

Points East

Meeting at the Woodlawn United Church
53 Woodlawn Rd. Dartmouth



Upcoming Events

Next meeting:

March 20th 2023 7:30p-9:00p

Doors Open at 7pm

Open Sew Day

Upcoming open sew days will be held on Thursday afternoons 1pm – 4:30pm on the following dates:

March 23

Open sew days are located at St Andrews community centre 3380 Barnstead Rd. Halifax.

The cost is \$5 per person

Reminders

- Bring your name tags (you need them to win a prize & they help us learn who you are).
- Money for 50/50 draws (Although it's not required, smaller bills are appreciated.)
- Masks are required
- Please be respectful of those who still wish to social distance.
- Library Books

Social Media

Robyn Joubert

We have 98 on Instagram, and 19 on Twitter. We're always looking for things to share on our social media so if you have something, please email mayflowerqgsocial@gmail.com.

Instagram @mayflowerquiltersguild

Twitter @MayflowerQG

Encourage family and friends to follow too, let's start building our presence and attracting new people.

March Block of the Month

Our March block of the month is a Shamrock of any size or style.



<https://www.woodlawn.com/shamrock-pattern-blocks-by-phyllis-stewart/>

March Program

Ron Cleaveley & Elaine Gray

- 1: Quilt myths and legends. For example quilts we not made while the pioneers were traveling west in covered wagons. In fact most people walked beside the wagons. They would have been too tired to do anything but eat and sleep.
- 2: Are you a quilt police? Is so are you helping or hindering your fellow quilters.

Also: I would like to discuss having a quilt, fabric and notion yard sale. Would people have things for give away and for sale. Would we charge a fee for seat sales or just for selling from a table. Also the library has books and magazines that will be for sale.

Presidents Message

Kathy Porter-Cunningham

I was in Barbados on vacation when I got an e-mail reminder from Denise for the newsletter submission. My first thought was it was a good thing I lived in a cooler climate where it was necessary to have warm bedding or I might not have learned to quilt. However, on our final day of vacation we toured the Sunbury Plantation Great House built in the 17th-century and I was surprised to see a patchwork quilt on the bed in the children's room. I don't think it was a vintage quilt but I also don't think they would have chosen to portray the children's room with a quilt if they hadn't been in use as the Cotton Plantation house is now a museum. It was interesting to think that whoever made the original quilt had likely been influenced by what they had been used to before coming to Barbados from Scotland or England.

Of course this got me to thinking about some of the influences that come into play every time we make a quilt. We can be influenced by the season of the year and make a richly coloured heavier fall quilt or a brightly coloured lighter spring quilt. The pattern can be influenced by quilts we've seen others make and also by our skill level. The purpose of the quilt can influence our choices. You might make a very simple baby quilt which is going to be used until it's worn out or you might decide to spend an entire year or more and make a really detailed wedding quilt. Favourite colours come into play and finding a fabric you absolutely love can influence you to make a quilt just because, to name a few.

You might have started quilting at a young age because you were influenced by your grandmother or others in your family who quilted or sewed or you might have started quilting later in life after taking an introductory class on a whim. I was influenced by my mother who was a very accomplished sewer making some of our clothes when we were younger as well as dresses for herself. She also made a few quilts and stuffed animals, dolls and doll clothes. My mother also taught me to knit and crochet. Just

the fact of having a sewing machine in the house was a great influence.

Every time we get together and have Show and Share I'm influenced by the colour combinations and pattern choices each one of you makes and I'm looking forward to our next gathering to see what exciting new projects everyone has been working on. I imagine we will all be influenced by the wearing of the green in March and I hope to see some shamrocks in all shapes and sizes in multiple shades of green!

Until we meet again, may your bobbin always be full.

Quilt Canada 2023 News – for March 2023

Carole McCarville

Seeking Help with Quilt Canada Youth Workshops

Quilt Canada 2023 in Halifax is excited to be hosting youth quilt classes for the first time! In order to get the word out to interested kids and make it a success, we need your help!

The instructor, Jackie White from Manitoulin Island, ON, has been teaching kids to sew and quilt for eight years. She will be teaching two classes in the early evening on June 8 and June 9, to make it easier for kids to participate. In one class kids will learn to make a reversible mini tote bag, and in the other they will make a mini house quilt with lots of fun embellishments to choose from.

To see Jackie talk about the classes, check out her YouTube channel

<https://youtu.be/QZhFMlhddhg>

If you know a leader in a Nova Scotian Youth organization (4-H, Girl Guides, etc.) or a teacher who might be interested in learning about this opportunity for the youth in their organization, please pass this information along to them. We would be happy to chat with them about these classes geared toward the young (beginner) quilter.

Or if you have a child or grandchild, or know of a youngster who might be interested, please

encourage them to register at <https://canadianquilter.com/quilt-canada-2023/>

Volunteers Needed

As we all know belonging to quilt guilds, many volunteers are required to run an organization and put on a successful quilt event. And the Quilt Canada conference is no exception. This year is your chance to be involved in a national quilt event in your area.

General Volunteers

Head on over to the volunteer page on the Canadian Quilters Association website, <https://canadianquilter.com/volunteer-at-quilt-canada-2023/>, and read the descriptions of the various volunteer positions. All sign-ups for these general volunteer positions will be carried out through the “SIGNUP Genius” portal with direct links to this from the website page. The links will be available the week of March 27th. So think about what you might like to sign-up for now.

Classroom Assistants (formerly known as Classroom Angels)

Now accepting volunteers for these special positions. The job description and application form for these volunteers can be found on the website, <https://canadianquilter.com/volunteer-at-quilt-canada-2023/>. The assistants are needed in the 30 workshop classrooms to assist the instructors and students with various items during the course of the workshop. For full day workshops these are 8 hour shifts with a lunch break when the teacher releases the students for their break. And half day or evening workshops (youth classes) are 4.5-hour shifts.

Volunteer Team Leads

We are still seeking Team Leads for the Set-up and Take-down of quilt shows. Please check out the volunteers page for description of these two Team Leads and contact Carole McCarville (executivedirector@canadianquilteradministration.com) if interested in helping out in this way.

Workshop and Lecture Registration

You can now register for workshops, lectures and buy your conference entry pass (save a couple dollars from the “at the door” pricing). Many workshops are selling out so don’t delay if you

want a seat at one of the workshops offered. Find all the information on the Quilt Canada 2023 page, <https://canadianquilter.com/quilt-canada-2023/>, including the link to register.

We hope to see you in Halifax, both as an attendee and a volunteer for a “quilty” good time! **Please reach out to me, Carole, at 902-388-4848 or executivedirector@canadianquilteradministration.com if you have any question.**

Quilt Musing

Jane Maddin

There are lots of wonderful components to making a quilt. Picking a pattern (or designing one yourself), picking fabrics and colours or using scraps, cutting, piecing, placing blocks, making the quilt, doing the quilting (or sending it out for long-arming), and choosing, cutting, piecing and sewing on the binding. And finally the hand tacking. (I love them all, which is a good thing!)

I think I might talk about making a quilt from scrap fabrics. I used to think that I didn't like building scrappy quilts. I used to think that it was too random, and that I didn't like random. But I have come to discover that I was thinking about it wrong. It is not random – you are still making decisions, but they are on the microscale.

I have made one scrappy random quilt top within the last 9 months (And I am working on the parts of another... and I have another one planned when that one is done!) I had a lot of people say things like, “So many colours, how did you pick them?” “Look at all those fabrics, how did you get them to 'go' together like that?”

And I will tell you. (Just try to stop me!) I did not have a picture of that finished quilt in my head the way I might have with a designed pattern. The quilt in question was a New York Beauty. It was made with curved flying geese arcs, arcs made of one piece of fabric, and arcs that were made in wedges, so that they looked like a fan. And this is how I figured out what fabric and colour would 'go' together in the quilt top.

Each piece of fabric was only compared to the piece of fabric right beside it.

So each arc was made to match itself. Each block was made up of 3 arcs, a quarter circle and a piece that reminded me of a curved arrow – to make the outside of the block into a square. It took four blocks to make a whole circle (although I don't think there were any complete circles in the flimsy... some of them were rotated, so that the circles look like they were overlapped.)

Every flying geese unit, was made with two fabrics... one for the centre triangle and one for the two smaller triangles – let's call them background, k? When I made them, I was not thinking about the arc that it was going to touch... I only made that one arc. I generally made 3 or 4 arcs out of different fabrics, usually in small medium and large, one after the other. If ANY of those three went together when they were done, I might put them in one block. If they did not, I would put them on the design wall, as if I had started 3 or 4 separate blocks... Then I would pick a fabric that would 'go' with one of the arcs. I then took that fabric and matched it up with another fabric that was going to touch it, and I made another arc in a size larger or smaller than the one I had matched that one fabric with. If that finished arc went with the previously made arc, I would put it beside that arc on the design wall. (And if it didn't I would try it against the other previously made arcs, until I had a match.) And I did that again and again.

The last couple of blocks were more 'planned' only because I didn't want to have a pile of unmatched arcs. By then I had also had some serious practice in making the arcs AND picking the fabrics. I used the top of the spare bed to move the blocks around until I was happy with the layout (also randomly), and then sewed them together. So did I have problems with random? No. In fact, rather than finding it stressful (which I had assumed I would) I found it very freeing. I did not try to make decisions all at once for the whole quilt, only for the arc I was currently working on. And I love the result!

My advice; try it, you might like it! Yours in Quilting, Jane Maddin, Butcher of Blocks

April Block of the Month

Rita Solkin

Because the heart was so well received in February we changed the March block of the month to Shamrocks of any size and we'll move this block to our April meeting.

So what does a quilter do when they hit a creative wall – they make bricks! This is a fun little pattern that makes good use of little scraps. Make a bundle of them and you have a quilt in no time for charity or for yourself. You can make it in just batiks or you can mix it up. Use medium to dark border fabrics with light holes, or light border fabrics and medium holes.

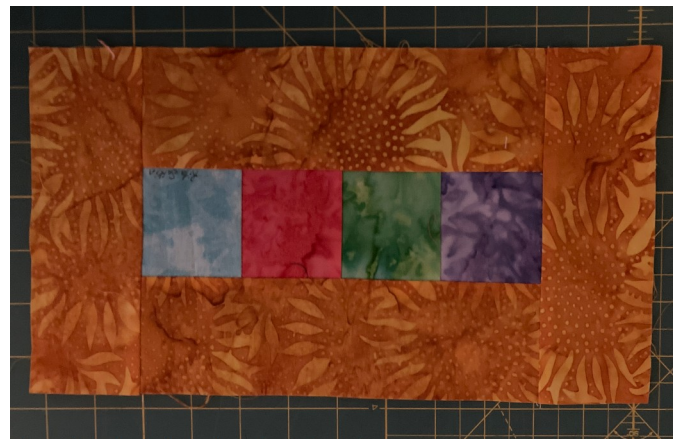
In Border fabric cut:

2 - 8 1/2" by 2 1/2" strips

2 - 6 1/2" by 2 1/2"

In Holes fabric cut:

4 - 2 1/2" squares



President's Picks

Kathy Porter-Cunningham

Sherri McConnell of A Quilting Life has a free Scrappy Quilt Pattern based on 7.5" unfinished nine patches, quarter-square-triangles and squares. Her pattern makes a 66.5" x 78.5" quilt but you could easily up-size or downsize depending on how many scraps you wanted to use

up. I like how the resulting quilt pattern looks more complicated and looks like a square-in-a-square on the diagonal or a large star.

YouTube tutorial: <https://youtu.be/x-F-706uFgs>

PDF pattern:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1zrFNsdcdEXR-yB14tNkdDiglzegXWqn0/view>

Carol Thelan has a free Easy Weave Quilt pattern. It looks complicated to start, but it is actually made of one block made up of 1 half-square-triangle piece and 2 quarter-square-triangle pieces in each of 4 fabric combinations. 4 of each of the 3.5" unfinished blocks in 4 fabric combinations combine to make a 12" block. I think you could easily up-size the base block and still have a good looking quilt that would go together even faster. I learned something interesting too. If you snap your fabric on the straight of grain you can tell if it is the lengthwise or crosswise grain by if the sound is higher or lower.

YouTube tutorial:

<https://youtu.be/ozMOVgxhJMI>

PDF pattern:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1dXeGTyea1Gw6ZdEQQuewBrSSsE8VRT-k/view>

Donation Quilt Sizes

IWK: Premie - 36x36 up to 36x40 *These quilts must be 100% cotton, thin batting, with flannelette or cotton batting. Machine quilted with cotton thread

Bryony House: Various sizes from Crib, 30x46 up to 36x50; Youth, 45x60; Lap size for older children and mothers, 50x70

Police Cars: Crib size, 30x46 to 36x50

Mental Health Foundation: Single bed, 65x88

Quilts of Valour:

Approx: 55x70, they do not have to be red & white

Each month our members show how much they care about those in our community through their donations of quilts, time and food and these donations are collected by several members of our guild to be distributed to the proper locations.

We are hoping to make this task slightly easier for those collecting the quilts by putting a small piece of paper with a safety pin on a corner or the back of the quilt to identify the proper organization to receive the quilt.

We feel that it is important that these quilts are delivered to the organization that you intended them for, and this will help avoid confusion.

Mahone Bay Quilters Guild

QUILTERS' YARD SALE

SAVE THE DATE - SATURDAY MAY 6, 2023

Trinity United Church Hall
101 Edgewater St, Mahone Bay

FREE ADMISSION!

lots of quilty bargains, fabric, quilts books & patterns, notions etc
No Early Birds Please!

robsonbh@eastlink.ca

Ryan's Case for Smiles

Lorna D'orsay

Ryan's Cases for Smiles is inviting our Guild to take part in the "Miles of Pillowcase Smiles" in September. They would like Halloween or Christmas cotton fabrics especially, but any bright and cheerful cotton will do. September is "Pediatric Cancer Awareness Month". Once again, I'll collect the pillowcases and arrange with Anne Newcombe for delivery. You can start bringing the pillowcases to our next meeting. For more info on Ryan's Case for Smiles and directions for making the pillowcases, check out <https://caseforsmiles.org/>

Treasurers Report

Leslie Dixon

Actual to 28 Feb
2023

2022-23
Budget

Opening bank balance 30 April 2022

Income

Membership

50/50

Miscellaneous

Total Revenue

Expenses

Books

Newsletter

Rent

Program costs/Prizes

Administration

Publicity & Promotion

Postage

Insurance

Post office box

Web Hosting

CQA Sponsorship

Membership/ 50/50 Costs

Total Expense

Balance 28 February 2023

February Minutes

Mayflower Quilters Guild
February 27, 2023

There were 49 members in attendance.

All the usual Housekeeping Announcements! Phone off. Name tags on. Sign in - so you qualify for the door prize. If an evacuation is necessary, meet over by the pond. Wear your masks. No scents is good sense. Take your garbage with you or put it in the receptacles we have provided. For your safety, leave the building in pairs or in groups.

There is one slight change. If you are able, help in stacking your chairs is appreciated. But only to a maximum of 10 per pile please. Also, please stack the tables correctly with the tape side aligned with the tape on the cart. This is just a reminder to everyone having events at the church.

Margaret Biggs-Melanson moved for the adoption of the 16 January 2023 Minutes as published in the February newsletter. Seconded by Claudia Spence. All in favour. Motion carried.

Error: Jane Maddin noticed on page 3 of the newsletter, right above the Quilt Musing heading, that Carole McCarville's email address should have a 'T' in it so the word is 'quilter' not 'quiler'.

Leslie Dixon moved for the adoption of the Treasurer's Report ending January 31, 2023, as presented in the February 2023 newsletter. Seconded by Kim Burgess. All in favour. Motion carried.

Library

Our search for a Library Assistant is over and you can all relax now! Phew, right!. Thank you to Laura Simmons for offering. It has been moved by Davida Mackay that Laura Simmons become the Library Assistant. Seconded by Jane Maddin. All in favour. Motion carried.

Thank you to Suzanne Claveau for carrying on with the position after her term ended. It was very much appreciated.

Denise Olson reminded us of the '20 year rule' we have set for the library, in an effort to keep the library current. She has been culling some of the older books and it was decided to sell them to the membership. The money will be returned to the library for future purchases.

If you have a book you think is wonderful, consider doing a Book Review. Talk for five minutes or less about why you like this book. It can then be voted on by the membership as to whether it is a book they are interested in having purchased for the library or not.

Membership - Linda Meyette

The membership list has been sent out and there have been a few errors noted. Please check the list to ensure your contact information is correct. The corrected membership list will be sent out soon.

Vice President - BOM/ScottManor House/Workshop - Rita Solkin

Block of the Month - March - Shamrocks of any sort.

Size of blocks - if a size is given, it is the measurement for the finished size. Unless otherwise indicated, make a block that is divisible by 2.

Scott Manor House - the Show/Sale has been happening at the Scott Manor House for 14 years and Vivien Worden, who has 'hosted' this event for many years is retiring from this position. The question now is - Do we want to continue? How many are interested in selling? No hands were raised. Do we want to Show? No hands were raised. This event does bring in people to Scott Manor House but it isn't the greatest venue for us to exhibit our quilts. Public awareness for our guild but doesn't generate a lot of sales. We will not be having an event there this year. We can revisit this another time.

There was a brief discussion of perhaps having a Show/Sale at a different venue. It was noted that

the last event we had was at a church but at the end of the day, after the bills were paid, they just broke even.

Workshop - There was interest in a workshop on Freezer Paper Foundation Paper Piecing. Rita knows a few tricks to teach that use less paper. She had two samples to show, one very simple and one more challenging. The workshop would be scheduled for March or April and the cost would be minimal.

Note that the position for Workshop Coordinator is still available.

Sew Days - Karen Maley

Dates listed in the newsletter - Sew Days twice a month - March 9 and 23, 1 pm to 4:30 pm at the St. Andrews Community Center in Halifax.

Quilt Canada 2023

Carole McCarville, CQA Executive Director, has posted the details in our February newsletter in relation to volunteers. Members of CQA can now register for workshops and lectures and non#members can registers starting 1 March.

Can you help? Kim Burgess is set to receive the 200 quilts coming in for Quilt Canada. And she will need some help! She will need help folding quilts, transporting quilts, and at the end of the show, bringing the quilts back to her house and helping with the packing up the quilt to be mailed.

Program - Ron Cleaveley

What to do with ugly fabric! Ron had all kinds of creative ideas of how to use up or get rid of fabrics. Some of the members thought some of the ugly fabric samples weren't so ugly. They just needed a little TLC and took them home with them. After all, one of the solutions of getting rid of ugly fabric is to gift it to a friend! Beauty is in the eye of the beholder, they say!

Program ideas? If you have any ideas for program, let Ron and Elaine know.

After the break we were amazed and inspired by the parade of members' quilts and quilted items.

Marie Hunter twirled a few times to show off her quilted jacket! The parade of Quilts of Comfort was no less inspiring and these quilts are sure to bring joy to someone in need.

The draws

Comfort Quilts: Marie Hunter twirled up in her spiffy quilted jacket to claim her prize!

Show and Share: I wonder if there was a little purple something or other in Davida Mackay's goody bag.

Door Prize: Marilyn Montgomery was all smiles when her name was called!

Block of the Month: I wonder what Nancy Terry is going to make with her 'heart' blocks.

50/50 Draw: Marie Hunter and Denise Hunter were kept busy selling tickets to the tune of \$171.00. The winning ticket was 6723714 was sold to Suzanne Claveau. Congratulations! She took home \$85.50. The same amount will be deposited into the guild's account.

June Dinner

A member asked if we are going to have a June dinner this year. It hasn't yet been discussed by the Executive. It is assumed that we will have to work around the dates of Quilt Canada.

Q&A

Jane Maddin asked if anyone has done Improv Quilting and how do you do it. It is a great way for using up scraps. A discussion ensued. Susan Taylor said she has a quilt that she will bring in to show at the next meeting.

Jane said that she is doing the Scrap Challenge introduced by Terry Rowland. You can see Jane's post on the Mayflower Facebook page shared on January 18th - 'Color Wash Quilt Scrap Challenge'. If you are not on Facebook, you can check here - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2UQE5SIOLqg>

Meeting adjourned

YOUR 2021-22 MAYFLOWER EXECUTIVE

President
Vice President
Past President
Secretary
Treasurer
Membership
Communications
Email, photographer
Correspondence
Workshops
Newsletter
Website
Program
Social Media
Library
Library Asst.
Food Bank

IWK Quilts:
Victoria's Quilts:
NS Hospital:
Police Quilts:
Bryony House: