



QUILT IT UP!

NEWSLETTER OF THE KANATA QUILT GUILD
November 2015



Hi Ho, Hi Ho, it's off to sew we go! Do you need some inspiration to get started on those Christmas gifts or just want to be with friends who share your passion for quilting? Well then come out to the next meeting of the Kanata Quilt Guild on THURSDAY, November 12 in the Sanctuary of the Glen Cairn United Church at 140 Abbeyhill Dr., Kanata. It's a great way to spend a few hours!

What to bring:

- ✓ your favourite mug
- ✓ change for the raffles including the special raffle for the bargello kit
- ✓ your show and tell items. We're back to counting inches! *Please be careful when walking down the steps of the platform while carrying large quilts.*
- ✓ your completed *Quiltie(s)*
- ✓ if participating in the *Strip Exchange*, 3 identical 2.5 inch strips, width of fabric, in a pastel tone
- ✓ your finished quilt top from the October *Charity Sew Day*
- ✓ your *Quilt Along Block*
- ✓ your ticket to collect your quilts from the church's festival; there are still a few to be collected. Kindly see Beth at the beginning of the meeting as she has to leave after the first hour.

Let's extend a warm welcome to **Joni Newman**, our guest speaker. Joni is a quilt and craft pattern designer who has had a life-long passion for fabric and embellishments which she has shared through teaching for over 20 years.

We also welcome **Textile Traditions** of Almonte as our Shop of the Month

Crayola Challenge: remember how much fun it was to play with crayons?! Well, here's an exciting challenge for you! See Sue Cherry to pick your crayon and use shades of that colour, and only that colour, to sew an item such as a wall hanging, a purse, a table runner, a small quilt, etc. Come on, let's live life in colour! Show off your finished items at the May meeting.



WHAT'S COMING UP!

Workshops

CUBE BY PAUL LEGER: Thursday, January 21, 2016 from 10:00-3:00 at the Kanata Legion, 70 Hines Road, Kanata. The fee of \$45 includes a fabric kit and ruler. Further details on workshops during 2016 are listed on our website and will be included in the newsletter as time progresses. Please see Lynn Price to sign up.

Sew Days and Retreat

The Guild's sew days are great fun! In sewing together, we grow in the art as we encourage one another to try different techniques, become inspired by new or unexpected colour combos and best of all, make new quilting buds. The sew day scheduled for **November 19 has been cancelled**; the next one will be held on December 3 at the Kanata Legion, 70 Hines Rd., Kanata. The following sew days will be held in 2016:

January 28	February 25
February 18	March 17

Autumn Rhapsody Retreat

Sold out! Debby has sent out the details to the participants. With all the activities Debby has in store for us, it's sure to be a blast!

Quilt Along Challenge

Debby Holden will email the pattern each month to the 45 members who signed up for this year's exciting challenge.

Quilties

As most of you know this is my first year at the Quiltie table & in fact it is the first time in many years that I have been on any sort of committee; and boy did I pick a good one! This month we received 29 Quilties and gave out 11 Kits and 2 Flannel Backs. Wendy Warren won a lovely FQ pack for bringing in Quiltie(s) and the winning ticket number for the pastel jelly roll is 586330 (it is a lime green ticket with a Star stamped in blue). If you have the winning ticket, please email me or present yourself & the ticket to the Quiltie table before break at the November meeting, otherwise we will draw a second number.



I so enjoy the little stories you tell me when you are dropping off your Quilties! One lady said she prays for the child & family as she sews each Quiltie, another said that she wanted to practice using different machine stitches & the effect was lovely. Many of you said I hope this is okay; I had these blocks/fabrics left over from a project for a grandchild. Well my friends I delivered those quilties & the reception I received gave me goosebumps. I was lucky that there were no babies in the nursery – none, the nurses said they felt lost but were enjoying a moment's peace and they dived into the bags of quilties & oohed & aahed over each one! They loved the different machine stitches on one quiltie – each nurse had to have a look. They admired the ones with pieced backs as if they were the most complicated thing in the world. I told them your stories & they were so appreciative! I was told that every baby that passes through their care gets a quiltie & that “sometimes holding that little quilt is the only thing that keeps a parent together”. They said the thing they hear most is an excited “we get to keep it!” and that the families are always so thankful. The nurses wanted me to thank each of you for your time and your efforts; they kept stressing how much this means to them & to the parents. How fortunate are we, that by doing something we love, we can bring this kind of joy to complete strangers.

By Jill Dewar

Charity



Thank you, thank you, thank you!!! Seventeen volunteers volunteered time and materials for a successful October charity sew day!! We had a wonderful time and our generous guild will have (when finished) 18 lovely lap quilts to share with others.

On another note: Please remember to bring your donations of granola bars, juice boxes and muffin mixes to the DECEMBER meeting as well as scarves, mitts, gloves and hats for Shepherds of Good Hope to help others stay warm this winter. Thank you to one and all for your support.



By Shirley Bolduc

RECAP OF THE OCTOBER MEETING

- Leslie reminded everyone of the requirement to circle their names on the attendance sheet for insurance purposes. She also highlighted the book “The Life-Changing Magic of Tidying up” by Marie Kondo. Hahaha, would she be a quilter!
- Jill Dewar of the *Quilties* program reported that Wendy Warren won the monthly draw.
- Be sure to purchase your tickets at \$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00 from Lynne Rochette on the dazzling African-themed quilt for the *Can Have Program*.
- The Furniture Bank which assists refugees in Ottawa is in need of gently used items.
- The monthly raffles were won by Gwen Pennings, Lynne Barnes, Mary Townson and Cathy Griese.
- Debby Holden revealed the first block of the *Quilt Along Challenge*.
- Sue Shute of the *Quilting Quarters* in Almonte was the Shop of the Month.
- In her presentation, Paulette Sanderson bared her Confessions of a Recovering Quiltaholic to her passion as a milliner. What a surprise to read in the Ottawa Citizen’s article “Hats Off to Style” on February 6, that “whether a percher, a fascinator, or a cocktail hat, hats by Paulette, an Ottawa milliner are packing plenty of pizzazz.” Paulette had several of her hats on display, from the whimsical, the elegant and to those fun hats with a quilting theme.
- The challenge is on for the members to make a hat for the *Fashion Show/High Tea/Mini Quilt Show* to be held at our June meeting.



Have You Tried.....??? ***FREE MOTION QUILTING (FMQ)!!***

To do FMQ, you need to install a [darning foot](#) and drop your feed dogs. This will allow you to freely move your quilt with your hands rather than have the machine move it for you. You can also control the stitch length as well as the direction of the stitching line. Free motion quilting is all about playing really with your sewing machine, thread and fabric and most importantly....not taking it too seriously! We want to enjoy the learning process. There are just too many things in the art of quilting that are so wonderfully addictive, and FMQ is one of them! You can stitch to music which will help you maintain an even stitch. When starting out, it's best to practice with small quilt sandwiches before you tackle that larger quilt or 'rip it rip it' will be your theme song. There are literally thousands of websites, videos, tutorials from beginner to advanced, and books on learning FMQ but most of all, it's just practice, practice, practice!



Your editors, Shirley Bolduc and Suzanne Edkins,
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