

THUNDER BAY QUILTERS' GUILD

QUILTERS' QUILL

September 2017

1100 Memorial Avenue, Suite 213,
Thunder Bay, Ontario, P7B 4A3

Email: tbayqg@outlook.com
<http://thunderbayquilters.org/>

"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 email or call Joanne Kavanagh 345-2269.
mailto: kavanagh@tbaytel.net

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Hello Everyone, and welcome to another exciting year for the Thunder Bay Quilters' Guild!

I hope you all had time to sew as much as you wanted to over the summer! I focussed more on organizing my sewing studio this summer between madly rushing to make unexpected gifts at the last minute. So basically, my usual! I did manage to finish two Comfort Quilts, so I don't feel too far behind. Emphasis on "finish". I won't tell you when I started them!

I am very happy to be returning to my second year as TBQG President. We accomplished a lot last year, with a new logo and a long overdue increase in membership fees, and a fabulous Quilt Show! This year we will be focusing more on fun and skill building, with a lot of workshops, Sew Days and Quilt Bees to look forward to! I can't wait!

Christina

MEETING AGENDA

September 18, 2017

1. Welcome
 2. Acceptance of Agenda
 3. Acceptance of Minutes
 4. Business arising from minutes
 5. Executive Committee Reports
 6. New Business
 7. Break
 8. Show and Tell
 9. Programme
 10. Door Prizes / Adjournment
- Next Meeting - October 16, 2017



COMMITTEE SIGN UP SHEETS

The sign-up sheets for each committee will be available in the Fellowship Room before the meeting and during break. Please only sign up if you want to volunteer as a member of the organizing group for that committee. There is no sign up at this time to participate in committee events, that will come later.

The Committees are below, please see descriptions of what they do throughout the Quill:

Comfort Quilts
Quilt Bee
Quilt Show

Teddy Bear Quilts
Library
Placemats

Hall of Fame
Sew Day Team



GUILD MERCHANDISE

Marg Marks will have Guild merchandise available for purchase in the church foyer before every meeting and at break.

Nametag Kits : \$5.00

Pins: \$5.00

Bags: \$20.00



MEMBERSHIP FEES

Please remember that our membership fees are going up next year. Membership fees for the 2017-2018 Guild year will \$30.00 due at the September 18th or October 16th meetings. Membership forms will be included in the September Quill and available on the website.

<http://thunderbayquilters.org/>

2017/2018 EXECUTIVE

President	Christina Wakefield
christinalwakefield@gmail.com	630-7800
Vice-president	Laura Cooke
rl.cooke@hotmail.com	632-8479
Past President	Sharon Melville
sharonmelville@tbaytel.net	626-3691
Secretary	Marina Erdman
merdman903@gmail.com	252-0304
Treasurer	Ginny Strey
ginnylstrey@hotmail.com	476-5574
Program Chairs	Jeanette Dann
bdann@tbaytel.net	767-8005
Maria Bell	mbell4@shaw.ca 628-7945

2017/2018 COMMITTEES

Comfort Quilts:	Pat Inch, Florence Poster
Guest Speaker / Teachers:	Laura Cooke
Hall of Fame:	Sharon Melville
Library:	Maria Watson, Barb Gainer
Quilt Show:	Ellen Lang
Quilt Bee:	Adrienne Lopes
Webmaster:	Cathy Ridley
cridley@tbaytel.net	
Quill (Newsletter):	Joanne Kavanagh
kavanagh@tbaytel.net	345-2269
Donation Placemats:	Doris Dungan, Judy Murphy
Teddy Bear Quilts	Peggy Skillen

<http://thunderbayquilters.org/>

QUILTING EXPERIMENTS: HOMEMADE BASTING SPRAY

I am instituting a new section in the Quill, “Quilting Experiments”, where we can document a new quilting trick or technique that we have tried out and what we found. Up first, Homemade Spray Baste!

I have posted links below to where I found the recipe and some more videos that will help.

Homemade Spray Baste recipe

3 cups water

1 teaspoon salt

3 heaping tablespoons flour

1 cup rubbing alcohol

1 clean spray bottle

1. Bring 2 cups water and the salt to a rolling boil
2. Pour 1 cup water and the flour into a jar, put the lid on tightly and shake to mix contents
3. Turn down the boiling water to medium. Pour the flour mix into the boiling water while whisking
4. Continue to stir the mixture over medium heat until you get a consistency similar to gravy or egg whites or thin gruel. It may get a bit gloopy. You can test a bit between your fingers to see if it is sticky. Mixture is reduced by at least half if not more.
5. Remove from heat and cool to room temperature
6. Stir in rubbing alcohol, pour into spray bottle, tighten the lid and shake it up.



Using the homemade spray baste:

- Please read the blogs and watch the videos I have posted links to below before you start
- Only use it on something you will be washing and quilting soon. There is the potential to grow mold if it gets damp again
- You need to spray your batting thoroughly, should be wet but not soggy
- Your quilt sandwich needs to dry completely, either leave it to dry on the floor for a day, or use the video for “basting with an ironing board”.
- I used three level tablespoons of flour. It took a long time to make the “quilt gravy” but I didn’t have a problem with gloopy stuff clogging up the spray bottle, and it still worked well.

Pros

- It has good sticking power
- Can do it inside any time with no need for a respirator, much better for my asthma.
- No problem of sticky overspray, once it is dry it is no longer sticky to the touch.
- Quilted well, I didn’t notice any gumming of the needle

- Didn't seem any stiffer than regular spray adhesive, but that would probably depend on how much you used.
- One batch did two wheelchair quilts and will do at least one more. Should do all of a bed sized quilt.
- I liked the ironing board method. No more pinning or crawling around on the floor!

Cons

- It takes a while to make. I stirred the "quilt gravy" for at least half an hour before it was the right consistency, and then you have to wait for it to cool.
- I'm not sure how long the spray lasts if you leave some in the bottle. The rubbing alcohol should prevent anything growing, but I'm not sure about it drying out or clogging the spray.
- You have to shake it up EVERY time you pick it up, even if you only put it down for a minute.
- There is a learning curve to using it and the ironing board basting. I started on something simple and fairly small and I fussed with it for a while to get the layers to match up properly.
- Hot rubbing alcohol is still a strong smell; you'll want the window open.
- You have to wait until it has dried completely. Even using the ironing method, I left them to dry flat on the floor overnight.

Links:

Recipe and Tips:

<https://www.stringandstory.com/blog/2017/2/14/tips-tuesday-homemade-spray-baste>

Original recipe post (recipe at bottom):

<http://californiaquilting.blogspot.ca/2012/12/using-elmers-washable-school-glue-to.html>

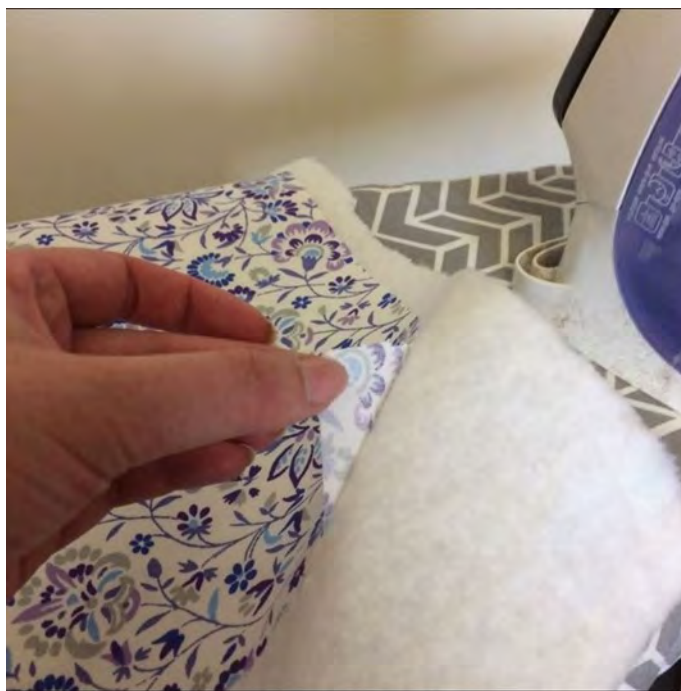
Video of Recipe:

<http://www.chatterboxquilts.com/blog/homemade-quilt-basting-spray>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hNxU3SH9XJY>

Video of Basting with an ironing board:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GPedPf4hdVY>



FACEBOOK GROUP

If you are on Facebook, please sign up for our Facebook group to receive updates, event notices, reminders for the meetings, and general quilting fun that we find around the internet!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1815537155353713/>

QUILT BEE COMMITTEE

Welcome back everyone! I am looking forward to another productive year for the Quilt Bees. For anyone who is new or has not participated in a Quilt Bee before, please consider joining us for our Quilt Bees this year. For anyone who is wondering what the Quilt Bee Committee is and what Quilt Bees are, I will give a brief description of what we do.

The Quilt Guild hosts Quilt Bees for members to get together for a day to sew and create beautiful quilts for the Comfort Committee to distribute on behalf of the Guild to various charitable organizations, hospitals and homes throughout the community. The Quilt Bee Committee organizes these Bees and coordinates kits, donation fabrics, patterns and all aspects of the Bee to allow the quilters to have a fabulous experience. If you are interested in helping out with the coordination of the Quilt Bees please sign up to be on the committee. We generally get together a few times as we head into a Quilt Bee to do our planning. In addition we get together for an afternoon of quilt kit preparation which is a fun experience that stretches your imagination and colour/quilt planning.

Our Quilt Bees will be planned over the coming months. We plan for a cutting bee and a Quilt Bee this year. As the planning is finalized we will let everyone know the dates, times and locations. The dates will be published in the Quill and announced at the meetings.

The Quilt Bee gladly accepts donations of quilting cotton. If you are de-stashing and find a pile that you don't want to look at any more, please consider donating it to the Quilt Bee Committee for use in kits. Any donation is greatly appreciated and will be turned into beautiful quilts.

Anyone who has comfort quilts from Bees last year (or the year before...) please let me know when you turn them into the Comfort Quilt Committee at the meetings so I can mark your name off the list of quilts that are out being completed. No rush. If you are in need of batting and/or backing to complete quilts, let me know at meetings or by emailing me at alopes@tbaytel.net.

I will be bringing kits to each meeting for members to take and finish at home if anyone wants to take a quilt kit to finish. It is a great way to practice quilting and to hone your quilting skills. Please see me if you'd like to sign out a charity quilt to finish.

In addition, I've made a variety of mini-kits for strawberry blocks that we can make into hospice quilts. I will bring a sample to the September meeting. Four strawberry blocks can be made into a hospice quilt. If you'd

like to take a strawberry block to finish, see me in the September meeting. The instructions are attached to the Quill. The plan will be to collect finished strawberry blocks and assemble them later into hospice quilts.

Looking forward to another fun and productive year.

Thank you for participating! It makes the Quilt Bee Committee's job very rewarding.

Thank you, Adrienne Lopes





FREE MOTION QUILTING CLASS

I will be holding a Free Motion Quilting Class on October 21st at Superior High School from 10am-4pm. I understand that there has been a lot of interest in this class so we are planning to hold it again in January. Don't worry if you aren't able to take it in October. It is necessary to limit the class size to make sure that everyone gets the attention needed for the class.

If you are taking it, here are a few requirements. I plan to meet with the class members at the break during the September Meeting to discuss the requirements further:

1. I will be looking for each person to bring 3 Fat Quarter sandwiches. This means, a mini quilt made up of fat quarter sized fabric top and fat quarter sized bottom with batting in between. I have used several strips of batting and zig-zagged them together to get the 18x22 size of batting I need. If you don't want to use your Fat Quarters, pick some yardage that you can cut to the same size.
2. You can pin baste the sandwiches with 3-4 pins or you can just let the fabrics hold themselves together. I have not basted any of my samples and they have held together with no puckering.
3. I'd like you to bring a variety of threads. I have been having a very hard time with thread breaks using some brands of thread and have now decided that the only way to not have my thread break is by using Aurafil thread. Sometimes I can get away with Guterman but it seems to depend on my machine speed and the amount of curves I'm quilting.
4. I'd also like you to bring a few sewing machine needles. If we run into problems it is always good to change the needle to see if that is the problem.
5. Sketch pad and pencil or pen. We will doodle all designs before we sew.
6. At least 4 - 6 bobbins that have been pre-loaded. We will be doing a lot of sewing and it is nice to have them pre-loaded. I am not particular about what thread I use in the bobbin.
7. Free motion quilting foot attachment(s) for your machine.
8. I recommend quilting gloves such as those by Machingers or Fons and Porter. These can be purchased at Circle of Friends Quilt Shoppe.
9. If your machine has an extension table, please bring it with you if it is somewhat portable.
10. If you have a "supreme slider" bring it with you to use. It is not a requirement.
11. Bring a lunch and coffee/tea in a travel mug.
12. Bring sewing notions including scissors, a ruler, an erasable marking pen or pencil.

Any questions, please let me know.

Thank you, Adrienne

Alopes@tbaytel.net



LIBRARY REPORT

Barb Gainer and Maria Watson are the Library Committee Chairs for the Year 2017-2018. The Library Committee helps the members with signing out of books from the Guild Library, ordering new books and maintaining the books. We need volunteers to work before the meeting, during the break, to help with the signing out of books to members.

Three new categories have been added to the Library which are Tots to Teens, Quick and Easy Quilts and Crafts.

On display will be books dealing with the Season of Fall, Halloween, Kids Quilts and the new donated books. Also, books dealing with the topic of “curved piecing” to assist with the Program presentation.

At another table we will have the following free motion quilting books on display to assist the members who are taking the Free Motion Workshop.

1. Free Motion Quilting Made Easy by Eva A. Larkin
2. Simple Start Stunning Finish by Valorie Wells
3. Traditional Quilts Today’s Teachings by Debra Wagner
4. Heirloom Machine Quilting by Harriet Hargrave
5. Guide to Machine Quilting by Diane Gaudynski
6. Continuous Line Quilting: Designs Especially for Machine Quilting by Pat Cody
7. Quilted Sea Tapestries by Ginny Eckley
8. Step-by-Step Free Motion Quilting by Christina Cameli
9. Teach Yourself to Machine Applique - Better Homes and Garden
10. First Steps to Free Motion Quilting by Christina Cameli
11. Machine Quilting with Style by Christa Watson

Submitted by Barb Gainer and Maria Watson; Library Committee Chairs

MEALS ON WHEELS PLACEMATS

The Guild continues to make placemats and donate them to Meals on Wheels so that each new client receives one, hopefully to bring some cheer into their life. Last year approximately 300 placemats were turned in. Congratulations, ladies!

We encourage you to try new techniques, practice your free motion skills, test your design expertise and use up orphan blocks and scraps to produce these unique items which showcase our talents and caring. As last year, we will bring placemat kits to meetings for members to take home and complete if they wish. We also hope to have a placemat bee at some point during the year where we can work together to make placemats to donate. Labels will be available at guild meetings. They are to be folded with wrong sides together, and then the raw edges inserted into the binding seam of the placemat. Many photos of placemats given in the past are available for viewing on our Flickr site, accessible through the link on the community service page guild website. Members who wish to help with the placemat bee or with preparing kits are encouraged to sign up for the placemat committee.

Doris Dungan & Judy Murphy

CHRISTMAS CHEER TEDDY BEAR COMMITTEE

It is that time of year again when we start thinking about making our quilts for Teddy Bears. Every year The Thunder Bay Quilter's Guild donates Teddy Bears and their quilts to Christmas Cheer. Last year the members donated 216 stuffed animals and their quilts. These can be any stuffed animal that you like (dolls are also accepted) and they should be new or nearly new and clean as this may be the only toy that the child will receive at Christmas. The quilt can be any size but please make sure that it is big enough to swaddle your stuffed animal like a baby. If your bear is big then the quilt should be big, if your bear is small the quilt should be about 25-30 inches square.

The Teddy Bears etc. are handed in at the November guild meeting and should only be handed in sooner to a committee member if you know that you will not be at the November meeting.

The committee will be looking for volunteers again this year. They are needed on the night of the November guild meeting and on the last Friday of November at the Christmas Cheer Kick Off when we display all the bears etc. that have been donated. (Did I mention that there is free lunch at the Kick-Off)? It would be great if you could sign up for both of these times but if not please consider signing up for one of them. If you want to be involved in your guild this is a great committee to be part of since these are the only times that you are asked to participate.

Peggy



CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE

The Constitution has been revised and updated to show the new membership fees. Page 5 can be printed and added to your copy of the Constitution or I have attached the complete file if you would like to download it as a whole.

Peggy Skillen

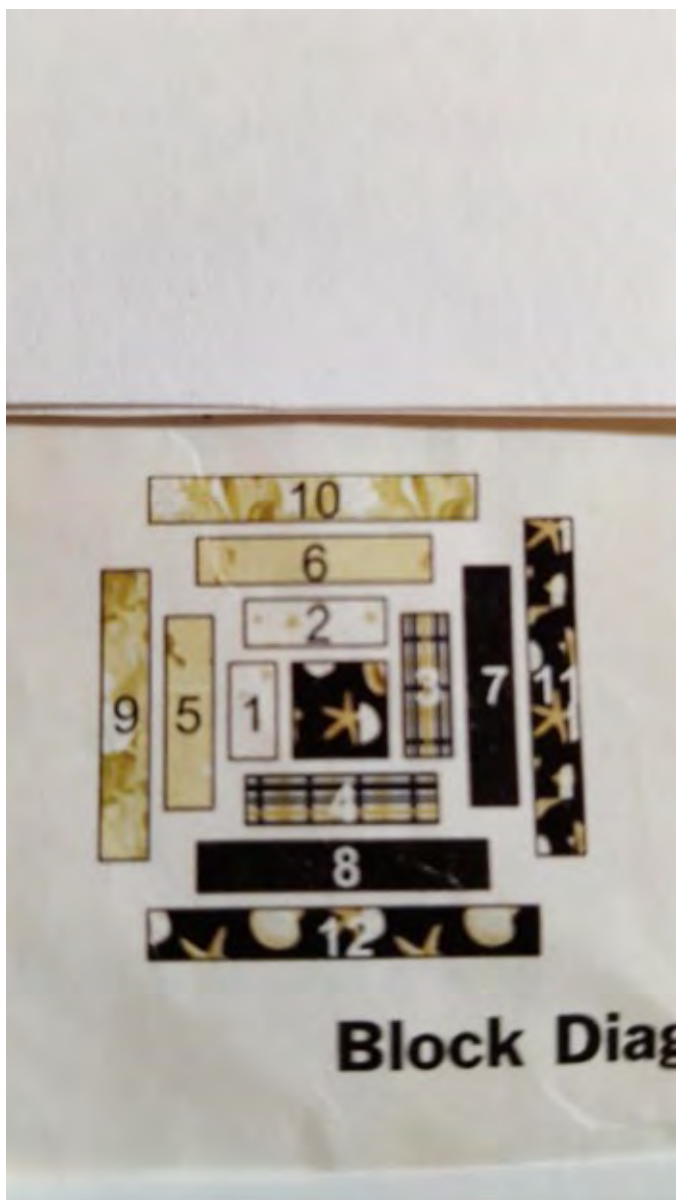
PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT

September's Program will be Curved Piecing by Shirley Aussant. Maria and I would like to thank everyone for their suggestions at the Pot Luck Dinner and we will try and use these suggestions in this year's program. Also please note that the library will try and have books that refer to our program for your use.

This is the block of the month for Comfort Quilts. When making the block use light fabrics for strips 1, 2, 5, 6, 9, 10; use dark fabrics for strips centre, 3, 4, 7, 8, 11, 12. Use quilt as you go method when making the blocks or quilt as desired. Completed block 12 ½ x 12 ½ .

Block Assembly: Referring to diagram, cut a 3 ½ inch square for centre, strip 1 cut 2" x 3 1/2 " light fabric to the left side of centre square, strip 2 light fabric 2" x 5" to the top. Strip 3 dark fabric 2" x 5" to the right side; Strip 4 dark fabric 2" x 6 ½ " to the bottom. Continue adding pieces 5 through 12 clockwise in numerical order to complete block.

Jeanette & Maria





QUILT SHOW COMMITTEE

It just seems that we finished organizing last year's show but it is time to start thinking about Superior Quilts 2019. At this point in time there are only two items that I have to tell you and they are that the show will be a month later than normal due to a scheduling error. Superior Quilts 2019 will be held on May 24-26, 2019. The other item is that I have let my name stand as Quilt Show Chair. I am looking for volunteers to fill the positions listed below. We cannot make this show happen without the support of our guild members through volunteering. You have all heard the old adage 'many hands make for light work' and it is so true. We had a great quilt show committee last year and I am hoping to do the same for the 2019 show. These are general descriptions of each sub-committee and anyone willing to volunteer will be provided with more in-depth instructions.

Vendor Committee – send letters to vendors, setting out dates for our Quilt Show, times, banquet dates, etc.; follow up letters and applications, etc.

Banquet Committee - quotes for the banquet venue; brochure and dinner tickets printed, etc.

Guest Quilter Committee – searches availability of a quilter to come our show, to do classes during 3 days of show, and a trunk show for banquet night, etc.

Printing Committee – works with various other committees for the printing of Posters, Bookmarks, Banquet Brochure, Quilt Show Brochure handed out at door; print ballots for voting for Best in Show, and the Quilt Challenge, etc.

Quilt Display Committee – makes list of all the quilts entered in the show; breaks down the displays as to size, etc.; 2 days before the show, works with volunteers to mark flooring, set up for display; sets up teams for the hanging of quilts; arranges takedown of quilts after the show; co-ordinates with the registration and de-registration committee for intake and return of quilts, etc.

Registration and De-registration Committee – sets up time for drop off and pick of quilts; coordinates the volunteers for the intake and return of quilts; co-ordinates with the Display Committee, as to which station the quilts are brought to for display, etc.

Advertising Committee – co-ordinates with the various committees for the design of posters and bookmarks; some sign rental for the show; co-ordinates press releases to TV and Radio Stations, and newspaper; promote the Quilt Show to the general public, in the most cost effective way possible, etc.

Demonstration Committee – arranges for members and vendors to do demonstrations during the quilt show, etc.

Quilt Booth Merchandise Committee – encourages members to make items, of a quilted nature (possibly a set a theme); price all items and inventory them for sale; set items out for show and co-ordinate members to volunteer at the quilt show table, etc.

Quilt Challenge – find a sponsor for the Challenge (last year Northcott fabrics); decide on a theme, pick out fabrics and make kits; co-ordinate with Display Committee for space to hang the Challenge Quilts, etc.

Sponsorship – Sewing machines have been donated for the 2013 (from the Stash) and 2015 Quilt Show (from Circle of Friends Quilt Shop). Northcott Fabrics donated three bolts of fabric for the Quilt Challenge. Door Prizes have been donated by members. The sponsorship promotes the businesses that are willing to support our show, and gives our membership the chance to win (better odds than the "lotteries")

In the fall there will be a general call for volunteers and I am hoping that you add your name to the quilt show committee. A more detailed outline of each sub-committee will be made available to those willing to volunteer for any of the committees.

Ellen Lang, Quilt Show Chair

COMFORT QUILTS

Greetings Fellow Quilters,

The Comfort Quilt Committee is responsible for collection of quilts donated and distribution to local facilities such as hospitals, seniors homes and respite care. Quilts have also gone to the home of the Teen Challenge Group. Each year over 100 donated quilts are lovingly made through Quilt Bees, Kits and the efforts of Quilters individually or in groups.

Jackie Black has kindly agreed to help with organizing quilt blocks for putting together with the Hinge Method so we are going to continue to challenge members to make quilted 12.5 inch squares that can be used to make larger quilts. Jackie Black has made an example quilt to show how the squares can go together and this quilt will be on display with the donated comfort quilts at the side of the church. Please note that you can make any quilt square and then sandwich it with cotton or cotton/poly batting and a backing fabric to make a quilted square that should measure a minimum of 12.5 inches (so start with a 14 inch piece for backing and batting). Don't trim your blocks as they may fray so blocks should be trimmed just prior to making the quilt tops. Almost any colours can be used but we recommend using a neutral backing and would like colours that will appeal to both males and females.

If you are making any quilt(s) for donation, the recommended sizes are given here. Also, see Pat, Florence or Wendy for a Quilt Guild Label. A label is to be sewn onto the quilt – typically on the back bottom right side. Also remember that these quilts are washed frequently so stitching be every 4 to 6 inches. Thanks

If interested in being part of the Comfort Quilt Committee, please let us know. The group meets prior to distributing the quilts around Thunder Bay and is always interested in suggestions for worthy locations. We would need to know the potential use, number, appropriate size(s) and description of the recipients (i.e. Male and Female seniors) along with the name of the location and contact information.

Recommended Quilt Sizes

Neo Natal	36" x 36"
Crib	34 to 36" x 36"
Wheel Chair	36" x 48"
Nap Quilt	40" x 55 - 60"
Bed	63 to 65" x 80"

Have fun,

Pat Inch and Florence Poster

FROM THE VP'S DESK

There are a number of events scheduled for this fall.

On October 21 we are having the free motion workshop. The bad news is that this class is already full (those who have signed up are required to pay the registration fee at the September meeting or their spot will be given to someone on the wait list). The good news is that Adrienne has graciously offered to hold another class in the new year. Details to follow.

November 18. Sew day at the Church. More details to follow. A nominal fee will be collected for all participants.

November 25. Peggy Skillen will be teaching a bag class at Superior High School. Details about the class are on the Facebook page and more info will be available at September's meeting.

Jeannette Dann will be teaching a hand quilting class in January.

Laura



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Laura

TREASURER'S REPORT

At the September meeting I will be bringing forward a motion to accept the attached proposed budget for the 2017/18 year. Every month in the Quill I publish the Balance Sheet and Income Statement from July 1st to the end of the previous month. If you have any questions I will be glad to answer them.

Unfortunately, there will be no sweet treat incentive during my term. I would simply like you to take a moment to look over the financial statements.

Ginny

MEMBERSHIP FORMS

Welcome back to the Quilters Guild after that very short summer.

Hope everyone found time to work on projects.....I did!

The registration line will be long, so help us out by completing the attached membership form before you get to the meeting. Don't forget to bring along your membership and library cards for stamping! New membership fee will also be in effect\$30 for the 2017/18 year.

Ginny



Wildflower Arts Quilting Retreats

Fall - Friday and Saturday, October 6 and 7th, 2017

Gillies Community Centre, South Gillies, Ontario

Holiday – Friday and Saturday, November 24 & 25th, 2017

(The holiday retreat offers attendees the option of participating in a gift exchange and a cookie exchange.)

Wildflower Arts-1899 Hwy 608, South Gillies, Ontario

What Time: 10am-9pm Friday and 10am-5pm Saturday

Includes lunch and dinner Friday and lunch Saturday and snacks and beverages throughout the days.

Bring your sewing machine and projects and sew and socialize. There will be demonstrations on quilting topics, as well as ‘goodie’ bags for all attendees and attendance drawings.

Cost: \$80 Friday, \$60 Saturday or \$125 for both days.

Payment is due upon registration; the only reserved reservation is a paid one. Cancellations through Sept 29th will incur a \$25 fee. Cancellations Sept 30 up to the event will not receive a refund. Registration is transferrable as long as we are notified of the new attendee's name. Registration deadline for Fall retreat is October 3rd and the Holiday retreat is November 19th

To get a copy of the registration forms please contact: Sharon Melville 807-626-3691 ***

sharonmelville@tbaytel.net www.wildflowerarts.com