



Scraps of Wisdom

Newsletter of the Waterloo County Quilters' Guild

1984/1985

25th Anniversary

2009/2010

Volume 25 Issue 6

March 2010

Program for March 17, 2010

As we continue with our 25th Anniversary celebration, we are honoured to have as our guest speaker, Elaine Quehl, an awarding-winning Canadian artist, who grew up in Waterloo County and now resides in Ottawa, Ontario. Her Trunk Show is titled "RETROSPECTIVE".

Elaine specializes in colourful and intricately-stitched pieced and appliquéd art quilts. Drawing on nature's drama as her primary source of inspiration, Elaine creates bold and sensual works that are recognizable for their depth and contrast, exuberant colour and abundant texture. Her nature themes are often metaphors for her inner world. She is also a skilled dyer who dyes most of the fabrics she uses in her works of art. Go to Elaine's website at www.equarelle.ca to see her beautiful work.

Joline Freund & Joan Doke

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Meeting Checklist

- √ Your Nametag/Lanyard
- √ Books to Return to the Library
- √ Smile Quilts
- √ Memory Quilts
- √ Show & Tell
- √ Fabric for the Fabric Bank
- √ Donations for the Library
- √ Zehrs Tapes
- √ \$35.00 to purchase your Anniversary Dinner Ticket

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Presidents' Meanderings . . .

A sampler quilt tells a story of a woman's life. Each block is dissimilar and represents a distinct story, a different pattern. Originally, young girls usually made samplers as a teaching project. By making their mistakes in the various blocks on their sampler, they were able to learn and then go on—perhaps to do an entire quilt in the block they had just mastered.

As early as age four, little girls began practising their stitches. Holding a delicate needle in their tiny, clumsy fingers, they pieced together simple four-patch blocks of plain and flowered calicoes. In my grandmother's journal, she writes, "Before I was three years old, I was started at piecing a quilt. Patchwork, you know. My stint was at first only two blocks a day, but these were sewn together with the greatest of care or they were unraveled and done over." By the time young women were about to be married, the needle had become their constant companion and they took great pride in the accomplished needlework of their quilts.

Traditionally, in an Amish girl's life, twelve quilt tops were to be finished before a girl's engagement. She was never to start her thirteenth quilt until after her betrothal was officially announced. Then her bridal quilt was planned and executed, usually by close friends and family of the bride.

I found it interesting to explore the word *quilt*. This word is derived from the Latin *culcita*, which literally means "a stuffed sack". What do your stuffed sacks say about your life, your values, and your priorities?

A relative living on the Prairies wrote my grandmother in Neustadt, Ontario, in the late 1800's. In the letter, she expressed her thoughts about her quilts. "I make them warm to keep my family from freezing; I make them beautiful to keep my heart from breaking."

I see parables—stories—in the old quilts. They tell of values, patience, and timeless meanings. They draw the person in. They speak of comfort and rest. They soothe with the gentleness of a mother's kiss.

We all quilt for different reasons. One woman quilts and begins to gather a sense of wholeness from the fragments of her life. Another quilts to help mend the world's brokenness. Still another woman takes up her needle to hand a legacy of warmth and love to her children—a legacy that will continue into the next generation and the next. However, one thing abides—when the project is finished, there is a whole where there once were only parts. This is tremendously satisfying to the quilter...enjoy your stitching!

Marilyn



Mannheim Quilting Circle

The next date is Wednesday, March 10, 2010 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Bring a project on which to work. We will be making "stone soup". If you wish to participate, bring a cup of chopped, washed vegetables. The magic chefs will transform these into a hearty and yummy lunch. Bring your own beverage/mug/snack. We have coffee and tea. If you can't make the full day, drop in anytime—you may get leftovers.

See you there,

Fabia Joyce and Bernice Gammy

Smile Quilts

On Saturday, April 24, 2010, there will be a special Smile Quilt Bee Day from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Mannheim Community Centre (map in membership book). All members are welcome with a special invitation to new members. It would be a great opportunity to get to know other members and to participate in an extremely successful Outreach Program. All quilts are delivered to the outpatient pediatric clinic at Grand River Hospital. At sign-up in March and April there will be further information as to supplies, etc.

Looking forward to seeing your there!

Rosemary Plummer

Brentwood on the Beach Retreat

A retreat is being planned for September 16-19, 2010 at a cost of \$290 for 3 days, or \$360 for 4 days (prices are slightly higher as this date is during Brentwood's peak season). If you are interested in this retreat, please contact Megan Stauch at 519-748-1254 or 519-570-7443 or at megan.stauch@rogers.com as soon as possible.



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APPRAISALS

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Diane Shink the guest speaker at our 25th Anniversary Dinner on Wednesday, May 19, 2010. Diane has agreed to be in our area for a couple of days before the dinner in order to facilitate the appraisal of the wonderful and precious quilting art owned by our guild members.

Diane Shink is an AQS (American Quilter's Society) and CQA (Canadian Quilters' Association) certified appraiser. You can go to her website at www.dimacquilt.com to get details on how her appraisals work. There is too much information for us to include here.

The appraisals are \$50 per item, and take at least one-half hour. At this time, we have scheduled one-hour appointments for Tuesday, May 18, and Wednesday, May 19 (morning only).

To reserve an appointment, we will need a \$50/item cheque, made out to Diane Shink, at which time you will receive the "write-up sheet" which Diane requires you to complete before meeting with her. We will have the schedule and additional information for you, when you sign up at the March Guild meetings. There is a limited number of spaces, so don't hesitate—sign up now.

Joline Freund & Joan Doke

From Your 25th Anniversary Committee

The Anniversary Committee is working hard to help you have great memories of this year.

Anniversary Dinner

May 19, 2010 is our Anniversary Dinner. The venue will be St. George Hall in Waterloo, an elegant and charming facility. **Tickets are now on sale for \$35.00. This includes a five-course country-style dinner. Included will be soup, salad, roast beef, breast of chicken amaretto, potatoes, vegetables, dessert, tea, and coffee.** The hall offers a cash bar. Diane Shink will be presenting a wonderful show. We will have many fabulous door prizes. Treat yourself to a wonderful night out with your quilting friends. The Committee will arrange rides for those who cannot drive.

For our founding members who received a special invitation: Please note that the address on your invitation is incorrect—St. George Hall is located at 665 King St. N., Waterloo (not 65).

Please note that the Anniversary Dinner is our May meeting. There will not be an afternoon or evening meeting on May 19 at the Albert McCormick Community Centre.

Anniversary Challenge

Are you working on your challenge piece? The theme is "Silver Threads among the Guild". We will be taking these in at the June meeting. The viewers' choice awards will be presented in September and the pieces will be displayed at our 2011 show.

Unfinished Fantastic Opportunities Exchange (UFOs)

Did you take one home? Were you pleasantly surprised? We have decided to collect these in October 2010. This means the whole summer is yours to ponder and create something fantastic. We cannot wait to see your finished work.

If you have any questions about the Anniversary, program or dinner, please ask a Committee member.

Your Anniversary Committee members are Marg Cassel, Joan Doke, Lynn Fisher, Joline Freund, Fabia Joyce and Colleen Robertson.



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On the Calendar

April 17 to 18, 2010 – Orillia - **Sunshine Quilt Show** at Trillium Manor, 12 Grace Ave., Orillia. Hours are Saturday and Sunday 10 - 4. For more information contact carol-sears@rogers.com

April 22 to 24, 2010 - Huron Perth and Stonetowne Quilt Guilds present, **St. Marys Piecemakers 2010 Quilt Show** at the Pyramid Recreation Centre, 317 James Street S., St. Marys. Hours are Thursday 10 - 5, Friday 10 - 7 and Saturday 10 - 4. Featuring: New Quilts, Quilted Articles, Tea/Lunch Room, Merchants Mall, Boutique, Quilt Appraisals by appointment & Demonstrations. Admission is \$6.00. Contact Brenda Miller (519) 245-3923 or millbr@sympatico.ca

April 26 to May 1, 2010 – Calgary, Alberta - **Quilt Canada 2010** at the Telus Convention Centre. For more information go to www.canadianquilter.com

May 7 & 8, 2010 – Chatham-Kent Quilters' Guild spring quilt show **Stitches in Bloom** at St. Paul's Congregational Church, 459 Park Ave. W., Chatham, Ontario. Hours are Friday 9 - 5, Saturday 9 - 4. Featuring fabulous quilts, tea room, vendors, silent auction, toonie table, Quilt Raffle (proceeds to local ALS Lou Gehrig's Disease Foundation), quilt appraisals, Aunt Connie's closet, quilt awards. Admission is \$5.00. For more information contact Chatham-Kent QG 1-519-354-8094 or ChairPerson@ChathamKentQuiltersGuild.com.

May 7 & 8, 2010 – Norfolk County Quilters Guild and Twilight Quilters Guild of Norfolk County presents **South Coast Visions** at the Victoria and District Community Centre, 35 Oaks Blvd., Vittoria, Ontario.

Contact Diane at 1-519-429-2629

May 7 to 9, 2010 – Common Thread Quilt Guild presents **Gifts from the Heart** Quilt show at the RA Centre, 2451 Riverside Drive, Ottawa.

Contact 1-613-837-4642 for more information.

May 25 to 29, 2010 – Waterloo Region and Beyond (formerly Waterloo County & Area) present **Quilt & Fibre Art Festival**. For more information go to www.stjacobs.com or contact lbrubacher1942@rogers.com

October 23, 2010 – Oakville - **The Charlie Fund Quilt Event 2010**, Maple Grove United Church, 346 Maple Grove Drive, Oakville, ON, 10:30 to 4:30. Quilt show, "Buy It Now", silent quilt auction, and other quilt and pet-related attractions. Admission: \$2. Free parking and free refreshments. Door prizes galore. Every dollar raised will go directly to the emergency/special medical needs of the ill and injured homeless animals at the Oakville & District Humane Society. Join us to celebrate The Charlie Fund's 25th anniversary! If you are a quilter and would like to donate a quilt, please go to www.oakvillehumane.ca, scroll down on the home page to the description of this fundraiser, and then click on "Calling All Quilters", to be directed to the "Entry Form for Quilts". Contact: (Mrs.) Anne M. Smith, e-mail: amsmithodhs@hotmail.com or phone 416-258-8401.

Waterloo County Quilters' Guild

P.O. Box 38044, Waterloo, Ontario, N2J 4T9

- Monthly meetings take place at the Albert McCormick Community Centre, 500 Parkside Drive, Waterloo, in the Community Room.
- To accommodate our large Guild, we have an afternoon meeting and an evening meeting each Guild day, with identical contents. Meetings are usually 1 & 1/2 to 2 hours.
- Guests are welcome at all meetings (except the June business meeting): \$7.00 at the door (includes a coupon towards membership).
- New membership: \$40 (includes nametag)
- Renewal membership: \$35 per year
- Guild pins (available at the membership table). \$6
- The Guild is run entirely by volunteers and help is always appreciated. Just speak to anyone on the Executive to get started.

*Guild Executive Contacts*Officers:

Co-Presidents:	Marilyn Hollinger and Sandy Bussey
Vice President:	vacant
Secretary:	Elizabeth McDowell Heagy
Treasurer:	Lisa VanGalen
Past President:	Carol McLaren

Committee Chairs

Program Co-Chairs:	Joan Doke, Joline Freund
Newsletter:	Carol Williams
Historian:	Ruth Hicks
Website:	Kathleen Bissett
Membership:	Cindy MacKay-Musso
Library (Afternoon):	Audrey Vrooman
Library (Evening):	Bonnie Murdoch
25th Anniversary:	Fabia Joyce

April Newsletter Submissions are due on **March 12, 2010**. Please send to Carol Williams at twotaffy@yahoo.ca or by mail to P.O. Box 192, Plattsville, Ontario N0J 1S0

More Facts about Our Guild (1997 to 2002)

1997 - "W.C.Q.G. Quiltfest '97" was held in St. Agatha. "Birds of a Feather" was the raffle quilt, which went on to win Best Guild Quilt Award at the Ontario Juried Quilt Show at the K-W Art Gallery.

1998 - In March, Edna Keown and four other women started a quilting group at Grand Valley Institute for Women. The inmates proudly donated their first project to the New Hamburg Relief Sale. Kathleen Bissett won the Dorothy McMurdie Award at the General Meeting of the CQA/ACC in Vancouver. The award goes to an individual who has made a significant contribution to Canadian quilt making. W.C.Q.G. began making Smile Quilts. We began to hold both afternoon and evening meetings.

April 2000 - The Guild's web site was launched thanks to the extraordinary efforts of Jamie and Jan Hember. Ours was one of the first web sites available for quilters.

2002 - A contest was held to find a new name for our guild newsletter, then known as, "Waterloo County Quilters' Guild Newsletter". "Scraps of Wisdom", submitted by Sue Bailey, was chosen.

Carol McLaren & Ruth Hicks

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Joseph Schneider Haus Quilting Bee

It's time to come forward if you have a quilt top waiting to be quilted and are willing to help line up some quilters for the annual Quilting Bee at Joseph Schneider Haus. The event will be held Tuesday, May 25, 2010 to Thursday, May 27, 2010. "Friends of JSH" provide snacks and lunches. You are welcome to come for the morning followed by lunch, or, come for lunch then quilt for the afternoon, or, you may quilt all day with a lunch break in the middle! Your quilt top must be marked, the thread and backing ready. We can work out the details regarding equipment needed. The bee is an opportunity for anyone to come and quilt. Bring friends and relatives!

Sign-up sheets will be circulated at the March and April meetings. Please call Emily Hunsberger to volunteer or ask for more details.

Rag Coat Project

The Rag Coat project is proceeding now that we have enough stories to go along with the coat. A big thank-you is extended to everyone who submitted stories and fabric. The stories are full of wonderful memories. Each of these donated fabrics will be featured in crazy-patch blocks with other scrap fabrics. Any scrap fabrics can be used along with the fabric provided. They don't have to match; in fact, it is best if they don't. The blocks are foundation pieced but can be sewn by hand or machine. If you picked up a crazy-patch block kit for the Rag Coat Project at the February Guild meetings, please return the completed block to the March meetings and check off your name on the list. The stories will be included in a booklet to accompany the coat. The owners of the fabrics will be identified by first name only.

Three fabrics were turned in without names—one that made angel wings in St. Anne's church, one purple and blue fabric from a first quilt, and one white, fancy fabric from a first blouse. If the owners of these fabrics want their correct names associated with the fabrics, let me know. If I don't hear from you, I'll make up a name. Thanks.

Marney Heatley



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Upcoming Touch Quilt Events

Join us at the Quilt Quarters for a Work Bee on **Monday, March 22, 2010** from 1 to 4. Drop in and join us as we make kits, sort and cut material.

Please join us at one or all of the following donations:

Friday, April 9 at 9:45
COLUMBIA FOREST LONG TERM CARE
650 Mountain Maple, Waterloo

Tuesday, May 4 at 9:45
NITHVIEW HOME
200 Bouleee, New Hamburg

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