

QUILTERS' QUILL

"The Executive will work together as a team to support and encourage new quilters, challenge and draw upon experienced quilters and provide warmth and comfort to those in need." As your Executive Committee, we are designing some things to meet the above goal."

SUBMISSION DEADLINE

Items for Quilters' Quill should be submitted by the Monday of **two weeks** before the Guild Meeting. Please call Joanne Kavanagh 345-2269.

E-mail: kavanagh@tbaytel.net

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

It is September once again and time for all those activities that took the summer off, are ready and eager to begin. The Thunder Bay Quilters' Guild is one such activity and we are eager to start our new year.

The Executive met in August to start our plans for this year. We begin with workshops and a trunk show by Linda Clark. What a great way to start this 31st year of the Guild.

Some in house workshops have also been planned. If you have an idea for workshops please let Luci Andreacchi, Vice-President, know. Your executive is always open for your ideas and suggestions.

As your President, I am very excited about the involvement of our membership in our Guild. Every time volunteers were required there was a member who stepped forward to fill the vacancy. It sure does make the executive's job much easier. We look forward to another great and interesting year at the Guild.

Alva will continue to demonstrate quilting techniques before each meeting beginning at 6:15 pm. Alva has many years of experience that she is willing to share with all of us.

We will be honouring 4 Thirty Year members, JoAnne Brimmel, Doreen Everitt, Helen Knights and Jackie Black. Congratulations to these members who continue to be active and supportive. These members are great role models for all of us. Thanks you for your time and dedication to TBQG.

Norma

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Welcome back everyone, hope you all enjoyed the exceptionally warm summer we had in Thunder Bay. After travelling by car just over 9300 km across 5 provinces, I'm ready to put some miles (km) on my sewing machine. That poses an interesting thought....how many miles (km) have we all sewn! Thank you all for taking the time to fill in the survey in June. We will bring in some of the seemingly old favourites and some newer things too.

We will continue with "The Box", to give you the opportunity to share your thoughts, comments, questions, problems, suggestions or even thanks, to be brought forth the next month.

Sept: Recognition of long time members

Linda Clark from Kenora to do a trunk show

Oct: Quilter of the month

Short presentation of the Ricky Tims' Seminar

Nov: Ever popular Demo night for gift ideas for Christmas

Teddy bear/Doll quilt donations

Dec: Pot Luck Dinner

As always if you have any suggestions to the program, please come forward, you are always welcome.

See you at the meeting

Linda

QUILT BEE COMMITTEE

We have been busy over the summer, sorting and measuring fabrics in our stash. We will have some kits available at the September meeting for those enthusiasts who wanted to get started on our donation quilts. We would like those interested in being on the Bee Committee, to sign up at the September meeting, so we can set up a meeting date as soon as possible. If you want more details, please call myself at 627-6334, or email me at kenaila@tbaytel.net.

Aila Metsa

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Welcome back and Happy September. I hope everyone had a great summer enjoying the great weather and taking time to just relax and spend time with family and friends.

The Executive has been busy planning for the next ten months and I hope that you will be able to join us at our monthly meetings and activities that will happen throughout the year.

Before the September meeting we have Linda Clark coming in from Kenora to jump start the new quilting season with two Fabulous Fractures Classes – Saturday, September 17 and Sunday, September 18. Both of these classes will be held at Superior High School from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. and we have a total of 26 members attending these two sessions.

On Monday, September 19, Linda will facilitate “More Than One Way to Bind a Quilt”. This class is being held at Calvary Lutheran Church from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. and then we will have the pleasure of welcoming Linda to our first meeting that evening with a trunk show.

Marlene McRobb and Doris Dungan will be offering a “Beginner’s Quilting” in the Fall. A sign-up list will be available for any new or beginning quilter who is interested in learning the basics or just refreshing your basic quilting skills. There will be more information about this class at the meeting.

Our February Quilt Bee has been booked for Thursday, February 9, 2012 at the Prince Arthur Waterfront Hotel. A large banquet room overlooking the Sleeping Giant will give us wonderful vistas as we gather to sew comfort quilts for our great community – Thunder Bay. Please make an effort to come out and share your talents....just for a few hours or gather a group and come and spend the day or evening. We will be there from 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. and have even ordered breakfast, lunch and supper to be served throughout the day. Hot and cold beverages will be available all day long. WAIT there is more! the Prince Arthur Waterfront Hotel has graciously donated a Weekend Get-A-Way for Two complete in a Jacuzzi Suite with Breakfast. Every member who comes out that day will have their name entered in the draw – you might be the lucky winner! A sign-up sheet will be available so please take the time to sign up at the September meeting so that the Quilt Bee Committee can prepare further for the Quilt Bee.

See you at the meeting, Luci Andreacchi

LIBRARY REPORT

The September meeting will be a busy one with registration and sign-ups for classes/events.

After getting registration done why not take a little walk down to the Education Wing and come see some of the new books that our Past President has found over the summer months. The Library is open from 6:00 p.m. to start of meeting at 7:00 p.m. and over the break time.

Members are allowed up to three books a month, so bring along your library cards and take out some great books.

Hope to see you there,

Luci Andreacchi

PLACEMATS FOR OUR COMMUNITY

Thunder Bay Quilters have been very busy making placemats over the last 12 years.

We started by making placemats to give to all new clients of Meals on Wheels. We donated well over 200 placemats this year, using all donated fabric and batting. We even had enough to give long term MOW clients a second placemat early this year.

We also make placemats to be used as a fund-raiser for Shelter House and the Thunder Bay Food Bank. This fund-raiser, The Empty Bowls Caring Hearts Dinner, takes place on Oct, 16th this year and we hope to raise over \$15,000. during this one day event at the Moose hall on Ft William Rd. If you have placemats to donate, time to volunteer, or if you just want to buy a dinner or raffle ticket, you can come to see me or one of my helpers. Sharon DiMeo and Beth File are both part of our committee.

There were 44 placemats turned in at the June meeting and about the same number over the summer months.

I will have placemat kits, dinner tickets (\$30) and raffle tickets in the middle room.

Many thanks to all who have donated so generously in the past.

Nelly Reedhead

Chairperson, Empty Bowls Caring Hearts committee

QUILTERS' CHALLENGE - PART II

Greetings Fellow Quilters – if you enjoyed the Polka Dot Challenge, you won't want to miss the sequel (Quilters' Challenge – Part II)

We (Val Kosloski, Shirley Aussant and Pat Inch)

had sew much fun with the polka dots that we begged Linda to let us have the **May 2010 meeting program** for Part II - ***All God's Creatures Great and Small***

Everyone is invited (challenged) to create/make something to bring forward at the May 2012 meeting for Show and Tell. We will have an assortment of projects to show at the meeting and discuss (time permitting) in terms of the inspiration, patterns, fabric choices, colour variations and more.

We will also have some fun draw prizes for those who meet the challenge of bringing at least one item within the theme (***All God's Creatures Great and Small***)

Sew – be creative! You have lots of time to find some great fabric(s) and make something to bring in May. Have fun with the theme – Almost anything goes – as long as it features something that creeps, crawls, flies or swims!

Enjoy the challenge.

**CLASSIFIEDS
(BUY/SELL/TRADE)**

Two-line non-business quilt-related classified ads can be placed in the Quill for \$2.50. Each additional line costs \$1.00 Please pay Aila Metsa in advance.

THUNDER BAY QUILT GUILD MEMBER PROFILE

JACKIE BLACK

When Bobbie asked me to write this, I had no idea that I would be delving into “Ancient History” and I actually feel as though I am writing my quilting obituary! Some dates have completely escaped my mind and I came across photos of projects I do not recall having created – figments of my imagination?? Rather frightening, I must say. Needless to say, since I was in the original group of women who founded the Thunder Bay Quilters at the inaugural meeting, there are many aspects to recollect.

My first memories of sewing dealt with holding binder canvases while my mother patched them on the treadle Singer Sewing machine – once I conquered the idiosyncrasies of the rhythmic treadle, I graduated to real sewing. Only 10 years old, I was underage, but since my Mother was the 4H leader, I was allowed to join so the minimum number of club members was reached and maintained. My first project was a pair of blue broadcloth pajamas, with flat felled seams and a hand embroidered “J” on the pocket. They won first prize at the Emo fair and after that, nothing could stop me when it came to sewing – especially when Mother had the treadle machine converted to electricity. This talent proved to be a real bonus when I first attended Fort Frances High School in grade 11. My Home Economics teacher was impressed because I designed and sewed my skirt project, completing the outfit with a nylon blouse, finished with French seams. Over the years, I carried on sewing all my own clothes, the occasional vest or shirt for my husband Maurice and clothes for our son Earl until he reached teen years and had to be like everybody else in fashion – jeans and a Tee shirt. My love of sewing was responsible for my career, spent mostly in Home Economics at Westgate High School for 32 of my 36 years of teaching.

I made my first quilt in 1975 while attending a six week summer school librarian session in Toronto. Since I had no inkling as to how much spare time I would have over the six weeks, I had no sewing equipment with me so I had to buy needles and thread, a pair of scissors and draw the Drunkard’s Path templates out of cardboard. Believe it or not, this was entirely hand pieced – something I shall never do again. I brought it home and set it up in our living room where a variety of ladies would drop in and learn the skill of hand quilting. I had been exposed to quilting earlier that spring by taking an evening class at Bill Stanchuk’s Singer Sewing Center on May Street. The project was a quilted potholder which periodically surfaces, serving to keep me humble.

I have always suffered from “The Little Red Hen” complex (I’ll Do It Myself) which resulted in my venturing into the plastic ruler and template business. When Ann Bird of Ottawa came to teach her Medallion Star workshop, one of the requirements was a small 45* diamond template. Larry Durant, local owner of Surecraft Plastics, assured me that he could cut the required shape within a “silly millimetre” of accuracy and thus began my career of designing and supplying over 30 styles of rulers and tools to countless shops across Canada and other far-flung addresses. When I retired from teaching in 1993, and sold the business, I felt as if I were getting rid of a child! In order to make quilters aware of my products, I would teach workshops throughout the country and attend quilt conferences on weekends where I would “flog plastic”. One fall, I went five weeks steady – taught school all week, caught a flight out Friday afternoon, set up at a conference or taught classes and arrived back on the early morning Monday flight to start teaching again. This was a tiring but rewarding schedule as I made contact with so many quilters – real down- to-earth people.

Over the years I have taught at five Quilt Canada conferences, taught in every province and

have passed the gospel of quilting along in Texas, Arizona and Alaska and Mexico. Some type of sewing machine has always accompanied me in our RV travels. Equipment has been basic with a TV tray for an ironing board and the site's wooden picnic table serving as a cutting and sewing surface. Whenever I set up in a campground, somebody would invariably come with a few items to be mended. I think the record was a family with four boys in Baja who had been travelling for six months – their jeans were in desperate need of patching!

For several summers I taught Strip Piecing techniques with catchy titles such as Streaking and Stripping at community colleges in North Bay, Haliburton and Brockville. At these sessions, I considered Maurice to be a “kept man” as I was earning the income while he took fun classes such as wood marquetry or paper making. In the summer of 1992, as we travelled east for Earl and Catherine's wedding in early August, I taught the entire month of July at the various campuses, managing to power shop my “Mother of the Groom” outfit in Sault Ste Marie, found my shoes in North Bay and rounded out the outfit in Haliburton. My quilting students chided me since my first concern was obviously quilting!

Travel has always been foremost in our lives. In 1986, we backpacked through the Pacific and Orient for 6 months. Advance planning ensured that I would meet up with quilters in Hawaii, New Zealand, Australia, Singapore and Japan. One of the results of this endeavour was a massive collection of samples and textiles which served as the basis of a slide show entitled “Quilts from around the World”. While in Japan, I met with Yuko Watanabe, editor of Patchwork Tsushin, resulting in three subsequent issues featuring my various projects. I remember one Sunday evening receiving a phone call from Yuko asking for 6 dozen Texas Star Rulers to be shipped. I assured her I would have them out first thing Monday morning, to which she replied “It is Monday here already” Talk about pressure!! Over the years articles I have written have been published in Canada Quilts, Hands, Crafts, and American Quilter. In the past, I have entered the CQA Challenge competitions at Quilt Canada, using my favourite shape, the equilateral triangle in mini 2” size. This has resulted in several awards.

Since my retirement in 1993, we have visited every state in the US. As a “snowbird”, our route south is planned to take in events such as the amazing quilt shows in Houston and Paducah. Perhaps the ultimate goal was visiting the headquarters of Quilters Newsletter Magazine in Golden, Colorado where spectacular quilts adorn all the office walls.

I can thank the Ontario government for getting me into teaching of quilting. In the early 1980's, the educational system was flush with money and my principal at Westgate asked me to develop a series of adult education classes on topics such as Microwave Cookery, Using the Cuisinart and Quilting. The first night the enthusiastic group of 18 quilters met in my sewing room and assured me they wanted nothing to do with hand quilting – speedy machine quilting was requested. Somehow I managed to invent lessons on various blocks and keep ahead of them one week at a time. It must have been a success as one lady came in with a finished double sized quilt each week for 10 weeks – she was thankful it was hunting season and her husband was not around. Individuals such as Joyce McKinnon went on to win prestigious prizes and others produced quilted garments that decorated many bodies for Christmas.

Creation of Graduation quilts was another area that I took on – Tee shirts were squared up, resulting in unique memorabilia for high school graduates. I also made sure that all six of my nephews and nieces had a quilt to take with them to university. Eventually all beds and walls in our house were covered so I am quite content now to put my quilting efforts into the making of donation quilts when back in Thunder Bay. Some have gone to Habitat for Humanity and the Children's Foundation to be auctioned off as money raisers.

Since I cannot attend the local guild “sew-a-thon” in the winter, my summers are spent

sewing kits for the local guild as well as creating one of kind designs as donations. I managed to make up 36 kits in the summer of 2010 but because of my cataract operations this year in May and June, I shall be lucky to achieve my modest goal of 20 completed projects. I do like working with the UFO's, mixing and matching of blocks that someone has made but given up on, as well as developing themes from using one or two printed cushion tops as inspiration. In the winter as a snowbird, I am a volunteer teacher at two parks in Arizona and I also sew tops for AZ Blankets 4 Kids. However, nothing can compete with the camaraderie present when I return each spring and am able to renew acquaintances at TBQG. Sadly, many of the familiar faces are no longer there, but it is gratifying to see how many new people have become passionate about this art.

Whenever I teach a workshop, I begin with "You will learn the technique here and you can strive for perfection in the privacy of your sewing room". I challenge the students to try new ideas, such as breaking away from a static repetitious block design to plan an "off balance" quilt top, incorporate Colour schemes not normally in their palette, and be adventuresome! There are never any mistakes in quilting – just the beginnings of a new design.

I hope in the next few years to whittle down my stash and this may possibly occur, as no day is complete for me until I have spent time cutting, sorting and sewing strips and arranging blocks on my flannel wall for another "way out" venture. Carry on quilting!

Jackie Black, Thunder Bay Quilter

Submitted by Bobbie Dafoe

Christmas Table Topper Mystery

Part 1

An original three-part mystery designed to brighten your Christmas Holiday.
Directions given in three sizes.

This mystery is made with squares, and half-square triangles.
Have Fun and Enjoy!

Fabrics you will need:
Background
We suggest white or WOW to represent snow.

Dark Gold
Your choice of solid or print.
Only a small amount from your stash is needed.

Med. or Dk. Brown
Your choice of solid or print.
Only a small amount from your stash is needed.

Greens
You will need scraps that are Christmas oriented in color.
Prints would work best.
Having a few with small bits of color such as red, blue,
yellow, etc. would really set this off.
Use as many different fabrics as desired.
We recommend at least 4-5 different prints.
More is better.



Select the size Topper you wish to make and cut the pieces indicated.

Size	18" Topper	27" Topper	36" Topper
Background color A	(24) 2" sqs. and (10) 1 3/4" sqs. and (124) 1 1/2" sqs.	(24) 2 1/2" sqs. and (10) 2 1/4" sqs. and (124) 2" sqs.	(24) 3" sqs. and (10) 2 3/4" sqs. and (124) 2 1/2" sqs.
Dark Gold color B	(4) 2" sqs. and (4) 1 1/2"	(4) 2 1/2" sqs. and (4) 2"	(4) 3" sqs. and (4) 2 1/2"
Brown color C	(4) 2" sqs. and (8) 1 1/2" sqs.	(4) 2 1/2" sqs. and (8) 2" sqs.	(4) 3" sqs. and (8) 2 1/2" sqs.
Greens color D	(24) 2" sqs. and (72) 1 1/2" sqs.	(24) 2 1/2" sqs. and (72) 2" sqs.	(24) 3" sqs. and (72) 2 1/2" sqs.