



NEWSLETTER

Volume 5 Issue 2 April, 2010

President's Message:

Spring is here – I can't say *finally here* because we really didn't have much of a winter – and with the arrival of spring Quilting Corners Guild hosted its first ever Inter-Guild meeting.

Saturday, April 10th was warm and sunny. Approximately seventy-five delegates from guilds all across Ontario joined us in Alliston for a day of information sharing and learning with some fun thrown in for good measure.

Our day was very full, the morning session was all business; the points-of-interest from the group discussion of our ten questions will soon be posted on our web-site for all to look over. In the afternoon we had a very informative presentation from Pat Knowlton, Pat's Sewing Centre, on sewing machine maintenance and we finished the day with Show 'n Tell.

Throughout the meeting we drew names for nine door prizes – batting, organizers, rotating cutting mat (one) and a digital picture frame (donation) – and at the end of the day one lucky guest from each table took home their table's centre piece. Our 50 / 50 draw saw one lucky delegate walk away with \$125.50! The gift bags were a hit, and the delegates were in awe of the wonderful surprises we had for each and every one of them.

All in all Spring Inter-Guild was a great success - from my point of view and from the many congratulations I received on your behalf from our guests!! (Strangers were hugging me!)

So, now is the time for congratulations and thanks to everyone for your help in planning and volunteering at Spring Inter-Guild.

For such a small guild we have great heart. The number of volunteers who came out on the day is evidence of that. Here are the committee members and volunteers in alphabetical order: Senora Baldry, Vi Blakey, Sally Borland, Eugenia Boston, Maxine Burmaster, Shirley Feldman, Jean Ferguson, Pam Foreman, Betty Kleinsteuber, Judith Lacasse, Lucy Lachine, Cheryl Lloyd, Brenda McMillen, Doreen Patterson, Ann Price, Doreen Randell, Michelle Turcotte, Eleanor Thili, Anne Vergunst, Janet Whittaker, Dianne Wyllie. (Please accept my apologies if I have missed your name or worse spelled your name wrong.)

To everyone who donated food - it was in a word YUMMY! Sorry you all couldn't have been there to enjoy the snacks and lunch.

I want to thank Ann P. and her staff for putting on a great lunch - I was exhausted just watching the behind-the-scene work in the kitchen.

Shirley and Dianne - the delegates couldn't wait to get their hands on your centerpieces, they were beautiful (in retrospect I should have announced they were door prizes at the absolute end of the day - live and learn).

Thanks to the members who donated table cloths.

Eleanor, I've never met someone more organized and on the ball with money - congratulations for never being out - even by a penny! Thank you for organizing the creation and collection of the needle cases.

Needle cases, WOW, they were all beautiful and our guest loved them! Thanks to all our members who participated in making these special gifts for our guests. We had over eighty needle cases; any that were not given out are now in our birthday bag.

Vi, thank you for sending out invitations to all the guilds and working hard to keep track of who was coming.

Moderators - all ten of you!! Thanks!

Judith, thank you for making ALL those thread catchers - did you get time to relax in Florida?

Janet, thank you for your donation of fabric and cutting out the pieces for the rail fence sewing project.

To the members who shared their Mystery and BOM quilts with us, thanks !

Sally - I'm sorry I goofed your name.

Senora thanks for standing with me and making our day a success! As well as making excellent signs!

Michele Walma, John Borland, Brian Thili and Paul McMillen - honorary members of QCG. Thanks for the extra help.

Judy - we missed you! Your effort in planning the event however is not forgotten.

Okay, I'm going to stop now. I could go on and on about how much a success our day was and how great our guild is but I think you get the picture.

Thank you everyone,

Brenda

Next meeting is Tuesday, May 4th, 2010.

MAY IS NATIONAL QUILT MONTH

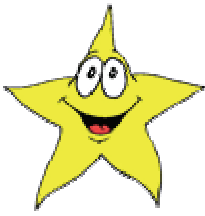
Have a valued quilt that's been passed down from your Grandmother (Great-grandmother?) or a special baby quilt you've stored away ? In honour of quilt month, we'd like to add your antique or best-loved quilt to Show 'n Tell. Please share it at our May meeting.

We'll be presenting several demonstrations at the May meeting. Yo-yo's (by template), simple flying geese, Celtic spirals and Quilt Marking with Press 'n Seal.



Self-portraits – How is your self portrait quilt coming along ? It's not too late to join the challenge.

Quilting Corners Lapel Pins will be available for purchase – only \$ 5.



A Star is Born !!

Beginning this month, we'll shine a star on one of our members and get to know them a bit better. We begin this series with our President, **Brenda McMillen**.

Brenda began her quilt journey only about five years ago, although she has enjoyed sewing since her early teens. Her first quilting project was a gift – a quilted photo album cover. That was followed by the need for a hostess gift for a friend's mother in France who was a quilter, and after a visit to Lilac Lane Quilts, Brenda was hooked.

Brenda's proudest quilting accomplishment to date is her current project – which is nearing completion on her short arm. The pattern is a scrappy nine-patch/solid block alternating rows set on point. She doesn't have a picture to share (yet), but hopes to present the completed quilt at our guild Show 'n Tell soon. (We hope so, too).

Brenda shares her 400 sq foot loft sewing space with her kids. She thanks her husband, Paul, for rearranging the loft to accommodate some new storage units for toys. This summer she's looking forward to kicking the kids and their toys out and finally dedicating the whole space to her sewing.

Her favourite machine is her Janome 6600 which she loves. Lately she's into 1930's reproduction prints and civil war era prints – although her favourite colour remains black. She's currently working on her UFO backlog, admitting she likes to have several projects on the go to prevent boredom. Brenda is currently finishing up an old-fashioned Santa wall hanging – it just needs the quilting finished and the binding added.

When asked what famous person inspires her, Brenda is quick to point out that the members of our guild and seeing their projects are most inspiring to her.

Outside her quilting hours, Brenda indulges a guilty pleasure – reading Maggie Shayne's Wings of Night series. She also enjoys many other authors; James Clavell, Khaled Hosseini, Isaac Asimov, Rhohinton Mystery, Joseph Boyden, Lawrence Hill, Frank Herbert, Jane Austin, John Irving and Stephenie Meyers (the Twilight Series).

Brenda looks forward to being able to devote more time to her quilting and we hope to see many of her finished treasures at upcoming guild meetings.

Next month...another featured quilter.

~ Coming in June ~

Elizabeth Dillinger from Art of Fabric will be our guest speaker and will present her trunk show. Elizabeth has won several prestigious awards, including 1st Place at the National Quilt Festival. Her quilts feature traditional piecing with raw edge appliqué with an emphasis on thread painting and freestyle machine quilting. She has been featured in such magazines as Quilter's Newsletter, Quiltmaker, and the Canadian magazine, Needle Pulling Thread.. Her trunk show promises to provide an evening of inspiration.

It's also our potluck and look for our Fall Challenge.

~ In Other News ~

A new **Program Committee** is being formed. If you'd like to join this group and help organize speakers, activities, etc for our monthly meetings, please contact Judy Cotter or Maxine Burmaster.



Hoppers needed !! The Shop Hop Bus Tour is ready

to roll. Plans for the June 5th Shop Hop Bus tour has been finalized. We will travel by tour bus to three quilt shops and stop for lunch at the Black Dog Restaurant. Each shop will offer a special demonstration or activity. Our first stop will be Sew Sisters in Toronto, and then it's on to Art of Fabric in Pickering where we will see sun painting on fabric. We'll enjoy lunch at the Black Dog and end our day at Cock-a-Doodle Quilts. Cost for members is \$ 25 and registration is limited to members only through April. If any seats remain available in May, guests will be invited

to join us – non-member cost is \$ 35.

Dust off your charge card and join us for a day of shopping, demos, camaraderie and good eats.

A note about lunch – to keep our day on schedule, we will need to pre-order our luncheon selections. Please visit Blackdogpub.tv to view their menu. Lunch prices average \$ 15 + beverage and are not included in the tour cost.

Please and Thank you We ask the snack providers to help the hospitality chair with refreshment set-up and clean-up.

Something to think about... Do you have a favourite gadget ? Maybe a LEAST-favourite gadget ? Or one you're not quite sure how to use ? We'll be delving into these matters at an upcoming meeting....

10 Reasons to Buy Fabric

From "Canadian Quilter", Winter, 1998
(and thanks to Maxine Burmaster)

1. It's the only remotely artistic thing I've ever done.
2. If all else fails, you can use it for cleaning rags.
3. It will go with some I bought last year.
4. I want my daughter to have a proper inheritance.
5. Well-known medical fact: prevents washing machine withdrawal symptoms on light laundry days.
6. Buy it now before your husband retires and goes with you on all your shopping expeditions.
7. If you don't buy it now, you may never see it again.
8. I owe myself a reward for that ½ lb I lost last month.
9. It's nor immoral, illegal or fattening.
10. It calms the nerves, satisfies the soul and makes me feel good !

TIPS

When chain piecing, let the machine chain five or six stitches between pieces. When separating the pieces, leave a short thread tail on each. This will help prevent the seam ends from coming undone. Do backstitch at the ends of the final row or border seams.

Half square triangles: Instead of marking the diagonal line on squares to be sewn into half square triangles, fold the squares in half diagonally and press. Then just layer the two fabrics and sew a scant ¼" on each side of the crease, then cut apart as usual..

Need a thread spool net for slippery threads ? The mesh that bulbs of garlic are sold in works well. Just cut a piece to length and slip over your spool.

Be sure to wear proper footwear when rotary cutting. Should the rotary cutter accidentally fall or be dropped, this could prevent a serious injury.

Place a square of non-slip mesh under your foot pedal to keep it from slipping away from you.

When joining a bias to a straight of grain piece, put the bias towards the feed dogs whenever possible to help control the bias. Similarly, if one piece needs to be eased to fit, place it against the feed dogs and let them do the work.

If your machine has a transparent extension table, a sample block or pattern page can be kept there for easy reference.

Have a tip, your own story, an upcoming event to share ? Let us know.



~ Out & About ~

- April 22 - 24 - St Mary's Piecemakers 2010 Quilt Show
Huron Perth and Stonetowne Quilt Guilds
Pyramid Recreations Centre, 317 James Street South
Thursday 10-5, Friday 10-7, Sat 10-4
- April 30-May1 - SewFest West 2010, Bingemans Conference Centre,
425 Bingemans Centre Drive, Kitchener, \$ 5 admission
1-800-811-6611
- May 4 - Monthly Meeting
The Mystery deepens...Part II of the Mystery Row Quilt
It's National Quilt Month
- May 6-8 - Goose on the Loose Shop Hop
Visit [Cobwebs and Caviar](#) in Shelburne, [Country Concessions](#) in
Cookstown, [Lilac Lane Quilts](#) in Alliston and [Quilters' Line](#) in
Markdale for free demonstrations and great prizes.
- May 7-8 - Stitches in Bloom – Chatham Kent Quilters Guild, St Paul's
Congregational Church, 450 Park Ave W, Chatham. Quilts,
appraisals, silent auction, Tea room. Raffle quilt for ALS.
519-354-8094

- May 12 - 7:30 pm The Creemore Mad River Quilters Tea and Trunk Show
Please note the new location – Station on the Green
Admission is \$ 5.00. Contact: Linda (705) 466-2027
- May 27-29 - St Jacob’s Merchant Mall at the Woolwich Community Centre
This is also the tea room to the local quilt show.
- June 5 - Quilting Corners Shop Hop Bus Tour
- July 10-11 A Stitch in Time 2010, Prince Edward County Quilter’s Guild
Prince Edward Community Centre Fairgrounds, Picton
Email: mjtucker@sympatico.ca or 613-476-0334
Pec.on.ca/quiltersguild
- July 14 – 19 - Quilts in my Garden presented by Meaford Quilters
www.meafordmuseum.ca or to order tickets call 877-538-0463
- July 23-25 Haliburton Highlands Quilt Guild presents Journeys Quilt Show.
Haliburton Curling Club, Admission, \$ 6. Info: 705-455-9212.
Featured Quilter – Kim Bolender
- Sept 10-12 - Quilting at the Lakes Autumn Splendor presented by Buckhorn
Area Quilter’s Guild. Buckhorn Community Centre
1801 Lakehurst Rd. www.buckhornquilters.ca.
- Sept 17-19th - Quilt, Rug and Craft Fair at the Simcoe County Museum.
Friday and Saturday, 9:30-5, Sunday 9:30-4.
Museum.simcoe.ca
- October 23-24 - The Magic of Cloth – Dufferin Piecemakers Quilting Guild
The Orangeville Fairgrounds, Admission is \$ 5.
- October 29-30 - Harvest of Quilts, Curham Trilium Quilters Guild
General Sikorski Polish Veteran’s Hall, Oshawa
Email: dtqgquiltshow@yahoo.ca

Making a list and checking it twice...



Things to bring to the May meeting...

Antique or best-loved quilts for Show ‘n Tell
Bus Tour Registration, luncheon selection
Tips, newsletter submissions
Library books, coffee cup, raffle money