



## Buckhorn Area Quilters' Guild

### Summer 2020 Newsletter

#### President's Message

When we started hearing about coronavirus we had little idea what was about to happen and the unbelievable changes we were about to become part of. Our planned guild year ended abruptly and a whole new reality began. Instead of welcoming our guest speakers and holding workshops the Program Committee began cancelling and rescheduling; Children's Quilt Camp had to be cancelled; the Quilt Show committee made the hard decision to reschedule our Quilt Show to 2021 and planning for the Raffle Quilt was put on hold.

Now our Annual General Meeting and election is postponed to September and instead of reminders for upcoming meetings I am sending you dates to drop off masks, laundry bags and scrub caps and telling you who has supplies of scarce elastic.

We are missing the friendship, laughter and sharing of our weekly sewing circle but using the time to sew masks for family and community, join quilt alongs, or finish projects.

We don't know what the 2020/2021 Guild Year is going to look like. We may be making more adjustments, but we are a strong quilting community and I encourage everyone to keep in touch with one another, and reach out to members who live alone. We really are all in this together!

We wish you all a safe and happy summer while washing your hands, maintaining physical distancing and helping to flatten that curve!

Sue Dundas



Usually at this time of year we are planning our Annual General Meeting (AGM) and election of officers. This year, due to the pandemic restrictions, executive committee is recommending that we hold the AGM on September 30, 2020. At that time the report of the Nominating Committee will be presented, nominations will open one last time and the election, if needed, will take place. This plan is dependent on government regulations in place at the time. If an election is needed, and pandemic regulations do not allow for a quorum of members to meet, then plans for an election respecting confidentiality and safety would need to be developed.

Incoming President Diana Stevenson, and Secretary Kathy McAdam will assume Guild operations in October along with a new Vice President and Treasurer.

A big thank you to Pat Clayton who has led the Program Committee for the last 2 years and who will pass things over to Judy Darke on June 30.

A reminder that membership dues are not payable until September.

Stay safe everyone,  
Sue Dundas and Diana Stevenson



Happy  
Canada Day



*"Thank you so much for your thoughtful gifts of caps, headbands and bags. We love them"*

*"We will be forever grateful for your donation of scrub caps, appreciated very much by the staff"*

*"In this difficult time of uncertainty, your heartwarming acts of simple collective human kindness to others has left us speechless, your generous donation of cloth masks will not go unnoticed and is immensely appreciated"*

*"Our staff will be delighted to receive these special gifts and I am sure it will lift their spirits. Your kindness is so appreciated and it was so nice of your guild to think of us at this time."*

*"Thank you for helping us to make a difference in the communities we work in"*

These are some of the responses we have received from Health Care Providers and essential workers including Extendicare Lakefield, Partners in Pregnancy Clinic, Peterborough Retirement Residence, and Riverview Manor.

*A monetary donation to the Trent Lakes Food Bank was made by Pinchin Ltd. in thanks for providing masks for their essential workers.*

Guild members have done a tremendous amount of sewing to support our community, many of you pulling fabric from your own stash, and we thank you all for your participation. Well done Ladies!  
Sue Dundas

## ELECTIONS

Hello Everyone!

I hope that I find all of you well. It is so nice that we can at least meet at a distance, even if it isn't what we are used to.

I am contacting you again concerning the elections. Things are much different this year but we will get through it. Your executive is working on how we can best handle the situation.

We do need to carry on with the elections. We have positions that need to be filled. Without the membership stepping up to fill these positions we won't have a guild. If you have any questions on what these positions involve please do not hesitate to ask me. I am here to help with those questions. Please think about each position seriously and please get back to me.

The positions are as follows:

- Vice President
- Treasurer
- Membership Program
- Librarian
- Comfort Quilts

I have to send these messages out each month as if we were attending our monthly meetings. There will be changes how and when we can get together for our new year, but we will get through it. I hope to hear from you soon, by email, phone or meeting me on my porch, please step up and contact me.

Penny Showers



*"FREE HAMMOCKS, all over town. It's like a miracle!"*



Wednesday morning mask, headbands and bag drop off



## Comfort Quilts

Comfort Care.... more than just Quilts

This year we made 35 quilts and were able to bring joy to 48 people who received quilts from us. For those who were wondering the last quilt we sent out went to Sheila Ryan. Hopefully she is adjusting to her new home. Our thoughts are with her.

We have changed our focus from just making quilts to that of providing items that protect the ears of our front-line workers by donating headbands, button bands, and caps. In total we have supplied 837 pieces to the nurses working at PRHC and many of our surrounding nursing homes. We also made up a total of 167 laundry bags so that uniforms can be transported home and go directly into the washer.

We have also been supporting PRHC and our community by providing face masks. *Please see the latest figures on the next page.* We have supported clinics, shelters, Community Care, the Buckhorn Medical Centre and the private sectors.

Our members who live in other communities have supported hospitals from Ottawa, Barrie and Oakville, plus pharmacies and clinics in their area. We have also ensured our families and friends are also well equipped with face masks in these uncertain times. Our machines have been purring along in this effort to keep our families and community safe.

For everyone that has supported this undertaking I want to pass along the many thanks and extreme appreciation that has been expressed to me on behalf of our guild members. We have used all of the small donated fabric from our bins. We still have a good supply of flannel for backings and some cotton.

There are about 12 completed tops waiting to be quilted and a good supply of batting available.

Please contact myself or Loren if you need batting or know of someone needing a quilt.

Our last mask drop off was June 24, and we will take a break during the summer months. We have a supply on hand in case of need over the next few weeks and to get us started in preparation for a surge in the fall.

I would like to thank Sheila Ryan for donating all of her quilting fabric. It has definitely come at a time of need.

With luck, elastic will be easier to obtain and the need for masks will decrease.

Once again, a big thank you to all the members who support the Comfort Care program.

Georgie and Loren

NOTE: The current total donation figures are on the following page

Face masks, headbands and laundry bags have been donated generously by the Buckhorn Area Quilters Guild in the last few months to numerous businesses, friends and family. There still might be some members who have not reported their final tallies.

Total donations as of June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020:

Face Masks	4,245
Headgear	934+
Laundry Bags	209+

Some of the many recipients are: Peterborough Regional Health Centre (PRHC) and other area hospitals, Partners in Pregnancy, Oakville Hospital, Barrie Hospital, Haliburton Hospital, Lacie Pharmacy Orillia, Kawartha Credit Union, Lakefield Extencicare, One Door homeless-PTBO, Pinchin Environmental, St. Joe's, Post Office, Fairhaven, Buckhorn Medical Centre, PTBO Manor, PTBO Youth Services, PTBO Retirement Home, Fairview Nursing Home, Community Care Buckhorn and Community Care Ennismore, Five Counties Children's Centre and more.



My niece who is an audiologist asked for these for her staff so that her hearing impaired patients could read lips. I used a combination of patterns from the internet.  
Johanna



Masks made with fabric donated by member Cyndy Manol of "From the Heart Quilt Shop", ties from the donated stash of member Sheila Ryan



My great grandson wearing a mask made by grandma Lorna Scott

Tim Hortons staff modeling their face masks



## HOW CAN I USE ALL MY FABRIC SCRAPS?

While we have been in this forced isolation, we have all been finding different ways to keep ourselves busy. Me, I've been reorganizing my studio and dye work room. And I have forced myself to purge, but those beautiful scraps are hard to part with. So, they are getting a new lease on life. Here are just a few ideas that may help you to clean up your stash of bits and get motivated.

Mini stitch projects: I have been working on 5" squares but you could make them 6". I have been using my flannel scraps as batting/backing and cutting them 1" larger – trim room. Then I grab a handful of my scraps (one handful at a time) and sort through them to see what I have. Sometimes I pin down large bits for background and then start stitching on bits. I am working by hand using up all those embroidery threads and odd threads. When I started this work, I



finished the edges with a variety of different techniques but now I leave them unfinished as they will be mounted on a backing with joining strips for wall hangings. Turn them into pin cushion or mount them on card stock – be creative.

I have tried to be a little disciplined about this. I have a dedicated basket with a bunch of pre-cut batting squares and a handful of stuff from my scrap bag. I add to this some bits of embroidery floss, spool ends – you get the idea. I treat myself to one hour in the late afternoon with a cup of tea and my basket and see how much I create. Warning: highly addictive.

1. Scrappy placemats: this is where I'm using those larger off cuts. My finished placemats are 14 x 18 and I work in 4 rectangles (7 ½ x 9 ½). I use ugly fabric or large scrap pieces as a base, sort my strips loosely (brights and neutrals, monochromatic – let your fabrics guide you) and start by laying one strip on the diagonal and pin it in place. I then sew strips to each side, pressing as I go. When the rectangles are finished trim them up and then join them to make your placemat top. Finish using your favorite technique. These are great for the cottage, gifts or practice pieces for machine quilting.

Request for 2 ½" squares.....

I have been gathering one of a kind 2 ½" squares to make a postage stamp quilt. I realize I need help as I am not supposed to use any fabric twice. I wish to ask quilt members, who wish to help me to please save a square of any of their fabrics for me. I will be cutting all squares down to 1 ½" so they do not have to be perfect. Thank you in advance for your help.

Georgie Morden

2. Make your own fabric: I find working in a Fat ¼ size is best. You do need tulle to finish this. Now to make use of your larger and tiny pieces. Randomly place large scraps on the base and fill in the background as you go. If you have some large prints, these can be cut out and placed on top of the base when you get close to finishing. Add in ribbon bits, thread ends, wools, what have you to add fun and sparkle. Cover the finished mess with a piece of tulle and pin it well through the layers you have created. I would suggest you pin in one direction to keep the tulle flat and well-pinned. When you're finished put the darning foot on your machine, grab some funky threads and quilt everything down. Stitch the outer edge down once you have stitched the main piece. You can now cut this fabric into smaller pieces to make cards, pictures, whatever or keep it intact and make a journal cover, bag pocket, or whatever you can imagine. Have fun!

Joanne Misener



## Stressed in Lockdown!

I hear some people are starting to feel stressed in lockdown. Actually, I was just talking to my sewing machine and she SEAMED to agree.

But when I asked the elastic, it just SNAPPED BACK. I think it was STRETCHED TO THE LIMIT.

I tried talking to the cotton, but it just SHRUNK AWAY. The linen was in a BUNCH.

The scissors were SNIPPY. Even the stuffing was DOWN. When I asked the buttons, they just gaped and said HOLEY COW.

The Velcro suggested I GET A GRIP, along with the snaps. My seam ripper was RIPPING MAD.

Thankfully my iron gave it to me STRAIGHT and reminded me that this would be SMOOTHED over soon ... although she gets hot and steamy occasionally.

Judy Darke

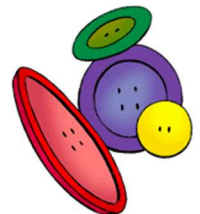
### Tip for attaching buttons

While working on headbands and scrub caps and my love of Pinterest, I came across a new to me method of attaching buttons... totally game changing.

Drop your feed dogs. Set your machine to embroider stitch. Put your button underneath (a little tape can help) and adjust the stitch length by hand cranking (only ever forward) the wheel until the needle goes into both holes. Then whirl away...

When using a 6 x 24" ruler, place a weight (ie. a 5 lb arm weight) on top of the ruler at the far end to hold it in place. Works great.

Loren



Did you know that some of our guild members have quilt related businesses? Enjoy the convenience of shopping local and support a fellow guild member at the same time.





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Bethany, ON L0A 1A0  
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Hello I am a fellow member of BAQG. I am a Longarm Quilter. I have had my business for 20 years and love what I do. My qualifications include both Edge 2 Edge as well as Custom quilting. I have approximately 1,000 patterns to offer. My machine has the capability of either computerized or hand directed quilting. I carry either 80/20 batting or wool batting, but if you have your own that is fine by me as well. Oh, I also baste quilts for the hand quilters and put binding on your quilts after I quilt them if you wish.

Please give me a call or email if you have any questions or concerns about your quilts I can be contacted at 705-748-4752 or [pennshow@gmail.com](mailto:pennshow@gmail.com)  
I am looking forward to hearing from you

Penny Showers  
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