

President's Message - Debbie K

Good morning, everyone. As I sit here in a beautiful sunbeam warming my back and the snow melting from the heat of the sun outside, I am reminded that the seasons continue in their normal rhythm no matter what is going on in our world.

Spring is on its way. We will see the birth of animals, birds, plants and insects, but right now everything is getting ready underneath a beautiful blanket of snow.

We have the hope of new life and the firm knowledge of past experience that no matter what is going on, the world continues to turn and things always sort themselves out.

This past month has been a crazy one for my husband and me. We purchased a parcel of land, chose a house we want to build, rented a place for us to move into, packed up and moved a very full three bedroom home, got our house in Pickering ready to sell, sold the house in Elliot Lake, and



Worldwide Quilting Day - March 20

National Quilting Day is held on the third Saturday in March. This date became an official day at the 22nd National Quilting Association show in Lincoln, Nebraska in June 1991. If you didn't know, National Quilting Day aka Worldwide Quilting Day is observed all over the globe to connect quilters in celebration of this time-honored craft.

For more information about this year's Quilting Day, visit the following links to increase your knowledge and celebrate with other quilters.



National Day

Worldwide

Free Patterns

drove over 2800 km in one week. Wow, I am tired just typing this.

We still have quite a bit of work to do as most of what we moved is stacked in the living room until we get the time to clean, then unpack what we will need for the next year. Yes, I do have a wonderful room downstairs to sew and create in. It has lots of natural light and should have enough space for my fabric (which is a swear word for my hubby right now. Something about moving 60 bins of it up from a basement, off a truck and then downstairs again. Fabric is heavy...).

One big thing that has helped us to accomplish this task is our

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community. They have not been able to help us physically because of the times we live in, but the conversations we had, the good thoughts and energy they send us, all the encouragement and the cheering from the sidelines have given us the strength and courage to take on this new adventure.

Our communities (tribes as it is tagged now) are so important to us. These support groups are there so we can survive and thrive through all the seasons of life. As a community, we encourage each other to try things and to continue on. We cheer each others' successes, we console each other when things don't work out as planned. We help each other to see things from a different perspective, adding our knowledge to the group's knowledge and coming up with new (or previous) solutions.

And, as a community, we stand with those who are grieving offering our love, strength, help, and sometimes, our quiet presence that creates a safe space for the person grieving to be what they need to be at that moment.

We have an awesome community of people in our guild. I am so inspired by the wonderful creations that you share with us



during Show & Share, the stories that you tell about your quilts, about why you created your table runners or how you came up with your latest project idea. These anecdotes add a special touch to seeing the creation and help us connect with you.

The Kudos strip segment of our meetings is one of my favourite parts. To hear of the positive things happening in your life, to celebrate all the life events with each other, to share happiness and also heartbreak, knowing that there is strength and encouragement in sharing.

I think of how life used to be shared in conversations around a quilting frame, doing everyday tasks together, reinforcing the community in many ways. This is what we do when we share during Sew Days, Kudos Time, and Show & Share. We help each other become better, stronger, and create a more positive outlook that we can use when required.

I am so blessed to be surrounded by such a wonderful community. The volunteers on the Executive work so hard to help create an environment where all of us can feel safe to create, be inspired, and to encourage each other. They are a great support, a wonderful team, and a huge source of help, information, and encouragement. I want to say thank you to all of them for their help, inspiration, creativity, and support. And for bringing their real selves with all their talents and skills so that we can continue to be the wonderful

"We have an awesome community of people in our guild."

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community we are.

You will find in the newsletter opportunities for you to become involved with our guild. We are looking for members to join the Executive, people to make placemats so that we can bless many of those who receive Meals on Wheels, people who want to share their wonderful work, and people who want to share some of their



life so we can cheer you on. Enjoy another wonderful creation of words, art, and inspiration created by all of us and so well put together by Kay.

We are so fortunate that Kay came to join our guild. The very fine thread that led her to us is quite a neat story, I will let her tell it.

Be blessed, everyone. I am looking forward to seeing you at



one of our sewing workshops, Sew Days and/or at our monthly meeting on March 8. Until then, enjoy this beautiful sunshine, drink in the joy and hope that this almostspring-season brings you and have fun sewing, creating and having a good life. Now to get back into the car and travel back to Pickering to finish some things up. Take care all, see you soon.

Sew Days - Jacqueline H

Thank you to everyone for helping with our Easter Placemat run for Meals on Wheels. We had between 10 and 20 people on each of the three days of work. We will have final numbers for you next month.

We are all looking forward to our March Sew Days. There is still time to get your name on our list. We take three hours and sew, sew, sew! And share "Tips and Tricks from the Sew Day Peeps." This week's tip is a website that will tell you which pre-wrapped bobbins are just right for your sewing machine.

And just a reminder, we have a "Quilt 'til You Wilt" on Wednesday, March 17 from 12 PM until the last quilters' sewing.

Thread Exchange

Fabric Basket

Please continue to save your "hand sized" scraps of fabric for our exchange when we can gather again safely. For all other left over fabric from your quilting projects, please take the time to gather a few Ziploc bags and label them 2.5-inch, 3-inch, 5-inch and 6-inch squares. They will work up into a charity quilt in no time.

Please put scraps smaller than your hand into a doggie pillow case.

Morale Officer

We are coming up on one year of weekly suggestions and advice. From keeping your quilting room in order, to keeping your quilting projects sorted and organized, to stress relief, and all things in between! So...keep calm and quilt on!





Mystery Quilt

- Kate H

We now have 50 intrepid members signed up for this year's mystery. So exciting!!

Sherri Hisey from Border Creek Station designed a lovely quilt pattern just for our guild. Clue #2 was sent out the night of the last meeting. Hope everyone is puttering along nicely. The Facebook group (DTQG 2021 Mystery) has been active and I already see members helping each other out. I've enjoyed watching the progress here and it warms my heart to witness the helpful tips shared. Who knew there were so many rulers to make flying geese and half square triangles? We all have our favourites! It's great to see people sharing and helping each other out. We can share our progress, fabric selections, guestions and good-natured camaraderie. Remember, guilting is all about the journey, and it is not a race!

Now it's time for prize details. We will be awarding gift certificates from our local shops to reward you for your hard work.

How to get an entry for a prize? To be eligible for the draw, send your progress photo (jpeg format) with <u>your name and which clue #</u> <u>you are submitting in the subject</u> <u>line</u> to **my email address**. Photos must be submitted a week before the guild meeting to be eligible for that month's draw and to make it into the slideshow for the guild meeting. Do not send them to the guild email, they won't count!

First deadline for submission is March 1, 2021. I know some of you out there are zipping along, and then there are some who haven't started...yet.

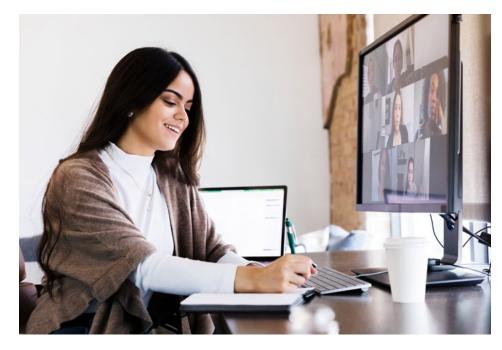
Missed the deadline? You will be entered in the following month, just as though we were meeting in person. It's not a race to keep up in any way. I keep repeating that sentiment, but really it is NOT A RACE! You got this!

Is it too late to join?? NO!! There is still time to join if you want to hang out with the greatest group ever! Cost \$15.00 per person. Use the "Contact Us" on the website regarding late registration and payment information. Clues will be emailed until such time that we can meet in person.

Looking forward to seeing the progress!!



We Are Recruiting!



Open Positions for the 2021-2022 Executive Committee - Sharon M

The Durham Trillium Quilters' Guild is only as successful as its members' involvement.

Despite these challenging times, the current executive is providing a guild year that surpasses many other guilds. We have been providing monthly virtual guild meetings, sew days, workshops, and executive meetings. This will continue into the next year whether it be virtually or in person.

To be successful, however, we are seeking out members to fill open positions on the executive. We would love to have you be part of the team that makes things happen. The goals of our guild (listed below) are achieved by having an executive in place and members who are committed to achieving them. Everyone in the guild is important and we all have skills and resources to contribute.

Please review the outlined positions that need to be filled for the 2021-2022 guild year and consider your availability to share your valuable talents with your fellow quilters.



Help Wanted: Member for Nominating Committee - Sharon M

A member of the guild is required to serve on the nominating committee along with the Past President and Vice President. The mission is to actively seek candidates and recruit for open positions on the guild executive for the next guild year: 2021-2022.

If you would like to assist with the recruitment, please contact Sharon M or Laura B to put your name forward. This is a short-term role but extremely important to the guild executive already in place for next year. Your guild needs you! Please respond by March 15.

We Need You



DTQG's Goals

- Enhance the knowledge of quilting
- Preserve quilting as an art form
- Establish, maintain, and upgrade quilting standards
- Exchange ideas and methods
- · Participate in community projects



Open Executive Positions

Guild Officer

Secretary

Voting Executive

- Membership
- Program
- Community Outreach
- Website
- Social
- Show & Share

Non-voting Executive

 Community Outreach Helper(s)

Secretary

This person is responsible to take, produce, and electronically distribute the Executive Meetings' minutes. Typically, the Executive Committee meets on the fourth Wednesday of every month except July. Currently, we have been meeting using Zoom. The president of the guild will establish the meeting schedule in August. If the secretary is not available to attend a scheduled meeting, it is their responsibility to find an alternative person to take down the minutes of the meeting. Another important task which falls under the Secretary's portfolio is that they are responsible for managing the Guild's email account by forwarding messages to appropriate members. Regular mail also falls in this person's docket. The guild post office box is in Oshawa near King and Park. The mail should be emptied at least once a month, prior to the executive meetings, and distributed accordingly.

You may also be asked to attend an officers' meeting once or twice a year. These are called by the president on an as required basis. Computer skills are required for this role. A working knowledge of word processing software is required for documenting the minutes.



Membership

The Membership Convenor is typically one of the first members a guest meets. A smile and friendly face are very welcoming to our members and guests.

The convenor is responsible for compiling our membership information using an Excel spreadsheet. To ensure members are current, the convenor ensures members have registered and paid dues prior to adding them to the current member listing. If meetings are in person, the convenor may receive payments on-site. If payments are sent by e-transfer or cheque, the convenor records information on payments by email.

Maintaining the email address list on our Gmail account, and ensuring it is current and up-to-date is also part of the job. Other duties include ordering badges for our members and reporting on membership numbers to the executive.

This position requires working knowledge of Excel and email. The Membership Assistant can help with the learning curve as well as provide ongoing assistance with the duties.

Once we are meeting again in person, the Membership Convenor is required to attend each meeting or arrange for a representative to represent them at the membership desk.

Program

The Program Convenor selects and arranges the main features for our monthly meetings, except for December and June. The proposed invitees are submitted to the Guild's Executive Committee for approval. Using word processing software and email, a contract is drawn and shared with all parties. This contract and a payment request form is then submitted to the Treasurer to arrange payment to the presenter.

The Program Convenor ensures all equipment required by presenters is available on meeting night. If these guests are speaking virtually, assistance is available to the convenor. With in-person meetings, the Program Convenor is to be there to greet the presenter and help with setup and take down if necessary. The Program Convenor also is responsible for introducing the guest speaker to the guild and thanking them after their presentation.

Community Outreach

Can you see yourself leading a group of quilters who produce what is needed for our guild to support our community? This has typically been a committee with a leader who would be the Community Outreach Convenor. At least one helper is also needed to assist the Convenor.

Community Outreach is an especially important part of our guild. This group prepares and tracks quilt kits, sorts through donated fabric, and distributes finished items to approved charities in the Durham region. The necessary supplies for this team may be kept in the Guild's storage unit or in someone's home. If you would like to be involved in this rewarding position, we would love to see this work continue. The current bins have been sorted and are in our storage unit just waiting for you.





Website

The Website Convenor is responsible for maintaining the guild's website. The convenor is also responsible for adding new features as approved by the Executive. You need to be able to create and edit documents on the computer. The website platform is provided, but the knowledge of editing documents in a word processor or other program will assist you in editing the website.

Social

Once we are meeting again in person it would be nice to have a Social Convenor to ensure we have refreshments and treats at our meetings. The equipment for hot beverages is currently in the storage unit and could be kept at the convenor's home if preferred. Treats are provided by members. The convenor creates a sign up for members to indicate which month they will bring refreshments.

Show & Share

The convenor arranges for the display and presentations of all materials brought to the meetings by members. If virtual meetings continue, ideally the convenor will create a power point presentation and share it at the meeting. Assistance on how to do this can be provided if necessary.

Proposed 2021-2022 Executive Committee

Officers	Voting Executive	Non-voting Executive
Debbie K • President Laura B • Vice President VACANT • Secretary Maureen E • Treasurer Sharon M • Past President	VACANT • Membership VACANT • Program Maria S • Library Holly P • Retreats Jacqueline H • Workshops & Sew Days Susan S • Publicity Advertising VACANT • Show & Share Kay K • Newsletter VACANT • Website Kate H • Block of the Month Mystery Quilt VACANT • Community Outreach VACANT • Social	Barbara S • Chance Draw Jacqueline H • Fabric Basket & Retta H Pam T • Fabric Exchange Janet H • Library Assistant Diana S • Membership Assistant VACANT • Community Outreach Helper(s)

Will you help? Organizations thrive when they have a diverse group of dedicated individuals who come together to solve problems and contribute their ideas, talents, and creative ways of getting work done. Be part of our team.

March 8 Guild Zoom Meeting

Speaker: Melissa Marginet Topic: Get Your Motor Running

Melissa Marginet is a quilter living in Manitoba, Canada. She says that she grew up next to her grandmother, and credits her for "a great start to my creative life."

Melissa says she caught the "quilting bug" in 2001 when she took a Log Cabin class to get rid of some fabric laying around. It sounds like this backfired, because now she has "way more fabric laying around now than she



did back then."

Melissa is the creator and webmaster of Quilt Manitoba, a website that lists quilt resources, links, and activities for quilters living in, or visiting Manitoba. Melissa's presentation will be about learning how to spark creativity in yourself or in your guild with challenges that will have everyone thinking outside of the box.

This trunk show has more ideas than you will know what to do with, to get everyone not only learning new techniques, but building their quilting and creative confidence. You can learn more about Melissa at:

melissamarginet.ca

Show & Share - Anne M & Jean K

Our monthly Show & Share is a chance to share finished quilt projects. We love to admire your work and hear the background story about the importance of the project to you. To display your quilt "virtually," please send a photo of finished projects with a few remarks to Laura B via dtqguild@gmail.com by 5:00 PM on Friday, March 5.

Please remember to:

- put "Show & Share" in the email subject
- include the name of the person submitting the quilt since we can't always tell from the email address
- send as many pictures as you like, but if there are a lot provided, we will limit displaying photos to two shares per person
- indicate your favorites if submitting more than two pictures
- provide a short blurb about the quilt(s) OR
- specify if you will talk about the quilt(s) at the meeting (note that stories will be limited to one minute per quilt)

Multiple entries welcome, but please use a separate email for each entry. Each submission qualifies for the monthly draw of a \$10 gift certificate from a local quilt shop. In June 2021, there will be a draw that includes all entries for the year. So remember - the more you participate, the greater your chance of winning a prize!







Quilters Courtepointières

ANA BUZZALINO ZOOM WEBINAR PRESENTATION MARCH 13, 2021 AT 4 PM EST

Creativity in Times of Covid

Covid-19 has changed our lives. We have been enveloped in a tsunami of news about the virus. We've had to self-isolate, social distance, wash our hands, etc. All that, on top of everything else that's going on in the world, has taken a toll on our creativity and motivation.

In this PowerPoint presentation, Ana shares her views – together with some experts – on how to stay creative and motivated in times of stress. And how important it is to our well-being and mental health.

Ana shares ideas that will help you stay connected with your own creativity and find the motivation to move forward.

Check out Ana's website for more information about this very

Ana's Website



talented quilter and her work.

Tickets are limited for this event, so don't delay in purchasing yours.

The price is \$10 + tax for CQA/ ACC members.

Ticket sales will open for nonmembers on March 8 and will be \$20 + tax.



Upcoming Sew Days

Jacqueline H has planned our next sew dates. And THANK YOU to those who made more placemats for the Meals on Wheels (MoW) program.

Collection of the Meals on Wheels placemats will be from March 5 - 12. Drop off locations to be announced.

Mark your calendars for the following events, and start times will be announced at our Guild meeting or via email.

- Sat, Mar 6 Sew Day
- Sun, Mar 14 Sew Day
- Wed, Mar 17 St. Patrick's Quilt 'til You Wilt Sew Day
- Sun, Mar 28 Sew Day
- Sun, Apr 4 Sew Day
- Wed, Apr 15 Quilt 'til You Wilt Sew Day
- Sat, Apr 24 Sew Day

Remember that pre-registering

for the Sew Days organized by Jacqueline H puts you in the running for a \$10 gift card. The reason for pre-registration is to minimize potential online disruptions from strangers who may "crash the party" by doing or saying inappropriate things.

Looking forward to enjoying your company at these "sew" productive, uplifting, social events.

30+ Free Patterns for Quilted Placemats

All article website and email addresses are clickable links.



Quilting Retreat Goes Digital! - Steven B

Let's have some fun at a "Virtual Quilting and Crafting Retreat." This is a one day free event sponsored by **Ultimate Sewing Centre** (Oshawa, ON) and **The Idiot Quilter** (Steven Bland). This is open to all Quilters, Sewers, and Crafters.

When: Saturday, March 20, 2021 from 9:00 AM - 9:00 PM (EST) Where: In your home via Zoom! Cost: FREE!

There will be games, guest speakers, prizes, Show and Share, a virtual swag bag, entertainment, product reveals and more throughout the day (and of course plenty of time to work on your quilting, sewing and crafting projects).

To register, please send your full name and email address to stevenbland@sympatico.ca by Monday, March 15, 2021 (limited number of spaces available). Upon registration, you will be sent by email the schedule for the day and a Virtual Swag Bag.

Questions? Email Steven Bland at stevenbland@sympatico.ca. This is going to be a hoot! Register soon!!









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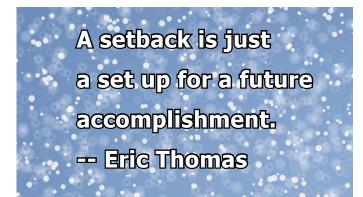
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> 1621 McEwen Drive #37 Whitby, Ontario L1N 9A5 905-435-8720 Find me on YouTube @ whirlsnswirlsquilting

An Apology

In the February newsletter, a Maxine cartoon was included. Regrettably, it did not reflect the values and inclusive community standards of our guild. Our intent was to add humour, not to offend any of the membership. The editor and the review team offer our apologies, and we regret any offense this comic may have caused.

Library - Maria S

Another online source with many patterns is the Riley Blake Designs website. The pattern here is called "Bunnies and Baskets" just in time for Spring and Easter celebrations. Click on the picture to link to the company's website. If you need any further assistance, please contact me.





No one tells you "sewing" actually is:

- 30% Tracing
- 30% Cutting
- 30% Seam Ripping
- 09% Figuring out what's wrong with your machine | needle | tension
- 0.5% Actual Sewing before the supervisor interupts you

Editor - Kay K

I'm looking for graphics. Sometimes, it's hard to find the right quilt illustration on a stock photo website, particularly when the Show & Share pictures demonstrate the incredible talent of our guild.

If you are interested in having your quilt or other item potentially featured as a graphic illustration in one of our newsletters, I'd love to get a picture of your project for our guild's graphic library. Submission signifies you give permission for the DTQG to use your photo for its newsletters as needed. Put newsletter as subject.

Please email me at: dtqguild@gmail.com

Guild Meeting Dates

Our guild meets every second Monday of the month.

In-person meetings are currently suspended due to COVID-19's physical distancing requirements.

Instead, members and preregistered visitors will receive an email invitation to Zoom meetings. We look forward to you joining in and sharing at our virtual meetings.

Upcoming Presentations:

March 8 - Get Your Motor Running by Melissa Marginet April 12 - Trunk Show à la Mode by Dawn Piasta May 10 - Pandemic Art Quilt's Journey by Bethany Garner

Never Say Never - Kay K

This is not the topic I planned to include for this month's newsletter. However, since Debbie K brought it up in her article, I will fill you in on how I became a member of the Durham Trillium Quilters' Guild.

First, I firmly believe that the universe never puts you somewhere it doesn't want you to be. I have had this lesson come true in my life over and over. Sometimes, it's the most random things that get you onto a path you never dreamed you would take.

A year ago, I NEVER thought I would be doing the newsletter for a quilting guild, a craft of which I am an absolute newbie. Let me back up to the very roundabout beginning. My husband loves to sail. About 14 years ago, we bought our boat in the British Virgin Islands, and he sailed it up to Canada. We keep "Jabberwocky" at the Whitby Yacht Club where we've been members for more than 10 years. One of the club's membership stipulations is that every boat owner has to contribute 20 volunteer hours every year.

One of the things I got involved with to complete our hours was to be part of the coffee crew that brought refreshments to our volunteers when we launch and haul-out our boats at the start and end of the sailing season. (I know, I'm getting to the quilting part...) Eventually, I became the Coffee Crew Captain, and it was my job to recruit helpers for these events. It was fun getting to know my assistants as we would carry out our duties.

Soon, I decided to start a new initiative to help things run more smoothly during launch and haulout, and I needed dependable people for my team. Patricia K was one of my recruits. I had gotten to know her casually when she volunteered on my coffee crews. (Yes, the quilting part is coming up... but I told you, this is randomness at its best).

My new program was a success. I had fabulous people on my team and we were able to get to know each other even better during the down time from our duties.

One day, to help pass the hours, Patricia K started showing my team some pictures of the quilt projects she was working on.

I was in awe of how beautiful her work was and it astounded me that she accomplished all of this with needle, thread and fabric. I determined that I would take some classes to learn how to sew. Soon, I enrolled at Durham College and I made it through three courses.

In the meantime, Patricia K invited me to visit the Durham Trillium Quilters' Guild to see if I would be interested in the programs. Her invitation was outA year ago, I NEVER thought I would be doing the newsletter for a quilting guild, a craft of which I am an absolute beginner.

standing for over two years. I never found the time, or I forgot. Finally, in 2018, after completing two sewing classes and feeling some frustrations about sewing, I got up the nerve to ask Patricia K to tutor me, and we spent the Jan 2019 winter season working on a sample quilt where I learned a lot of quilting techniques from her.

In May 2019, Patricia K reminded me again about the guild, and I determined to come for a visit. However, we didn't see each other for the entire summer, and I never made it to a guild meeting until January 2020.

It was comforting to see Patricia K on my first visit, and I thoroughly enjoyed the program. So much so, that I paid the fee to become a member. At the next

> Next newsletter submission deadline: April 26 9:00 AM

meeting, Patricia wasn't there, so I was feeling a little lost. However, Maria S picked up right away that I was new, and she gave me a complete orientation, even assigning me a walker's bag kit to complete and showing me the library system. She was the perfect hostess the entire evening, making sure I felt comfortable and at home. The guild's president, Sharon M took the time to greet me and I was impressed by how well the program flowed.

On my third visit, I met Debbie K. She introduced herself, and despite having lost a dear family member, she took the time to chat with me a bit. I also turned in the walker bag I made.

Well, COVID-19 came along the next month (one year ago) and we could no longer meet in person.

I missed seeing the gorgeous quilts in the Show & Share, and hearing the various stories – good and challenging – from the Kudos strips. I was hoping to check out a book from the library, and see what fabric scraps were available to add to my meager play around stash.

I believe it was our first meeting via Zoom when Sharon M asked if anyone would be willing to volunteer for the newsletter. Well, I knew I could help in that capacity. I may still struggle to sew an HST (I now know that means half square triangle, and not a tax) with perfect points, but I do know how to plan out a graphic project. I kept debating with myself as the meeting progressed whether or not I would volunteer. Finally, I figured if I really want to get better at quilting, I'd better offer my help where needed. I said I'd do it.

The next day, I had "buyer's remorse." What was I thinking? I don't know very much about quilting and my sewing confidence is not that strong.

Later on, Laura B connected with me to give me the files I needed to get started on the newsletter, and she was so patient, friendly, and kind, that I couldn't back out.

I'm thrilled to be working on the newsletter. It's helping me rekindle skills I've been letting slide a little. But more importantly, the people who invited me, casually had conversations with me, those who took the time to notice me, all made me feel welcomed. For the people who took the random chance to talk to a stranger, the effort may not have been that much on their part. Yet for me, it was wonderful to meet nice people and make new acquaintances.

I hope I can encourage you to put forward your talents for next



My First Walker Bag

year's executive. It's an opportunity to grow, learn, and find new, perhaps unexpected paths that you may thoroughly enjoy. I certainly have and I've made a lot of new friends along the way. It was totally unexpected but also extremely rewarding. And the best bonus is I've got a great resource group to help coach me on my path to better quilting.

Life is too short to wake up in the morning with regrets. So, love the people who treat you right, forgive to ones who don't and believe that verything happens for a reason. If you get the chance, take it. If it changes your life, let it. Nobody said it would be easy, they isst promised it would be worth it. - Dr. Seuss