



## KINGSTON HEIRLOOM QUILTERS

### NEWSLETTER, NOVEMBER 2008

KHQ web: [quiltskingston.org/khq/](http://quiltskingston.org/khq/)

#### 2008/2009 Executive

<b>Life Members:</b>	Margaret Rhodes, Diane Berry, Bea Walroth, Claire Upton
<b>Directors:</b>	Margaret Rhodes, Diane Berry
<b>President:</b>	Donna Hamilton
<b>Past President:</b>	Margaret Henshaw
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<b>Recording Secretary:</b>	Sylvia Currie
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Simone Lynch
<b>Social Convenors:</b>	Bernice Day, Lorna Grice
<b>Membership/Phone Convenors:</b>	Rosalie Gray, Gail Jennings
<b>Publicity:</b>	Peggy McAskill
<b>Program:</b>	Executive
<b>Newsletter Editor:</b>	Ros Hanes
<b>Historian:</b>	Anjali Shyam
<b>Librarian:</b>	Mary Ann McAndrews

#### Meeting Dates:

*Tuesdays:* December 2 (Xmas lunch)  
January 6  
February 3  
March 3  
April 7  
May 6  
June 2

*Thursdays:* November 20  
January 22 (AGM)  
February 19  
March 19  
April 23  
May 21  
June 18

#### Message from Your President

*Donna Hamilton*

It has been wonderful talking to so many of you and hearing how much you enjoyed our trip to Shakespeare, Stratford, London, Ailsa Craig, and Kitchener. Diane and Sylvia, you out did yourselves! The planning and thought that went into this trip was magnificent! And was truly appreciated! Many thanks for your efforts!

We will be sharing some of our experiences through a DVD showing the East African quilts on Nov 20<sup>th</sup>. This will be informal, so I trust everyone will share what they learnt with their KHQ friends.



I hope everyone has been enjoying quilting more with the success of our show behind us, and the inspiration of our trip still fresh in our minds. We have many projects on the go, some not at our meetings yet, but they will be appearing shortly, I am told. Meeting attendance is up. It has been great seeing new and familiar faces. Welcome to all.

I can't believe how fast the fall is going in. There are only two more meetings before Christmas! It will be winter shortly and the quilting season will be in full swing. Be sure to bring in your projects to share with all of us. I hope I'll have something finished for the Christmas luncheon! I'll be watching for yours!

Meet you at the Church Hall!

### **Christmas Luncheon, Tuesday December 2, 2008**

*Lorna Grice*

Our annual Christmas Potluck Luncheon will be held at noon. We are asking members to please contribute your favourite appetizer, salad, sandwiches, veggie tray or desert to share. Please bring your own serving dish. Tea, coffee and punch will be provided for all. (Remember to bring your coffee mug to meetings.)

Finally please bring a contribution of non-perishable food or \$ for the Kingston Food Bank.

### **Baby Quilts**

*Joan Bales*

Once again we are making baby quilts for the Kingston General Hospital. Many of our members have been contributing to make the job easier but it would be helpful if even a few more members could make one baby quilt per year for this worthwhile project. Thank you to all!

### **Membership**

*Rosalie Gray*

Our "confirmed" membership currently stands at 53. Though sorry to say goodbye to a few longtime members (temporarily I hope), we are happy to have Carol Green, Mary Williams, and Jeanne Stoness back with us this year. And we extend a special welcome to new members Jocelyne Ezard and Linda Johnstone. Updated (almost!) LISTS were distributed at the Oct. 7 meeting – extras available for future pick-up.

Please see Gail Jennings regarding membership needs / questions until I'm back in the spring. She has a list of those yet to pay – very few! Thanks for your cooperation!!

Happy Quilting, Merry Christmas, etc. etc. to ALL!  
Will be missing you, but not the winter.

## Welcome to our newest commercial member:



## A Variety of Impressions of **THE** Bus Trip:

(October 21-23 to Ailsa Craig)

It all began so innocently. Barbara Reynolds and Carol Garner shared with us their pictures of the Russian quilt display at Ailsa Craig last fall. A check of the Cotton-By-Post website indicated this fall they would sponsor quilts from East Africa. Furthermore, they would go on the road with a trunk show of some of these quilts in the spring. While discussing the possibility of booking this show, several voices were heard saying, "What about a bus trip?". And so it grew! Which eventually led 49 of us to the Stratford area and The Quilt display, a performance of Cabaret, and a tour of the costume and props warehouse. Further afield from our homebase at the Shakespeare Inn, we were captivated by the East African quilts, visited a variety of quilt shops and restaurants, and acquired a busload of fabrics, happy memories and new/renewed friendships. Could it be that we might return to Ailsa Craig? Next year will feature quilts from Ireland.

*Sylvia Currie*

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It is hard to single out one aspect of this adventure for comment. I will stay with the focus of the trip, the quilt show at Ailsa Craig.

I met an African quilter, Margaret Atieno Odera at the show. Her wonderful pictorial quilt depicted a day in the life of a woman in the bush (as opposed to one living in Nairobi) all done in appliqué. Such activities as carrying fire wood on her head or a vessel of water, hoeing a garden, tending a flock of chickens, stirring a pot over an open fire and pounding grain in a wooden vessel with a heavy wooden pounding stick. The blocks were framed with colourful 2" squares of African fabrics. Margaret wanted me to buy her quilt priced at \$700.00 but I had to decline. Perhaps some lucky Canadian purchased this quilt.

I found my viewers choice quilt when I saw the blue and orange zebras. What an audacious colour combination. The background was a rich mottled deep orange and the various blue zebra stripes were appliquéd on to the orange. A stunning quilt!

*Lorna Grice*

The Stratford / Ailsa Craig Bus Trip was a wonderful adventure. We had three full days; two quilt shows, two informative talks, "Cabaret", eating and shopping. It was amazing, shop owners gave us 15 & 20 % discounts. Our time was so well scheduled by Diane and Sylvia that we ate lunch on the bus so we could be travelling to another city and another fabric shop. We saw lots of beautiful farms from the bus windows and stopped in London, Ailsa Craig, St Mary's, Kitchener, Stratford, Shakespeare and Pickering. I'm glad Claire brought a map of Ontario so I could follow where we were and where we were heading!

Our host at the Shakespeare Inn boarded the bus before we left for home and called out "You all come back now !"

*Peggy McAskill*

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For me the highlight of the trip was meeting Margaret Atieno Odera! at the African Quilt Show. Entering the room I knew that time here would be much too short. A year earlier I had spent a whole day with my friend Donna Tweddell at the Russian Quilt Show with the quilters and their quilts. This time I hoped to meet an African quilter and also buy fabrics to support their cause. Most of the quilts I would have to see later on the DVD I had just purchased.

My thoughts were about how to make the best use of the next hour. Immediately my eyes met with those of a very beautiful woman. I greeted her with the words "Welcome to Canada" - your quilt is very beautiful. She smiled with delight and we discussed her quilt, the difficulty of getting fabrics and she posed for a photograph. I asked Margaret if receiving a letter with a few small pieces of cotton would make her happy - she answered with a huge smile - "very happy"  
Margaret was a beautiful person - inside and out!

*Carol Garner*



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For me, the quilting trip was an experience of reconnecting with very diverse women. Although we had different backgrounds, our common "thread" (excuse the pun) was quilting. There was a great amount of mentoring, sharing knowledge and cooperation in finding that right shade or pattern for the current project of each. It was amazing that by the second day, we all knew what each was seeking; In one of the little country fabric shops, someone called out: "Merle there is some perfect burgundy brick fabric that you can use for the old synagogue; it's in the remnant bin in the third room and it's only \$3.50. Diane Berry spotted a Chanukah Menorah upholstery and pointed it out to me.

I belong to several organizations and boards which have intergenerational members, but I can honestly say that quilters are Unique. Their organizational skills, talent, kindness and humour cannot be matched. Speaking of "matched", I adored my roommate; we had a great time together relating life stories and family memories.

Wherever and whenever the next expedition is, count me in. I'm a real "roadie" now.

*Merle Koven*

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Dear Heirloom Quilters,

Thank you for inviting others to join you on your recent bus trip to Stratford and Ailsa Craig. A special big **thank you** to the organizers - Sylvia and Diane. They did an outstanding job! Everything was so well organized and interesting! It was a delightful experience to be among old, good, and "yet to be" friends! Two highlights for me were: 1) the Costume and Prop warehouse was mind boggling...who knew they paid so much attention to every detail in the costume design and end product; and 2) the East African Quilt Show and lecture which gave me a new perspective on the "world" of quilting!

With much appreciation and anticipation of future trips,

*Gayle Owen*



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## Thoughts on storing Quilts

How should you store your quilts? Diane from the Quilting Cottage ([www.thequiltingcottage.com](http://www.thequiltingcottage.com)) sends us email from time to time and has this to say:

“When it comes to storing your quilts, especially the older ones, the rules vary and depending on whom you talk to the methods vary. The Museums even get vague in their answer. “Store them as best you can.” Well THAT tells me nothing.

So what DO you do?

- Mothballs? Toxic, not advised.
- Cedar chest? Contact with the wood causes the fabric to turn brittle.
- Wrap in something loosely.
- If you must use a cedar chest, pillow cases? Too tight. You want the quilt to be loose. If you have to wrap tightly and shove to get it in or tug to get it out, then thread damage may occur.
- Locations such as basement or attic are not wise.
- Watertight is not good either.

In a nutshell start with these basic guidelines:

- The fabric must breathe. Air circulation is good.
- Limit exposure to dust.

- Wrap loosely, check on them on a regular basis and rotate to ensure no mice have moved in and started chewing a hole.
- Use cotton gloves to prevent oil transferring.

In other words, you manage the storage as best you can.

The quilts we make or for that matter inherit are to be enjoyed and appreciated. To stuff them away in a dark box is the worst thing we could do. They need to breathe. They need to be sheltered from the harsh effects of the world...

We are their creators, their caretakers, their existence.

Short of placing the item in a secure room specially built to withstand a nuclear war, complete with security patrols and HAZMAT suits, laser security and pressure plates, Climate control. Hey, I HAVE IT! Silicon Valley! Computers are built in exactly the kind of rooms we need. Meet you in California!"

*So what do you think? I agree, let's go to California! While we're getting ready, let's chat about this at one of our next discussions. D. Hamilton*



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## Upcoming events:

### **November 6-27: Voyages by the Kingston Fibre Artists**

The John M. Parrott Art Gallery on the third floor of the Belleville Public Library will host Voyages by the Kingston Fibre Artists from Thursday Nov 6th to Thursday Nov 27th, 2008 in Galleries One and Two. You can expect art quilts, felting and felt sculpture and varied textile art. Location: 254 Pinnacle Street, Belleville Ontario. For more information, call 613-968-6731 ext2239 or visit [www.bellevillelibrary.com](http://www.bellevillelibrary.com).

**Friday, December 12 and 19 (4 pm until 8 pm),**

**Saturday December 13 and 20 (noon to 6 pm),**

**Sunday December 14 and 21 (noon to 6 pm):**

### **Calcutta Rescue 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Fabulous Bazaar**

at 193 Earl Street (across from Chalmers Church), Kingston.

#### **Treasures from the Orient:**

silks, shawls, scarves, skirts, shoes, saris, salwar kamiz,  
bags, textiles, jewellery, cushions, wall hangings,  
holiday decorations, printing blocks, small rugs, paper, and much more

Many Fair Trade items including beautiful silk scarves and shawls, hand-stitched (canter stitching) and mostly one-of-a-kind, by ex-patients, widows and others who receive free vocational training from Calcutta Rescue. All profits to Calcutta Rescue. If you would like to volunteer for this event, or for more information, please contact Danielle 613-544-6625

**March, 2009: Kingston Fibre Artists Annual Show** Kingston Frontenac Public Library

### **March 6-8, 9-10: Fibreworks Kingston - Dorothy Caldwell**

Fibreworks Kingston presents Dorothy Caldwell in a Friday evening talk and two workshops on "*Human Marks*". The marks we make record time and human energy. Working with paper and cloth this workshop will examine different kinds of marks including stitching, resist and batik, discharge, drawn and painted marks and more unconventional marks such as burning, piercing, and mending. Each of these will address a different aspect of physical movement and gesture that through time and repetition evolve into richly activated surfaces. Held at St. Lawrence College, Kingston from March 6-8th and the Odessa Agricultural Centre from March 9-10th. For more information, contact Donna Hamilton at *fibreworks at cogeco.ca*

### **April 3-5: Fibreworks Kingston - Greta Kristiansen-Jacobs**

Fibreworks Kingston presents Greta Kristiansen-Jacobs in a Friday evening talk and workshop on "*Tapestry – A New York Beauty Workshop*". Through Greta's easy and open teaching style this beautiful old pattern, which many have thought to be difficult and intimidating, becomes an enjoyable experience. She will not only take you through all the steps of making sharp and accurate points using paper piecing and forever remove your fear of sewing curves, but also introduce you to the concept of designing your own quilt. She will bring several different New York Beauty quilts to the workshops showing you not only different types of New York blocks but also the many different setting options the block offers. The workshops also discuss colour and fabric choices and the advantage of using a design wall in your design process. Held at St. Lawrence College, Kingston. For more information, contact Donna Hamilton at *fibreworks at cogeco.ca*