

# September 2023 Newsletter

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#### **Presidents' Message**

A new year, a new beginning.

That's how we are approaching this coming year of quilting.

Our quilt show was a success because of every one of you. Now it is time to look forward by looking back!

We thought it would be interesting and fun, to go back to basics.

MaryAnn M., with the help of a few others, will be teaching hand piecing quilt blocks. There will be a few sessions on hand appliqué as well. You will get the chance to learn all the steps of making a quilt by hand. We believe you must know the *rules* before you can break them. Then you'll know when you've broken a rule! It's important to know if there are any consequences. In some cases, it depends where you break the rule that produces bad consequences while other times, it might not matter!



We welcome all those who are interested in learning the ways of the quilters who came before us.

At all our meetings this year, we will have different quilts on display. Over the years, all of you have made beautiful quilts, many have won awards too. We have a sign-up sheet for those who would like to bring their quilts to show and inspire others. Tell us their story, the techniques used, and the inspiration to make it. Some may choose a quilt made a long time ago with a recent one to show how they've progressed. We all started knowing little.

In this newsletter, you will find the first three group quilts Heirloom made back in the 80's. This group started when those who had taken Margaret Rhodes' and Diane Berry's quilt classes wanted to quilt together. Eventually, that changed, and anyone could join us as it is today. We hope you will enjoy this look back. If you have any questions, write them down and ask us at a meeting. As said above, we hope that these and other quilts you will see during the year, will inspire you, and help you ask questions.

What quilt should we make next? What quilts did you see at our or other shows that you loved? Any techniques you want to learn? Let's find something *interesting* to make as we begin a new year, a new beginning.

As always, we, the executive, are waiting for your feedback and suggestions.

Happy quilting!!

Anjali and Donna











#### Why do the Heirloom Quilters work on a Large Group Quilt Without Knowing Its Permanent Home?

This excellent question was asked recently at one of our meetings. Most groups of quilters or guilds do not do this. If they do work on a quilt together, they know who it is for. They work on the quilt to *produce a product*. The Heirloom Quilters are different. We work on quilts together for the sake of the quilt and to *learn from the process*.

Both methods are valid. Many of us make quilts for family members with them in mind and will pick a pattern they will like, usually in colours they like, or would fit in their decor. Or we will make a quilt for someone special or a charity. This would be making a quilt *to produce a product*. We make baby and touch quilts *to produce a product*.

When the Heirloom Quilters make a large group quilt, they choose the type of quilt or technique they would like to learn and go from there. As the quilt is made, they make team decisions about next steps, how will we solve the current problem. Sometimes we end up in some amazing places!

For instance, when we started "Our Canadian Landscape Quilt", we knew we were making a quilt to celebrate Canada. Most people were thinking square pictures of the country as we usually see. We talked about it and realized in our vast country, there were many flowers, trees, animals, birds, cities, bridges, people. What would we choose? Where would we focus? Then, someone mentioned Martha Brown's Zodiac Quilt in Quilts Kingston 2008. It was circular, with each of the 12 signs of the zodiac. Suddenly, we had a shape that could include all parts of Canada, the 10 provinces and 3 territories. But circular? This would be way outside our comfort zone. Would we dare? To make it hang straight while being curvy would be a challenge!

After much thought and throwing around ideas, we decided to jump in and be outside our comfort zone. If it didn't work, we'd try something else. We decided to focus on landscapes of the provinces and territories. No buildings, animals, or hockey! We'd use whatever technique we needed to make it happen, finding instructors if needed. We'd use machine and hand techniques. Why not? And so, it began. *We were focused on the process*, the making of the quilt and made decisions step by step. We did add animals and birds in through the borders as you know. A covered bridge and maple syrup hut slipped in as well. This is how we tackle making quilts. We can honestly say that we learn something new with every quilt. One border developed when a piece of fabric with a series of rounded cutouts (cut for an earlier step) was laid along the quilt to see how the colour would work (auditioning the fabric). Not only did we love the fabric for our border, but we also loved the wavey shape the cutouts made and incorporated them into the quilt. Another challenge, but we were up for it and learned a lot making it happen. Some members choose to watch others doing the technique first and jump in when they feel comfortable.

Sometimes an ordinary quilt becomes special as we make it. We let the quilt tell us the next step. It is a lot of fun and everyone learns something!

That is why the Kingston Heirloom Quilters make a quilt and decide its permanent home after it has been finished.



#### The First Three Quilts Made by the Kingston Heirloom Quilters

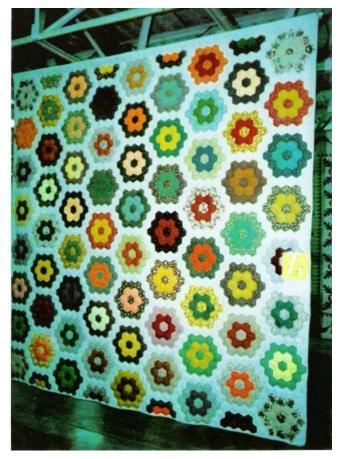
The Kingston Heirloom Quilters is a group, not a guild. This means that we work together on quilts, for the sake of the quilt, and *learn a lot from the process*. Below is a picture and description of the first three quilts we worked on as a group. All are unique, and most of them simply evolved as we worked on them, one stage at a time. Moving forward this year with a peek at the past, we thought it would be a good idea to show the group quilts made over the years. We choose the type of quilt to be made through discussions with members. This information along with pictures and information about the other quilts made over the years can be found on our website: <u>http://quiltskingston.org/khq/KHQGroupQuilts.htm (</u>Note our latest quilts are missing but will be added soon.)

1. KHQ Group Quilt: Grandmother's Flower Garden, 1981 85" x 105"

In the fall of 1979, the newly formed Kingston Heirloom Quilters began their **first large project**, the making of a "Grandmother's Flower Garden" quilt. The "English piecework" method of stitching the hand sewn hexagon units together, made for accuracy, and allowed for all levels of skill to participate.

Each member of the group was to provide a block for this quilt using fabric of their own, in shades of autumn. The blocks would later be arranged in a pleasing colour pattern and joined together with hexagons of natural muslin. The outer edge was finished with an insertion of brown piping, a technique that has since become a Kingston Heirloom Quilters trademark. It was completed in the spring of 1981.

It was shown at Quilt Toronto, 1981, at the C.N.E. 1981 where it received a Third Place Award, and at Kingston Heirloom Quilters' Festival of Quilts 1987. This quilt was raffled among those who participated in its construction. Dorothy Brown was the surprised recipient. Several years later Dorothy returned the quilt to the Kingston Heirloom Quilters



who then decided that their founder and mentor, Margaret Rhodes, should be gifted it. As it was the first quilt made by the group, Margaret felt that it should hold a place of honour in the "*Heritage Quilt Collection*" at the Agnes Etherington Art Centre.

Grandmother's Flower Garden will always bloom in the hearts of the Kingston Heirloom Quilters, who chose to commemorate their first jointly made quilt by featuring its design on their group logo.



#### 2. KHQ Group Quilt: Friendship Sampler Quilt, 1982

Members of the Kingston Heirloom Quilters were invited to appliqué the block of their choice for inclusion in this outstanding "album" quilt. Each participant was provided with an ivory-coloured background square along with a piece each of solid red and green fabrics to use with their own prints and plains. Every block has been discreetly signed by the person who made it. A red print, chosen for the sashing that separates the bocks, was also used for the "saw tooth" edging that encloses the handsome swag and tulip border. This quilt is finished with a corded edge, a technique favoured by the Kingston Heirloom Quilters for use on group quilts as well as those made by individual members.

The quilting designs appearing in the blocks were chosen to compliment each "picture". Triple vertical quilting lines used in the border, allowed the swag to compete with the weight in the body of the quilt.

#### **Publications:**

The Friendship Sampler Quilt was displayed on the cover of "Canada Quilts Magazine", April 1994. It has been featured in at least



three issues of "Lady's Circle Patchwork Quilts Magazine", with several of the block patterns being included in the November 1988 and subsequent issues. It is also featured in the book "Classic Quilts" by Ruth McKendry.

**Awards received at Kingston Exhibition 1982:** (1) Best in Category (2) Mary Penny Award for Best of Show. This quilt has been gifted to the Agnes Etherington Art Centre, permanent collection, "*Heritage Quilt Collection*", Queen's University, Kingston, ON.

Reading from left to right, the blocks are:

Row 1: Bridal Wreath, Orange Peel, Ohio Rose, Presidents Wreath.

Row 2: Whig Rose, Lotus Flower, Seth Thomas Rose, Rose in a Pot.

Row 3: Old Fashioned Tulips, Hearts and Flowers, Oak Leaf, North Carolina Rose.

Row 4: Prairie Flower, Tulip and Rose, Lancaster Rose, American Beauty Rose.

Row 5: Wild Rose Wreath, Crossed Tulips, Old Fashioned Basket, Wreath of Roses.



#### 3. KHQ Group Quilt: Pieced Sampler Quilt, 1983

A total of 35 members collaborated in the making of this quilt. The format and basic colour scheme were determined by a quilt committee, and then presented to the membership for approval. An assortment of 40-50 patterns of the specified size were assembled by the committee, thus offering a varied selection from which one could choose. Each quilter was provided with a swatch of the solid blue and the plain ivory fabrics. They then had the fun of searching out complementary fabrics to use with their blocks.

A great deal of trial and error went into the selection of the green and gold print used in the sashing that separates and unifies the diverse blocks. A line of royal blue piping encircles the body of the quilt and is repeated twice more in the green and gold border deftly tying the colours overall.

This piece contains an abundance of minute detail quilting. Individual designs, chosen to enhance the specific pattern, were used in each block.

Awards of Kingston Exhibition 1983: (1) Best in Category (2) Best of Show

**Publications:** This "Pieced Sampler Quilt" is featured on the cover of the book: "*Classic Quilts*", by Ruth McKendry, published by Key Porter Books in 1997.

It is now part of the "*Heritage Quilt Collection*" that is permanently housed at the Agnes Etherington Art Centre, Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario.

Beginning at the upper left, the blocks are:

Row 1: 1) Indian Trails, 2) Skyrocket, 3) Night & Noon, 4) Crossed Canoes, 5) Old Maid's Puzzle.

Row 2: 1) Cross & Crown, 2) Queen's Pride, 3) Crosses & Losses, 4) Boxed T's, 5) Dutchman's Puzzle.

*Row 3:* 1) Victoria 's Crown, 2) Robbing Peter to Pay Paul II, 3) King's Crown, 4) Snow Crystals, 5) Rising Sun. *Row 4:* 1) North Wind, 2) World Without End, 3) Barbara Fritchies Rose, 4) Weathervane, 5) Swallow in the Path.

*Row 5:* 1) Maple Leaf, 2) Northern Star, 3) The Strawberry, 4) Aunt Sukey's Choice, 5) Jacob's Ladder. *Row 6:* 1) Bears Paw, 2) Ohio Star, 3) Puss in the Corner, 4) Jack Knife, 5) Royal Star.



#### Simone at the Fall Fair

Three pictures of my entries and my wins at this year's Kingston Fall Fair. One picture of my grandson Milo. He enjoyed himself!

More quilters need to enter items at the fair. It's only a \$5 entry fee total, no matter how many entries. There are so many categories to choose from so please give it a try next year.

I entered seven items in total.

- Quilt, appliqued by hand and hand quilted. 1st in category and best of show.
- Crib quilt. 1st in category and best machine quilted.
- Quilt top unquilted. 1st in category.
- 2 quilt blocks. 1st in category
- Structured purse. 1st in category and best for #s 18-32
- Article of denim (a purse), 2nd in category
- Article of cork. 2nd in category.

All the firsts received a Stitch by Stitch gift certificate.











#### **Baby Quit Report**

Six baby quilts and six baby blankets have been donated to KGH.





A card from the hospital to the KHQ for the ongoing donations of baby quilts and knitted blankets.





#### Touch Quilts by Ros

Repurposing some orphan blocks belonging to the group.







#### **Rescuing Found Blocks by Karen**

A certain satisfaction is achieved by completing a quilt using blocks left by another quilter. Time consuming work left undone for any number of reasons can now be appreciated. In the case of the star quilt below, after completing the first quilt adding the yellow background, Karen was inspired to make her own, shown on the right.





#### What is it?

This is a piece my sister picked up in a thrift shop but not sure what it is or what purpose it serves. Measuring about 10-11 inches long and 6 inches wide (oval shaped), the outer cover has an opening at one end with a smaller oval on the inside. Decorative embroidery has been done at either end of the outer covering and a small, tatted edging has been added all the way around the perimeter. The inner oval comes out easily and is stuffed with what looks like carded wool.

There have been some creative guesses so if you think you know, please let us know.

Mary Ann McAndrews





The quilter was coming home from the fabric store when the receipt blew out of her hand.



I was the smartest woman in the room. Then again, it was my craft room, and I was the only one in there.

www.AnniesCraftStore.com

Alexa... bind my quilt.



#### Show and Share September Meets

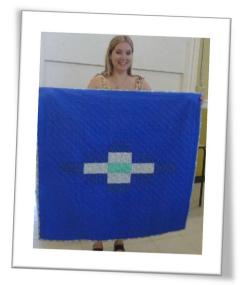
Visitor Lynn P. showed three of her quilts. Alysha displayed her quilt, front and back!













Below: Quilt on the left was gifted to Simone's parents when they immigrated to Canada. From Pointe Fortune, QC it probably dates to the years 1951-52.

On the right, first quilt completed by Simone. A trip Around the World pattern; the top was made by her mother.









Top L&R.

Lillian's quilt and bags.

Left: Mickie's quilt with beautiful 'cheater' panel.

Right: Sally H. Batik quilt made while recovering from a wrist injury!







Available to a good home! Quilt top donation.



#### 2023 Fall Meeting Dates: Note ALL TUESDAYS - Oct 3, 17; Nov 7, 21; Dec 5

We will meet at St John's Anglican Church in Portsmouth starting September 5th **with masking optional.** This is subject to change if necessary.

#### A Tale of Two Thimbles: The Archaeology of Women and Their Sewing Tools

https://emea01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fpieceworkmagazine.com%2Fa-taleof-two-thimbles-the-archaeology-of-women-and-their-sewingtools%2F&data=05%7C01%7C%7C36500f5cec1b4c3b22f308dba4dcae50%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaa aaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638285039949125067%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoi V2luMzIiLCJBTil6lk1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=1ciK4%2FGj%2FIAFYpkvWo0F2O1I Kc70Hu%2F1QWSxTPEFJv4%3D&reserved=0

#### **Upcoming Events**



# Quilt Show

a Lively Mix of Modern and Traditional Quilts September 23 & 24, 2023 Ellesmere Community Centre 20 Canadian Road, Scarborough

Saturday: 10 am to 5 pm Sunday: 10 am to 4 pm

Admission \$10 cash



presented by the Yorkshire Rose Quilters' Guild of Toronto

email YorkshireRoseQuittersGuildofTD Wgmail.com

follow us on our blog YorkshireRoseQuiltersGuildoToronto .blogspot.com



VENDORS Ann's Fabrics & Sewing Centre Beach Sewing Centre Country Clothesline Fabric Spark Grantham Books Hyggeligt Fabrics K & A Quilt Studio Kallisti Quilts Meerkat Shweshwe Sew Little Time The Quilted Ruby The Workroom and Door Prizes!

Ellesmere Community Centre 20 Canadian Road, Scarborough

Fully Accessible Bases Welcome

Over 100 Quilts Displayed Vendors Mail Members Boutique" Tea Room" Special Draw - Win a Baby Lock Jazz II "Cosh Only Please



# **OUILTS ON FIRE 2023** A Quilt Show presented by the

`Heritage Quilters' Guiĺd

FEATURING QUILTER MEMBER: BETTE JEAN SLAVEN



Saturday, October 21 & Sunday, October 22 from 10am-4pm

## **EVENT INCLUDES:**

- Vendors
- Boutiques
- Demonstrations
- Raffles
- Free coffee & tea
- Light lunch
- Silent Auction

Admission \$8.00 Strathcona Paper Centre (Arena) 16 McPherson Drive Napanee, Ontario

\*Wheelchair Accessible\*

www.heritagequiltersguild.com



#### www.401quiltrun.com

#### starts October 1<sup>st</sup>.





Info: www.tsqguild.ca

Twisted Stitchers Quilt Guild presents

### TWISTED 2023

#### Quilt Show

October 28 & 29, 2023 (Saturday 10-6, Sunday 10-4)

> Quilt Show & Sale Door Prizes Raffle Quilts Members Boutique Merchants Mall Tea Room Silent Auction In-Guild Challenge

Audley Recreation Centre (ARC) 1955 Audley Road Ajax ON L1Z 0L2 Admission \$10.00

#### Executive 2023-2024

Interim Co-Presidents: Donna Hamilton, Anjali Shyam

Past President: Simone Lynch

Vice President: TBA

**Corresponding Secretary:** Sally Hutson

Recording Secretary: TBA

Treasurer: Mary Anne Kingston

Social Convenors: Jeannine Sullivan Francine Leblanc

Membership/Phone Convenor: Mary Ann Kingston

Publicity: Peggy McAskill

Program: Executive, Mary Ann McAndrews

Newsletter Editor: Joyce Foreman

Historian: TBA

Librarian: Ros Hanes

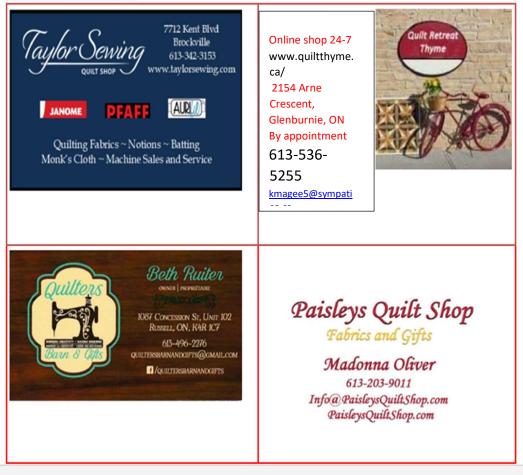
Baby Quilts: Joan Bales, Peggy McAskill

Touch Quilts: Sally Hutson

Life Members: Diane Berry, Bea Walroth, Donna Hamilton, Margaret Henshaw, Ros Hanes, Phyllis Vanhorne



#### **Sponsors and Messages**





<sup>Woga for Quilters</sup> "Yoga for Quilters" offers gentle classes, using pillows, straps, yoga blocks or big books, all from the comfort of your home. If it's raining, snowing, or hot outside, we don't care! Come stretch and relax with me. **Wednesdays 10:30-11:45am** Enjoy Gentle Yoga.

Fridays 9-9:45am Enjoy Chair Yoga.

You are encouraged to move within the range of motion of *your* body and with *your* breath. These classes will help you become more aware of what's going on in your body and mind, ending with a full relaxation, bringing more energy to your body for the day ahead, preparing you for important tasks, like quilting. Enjoy the company of fellow quilters before and after class. For more details and to register, visit **yogaforquilters.ca** or talk with Donna. Certified Yoga Instructor: Donna Hamilton, <u>yogaforquilters@gmail.com</u>