

BAQG Newsletter November 2026

BAQG Executive

President:	Sheila S
Vice President:	Peggy P
Past President:	Colleen A
Treasurer:	Laurie P
Secretary:	Ann B

Standing Committee Members

Program:	Maureen , Sue S, Anne C, Sue W, Cynthia M
Membership:	Lucie R, Pam H
Social/Kitchen:	Irene K, Yettie I, Kathy McA
Library:	Cheryl W
Nominating:	Colleen A

Other Committees and Contacts

Quilt Show:	Sue T
Raffle Quilt:	Georganne M
Comfort Quilts:	Loren M
Children's Program:	Yettie I
Christmas Sewing:	Martha W, Martha V.
Photographer:	Kathy A
Website:	Peggy P
Retreat/Sew Days:	Laurie P, Kathy McA
Newsletter Editor:	Sue K

President's Message

Hello, fellow quilters!

Well, November has arrived, bringing shorter days, cooler temperatures, and the perfect excuse to stay inside and sew! Not that any of us really needed an excuse, but it's always nice to have one.

As we settle into the cozy months, I hope everyone is finding a little time to enjoy their sewing rooms, tackle a project or two, or perhaps finally make some progress on that pile of unfinished projects. Of course, starting something new is always an option too. We won't judge!

I'd like to encourage everyone to spend a little time working on their President's Challenge! Whether you've already made a good start, are still tossing around ideas, or haven't quite gotten around to it yet (we've all been there!), there's still plenty of opportunity to get those creative juices flowing. I'm really looking forward to seeing everyone's interpretations and the wonderful variety of projects that come from the challenge. Remember, it's not about perfection—it's about having fun, trying something different, and perhaps stepping a little outside your quilting comfort zone!

Thank you to everyone who contributes to making our Guild such a welcoming and inspiring place. Your enthusiasm, creativity, and willingness to share your knowledge are what keep our quilting community thriving. Once of the things I appreciate most about our Guild is the wonderful sense of community. Whether we're sharing ideas, learning new techniques, admiring each other's creations, or simply enjoying a good laugh together, it's the friendships that make our gatherings so special.

I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at our next meeting, catching up, and seeing what you've all been working on.

Until then, keep those machines humming, those rotary cutters sharp, and remember—there's no such thing as too much quilting, just not enough time!

Sheila

President's Challenge

This year's challenge is our **Pick Any Four** project. Members will choose a minimum of **four squares from a 16" block inspiration grid** and create a quilted piece that incorporates those elements. Your project can be any size or technique — modern, traditional, improv, appliqué, or mixed media. Bring your finished piece to the May meeting for display and celebration.



Membership Committee

Welcome new members!

Angela B.	Karen B.	Christine D.
Carol K-R.	Nancy McL .	Allison M.
Lisa P.	Nancy W.	

We're delighted you're here and look forward to many quilting adventures!

Pam and Lucie



November Potluck



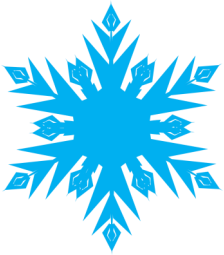
Our annual November potluck will take place this year on Wednesday,

November 25th at Lakehurst Hall. Here are the details:

* Members with surnames beginning A to K, inclusive, are responsible for providing the food. However, if you are not on this list but would like to contribute a special dish, you are welcome to do so. *Note: please bring generous portions of your pot-luck contributions*
* Remember to bring your dinner plates, cutlery and mugs
* There will be no charge for coffee and tea
* Label your dishes and serving utensils
* Kitchen will provide labels for allergy sensitive dishes
* The kitchen has access to fridge, stove, oven and electrical outlets
* Kitchen will provide hors-d'oeuvres, fruit tray and punch



Irene K





Program Committee

The November meeting is our annual Christmas potluck lunch. Karen Leach from The Fabric Loft will be joining us with product for sale and information regarding her Retreat House.

Plans are underway for some member-led workshops for the New Year. If you would like to suggest a workshop or better yet, volunteer to teach one, please contact a member of the Program Committee and let us know. We have had several people come forward with suggestions and we hope to have some dates for workshops to announce at the November meeting.

We have Beth van Wyn Gaarden returning in the spring with a workshop featuring one of her patterns, The Tulip.

Maureen P.





Just a few of the creative quilts (finished and as yet to be finished) from Beth van Wyngaarden's Land of the Silver Birch workshop.











Children's Camp

This year we welcomed 11 young people ranging in age from 10 to 16 years. There were several first time attendees, and several who were returning to learn yet more new skills. All those attending had the use of a dedicated sewing machine, and a BAQG quilter to assist and advise them in the stitching process.

Over the course of the four days, the children made a set of placements, bowl cozies, a book cover, and a tissue holder along with a Freezie cover. There was a great assortment of colourful fabric to choose from, and each participant picked their own fabrics. A thank you goes out to **Northcott Fabrics** for their generous donation. We would also like to thank the BAQG members who raided their stash for extra fabric.

By the end of the second day, the children had completed their placemats and were proud of their excellent results; both the stitchers and their helpers learned new skills and tips. On the second day, book covers, bowl cozies and scissor holders were on the menu. Each of the participants made two cozies and one scissor holder, and then moved onto their book covers. These turned out very well, and several of the older participants learned how to use some of their machine's embroidery features—one girl put the name of the book on the cover; others chose to stitch different words!

The following day provided time for the participants to complete any of the projects that were works in progress, and to make some extra items—tissue holders and Freezie holders. Guild members realized that several of the young stitchers actually enjoyed ironing! Their Moms will be pleased, no doubt.

On the final day of the Camp, the participants all worked together to assemble quilt tops. By the end of the day, three quilt tops had been completed and were destined to be donated to the BAQG Comfort Quilt Programme. Similarly, each stitcher donated one of their bowl cozies to Community Care for their Christmas baskets. The Grade 9 and older sewers were able to bank some volunteer hours (a school requisite) because of these donations.

Throughout the four days of sewing, the participants enjoyed what appeared to be a huge quantity of cookies, ice cream, drinks and squares. Thanks go to the BAQG members who provided these snacks. Lunch on Wednesday was courtesy of Alloro and their donation was delicious. A huge thank you for their annual donation. The luxury of air conditioning came our way because of the kindness of the Wesley United Church board/congregation who allowed us the free use of their church hall for the four days of the Camp. A cool donation! Thank you so much.

And we all (novice stitchers and BAQG volunteer helpers) want to thank Yettie for the time and effort she put into co-ordinating this wonderful experience. Thank you!

For the volunteers, the Camp was a fun way to spend four rewarding days introducing stitching to another generation of stitchers.

Sue T.



Comfort Quilts

I will be available the first Wednesday of each month to dig through the storage area for kits, fabric, batting, quilt tops, quilts to be bound, etc.

I can collect finished quilts anytime.

Please let me know if you have any ideas of where quilts can be donated.

Loren



Canadian Quilters' Association

The CQA has three **challenges** available for participation:

1. Member quilt challenge - The theme is "go wild". There are no restrictions on materials. The perimeter may not exceed 72".
2. Trendtex challenge - The theme is "foothills and peaks". The designated Trendtex fabrics must be used. Kits are available for purchase from CQA. Perimeter must not exceed 120".
3. JN Harper youth challenge - The theme is " my happy place". There are three categories: 5-8, 9-13, and 14-16. Perimeter must not exceed 140". The quilt must use all or part of a fat quarter of the challenge fabric.

Upcoming Webinar:

Wednesday, November 18, 7:00 pm ET. The speaker is Leanne Parsons and the topic is moving old projects to the finish line Tickets are available from CQA.

Details for all of these events can be found on the CQA website at canadianquilter.com

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Margaret M.

Editor's note: A big thank you to Margaret for being our liaison with the CQA and for wading through all of the information to share with us.

From the Librarian

Welcome back to a new year at the BAQG library. Come over and peruse the many useful and entertaining books available for sign-out. If you are looking for patterns or ideas for your next project, we may have what you are looking for in one of our many pattern and idea books. We have novels and mystery books available to you as well. An assortment of stencils and rulers which may add variety to your current quilting adventure can be found in St. Matthew/St. Adian's church hall.



The following is a list of the new arrivals in your library. The quilting books and stencils can be found at St. Matthew/St. Aidan Church. The novels are located off site. If there is a particular novel you would like brought to a meeting, please let Cheryl know. I can be contacted at worboyc@hotmail.com .

New Quilting Books:

- 219 FAT QUARTER QUILTING FUN, Fran Morgan
- 220 CURVE APPEAL WITH 3-YARD QUILTS, Mac Cox
- 221 QUICK CHRISTMAS 3-YARD QUILTS, Donna Robertson and Fran Morgan
- 222 FABULOUS 5-YARD QUILTS, Donna Robertson and Fran Morgan
- 223 ADVANCING ON book 2: WITH SQUARE IN A SQUARE TECHNIQUE, Jodi Barrows
  SQUARE IN A SQUARE TECHNIQUE INSTRUCTION SHEET & PATTERN: ruler included
- 224 AWARD-WINNING APPLIQUE BIRDS, Pamela Humphries
- 225 STEP IT UP WITH 5-YARD QUILTS, Donna Robertson & Fran Morgan
- 226 BARGELLO QUILTS IN MOTION: A New Look For Strip-Pieced Quilts, Ruth Ann Berry
- 227 VISUAL COLOURING: A Foolproof Approach To Color-Rich Quilts, Joen Wolfrom
- 228 BIG BOOK OF BUILDING BLOCK QUILTS, Sara Nephew
- 229 COLOR-BLEND APPLIQUE, Jane Townswick
- 230 QUILTS WITHOUT CORNERS: Encore, Cheryl Phillips

Please drop by St. Matthew/ St. Adian's Church on a Wednesday Sewing Circle to see all of our new additions.

A gentle reminder to please feel free to keep items signed out which you are actively using. If you are not actively using an item, please return it so others may use it.

Cheryl W.



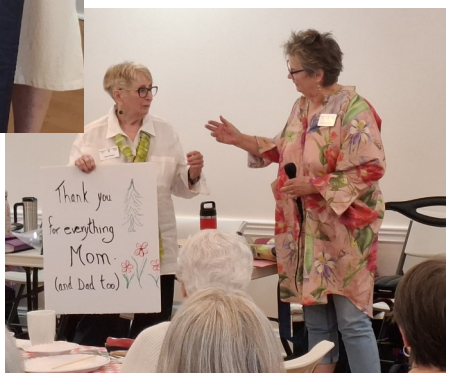
June Meeting Highlights

The mystery guests at our June potluck were the extremely creative, talented and entertaining sisters Linda S. and Kathy L. What an amazing body of work from these sibs!



















June Meeting Highlights cont'd.

A few gems from Show and Share









Our creativity isn't limited to quilting!

Members were encouraged to bring food and cash donations for Kawartha Foodshare. Tables were decorated with the donated items and the 'best' decorated table won the right to be the first at the buffet table.





September Meeting Highlights

The guest speaker at our September meeting was Trina O'Rourke, owner of the Cotton Harvest Quilt Shop in Seaforth and a Sue Spargo endorsed instructor. Sue talked about her quilting journey and collaboration with Sue Spargo. Some of the quilts shown were done by Trina and a friend and some by members of our Guild.



















October Meeting Highlights

Modern Quilting presentation by Peggy P.

As we are adding a new category to our quilt show in 2027 - **modern** - Peggy Pirillo gave us a brief presentation at our October meeting on what a modern quilt is.

Modern quilts use traditional quilting techniques including the 1/4 inch seam. Their design esthetic tends to provide a bit more space for blocks/focal points to 'breathe'. There are a number of elements that can be used in modern quilts. All modern quilts have at least one of these elements but do not need to include them all. There are a number of different lists of these elements on the internet where a few other items may be present, but below are the most recognized ones.

* **Alternate gridwork**. Breaking the standard grid of columns and rows. This can be achieved a number of ways. One simple idea is to reduce the number of blocks in some rows and replace that with negative space.
* **Asymmetry**. Shifting focal point off centre. If you were to fold the quilt in half, it would not be identical from side to side.
* **Graphic, bold colours** - not necessarily solids. Prints can absolutely be used.
* **Cropping** - having a block or focal point running off the edge of the quilt
* **Improvisation** - often working without a pattern totally free flowing or with intent (having some idea of what you are wanting to make). With or without rulers.
* **Minimalism**. Perhaps one large block surrounded by negative space or several simple blocks/ focal points surrounded by negative space.
* **Modern traditionalism** - updating a traditional block pattern - perhaps playing with scale, using a bold new colour palette, breaking it into its component parts, cropping or working improv style.
* **Negative space** - generally this is your background. Expansive negative space is often used in combination with other elements.
* **Lack of borders** - borders are rarely used in modern quilts. However, if there are borders, they tend to be the same fabric as the negative space used in the quilt.
* **Scale** - upsizing or downsizing blocks, incorporating different sized blocks in a project. Our BOTM this year showcases a huge churn dash in the design.

Peggy then showed a few examples of quilts to demonstrate these elements and identified which elements were present in each quilt, to help us visualize the concepts.

She also noted that many of our members are already creating quilts that would/could fit into the modern category.

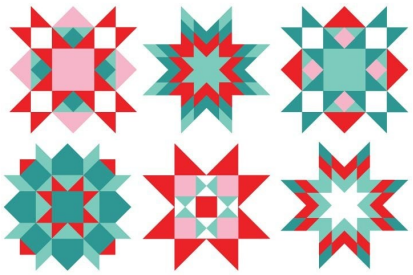






Quilting at the Lakes 2027

The aim of the Show is to showcase the work of our members and to encourage as many as possible to participate. The Quilt Show Committee has been meeting and deciding some of the details for the 2027 show.



Decisions so far:

1: The dates are September 10 & 11, 2027
2: Sue Sherman is confirmed as our feature quilter
3: Admission will be $10.00
4: We will use the shuttle bus again to make parking easier
5: We will use the hanging system from the Peterborough guild again
6: Hanging sleeves will be needed on all medium and large quilts; directions to make sleeves are in this newsletter
7: The categories have been updated:
Large quilts: 86"+ Med. quilts: 60"- 85" Small quilts: 31" – 59"
Modern quilts; Home décor; Wearable art
Entry forms with all relevant information will go out in April 2027
8: All first-time exhibitors will get a "First Time Exhibitor" ribbon on their quilts
9: Judging will be limited to Guild members and the public, voting for their "favourite" quilt. The winner will be the "Best in Show" and will receive the CQA ribbon and will have the opportunity to put their quilt in Quilt Canada. Each voter will receive one ballot.
There will be a "President's Choice" ribbon.

We are excited about the 2027 show, and hope that all members will accept the challenge to share their work in the Show.

If you have questions or concerns, please do talk to me.
Sue T

HOW TO MAKE A HANGING SLEEVE, Sue T.

1. Cut an 8 ½" wide straight grain fabric strip. The length of the strip is the width of the finished quilt. Fold in the ends twice, ¼" and ¼" each time, and press. Topstitch close to the folds to finish each end of the sleeve.

2. Fold the sleeve in half lengthwise and press to mark centre. With WRONG sides facing, press the long sides of the sleeve so that they meet in the centre, and press. The fold lines provide the guide needed for attaching the sleeve to the quilt.

3. Fold sleeve in half WRONG sides together; stitch ¼" seam. Carefully press seam allowance open, maintaining previous fold lines.

4. Centre the sleeve across the width on the back of the quilt. The edge of the sleeve should lie just inside the binding on each side o the quilt. Using one lengthwise fold as a guide, pin top of sleeve in place, ½" to ¾" from the top edge. Pin along the bottom fold line.

5. Blind stitch the sleeve to the back of the quilt. The sleeve will fit flat against the quilt from fold line to fold line; the rest of the sleeve will cup out, giving the sleeve space to fit around the hanging rod without distorting the quilt.

6. Short of time? Use those trusty quilt safety pins to apply your sleeve.

Note: if you are adding a sleeve before the quilt is bound, follow Step 1 to make clean finished ends. With wrong sides together, fold the sleeve in half lengthwise and press. Baste the sleeve to the top outside edge on the back of the quilt, aligning raw edges. Add binding to quilt, stitching through all layers. Blind stitch bottom of the sleeve to the quilt back ½" away from the fold on the part of the sleeve that will lie flat against the quilt.

Some Tips:

1. You can reuse your sleeve for a quilt for the next show. If your next quilt is a little smaller, just fold the extra sleeve outwards and stitch in place.

2. I used a contrasting thread colour for easier removal of the sleeve.

3. I found I really wanted to make the top smooth, not have the little pocket that allows room for the rod, so I pinned down the fold and found it much easier to stitch.

Community News



Always a heart warming way to get into the Christmas spirit and a fun opportunity to support our Buckhorn Community Centre. Who knows….you might even win a beautifully decorated Christmas tree.

The Last Stitch

Feathers by Penny

Long Arm Quilting

25 years experience, both Edge to Edge and Custom to the Client's request

Also available to baste quilts ready to either hand quilt or quilt on your domestic sewing machine.

For Sale! Singer Featherweight machine, with case and attachments. Asking $400.00. Please contact Kathy L.



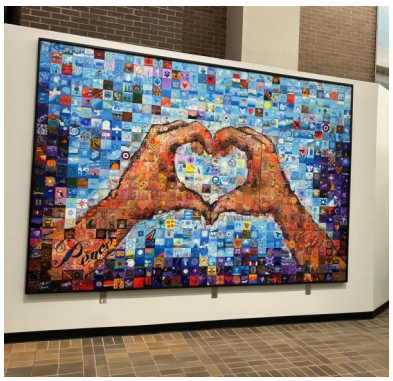
Travels with Linda S.

At the end of September, I was fortunate to participate in an 11-day, quilting retreat and creative escape to Newfoundland. Unfortunately, my sister Kathleen, had to cancel but she followed along with the itinerary and posts. The tour was hosted by Kim Caskey Tours and was accompanied by native Newfoundlander Corey Ralph. We were 18 participants, all great. Weather was amazing and only one morning of drizzle and fog. Every food morsel was delicious. Our bus driver, Brendan, could back that bus into places that didn't exist!!

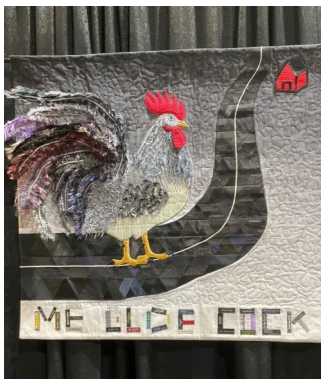
It was a full trip which included tours, exclusive and private events, retail therapy opportunities and excellent workshops at Fishers' Loft Inn (not to be missed). Fabric portraiture was conducted by Paula Rafferty, an acclaimed Irish textile artist. Corey Follett guided us in a "puffin heart" workshop. Molly White guides us in rug hooking workshop and beach forage project. I am now the proud owner of four UFOs!

At the farewell dinner, the St. John's Modern Guild presented a great show and tell. Coincidentally, I happened to meet David Thornhill, a member. His hanging "Me Olde Cock" was in the rosette section at the Edmonton CQA. *Linda S.*









A big thanks to everyone for their contributions to our newsletter! Keep those stories, ideas and photos coming. Please send your submissions to baqgnewseditor@gmail.com