



## KINGSTON HEIRLOOM QUILTERS

NEWSLETTER, February 2012

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

### 2011/2012 Executive

<b>Life Members:</b>	Diane Berry, Bea Walroth, Claire Upton, Donna Hamilton
<b>President:</b>	Simone Lynch
<b>Past President:</b>	Donna Hamilton
<b>Vice President:</b>	
<b>Corresponding Secretary:</b>	Sally Hutson
<b>Recording Secretary:</b>	Sylvia Currie
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Eleanor Clark
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<b>Membership/Phone Convenors:</b>	Rosalie Gray, Gail Jennings
<b>Publicity:</b>	Jocelyn Ezard
<b>Program:</b>	Executive
<b>Newsletter Editor:</b>	Ros Hanes
<b>Historian:</b>	Jocelyn Ezard
<b>Librarian:</b>	Lorna Grice
<b>Baby Quilts:</b>	Joan Bales, Peggy McAskill

### Meeting Dates:

#### Tuesdays:

- Mar 6** Workday / boutique  
**April 3** Demo of fan folding for show  
**May 1** Challenge quilts to be handed in / letters of acceptance and show information available / consignment items to be handed in / boutique tagging  
**June 5** Final preparation for the show

#### Thursdays:

- Feb 23** Workday / boutique / quilt photo shoot  
**Mar 22** Trunk show by Anita and Barbara Down  
**April 18** 10:30 - visit by Marilyn Bunce of Quilt and Stitch re tools and gadgets / Workday / boutique  
**May 17** Annual Meeting / pre-registration of quilts for the show  
**June 21** Review of quilt show / potluck lunch

**June 7-10** - Quilts Kingston 2012

### Message from Your President

*Simone Lynch*

Well, just when I thought winter was over we actually got some snow! I don't know how long it'll last but at least it looks a bit like winter now. I'm thinking I should start my seeds soon; tomatoes, ground cherries, peppers and some herbs. I'll have to inspect my seeds from last fall and see if I need to buy any. It's always fun to see the first seeds starting to peek through the soil, knowing that before you know it, it'll be spring and time to start working the garden. I always leave some of the old plants to compost over the winter then get rid of the harder stems come spring. This year my daughter would like to start a garden for the first time. We dug it up last fall and

will bring in some soil; the soil in our neighbourhood is not conducive to growing things! Our houses were built on limestone and the backfill was full of it as well. My grandson, Evan, will be 2 years old so he will be a good age to show him how things grow. He certainly liked to help us dig it up last fall!

So, we're gearing up to the Quilt Show pretty fast, everything seems to be moving at a good pace. I hope everyone is getting their quilts finished, especially the UFO's. I know a few of you are busily piecing/appliqueing your creations and a number of us are quilting as fast as we can. Nothing like a deadline to get things finished! Why do we do this to ourselves anyway? We've had 4 years since the last one and we're still rushing at the end!

We've been quilting on the ladies (another long-time project); are we going to get it done? We will if lots of people come to the quilting bees which will be every Tuesday until the Show. Please come out and get some stitches in. We also have some quilting left on the December Rose; this will be set up as well since we will only be able to have about 8 gals around the Ladies now that the ends are pretty well quilted. Things are progressing well with the boutique, thanks to the gals that are working hard on that. If you have any ideas or want to make some items for the boutique I'm sure it will be greatly appreciated.



The Ladies quilt is finally on the frame!



Quilting on the December Rose.

## Membership

Gail Jennings

A warm welcome to our newest member Monica Splinter. Monica's contact information will be available at the next meeting.



## Baby Quilts

Peggy McAskill

Tina has made dozens of quilts for us to donate to the hospital and she has also agreed to let us sell some of them in the boutique at the Quilt Show. Thank you Tina!

We have had lots of donations of fabric and yarn, and now have enough to see us through the year. Thanks to the group at large for helping to finish the baby quilts.



## Hand Quilting: Pass It On

Donna Hamilton

Every day a "Quilting Daily" newsletter shows up in my computer's In Box. This email gives *tips and trends to the contemporary quilter*. You can learn about the latest techniques in fibre art or the latest videos or DVDs available, the latest free e-books on quilting techniques, or just have a discussion about some quilting issue on someone's blog. It discusses all kinds of topics and can be fun to read.

The other day the topic that caught my eye was "Hand Quilting: Pass it on". The writer this day, Vivika DeNegre, talked about how a coworker had brought in "a treasure she'd acquired while visiting a friend in the Midwest: six vintage handmade quilt squares. Each one had been carefully pieced using the tiniest of hand stitches." She went on to say how everyone gathered round and shared stories of the handmade quilts they had had in their lives; ones made, received or given away.

She said she didn't know many people who hand quilted these days. (She clearly isn't from around here!) But she did see "a resurgence in embellishing handmade quilts with careful hand quilting or hand stitching. Handwork is

one of my favourite parts of fiber art. It invites the viewer to closely inspect the piece, and reflects the maker's artistry and craftsmanship."

Vivika went on to explain "Contemporary fiber artists use hand quilting to achieve several different goals:

1. To hold the fabric sandwich together, when needed.
2. To add texture to the surface.
3. To highlight an area and give it contrast or interest.
4. To add a design element, such as pattern or line.
5. To give the piece that handmade quilt look, showing the hand of the artist.

I do it for all those reasons, and because I just love to hand stitch." I'm with Vivika on this one.

### **Back in Kingston ...**

I don't know about you, but I've been quilting up a storm lately on my queen size *Angel Quilt* hoping and praying that it will be ready for *Quilts Kingston* in June. And as I was stitching I began to think about how crazy it was to do all this work and spend all this time just stitching. Have you had the same thoughts lately?

I was reminded of what you all said back in 2006 when I asked you, "*why do you hand quilt?*" With the pressure of the show, we sometimes forget the obvious - the love of stitching that we all have. So I thought I'd remind you to *stop and smell the stitching roses* as we prepare for the big show.

Back in June 2006, twenty of us took the time to answer the question "*Why do I hand quilt?*" There were two main reasons:

- 1) It is relaxing, meditative, and brings peace.
- 2) It gives me pleasure and a sense of accomplishment.

You spoke of hand quilting as being ...

- An anti-depressant, normalizing the blood pressure. It makes me think, contemplate, and meditate. A machine would be too noisy.
- It maintains a modicum of sanity in our crazed, high speed world.
- I love the peaceful solitude and satisfaction of seeing fine even stitches, creating a beautiful design.
- I like the rhythm of the action; time to think and ponder, listen to music.
- I want heirlooms for my family.
- I love the pleasure of enhancing the fabric through feel of the fabric between my fingers.
- The effects of the finished piece are most satisfying.

And then you also spoke of ...

- Keeping the quilting tradition alive.
- It has taught me patience.
- Designing a one of a kind quilt is challenging and satisfies my creativity.
- Because I can. I find the sewing machine frustrating and I am not willing to put in the practice to be good at it.

I hope your own words will help ease the tension "to finish" your quilt and remind you of the peace and happiness hand stitching brings. It is a kind of yoga ... mind and spirit and body combining to create a unique piece and peace. We are lucky, indeed, to have found this wonderful activity and to be able to share it with one another.

Meanwhile, Vivika asked if the readers of *Quilting Daily* hand quilt or even hand piece our projects. She asked that we tell her on her blog at: <http://www.quiltingdaily.com/blogs/vivika/archive/2012/02/09/hand-quilting-do-you-pass-it-on.aspx?a=qe120209>.

I think I just might invite her to *Quilts Kingston* to come and see our many quilts made entirely by hand, or hand quilted. Even a visit to our web page might surprise her to see how many ladies are “passing on hand quilting” in Kingston Ontario.

Visit <http://www.quiltingdaily.com/> to subscribe to *Quilting Daily* for FREE.

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I've been a quilter about thirty years. My family of four children and one husband have all been politely and properly complimentary about whatever I produced. But quilting was definitely "Mom's thing" and the intricacies of the art and craft wasn't of any concern to them.

I should acknowledge, however, that Cam, my husband, will offer up his input in the realm of colour if asked. Indeed, a few years ago I rattled on about what I was planning to use for the border of a fan quilt I was making - something in beige and lacey was my idea. One day I called to Cam working in the garden that I was off to the quilt store to buy the border fabric. To my surprise he yelled back, "Would you like me to go with you?" "Well, of course, dear," thinking that really he was planning a side trip to Canadian Tire. At the quilt store with my partly finished quilt top spread on a table, Cam began to pick out bolts, the very opposite of what I had been considering. What he chose was right and brought my quilt immediately to life and we returned home (not via Canadian Tire) very happy and confident about the purchase. I most sincerely thanked him for his help to which he replied, "Well, I couldn't let you go ahead with what you had in mind!"

But of the many other technical, design decisions I am completely on my own. They will simply say, "Oh I'm sure it will be fine." I figured I was the only one in the family with the elusive quilt gene, that gene that causes a wave of delightful excitement on seeing a beautiful quilt. (You know the feeling you get during a KHQ Show and Tell.)

That was how it was until this past year when our older daughter, Ellen, and her husband were transferred to Accra, Ghana. She had to quickly settle in, acquire a network of friends and find interesting things to do. The North American Women's Association offered several activity groups and I was amazed when she e-mailed home that she had attended a little quilting group and that they did beautiful work. She thought she would try it! More news came about what fun it was to go to the big cloth market with her new quilting friends. The dress lengths are wild and bold in colour and design and soon her brain was racing with all the possibilities of mixing and matching. Ellen does have artistic talent (not just Mom speaking) and the results are stunning. But the ultimate revelation of the quilt gene happened last month when she was visiting us here in Kingston. She came out of the bedroom and exclaimed, "Mom, your quilting is so amazing! The stitches are so small and even. Will you show me how you do it?" And this was about a quilt that had been on and off that bed the past 23 years and she had never given it a second look!

Will our younger daughter, Carolyn, become quilt cognizant? She has never enjoyed any activity that involved a needle but something happened last summer that may alter her view of quilts. She and her British boyfriend were visiting us and he took an immediate interest in the quilt on the bed. He had never ever seen a quilt before and was so curious about how it was made and asked all kinds of questions about its construction. (Obviously he's won my heart!) Being very much in love, she too has developed an appreciation for quilts and quilting, if only in the theoretical realm.

As for the rest of the family, there's a daughter-in-law and at least one granddaughter who show signs of the gene. One of our two sons has it and I'm sure it's just a matter of time for the other to become interested. It seems you cannot deny your DNA – that quilt gene will show itself.

<p><b>Giroux Sewing Centre</b></p> <p><b>Karen Lamoureux</b> Manager</p> <p><b>Paul Giroux</b> Proprietor</p> <p><b>Brad Kisnics</b> Technician</p> <p>511 Montreal Road Cornwall, Ontario K6H 1C1</p> <p>Tel:- 613-938-8455 Fax:- 613-936-6574</p> 	<p><b>Sew Crafty</b></p> <p>Fabrics - Notions - Sewing &amp; Quilting Supplies Yarn - Needlework - Art &amp; Craft Supplies - Classes Authorized Janome Dealer</p> <p><b>1068 Rideau Ferry Rd., Rideau Ferry, Ont.</b> <b>(613) 264-1547</b>    <a href="http://www.sewcrafty.ca">www.sewcrafty.ca</a></p>
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## Quilts Kingston 2012 Boutique

*Anjali Shyam*

The boutique ladies are collecting items donated by the members. Interesting and unique pieces are being brought in, at almost every meeting. We have cards, Christmas ornaments, needle cases, coasters.... to mention a few. Members are requested to come up with new ideas for sale items. Please bring in patterns even if you don't have time to make them, we always have volunteers to finish the products. Please keep in mind this is a fund-raiser for the group, so, the more the better....Thanks to all the members who have contributed...keep it coming. ☺

## Snippets

*Ros Hanes*

- \*\* Our Christmas pot luck luncheon was yummy as per usual! We also collected a box full of tinned goods for the food bank plus \$78.
- \*\* Lorna Grice has recently purchased two new books and a DVD for the library. Suggestions are always welcome.
- \*\* A great big thank you to Cam Rogers for her generous donation of fabrics to the group. There is lots for both the baby quilts and boutique.
- \*\* It is with sadness that we note the passing of Margaret Mulcair of Gananoque, a KHQ member for many years.

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## Upcoming events

### **March 9-11, 2012: Fibreworks Kingston Lecture & Workshop with Alice Vander Vennen**

Fibreworks Kingston presents Alice Vander Vennen, Friday evening Mar 9 at 7pm at St Lawrence College, Room #12050, 2nd Floor on 'The Link' (Entrance E12 ), giving a talk. Cost \$5. Spend the weekend, Saturday and Sunday from 9:30-4pm taking her workshop: " *Finding a New Story: Working with Textiles and Found Objects*". Cost is \$125 for workshop & lecture. For more information visit <http://fibreworkskingston.wordpress.com/about-fw3-alice-vander-vennen-3/>. To register, fill in the bottom of the 3rd page of the Fibreworks Brochure, found at <http://fibreworkskingston.files.wordpress.com/2010/07/fw-brochure-2011-3pg.pdf> and follow the instructions to send it to the registrar, Donna Hamilton.

**April 20-22, 2012: Fibreworks Kingston Lecture & Workshop with Johnene Maddison** Fibreworks Kingston presents Johnene Maddison, Friday evening Apr 20 at 7pm at St Lawrence College, Room #12050, 2nd Floor on 'The Link' (Entrance E12 ), giving a talk. Cost \$5. Spend the weekend, Saturday and Sunday from 9:30-4pm taking her workshop: " *Thread Drawings with Aquabond*". Cost is \$125 for workshop & lecture. For more information visit <http://fibreworkskingston.wordpress.com/about-fw4-johnene-4/>. To register, fill in the bottom of the 3rd page of the Fibreworks Brochure, found at <http://fibreworkskingston.files.wordpress.com/2010/07/fw-brochure-2011-3pg.pdf> and follow the instructions to send it to the registrar, Donna Hamilton.

### **April 21, 22: Trenton, Ontario, Fabric of Our Lives quilt Show**

presented by the Trent Valley Quilter's Guild at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 57 Stella Crescent, Trenton, ON , Saturday 10:00 am – 5:30 pm; Sunday 10:00 am – 4:00 pm . A display of quilts made by guild members will be featured. The show also include s a quilt raffle, silent auction, a vendor's mall and a tea room. Admission: \$6. Contact: Colleen Elliott 613 398-0377 usually here at [rogers.com http://trentvalleyquiltersguild.com/](http://trentvalleyquiltersguild.com/)

### **May 3 - 5: Oakville, Ontario; Sentimental Reasons Quilt Show**

presented by Oakville Quilters' Guild at Operating Engineers Conference Centre 2245 Speers Road, Oakville ON from 10am to 5pm each day. Enjoy the quilts made by members; check out the Merchants Mall, demonstrations showcasing tips, techniques and products; a bite to eat from Plum Catering. Banquet Hall is fully accessible. Admission: \$7. Contact: Gayle Shermet 905-827-5836 [gsherme at cogeco.ca](mailto:gsherme@cogeco.ca) [oakvillequiltersguild2012.blogspot.com/](http://oakvillequiltersguild2012.blogspot.com/)

### **May 5 - 6: Hamilton, Ontario; 20th Anniversary Quilt Show**

presented by Stoney Creek Quilters at St Gregory the Great (Slovian) Church 125 Centennial Parkway North, Hamilton, Ontario; Sat 10-5pm and Sun 10-4pm. Quilt Draw, Vendors, Challenges, Charity Quilts, Boutique, Team Room. Lots of Parking. Admission: \$5 Children Free. Proceeds to our COP (Community Outreach Project). Contact: Linda Arsenaault/Debbie Kereliuk 905-512-4719 [linsquilts at yahoo.ca](mailto:linsquilts@yahoo.ca)

### **May 26 - 27: Petawawa, Ontario; Once Upon a Quilt...**

presented by the Pembroke Log Cabin Quilters at Petawawa Civic Centre, 16 Civic Centre Road, Petawawa; Sat 10-5pm and Sun 10-4pm. there will be hundreds of quilts on display , including a special section of childrens' quilts. Enjoy the Tea Room, Quilt Demonstrations, the Quilt Appraiser, the Merchant Mall, Door Prizes and the Quilt Raffle. Admission: \$5 each (children accompanied by an adult are free). Contact: Linda Spagnolo 613-687-2947 [l.spagnolo at sympatico.ca](mailto:l.spagnolo@sympatico.ca) [www.pembrokecabinquilters.com](http://www.pembrokecabinquilters.com)