Almonte Quilters Guild Monthly Newsletter

November 2026 **PRESIDENT - LORI MCCLUSKEY**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello Fellow Quilters,

Quilters have a special way of expressing gratitude and remembrance. As we reflect on Remembrance Day, I encourage our members to consider supporting Quilts of Valour – Canada throughout the year. Whether by making a quilt, contributing blocks, or volunteering your time, every stitch is a meaningful way to contribute.

We also have an exciting milestone ahead for our guild! At our November 16 meeting, we'll reveal the proposed designs for our **guild's New Branding**. Our committee has been working to develop designs that reflect both our quilting heritage and our connection to the Almonte community.

Members attending the meeting will have an opportunity to vote for their preferred design. Those unable to attend will receive an email with both options and instructions for casting their vote, ensuring everyone has a voice in shaping our guild's new look.

I look forward to seeing everyone on November 16 as we honour our traditions and look ahead to an exciting new chapter for AQG.

Happy quilting!
Lori

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:

Sue Turner
B.J. Thomson
Allison Warren
GF – Cate MacLean

No Drinks Are Provided.



AQG BRAND REFRESH

We Want Your Vote!



Members are invited to attend the guild meeting to review the proposed rebrand options compiled based on your submissions.

Thank you to everyone who shared ideas for our new visual identity! The Branding Committee has developed a set of proposed options from the many thoughtful and creative ideas you submitted.

Please join us at the guild meeting to review the options and vote on your preferred design.

How to get involved

- Attend the guild meeting on November 16, 2026.
- Review the proposed AQG visual identity options (logo, nametags and Guild banner).
- Vote on your preferred design at the meeting.

Attend & Vote
At the Guild Meeting
November 16, 2026
IN PERSON
Email option also available

What are we looking for?

OUR NORTH STAR

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.

Our Journey, Your Vote

Our goal is to honour AQG's history while creating a visual identity that reflects the Guild we are today.

WE ARE HERE

FORM COMMITTEE	GATHER IDEAS	DEVELOP OPTIONS	REVIEW OPTIONS & VOTE	FINALIZE & LAUNCH	CREATE THE BANNER	SHOWCASE
Aug 2026	*Sept 2026*	*Oct 2026*	***Nov 16, 2026***	*Dec 2026*	*Jan–Apr 2027*	*2027*

Attend & Vote at the Guild Meeting!
An email vote will be available for those who cannot attend.

Program

Carol Dworschak

November



Astrid Bordush, owner of Apples & Beavers in Ottawa, will be showing off her beautiful work. She enjoys discovering new styles and techniques, and is mostly passionate about modern quilting. Astrid creates patterns and keeps them at a manageable level of difficulty, for all to enjoy. We look forward to welcoming her and seeing her creations.

Shop on Showcase

Sew Crafty

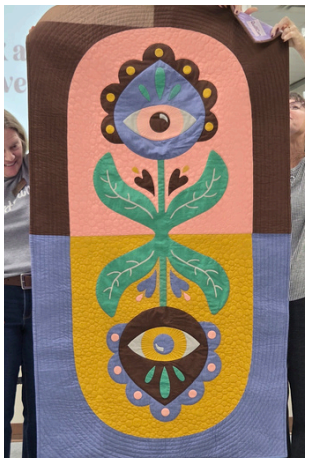
October Recap

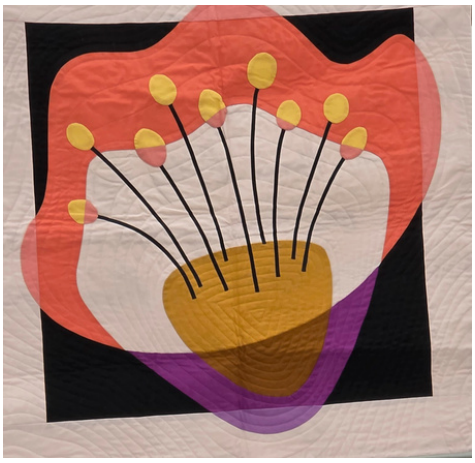


Jenn McMillan, A Love Letter to Needle-Turn Appliqué

Jenn shared her beautiful quilts with intricate hand stitching which gave her quilts a beautiful touch. The added stories along with heart-felt poetry completed this trunk show which may have brought a tear to some, as she spoke about her grandmother. Thank you Jenn for your inspirational show.



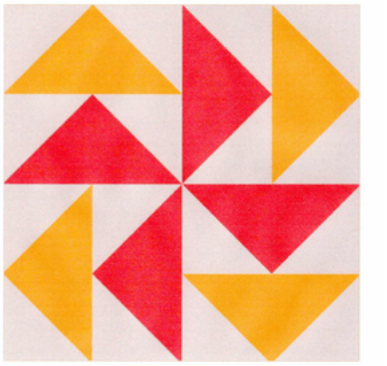




November Block of the Month

John Rait

This Month's Block of the Month will result in a 10 1/2" unfinished block. Please see the cutting instructions below.



The fabric selection should be as follows:
Light fabric - White solid
Medium fabric - Green solid
Dark fabric - Red Solid

Cutting Chart

	Colour and Shape	Finished Size
		10"
Cut 16		3" x 3"
Cut 4		3" x 5.5"
Cut 4		3" x 5.5"

Block Construction
NOTE: for all seams, use a scant 1/4" and a 2.0mm stitch length. Your unfinished block will be 1/2" larger than the finished size.

Make all your flying geese using the Quick Corner Method. Then arrange all your flying geese as show in diagram 1.

Notice that your block is a 4-patch (2x2 grid). Sew the geese into pairs and then together to form the block



diagram 1

How to Make Quick Corner Flying Geese:

Step 1 - Draw a diagonal line on the wrong side of each of your squares - white fabric. (Figure 1)

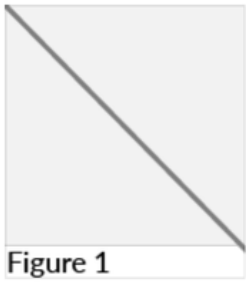


Figure 1

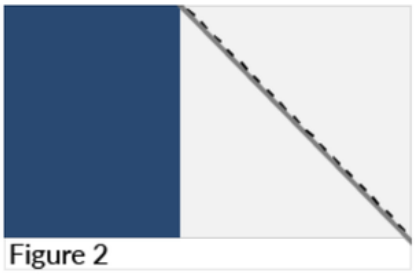


Figure 2

Step 2 - With **right sides together**, align one marked smaller square with one edge of the rectangle as shown in Figure 2. Stitch one thread width to the outside of the diagonal line.

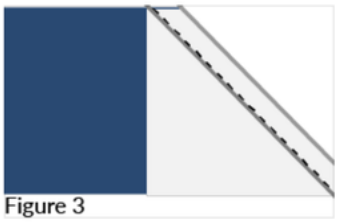


Figure 3

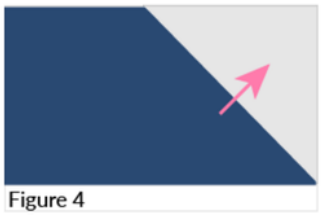


Figure 4

Step 3 - Cut 1/4" outside the stitching line as shown in Figure 3. Press the triangle open and the seam allowance toward the triangle (Figure 4).

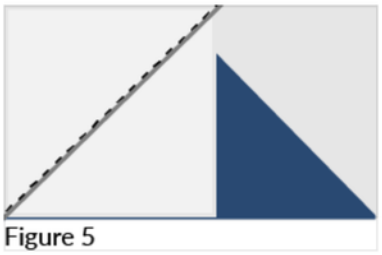


Figure 5

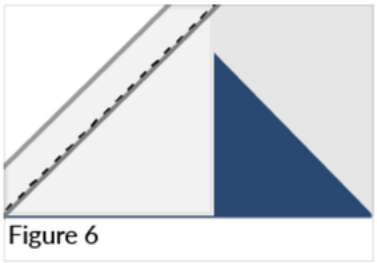


Figure 6

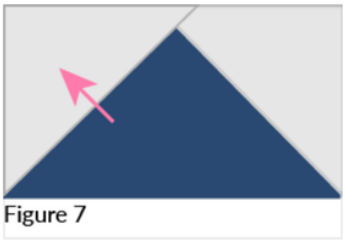


Figure 7

Repeat steps 2 and 3 for the other side of the rectangle to complete the unit.

Tip

When you use the Quick Corner Method for making Flying Geese save the corners you clip off and use them as “leaders” and “enders” as you chain piece to turn them into small HST units. Accumulate a pile of these over time, then you can assemble them to make blocks in other projects.

Quilties

Rita Martin

AQG Quiltie Program

Thank you to all the members who brought completed quilties to our October meeting. I look forward to seeing these beautifully made little quilts for the babies at Almonte General Hospital each month. Since July 1, we have delivered 180 quilties to the hospital—a wonderful achievement of which we can all be proud!

Please stop by my table at the meetings to drop off your completed quilties. I have a limited supply of batting and backing available for those who would like to pick some up to supplement their own stash.

As an added thank-you, you will receive one ticket for each completed quiltie you donate. A prize draw will take place at the meeting.

As we move to Zoom for our next three meetings, you are welcome to bring completed quilties to my home or drop them off at Textile Traditions in Almonte.

If you prefer to make quiltie tops, please bring those along as well. Louise Miller has kindly offered to quilt them, with the goal of having them completed in time for our April 2027 meeting. Please ensure that all quilt tops are dropped off by March 1.

Library

Louise Miller and Zuzana Dobias

The Future of the Guild Library

The quilt guild library is a resource of books and templates made available to members. Because we can no longer store our library at the Civitan where we meet, the library will be reduced in size. Three members have volunteered to take a wheeled cart of books or templates home each month.

The Librarians are in the process of choosing books to keep that focus on technique rather than books with just patterns. Templates will be kept with directions on how to use each of them. We will attempt to keep available books that give instructions on how to use the template in our library.

At the November meeting the books that will not be kept in the library will be offered for sale. Each book will be sold for $2.00. Please bring your toonies to buy discarded Library books.



Sew Days

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.

Starting November 28th, some members will be working on Bonnie Hunter's mystery during our Saturday sew days. Everyone is still welcome - work on your own project, join the Bonnie Hunter crew, or come for the chit chat. Bonnie has released her colours for this year, and you can find more info on her blog at quiltville.com

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 days are Nov. 12 and Nov. 26

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

Leslie Whitby • Brigid Whitnall • Pam Ross

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

Our next sew day is November 24, 2026 from 9-3 pm at the Corkery Community Centre. Come for the day or drop by for a visit. 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.

Information: lesliewhitby6@gmail.com

Upcoming sewing dates:
Dec 8 (earlier in month because of Christma
Jan 26
Feb 23
March 23
April 27
May 25
June 22
July 27
August 24



Community Quilts

Pam Weatherby

I received this thank you note from our donation to the Lanark County Interval House:

> On behalf of everyone at Lanark County Interval House, thank you to the members of Almonte Quilters Guild for your generous donation of quilts.
> Your thoughtful gift will provide warmth, comfort, and a sense of care to the women and children accessing our services. The time, skill, and kindness that went into creating each quilt makes this donation especially meaningful.
> We are truly grateful for your support and commitment to helping members of our community. Your generosity helps us continue providing safety, support, and hope to those who need it most.
> Thank you again for thinking of Lanark County Interval House and the local families we serve.
> With gratitude,
> Lanark County Interval House & Community Support

Another 10 quilts will be dropped off this month to Fairview Manor for the residents.

Always looking for 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

Quilt sizes:
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 Zalenski – 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.

Official registration will be done thru the website.

October Show and Share





Red stash busters designed and quilted by Rita Martin



Beth van Wyngarden repurposed her quilt to make this Mariner Coat.





Bonnie Leclair designed this thoughtful memory quilt for a friend. She will be quilting it herself.







Louise made herself this log cabin quilt. The black and white quilt is for fellow guild member Zuzanna to thank her for her hospitality when Louise moved here. Finally, a miniature quilt!



A vibrant star quilt featuring a wonderful variety of fabrics.

Note:

Please remember to fill in the sign up sheet so we can let guild members know more about you and your wonderful quilts.

Leslie Whitby designed and quilted this wall hanging to honour our Truth and Reconciliation with Canada's First Nations people.



Get Your Tickets!

Jessica Tripp

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. Or see Krista Zaleski at the November meeting.

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

Community Outreach

Carol Dworschak

“Calling for Volunteers”

We are excited to try a new initiative, and see how much interest there is. We have contacted the Mississippi Mills Youth Centre and would like to offer mini workshops to our youth. Since the audience would be between 10-15 years of age, we are looking at teaching the basics of sewing where they could take home a little project for themselves (such as a keychain, bookmark, scrunchie, etc) and maybe eventually work on community quilts.

Our short-term goal in teaching youth to sew would be for them to enter their sewing projects into the Almonte Fair Homecraft Exhibitions where they could possibly win a prize, and long-term goal would be to recruit them as future quilters, where they have a chance to enter quilts in the Canadian Quilters Association Youth Challenge. How exciting would that be.

How can you help?
1) We need a few volunteers to host free 2 hour workshops at the Mississippi Mills Youth Centre in Almonte
2) we are looking for basic sewing machines that you are willing to lend to the Youth Centre for 2 hours at a time (this is not a donation)
3) we are looking for scraps of fabric big enough for small projects such as keychains, bookmarks, scrunchies, etc.

If you are interested in more details, or even participating in this initiative, please reach out to Carol Dworschak at program@almontequiltersguild.ca or come see me at November’s in-person meeting.

Quilting Tips, Tricks and Trivia





Quilted Christmas Gift Ideas

Scandinavian Star - folded fabric, no sewing, quick and easy to make.

Folded Fabric Ornament - two fabrics, minimal sewing, fantastic result.

Kaleidoscope Christmas Star - again, two fabrics, minimal sewing, fantastic result.

Wine Bottle Bag - who doesn't like getting a bottle of wine in a beautiful bag.

Event Calendar 2026-2027

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: 2027 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