

President's Message

Greetings everyone,

Well, when someone says " I can't believe it's already February", well guess what, I do.

It was a year ago that the COVID appeared and we had no idea what was about to hit us. Our lives changed instantly.

In April we had to shut down the guild and a year later we're still mourning that decision. (no fault of our own).

Now, we have hope of a "New Normal" happening. Yes, we will be wearing masks for some time yet, but at least the inoculations are starting to take place and that is very promising.

Meanwhile, we still have to be very cautious and protect ourselves every time we step out of our homes, but on a higher note, that means that the day is coming when we'll meet again for our Thursday Sewing. (I know it's still far away, but I'm trying to be optimistic).

Please everyone, stay safe and healthy,

Your President

Diane keeping busy





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SUSIE SINGER STAYS AT HOME

Well, thanks to a combination of the darn virus & cooler, sometimes wet weather my "adventures" have been curtailed for now. I'm not doing any sewing at the moment either as my cousin Bernie Bernina has been taken out of the cupboard & put to use making scrap quilts. This was my last project and, as you know, it caused me to have a big meltdown. So, instead of adventures, I've decided to write about some of my observations while I (try to) wait patiently for my next chance to sew.

I am so happy that Hope took on the job as newsletter editor. When you think about it, it has been our only lifeline to the Guild these past few months. I know that there's a group of Community Quilters' that were meeting outside



over the summer, but once the weather changed & the rules made more strict, that had to be given up. They are now meeting once a week via Zoom. I'm sure there's other small groups of ladies keeping in touch, but how else do we get even a small sense of what it was like to be able to get together every week to share everything from projects, challenges, recipes, you name it.

We are in danger of losing our feeling of "sisterhood" that being involved in the Guild brings. So, let's all try to keep things flowing. You don't have to be a "writer" to put something in the newsletter. You don't have to be a computer expert to put something in a document. Send something to Hope in an email & she can work her magic to make it into a document. Recipes, jokes, things you've done to occupy your time, projects you are working on, sewing tips, books you've read or movies you've watched. Just think of the many things you would chat about if you could go to the hall on a Thursday. Let's reach out to one another via the newsletter. As well, if you haven't talked to someone you used to visit with at the Guild, send them an email; or better yet, give them a call. Let's stick together!

Be Kind, Be Calm & Be Safe

Susie

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Member Activities

Anne Mc has been busy

Here are a few pics of the Christmas postcards I sent out, my completed President's Challenge (52 blocks in 52 weeks) and a scrappy Christmas quilt I made in December. I am sooo thankful to have lots of little projects to work on to keep me busy. That and long walks with my husband have helped me keep sane!! All the best to you.

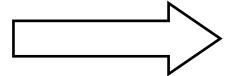








Wouldn't this make a lovely quilt?





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More Member Activities

Last year I was asked to do a presentation on quilting to a ladies' sorority service group on the island. Part of what I did was a little history of quilting.

Submitted by Anne Mc

A Quilt of Friendship

Through the years, quilts have become documents of history. They are the products of their society, influenced by the culture, and the environment of the people who made them. The history of America (and Canada) can be seen in the history of quilts. Stitched into these quilts is the rich heritage of thrifty self-sufficient women who helped homestead the land, the history of families sewn into quilts one patch or one stitch at a time, and the legacy of the art of quilting, passed on from generation to generation.

Thousands of quilt blocks and patterns have been created and sewn through the decades. The quilt patterns or "blocks" were in the quilts used by pioneer women as they traveled West and homesteaded the prairie.

Nine Patch: The Nine Patch is a popular pattern used by pioneer women. The earliest homesteaders had neither time or fabric to spare. Most of the quilts they made were utility quilts, quickly sewn together for warmth.

Log Cabin: The Log Cabin block is one of the most well-known and popular of all patchwork patterns. To pioneers traveling West, it symbolized home, warmth, love and security. The center square of the block was done in red to represent the hearth, the focal point of life in a cabin or home.

Friendship Star: The quilts the homesteaders brought with them were a comfort to these women who traded their home, family and friends in the East, for the uncertainty of traveling through vast prairies in the West. A quilt that held special value to the pioneer women was the Friendship Quilt. Often it was done in secret, and then given to the woman as a going away gift. It usually was a group effort,

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Newsletter Advertising:

To advertise in the newsletter please contact Sandy MacDonell for rates. Submit advertising by the **15th** of the month for inclusion in the next month.

nlads@schoolhousequilters.com

Newsletter Deadline:

Please submit all entries for the newsletter by the **15th** of the month for inclusion in the next month's newsletter.

Submit articles to Hope (current editor) using the email:

editor@schoolhousequilters.com

Guild Meetings before COVID-19

Normally our guild meets every Thursday from 9:00am to 9:00pm for quilting at the Cumberland OAP Hall.

General Meeting (September to June) on the 1st Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm

Executive Meeting (September to June) 3rd Thursday of each month at 1:00pm

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with each block being sewn by a friend or relative with their name embroidered in the center. Putting a Friendship quilt on the bed, gave a woman a sense of connection with her former way of life. It kept alive the memory of family and friends, providing comfort and company during the difficult days of homesteading.

The **quilting bee** was an extremely popular social event in the mid-nineteenth century. It provided a social space for women to gather and gossip while they simultaneously expressed their artistic capabilities. Women could share family news, exchange recipes, give child-rearing tips and all in all support each other. It has been said that next to church going quilting bees were the primary contact for women. But even this view has been romanticized a bit.

More Member Activities

Claudette has been busy

The small Christmas tree mat I made four for my great neighbours using scraps. I was busy till the 23rd to get them done. Meanwhile I made this drunken path pattern for a community lap quilt. My colours are really loud! Just to make a different quilt for a change. I think a patriotic man would enjoy this.





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Community Quilts News

After the Christmas rush to get projects done and delivered, most of the Community Quilters are working on building up their inventories and other projects.

Senior's Quilts – from Verna Power

These quilts will be delivered to the Views at the end of January. I am finishing a couple more to go with them. In 'normal times' the Views usually needs 12 quilts in January.

If you have any seniors quilts to add to this donation you can drop them at my house or I will pick them up - rvpower@shaw.ca



Thank you to all the Quilt Angels who have kept us going during the pandemic.

Verna Power

Vanier Teddies and Toddlers (Gladi Lyall and Carreen Webber) have delivered 10 quilts this year – 5 boys & 5 girls.

Quilts of Valour will be hosting a National Sew Day on Feb. 5, 2021. This will be a virtual event that you can work on Quilts of Valour blocks or quilts at home, as well as sew demos and tips. See their website – www.quiltsofvalour.ca – to register. (see ad in this newsletter)

YANA – Nerissa Thomas delivered a quilt to YANA in early January that they will auction off at their Big Love Online Auction, Feb. 16 to 26. For more information, see their website at www.yanacomoxvalley.com

Breast Cancer Comfort Kits – I now have 30 more kits (bags with pillows) ready to

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be delivered to the hospital. This is in addition to the 30 that went to them in November.

Batting is getting in short supply. If you have any batting scraps or leftover strips from trimming quilts - I could really use them for the bags.

Please contact me, myra.shearer@telus.net and I can arrange to pick them up.





Barb M. has been busy

Gail Keenan broke her upper arm, they cannot put a cast on it. If everyone would like to give her a call or send her an e-mail, she is really missing seeing people & Hugs!

We have been fostering cats. We've had 7 kitties so far. Our latest one, Jack was adopted 14 Jan.

Dec. 27th was Marjorie's 92nd Birthday.

Some of us did a drive by, beeping our horns. Mustang Santa & Mayor Bob Wells joined in to wish Marjorie a Happy Birthday.



Jan 17th was Connie's birth-







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More Member Activities

Anne T. has been busy (between skiing)





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* New books: Sewing Machine Reference Tool & 3–Yard Quilts.

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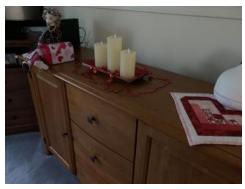
Member Activities

Bev M. has been busy

Here are my Christmas placemats and the reverse side is Valentines. The batting is soft and stable which I love to work with. I also did a bit of decorating for Valentine's Day. So I bring out my Valentine's doll and some things I have quilted.







If you want to do something to get out there's a few shows around for example Comox rec centre has a display of different artists and I'm one of them.

The Comox library is now open and on February 3rd I'm putting some of my fabric arts up there.

Pearl Ellis Gallery in Comox will also have a display of members show and I will have an article in there as well. All of these places are free to go into, it'll get you out and around and about.

Anita Gould-Jones has been busy

My sister requested some way to display all her broaches so she could figure out which one she would like to wear. She then said there were about 40-50. Not sure if this is big enough but she is giving it a try!



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Interesting things to do

Are you bored, looking for some inspiration or need help with techniques, if so check out some of these sites and YouTube presentations.

Do you do Collage or want to start? Check this out as Emily has free YouTube videos.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g4-OjKGs54w&t=7s&mc_cid=a0f539d2ae&mc_eid=f7c8d3327f

Cindy's Threadworks Tutorial—It's A Wrap

Watched this and it is a great idea, both for presents and just for fun. You can do this with fabric or paper—get creative.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VQyTq2WBmBc&fbclid=IwAR1sS4xZKRA-bZTu1SjrzeFCRDO3k2n9EeK1GpK22BF8ZaTT4mpbj5lOvO4

Binding

A useful video tutorial on binding, finishing joining the edges. This has always been a problem for me but this tutorial put me on the right track.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aUEy9NXOK5c

https://youtu.be/0R6eercvs4A

Binding on irregular angles

https://www.instagram.com/tv/CHGj-68nlQo/?igshid=I7ep4gylhdy1

https://youtu.be/ZLAIyFltXkq

Online workshops

Gloria Loughman is now offering online courses. We had a lovely workshop with her at our guild a few years ago.

Www.glorialoughman.com

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More Member Activities

Colleen has been busy

I am calling this scrap central.

I have decided that this is the year to make a dent in my ridiculous pile of strips.

The only problem is that even though I have made 80 blocks so far, the pile is not getting any smaller!



I think there are fabric fairies that add to it when I'm sleeping! Cheeky buggers.

Connie C has been busy

Here is a picture of my "almost finished "Christmas tree skirt. It's a pattern from the book called Quilts without Corners.



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Recipes from Connie Cullen

Here are a couple of Connie's favorite recipes

Orange Muffins

In a blender combine and blend well:

1 orange

1/4 cup oil

1/2 cup orange juice

1 egg

Pour into a mixing bowl and add:

1 1/2 cups flour

3/4 cup sugar

1 tsp. baking powder

1 tsp. baking soda

1/2 tsp. salt

1/2 cup chopped pecans or walnuts

Mix until just well stirred but don't overmix. Put into muffin tins and bake in 350 oven for 15-18 minutes.

Mustard Sauce

1 cup white sugar

1/2 cup vinegar

2 eggs, well beaten

2 tbsp. dry mustard

1/4 tsp. salt

Mix all ingredients together in a pot and cook until thickened. Store in a jar in the refrigerator. This will thicken as it cools.

Yummy

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Block of the Month Block 1 All Hallows

This makes a finished 12" block

As this will be a scrappy quilt using one or more of each block it is hard to determine fabric requirements for all twelve blocks.

Supplies are for **one** block.



Colour 1

- One 5" x 15" rectangle (middle units)
- One 2-7/8" x 11-1/2" strip (corner units)
- One 2-7/8" x 5-3/4" strip (centre unit)



Colour 2

- One 2-1/2" x 10" strip (middle units)
- One 2-7/8" x 11-1/2" strip (corner units)
- One 2-7/8" x 5-3/4" strip (centre unit)



Colour 3

- One 4-1/2" x 18" strip (middle units)
- Two 2-7/8" x 11-1/2" strip (corner units)



Now to cut

- Colour 1 is a 5" by 15" Rectangle
- Cut this into twelve (12) 2 ½ squares



- Colour 2 is a 2 ½" by 10" strip
- Cut this into 2 ½" squares

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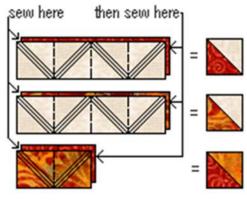
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- Colour 3 is a 4 ½" by 18" strip
- Cut this into 4 ½" squares

Now you are ready to sew



Next speed piece the half squares, by stacking the Colour 3 and Colour 1 2-7/8" \times 11-1/2" strips right sides together and all edges aligned.

On the back of the top strip, lightly mark the 2-7/8" square lines. Now mark the diagonals in the direction shown at left.

Sew 1/4" above and below the marked diagonals, pivoting at the square lines. Cut apart on the marked diagonals between the rows of stitching and on the square lines. This will give you eight Colour 3/Colour 1 half squares.

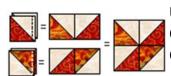
Repeat this same procedure with a Colour 3 / Colour 2 2-7/8" \times 11-1/2" strip set to get eight in that Colour combo, and with a Colour 1 / Colour 2 2-7/8" \times 5-3/4" strip set to get four in that Colour combo. Press all seams towards the darker fabrics.



Now place a Colour 1 2-1/2" square lined up with the upper left corner of a Colour 3 4-1/2" square, right sides together and all edges aligned.

On the back of the top small square draw the diagonal and sew on this marked line. Cut off the excess seam allowance. Press the remainder towards the center square.

Repeat this with another Colour 1 small square on the opposing corner. Repeat with another Colour 1 small square on the top right corner, and a Colour 2 small square on the opposing corner, pressing these last two seams towards the outer triangles. Make four units like this.



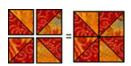
Using 1/4" seams, sew a Colour 1/Colour 3 half square to a Colour 2/Colour 3 half square, then sew a Colour 2/Colour 3 half square to a Colour 1/Colour 3 half square.

Join these to make the unit shown above. Make four units like this.

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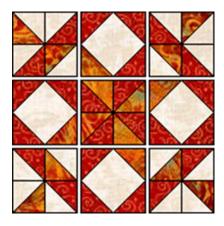
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Now make the block's center by joining the four Colour1/Colour2 half squares as shown at left.

Next, piece the block, by joining the previously made units! Be sure to alternate pressing directions with the addition of each unit, so that your seams lie flat.



Have fun. Next month a totally different block.

We have five guild members (Sheila, Clare, Sharon L., Jean & Kathy R.) testing the blocks before they appear in the newsletter. Here are some samples of what they have done to give you an idea of how important your colours are in order to see the pattern emerge.

Sheila Sharon





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Have you seen the wonderful online demos that Huckleberry's staff have been doing? If you missed them check them out here.

All their videos are on their YouTube channel □

https://youtube/a2E1MZdv778

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qn2BKF02x c

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Member Activities

Karen Ross has been busy

Her latest quilt top called "Father Christmas Sampler" completed December 23.

I will probably quilt it later this year.



Beth R has been really busy

My Yellow Brick Road queen quilt was a good "Covid lockdown" project - I had a bundles of bright solids purchased at a quilt show and decided to make a queen size quilt for our bed in the summer. The backing is a lavender wide-back flannel from Dragonfly quilting in Cloverdale as was the batting. It was quilted by Edna Roberts in Willow Point in an oak leaves pattern chosen as I grew up in Oak Bay in Victoria.



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Member Activities

Lois Warner has been busy (no book reviews but fun things)

Papier mâché 'book' box covered with faux leather.

I have been experimenting with combining fabric and paper ('Stitch Alchemy' by Kelli Perkins), but decided to try using fusible interfacing as a base fabric. Rather than tissue paper, I scrunched habotai silk (light weight silk, usually used for silk painting, as scarves or pictures). By pressing the scrunched silk well, then opening it out, the wrinkles stayed and I was able to press with a hot iron, attaching the silk to the fusible side of the interfacing.

To get a faux leather appearance, several coats of acrylic paint were dabbed all over the silk. A 'copper' look was the result of turquoise paint put on at random, then copper paint mainly covered the silk with bits of turquoise showing through. I settled on bronze paint over the silk then rubbed some brown to darken the 'leather'. This was my choice for the 'book cover'. The fabric was very pliable and easy to glue to the box. As well, using your sewing machine on the fabric would be simple to do as it is not very thick.

The original instructions in Quilting Arts #93 (June/July 2018) used fabric as the base, plus two layers of fusible interfacing, before attaching the scrunched silk, which was then painted. This made a sturdy fabric which was made into a wearable vest. My version is not as strong, but I think could be used very effectively in a wall quilt. Once the paint has dried and set with an iron, the faux leather would be washable, to some degree. Having covered the box with the faux leather, my plan is to experiment with various techniques such as foiling, using Tyvek, thread painting etc. These mini pieces, hopefully, will be about 4"x6" and attached to the book front using Velcro. When replaced with a new one, I plan to store them in the box. Will this plan ever come to fruition? Who knows? Once we are all vaccinated and meeting in the hall again, I will probably forget these mini fabric experiments and the box will just accumulate 'junk'.

Happy quilting! Lois Warner







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More Member Activities

Margaret Ryan has been busy

I have been busy working on UFO's. Also I sold 2 panels to a lady in Victoria who is turning them into a dress to wear to her son's wedding. I have pictures but I'm not sure what you need.

Picture 1 is a small quilt I completed from fabric pieces that had been handed down twice before they got to me. It is being donated.

Picture 2 is a take off on a log cabin quilt. The blocks are done using an embroidery machine rather than a sewing machine. It is being donated.

Picture 3 is the dress the lady is making from the panels.







Marlene has been busy

This is a pattern from Jordan Fabrics. I receive e-mails with all their instructional video's which are awesome. I saw this little Xmas tree and could not resist. For anyone who is interested - it is a very easy little quilt because the blocks are off center so you don't have to match the seams.

It goes together very quickly. Nice for a quick decoration or gift for someone - maybe start now for next Xmas.



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More Member Activities

More from Marlene H. & Terry

Please note that this project is from Terry Hooper. Terry and I, (Marlene), had a sew day today at my house and this is what Terry is working on. It is soooo cute.

This is a pattern from Red Button Quilt in Bemidji MN USA. It is called "Around the Cabin" and is a wall hanging 17"x17". Terry will send another photo once this cute little project is complete.



Sharon H. has been busy

Quilting calms me and I love browsing the fabrics and conjuring their combinations and what I could make with them. I have made countless quilts and I'm fortunate that both my children and grandchildren love them.

I'm finally finished my Presidents challenge quilt. I had the top done last spring but didn't feel the need to finish it right away. I had it machine quilted by Sandy Lloyd Harysym and I love the choice.

The pattern is called Northern Comfort from Scrap-Basket Sensations by Kim Brackett.

What led me to this pattern is that it used 2 1/2 inch strips and I was able to use many scraps I had collected from other quilts.

I love the warm colours and I used Grunge fabric for a border, and then more leftover strips for a scrappy binding and a leftover piece for the backing. I'm inspired to make more of these scrappy quilts, there seems to be a never ending supply of scraps and ideas.

Happy quilting everyone, I look forward to seeing you again.



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SUNSHINE

I am sure that everyone is sooo tired of our isolation and all the rules, but we will make it thru. Thank you to everyone for letting me know when and where to send a note of cheer.

I have sent many cards, some sad and some cheerful, I hope they offered a note of cheer to everyone.

Please continue to let me know when you hear of a time when a need is there, without your input I cannot do my job.

Thank you.

Florence

Email me at: sunshine@schoolhousequilters.com

Ardith Chambers

It is with sadness that I share the news of Ardith's passing on January 25th 2021. A lot of us will remember her colourful, flamboyant personality. Although she hasn't been at the guild in the last few years she has been busy with the Glacier Grannies.

Rest in peace, Ardith.





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Member Activities

Gail King is very busy

Crazy quilted Xmas gift bags with scrappy fabric. Twin needled with gold thread.

Four more handles to go. Next project - coffee table runner.



Nerissa has been busy

This is a mini tote bag & books for our Great Granddaughters 3rd birthday.



February Sale

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Guild Member Personal Information
If you need to contact any of our guild members, executive or committee members please go to the **Members**Only page and then to **Memberships** on our website for the most up to date list of all email, addresses and phone numbers of current guild members. Remember you will need to be a paid member to get the userid and password to enter this area.

To protect the privacy of our guild members' personal phone numbers or email addresses will not be published in the newsletter unless specifically requested by the committee member. Most committees have a guild email address that is redirected to their personal address.

If your committee does not as yet have one or you are organizing a special event please send an email to our webmaster using

webmaster@schoolhousequilters.com to request one.

As a paid member you have received the login and password for this section.

Personal Information Changes

Please notify the Membership Committee of any changes to your email, phone number or address.

The Membership Committee will then pass this information on to those who need the information to update email lists, and membership files.

Keep your information up to date in order to receive email regarding guild events.

"Reminder to Members

Got something you would like to raise at an executive meeting? Please let me know by email no later than the day before the meeting so that we can allocate our time more efficiently My email address is

secretary@schoolhousequilters.com

Beth Ritchie

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Happy February Birthday

Please wish everyone a Happy Birthday

Gail	Chipperfield	2/3
Betty Jane	Harding	2/10
Sandra	Longland	2/15
Heather	Deane-Clark	2/22
Claudette	Picot	2/22
Bev	Michaluk	2/23
Kathleen	Lestock-Kay	2/25
Henny	Brydges	2/25

The Church threw away my cookies.



Well, the Church removed my cookies from the bake sale......again !!!

I don't know what their problem is......I just used a dog bone shaped cookie cutter, cut them in half and decorated them.

Colleen





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CQA Mystery Quilt

Anyone looking for a little mystery these coming months, check this out. The supply list came out in September and once a month there will be a clue (instructions).

You do need to be a CQA member but there is a lot happening within CQA. They have a updated web-site and the member only section is very good.

I have my fabric picked out. I may need to buy a 1/4 m but that will get me back into a fabric store and see what is new.

Take care Everyone. Hope to see some Mystery Quilts.

Janis Davis

Part four of the Mystery is complete now. I have 29 of each, of the three piece units and 61 of the single units.

It is not to late to get started on this mystery, go to the CQA Website and join.

Also, I have been working on a scrap project using 2 1/2" x 3 1/2" pieces, the pattern suggests a jelly roll or layer cake.

I have saved binding scraps and am cleaning up some small bits. Go to Jordan Fabrics, the pattern is Jagged X's, easy project.



Shirley K.'s mystery fabric choices

This has been an enjoyable, no pressure project.



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More Member Activities

Anita has been busy doing Community Quilt

Found a bunch of 5 inch squares so thought it would occupy a day or 2 of quarantine, just need to deliver it now.



Verna has been busy 'Crumb Quilt'.....or a short cut to the Nut House!!!!

A few years ago I made a turquoise hexagon quilt and saved ALL the scraps...I couldn't throw away any of my favourite colour!

A few months ago on YouTube I watched a lady making a 'Crumb Quilt'. It will use up all those small scraps you couldn't throw away... she says!!! You can work on it when you have a few minutes...she says!!! She didn't say anything about most 'crumbs' being straight cuts and hexagons are all angles...so down the rabbit hole I went. Some days it almost went in the garbage but I carried on and finished this small 24" x 27" Draught stopper. Now my chair cushion doesn't match!?!?

And I have a lot of angular scraps left!!!! I will make some charity quilts to get my sanity, well some of it back, and then give it another try.



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More Member Activities

Peggy has been busy

More quilts going through my stash for 2 of them...then another double Irish chain.







The History of National Quilting Day

In 1989, the Kentucky Heritage Quilt Society organized a "Quilters' Day Out" on the third Saturday of March to celebrate the rich tradition of quilt making in Kentucky.



Two years later the event was so popular that the National Quilting Association took steps to have it declared an official holiday! At that point, the name got changed to "Quilting Day" and has attracted celebrants all over the world to participate, helping to build and maintain the global heritage of quilting. As our feelings of a community network have evolved to include a world community, it is only appropriate that quilters and quilt lovers everywhere united to give recognition to the special art form.

Despite the lockdown in March of last year, many of our members shared their quilts by hanging them outside, or on online on the Guild Facebook page. Let's all come together on March 20 as quilters and members to share our quilts with each other, and our community.

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10 Ways to Celebrate National Quilting Day:

- 1. Finish a UFO (unfinished object) or make a list and prioritize them.
- 2. Inventory your supply of quilts. Have a surplus? One of the charity groups may be able to use it.
- 3. Give your sewing room a spring cleaning.
- 4. If that's too big of a job, organize one thing such as your scraps, magazines, patterns, thread, etc.
- Visit our local quilt shops and do some shopping!
- 6. Teach someone else to quilt.
- 7. Play with your fabric stash and plan your next project. Do I hear a Quilt of Valour?
- 8. Browse Pinterest or Instagram for quilting inspiration.
- 9. Try a new skill. Find a book or watch a YouTube video that demonstrates it well and go for it!
- 10.If you have an old quilt in your family you can research its history, you may be surprised to find out how old that quilt really is!

Submitted by Barb Bocking

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