

AQG Monthly Newsletter



March 2026

PRESIDENT - SUE FOWLER

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy March, everyone! I hope you've been spending these cold snowy days behind your machine, or in front of your computer reading articles or taking classes. Also hope you're getting things ready for your submission to the CQA challenge, or the president's challenge. Personally, I'm really looking forward to our first in person meeting in April when we take part in and learn about embellishments.

There are many openings coming up on our Board as people finish their terms. I hope you will please consider taking on one of these jobs. Most of them are not very onerous but all need to be done to ensure that our guild, the friendly guild, continues to operate. If you have any questions, please contact me directly or speak to any member of the executive.

Looking forward to seeing you all soon.

Sue.

Things to Remember

Zoom link opens at 6:30 pm for chatting
Meeting starts at 7:00 pm

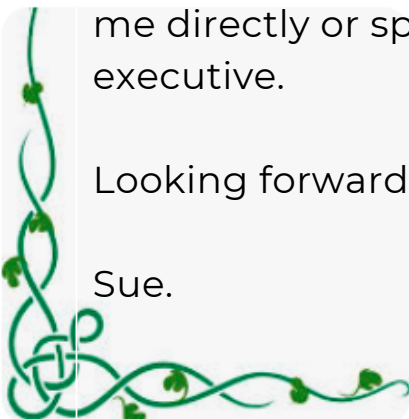
- Send in your SewNTell pictures by March 14 to membership@almontequiltersguild.ca
- Finished Block of the Month drop off is Textile Traditions

Membership for 25-26

- Full Membership \$35
 - Six In-person
 - 3 Zoom
- Virtual Membership \$20
 - 3 Zoom
- Both Memberships incl.
 - Workshops
 - Retreats
 - Sew days
 - Social meetings
 - 50/50 and Draws

March Treats

Grab a mug of your favourite hot beverage and a snack.



President's Challenge

Embellished Love



Theme:



Size: Wall hanging measuring a maximum of 30" x 40"

Specifics: A focus of love with love or heart fabric, and/or with love or heart blocks.

Please also add any kind of embellishments you want!
We will be doing embellishment workshops at our April meeting.

Due: Our June social meeting which is Monday, June 15 at the Almonte Civitan

Prize: A Quilter's Goodie Bag

AQG 2026 Spring Retreat

May 2, 3 & 4, 2026

Saturday, Sunday, Monday

Brunton Hall, 9th Line, Beckwith

Saturday, Sunday – 9 am to 9 pm

Monday – 9 am to 3 pm

There are only 25 spots available.

Come for the creativity, laughter and inspiration and leave with lasting memories!

Registration for the Retreat will be open on Saturday, March 21, 2026.



Recap of February Meeting

Susan Madu — A Different Perspective on Copyright

February Presenter, Almonte Quilters Guild

In February, the Almonte Quilters Guild welcomed Canadian quilt pattern designer and teacher Susan Madu for an insightful and practical presentation on copyright in quilting.

Drawing from her published article in Canadian Quilters' Association magazine and her online resource, Susan offered a clear, encouraging framework for understanding how copyright applies to quiltmakers at every level.

Her message was not about fear or restriction — it was about respect, professionalism, and elevating quilting as art.

Key Themes from Susan's Presentation

1. Copyright Encourages Creativity

Copyright exists to give creators control over how and when their original work is used. When designers are protected, they are incentivized to create more patterns, more art, and more innovation — which benefits the entire quilting community.

Respecting copyright strengthens our industry.

2. Quilts Are Art — Label Them Accordingly

Susan emphasized that labeling is not just administrative — it is artistic integrity.

When we label properly:

- We acknowledge authorship
- We model professionalism
- We educate newer quilters
- We raise the perceived value of quilting as art

Practical Key Points for Quilters

Susan provided a clear list of simple, actionable practices every quilter can adopt.

✓ For Original Quilt Designs

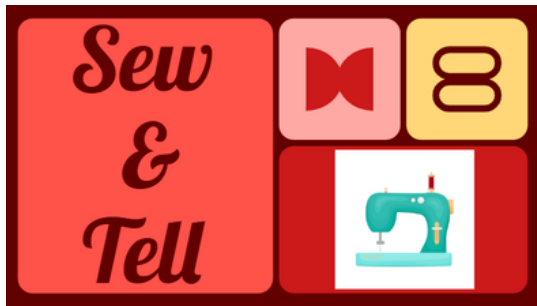
- Include the words “An original design by...” on the quilt label.
- When exhibiting, state clearly in your artist’s statement that it is an original design.

✓ For Quilts Made from a Pattern or Workshop

- Include the pattern name and designer on your quilt label.
- Credit the designer in your artist’s statement.
- If the quilt is made from a workshop technique, obtain written permission from the designer before exhibiting and provide it to the organizer.
- At Show and Tell (online or in person), always credit the designer and pattern name.
- In group projects or workshops, ensure each participant has purchased their own pattern.
contact the designer and ask.

✓ When Inspired by Another Quilt

- Purchase the pattern rather than photographing and reverse-engineering the design.
- If you’re unsure whether your design resembles another original work, As Susan noted, the best response you can receive is: “Thank you for asking.” That simple act builds respect within our quilting community.



Louise Miller

Circles of Hope, was made and donated to be auctioned at the New Hamburg Mennonite Relief Sale in the end of May. It is 104 x 104.



Pictures for the March meeting are due March 14th

Send pictures to Katie at
membership@almontequiltersguild.ca

February 50/50 Prize Winner

Brigid Whitnall won \$52



2025-2026 PROGRAMS

Mar. 16

Terry Rowland



Terry Rowland has been weaving her magic with fabrics since 1979, when she sewed her very first Pinwheel quilt. With a rainbow of colored broadcloth, Terry embarked on a journey that has made her a global quilting sensation. Through her years of quilting she has received several awards for her work.

Join us as Terry shares her wealth of knowledge and experience, gained over decades of quilting adventures. Her laid-back teaching style will put you at ease as you embark on your own quilting masterpiece. From fundamentals to advanced techniques, Terry promises to be an inspiring and educational experience for all.

Discover the world of Terry Rowland on social media! Follow her on YouTube (Terry Rowland), Instagram (@trowstudios), and Facebook (Terry Rowland - T Row Studios) for a sneak peek into her colorful quilting universe.

YouTube ([Terry Rowland](#)),

Instagram (@trowstudios),

and Facebook (Terry Rowland - T Row Studios)

Don't miss out on this incredible opportunity to learn from one of the best in the business!

Shop on Showcase

Lori's Quilting Shop



This month's Shop on Showcase features **Lori's Quilting Shop**, an Ottawa-area online shop dedicated to high-quality thread and quilting tools for longarm and domestic quilters.

Lori McCluskey, owner of Lori's Quilting Shop, has been quilting for over 20 years and is passionate about helping quilters find tools that make quilting easier and more enjoyable.

The shop specializes in **Glide thread**, a premium trilobal polyester thread known for smooth performance and beautiful stitch definition. Lori also offers thoughtfully curated thread bundles designed to simplify colour selection and help quilters build a versatile thread collection.

At the Almonte Quilt Show in 2025, she was a Vendor and introduced us to the Cansew Picasso line of thread. This spring, Lori's Quilting Shop is proudly launching **Silly Moon Quilting Rulers**, Canadian-made rulers that help quilters stitch smooth curves, flowing motifs, and creative quilting designs with confidence. Together with premium thread and curated bundles, these tools complete the essentials many quilters are looking for — everything except the fabric!

You can also visit Lori's Quilting Shop at the upcoming **Common Thread Quilt Show** and the **Arnprior Quilt Show**, where where she will be a vendor showcasing Glide thread, bundles, and the new Silly Moon rulers.

You can visit the shop at www.lorisquiltingshop.com

APRIL20 - IN PERSON

Embroidery & Embellishments Activity

No experience required — come to stitch, observe, ask questions, or simply enjoy the process.

Our first spring in-person meeting will feature a relaxed, hands-on Embroidery & Embellishment Activity designed to encourage learning, sharing, and creativity — without the pressure of completing a finished project.

Members are invited to bring a blank sampler and/or a work-in-progress to embellish while seated together at tables for social stitching. We'll begin with a short introduction and visual inspiration covering foundational stitches along with a few more advanced techniques, followed by plenty of time to stitch and explore together. Informal table facilitators will be present to share ideas and answer questions.



WHAT TO BRING

- Sampler (blank or Easter egg) or WIP
- Embellishments: beads, buttons, yarns
- Supplies: hoops, needles, scissors, thread
- Resources: books, guides, references
- Show & Tell: embellished pieces (optional)



If you're comfortable with basic stitches or surface embellishment and would enjoy helping fellow members please let Lori know.

SHOP ON SHOWCASE - QUILTERS BARN & GIFTS (BETH RUITER)

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**MAY 18 - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
TIPS & DEMOS**

.....

**JUNE 15 - POTLUCK
SHOP ON SHOWCASE - MAD MOODY - PHYLLIS MOODY**

April Block of the Month

The block for April finishes at 12 inches, making it a versatile and satisfying size to work with. Whether you're stitching one or planning to make several, these blocks come together beautifully and are perfect for building toward something bigger.

Fabric Requirements:

- White background fabric – tone-on-tone, solid, or low volume
- Any print or patterned fabric for contrast and personality
-

The combination of white backgrounds with your favorite prints will make these blocks pop. Think bold florals, playful geometrics, or modern motifs.

Keep the momentum going by making extra blocks to create a quiltie for the challenge against the Arnprior & District Quilter's Guild. The more blocks you make, the more options you'll have!

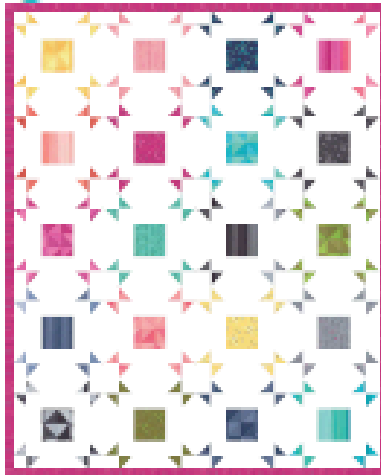
This is a great opportunity to bust through your stash, contribute to our quilting challenge and most importantly - enjoy time at your sewing machine.

Blocks are due at the April meeting.

Special Reminder for Previous Block Winners:

If you complete a project using the blocks you've won, your name will be entered into a draw for a special prize! We would love to see what you've created and celebrate the beautiful quilts that grow from our Block of the Month program.

Layer Cake Pop



Example Quilt

cutting

From Patterned Fabric, cut:

- 1 - 4 1/2" square (A)
- 8 - 2 1/2" squares (B)

From White (tone-on-tone or solid), cut:

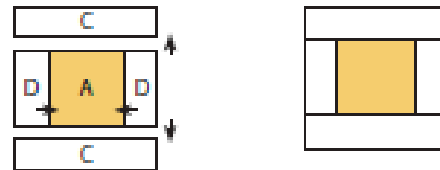
- 2 - 2 1/2" x 8 1/2" rectangles (C)
- 2 - 2 1/2" x 4 1/2" rectangles (D)
- 4 - 2 1/2" squares (E)
- 4 - 2 1/2" x 8 1/2" rectangles (F)

Block Assembly

Use 1/4" seams and press as arrows indicate throughout.

Assemble two D rectangles, one A square and two C rectangles.

Center Pop Unit should measure 8 1/2" x 8 1/2".



Draw a diagonal line on the wrong side of the B squares.

With right sides facing, layer a Fabric B square on one end of a Fabric F rectangle.

Stitch on the drawn line and trim 1/4" away from the seam.



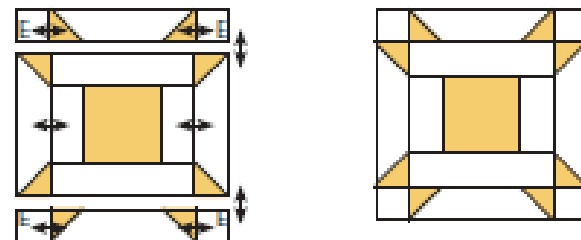
Repeat on the opposite end with a matching B square.

Outer Pop Unit should measure 2 1/2" x 8 1/2".



Assemble the Pop Block.

Pop Block should measure 12 1/2" x 12 1/2".



Virtual Sew Days **Sat 9am - 3pm**



We have AQG Virtual Sew Days on Saturdays for guild members to come for a little bit or the whole time and work on projects of your choosing from the comfort of wherever you are.

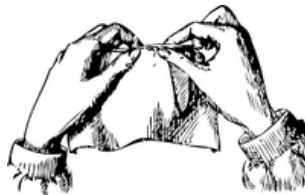
We always seem to find support, answers, and inspiration from each other, not to mention many laughs.

Links will be sent by email to all members. Advanced sign-up not required.

We are coming to the end of the Bonnie Hunter Mystery Quilt and looking forward to see what members have created! The hope is that the laughter part of the “Lupine and Laughter” was achieved.

You can join for part or all of each Saturday from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm EST via Zoom.

Virtual Hand Sew Days **Thurs 7pm - 9pm**



The Virtual Hand Sew Evenings meet on Thursday every 2nd week

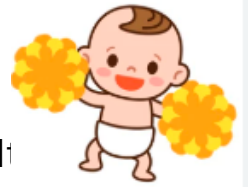
Some of us will be working on English Paper Piecing projects, but feel free to work on any hand work project of any technique of your choice.

The only rule - no machines!

Links will be sent by email to all members. Advanced sign-up not required.

Our next Virtual Hand Sew Evenings will be March 12 and 26, April 9 and 23, from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm EST via Zoom.

Quiltie Make-Off 2026



The Arnprior guild has challenged our guild to a friendly "Quiltie Make-Off" - and we need your help! The challenge: Each guild will spend the month, from March 1 to March 31, creating as many quilties as possible.

We'll keep a running tally within our own groups. At the end of March, we'll compare totals and celebrate the winning guild (bragging rights included!).

Arnprior has generously offered to donate the quilties created by their guild to the Almonte Hospital quiltie program. And of course, ours will also be donated there.

Rumour has it that Arnprior guild is prolific!

If you need batting or backing for your quiltie, please contact Rita at ritamartin324@gmail.com

If you would like to make a top, but cringe at the idea of quilting it, we can help! Completed tops can be dropped off before the last week of March, and the quilting will be taken care of.

If you love binding, we would love to have a couple of volunteers to take the longarmed quilties that final stage. Just reach out to Rita and she'll hook you up.

Quilties made in March can be dropped off at Textile Traditions anytime during the month, but must be received before close of business on March 31 to count. Make sure you leave your name and guild affiliation with Kelly when you drop it off.

Let's show them what Almonte can do!!

Here are some of the grateful recipients of our quilties.



Baby Lucy on her quiltie!



Baby Hayes with his quiltie!



Baby Callahan arrived over the holiday season!

2 Simple Quiltie Patterns

24 x 24

By Louise Miller

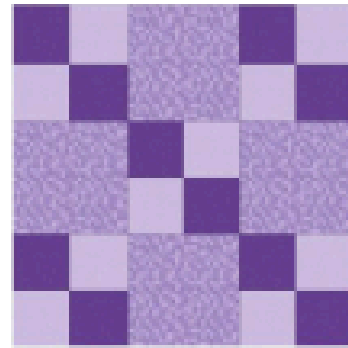
1. 8-inch Nine Patch with Four Patches

Material

Fabric 1 (dark purple)– ¼ yard, Fabric 2 (Light purple) – ¼ yard, Fabric 3 (medium purple) -1/4 yard

Cut: Fabric 1 10- 4.5 x 4.5 , Fabric 2 10- 4.5 x 4.5, Fabric 3 4- 8.5 x 8.5

Sew Fabric 1 and 2 squares according to the four-patch diagram. Iron toward the dark fabric. Now arrange the nine patches you have according to the diagram into a 24 x 24-inch quiltie.



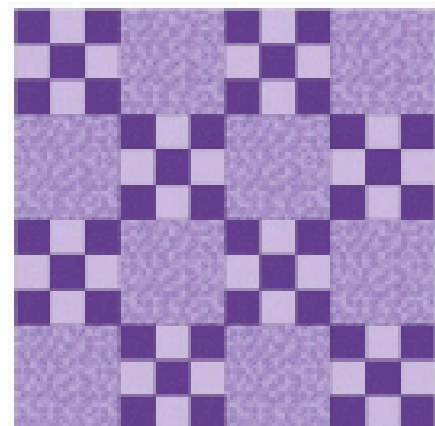
2. 6-inch Patches with Nine Patch

Material

Fabric 1 (dark purple)– ¼ yard, Fabric 2 (Light purple) – ¼ yard, Fabric 3 (medium purple) -3/8 yard

Cut: Fabric 1 40- 2.5 x 2.5, Fabric 2 40- 2.5 x 2.5, Fabric 3 8- 6.5 x 6.5

Sew Fabric 1 and 2 squares into nine patches like the diagram. Iron toward the dark fabric. Now arrange the patches you have according to the diagram into a 24 x 24-inch quiltie.



QUILTIE INFORMATION

Quiltie Size: Each quiltie should be about 24" x 24".

Backing:

- Cut backing at 27" x 27" to allow for some wiggle room.
- 54 inches (1.4 m) of 42–44" wide backing fabric = 2x27" squares +2x14/1x27"

Batting:

- You can cut 96" wide batting to 27 inches long, which is three pieces 27" x 27" square, plus a half piece left over (about 17").

Upcoming Quilting Events

Ottawa ON -- Hintonburg Fabric Flea Market

Date: Saturday May 2

Time: 9:30 - 3:00

Location: Fisher Park Community Centre, 250 Holland Ave. Ottawa ON

Admission: \$3

More info: 613-262-6643

Arnprior ON -- Quilting in the Valley by Arnprior & District Quilters' Guild

Date: May 30, 31

Time: Saturday 10 - 5 & Sunday 10 - 4

Location: Nick Smith Centre, 77 James St., Arnprior ON

Admission: \$10 cash

Website

Brighton ON -- Behind the Seams by Trent Valley Quilters' Guild

Date: June 6-7

Time: Saturday & Sunday 9 am to 4 pm

Location: King Edward Park Community Centre, 75 Elizabeth Street, Brighton, ON

Admission: \$10, children under 12 \$5

Website

Ottawa ON by Common Thread Quilt Guild

Date: June 12, 13

Time: Friday & Saturday times TBD

Location: Lois Kemp Arena, 200 Glen Park Drive, Ottawa

Admission: TBD

Website

Renfrew ON -- Quilt Gems by Quilters Guild of Renfrew & Area

Date: June 13, 14

Time: Saturday 10 am to 5 pm & Sunday 11 am to 4 pm

Location: Renfrew Armouries, 115 Veterans Memorial Parkway, Renfrew ON

Admission: \$10

CQA Guild Challenge

What Canada Means to Me

The Canadian Quilters' Association/ Association Canadienne de la courtépointe (CQA/ACC) announces a Member Guild Challenge. Only CQA/ACC Member Guilds may enter this challenge, which has the theme "What Canada Means to Me." The submitted quilts will be displayed at Quilt Canada 2026 in Winnipeg, MB, June 17-20, 2026.

Guidelines

- Each CQA/ACC Member Guild may select only one winner from their Guild's membership, on or before April 30, 2026 for entry into this challenge. How they choose to run this within their guild is entirely up to them.
- Guilds wishing to enter the Challenge must advise of their intent to do so via email to Irene Lafleche, irene.lafleche@canadianquilteradministration.com by Feb 1, 2026, so that space allocation can be arranged.
- The online entry form will be available from Feb 1, 2026 until May 1, 2026 in order to enter the guild's quilt. The form will include information about the quilt including the quilt maker, title, artist statement, dimension, techniques used, a photo and any credits.
- The exhibit will be limited to a maximum 50 entries.
- All accepted online entries will receive a follow up email to confirm acceptance and instructions for mailing/delivering the quilt to Winnipeg for the exhibit at Quilt Canada 2026, June 16-20.
- The winning quilt will be selected by Viewer's Choice during Quilt Canada 2026 and awarded a \$500 cash prize. The cash award will be awarded to the guild. The guild can decide whether to award the money to the quilt maker or use it for the guild.
- All submitted quilts will be returned to entrants by mail (at the Guild's cost) or to be picked up at the end of the conference in Winnipeg.
-

The Challenge Theme: "What Canada Means to Me"

- Some part on the face of the quilt must be a solid or tone-on-tone Red and solid or tone-on-tone White fabric.
- The quilt perimeter is to be no larger than 72 inches (add up the inches on all four sides).
- Each quilt must be finished with either binding, facings or enveloped pillow case style.
- Please ensure that there is a hanging sleeve, at least 3 inches wide, for display purpose.
- All quilts must have a label with the Quilt name, Quilter's name and the Guild's name visible on it.
- Please print and enclose the submitted Guild Entry Form when your quilt is shipped.
- Guilds are responsible for all shipping costs (to and from Quilt Canada 2026).

Quilting Tips, Tricks and Trivia

Sewing Machine Needle Tips

Tip #1 – Sewing machine needles need to be changed often, not only when you break one. Needles get dull and develop damage not visible to the naked eye. A good rule of thumb is to change the needle after you finish piecing project.

Tip #2 - Use the right needle size. Most piecing of 100% cotton fabrics can be done with a universal 80/12 needle. The numbers represent the two sizing systems: metric (or European) and Singer (or American). The numbers refer to the diameter of the needle. The lower the number, the finer the needle. Light to medium weight quilting fabrics can be pieced with a needle from 75/11 to 90/14. Most needles made for machine quilting on your home machine are 90/14.

Tip #3 - Use quilting needles for machine quilting. The tip is sharper and designed to go through layers of fabric.

Quilting on the Screen

Here is a list (and some links) to some wonderful documentary films about quilts and quilting:

[Granny's Quilt](#) - a short Canadian film about the director's grandmother.

[Stitched: The Film](#) - about quilter's journey to the show in Houston

[The Quiltmaker's of Gees Bend](#) - tell the story of the historical significance of these quilters.

[Common Threads: Stories from the Quilt](#) tells about the world's largest quilt and its significance as a statement about the AIDS crisis

[The Quilters](#) (Netflix) - tells about prisoners making quilts for children in the foster care system.

EVENT CALENDAR

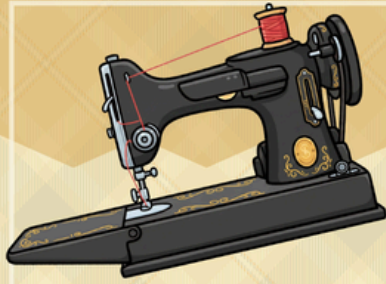
JAN 19	MONTHLY ZOOM MEETING - TERRY ASKE
FEB 16	MONTHLY ZOOM MEETING - SUSAN MADU
MAR 16	MONTHLY ZOOM MEETING - TERRY ROWLAND
APR 30	MONTHLY MEETING - EMBROIDERY AND EMBELLISHMENT ACTIVITY
MAY 2-4	SPRING RETREAT
MAY 18	MONTHLY MEETING - AGM & TIPS / DEMOS
JUNE 15	MONTHLY MEETING - POTLUCK / ICE CREAM SOCIAL
JUNE 15-17	QUILT CANADA 2026 - WINNIPEG

Quilt Canada



NJS Submission - All quilters can enter the National Jury Show at Quilt Canada. For more details, click on this [link](#).

TrendTex Challenge - Do you like a quilting challenge? Want to try something new? How about trying this year's TrendTex Challenge at Quilt Canada. This year's theme is confluence; the act or process of merging. Click on this [link](#) to find out more information.



KAWARTHA QUILTMAKERS' GUILD
Presents

Feelings In Fabric

Quilt Show and Sale



Fri May 8 - Sat May 9, 2026

9:30am - 5:00pm

9:30am - 4:00pm

Location: Peterborough Sport & Wellness Centre
775 Brealey Drive, Peterborough, ON

- Vendors
- Charity Quilt Raffles
- Displays
- KQG Member's Boutique
(Items for Sale)
- Prize Baskets
- Light Refreshments Available
- Antique Quilts (*Bed turning Daily*)
- Scissor & Tool Sharpening
(Bring your Items)



Feature Quilter: Marg Worsick



For membership information:
kqqquilts.ca
EMAIL: kqqstitch@gmail.com

\$10 ENTRY
Cash only
(ATM on site)

AQG Executive Roster

Thank you to all our volunteers for supporting us throughout the year. If you are interested in helping out in 2026-2027, please let any of the executive team know or contact almontequiltersguild@gmail.com. The official role descriptions are available here [AQG By-Laws](#)

ROLE	2025/2026	e-mail address
President	Sue Fowler	alwaysbeautifullycreative@gmail.com
Vice President	Krista Zaleski	vp@almontequiltersguild.ca
Past President	Helen Racette	past-president@almontequiltersguild.ca
Treasurer	Pam Ross	treasurer@almontequiltersguild.ca
Secretary	Carolee Todd	secretary@almontequiltersguild.ca
Webmaster	Jessica Tripp & Katie Childs	webmaster@almontequiltersguild.ca
Membership	Katie Childs	membership@almontequiltersguild.ca
Program Director	Lori McCluskey	program@almontequiltersguild.ca
Newsletter	Mara Harrison	newsletter@almontequiltersguild.ca
Communication Director	TBD	
Community Project	Carole Treggett	cjtreggett@gmail.com
Quilties	Rita Martin	Ritamartin324@gmail.com
Retreat Coordinator	Cate MacLean	retreat@almontequiltersguild.ca
Workshop Coordinator	TBD	
Block of the Month	Johanne & Amanda Vajda	almontequiltersguild@gmail.com
Social	Cate Maclean	cokecancate@gmail.com
Library	Louise Miller & Zuzana Dobias	almontequiltersguild@gmail.com
Draws	Helen Larson	almontequiltersguild@gmail.com
Current Quilt Show Chair	Krista Zaleski	quiltshow@almontequiltersguild.ca