



GQG November 2020 Newsletter

Our next Member's Meeting is on the 23rd of November at our regular time of 1 p.m. via Zoom.

Please take note that our December Member's Meeting date has been changed to Friday December 11th! Debbie is planning a fun meeting so mark your calendars you won't want to miss it!!!

Sussan's Message...Hello everyone,

It is November 11 and we have just paid tribute to our military, past and present. There seems to be a much more appreciative atmosphere this year, perhaps because of the times we are living through, perhaps because of the "visuals" on social media, but for whatever reason it is heartwarming to see.

Our AGM and subsequent meeting went off not too badly, a few hic cups, but as I mentioned, we are all learning as we go. It seems we will be doing this for a while, so we should be experts (or at least a little better) soon.

Your Executive Board have been working hard behind the scenes setting up and finessing each meeting, they have stepped up, and I just want to officially say "Thank you" to all of them.

To date we have had only a few submissions for Display, BOM, and the UFO Challenge. I encourage you to, if possible, join in, have fun, submit your projects, and help make the meetings more member interactive. We (the Gwillimbury Guild) are an inquisitive group, and we want to see what you are working on. If you are stuck on something, reaching out during Display is an excellent way to get opinions and answers to your questions.

See you all, virtually, at the November 23, meeting.

Sussan Frisk

Leader and Past President

Display (Janice Moerat):

For November, we would love a sneak preview of what everyone is working on for the quilt show!! Also, it would be nice to see any quilts or wall hangings for November 11. If anyone has made a quilt of valour, we would be honoured to see them!! Take care everyone and see you soon!

Please email photos and a short blurb about your display items to Janice Moerat, crazypatcher@rogers.com our Display Coordinator, by November 20th. It will be your choice if you want to tell us about your project during the Zoom meeting or have Janet read your blurb.



Message From Debbie Adams our Program Coordinator:

Al Cote will be our Zoom trunk show presenter this month. Check out his work and profile in <https://Imaginationtextile.com> .



And looking ahead to December our presenter will be Peter Byrne with his trunk show "Behind the Seams"! Here is a greeting from Peter:

Hello quilters, my name is Peter Byrne. I am an international award-winning, published modern quilter and teacher with a deep passion for innovation and design. My strength is maintaining a fresh approach to quilting, with original designs and technical mastery.

My goal is innovation, my passion is creativity and I am thrilled to have opportunities to share new techniques within the quilting community. While attending QuiltCon 2020, my quilt titled 'Starring You' won Best in Show and my quilt titled 'Cityscape' won Best Machine Quilting Frameless.

After 30 years working as a stylist and salon owner I retired, and then had the time to explore new creative outlets. I started making quilt in 2009 and to further my quilting experience, in 2017 I joined the Toronto Modern Quilting Guild and when I walked into that first guild meeting, I had never quilted a quilt.



It was at this time, I became a full time student of the craft and 2 years later, I designed and made Starring You. I'm very excited to share my quilts, dreams and ambitions with you and look forward to meeting you at my Trunk Show!

You can check out his website at: <http://www.peterbquilts.com/> .

Stay safe, Debbie Adams
Program Chair



Our next **Virtual Retreat** is on November 18th. You can take part either on Facebook or Email and there is no limit on how many can join. It is a great time to set aside a day to concentrate on your Christmas projects. Just drop me an email at al.lynn@sympatico.ca by Tuesday November 17th letting me know how you plan to join email or Facebook.

The UFO Challenge

The UFO number for November is 8.

Don't forget to email Linda gumswamp@sympatico.ca with pictures of your completed project and the story behind the project for October by November 19th Linda Anderson, Secretary and UFO Coordinator

From our Membership chair Donna Kirkpatrick:

Our updated membership list is now on the website in the Members Only area. <https://www.gwillimburyquiltguild.com>

You can also see the updated Guild Calendar that reflects changes to our December Meeting and Executive meeting dates going forward. Check back to the website on a regular basis for updated Gallery photos, BOM instructions, Current and Past Newsletters etc.

Block of the Month with Ann Power:

Hi fellow quilters, here is the next BOM which will be drawn for at the December meeting:

<https://www.northcott.com/resourcepdf/NorthcottTTQBlock24Basics.pdf>

As you can see in my samples I fussy cut my fabric to make these. The first month we had 3 members making the blocks followed by 5 last month so hoping to get a few more for this month and again in December. All the blocks finish to 9 in so can be used in a sampler quilt or whatever you want to do with them. Join in the fun and have your name entered for a fat quarter draw.



See you on Zoom at the next meeting. Ann Power

Message from Glenys Emmerson (Heart Pillow Coordinator):

Glenys will be receiving materials to make another batch of Heart Pillows for Southlake. She will be looking for volunteers in about 2 weeks to help out. She is currently working on a plan on how to get them done given the current Pandemic restrictions. Please contact her at glenysemmerson@yahoo.com if you can help and stay tuned for further instructions.



Message from Marlene Robitaille "Quilts for John's Men's Shelter"

Marlene was happy to report at the last Exec meeting that more than the requested 12 quilts were donated. She thanked everyone for their generosity and is especially grateful to Len Adams who quilted 8 of the quilts on his longarm. Sadly on the very day Marlene gave us this report her brother Father John passed away of a massive heart attack! Marlene we send you and your family our sincere condolences; may you be comforted that all your friends in the Guild send you their heartfelt sympathy and affection.

Previously she had sent me the following to share with you in the Newsletter.



Guild Private Facebook Group: As you know, the executive team has been discussing various ways that we can stay connected during these days of pandemic social distancing. One possible way is to create a **private** Facebook Group for Guild members to post about their quilting activities, share photos, tips, ask for advice on a current project...or just plain socialize. Only group members can see what you have posted and there is no need to be "Facebook Friends" to join the group.

We have decided that rather than do a survey we will create the group as a trial and send out an invite to join to all members of the Guild. This will give you the opportunity to check out the group and see how it could work. A number of other Guilds in Ontario have created similar groups and have found them to be fun and a great way to stay in contact.

If you are already on Facebook, to join the group just click the link that will be in the invite email. But to join the group you must first be registered on Facebook. Just got to www.facebook.com and follow the instructions. You will be notified by the group administrator when your join request is approved. Only the administrator(s) can invite and approve join requests thereby ensuring that non members are not in the group.



Hospitality (Pat Thiessen & Marlene Robitaille):

Your hospitality committee will be sharing recipes going forward. Since we can't share in the actual treats we can at least share the recipes. The first one is from Pat. These Squares are like Butter Tarts with Shortbread Crust, enjoy.

Imperial Tart Squares - Pat Thiessen

Ingredients

Base

1½ cups all purpose flour
2 tbsp granulated sugar
½ cup margarine

Topping

2 eggs
1¼ cups brown sugar
¼ cup melted margarine
1 cup raisins
1 tbsp vinegar
1 tsp vanilla
1 tsp all purpose flour

1. Mix ingredients for Base in bowl until crumbly.
2. Press into greased 9 inch (23cm) square pan.
3. Bake at 350° for 10 to 12 minutes or until light brown.
4. Beat eggs and brown sugar together with whisk until well blended.
5. Stir in remaining ingredients. Mix well. Spread over base.
6. Bake 20 min or just until set and golden.

Tip: Underbaking gives a soft, runny filling, bake longer for a firmer set.

Freezes well

From our Workshop Coordinator Betty Szkokan: Normally at our Christmas meeting in December Debbie leads us in a fun craft. But of course this is not possible this year so instead here is a Christmas Craft we would love you all to make at home and share with your fellow members at our Virtual Christmas Meeting on December 11th.

It is a fun strippy mug rug and cozy courtesy of the Bernina We All Sew website: <https://weallsew.com/easy-strips-mug-rug-and-cozy-set/>. The instructions are simple, clear with lots of illustrations. Wouldn't this be cute made in Christmas fabrics. You only need scraps to make it.

Hope most of you will join in. Being at home we can use our sewing machines for this year's craft.



I am also working on scheduling a virtual workshop in the new year! Just imagine...no need to lug your sewing machine to class and you have all your sewing tools close at hand. Bonus!

In the meantime, don't forget to check the websites and blogs of your favourite professional quilters. Many are offering virtual classes and some are free! For example Amanda Murphy's Free Motion Quilting.



Quilt Shows: we are adding a new section to the Newsletter on upcoming Quilt Shows...Real or Virtual. So please send in any notices of Shows to share with your fellow members. Here is a virtual exhibition for you to enjoy....

A Better World Exhibition:

<http://abetterworldexhibition.com/index.html>

*There are women and men among us who forgo comfort
and make personal sacrifices to make the world a better place.
They soldier on in spite of personal risk or in the face of persecution.
They are persistent and dogged in their pursuit of their goals.
They represent the very best of humanity.
They work toward the greater good.*



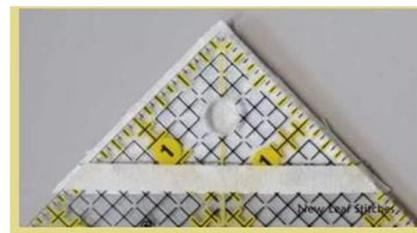
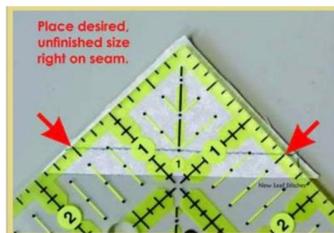
"A Better World" is a fiber art exhibition in tribute to these heroes.

Tips, Tricks and Interesting Links: Please forward on to me any tips or tricks you think your fellow members would find useful. You can also forward on links to websites or Facebook groups/pages that you have found useful and informative.

From Sioux Salo: Trimming HSTs

I recently came across this post and was gob smacked. I have always opened my HST into squares to trim and struggled with the wee ones. Maybe I'm just the last to know this tip. (Found on Pinterest, New Leaf Creations)

- Many choose to press the HST before trimming. Most of the trimming techniques for this require cutting two sides, rotating the squares, realigning and trimming the last two sides.
- Leaving the squares unopened & unpressed, and knowing we need 1-1/2" unfinished squares, place a square ruler on the triangles so that the 1-1/2" markings are right at the seams...(you could place a piece of tape to help with the alignment).



- 2 strokes of the rotary cutter trims all 4 sides at once with little waste.





From Marion Cole: This might be of interest to all those who still have a stash and are planning to spend good quality time in their sewing room at the machine. Sew Smart tips from Rose Parr courtesy of the Grand Rapids Quilt Guild:

http://grandquiltguild.ca/gggwp/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Sew.Smart_Rose_Parr_-1.pdf

Messages from your Fellow Members:

From Betty Sanderson: I've been trying to reduce my stock of Wm. Morris fabrics, so here are two more tops almost complete.



From Christine Hitchmough: Have loved finishing this thread play panel which I started at Lynda's (Royce) class. It was fun to embellish once the stitching was completed. You can't see as much of it in this photo as I would have liked but I added some small stones in the stream to bring the rocks to life, glitter shining on parts of the small snowdrifts and a few glass Swarovski crystals along the stream for reflection. I'll attach it to the wall for Christmas using those 3M Velcro "stickies"they're so handy and don't leave any marks.





From Ann Power: We have just completed our second Block from the Barn trail Breakfast Club that I joined. I mentioned previously that we can earn an extra Breakfast Buck each month . As the pattern for Oct was the Bear Paw we were given a recipe for Bear Paw cookies and if we made them and sent in a picture with our block, another Breakfast Buck



was added to our account. The cookies were delicious and I can share the recipe for these yummy fudge cookies another month. I'm anxiously waiting for the next pattern coming up soon.

Mug Tote Patterns: Looking forward to the time where we once again can meet in person we thought it would be nice to prepare for that eventuality by making mug totes to carry our mugs to Sit and Sew and to our meetings.

Here is one pattern provided by Sioux Salo.

You will need 2 complimentary fabrics and batting cut into 14" squares



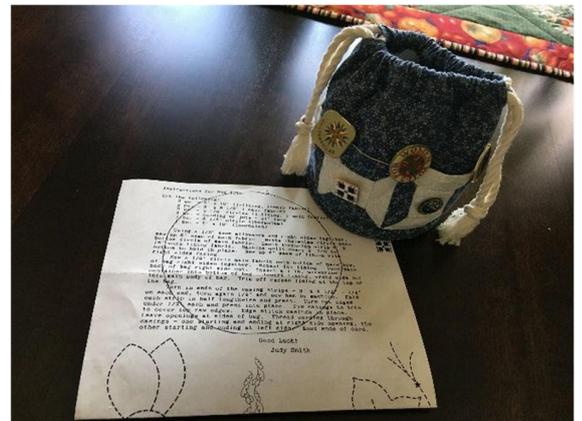
- Place batting wrong side of one piece of material
- With right sides of fabric together, place second piece of material on top.
- Sew around perimeter of squares, using a quarter inch seam, leaving enough of a gap for turning.
- Iron and then quilt in a pattern of your choice.
- Top stitch around edge.
- Fold in half with right sides together.



- Measure 4 1/2" from folded corner towards center and mark.
- Measure 4 1/2" UP from folded corner and mark.
- Sew line between marks, backstitching at ends.
- Repeat for other two sides.
- Turn right side out.
- Do not trim off "ears" as they will cushion mug.
- Add your choice of closure on two opposite corners.
- Tuck the other two corners under, for more cushioning for your mug.



And here is one from me.... Lots of nostalgia for me. This tote mug was from a pattern provided to Region of York Guild members in the mid 1980s. I had joined the guild shortly after moving to Newmarket in 1985. Judy Smith provided the pattern in a Newsletter. So here is a scan of the original pattern and the pic of my adaptation. I added some pockets around it to store my membership pin and sewing notions. I keep my quilting pin collection on the pocket exteriors.



Instructions for Mug Tote:

Cut the following:

- 2 pc. - 6" x 16" (1-lining, 1-main fabric)
- 2 pc. - 3" x 8 1/2" (main fabric)
- 2 pc. - 5 1/8" circles (1-lining, 1-main fabric)
- 2 pc. - cording or jute - 21" long
- 1 pc. - 5 1/8" circle (Thermolam)
- 1 pc. - 6" x 16" (Thermolam)

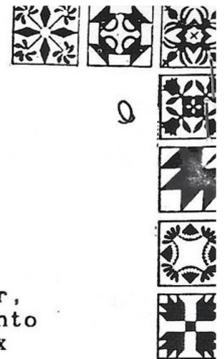
Using a 1/2" seam allowance and right sides together, sew up 6" seam of main fabric. Baste thermolam circle onto bottom circle of main fabric. Baste thermolam strip 6" x 16" onto lining fabric. Machine quilt every 2" top to bottom to hold in place. Sew up 6" seam of lining with right sides facing.

Sew 5 1/8" circle main fabric onto bottom of main body of bag right sides together. Repeat for lining. Turn main body of bag right side out. Use a 1 lb. margarine container into bottom of bag. Insert lining, wrong side out into main body of bag. Trim off excess lining at the top of the bag.

Turn in ends of the casing strips - 3" x 8 1/2" - 1/4" on each end, turn again 1/4" and sew hem by machine. Fold each strip in half lengthwise and press. Turn raw edges under 1/2" each and press into place. Pin casings to tote to cover top raw edges. Edge stitch casings in place. Leave openings at sides of bag. Thread cording through casings - one starting and ending at right side opening, the other starting and ending at left side. Knot ends of cord.

Good Luck!

Judy Smith





And finally a couple of chuckles from Ann Power and myself....



See you at our November Zoom meeting! Keep safe all! Lynn