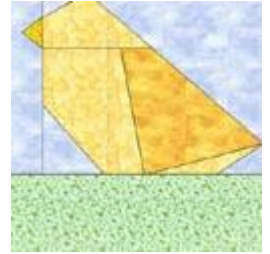




SPOOL TALK



MARCH 2014
TRENT VALLEY QUILTERS' GUILD
Mailing Address: 36 Scott Ave.
P.O. Box 557
Frankford, ON K0K 2C0
www.trentvalleyquiltersguild.ca

Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month at King Street United Church, 100 King Street, Trenton, Ontario. The doors open at 12:30 p.m. and the meeting is 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

President's Message

Stella Dorsman

I've decided that we have a love/hate relationship with our stashes. We love to purchase fabric, but at the same time are eager to buy or borrow "stash-busting" books and patterns. Maybe this is because of our past history with fabric.

Many of us were fashion sewers before we were quilters. For thirty years I sewed clothes for myself and my family. Back then I didn't know a fat quarter from a scant quarter. Like many fashion sewers I made every effort to avoid accumulating a "stash". Fashion fabric does not improve with age, unless it's a length of fine Italian wool. In fact, I found that making a purchase while I had fabric "aging" at home caused guilty feelings and the tendency to sew the old fabric first and add the new fabric to the stash, thus perpetuating the cycle.

Quilting fabric is different. It seems to get better as it ages, as do we all! I suppose this is why 1930's prints and Civil War reproductions are so popular. The possession of a stash of quilting fabric is encouraged. In her book, The Art of Classic Quiltmaking, my go-to quilt textbook, Harriet Hargrave tells us that to be involved in an art such as quilting requires working materials. She maintains that a complete palette of fabric is a necessary tool and that the richest scrap quilts result from a stash collected over many years.

I must admit I love my stash. I like looking at it, rearranging it and storing it in different ways. Nothing is more satisfying than finding just the piece needed for a project right there in the stash, and avoiding an emergency run to Dennis and Pauline's.

So when we come across a fabric that we can't live without, just how much should we buy? Harriet breaks fabric into categories such as small prints, dots, large prints, stripes and so on. She says that unless you're buying for a particular project half a metre is enough. However, she buys up to four metres of what she calls "blenders", fabric to use as backgrounds. For backings she buys anywhere from four to six metres and tries to look for fabric on sale. In her book Fabric Shopping, Alex Anderson gives similar advice, and both experts stress that we should buy the best fabric we can afford, so that our results will reflect the investment of time and effort. I keep this expert advice in mind if I have a twinge of guilt in the fabric shop.

During 2014 the guild will provide two exciting opportunities to dip into your stash. One of these projects will be in conjunction with the celebration of our 25th anniversary in November. Details will be announced at the March meeting. Let's all plan to take part.

Program Convenor	Elise Williams
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The following are the programs for the rest of the Guild year:

Tuesday March 18

Sherrri Hisey from Border Creek Station Pattern Company will give a lecture on "Settings and Borders". She says the presentation "requires more concentrated thinking from the audience". It may be a good idea to bring pencil and paper. <http://www.bordercreekstation.com/>

Tuesday, April 15

Silent Auction. Start looking for items to put in the auction.

Tuesday, May 20

Patti Carey from Northcott Fabrics

Tuesday, June 17

Our year-end wrap up luncheon. Watch for more details from the Social Committee.

Workshops Convenor	Midge Trauzzi
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WORKSHOPS - Held at the Brighton Community Centre 9:00 - 3:30. Brown bag lunch.

Friday, March 28 - "Japanese Placemats" - Fee \$20.00 + pattern.

This workshop is not for the faint-hearted! This is a project which is "out of the box" and our instructor has stressed that this workshop is for the advanced sewer. It will require a lot of patience and a good understanding of a tricky pattern. Our instructor will be Geraldine Rorabeck from Picton Fabric World. Great teacher! Many of our workshops are for the beginner to intermediate; this workshop isn't one of those! Only 12 people can sign up for this class. Convenor: Lee Farnes (check membership list for contact information)

Friday, April 25 - "Watercolor Wall Hanging" (Flower Garden) - Fee: \$20.00 + book (ask convenor)

This workshop will be taught by Marilyn Edmonds. We will need to have access to the book "Watercolor Quilts" by Pat Maixner Magaret & Donna Ingram Slusser in order to fully understand the gradation techniques. Flowery 2" squares, carefully graded by color, value and size of print will reward us with a colorful wall hanging. Check your stash and also this is a good way to use scraps. Swapping could also happen. Convenor: Lee Farnes (check membership list for contact information)

There is no workshop in May as there is the mini retreat May 22 & 23 and two UFO days.

UFO DAYS - Contact Midge Trauzzi (check membership list for contact information)

Friday, March 14 (before the guild meeting) - sign up now by e-mail.

Mark your calendar for additional UFO days and sign up at the guild meeting before the date. These dates are:

April 11; May 9 & 16; June 13.

June 20 is a themed UFO day of Crazy Quilting to make a pillow or square to frame, with Carole Anderson, Midge Trauzzi and Pat Burke. Fee is \$10.00, some supplies will be included.

July 18; August 15

Happy Quilting.

2015 Quilt Show Co-Convenors	Lorrie Barber, Maureen Young & Sandi Repic
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On February 27th your quilt show committee chairs met with the convenors. We had a very successful meeting looking at some preliminary issues related to the quilt show. We are pleased to announce the theme within our guild for the 2015 quilt show is "Gardens in Bloom". It was felt that due to the June date this theme would have endless possibilities for challenges, decorating and the tearoom. Chris Cottreau is busy creating her challenge for us and it will be presented at the April Guild meeting. A new addition to our show is the Members' Boutique. Val Campey will have more information on this at a later date.

Due to our lovely spacious venue, we will have lots of room to hang your gorgeous quilts and wall hangings etc. Extra vendors will be asked as well. The suggestion of a featured artist has also been discussed. We have had donated a lovely Underground Quilt for our Raffle.

Mini Retreat	Alison Cirinna
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The next Mini Retreat is going to be in Brighton at the Community Hall on May 22 - 23. We will be giving information at the March meeting and sign up will be at the April meeting.

Library	Betty Pounsett, Olive Curry, Sue Davies
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Sue Davies, Olive Curry and Betty Pounsett are the Guild members responsible for your library. At the beginning of each meeting, we are charged with displaying all of the books, magazines, tapes and DVDs for you to look through, select and sign out for a month.

We are thrilled and excited that the library is so well used! However, its very popularity has become something of a problem for the committee. Everyone is so eager to check out the books that we are having difficulty getting the books displayed with all the ladies trying to look at the same time. We have decided that we need a plan to help us all enjoy the library more. The curtain will remain drawn across while we are putting out the books, and we are hoping that everyone will wait until about 12:30 before coming in to have a look. Also, please make sure one of us is there to receive the books you are returning—it saves us time.

From January to March, we are not all at every meeting. If there are ladies willing to help put out and put away the books, your help would be graciously received.

Thanks in advance for your cooperation and assistance.

TVQG 25th Anniversary Quilt

2014 is our 25th Anniversary and one idea to mark this occasion is the making of a Friendship Star Quilt. Diana Sansom and Jess Chambers are co-ordinating its production. It will be hung at our Quilt Show in 2015. Each Member is invited to make one 6 1/2" Friendship Star block. (Pattern follows at the end of the newsletter.)

Diana has volunteered to quilt this and Jess will bind it. We will display it at the November 2014 meeting, which is our actual anniversary.

We are hoping everyone will participate. Members living at a distance, mail your blocks to Jess or Diana. (check the membership list for addresses)

The Rules

Each member can submit **one** block

Blocks must be 100% cotton

Background colour, any shade of BLUE.

Star either WHITE or IVORY

You will sign your name and the date you joined the guild in the centre square

Blocks MUST be 6 1/2" square, will be rejected if they are not.

Blocks are to be handed in by the June 2014 meeting, to either Diana or Jess (the sooner the better)

Blocks will be rejected if they are not: - correct size
100% Cotton
Correct colour
With perfect points.

Remember your name is on it!

Any Questions? Please contact Jess or Diana

Upcoming Quilt Shows

Date	Event	Location	Contact
Apr 5-6 Sat - 10-5 Sun 10-4	Rouge Valley Quilters' Guild - Rhapsody of Quilts Show 2014 - \$6	Pickering Complex Centre 1867 Valley Farm Road, Pickering, ON L1V 6K7	Lisette Léveillé rvggquiltshow@gmail.com www.rvqq.com
Apr 12-13 10-4	Orillia Quilt Guild - 2014 Sunshine Quilt Show - \$5 (Men are free)	Trillium Manor 12 Grace Avenue Orillia, ON L3V 4J7	Marilyn Lippert 705 259-0854 marilyn.lippert@rogers.com www.orilliaquiltersguild.com
April 24-26 Thu - 10-5 Fri - 10-7 Sat - 10-4	Huron Perth Quilters Guild - Piecemakers 2014 Quilt Show	The Pyramid Center, 317 James Street South, St. Marys, On	Joseph Hisey 519-272-0934 josephhisey@gmail.com huronperthquiltersguild.com
Apr 26-27 Sat 10 - 5 Sun 10 - 4	Rayside-Balfour Quilting And Stitchery Guild - Quilted Treasures - \$5	Rayside-Balfour Quilting and Stitchery Guild Chelmsford ON P0M 1L0	Darlene Charbonneau 705-855-9431 ndcharbonneau@fibreop.ca
May 2-3 Fri - 9-6 Sat - 9-4	Chatham-Kent Quilters' Guild - Stitches in Bloom - \$6	450 Park Ave. W. Chatham, ON	519-351-5754 www.chathamkentquiltersguild.com
May 3-4 Sat 10-5 Sun 10-4	Quinte Quilters' Guild Quilt Show - \$6 (Husbands free) Guest Artist - Joan Rieve	Quinte Curling Club 246 Bridge St. W. Belleville ON	613-848-8607 quiltshow@quintequiltersguild.ca

Newsletter Convenor

Karen Knowlton

I was saddened to hear news of the sudden passing of Rosemary Makhan on January 26, 2014. Considered one of Canada's premier quilters, she was well known for her original patterns including Woodland Creatures and Rose Sampler. If you have a chance, read the article about Rosemary in the Spring 2014 issue of The Canadian Quilter, where she shares her love of quilting and her quilt block pattern called Canadian Rose.

Guild Sponsors

The Robbins' Nest
Quilting Fabriholic (longarmer)
RJC (longarmer)
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Taylor Sewing Centre
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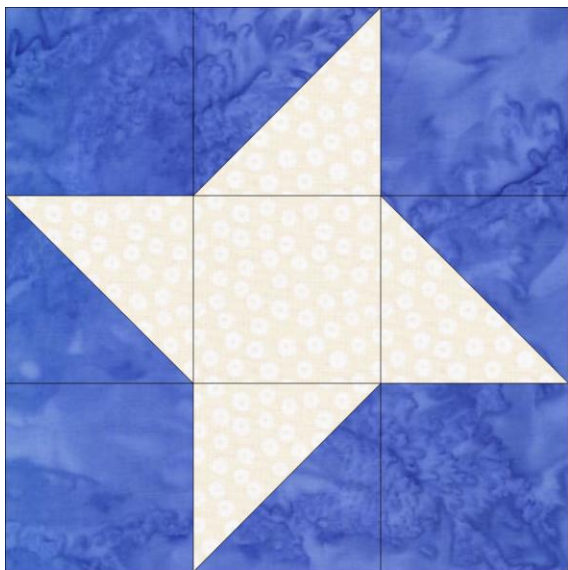
Please check our web site for more detailed information on our sponsors:

<http://www.trentvalleyquiltersguild.com/Sponsors.html>

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Sunshine	Nicky Livingston
Postcards	Lorrie Barber Maureen Young
Quilt Show Co- Conveners	Lorrie Barber Maureen Young Sandi Repic

Friendship Star – 6 inch finished Block (6 1/2" unfinished)

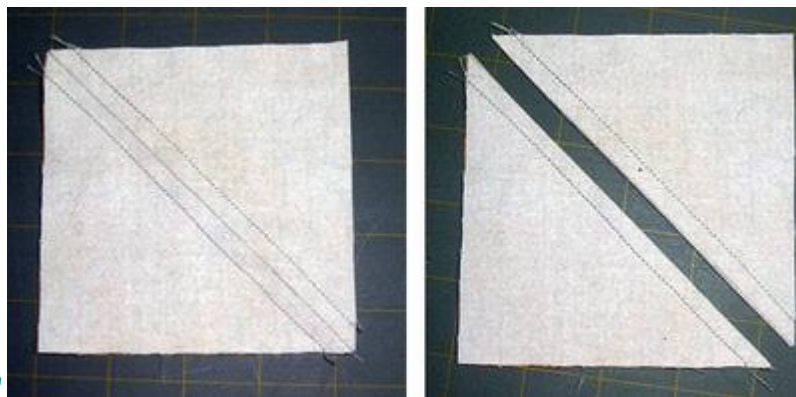


- **Blue:** cut four 2-1/2" x 2-1/2" squares; cut two 2-7/8" x 2-7/8" squares
- **White or ivory:** Cut one 2-1/2" x 2-1/2" square; cut two 2-7/8" x 2-7/8" squares.

Friendship Star Quilt Block Assembly

Refer to the illustration above as you make the Friendship Star quilt block. Sew with a 1/4-inch seam allowance.

Make Half Square Triangle Units



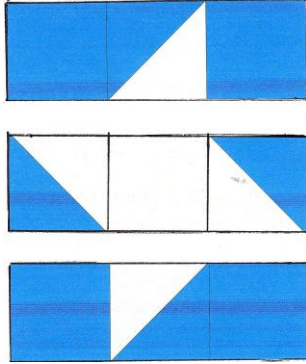
"View Full-Size"

1. Pair a 2-7/8 x 2-7/8" blue square with a white square of the same size. Use the sandwich method to sew the pairs together, creating two blue/white half-square triangle units.
2. Repeat with the remaining pair of the same size to make a total of four identical triangle square units.

Completed triangle square units for the 6-inch block should measure 2-1/2" x 2-1/2". Please check size before continuing.



Make 4 Cut 4 Cut 1



Assemble Three Rows

(Seam allowances are NOT shown in the pictures)

1. Arrange your triangle square units, white square and blue squares into three rows as shown above. Sew the components of each row together and press the seam allowances towards the plain squares
2. Sew the rows together, using the loft created by pressed seams to butt seam intersections into each other for a snug fit.
3. The block should measure 6-1/2" x 6-1/2". If your block is smaller than it should be, or skewed along one side, press and recheck.