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Patchwork Press

A newsletter for the
Durham Trillium Quilters' Guild

durhamtrilliumquiltersguild.ca

dtqguild@gmail.com

November 2025

President's Message

Debbie W.

The beautiful colours of fall have almost faded and soon it will be a Canadian winter season. November is the month we think of our Veterans, those who have fought and those who are still engaged maintaining our country and freedom.

We are so thankful for all you have done and are doing. Remember to stop and take pause for our veterans on November 11th and wear your poppy over your heart with pride.

“At the going down of the sun and in the morning we will remember them”

At the September meeting members were asked to think about the future of our library. We have had a volunteer step forward to take care of the library if it is decided to continue. I will be asking for a show of hands regarding how our members would like to move forward.

We will also be talking a bit about our Quilt show and looking for the support of our members.
“Team Work Makes The Dream Work”.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the November meeting.

Warmest Regards

Debbie W

President 😊

Vice President

Debbie K.

Hello Quilting Enthusiasts

Another month has flown by and soon we have the fun and privilege of getting together in person to celebrate our art of quilting. This is also our busy (crazy?) month of getting all those Christmas gifts started/worked on/ finished that many of us had planned on completing at the beginning of the year. Best laid plans many times get changed when the perfect weather for being outside beckons us. Oh well, that is what the longer evenings are for in November....

I had so much fun at October's meeting. Getting to see all the different items that our members have created and to hear the stories behind them truly helped me get to know more about them and their quilting/life journeys. It is so nice to have time to connect and share our stories.

Well, the weather the last couple of days has been conducive to being outside and getting the prep work necessary for the white stuff time. Today it is supposed to rain all day (I will take that over the white stuff most days) so inside and working on quilting projects for me. Next week (Monday, 10 Nov) we get to gather again and share some time together. I am looking forward to that very much.

Until Monday, happy and productive creating everyone. Enjoy the light and all the wonderful opportunities that come across your path to spread joy in your life and others. Now my cat is demanding cuddles so I must comply. Talk to you later.

Debbie K, VP

Past President

Laura B.

Hello fellow quilters!

I think that the meetings at our new location are going well. The internet connection at the church is great, so the concurrent Zoom is going well. I forgot the web camera last time, but made it work using my phone camera so that our Zoom participants could still see what was going on!

Thank you to all who bought quilt raffle tickets (in support of the rescue I work with, Standard Poodles in Need). I will not hang the raffle quilt at the November meeting, but I will be able to sell tickets in case there is anyone who wanted a ticket who did not get one at the October meeting. Please check out the October newsletter for a photo of the quilt! Ticket sales close on December 5th, so I can't sell them at the December meeting. The draw date is December 11 (2025). See me at the November meeting (look for the pink cash box) if you want to buy a ticket.

Please see later in the newsletter for information on the president's challenge for this year – you can sign up as long as we still have the postcard backings available. There is no limit to the # of entries per person – the only limit is that we bought only 50 postcard backings.

Pretty soon I will start letting you know about guild executive positions that will be coming vacant for the next guild year. 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!

Happy Quilting!

Laura

2025 - 2026 DTQG President's Challenge

As announced in October, we will be running a President's Challenge again this year. The cost to participate is \$5 per entry. The funds collected will cover the expenses and prizes. Sign up is available on the website (<https://durhamtrilliumquiltersguild.ca/presidents-challenge>) or you can sign up in person at the November or December guild meetings.

There is no limit on the # of entries per person, but there can be no more than 50 entries in total (the total # of post card backings purchased).

The President's challenge for this guild year is to make a miniature postcard-sized quilt.

Guidelines are as follows:

- A 4" x 6" post-card backing (with typical postcard lines) will be provided to you. This must be attached to the back of the miniature quilt that you submit.
- Method of attachment is up to you – binding, fancy stitching, etc.
- 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 card).
- The quilt may be 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.
- No label is needed on the completed post-card.

If you sign up and pay on-line, be sure to see me at a meeting to get your post-card backing, and the paper to fill out and return when submitting your quilted postcard for judging. If you can't make it to a meeting, contact me (you can email the guild (dtqguild@gmail.com) and our lovely secretary will forward it to me) so that we can make alternate arrangements to get you the backing card.

Quilts for the challenge are to be submitted to Laura B. and can be submitted any time up to and including the May in-person meeting. Please submit inside the bag provided, along with the quilt submission form.

If unable to attend the May meeting to submit your quilt, please either have a friend bring it to the meeting or contact me 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.

Secretary
Jacqueline H.

I love the zip I get when I eat the leftover Halloween candy. It has enabled me to zip through the old e-mails, file those that needed filing and delete those that were no longer required in the guild e-mail in box. Angie (Membership Convenor) and I did a final reconning of those who have paid for the 2024/25 guild year. We have culled the e-mail list by removing those members who are not up to date in their memberships.

Quilt Show

Jacqueline H.

Woot Woot! We look in good shape to host a 2027 quilt show. Once the “will of the guild” is secured, the new chair will take over these monthly updates.

It is with a happy heart that we were able to raise \$8000 for the guild from the 2024 show!

Signing off for the last time in this role, your in Quilting Stitches, 2024 Quilt Show Chair,
Jacqueline

Winter Zoom Sew Days

Jacqueline H.

Recent Sew Day Winners include; Mary Lou, Holly, and Amanda :)

Our upcoming sew days are;

- Friday Nov 14th 1-4 and 7-10 pm
 - Friday Nov 28th 1-4 and 7-10 pm
 - Sunday Dec 7th 1-4 pm
 - Friday Dec 19th 1-4 and 7-10 pm
 - Sunday Dec 21st 1-4 pm
 - Wednesday Dec 31st Ring in the New Year 7pm – Midnight
-

Program Convener

Gail L.

Thank you to all the contributors to our fashion show of wearables and accessories in October. It was so wonderful to see all your creations and to hear your stories. I believe it was a fun evening worthy of repeating with a different theme. Perhaps Christmas in the spring/fall for our May or September meeting?

We look forward to having Johanna Masko present for us on November 10, 2025. She will be talking about modular quilting methods where you can machine quilt even large quilts on your

domestic sewing machine. Johanna will bring a selection of her patterns to sell. She teaches many classes at Fabric Spark in Toronto. You can follow Johanna on @jmaskoquilts.

On December 8, 2025, Karen Hay of Everlasting Creative Memories will be our speaker and will bring along yardage, kits, patterns and thread for your shopping pleasure. Karen was a vendor at our 2024 quilt show and from personal experience has a great selection of fabric and patterns. The full program for our 2025–2026 guild year is posted on our DTQG website. We have five great speakers and three meetings with member presentations. Also, the shop visit for Christmas. In June we have the Annual General Meeting where we elect executive members for the following year. This is your chance to participate and grab a fun convener position. I think it's a great value for your money sure to provide lots of inspiration and visit with other quilters.

Looking forward to seeing everyone in the gym of Kingsview United Church, 505 Adelaide Ave. E., Oshawa. Presenters and conveners can arrive at 6:30pm to set up. General members are admitted at 6:45 pm.

Happy quilting,
Gail L., Program Convener

Quilt Block of the Month Convener

Diane W.

Thank you to those who signed up for this year's Block of the Month, focused on Quilt As You Go (QAYG). To ensure anyone in the Guild can participate, I will continue to post instructions here in the Monthly Newsletter. If you did not sign up but are interested in joining the fun, it is not too late. Just take a look at the prior month newsletters for all the information you need!

November Meeting

To be eligible for November's BOM draw, you just need to bring ONE (1) pieced block. Don't have a block pieced yet? It's okay! It is not a race and there is still time to catch up.

After the November Meeting, we start QAYG!

As a reminder, in the spring you will be joining your quilt blocks using the **Easy Cover Strip Method** by *Monica Poole*. To ensure success when we get here, please follow the following instructions:

- **Quilt Block:** A **15.5" unfinished block** without any "points" on the outside/edge of the block. Sashing around a block, like in the Lucky Star block pattern, makes it easy!
- **Backing:** Pick a backing fabric that is consistent across the quilt back OR have a scrappy backing using coordinated fat quarters. Each block will require a **15.5" backing square**
 - *Tip:* Avoid stripes, directional or solid fabrics for your backing

- **Batting:** For this QAYG technique, batting has to be 1" less than the block size to leave ½" on each side when you sandwich. For Lucky Star, you need **14.5" batting squares**.
- **Basting:** There are several ways to baste. You can baste using safety pins, thread, spray or adhesive batting. Whatever works for you. Never heard of a "quilt sandwich"? Google is your friend. Just search "How to make a quilt sandwich" and you will find a lot of options!

Unfortunately, I cannot provide instructions in person (believe me, it is for the best 😊), so this year's BOM is going to be taught via YouTube videos. Each month I will share different instructors I have found on my quilting journey. This month, I am spotlighting **Leah Day** and **Jeni Baker** to provide instructions on using your machine's **Walking Foot**. Some may decide to quilt all of your blocks using your walking foot. That is okay! There are no rules but I do want to give you a few tools for your QAYG toolbox!

A Few Tips:

- **Density** – The denser (or closer together) your quilting, the smaller your quilt blocks will become (aka shrink). You will want all of your quilt sandwich blocks to end up as close to the same size as possible so don't quilt too close together. Matchstick quilting is definitely not recommended for this project! For straight lines / grids, 2" apart is a good rule of thumb if you are a beginner doing this project based on what I have planned in coming months.
- **Stitch Length** – Quilting stitches are usually longer than when you are piecing. I like to set my machine at a stitch length of 3 but every machine (and quilter!) will be different. Just remember to put a Post-It note or piece of masking tape on your machine to help you remember what stitch length you are using each month.
- **Marking Your Blocks?** – If you are marking lines on your blocks, remember to test first with your favourite **removeable** marking tool. Painters / masking tape is also an option for straight lines. AVOID blue chalk. Ask me how I know 😊
- **Do I need a slider mat or gloves?** – Some of the videos use tools you may have never heard of. Feel free to ignore these unless they are friends you are already comfortable with. The great thing about quilting a block vs. a full quilt is some of the tools used in the videos just aren't needed. Less weight and bulk make it easier. You've got this!
- **Terrified?** – Completely normal. If machine quilting is new to you, it is okay to be nervous. But remember, it is only thread. Don't like the thread colour, having a tension issue or get distracted by the family pet? This is what a good seam ripper is for! If you are still nervous, grab some large squares or fat quarters and create a "test" quilt sandwich. It is what the "what was I thinking" fabric is for!

For December's Meeting:

For December, the goal is to **quilt THREE (3) blocks**. Can't get three completed? That's okay. It is not a race. I have included four motifs that use your walking foot in case you want some choice. Remember, there are no quilting police here so if you want to use the same quilting motif on all of your blocks, that is okay! I have also included a Walking Foot Quilting Basics video if you are interested. Each sewing machine is different so leverage your owners manual and YouTube if you haven't already made best friends with your machine's walking foot. Or it has been a while and you need a refresher.

Videos:

Motif #1 - Stitch in the Ditch: <https://youtu.be/mjEH1ccDlvo?si=QNZIY6EGJH7ic72Z>

Motif #2 - Grid Quilting: <https://youtu.be/mbaYp1aG3Co?si=2W3sm3PwscHCPcoo>

Motif #3 - Crazy Lines: <https://youtu.be/pyGaFrivatg?si=riwXKhDqd-OxiGC>

Bonus Motif - Wavy Lines: <https://youtu.be/qBT2VjIV9ZE?si=Rcwdnm4RqfwNjRJU>

Basics - Walking Foot Quilting: https://youtu.be/eJdDX4_oYLo?si=HU32TVqC4QA5xiGm

Relax those shoulders, take a deep breath and have fun. I can't wait to see your blocks!

Basket Draw Fund Raiser

Hi Quilters

Please remember to bring your toonies to the next meeting for a chance to win our beautiful prize basket. Tickets are \$2.00 each or 3/\$5.00.

See Maureen E at the meeting to purchase your tickets.

Membership Convener

Angie S.

Hello fellow quilters, just a reminder to wear your name tag to every meeting in order to put your name in a draw for a couple of fat quarters.

For members who joined last year and have renewed this year, your permanent name tags have been ordered. I hope to have them for the November meeting and you will need to hand in your temporary tag to receive your new one.

Thank you,

Angie S.

Social Convener

Judy B. and MaryLou H.

Thank you to the members that provided our delicious treats at the October meeting.

We thank the following members who have volunteered to provide the treats at the November 10th meeting -

Susan M., Sandra M., Bev F-T., Angie S., Jennifer A., Grace R., Kathy D.

We are asking for 18 treats from each volunteer and a reminder that

NO NUTS OF ANY KIND ARE ALLOWED IN OUR FACILITY. THIS INCLUDES ALL OF THE VARIOUS KINDS OF NUTS THAT ARE USED IN OUR BAKING.

The sign up sheet will be out at the November meeting as we are still short a few volunteers for the April 13th meeting.

The guild is providing decaf coffee, regular and decaf tea each meeting, as well as cream, milk and sugar. If you would prefer any other beverage/water or a non sugar sweetener, we ask that you please provide your own.

A reminder that we will be having a Members' Pot Luck at the December 8th meeting. More information will be available in the next newsletter.

PLEASE REMEMBER -

LUG-A-MUG (AND PLATE IF YOU LIKE)

NO NUTS OF ANY KIND ALLOWED AT THE CHURCH

BRING YOUR OWN PREFERRED SUGAR SUBSTITUTE/SWEETENER OR ALTERNATE BEVERAGE/WATER

Show and Share Convener

Patricia K.

Thank you Pam T. for taking care of the Show & Share table on my behalf as I was returning from BC after spending my Thanksgiving with family. I have been told that Kathy won the draw so congratulations to her!

November is a time for reflection and gratitude towards past & present members of our Armed Forces. Many guild members have contributed to the Canadian Quilts of Valour program either making individual blocks or full quilts. This month's spotlight



for 2 entries in the draw is to share your completed or topper/flimsy quilt in a Remembrance Day theme.

Consider sharing your recently finished quilts (quilted, bound & labelled) to also enter the draw. Don't be shy if you have a topper/ flimsy to share too. There are so many talented members who inspire so many of us when sharing their work.

Regards,
Patricia K.
Show & Share Convenor

Community Outreach Team

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

Thank you to everyone who handed in quilts, tops, receiving blankets, etc., last month. Some items were made from our kits and others from your stash. We do our very best to track the donated items so, fingers' crossed that no one is missing from this list:

The following members handed in items at the October guild meeting:

Diana S., Gwen V., Jacqueline H., Sharon M., Joanne B., Jennifer A. , Sylvia H., Judy B., Debbie K., Angie S., Tara B., and special thanks to Sharron C. for stitching labels onto completed quilts during the guild meeting in between brisk sales of the chance draw tickets.

The following members handed in items over the summer or at the September guild meeting:

Sharon M., Jacquie F., Sharon L., Diana S., Patricia K., Angie S., Diane W., Sharron C., Andrew S., Kathy D., Maureen E., Dorothy M., Robynn W., Jennifer A., Margaret S., Kate H., Lyne M. We also had a donation from former members Diana H. and Shannon G. of completed quilts for donation.

Before the meeting and at break time at the November meeting, please bring you items for donation to our table. Pick up a quilt kit, which is generally a 3-yard quilt or an easy pattern to

bring back by the April meeting. These kits are great for beginner and intermediate quilters alike.

Quilters, your community outreach committee members have a challenge they need your help with... Some of them are getting stabbed by straight pins which are used and left in/on donated items! Ouch! Not only is it painful, we certainly don't want anyone bleeding on our quilts! So, please, when you attach required info to your donated items, use a safety pin!!! Much appreciated. No straight pins for us!

As always, the following items are accepted by our committee at each in-person meeting:

Just 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) We pass them directly to a member who has a close connection to this group.
- **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.

We are grateful for the support of all members.

If you are cleaning out your sewing room, we will always accept neutral yardage to go along with the wonderful fabric donations we have on hand.

Community Outreach Team

Scrap Basket Convener

Kathy D. and Gwen VN.

What's the secret to happiness? Fabric

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

Workshop Convener

Grace R.

Thank you to everyone who attended our Fun filled Sew Day on November 8th at Storie Parc Centre. A demonstration showed us a technique to use up your scraps creating a placemat or tablecloth.

On February 7th there will be a workshop making Fidget Quilts which will help relieve anxiety and stress for children and adults suffering from Alzheimer's Disease, Attention Deficit Disorder [ADD], Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder [ADHD] and Autism.

Your workshops only succeed when you make a commitment to attend these planned workshops prepared for you as a guild member. Please show your support by signing up to signify that you will attend the February workshop. There will be a sign up sheet at the Workshop table at our November and December meetings. An email signup form will be sent out after our December meeting for all your information. Thank you

Your Workshop Convenor,

Grace R.

Fabric Exchange Convener

Dorothy M.

If you brought your Fabric Exchange in October, please see Jacqueline Hill at the Nov. meeting for your quilting friend's Exchange fabrics.

Otherwise, I hope everyone in the Fabric Exchange for this year is having fun creating your secret friend's creation. Remember to email me when your Exchange is complete to get the "first to complete" prize at...

bob.mattingley@sympatico.ca

The REVEAL is at the September meeting.

Advertising/Publicity Convener

Judy B.

Our newsletter and website contain several paid advertising ads from local quilt shops, longarm quilting services, sewing machine sales and repairs and scissors/knife sharpening services. We encourage our members to support these businesses.

The majority of the advertisers are returning for another year and we would like to welcome our new advertisers for this year – The Precision Edge, Appleseed Quiltworks, and Quiltiful.

We also have a half page ad for Whirls N Swirls Quilting which is included free of charge. This is a 'thank you' to Tracey Russell for her ongoing support of our Outreach program, where she gives time for us to use her long arm machines to quilt many of our charity quilts.

Our advertising rates for an ad to run from Nov. 1st to Oct 31st of each year are –

\$35 for a business card sized ad

\$75 for a half page ad

\$125 for a full page ad

If you know of a quilting related business that might be interested in advertising in our newsletters and on our website, please reach out to Judy B.

Zoom Crew – Holiday Gifts – When you are short on time :)

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

So... with 6 weeks until the holiday season, we would suggest you scrap the idea of making each of the members of your family a quilt THIS year. Perhaps instead... keep it simple.

- Pillow cases
- Wine bag (with spirits of their liking)
- Use a panel as a wall hanging
- Homemade napkins
- Mug rugs
- Soup cozy microwaveable bowls
- Use an orphan block to make a hot plate trivet
- Fabric notebook
- Apron
- Shoe bags
- Serviette holder
- Apron

Again, keep it simple. The smallest gift, when given with the gift of time, is a real winner!

Zoom Crew Correspondent, Jacqueline

Time Change Winter Tips – Jacqueline H

7 tips to beat the winter blues

- 1) Get natural sunlight (be it going outdoors, or just placing your reading chair near a sunny window, or using a sunlight lamp)
 - 2) Try to get regular exercise, such as walking, yoga, chair yoga, workout groups, swimming etc
 - 3) Use your positive affirmations daily. Built a set that help you feel positive and optimistic for the day ahead. Such as; “I am happy”, “I am productive”, “I am creative”
 - 4) Stream your daily “to do” list down to 3 things for today (the rest can be shared throughout the week)
 - 5) Spend time in your happy place (perhaps your quilting room, or at coffee with friends).
 - 6) Do what brings you joy. Life is short. The laundry can wait.
 - 7) Laugh throughout your day. Subscribe to funny websites or Facebook reels.
-



CANADIAN REALTOR QUILT TOP CONTEST 2025



- ✓ Make a Quilt of Valour Top (flimsy) as per the instructions found at: <https://www.quiltsofvalour.ca/what-we-do>
- ✓ Donate your Quilt of Valour top during the contest period (11 Sep 2025 - 31 Jan 2026) to an QOVC Regional Rep
PRIZE DRAW ON QOVC NATIONAL SEW DAY 6 Feb 2026
- ✓ Email a PHOTO of your quilt top with your NAME, ADDRESS and PHONE NUMBER to contest@quiltsofvalour.ca

For **EACH** Quilt Top +
Email entry submitted
You will be entered in
the draw.

GRAND PRIZE:
b37 MSRP \$1299 with
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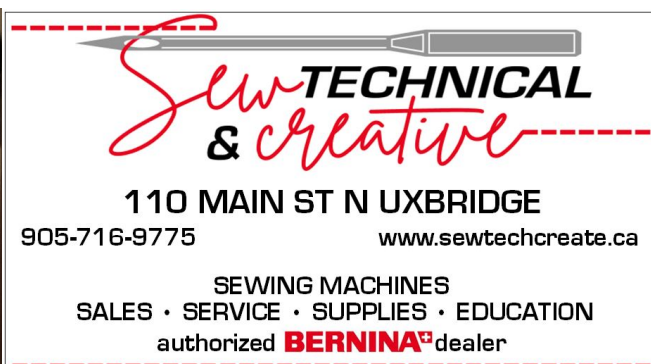
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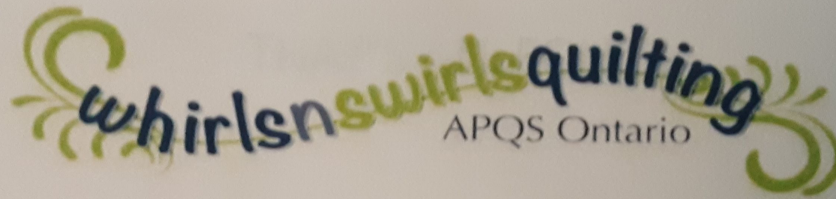


Sandra Falconer

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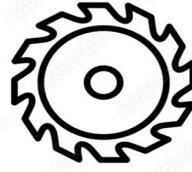
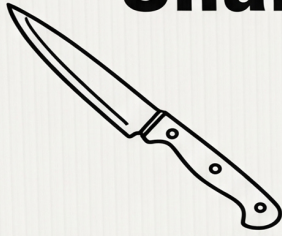
We also stock a wide variety of longarm and quilting supplies

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