may work with the technology convenor to prepare an online list of books for members to view. This is not a required position for the guild to continue. If we do not have a library convenor, then the books will not be lent out.

#### Retreats:

The Retreat convenor would coordinate retreats for the guild. This may be stay-at-home retreats (i.e., people come to the facility during the day for the sewing but go home to their own beds for overnight) or away retreats (i.e., people go to a distant location and stay there during the entire retreat, including overnight). It is up to the retreat convenor to decide what type of retreats to offer, based on the interest of the membership. The retreat coordinator must ensure sufficient participation (likely by receiving deposits from attending members) before making any non-refundable deposits to the retreat location. If needed, retreat attendance can be opened up to other local guilds to fill empty participant slots. This convenor would be required to coordinate with the facility (any rental agreement and payments), caterer (food and drink during the retreat), request payment cheques as needed from the treasurer, track registration and payments from members, and coordinate any events or programming (e.g., games, massage, whatever is desired) during the actual retreat. This is not a required position to run the guild, but without this position filled, the guild will not have retreats.

## Workshops:

The Workshop convener would coordinate workshops for the guild. This may be an in-person sew your own thing day, or a day where an instructor is brought in to teach a technique. These are typically run as one-day in-person events. It is up to the workshop convener to coordinate instructors and retreat locations, based on the interest of the membership. The retreat coordinator must ensure sufficient participation (likely by receiving deposits from attending members) before making any non-refundable deposits to the workshop location. If needed, workshop attendance can be opened up to other local guilds to fill empty participant slots. This convener would be required to coordinate with the facility (any rental agreement and payments), request cheques as needed from the treasurer, track registration and payments from members, and coordinate with the instructor (if any). The Workshop convener can decide if food or beverages are provided as part of the cost of the retreat. This is not a required position to run the guild, but without this position filled, the guild will not have workshops.

Please contact me if you would be willing to volunteer for an executive position.

Happy Quilting!  
Laura

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## 2025 - 2026 DTQG President's Challenge

The President's Challenge continues with the "postcard quilt" theme. You may join the challenge anytime, so long as you can have your mini postcard quilt finished and turned in to the Past President (Laura B) by the May guild meeting. The cost to participate is \$5 per entry. There is no limit on the number of entries per person, but there can be no more than 50 entries in total (the total # of post card backings purchased).

You can sign up on the website (<https://durhamtrilliumquiltersguild.ca/presidents-challenge>) noting that since our next few meetings are virtual, you will have to coordinate with Laura to get the postcard backing for your challenge quilt.

The challenge for this guild year is to make a miniature postcard-sized quilt. Guidelines are as follows:

- The quilt can use an established design/pattern or be an original.
- The required dimension are exactly 4 inches by 6 inches (to fit the backing card).
- The quilt may be in either portrait or landscape orientation.
- There must be quilting (minimum is a front and batting quilted before being attached to postcard). You do not need to quilt through the postcard backing.
- A 4" x 6" post-card backing (with typical postcard lines/info) will be provided to you. This must be attached to the back of the miniature quilt that you submit.
  - The method of attachment is up to you – binding, fancy stitching, etc.
- No label is needed on the completed post-card.

To coordinate receiving your post-card backing, and the paper to fill out and return when submitting your quilted postcard for judging, contact Laura B by emailing her or emailing the guild ([dtqguild@gmail.com](mailto:dtqguild@gmail.com)) (and then our lovely secretary will forward it to me).

**Quilts for the challenge are to be submitted to Laura B. and must be submitted before the end of the May in-person guild meeting. Please submit inside the bag provided, along with the completed quilt information submission form.**

If unable to attend the May meeting to submit your quilt, please either have a friend bring it to the May meeting or contact Laura B. for other options.

Submitted quilts will be judged by the President and winners will be presented at the June meeting, when all submitted postcard quilts will be displayed (and then returned).

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## Secretary

Jacqueline H.

Why would you want this role in the Guild? I will give you three outstanding reasons...

3) Because the guild needs your organized skill set, and your willingness to help shape where the guild goes from here.

2) Because you will help keep the history of the guild alive, from minutes, to directing e-mails to various convenors, to helping those quilters that just have questions. You are the face of the e-mail communication link

1) Because you will be working with an outstanding set of quilters, and you will make life long friendships!

I have truly loved my time on the Executive. I joined the guild back in 1992 (ish), have held many offices on the Executive. I have loved each and every role. The Executive has so much to offer. You get to learn and grow as a person and a quilter.

All the best,

Yours in Quilting Stitches, Outgoing Secretary, Jacqueline

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## Upcoming Zoom Sew Days – Jacqueline H

Special thanks to Joanne N for her great idea of a “Pop-up” sew day this past snow storm (we actually extended it to three zoom sessions over 3 days). It was a great way to enjoy friendship (and take a break from shovelling)

Friday February 13<sup>th</sup> , 1-4 and 7-10 pm

Friday February 20<sup>th</sup> , 1-4 and 7-10 pm

Friday February 27<sup>th</sup> , 1-4 and 7-10 pm

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## **Program Convener**

Gail L.

Winter is approaching the finish line. This is great for those of us who love gardening and longer days. For me, I like a balance of seasons and activities. It gives my body time to recover from extreme activities, such as sitting in a chair, cutting at the mat, bending to pin a quilt done primarily in the winter and its shoulder months, or out in the garden working our leg and arm muscles during spring, summer and fall.

On February 9,2026, Emilie Trahan will present for us on Zoom. Emilie is an Improv Artist who creates the most amazing quilts, all from recovered fabric and freeform cutting. They are true works of art and have been shown at many national and international quilt show. No patterns, rulers, or dull colours used. She will describe for us her process and improvisation methods. You can view her work on Instagram @mili.tra

I look forward to the February and March zoom meetings, followed by three in-person meetings. We are at a critical juncture where we need a lot of volunteers to take key rolls to keep our guild going. Please consider convener positions so we can continue the meetings which provide us with inspiration and community.

The full program for our 2025-2026 guild year is posted on our DTQG website. There are six meetings with guest speakers and three with member presentations.

Looking forward to seeing everyone on Zoom starting at 6:45 pm for our February 9<sup>th</sup> and March 9<sup>th</sup> meetings.

Happy quilting,

Gail L., Program Convener

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## **Quilt Block of the Month Convener**

Diane W.

I hope everyone is enjoying their Block of the Month project this year! I have heard from several members that they are a little behind with their actual quilting. That is okay!

We will start putting blocks together when we are back together in the spring so you have plenty of time to catch up before then.

For March's meeting, keep on quilting those blocks. Try combining some of the straight stitch motifs with free motion. Or if you have found a favourite motif, feel free to stick with that. You can reference prior newsletters for videos if you haven't had a chance yet.

To qualify for the February draw, please send photos of your 3 quilted blocks to the [dtguild@gmail.com](mailto:dtguild@gmail.com) email with the subject line FEBRUARY BOM by Friday, February 6th.

Don't forget to include your name 😊

Happy Quilting!  
Diane

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## **Zoom Crew – Making the Best of “in-person guild meetings and workshops”**

Remember... the scrap basket at the guild is happy to accept your scraps (that are at least as big as your outstretched hand).

BUT... how to get rid of the wee scraps. There are three locations in our guild that have been mentioned that could help.

- 1) The SPCA Whitby will take scraps of fabric (but NOT batting). No need to put them in a pillowcase, just secure them in a bag.
- 2) The Salvation Army Thrift Store is happy to take bags of fabric that is separated from bags of batting
- 3) The Fibre Recycling Bin that is located at Harmony Road (below Winchester) closer to Rossland, on the East Side in a parking lot.

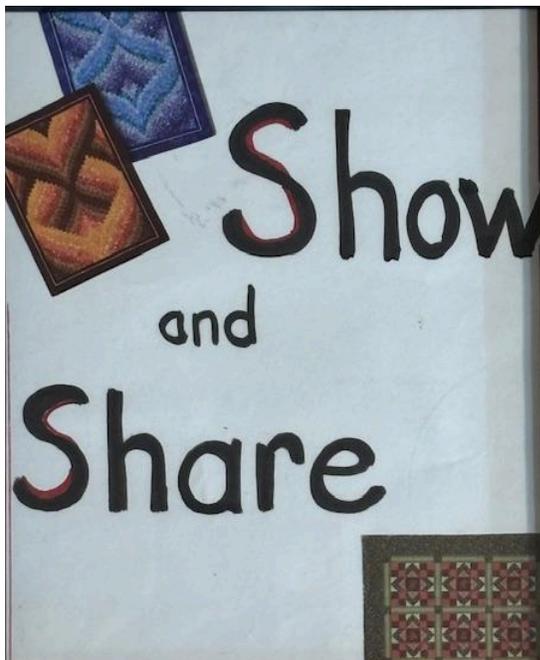
During Zoom Sew Sessions we often have creative conversations. We NEVER talk about Politics or Religion... we are a happy Quilting Group.

Zoom Crew Correspondent, Jacqueline

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## **Show and Share Convener**

Patricia K.



Today it is a blue jay sky. The trade off is bitter cold. Regardless, I do like sunny winter days. With many Zoom sew days, including last week's pop-up sew days, like me, I'm sure many of you are being quite productive in your sewing rooms. Between the last 2 snowstorms I've managed to complete 2 charity quilts with another one awaiting my attention to sandwich.

Again we will be doing our February Show and Share via Zoom so submissions are due Friday, February 6 at 1800 (6pm). I will confirm your

submission(s) by Saturday, February 7 by 8 pm. If you don't receive a confirmation then I haven't received your submission. Submissions are to be sent to the following email: [dtqgshownshare@gmail.com](mailto:dtqgshownshare@gmail.com)

Congratulations to Judy B. who won last month's draw. Your prize will be available at April's meeting when we return in person.

Regards,  
Patricia K.  
Show & Share Convenor

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## Community Outreach Team

Team Members: Kate H., Lyne M., Carolyn L., Sharon L., Janine L., Diane W. & Dorothy M.

We have now moved into the Zoom portion of the guild year. If anyone is looking for a top to assemble, quilt or bind, please reach out to Kate H., and I will get something ready for you to pick up. Please remember to complete the tag portion on any of our kits. Measurements are especially helpful, and remember, no straight pins!

A reminder of our current programs for this year:

- **Community Care – Meals on Wheels** Placemats : 12" x 16" is the preferred completed size
- **Comfy Cases** Pillowcases (hot dog type are super easy)
- **Quilts of Valour:** We will gladly accept completed tops with binding, and completed quilts on their behalf. Ensure they meet their size criteria (minimum size 50 x 70, maximum size 60 x 80) and include binding fabric with your quilt top. For more information on the Quilts of Valour program, visit their website: <https://www.quiltsofvalour.ca>
- **Quilts for Survivors:** We will accept quilt tops with binding on your behalf. They have no minimum or maximum sizes, however, they do have specific criteria about the types of fabric patterns they would like in the quilt tops created for the Survivors. For information on that, please visit their website at <https://www.quiltsforsurvivors.ca> check out their 'contribute' page for details.
- **The Pregnancy Help Centre** has asked for flannel receiving blankets and bibs if you have some time to make either of these, we will make the delivery. We support them with quilts as well, and they are so very grateful for the beautiful items they receive from us.
- **Lakeridge Health NICU** unit is looking for isolette covers and flannel receiving blankets as well. The size they are looking for is roughly 40" x 44". We will facilitate a drop off after the October meeting. As a mom of a preemie baby born at LHO, I know firsthand how well these are cherished.

If you are participating in a declutter challenge and cleaning your sewing room, we will always accept neutral yardage to go along with the wonderful fabric donations we have on hand.

Some members often make completed quilts which is totally awesome and we love those. Please ensure your name and the size of the quilt is provided when you hand it in at the meeting. Ask for a label anytime at the meeting. Ideally, labels should be sewn into the binding before handing in to us.

Looking forward to seeing everyone virtually at the February zoom meeting!

Community Outreach Team

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## **Workshop Convener**

Grace R.

Happy Valentine's Day everyone. Our workshop will be happening on February 7th and begins at 9:30 am until 3:45 pm when we must clean up the room and areas that we used to be out of the facility by 4 pm. I will be there by 9 am to set up the room and the tables for you to work your magic with the fabrics and supplies provided for that purpose. If you can bring either iron-on fleece or heavy to medium weight iron-on interfacing that would be great but all of the fabric and embellishments will be provided to create one or two fidget quilts. I look forward to seeing your amazing creative energy produce quilts to help those in need of something which will help them focus on the world around them.

We will be having another workshop on April 11th, 2026. I will tell you more about that workshop once this one has been completed. Keep a watchful eye on this space of your newsletter.

Yours in quilting,

Your workshop convenor, Grace R

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## **Scrap Basket Conveners**

Kathy D. and Gwen VN.

Hi from your Scrap Basket ladies!

Please remember to continue to collect your scraps as your cast offs are often fun for another members inspirations! See you all in April.

**DTQG Scrap Definition:** a scrap is a piece of fabric BIGGER than your outstretched hand and at least as wide as your palm. Of course it is also 100% COTTON quilting fabric. Please DO NOT add in any polyester, silk, drapery, linings, shortening pant leg cut offs, etc!!! We purge those fabrics as our Scrap hunters are only looking for 100% COTTON scraps to add into their quilting creations.

Thanks,  
Kathy D and Gwen VN

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### From the community

Arlene B has a 4 foot by 4 foot pvc piping quiltframe. It snaps apart for easy storage, and set up. This item is FREE for whoever is interested. Please email [dtqguild@gmail.com](mailto:dtqguild@gmail.com) and we will forward the information along to Arlene.

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**MORE INFORMATION**

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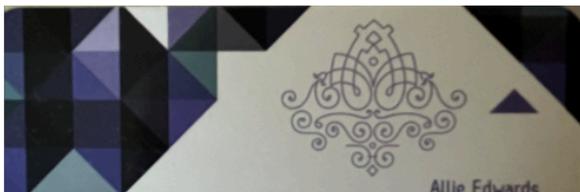


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