

# SCRAPS OF WISDOM

## President's Message:

### "Wear your heart on your sleeve"

Years ago, before my first performance at an organ masterclass, my teacher gave me advice that has stayed with me as a musician and also as a quilter. His advice was simply this, "You have to wear your heart on your sleeve." Don't be afraid to put it all out there. For me, it was pretty scary - there were a lot of very accomplished musicians in the room and at a guild meeting it can be scary too - there are a lot of accomplished quilters in the room. But once you dare to show your first quilt, you find that everyone is supportive and they too remember the first time they showed a quilt. Everyone is at a different stage in developing their skill, so we practice our technique, add our own unique touches, finish the quilt project, and then it is time to share and let your expression of art, music, quilting or whatever it may be, be appreciated by others. At our January guild meetings, Angela Grasse shared her art journey and gave us a glimpse into her discipline of keeping a bead journal where she daily works on the creative process. Art is not only an expression from the artist's point of view, but it is also the perception of the art from the viewer's point of view. It is never stagnant but constantly changing. Art invokes our emotions, it engages us, it makes us think - often looking at something familiar in a different and sometimes, new way. Thank you to Angela for sharing her art with us. We look forward to her workshop in April. My challenge for you is to "wear your heart on your sleeve" and create your own quilt/art journal.

Lilla Hall, President



One of the Schneider Haus blocks used in our Slab quilts

The Waterloo County Quilters' Guild provides an opportunity for quilters to learn in a supportive, sharing, social environment. We encourage you to get the most out of your membership by becoming more deeply involved in the guild.

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We will continue to accept "wishlist" items for oneROOF at our February guild meetings.

A full list of what they can use is on their website <http://www.oneroof.org/wishlist/>

Gift cards to Sobey's, Zehrs, WalMart, Tim Hortons, deodorant, razors, shampoo, agendas/notebooks/calendars, first aid kits, bandaids, can openers, bottled water, Powerade,

Gatorade, hair care products (clippers, hair elastics, brushes & combs) backpacks, school supplies, office supplies, towels, blankets, pillows and bus tickets are among the articles they most need.



#### Meeting Cancellations due to

**severe weather**—listen to KOOLFM 105.3—if the universities are closed, our meetings will be cancelled. We will also post on our facebook page.



## February Program - Audrey Vrooman



*"The Bling's My Thing" by Audrey Vrooman, shown at the 2013 Waterloo County Quilters' Guild Exhibit at RIM Park*

Our guest speaker for February 21st will be Audrey Vrooman. Many people will recognize her as a former president of our guild. Audrey will bring an eclectic range of quilts that show her journey as a quilt maker. Starting with some of her earliest quilts that are traditional and adhere closely to purchase patterns, she will show her progression to quilts that may be modern or traditional and may or may not follow a pattern. Audrey, who has a good sense of humour, will share the stories of making the quilts, including what she has learned about quilting and quilters along the way. So expect a fun filled presentation about her love of quilting!



Audrey will also be teaching a workshop at Mannheim on Saturday, February 24. She has developed a system of almost invisible appliqué. A few spots are still available. The workshop is \$35 upon registration plus \$20 fee for pattern and some materials at the workshop, payable to Audrey.

- Carol Ross Williamson for the program committee

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## Using Up Scraps #15 with Vikki MacDonald

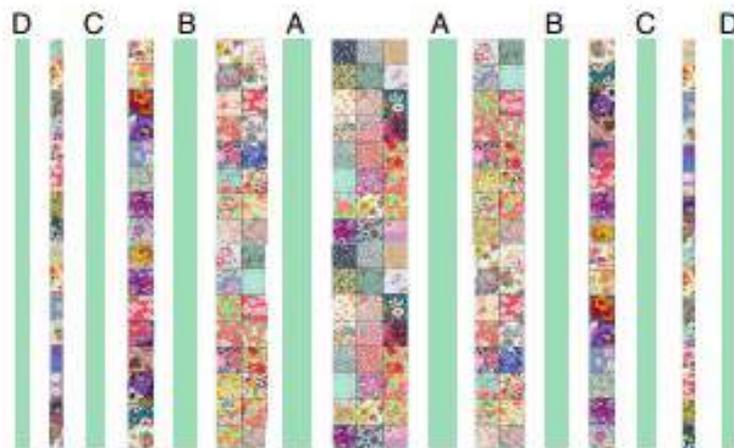
### Scrappy Garden Paths



This quilt is constructed in columns. The majority of pieced columns are made by joining 4½" squares. The two outermost pieced columns are made with 2½" squares. The pieced columns alternate with solid strips and are placed as illustrated below.

The cut widths of the solid strips:

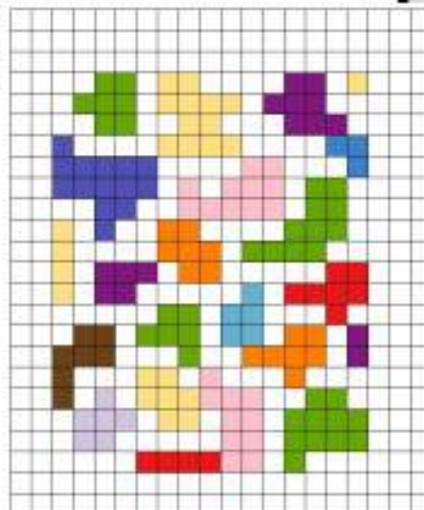
$$A = 4" \quad B = 3\frac{1}{2}" \quad C = 3" \quad D = 2\frac{1}{2}"$$



### Graph Quilt using Nine-Patches

Using graph paper, have each square represent a 3" block (finished). Plan your arrangement by colouring in groups of blocks in various colour families. Cut 1½" squares for the 3" finished nine-patches and cut the background squares 3½". Once the nine-patches and background squares have been prepared, assemble them in rows, using your coloured graph paper plan as a guide.

*The illustration right is a graph of the central portion of the quilt shown at the January guild meetings.*



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## Mannheim Sewing Circle

Join us on Wednesday, February 14, 9am to 4pm, for another Mannheim Sewing Circle. Bring a project of your choice on which to work and your packed lunch - we will provide tea and coffee. All are welcome! Your \$4 donation helps cover the cost of the room. Directions to the Mannheim Community Centre can be found in your membership handbook or on our guild website.

Please note that "Stone Soup" will be enjoyed in March this year.

Hope to see you there!

- Megan and Tamara

**SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 2018**

## MINI RETREAT

**EMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH  
22 BRIDGEPORT RD WEST**

\$45 per person, includes lunch and supper

Sign up and pay at February guild meetings  
8:30am to 8:00pm

Sign up and pay at guild meetings. There are still a few spots left.  
It's a great way for new members to meet other members and  
get new ideas for their projects!

## Professional Guild Members

Any guild members who provide a quilt-related service or operate a quilt-related business have an opportunity to be listed on our website under "Member Professionals". Please review existing member listings to see what to include.

## LIFETIMES: Master quilter made her mark, one stitch at a time

**Carolyn Zister of Kitchener,  
born: October 21, 1936,  
died: December 15, 2017  
of cancer**

<https://www.therecord.com/news-story/8084595-lifetimes-master-quilter-made-her-mark-one-stitch-at-a-time/>

They were known as "Thelma and Louise," Marlene Good and Carolyn Zister, great friends who travelled together, usually heading to a quilting event which meant their adventures were considerably less dangerous than driving off a cliff as depicted in the ultimate of road trip movies. Quilting tame? Yes but there was always the element of excitement when they hit the roads less travelled.

"We just took off," said Marlene who is mourning the loss of her friend and fellow master quilter.

She recalled once driving past a rickety wooden shed at the edge of a remote road in New York state, where the vendors were selling fabric for a buck a yard.

"We backed up," she said, remembering the bolts of colourful fabric the two friends loaded into their vehicle that day.

One of their favourite destinations was the annual QuiltWeek festival in Paducah, Ky., a veritable Mecca for fibre artists. Once word got out that these two were familiar with the event, they were asked to lead a bus tour. It was the one and only time.

"It was fun but we knew nothing about what we were doing (leading a tour)," admitted Marlene.

Marlene met Carolyn in the early 1990s when both were getting a taste for this quilting hobby and had joined a class to learn techniques. They hit it off and started a Pfaff Club, named for a specific type of sewing machine.

"It's still going," said Marlene. It was not long before Carolyn established herself as a talented and prolific fibre artist.

"She had an eye for colour, what colours go together," said Marlene. "She did a lot of wall hangings and some were real beauties."

Despite Carolyn's love of quilting, she was not fond of the tedious but necessary job of adding the batting and attaching a backing with quilting stitches. Carolyn's great joy was choosing the design and fabrics then piecing them together. She valued the ladies who completed the final steps.

"I do give credit to my (three) quilters and try to keep them busy," she once told a reporter. "I know how important they are." So when did this highly creative woman discover her talents? She was most definitely a late bloomer.

Carolyn was born in Kitchener the only child of Lottie and Carl Rooke. Her dad managed Summer Gardens, a concert and dance hall at Charles and Queen streets and a centre of entertainment for decades. Carolyn once told the Record "I often watched the wrestlers playing cards with one another upstairs before going down to the 'ring' to pummel one another."

Carolyn graduated from St. Mary's High School and soon after began working as an assistant in a law office. She had met Harold (Hal) Zister at a high school dance and the two married in 1955. Carolyn quit her job and became a stay-at-home mom to the couple's only child.

"She never went back to work," said daughter, Lynn Lubczuk.

Hal worked as a controller at a communications company where he stayed until retiring in the mid-1980s but as a sideline, the couple purchased and ran Brown's Sports, a sporting goods store in Waterloo. They sold the store in 1980 and once free of daily responsibilities, they travelled to the world's most exotic locations: Thailand, Egypt, Israel, Bali. (continued next page)



Carolyn Zister and her quilt called "Windmills" during her 2003 exhibit at Homer Watson Gallery—Record file photo

At home, Carolyn, who had taken care of her parents until they died, began looking for a way to fill the void and an opportunity came along when her much adored grandsons decided to be Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles for Halloween. Carolyn offered to make the costumes despite having no knowledge of sewing.

Lynn smiled as she spoke about how her dad always said those costumes cost \$1,000 by the time they took into account purchasing a sewing machine and all the fabric necessary because she kept making mistakes.

Next, a few inherited quilts were getting a bit frayed and Carolyn decided to learn to repair the pieces herself.

"It started with just fixing the old quilts and she went wild after that," said Lynn.

Carolyn's previous experience with crafts had been limited to hand crafts such as knitting which she gave up in 1991 when she discovered quilting. She took this new hobby seriously, joining the Waterloo County Quilting Guild, which at the time was bursting at the seams with 200 members and a fat waiting list.

"I pestered them," she told a reporter. "I said I'd come to every meeting even if I was not a member. So they finally let me in." She later joined the Royal City Quilting Guild in Guelph, intending to meet more quilters and expand her knowledge.

As a quilter her list of accomplishments was impressive. Carolyn consistently won major prizes competing with quilters from across the country at national shows. In 1999 she was the featured artist at the St. Jacobs Schoolhouse exhibit for the Waterloo County & Area Quilt Festival. Her quilts had been featured in the American magazine, "Traditional Quilting" and she co-ordinated a quilt project for the Grand River Regional Cancer Centre for the radiation treatment rooms which featured the work of 60 quilters from the Waterloo guild.

In April 2003, her work was exhibited in Homer Watson Home & Gallery's "The Art of Quilting" show.

Lynn remembers the opening of the show and her mother's reaction at the "meet the artist" event.

"She was in her element," said Lynn.

One of Carolyn's special projects were her trunk exhibits, an idea she came upon when a speaker was a no-show at a guild meeting and Carolyn was asked to fill in.

"I like to talk and I absolutely loved it," she told a reporter. "I keep enough quilts on hand (now) to have different things to show. Each quilt has a story — why it was made, for whom — and I am most frequently asked how long it takes."

Carolyn was so good and efficient at quilting she had enough to give to everyone in the family as well as friends, often as wedding presents and she donated quilts to her husband's clubs, Rotary Waterloo and Ducks Unlimited.

Those quilts brought in considerable sums at fundraising auctions and for her generosity, in 2009 Carolyn was awarded Rotary's highest honour, the Paul Harris Fellowship. Hal, who remains living in the couple's Kitchener home, twice received the fellowship. Carolyn was always involved with community groups, everything from K-W Figure Skating club to Girl Guides. But in 1993, her active life was curtailed after being diagnosed with cancer. Following 25 daily radiation treatments in London she was finally declared cancer-free though it returned with a vengeance early last year.

As Lynn points out, surviving more than two decades past her first bout with the disease was remarkable. Throughout the difficult times in her life, Carolyn found peace in the deliberate movement of threading needle through brilliantly hued fabric.

"I've met so many wonderful people through this hobby, and it has been such good therapy," she told a reporter after her first battle with cancer in 1993. "I took hand-work with me to London and when I came home, I'd rest a bit and then get at the machine and all my worries disappeared."

-Valerie Hill, Waterloo Region Record.

Used with permission from the Waterloo Regional Record

Doors open for guild meetings at 12:45 in the afternoon and 6:30 in the evening. **Unless you are involved in setting up the room, please do not arrive until after the above mentioned times so those setting up have room to work.** Thank you!



*Creativity is experimenting, growing, taking risks, breaking rules, making mistakes and having fun.*

—Mary Lou Cook

Submitted by Cathy Potvin

Thank you to Angela Grasse for her trunk show at the January guild meetings.

Look for a workshop with Angela in April!



Thank you Linda Watson and Maria Wirth, as well as our other white gloves!



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**Reminders:**

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# SMILE QUILTS



Some of the 12 Smile Quilts done by Diane Meloun at January's guild meetings.



Winnheim Sewing Circle..... 14



**Well done, Ladies!**

A couple of Jean Carberry's six Smile Quilts, also shown at the January guild meetings.



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Some guild members are sensitive to scents.

Please refrain from wearing perfume to guild meetings.



**DON'T FORGET TO SIGN IN AT THE MEMBERSHIP DESK AND GET YOUR DOOR PRIZE DRAW TICKET!** It is important for fire regulations that we know how

many people we have in the community centre, especially during the afternoon meetings.

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## PAL Quilts

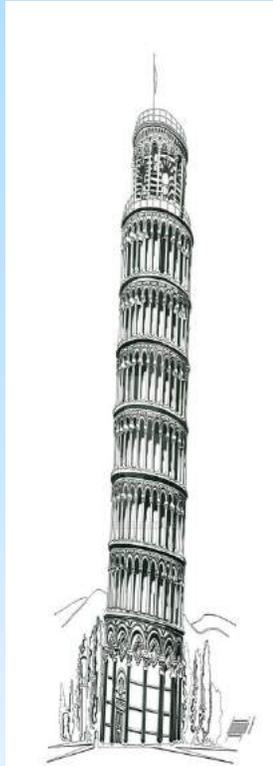
Fabric and batting (Hobbs 80/20) are available for these charity quilts. Please let Judy Siegner know what you need to complete a PAL project.

## CHALLENGE: 50 QUILTS WANTED

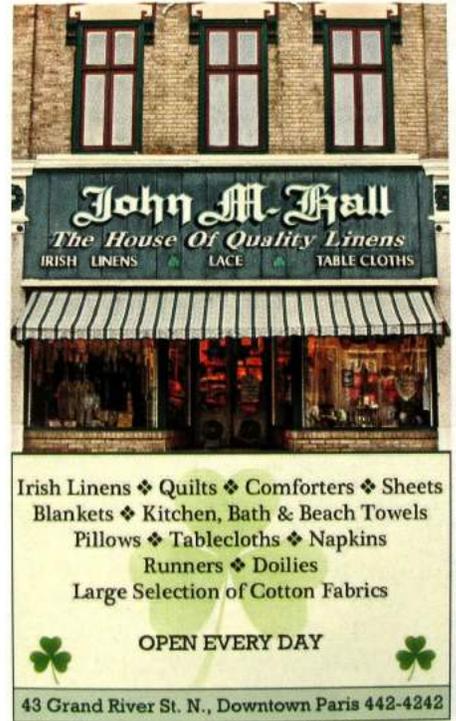
Please help us construct the  
"Leaning Tower of Quilts"

Watch the TOWER grow!  
So far we have

# 29 QUILTS!



The Leaning Tower of Pisa  
One Line Drawing - by Michael Slotwinski



More PAL Quilts! Keep them coming!

If you know of a guild member who has become ill, please let our secretary, Robin Bogaert know so she can send a get well card from all of us.

# Library Challenge!

We would like to remind you that there is an ongoing library challenge. If you create a quilt inspired by one of our library books, show it during 'show and tell', then enter your quilt information onto the list in the library, for a opportunity to win the draw at the June Annual General Meeting.



## CHAIR SALE

**March 21st will be our annual chair sale!**

The annual Chair Sale will be held at the **MARCH** meeting this year. This sale gives members an opportunity to gather once-loved but no-longer-wanted treasures to sell hopefully to new owners. Bring your loonies and toonies and snatch up some real deals from your fellow quilters. Don't forget a container to collect the money you receive.





Glenda Dippel

Stupendous Stitching was a stupendous amount of fun on January 27 at Mannheim. Judy, Bonnie and Ruthanne were very helpful. There was lots of swapping of thread and decorating material.

# Stupendous

Tamara Gilhuly

# Stitching



# PRESIDENT'S CHALLENGE

**With changes in technology and communication advances, it is time for the WCQG to update our logo.**

The President's Challenge this year will give all members an opportunity to have input and to try their hand at creating a new logo. Let your imagination wander and think outside the box for a logo that will be flexible and serviceable to span print images as well as electronic capabilities. It should be appealing in both colour and black and white, flexible for enlarging on posters and small enough for facebook and twitter. It will be a symbol to reflect the guild in all types of communication we use today.

- The design needs to be flexible so it can be quilted and/or used on paper
- The design needs to be media friendly, digital application is very important, looking good in both black and white or in colour
- The design needs to reflect who we are as a guild - initials may be used WCQG, or Waterloo County Quilters' Guild can be spelled out
- The design, if presented as a quilted item, must also have a paper copy
- Paper size - no larger than 8½" x 11", no smaller than 5" x 7"
- The design becomes the property of the WCQG - copyright will belong to the guild. The designer will be acknowledged but will not have ownership

## What will you come up with before May?



# Program Outline 2017-2018

*So much happening this guild year!*

**February - Audrey Vrooman, Trunk Show and workshop**

**March - Debbie Biernes, Chair Sale  
& Mini Retreat**

**April - Rita Ferber - Fabric Please!**

**May - Susan Clarke**

**June - Annual General Meeting, evening only**



## Elected Officers of the Guild 2016-2017

**President:** Lilla Hall  
**Vice President:** Deby Wettges  
**Treasurer:** Darlene Yanke  
**Secretary:** Robin Bogaert  
**Past President:** Eileen Fennell

## Standing Committees

**Historian:** Ruth Hicks  
**Librarians:** Judy Pearce & Kathy Janzen  
**Membership:** Madeline Hughes (E)  
 Pat Lockyer (E)  
 Kitty Mitchell (E)  
 Betty Anne Scott (A)  
 Bettie Schuurman  
**Newsletter:** Marg Sandiford  
 Pat Lockyer - Mailings  
**Advertising Coordinator :** Marg Sandiford  
**Program & Workshops:** Bonnie Murdoch  
 Carol Ross Williamson &  
 Darlene Yanke  
**Quilt Exhibit:** Bonnie Murdoch, Co-chair  
 & Ruthanne Snider, Co-chair  
**Website:** Kathy Bissett  
**Facebook:** Marg Sandiford



## Quilting Months Ahead

Month	Day	Activity
February	14	Mannheim Sewing Circle
February	21	Regular guild meetings
February	24	Invisible Appliqué Workshop
March	10	Mini Retreat
March	21	Regular guild meetings and Chair Sale
March	23, 24	Etobicoke Quilters' Guild "Quilt Fever 2018" Neilson Park Creative Centre
May	11, 12	Four Corners Guild 20th Anniversary Quilt Show in Mount Forest

Our website: <http://www.wcquiltersguild.on.ca/>

Scraps of Wisdom - February 2018



Waterloo County Quilters' Guild