AQG Monthly Newsletter

October 2026

PRESIDENT - LORI MCCLUSKEY

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

October is already here, and there's a lot happening at AQG!

The **Fall Retreat** is just around the corner. There are only a few spots left, so if you've been thinking about joining us, now is the time to sign up.

Our **AQG Brand Refresh** is moving ahead, and we'd love to hear your ideas. You don't need a finished design — a sketch, an idea or simply some inspiration is welcome. **Submissions close the weekend following our October 19 meeting**, so have a look at the details in this newsletter and send us your ideas!

We're also **rethinking our Guild Library**. With our storage situation changing, we're looking at paring the collection down to a smaller selection of quilting books that is easier to store and bring to meetings. You'll find more about the proposed approach in this newsletter, and we'll talk about it together at the October meeting.

I look forward to seeing everyone on October 19 for **Jenn McMillan's** *A Love Letter to Needle Turn Appliqué* — along with Show & Tell, Guild updates and plenty of time to catch up with one another.

Lori



Things to Remember

Doors open at 6:30 pm

Things to Remember

- Show 'N Share
- Your own drink.
- Nametag
- Treats if named below
- Goodies for door prizes
- Indoor shoes if needed.

Membership for 26-27

- 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

It is **NOT TOO LATE TO SIGN UP**! Visit the website.

Treats Provided by:

Janice Fraser
Pam Ross
Lois MacLean
Angela Ziai
GF – Robin Hall

No Drinks Are Provided.

AQG BRAND REFRESH

We Want Your Ideas!



The Branding Committee needs your input. Tell us what you would like to see, and what you would rather avoid - as AQG refreshes our logo, nametags and Guild banner. Members, friends and family are welcome to contribute.

You don't need to be a designer or submit a finished logo. A sketch, colour combination, lettering idea, photograph, quilt or fabric inspiration, banner idea, digital concept - or simply a thought about what represents AQG - can help shape what comes next.

How to share your idea

- Use the attached AQG Branding Refresh - Idea Submission Form.
- Tell us about your idea and include whatever helps us understand it.
- Tell us the story behind your idea - what inspired it and how you think it represents AQG.
- Ideas may be combined, adapted or developed. This is not a contest.

Submit your ideas
EMAIL
By October 25, 2026
almontequiltersguild@gmail.com
OR
IN PERSON
October 19, 2026 meeting

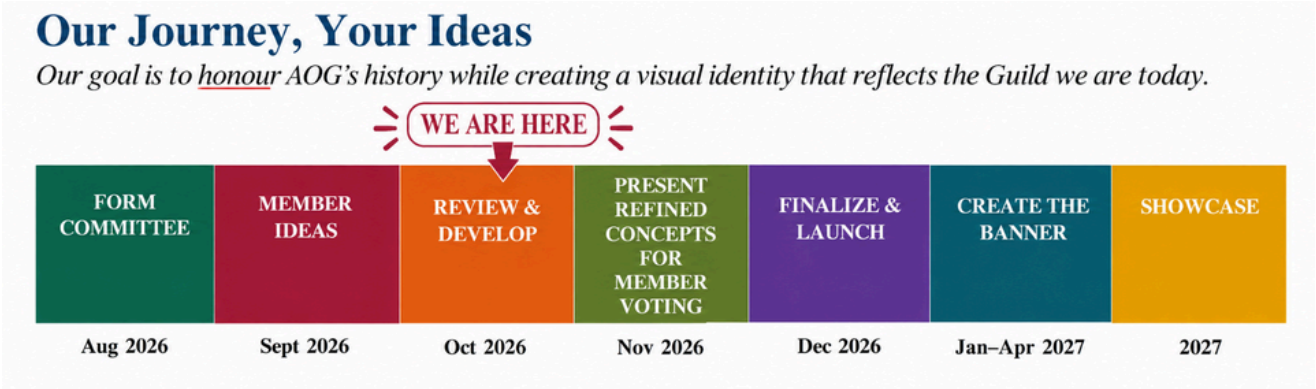
Share an idea & enter the draw! Everyone who submits an AQG Branding Refresh - Idea Submission Form will be entered in a draw for a $50 gift certificate to a local quilt store of their choice. The draw will take place at the November AQG meeting.

What are we looking for?

OUR NORTH STAR

Welcoming · Creative · Diverse · Community · Inclusive · Friendly · Inspiring · Skilled · Local

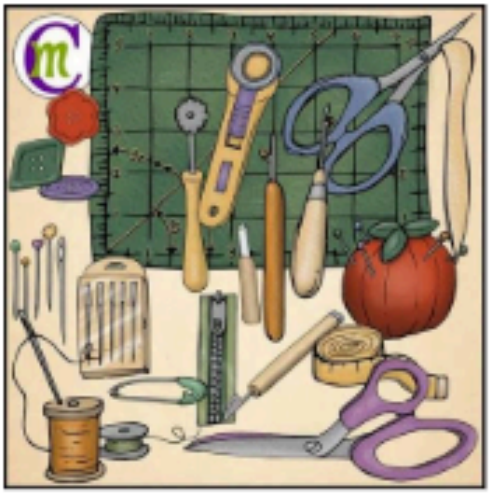
Welcoming & Inclusive Reflects our diverse community.	**Timeless & Recognizable** Simple, distinctive and clearly AQG.
Versatile & Legible Works at different sizes and in colour or black & white.	**Craft-Ready** Can translate to fabric, appliqué or embroidery and work with our Guild banner.



AQG 2026 Fall Retreat

October 23-25, 2026

Friday, Saturday, Sunday



Brunton Hall, 9th Line, Beckwith Township

Friday & Saturday – 9 am to 9 pm
Sunday – 9 am to 3 pm

Cost - $150.00

Almost sold out!

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

Program

October



At our October, 2026 our speaker is Jenn McMillan, A Love Letter to Needle-turn Appliqué. Jenn is a designer, quilter, hand-sewing enthusiast living in rural Ottawa Ontario. From being harshly discouraged to being a needle-turn appliqué junkie, this age-old quilting technique has seen Jenn at her best and helped get her through the worst. Follow along in this visually supported, poetry inspired presentation and be prepared to shed a tear, as she sure will be.

Shop on Showcase

Fabric Ink



September Recap



Our September's speaker was Louise Miller. She shared with us her wonderful quilting journey - from learning to quilt from her grandmother at a very young age to creating beautiful quilts for her family and friends. Her stories gave us a lovely glimpse into how quilting has been woven into her life and has continued to bring joy, creativity, and connection over the years.

Her presentation was a wonderful celebration of that journey, featuring a Trunk Show of her gorgeous quilts, along with a PowerPoint presentation filled with photos and stories of family and friends - and of course, even more quilts to enjoy! It was truly special to see how much love and meaning can be stitched into each quilt.

October Block of the Month

Star Block x2

32 half square trianglest

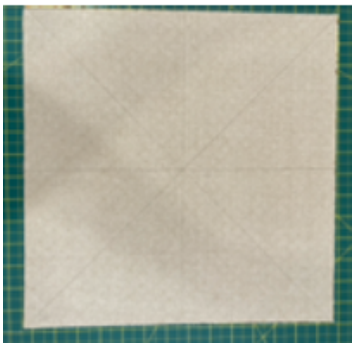


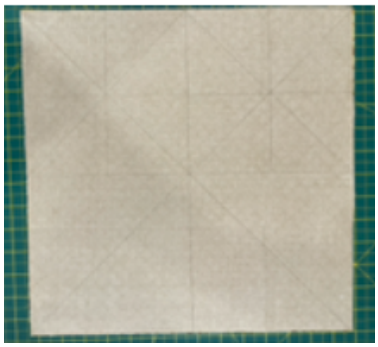
Fabric
2 contrasting 14” squares
Neutral tones

Here is a link to a YouTube video showing how to create this month’s blocks!

Place fabrics right sides together (image 1)


image 1


image 2


image 3

Divide the fabric, vertically and horizontally, into four equal quadrants using a pencil (image 2)

Draw a diagonal line from corner to corner and in each of the four quadrants. (image 3)

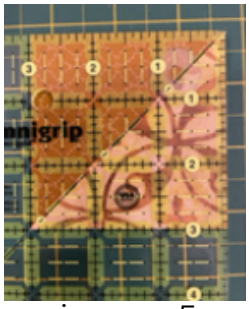
Sew a 1/4” seam on both sides of **ALL the diagonal lines only**.

Cut along the vertical and horizontal lines creating four individual units



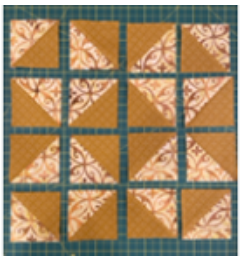
Cut along the vertical and horizontal lines and then the diagonal lines.
Each quadrant will produce 8 half square triangles.
Press each unit open and trim to end up at 3” square. (images 4&5)


image 4


image 5

Lay out 16 units to create the pattern for each block as pictured.





Assembly
Sew together row by row horizontally (image 6)
Sew the rows together to create 2 finished blocks measuring 10 1/2” by 10 1/2”. (image 7)

Press each block.

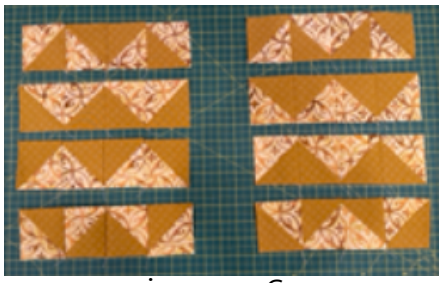

image 6


image 7



“SAVE THE DATE”

Saturday October 24th and Sunday October 25th 2026, 3-6pm US Eastern time… is the “All Star Sampler Platter”

The Almonte Quilters Guild (AQG) is pleased to offer you this event free of charge, to all 2026 - 27 AQG members. (Valued at $25 USD per person)

What is the “All Star Sampler Platter” you say? In the comfort of your own home, you can watch along with 10000+ quilters world wide, 22 teachers across 2 afternoons. You’ll find fresh techniques to try, and new teachers to follow.

Sit back and enjoy 6 hours of wonderful quilt teaching, across 2 afternoons. Have your notebook handy.

Keep your eyes open for an email to follow which includes the link. Don’t miss out on this special treat from the Almonte Quilters Guild.



Quilties

AQG Quiltie Program

I am looking forward to the Quiltie drop-offs at our October meeting!

For each completed Quiltie donated, members will receive one ticket, and a draw will be held at the meeting for a prize.

I really appreciate the time, creativity, and materials that go into each Quiltie you make. I do have a limited supply of backing and batting available, but I also greatly appreciate how much of your own fabric and supplies you contribute to support this program.

These small quilts mean so much to the babies and their families, and I am very grateful for everyone who helps make this program possible.

Thank you all for your continued support and for the wonderful Quilties you create!

Cuties on Quilties



Phoebe just loves her quiltie!

Community Quilts

In September, I donated 10 quilts to the Lanark County Interval House. I will be sharing some quilts with Fairview Manor for their residents, shhhh it will be Christmas gifts for their residents.

At the meetings, there are kits for I Spy, 5” squares and bags of strips, choose the kit you prefer. Quilts to be binded will be at the meetings. If you need fabric, batting or help finishing a quilt, email community@almontequiltersguild.ca .

Paramedics currently have no I Spy quilts; I have a few but waiting for a few more before I drop off.

I need help with creating the quilts, add bindings on finished quilts; if you are interested add your name to the binder at meeting or email me at community@almontequiltersguild.ca

I Spy/Child size (40 x 48)
Lap quilt (42x50).
Wheelchair quilts (40 x 40)

Our donations are appreciated and special to someone who receives. More than we realize.

Workshops

The planning has started for workshops in AQG 2026-27, dates and times to be finalized. If you are interested, mark them in your calendar and email the workshop@almontequiltersguild.ca.

· Bella Coat – led by Krista Zaleski – 2 day workshop split over 2 weekends, IN person

· Other workshops to be planned based on interest. There is a binder on the table at meetings, sign up for the workshop(s) that might interest you.

If there is another style of workshop you would like to see, email workshop@almontequiltersguild.ca mailbox and I’ll research. The possibilities / creativity are endless.

Library

The Future of the Guild Library

The Almonte Quilters' Guild was informed by the Civitan, where we meet, that they can no longer store our library cart and supplies in their storage room. The library has been moved to Krista's house for temporary storage until we determine what members would find most useful going forward.

I am asking for your input into the following question to help us determine what to do with the library. You own the books and templates as a guild member. Please answer the following questions for us by Monday, October 26. Send your response to Louise Miller at gratefulelm@gmail.com.

1. How often do you use the Guild library?

2. Have you used both books and templates?

3. Would you be willing to store the guild's smaller library of books and templates at your home? A quilter's cart with wheels can be provided for transporting it to meetings?

4. Alternatively, would you be willing to store one box or crate of books/templates at your home and bring it to our in-person meetings? Several volunteers could share responsibility for the library this way.

5. Do you have a preference of what kind of books and templates we would keep in a smaller library?

Virtual Sew Days
Sat 9am - 3pm



Saturday virtual sew days continue to run weekly, every Saturday from 9am to 3pm. All are welcome to join, for all or part of any day. No signup required, just use the link which was sent to all members.

Virtual Hand Sew Days
Thurs 7pm - 9pm



Virtual hand sewing sessions will continue every second week, on Thursday nights from 7 to 9 pm.

Next sew day is Oct 22nd.

Any handwork is welcome - but no machines please.

Again, a new link was sent to all members.

If you did not receive the links, or joined since the September meeting, the zoom links can be found on the website. Simply log in and head over to "Member Home-> AQG events"

Reach out to almontequiltersguild@gmail.com if you have issues accessing the website.

Corkery Community Centre Sew Days

Fourth Tuesday of the Month
3447 Old Almonte Road, Caroll Homestead Park

We're excited to announce that we've secured sewing space at the new community centre in Corkery. Beginning in September, we'll be hosting Sew Days on the fourth Tuesday of each month, and we hope you'll join us for creativity, learning, and good company.

The centre is easy to reach year-round — the roads are paved and reliably plowed thanks to the nearby fire hall and school. Inside, you'll find a large, bright room with excellent natural and overhead lighting, perfect for sewing and quilting.

Because the space is not yet fully equipped, please bring:

- Your sewing machine and supplies
- A small table (or two) for your machine
- Your lunch, snacks, and drinks

This will be a relaxed, flexible sewing day. Work on your own projects, contribute to our charity initiatives, learn to quilt, improve your techniques, or simply enjoy time with fellow makers.

To get started, we'll be asking for a $5 donation to help cover rental costs until we see how popular the Sew Days become.

Coordinators: Leslie Whitby • Brigid Whitnall • Pam Ross

Information: lesliewhitby6@gmail.com



September Show and Share



































Show and Share

We have some great news to share with you about Show and Share!

Starting next month, we are going to be adding details to each picture in the newsletter. To help, there will be a numbered sign up sheet.

You will be asked for your name (as much of your name as you feel comfortable sharing with the guild), the pattern name (or if it is an original!) and who quilted it.

Help inspire others with your work and get the recognition you deserve!

Get Your Tickets!

50/50 Tickets
and
Seasonal Draw Tickets

Available in the shop on our Website!



We Need You

Our 2027 quilt show may seem a long way off, but it can't happen without your help and participation! To join the organizing committee, please email quiltshow@almontequiltersguild.ca.

No specific skills or previous experience necessary - we'll find a match for your interests to help us bring this show to life.

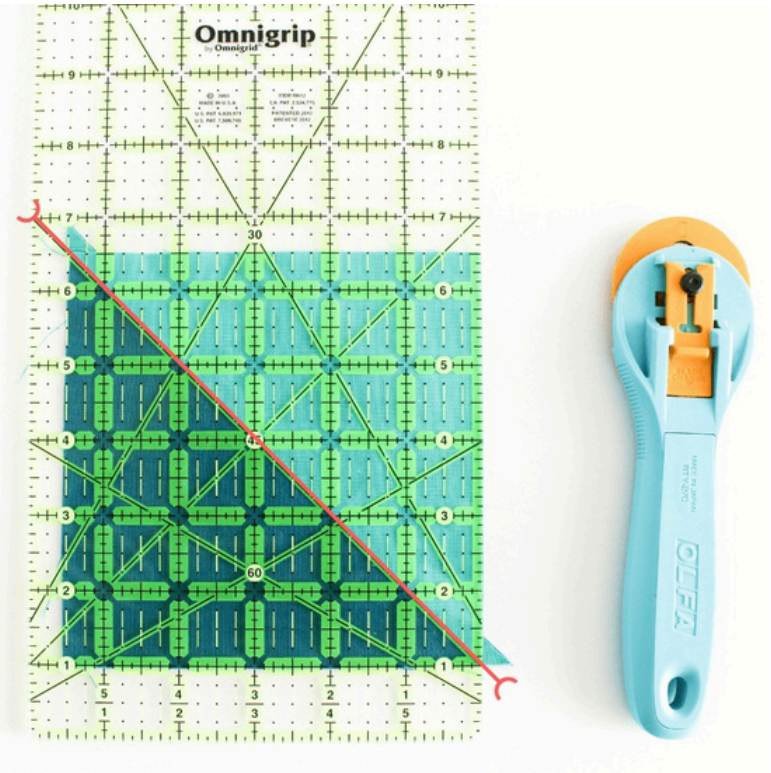
Quilting Tips, Tricks and Trivia

Squaring Up

Have you seen this term and thought, “I’ll just use a ruler and straighten the side,” and then ended up with a slightly wonky square?

Squaring up is best done with...a ruler with 45 degree lines! Plus a self healing mat and a rotery cutter.

Don't forget your half square triangle.



Here is a link to a great article on the web and a video tutorial (Karen Brown’s amazing half square triangle video, trimming starts at 7:41) for us visual learners.

Event Calendar 2026-2027

October 19	Monthy Meeting - Jenn McMillan, “A love letter to needle turn applique.” Shop on Showcase - Fabric Ink
October 23-25	**Fall Retreat**
Octoer 24-25	Global Quilt Connection
October 25	Final call for Brand Refresh ideas
November 16	Monthly Meeting - Astrid Bordush from Apples & Beavers Shop on Showcase - Sew Crafty
January 18	Monthly Meeting on Zoom - Robin Bogaert “Adding exciting techniques to your quilt repertoire”
February 15	Monthly Meeting on Zoom - Andrea Tsang Jackson “Approaches to transparency” Shop on Showcase - Watergirl Quilt Co.
March 15	Monthly Meeting on Zoom - Brandon Wulff “Trunk show of Biscotti”
April 9-11	Spring Retreat 2027
April 19	Monthly Meeting - Activities Night Shop on Showcase - Quilter’s Barns and Gifts
May 17	Monthly Meeting - AGM and Demos Shop on Showcase - Young Vintage Fabrics
June 21	Monthly Meeting - Potluck Shop on Showcase - Mad Moody Quilting Fabrics
October 2-3	2027 Quilt Show
October 15-17	Fall Retreat 2027

CQA 2027 Challenges



2027 TrendTex Challenge

Theme: Foothills and Peaks

Read More: 2027 TrendTex Challenge Guidelines



2027 Youth Challenge

Theme: My Happy Place

Read More: 2026 Youth Challenge Guidelines



2027 Member Guild Challenge

Theme: Go Wild

Read More: 2027 Go Wild Member Guild Challenge Guidelines

AQG Executive Roster 2026-2027

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 here in the AQG By-Laws

ROLE	2026-2027	e-mail address
President	Lori McCluskey	president@almontequiltersguild.ca
Vice President	Krista Zaleski	vp@almontequiltersguild.ca
Treasurer	Pam Ross	treasurer@almontequiltersguild.ca
Secretary	Robin Hall	secretary@almontequiltersguild.ca
Program	Carol Dworschak	program@almontequiltersguild.ca
Webmaster	Jessica Tripp	webmaster@almontequiltersguild.ca
Membership	Kathy Panagapko	membership@almontequiltersguild.ca
Newsletter	Mara Harrison	almontequiltersguild@gmail.com
Community Project	Pam Weatherby	community@almontequiltersguild.ca
Quilties	Rita Martin	almontequiltersguild@gmail.com
Retreat	Cate MacLean	retreat@almontequiltersguild.ca
Workshop	Pamela Weatherby	workshop@almontequiltersguild.ca
Block of the Month	John Rait	almontequiltersguild@gmail.com
Social	Cate MacLean	almontequiltersguild@gmail.com
Library	Louise Miller & Zuzana Dobias	almontequiltersguild@gmail.com
Quilt Show Chair	Krista Zaleski	quiltshow@almontequiltersguild.ca
Communication	TBA	almontequiltersguild@gmail.com