

# AQG Monthly Newsletter



May 2026

**PRESIDENT - SUE FOWLER**

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Happy May everyone! How nice to see tulips poking up and buds on the trees. I hope maybe you've started a new, springtime quilting project - a light and bright quilt or a new EPP. Oh, and speaking of EPP - wasn't that a fabulous member meeting in April? Thanks to our current program director, Lori McCluskey, for planning an activity night with some demos. There was lots of camaraderie, chatting and laughter. It's really great to have speakers, but the activity nights are great. Our next meeting will also have some very interesting demos after our AGM. I hope you're looking forward to it as much as I am.

And just a reminder about the President's Challenge. I know there's more about that later in the newsletter. I'm looking forward to seeing all your projects at our social meeting in June. But first I'll see you all at the AGM.

Best,

Sue

## Things to Remember

**Doors opens at 6:30 pm**  
**Meeting starts at 7:00 pm**

- Bring your SewNTell
- Bring your finished Block of the Month
- Bring your own drink in your own cup

### **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

### **May Treats Provided by:**

Carole Dworschak  
Louise Miller  
Janice Fraser  
Gluten free - Katie Childs

**No drinks provided.**



# ***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! Maybe use one of the embellishments you learned about at the April meeting!

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

**Prize:** A Quilter's Goodie Bag



# **Your Guild Wants You!**

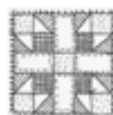
**The AQG is looking for volunteers to fill positions to help run the guild.**

## **We need:**

President VACANT 2 years MANDATORY  
Secretary - VACANT - 2 years MANDATORY  
Program - VACANT - 1 year MANDATORY  
Block of the month - VACANT - 1 year  
Workshops - VACANT - 1 year  
Community Program - VACANT - 1 year  
Membership - VACANT - 2 years  
Zoom Host - VACANT - 2 years

**Help us help you to keep our guild running smoothly!**

**Training provided!**



# ENTER YOUR LOCAL FAIR!



## Tis the season to enter your quilting in the local fair(s)

Entering your quilts and quilted items in local fairs is a great way to show and share with others what a quilt guild can do for them.

There are many local fairs in our region that you can enter. Here is a list, with links to some of the fairs in our area:

[Lombardy Fair](#)                      July 31 - Aug. 2

[Almonte Fair](#)                         Sept. 11-13

[Carp Fair](#)                                Sept. 24-27

[Perth Fair](#)                                Sept. 4-7

[Renfrew Fair](#)                         Sept. 10-13

[Richmond Fair](#)                        Sept. 17-20

The quilted categories are wide and varied, from placemats to full quilts! Explore the fair websites linked above and show you talent at the fair!



# Community

## A Mother's Story:

A week ago, my mom, a new resident at Fairview Manor, told me she had been to the Almonte Curling Club and was presented with a small quilt.

Oh, how nice, I said. Show me. Alas, the quilt could not be found. She said she had given the quilt to the nurses for labelling. (ie: affixing her name label to the quilt).

I wondered... is this a true story?

Yesterday, mom retold the story about the quilt, sent for labelling. She enquired at the nurse station. There it was - in a drawer. It was sent for labelling. She hadn't seen it since.

I wondered again ... is this a true story?

I opened her closet door, and behold, there it was. A beautiful colourful quilt I had never seen before.

Is this it mom?

Yes! That's it, she said. It was presented to me at the Curling Club.

Where did you find it?

We laid it out on the bed. Her name label is on it, along with a very lovely and loving message from the Almonte Quilters Guild.

It is a beautiful piece, and a very thoughtful gift. Yes, indeed it is a true story

Thank you all so very much.

Sincerely

Lorna Merrithew

& Debbie Merrithew



## Eye Spy Quilts

Kits for the eye spy quilts to be given out in the community are available at the May meeting.

# Cuties on Quilties



This is Lennon. She was born this spring

This is Micah. He's also a spring baby!



We make a delivery to the AGH each month. On May 6, 2026, 30 quilties were delivered. These small quilts are much appreciated by the families of new babies.

# Recap of April Meeting

## Embroidery & Embellishment Activity

We had a wonderful evening reconnecting and socializing with our fellow quilters after the long, cold winter months. Ten door prizes were won by members in attendance. The room was filled with creativity, laughter, and inspiration. Members moved between tables exploring a variety of techniques and ideas.

Activity stations included Embroidery with Shirley Monkhouse, Stamps with Lori, Inktense with Mara, Angelina fibres, and more. Whether learning something new or rediscovering a forgotten skill, members enjoyed hands-on time to play, experiment, and share. Don't forget to use these newfound — or newly remembered — ways to add personality, texture, and sparkle to your future quilts!

## CQA

### What Canada Means to Me Winner

Lori McCluskey



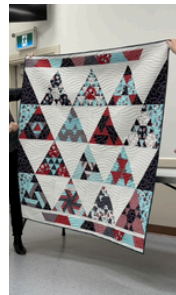
### 50/50 Draw Winner

Susan Sale won \$99.50!

### Block of the Month Winner

Kathy Panagapko

# April Show and Share



# May Meeting AGM & Demo Night!

## **Computer-Based Demos (seated with AV)**

### **Canva for Quilters (Lori)**

- Learn how to use the free version of Canva to audition quilt ideas, layouts, and colours.

### **EQ8 Overview & Demo (Louise)**

- An introduction to Electric Quilt 8, including how to design quilts and experiment with layouts and fabrics.

## **Hands-On Technique Demo**

- Finishing Techniques – Borders & Bindings (Krista)
- Krista will demonstrate practical finishing techniques and will repeat her session, giving members the option to attend instead of one of the computer-based demos.

There's something for everyone—whether you're interested in digital tools or hands-on techniques. We look forward to seeing you there!

Almonte Quilters Guild  
Post Spring 2026 Retreat Report  
Brunton Hall, Beckwith Township  
by Cate MacLean, Retreat Coordinator

First off, the Retreat sold out in under an hour, with about 8 people joining the waitlist. A record!!

Day 1 – 9am – 9pm - Setting up tables was handled by Lori McCluskey, Krista Zaleski, Helen Racette and myself. We had 5 groups of 5 tables. Each of the 25 participants (Guild Members) had a 6' table and a chair. Many participants brought their own chairs. Everyone set up their stations. 2 cutting tables were set up and 2 ironing stations. One ironing station has a large board with 2 irons. Lunch and Dinner were made by Chef Pierre Racette. (We're SO lucky to have him cook for us.) After Dinner was finished and all cleaned up, we played 3 tables of Chase the Ace. Two games each. We used 3 Loonies and 3 Toonies this time. Today's door prizes were won by Blake Proudfoot and Rita Martin. The last of the stragglers left at 9pm. Thanks to Amanda and Johanne who stayed to help with lock up. No one is left alone to do this!!!

Day 2 – 9am to 9pm - I opened the doors at 8:30 for the keepers! You know who you are! Highlights of the day: Door Prizes won by Tanya Fisher and Carol Dworschak; Lunch and Dinner served again; Group picture was taken; Photo's in a Floral Frame I made. Unfortunately, our evening musician wasn't feeling well. So, after dinner, we did Show & Tell. We have a very talented group. We were reminded to bring food containers for the next day to take leftovers.; Thanks to Krista and Jessica for staying to close down the day.

Day 3 – 8:30am to 3pm – Again, I opened at 8:30am. Highlights: Door Prizes won by Johanne Vajda and Cate MacLean. There were 6 door prizes from 3 Quilt Shops. Thank you cards will be sent by me, Cate. ; Brunch was served at 11am with some breakfast items and all the leftovers. After cleaning up the kitchen, some participants started packing up. At around 1:30ish, more left. Participants put the tables and chairs away. Others swept the floor. We were all out of the room by 2:20. Thanks for everyone's help!

The event went very well. Everyone enjoyed their time sewing, eating, and oohing and awing at others work. I want to thank all the participants for making this a very enjoyable event. Without you, there would not be a Retreat!



# June Block of the Month

## Disappearing 4 Patch

This month's Block of the Month is a classic favorite with a fun twist: the **Disappearing 4 Patch**! This block is beginner-friendly, quick to sew, and always a little magical. Starting with a simple four-patch, a few strategic cuts transform it into a dynamic design that looks much more complex than it really is.

For this month's block, you will need:

- **1 low-volume or tone-on-tone white fabric**
- **2 feature fabrics**

The contrast between the white and your feature fabrics will help the “disappearing” effect shine. Bold florals, geometrics, batiks, or seasonal prints all work beautifully, so feel free to choose fabrics that reflect your personal style.

**Blocks are due at the June meeting.**

**Special Reminder for Previous Block Winners:** Complete a project using the blocks you've won and show it at the September meeting, 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.

# AQG BLOCK OF THE MONTH

## JUNE 2026

### FROM EACH OF THE FOLLOWING FABRICS:

- WHITE - CUT (2) 5" x 5"
- 2 FEATURE FABRICS - CUT (1) 5" x 5" of each

### INSTRUCTIONS

Sew the 5" squares into a four-patch block. (*Fig. 1.*)

Make 4 cuts without moving the block or the cut pieces. Use a small mat/rotating mat so you can turn the mat without disturbing the block. Using the center seams as the reference point, measure out 1 inch and make a cut; then make a cut on the other side of the seam. Rotate and repeat, measuring 1 inch from the center seam for each cut. You will have 9 pieces. (*Fig. 2.*)

Next, rotate the center Four Patch and swap the cut pieces as shown in *Fig. 3.*

Sew the 9 pieces back together to make block and trim to 8 1/2". (*Fig. 4.*)

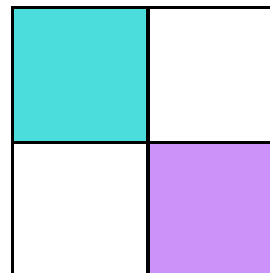


Fig. 1

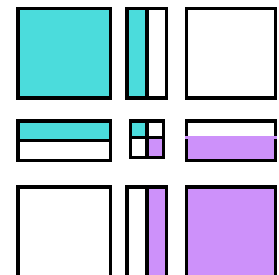


Fig. 2

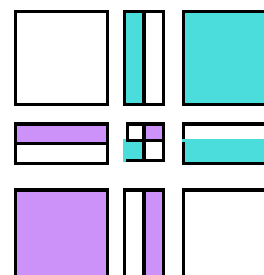


Fig. 3

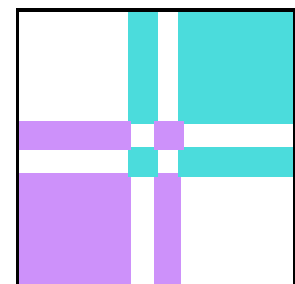


Fig. 4

## **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.

You can join every Saturday until June 13th (Host may not be able to join, but the call is open) 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 May 7, May 21, June 4, and June 18 (7 - 9 pm) EST via Zoom.

# Upcoming Quilting Events

## **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 ON

Admission: \$12

### **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

# Quilting Tips, Tricks and Trivia



**It's not you...it's your seam ripper!** We all change our rotary blades but we hardly ever change our seam rippers.

Seam rippers get dull over time and it's amazing how much easier it is to cut threads with a sharp seam ripper. Definitely less frustrating!

## Quilting Trivia

Quilters are secretly mathematicians—measuring angles, calculating seams, and working with geometric patterns... all while insisting they're “just crafting.”



## Want to save some money \$\$\$

You can buy cutting mats at [Princess Auto](#) for much less than at a quilt store! A 24" x 36" self healing cutting mat is only \$32.99! As a bonus, Princess Auto is a Canadian owned and operated business

# CQA

Hello, We are reaching out to you as our organization has an opening for the Treasurer position at CQA/ACC. We strive to include volunteers from across Canada and as a member guild perhaps you have a member in your guild that has a financial background and would be interested in joining our board of Directors. Accounting knowledge and budgeting is important. The link on the CQA/ACC website is : [Volunteer Positions - Canadian Quilters Association/Association Canadienne de la Courtepointe](#) OR  
Contact: Linda Lake, Past President via email:  
[linda.lake@canadianquilteradministration.com](mailto:linda.lake@canadianquilteradministration.com) if you have any questions.

## **Duties of the CQA/ACC Treasurer**

1. Reviews on a monthly basis all financial statements using Not for Profit accounting standards in QuickBooks Online.
2. Manages banking relationship and investments of the Association
3. Prepares the annual budget in co-operation with members of the Board of Directors, Executive Director.
4. Prepares income statement, balance sheet, activity report for each Board meeting and a yearly summary report for the Annual General Meeting (AGM).
5. Prepares special event financial reports or other financial statements, as requested by members of the Board of Directors.
6. Coordinate with Bookkeeper to provide financial records to the Auditor for preparation of the annual audited financial statements.
7. Presents the audited financial statements at the Annual General Meeting and provides copies to members who request one.
8. Oversees the bookkeeper's activities
9. Performs other duties as required and/or requested by other Board members and Executive Director.

## **QUALIFICATIONS**

Must be a member in good standing previous to their nomination. Extensive knowledge of standard bookkeeping and financial practices, computer accounting programs and electronic banking practices are mandatory. Knowledge of QuickBooks Online and Microsoft Office software is essential. Preferred candidate would hold a professional accounting designation but not necessary.

## **TERM**

The term of office of Treasurer is for two years. At the end of the initial two-year and on approval of the Board of Directors, the Treasurer shall have the option of up to an additional two years.

# EVENT CALENDAR 2026-2027

MAY 18	MONTHLY MEETING - AGM / DEMONSTRATIONS
JUNE 15	MONTHLY MEETING - POTLUCK / ICE CREAM SOCIAL
JUNE 15-17	QUILT CANADA 2026 - WINNIPEG MB
SEPT 12-13	FIBRE FEST
SEPT. 21	MONTHLY MEETING - LOUISE MILLER "CARRYING ON A FAMILY TRADITION" TRUNK SHOW
OCT. 19	MONTHLY MEETING - JENN MCMILLAN "A LOVE LETTER TO NEEDLE TURN APLIQUE"
OCT. 23-25	FALL RETREAT 2026
NOV. 23	MONTHLY MEETING
	<b>2027</b>
JAN. 18	MONTHLY MEETING ON ZOOM - ROBIN BOGAERT "ADDING EXCITING TECHNIQUES TO YOUR QUILT REPETOIRE"
FEB. 15	MONTHLY MEETING ON ZOOM - ANDREA TSANG JACKSON "APPROACHES TO TRANSPARENCY"
MAR. 15	MONTHLY MEETING ON ZOOM - BRANDON WULFF "TRUNK SHOW OF BISCOTTI"
APR. 9-11	SPRING RETREAT 2027
APR. 19	MONTHLY MEETING
MAY17	MONTHLY MEETING - AGM / DEMOS
JUNE 21	MONTHLY MEETING - POTLUCK
OCT. 2-3	2027 ALMONTE QUILT SHOW
OCT. 15-17	FALL RETREAT 2027

# AQG Executive Roster 2025-2026

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](mailto: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



# Kanata Quilt Guild

## Fabric and Notions Sale

Friday, 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 2026

9:30 am - 1:00 pm

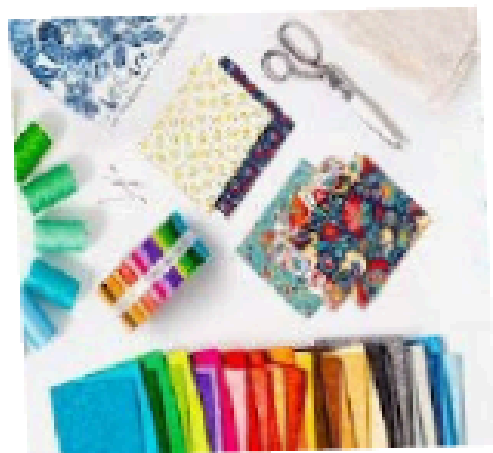
At the

Trinity Presbyterian Church

1817 Richardson Side Road

Please bring a reusable shopping bag

**ENTRANCE FEE:** By donation to support the Kanata Food Cupboard.

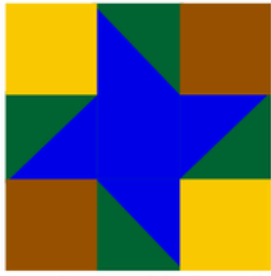


### Items for sale –

All kinds of quilting and sewing related fabric, thread, notions, etc...



**ARNPRIOR  
& DISTRICT**



**QUILTERS' GUILD**

# QUILTING IN THE VALLEY



**VENDORS**

**TEA  
ROOM**

**RAFFLES**

**& MORE!**

**ADMISSION  
\$10  
CASH ONLY**



**MAY  
30-31  
2026**

**NICK SMITH CENTRE**

77 James Street, Arnprior, ON

visit [arnpriordistrictquiltersguild.com](http://arnpriordistrictquiltersguild.com)  
for more information

Thank you to our  
sponsors for their  
support



**ARNPRIOR**  
- WHERE THE RIVERS MEET -



Presented by  
**Common Thread Quilt Guild**  
**OTTAWA**

# Quilt Show

June 12 - 13, 2026

**Vendors' Mall, Displays & Draws**



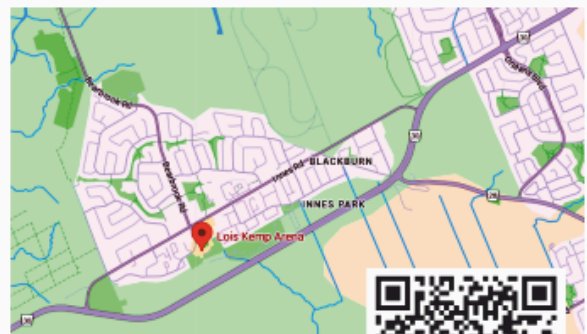
Friday, June 12, 10 am – 7 pm  
Saturday, June 13, 10 am – 5 pm



Lois Kemp Arena  
200 Glen Park Drive. Gloucester



Entrance \$12 (free parking)



Quilt pieced by Linda Won  
and quilted by Lisa Fedak

[commonthreadquiltguild.ca](http://commonthreadquiltguild.ca)