



Arnprior and District Quilters' Guild

NEWSLETTER

December 2017

President's Report

'Twas the night before Christmas, Quilters version



*'Twas the night before Christmas,
And the quilts were not made.
The threads were all tangled, the cookies delayed.
The stockings weren't hung, the pantry was bare.
The poor weary Quilter, was tearing her hair.
Stacks of fat quarters, tipped over in streams.
Visions of Log Cabins, had turned into dreams.*

*When what to her wondering eyes should appear,
But a bus full of quilters with all of their gear.
They went straight to work with just a few mutters,
Sorting and stitching and brandishing cutters.
The patterns emerged from all of the clutter,
Like magic the fabrics arranged in a flutter.
Log Cabins, Lone Stars, Flying Geese & Bear Tracks
Each quilt was a beauty - even the backs.*



*Her house how it twinkled, her quilts how they glowed.
The cookies were baking, the stockings were sewed.
Their work was all done, so they folded their frames,
And packed up their needles, without giving their names.
They boarded the bus, and checked the next address.
More quilts to be made, another quilter in distress.*



*She heard one voice echo, as they drove out of sight,
Happy quilting to all and to all a good night!*

Author Unknown

Program Notes



December 13 Meeting

There will be a Regular Show and Tell as well as a Themed Show and Tell. We would like members to bring in their first or nearly first quilt and tell the story regarding it.

Please arrive early, so that we can start eating between 6:45 and 7:00.

Members should also bring the following:

- Cutlery, plate and cup
- Christmas quilts, wall hangings, table runners etc. to decorate the hall for the meeting
- Members with surnames A-L will bring a main dish or dessert.

And remember to bring in your blocks of the month and decorative stitch blocks!

Final payment for January 11-14 retreat is due.

Looking Ahead

January 24, 2018
February 28, 2018

Charity Night - Gwen has plans for us to work on charity projects!
Activity Night - We will have 4 stations, each with a different activity. You will have the chance to try 2 stations in February and the other 2 at a later date.

March 28, 2018
April 25, 2018
May 23, 2018
June 20, 2018

Trunk show with Valerie Miller as our guest speaker.
Jan Kittle - Using rulers when quilting
Elections will be held, and Challenges are due.
End-of-year Potluck: (M-Z bring food)

Mary DeVries, and your Program Team



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Workshops

Big Bag Workshop

The Big Bag workshop on March 6th, 2018 will be taught by Johanne Vajda and already has 9 signed up. There is a maximum of 15 for this class. Johanne will bring the sample bag to our December meeting.

Paper Piecing

Mary DeVries will be teaching a workshop in February (date to be arranged) on 3 different ways to tackle paper piecing. Ensure your spot by signing up in December!

Sew Days

Further Sew Days at Island View will be forthcoming. Again, dates TBA.

Chris Gordon, Workshop Co-ordinator



Mystery Quilt

The instructions for the second part of the mystery quilt will be revealed at the December meeting and will also on the website on the [Mystery Quilt page](#), along with Mystery Quilt FAQ's.

Membership

At the November meeting we had one new member and one renewed member for a total of 60 attending.

The annual membership fee is \$25 and new members are always very welcome!

Penny Carruthers, Membership



Quilters Curve
 Combermere, Ontario
www.quilterscurve.weebly.com

www.thepickledish.ca

Notes on our Charities

Drawstring Bags

Thank you for those you have made drawstring bags. If you have some made at home, please bring them along. I delivered 71 bags and 37 stockings last week of November, so the ladies could start their elves' work.

Here is Nancy Black's comment back to you: "The ladies at both the Food bank and our CWL (Catholic Women's League), LOVED the drawstring bags. We used them all and could use more if you are able to supply them. The food bank ladies decided to save the stockings for the Children's candies & treats etc. We could use another 25 or 30 bags, if you could provide them. What we don't use now, we will save for next year. The food bank group were very appreciative and impressed by the whole event. Please thank all your quilters for us!" Hopefully, we will be able to fully address their needs.

Wheelchair Lap Quilts

Please bring in any completed lap wheelchair quilts that you have made. I will be making my delivery in the next week. Please continue to work on this project throughout the winter. It would be wonderful to have every senior covered in one by the end of our year. I would like to have a picture of these for the website.

Charity Night in January

We will be dividing into groups - working on cutting and assembling kits for wheelchair lap quilts from donated fabric, making Arms Are for Hugging and a charity quilt for auction for the hospital. We will be asking you to sign up to bring things at the December meeting such as sewing machines, cutting boards, rotary cutters, seam rippers, point turners, Go Cutters etc.

Donations

We are grateful for all the donations that charity program gets. The family of [Barb Sully](#), a former member of our guild, who passed away this year, made a very large donation of fabric. A thank you note has been sent to them. This will be used in January for our projects.

Arnprior Hospital Foundation

As per the decision at the November meeting we are moving forward on a quilt for the [Arnprior Hospital Foundation's](#) auction at the annual Knight in the Maritimes dinner in May 2018 to raise money for equipment purchases for the [Arnprior & District Memorial Hospital](#).

In keeping with your input at the November meeting to make a somewhat complex quilt, and the objective to maximize the return to the hospital, a striking medallion pattern has been selected. A recent shopping expedition by Brigid Whitnall, Donna Sheaves, Lynn Johnston, and Janet Brownlee successfully acquired a lovely combination of blue and green fabrics with some gold and red accents. Kits will be assembled and available soon for you to participate in this project.

Gwen Pennings, Vice-President

Did You Know....?

The Dresden Plate quilt block was the most popular quilt block in the 1920s and 30s. Although when first published in the early 20s, it had different names like Grandmother's Sunburst, Dahlia and Sunflower.



Congratulations, November Winners!

Block of the Month: Betty Rehbein

50/50 Draw: Debbie Cauvier

Gift Basket: Eleanor Kenny

Door Prizes: Elizabeth Couture, Gwen Pennings, Nicky Barham, Joanne Delmer, Joyce Murray, Liz Gray, Sue Hodgins

Guess the Number of Pages: Linda Klosowski



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Library



The countdown is on and we know your machines are humming ----not much time left to finish those gifts!

After the hustle and bustle dies down, take a moment and check our genxquilters.com, a great site for visual learners or Google "Laurie Swim" to see her latest art quilt "The Halifax Explosion" – an amazing work. She is also the author of November's Library book purchase "[From Rags to Riches](#)". See more at the [Laurie Swim web site](#)

With so many of us trying our hands at quilting our own quilts, we've bought "Free-Motion Quilting" by Angela Walters. It has 28 step-by-step designs to try out and she certainly makes it look easy! Find it in the "How to Quilt" section. We also have a "new to us" book, "Animals to Applique" by Charlyne Jaffe Stewart. It has lots of different animal patterns and ideas on how to use them.

Our "Guess the Pages" book this month is absolutely full of great quilt pattern ideas. Don't miss making your guess!

See you at our Christmas meeting and Merry Christmas!

Your Library Team: Lucy and Nancy



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Keeping in Touch

Tip: When you're reading this newsletter on your electronic device, open the links in a new tab in your browser so you keep your place in the newsletter. The web browser's "Open link in new tab" can typically be accessed on a personal computer by hovering over the link and right clicking the mouse, or on a tablet or phone by tapping on the link and holding (keep your finger on the screen) until you see the little menu. After reading the link information you can easily go back to the newsletter tab in your browser and continue reading the newsletter.

Pictures of Sherri Hisey's amazing quilts at our November meeting are captured in the [November Meeting Highlights blog post](#). And [pictures of the show-and-tell quilts](#) are always available.

More information about Quilt Canada 2018 in Vancouver has been made available. Here are a couple of links: [Ticket information](#) [More information](#)

If a guild meeting is cancelled due to inclement winter weather, members will be notified on the day of the meeting by email, and a cancellation notice will appear on the web site Home page by 12:30 PM. If you are unable to access email or the internet you can phone a friend who does have access, or Janet Brownlee at 613-623-7948.

Janet Brownlee, Communications
Web site: www.arnpriordistrictquiltersguild.com

My Mystery Quilt Journey

A mystery quilt is stepping out into the unknown!

Part 2 by Janet Brownlee

For once my quilting plan worked out. I've completed my leaf and checkerboard blocks well before the December meeting and I'm delighted with them.

I decided to do the checkerboard blocks first because I thought they'd be quicker than the leaf blocks and I wanted to see some completed blocks quickly. Because I'm using new fabric, I was able to strip piece them and that definitely sped up the process. And the leaf blocks came together easily too. I like the nifty way of making the stems but for some reason my stems all appear to be slightly different widths. That's one thing I really like about quilting – perfection is not required nor expected, and quirkiness can be celebrated.

I decided to wait and join the blocks into strips a little later so I can decide their placement when I'm seeing a little more of the quilt. I have laid them out in a tentative order, and taken a photo. And I'm thrilled with how my fabrics look.

I'm eagerly looking forward to seeing the next set of instructions but I likely won't tackle them until after Christmas.

Part 2 by Betty Rehbein

I learned something new! Maple leaf blocks look best if each leaf is the same colour. I think you have to have a really good colour sense to make one leaf from many fabrics. So it was back to the drawing board - I have selected different fabrics (in 6 color groups) to make up the leaf rows. The 9-patch rows are each going to be of the same fabric too. I'll have to work quickly to get caught up for the December instructions!

Meeting Notes

Where? Our guild meetings are held at the Christian Education Centre at 257 John Street in Arnprior.

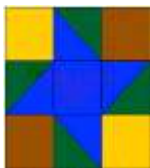
When? Meetings start at 7 PM and our doors open at 6:30. Meetings are generally on the 4th Wednesday of each month (with some exceptions.)

Parking - Please DO NOT park in the church parking lot that is adjacent to the hall. Our lease does not include the parking lot - it must be available for church-related activities. There is plenty of on street parking nearby.

Refreshments – Coffee and tea is prepared by our refreshment committee, who also coordinate the snack roster. Do **“lug a mug”** - bring your own mug to minimize our environmental footprint. And PLEASE keep your refreshments away from the show and tell display table.

Visitors are welcome at our guild meetings. Fee is \$5 for all visitors and guests.

Allergy Alert! Please note that our meetings are allergy free. Please no perfume or perfume products! Thank you.



Our guild logo is the Friendship Star block, symbolizing the spirit of friendship that is always present at the Guild. Blue represents the Madawaska and Ottawa rivers in Arnprior; gold, the sunshine and fields of corn around Arnprior; brown, the acres of farmland in the area; and green, Gillies Grove and surrounding forests and trees.