

Patchwork Press



Newsletter for the Durham Trillium Quilters' Guild

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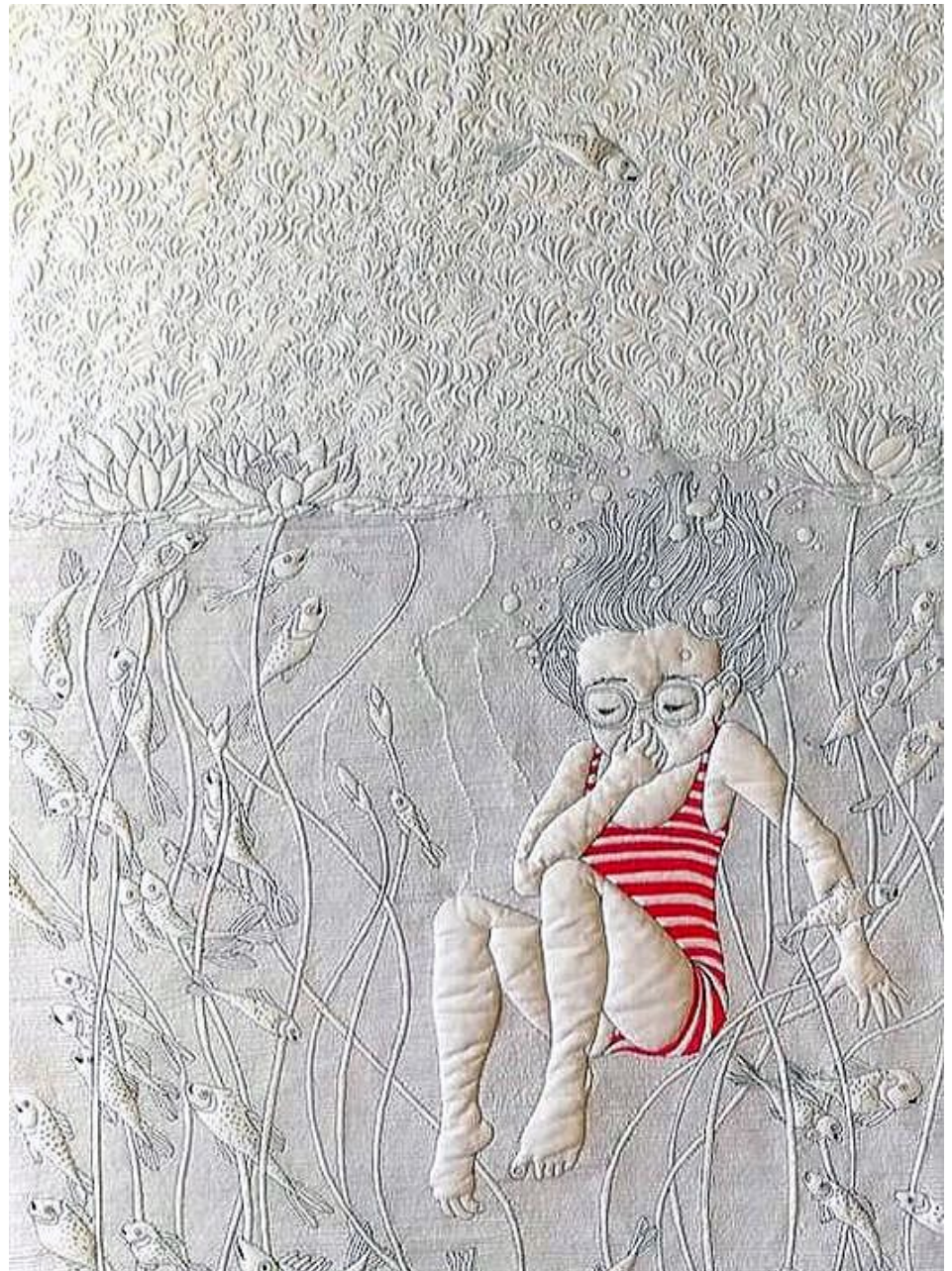
September 2021 – Issue 01 | www.durhamtrilliumquiltersguild.ca | Email: dtqguild@gmail.com

President's Message - Debbie K

Hello Everyone,

My goodness, it is the end of August already! Where did the time fly to? I really thought I had much more summer to get things like my mystery quilt done. Not so much, I am still in the process of creating my sewing area out of the bins, boxes and various other portation devices I used to move everything. Good news is that the rest of the house is complete and now I can focus on my happy place.

One thing I have been working on is enjoying the journey and appreciating the small blessings that occur every day. I take time to sit in the sunroom and watch the birds and other animals that come to chow down while I have a coffee. My cat loves the freedom of going outside onto the porch and just hanging out. He loves to watch the movement of the birds and yesterday he and a squirrel were face to face about a foot away from each other. Just looking at each other



Info on Page 12



wondering who each other was. Squirrel finally left, Brighton went back to bird watching.

We have had some pretty intense weather this last month. Someone compared it to being on the front porch of Hades. Pretty good description of the heat and humidity we have been enduring. I hope that all of you are doing okay and that the heat was a good reason to hide away in your sewing rooms and work away at the projects that bring you joy.

Speaking of projects that bring you joy, I am so looking forward to the Show and Share at our meeting September 13th. Many of the pictures I have seen on Facebook and projects that have been shared at our virtual Sew Days are so inspiring and our members are totally amazing. It will be great to see all of you again on our Zoom meeting Monday, Sept 13th.

Yes, for the foreseeable future, we will continue to meet virtually only. It also means that our November Retreat will be delayed to next year. With the uncertainty of policies, the extremely short timeline and not knowing how the numbers are going to change once more people are meeting inside

buildings, we want to ensure that all our members are kept as safe as possible and to not put unrealistic expectations on our Retreat coordinator. Holly has been keeping all of us very well informed when she can get relevant information and she is looking forward to being able to run an excellent Retreat once we can do it well. Here is hop-

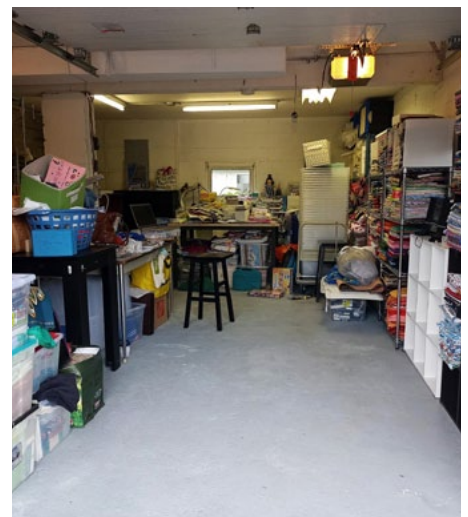
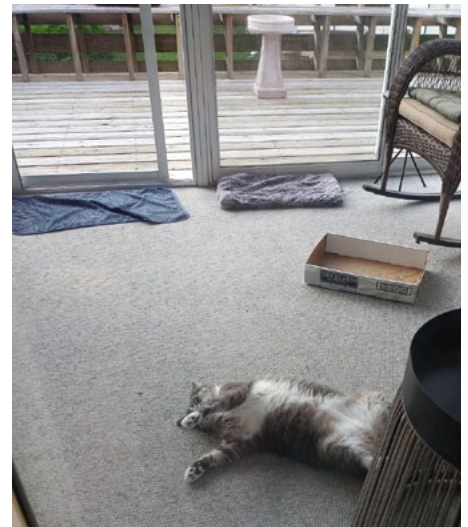
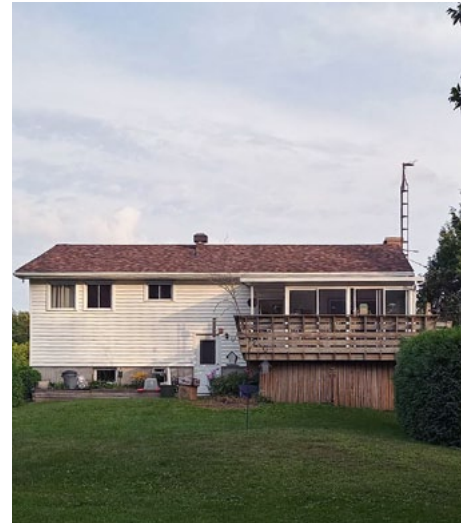
“...our Sew Days are so inspiring and our members are totally amazing.”

ing we can get together in the Spring. Until then we will continue to have Sew Days and impromptu get togethers.

For those who would wish to have a get together on Zoom you could contact myself or Laura and we could set up a Zoom meeting for you which, once we get it started, you would run and have fun. Probably

better to connect with me (Debbie) first as Laura has a pretty busy job. I am available most days.

Well, it has stopped raining here and I have some things to accomplish outside before dusk and mosquito time. Enjoy your day and I look forward to seeing you in September. (I have included some pictures of our new place; my husband and I feel so blessed that we found this little slice of heaven to us. Gratitude overflowing for our many blessings.) Blessings to all and see you soon.





Criteria for Posting an Upcoming Event/Activity - Sharon M

Over the last year, the executive has determined that a process was needed to communicate upcoming events/activities identified by a member.

The information below outlines the criteria and process to follow when an event/activity comes to a member's attention. The preferred method of communication is our newsletter which is published monthly. If the event is time sensitive, an approval process will be followed with the intent to minimize the number of emails sent to members.

I trust that this new procedure will assist in the communication of events/activities that are of interest to our members.



Criteria for Posting an Upcoming Event/Activity

1. The event/activity is determined to be of interest to the members.
2. The newsletter is the preferred method to communicate the upcoming event/activity.
3. The member identifying the event will receive no financial gain or personal advertising if posted in the newsletter or through the guild email.
4. Approval will be required to send notice through the guild's email account.
5. The event can also be announced at a virtual or in-person guild meeting.

Process for Notification of Upcoming Events/Activities

1. An event is defined as an event/activity that would be of interest to guild members.
2. It can be an in-person or virtual event.
3. The newsletter is the preferred method of notifying members of an event.
4. The member who wishes the event to be published in the newsletter will send all the information to the newsletter convenor. It will be published in the next monthly newsletter.
5. The newsletter submissions deadline dates are available on the DTQG website.
6. If the event is time sensitive, a request can be made to have the information sent through the guild's Gmail account.
7. The request will go through an approval process.
8. All the information for the event needs to be emailed to the President.
9. The event will be reviewed by the President and one other officer of the executive.
10. You will be notified by the President as to the status of your request.
11. When approved, the event information will be sent by the President to the Secretary or designated person who has access to the Gmail distribution list.
12. The approval process will be completed within three business days or sooner, if possible.



September 13 Zoom Meeting - Laura B

Whoo Hoo! We are starting another guild year! For the September program we will view some on-line videos about Bisa Butler, an American fiber artist known for her vibrant, quilted portraits celebrating black life – from everyday people to notable historical figures. Through her quilts, Ms. Butler aims to “tell stories that may have been forgotten over time.”

See you on Monday, September 13 at 7:00 PM.

Morale Officer - Jacqueline H

We feel we may still have a ways to go before things return to normal, but in the mean time we are holding our chins up and marching on!

We have moved to a monthly update on the guild’s Keep Calm - Morale webpage

We are in this together. We shall survive and thrive.

Measure twice, cut once, then force it to fit.

Guild Meeting Dates

Our guild meets at 7:00 PM every second Monday of the month from September to June.

If you are interested in following our newsletters, they are posted on the first Monday of every month of our guild year on our website under “Newsletters.”

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

Until COVID-19 restrictions are lifted, members and pre-registered visitors will receive an email invitation to Zoom meetings. We look forward to you joining in and sharing at our virtual meetings this fall. We have a great line-up of presentators scheduled for the months ahead. Be sure to save these dates to join in our meetings.

Scheduled Guild Meeting Dates

- September 13
- October 11
- November 8
- December 13
- January 10
- February 14
- March 14
- April 11
- May 9
- June 13

Save these Dates!

Fabric Basket - Jacqueline H

OH MY GOODNESS.... I can hardly imagine how much fabric you have set aside for the fabric basket! As you set aside your scraps remember that most people like them to

be about the size of your hand or bigger.

If you have an overabundance of fabric basket scraps that are smaller than your palm, you might consider placing them in a zip lock bag and dropping that off in the

fabric basket. As I have learned, some of our members love the challenge of piecing with tiny scraps.

Again, please place them in a zip lock bag before distributing at our next in-person guild meeting.



Sew Day Socials - Jacqueline H

Summer Sew Days have come and gone! Between 20 and 35 like-minded friends joined together to share a few stitches. We swapped recipes, jokes, laughs, and now cherish many wonderful memories.

A special thank you to Angie S who provided us with a detailed and exciting Post Card demonstration. She answered a multitude of questions, and gave us wonderful ideas on how we could use these unique cards. These customized projects would be truly admired by anyone receiving them.

Angie did double duty when she explained how we could use

up our scraps in their fabrication.

A second special "thank you" to Sharon M for her in-service on half square triangles. From running your own numbers, to using your rulers effectively, she covered it all. Many a quilter is excited to use up scraps in this half-square triangle manner.

Our Sew Day winners are:

- Sew Day 16 on June 12th, Holly P.
- Sew Day 17 on June 27th Bev M.
- Sew Day 18 on July 14th Anne A.

For this issue, our "Sew Day Sisters" bring you the following.

"I've been sewing all afternoon... I can't believe I didn't

think of something for dinner" suggestions:

1. Kraft Dinner or (mac and cheese) with onions and tomatoes, served with an accompanying salad.
2. Fried hamburger, add drained, stewed tomatoes and macaroni.
3. Toss fresh tomatoes, dill, and mayo. Serve with toast and soup.
4. Chicken Stroganoff - Brown meat, add 1 can of cream of mushroom soup, ½ cup water and 1 package of dry onion soup mix. Make in one pan. When cooked, add 4 ounces of cream cheese. Serve over noodles.



Clean Your Machine

According to my sister-in-law, it feels like you've lost a really good friend when your sewing machine is on the fritz. We seem to get very sentimentally attached to these appliances.

Thanks to Maureen E for sharing this article link on how to properly clean and maintain your sewing machine to minimize any unfortunate downtime.

And a huge "You're the Best!" to Rick McBride for fixing my SIL's machine. She brought it all the way from PEI, and is super happy to have it running smoothly again.



Show & Share - Laura B for Peggy G

This year we will continue with our monthly tradition of Show & Share, as we love to be able to see everyone's finished quilt projects. It is inspiring to see the work done by everyone and fun to hear the stories on the process and the history / meaning of the various quilts and projects. As we are continuing with virtual meetings, we will continue with having you submit photos of your quilts in advance of the meetings.

As Peggy G takes over the Show & Share, we are going to try a new process this year. Please send photos of your Show & Share quilts to **dtqgShowNShare@gmail.com** instead of the regular guild email. For the September meeting, please have these sent by 5:00 PM on Wednesday, September 8, to allow Peggy some time to get them into her first presentation.

Please remember to:

- Send one email per quilt/project
- Include "Show & Share" in the email subject
- Include the name of the person submitting the quilt (we can't always tell from the email address and we will make it up if we can't tell)
- Please only send a maximum of 2-3 photos per quilt/project.

You can send as many project emails as you like, but if there are a lot submitted, we will limit displayed projects to two per person. So, if submitting more than 2 projects, please indicate your preferred 2 or we will just randomly select them.

If you will not be speaking about your quilt at the meeting, please provide a very short blurb about the quilt(s) in the email. Note that speaking of the quilts will be limited to one minute per quilt at the meeting. And don't forget...each submission qualifies for the monthly draw of a \$10 gift certificate to a local quilt store. Looking forward to see your beautiful projects.



Ironwoman Competition



Interesting

International artist, Luke Jerram decided to create a giant patchwork quilt that included fabrics representing Wales along with other countries. Click on the picture to link to the website.



Comfy Cases Project

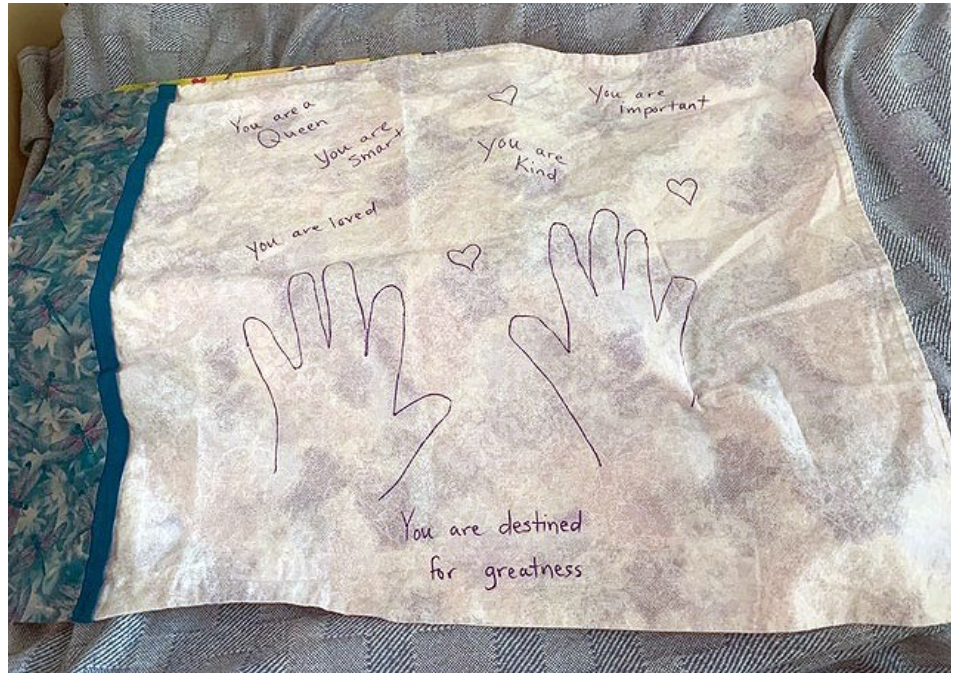
Nobody likes to be in sick in a hospital. For children, it can be super overwhelming. Comfy Cases is an organization that is working to help make hospital stays more comfortable for youngsters, particularly those diagnosed with serious illnesses.

Launched in 2020, this Canadian non-profit organization brings volunteers together to stitch fun, colourful pillowcases for children with cancer or other life changing illnesses. As a program of Ontario Parents Advocating for Children with Cancer (OPACC), they are dedicated to improving the quality of life for children and their families.

Comfy Cases expanded their reach to all children under medical care in hospital who need a smile. Please listen to this [clip](#) of an interview with a Child Life Specialist about the impact of these pillowcases on the children and their parents.

The organization learned recently that it's not only the ill child who needs support. Here's a note received just a month ago from a Child Life Specialist in a Toronto hospital:

I also wanted to let you know that some of the pillowcases



Legacy Pillowcase prepared for a four-year-old daughter

that are plain (on the large part of the pillow), I have been using for a special legacy building activity when a parent will likely not survive their illness. I trace the parent's handprints onto the pillowcase and give the child the pillowcase so that they can feel connected to their loved one while they are apart, and even after death.

With the mother's permission, here's a photo of a "Legacy Pillowcase" prepared for her four-year-old daughter. The mother is in ICU and her child can't visit at

this time. The words are what the mother would say to her daughter at bedtime.

How You Can Help

Please visit their website at: www.comfycases.ca and click on the Get Involved page. Scroll down and check out the various ways you can assist with this amazing initiative.

For some truly heart-warming stories, visit their [Facebook page](#). You are welcome to join this group.

This project is a great way to destash your fabric and put it towards a very worthy cause. In par-



ticular, Comfy Cases is in need of Halloween and Christmas cases since they make a big deal about these events at the hospitals. They tell us it's very special for each child who has to be in hospital during a holiday season to enjoy a Comfy Case pillowcase. Ages range from newborn to 18 years old.

Overall, the organization needs funds, fabric, and your sewing, washing, ironing time if available.

If you make some Comfy Cases, please coordinate with Claudia K to arrange pick-up. Any questions? Ideas? Please contact her at:

claudiak@comfycases.ca

Burrito Pillowcase Pattern Video

For a great YouTube tutorial, click on the above link for a pillowcase pattern. You will need three fabrics:

- Body – 27" + WOF
- Accent – 2" + WOF
- Cuff – 10" + WOF

Please ensure that the fabric is 100% cotton and the pillowcase should be sewn with finished (French) seams.



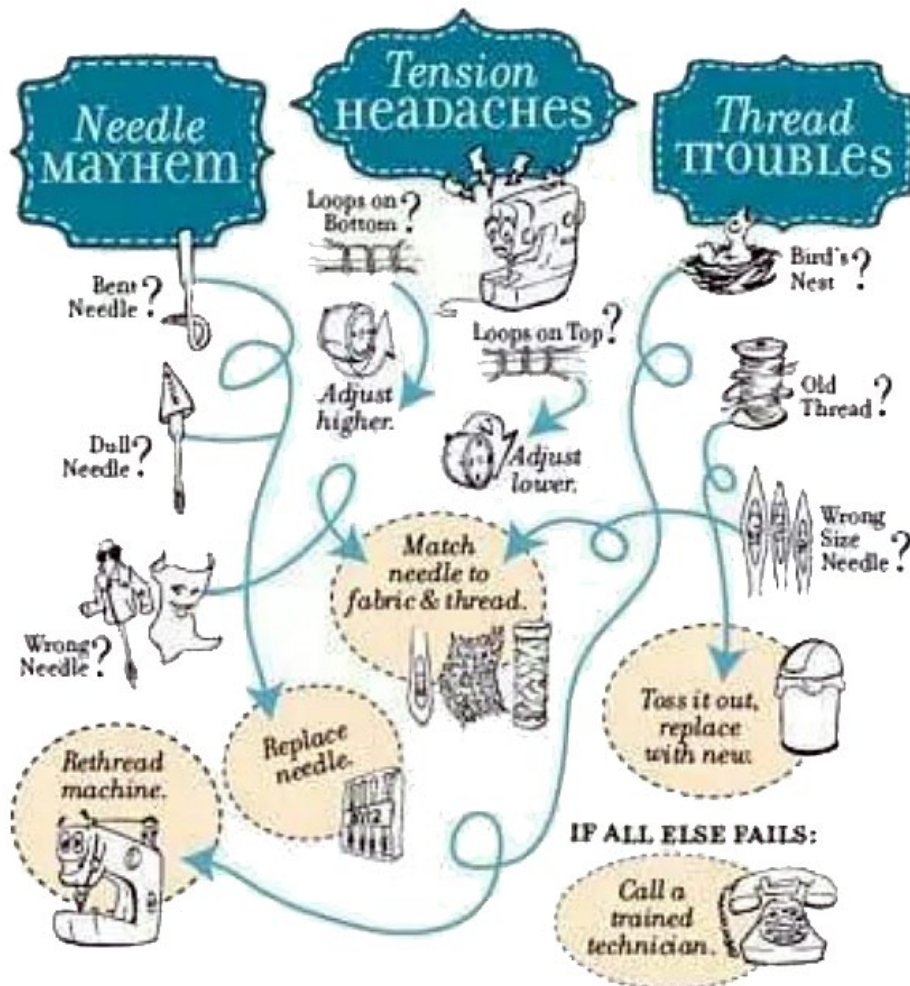
Comfy cases are not just for children, they bring comfort to their families, too

Canadian Provincial Wildflower Quilt Pattern

Designed by Sandra Small Proudfoot for the moderately experienced quilter, this pattern first appeared in the August 1985 issue of Canadian Living Magazine under the name "Bower of Flowers." At that time it consisted of 12 patterns representing the native plants specifically designated as provincial and territorial flowers. In the intervening years, the Purple Saxifrage for the Nunavut Territory was added, and Quebec changed its flower to the Blue Flag. Patterns for all 13 current, official floral emblems are included in both the digital and physical versions of the quilt.

The quilt pattern is available as a **digital download** (print it yourself) or as a folded pattern, sent to you in the mail.

SEWING MACHINE TROUBLESHOOTING



As seen in the Dec/Jan 2014 issue of Sew News: sewnews.com.
Illustration by Dustin Resch: dustinresch.com.

Hourglass Block

I'm with the author of this article. I love shortcuts. Amy Smart goes through her experience of producing a video on the set of the Missouri Star Quilt Company with Mlsty Doan.

She also goes over a great technique to create blocks that can be used in a variety of projects. Flexibility is awesome!

Something New

You don't have to own a Bernina sewing machine to follow along with this in-depth tutorial. This is a totally new project if you are all caught up on all your UFOs.

The block is called "Bride's Bouquet" and it looks like it can get pretty fancy. I think I'll put this one on my bucket list, especially since it involves "Y" seams.

Something Curved

Here's a unique mini quilt project that gets curvy. Apparently, there's a bit of improv involved with this, but the results are fab!

Library - Maria S & Janet H

Because of the cancellation of meetings this past year, our library books have only been in storage.

We are updating our files and will be making them available on our website, so that if anyone would like to borrow books in a similar way as picking up a Community Quilt Kit, you will be able to do so.

We also have a number of books and magazines that were donated to us this summer and they will be entered in our file also.



Community Quilts - Maria S, Andrew S, Pam T, Diana S

Thank you to all the members who have picked up and are working on Community Quilt Kits. Pam has a few kits available and will have more for you to pick up next week.

Thanks to the members who have returned their completed quilts. Pictured is one that was completed by Gail. Thanks, Gail!

We will be highlighting completed quilts for you to enjoy.

Membership Renewal- Grace R

Welcome back to another exciting year of quilting, workshops, sew days and unfortunately zoom meetings (for September to December to meet government regulations on the number of people meeting indoors during the Covid pandemic).

To continue social distancing and to ensure your registration arrives at the guild website in a timely manner (mail tends to be fairly slow right now), it is possible to renew your membership [online](#) and electronically e-transfer your \$40.00 membership fees.

I will send an email to you once both your REGISTRATION AND E-TRANSFER of fees have been received making you a "member in good standing." If you mail in either your registration or money,



you will still receive a confirmation from me once I have received both of them.

We have 33 members registered for the 2021-2022 guild year.

Thank you to all of our members that have already registered and paid your dues. I look forward to seeing you at our first meeting on September 13.

Block Library

When you connect to this website page, it will display one particular block. However, in the left side menu, you can peruse through all kinds of block ideas and download the patterns as needed. Be sure to click on the sample quilt layout for your block in order to access the free block pattern.



Shaded 4 Patch

I'm still learning a lot of quilting vocabulary, and this is a new one for me. Apparently, this block has a bunch of different names, but it still looks pretty cool. Check it out.

8 Reasons to Sew

Grab your favorite beverage and settle into your comfiest chair.

While quite a long article, it outlines some great reasons why people should learn to sew, and may motivate you to tutor someone in learning this craft. It's easier than ever to pick up some basics with the amount of online resources available as guidelines.

Disappearing 9 Patch

Ok, don't roll your eyes at me. Yes, a Disappearing 9 Patch may be as old as quilting itself. But, this article may point out a couple of ideas you may not have considered before. Also, there are a number of links that could lead into new territory. At least give it a once over.

Diamond in the Rough

While this pattern is not free, it looks like it would go together rather quickly with very eye catching results.

Sewing Curves

This is a great tutorial that I'm going to bookmark so I can visit it again. Great step-by-step pics, too.



Sewing Needle Tutorial

It's been fascinating to see some of the embroidery that our members have done on various projects. This little tutorial goes over various types of embroidery needles and their best uses. I'm less confused now about how needles are categorized when it comes to their numbers.

Binding Video Tutorial

Many of you are already experts when it comes to binding. For people like me, Jenny Doan of the Missouri Quilt Company makes the process less intimidating with her easy-to-follow instructions.

English Paper Piecing

Sarah Ashford's article on the Modern Quilt Guild website is very in-depth. When I see handiwork like this, my mind is always boggled at the patience, time, and labour that goes into these incredible creations. In today's rush, rush way of life, it's good to know that you can always slow down and sew.

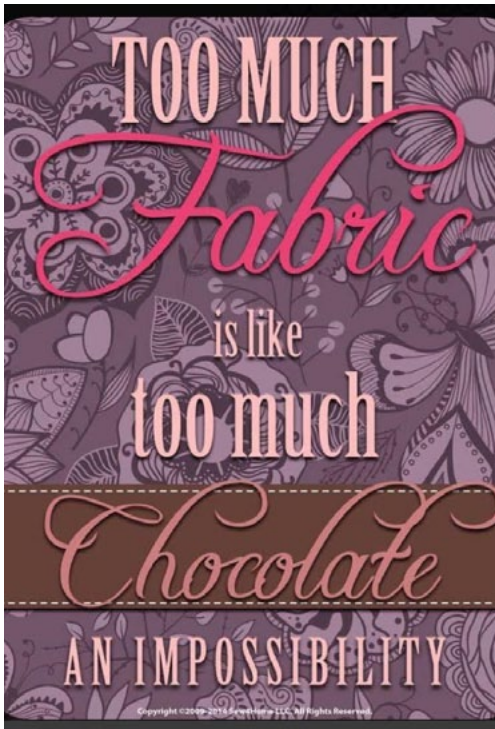
Frugal Patterns

Since COVID-19 restrictions lifted, we've finally been able to get out and shop. My sister-in-law and I certainly made up for not being in a quilt store for almost two years. So much so, that I really gulped at the cash-out desk a couple of times. It was hard to swallow.

Nobody really tells you how expensive quilting can be. Or maybe, you have secret ways for keeping costs down that I have yet to learn. Anyhow, this article provides some tips that use up your fabric scraps quite efficiently.

Scrappy Quilt Tips

Speaking of using up fabric scraps, here's another article that helps you focus on getting a scrap quilt done. Many of us have been working on major quilt projects during the lockdown, and while you have been storing up lots of leftovers for when we meet again, you may be inspired to pull out some fabric and try some of these techniques and ideas.



Front Page Graphic

Isn't this an amazing piece of artistry?

It's been incredibly difficult to find details about this quilt. I know it's called "the Jump" and it was created in 2018 by Cristina Arcenegui Bono of Spain.

It also seems that it was part of the 2018 Houston International Quilt Festival.

In researching Cristina, the quilt's creator and designer, I discovered she began quilting in 1999 after watching the movie, "How make an American Quilt." Check out her [Facebook](#) page, too.

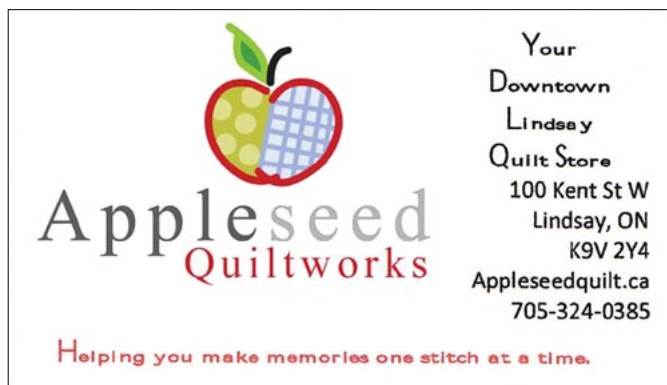


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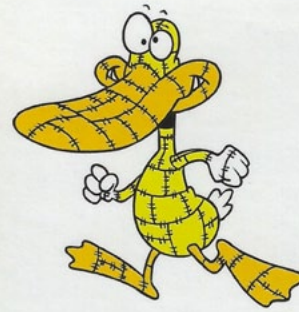


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Quilters Are Wonderful People – Kay K

Well, here's my recent experience that restores my faith in humanity.

My sister-in-law lives in PEI.

She has been sewing and quilting way longer than I have, since high school, I believe. Once a year, she and her husband trek to Ontario to visit family – Dad, and two brothers. Unfortunately, due to stay-at-home restrictions, they didn't make it last year.

Our husbands know that when we get together, anything can happen. Before Miss W came, I called to ask what her agenda was for her visit. She needed to get one of her sewing machines repaired and she wanted to visit some fabric stores.

At the time of my call late July, Ontario was still locked down, so I wanted to ensure I could make appointments for us at a couple of quilt shops. Thankfully, the restrictions lifted just before her August visit, and we headed out to Applesseed Quiltworks in Lindsay. That was fun...and expensive.

The next day, we were still excited about our purchases from our previous outing, and the freedom of being able to shop again without appointments or line-ups on the sidewalk. Together, Miss W and I made plans for our next fabric excursion. My brother-in-law also had a shopping agenda, so we wanted to make sure we accom-

modated his desires as well.

With promises of "this will be a quick trip" to my brother-in-law, we headed out to the Ultimate Sewing Centre. Miss W had purchased a really cute quilt pattern the day before, and now she was trying to find the fabric for her new project. We hummed and hawed over what would be her feature fabric, and then we set about trying to choose complimentary fabrics to help highlight the main one.

Shirley came by and gave us a few helpful suggestions, but we still were not getting anywhere fast. We pulled bolts off the shelves, and kept evaluating the "matchiness" of various colours. Finally, another shopper spoke up. "No! Put that green away, the undertones are too yellow. Here, try this one instead."

Her recommendation was magical, the colours fell inline. Our mystery shopper continued to go through what we had selected.

"This one is good, don't care for that blue, and why don't you try this red?"

This woman had quite the artistic eye! Of course, we had to introduce ourselves. Nurse S was retired, but is currently helping out in a long-term care facility due to the pandemic. She had us in stitches with her funny commentaries. "I've finally found a cat to match my dog!" she declared

as she continued to pull fabrics to coordinate with Miss W's project. Finally, Nurse S said, "I think you need to go to Annie's."

"Aren't they closed now?" I asked. It was after just after 3 pm.

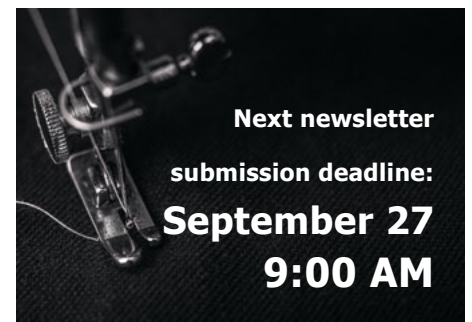
"Oh, it's ok. I'll call over and have them stay open for you."

"What? Really? Ok...I'm not sure where Annie's is, I've never been there," I stammered.

"No problem, follow me and I'll get you there!"

Miss W and I scrambled to pay for our items, and dashed to the car. A hasty call to a waiting brother-in-law was made. His shopping would have to be postponed. In moments, we were taking the east-bound on-ramp to the 401 heading for Annie's.

Upon arrival, I was astounded. It felt like we had missed the gun fight at high noon in a Western. Along the dusty, dirt lane, there was a wagon repair shop, a hotel, post office, a dry goods store, and of course, a saloon, all weathered and ancient. We didn't get much time to look around as we followed Nurse S into the fabric store.





Profusely thanking Ann for staying open, we began to hunt for our remaining quilt requirements.

Miss W and I continued to be amazed at Nurse S's ability to coordinate just the right tones for Miss W's project. We kept Nurse S busy for almost an hour, while graciously, Ann and Gail patiently waited for us to finish. After check-out and grateful good-byes to Ann and Gail, we ended up at the McDonald's for a cool drink and an energizing chat, with Nurse S footing the bill.

What an incredible experience. I will remember this outing for a very long time. Quilters are wonderful people. It's amazing to me that people will still take the time to help out complete strangers. While we admired her flair for choosing coordinating colours and fabrics, we loved Nurse S's kind and giving heart most of all.

