QUILT CONNECTIONS

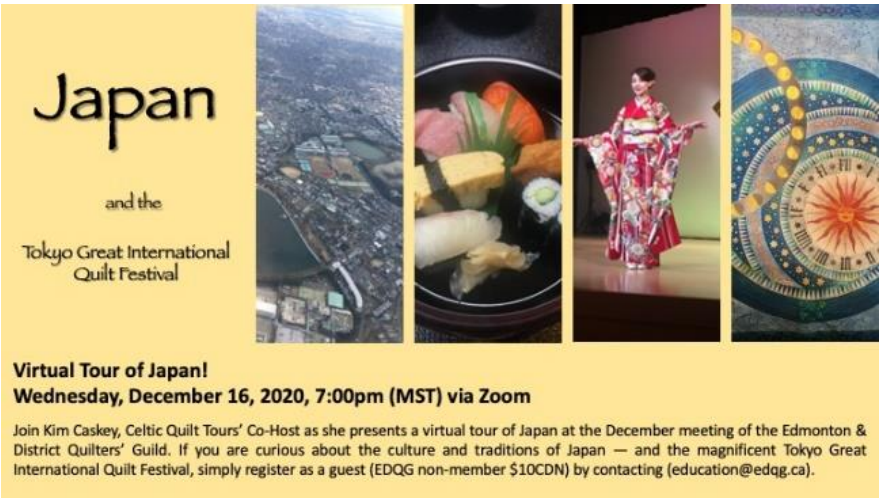
Edmonton and District Quilters' Guild Newsletter

Box 68004 70 Bonnie Doon Mall P.O. Edmonton, Alberta T6C 4N6
www.edqg.ca

Issue 385: December 2020

December- Kim Caskey

Virtual Tour of Japan



Sit back with a cup of tea (or maybe some Sake) and join our guild member and co-host of Celtic Quilt Tours, Kim Caskey as she takes us on a special virtual tour through Japan! Her recent (January 2020) tour through Kyoto, Osaka, and Tokyo was full of interesting and inspiring sights such as Shinto Shrines, the Senso-ji Temple, Tokyo Tower, and even a 4D flight simulator ride over the beautiful Mt. Fuji and area.

The world-famous Tokyo International Great Quilt Festival, with over 1800 quilts on display and 200 vendors, offered a wide variety of goods that every quilter and stitcher could want in this, the largest quilt market! The hanging quilt displays offered magnificent and masterful quilts in numerous themes and categories, including special exhibits such as, Yoko Saito's "Musicals are Full of Happiness - Mary Poppins" and Featured Quilter Keiko Goke's spectacular 50 Years of Quilting exhibit."

December 16 Guild Meeting
Zoom "doors" open at 7:00 pm and the meeting starts at 7:15 pm
Chat will be open for 15 minutes after the end of the meeting

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Musings from the Chair

"Generosity brings happiness at every stage of its expression.
We experience joy in forming the intention to be generous.
We experience joy in the actual act of giving something.
And we experience joy in remembering the fact that we have given."
– Buddha



Quilters are generous people and the members of EDQG are no exception. Over the past three months we have seen EDQG members provide quilts for children, for veterans and, in November, when the Community Service team headed by Judi Coté put out the call for pillowcases, hundreds were donated for those facing homelessness in Edmonton. And as you read this newsletter, I have no doubt that many are putting the finishes touches on special gifts for family and friends.

EDQG is so fortunate to have members who are generous with their time, volunteering to serve on committees and as members of the board. There are many others who show their generosity by sharing their knowledge and skills while helping others to achieve their goals. Members have volunteered to help others learn about Zoom so they could participate in our virtual meetings. Each time a call for help is made, people have come forward.

For many, the month of December is a time for celebration – with candles and lights an important part of Christmas, Chanukah, Kwanzaa, the winter solstice, and other special days. When the first snow fell this year and I watched as the neighbourhood children embraced it with joy, I thought how amazing it is that children can see the wonder of so many things. While this December will be different for many of us, my wish for each of you is to enjoy the lights, find the "wonder" and happiness around you, experience joy and have peace in your heart!

- Susan Mooney, EDQG Chair

Have You…Signed up for Member's access on the new EDQG website https://edqg.ca ? Don't wait, do it today!

Have you joined the "EDQG Members" Facebook page? Inspiration, encouragement, and wisdom await!

Guild Meetings to Continue via Zoom

The Zoom links will continue to be sent via e-blast two days prior to the guild meeting so be sure to check your email on the Monday prior to the regular meeting. The link will also be posted on the Members Only Facebook page on the day of the meeting but remember, you must be signed up to see the page.

ANNOUNCEMENT

We are very happy to announce that **Darlene Stasiuk** (new member – YAY!) and **Cathy Tomm** have stepped up to volunteer to work on the Retreat Committee – THANK YOU!

A few more members on the Retreat Committee would be most welcome and appreciated. If anyone would like to join in planning and executing this event, please email retreats@edqg.ca

- Kim Caskey, Director, Education

Virtual Retreat

Hello fellow quilters. We have not yet heard whether we can head out to Camp He Ho Ha for the annual Spring Retreat event, so, for now, are planning to hold a Virtual Retreat through Zoom the weekend of March 26, 27 & 28, 2021.

We will create an interesting and entertaining weekend. Details will be provided as soon as we finalize the program.

Sew Days

This winter, plan to join Cathy for informal sewing days on Zoom. Our first one is planned for Saturday, January 2, 2021 at 9 a.m. till 5 p.m.

Sew Days will be free to all current EDQG members and guests can join for $5.00 (by contacting education@edqg.ca). We can chat and show off our current projects while sewing and enjoying our own sewing space. It will be just like a UFO day but without the packing up of your machine or driving in the snow!

A second Sew Day has been planned for Saturday, February 6, 2021, so if you can't join us on January 2, watch for registration details in the January newsletter.

To register, please email Kim at education@edqg.ca for all the details.

Hope to see you from your sewing room!

- Darlene Stasiuk, Retreat Committee Chair
- Cathy Tomm, Sew Day Committee Chair



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These are interesting times for us all and we need to stay positive and creative. We are available for "window shopping" at our classroom window, Curbside pick-up and mail out. Call, email or order on-line. We will get through this together!
Check us on Facebook Pinterest Instagram or www.quiltessentialco.ca

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MEMBERSHIP

I am happy to report that our membership is growing and we now have 183 members. Our attendance at our Zoom meetings has been around 70%. Although it would be better to meet in person, just think, you don't have to don your big coat and boots to enjoy the wonderful program that we have to offer.

Don't forget about bringing a guest! The first guest you bring will attend the meeting free of charge! Each additional guest will be subject to the guest fee of $10. For any email address or other contact information to update, or guest registration, please contact membership@edqg.ca.

- Judy Elliot, Membership Chair

Shining the Spotlight



The **Fibre Art Network,** a co-operative of Western Canadian artists committed to promoting fibre as an art form and each other as artists, includes emerging fibre artists, teachers, authors and judges. **20/20 Vision** was created to celebrate FAN's 20th anniversary and members were invited to explore their 20/20 vision to look forward or back to interpret the subject figuratively or literally.

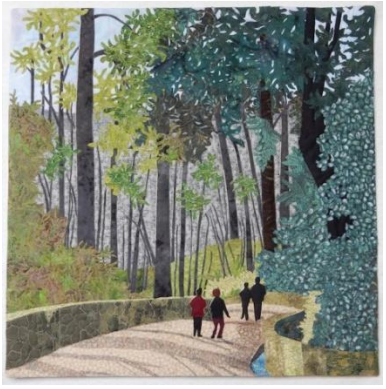
Three members of the Edmonton and District Quilters' Guild exhibited their work in the **20/20 Vision** exhibition. **Yvonne Bilan-Wallace, Dianne Firth** and **Sharon Rubuliak**

Yvonne Bilan-Wallace: 20 Years, 20 Ways, A Textile Artist:
In 2000, when my mother's memory began to fail it motivated me to make my first quilt using photos. This marked the start of a new artistic passion with textiles. This quilt is a story of 20 years of exploration using both traditional and non-traditional methods.

Dianne Firth: From Hand to Art
From Hand to Art, a marriage of hand quilting to present day surface design techniques. A representation of a 20-year vision.

Sharon Rubuliak: After the Storm
A sudden spring snow squall and chilly rain made for an uncomfortable day at Fortress Alhambra. Fortunately, the late afternoon sun illuminated a path for weary visitors heading back to town, bestowing a new perspective from which to weigh the burdens of Spanish history and the blessings of modern life. Sharon's piece was sold in Peachland BC following the 20/20 Vision show.

If you would like to view all of the artwork in this exhibition, there is a virtual show on the CQA website at https://canadianquilter.com/news/two-new-virtual-concurrent-shows/


After The Storm- Sharon Rubuliak



From Hand to Art- Dianne Firth


20 Years 20 Ways a Textile Artist- Yvonne Bilan Wallace

PROGRAM

November's meeting introduced us to Veruschka Zarate of Pride & Joy Quilting, with her amazing Foundation Paper Piecing creations. Look for her pattern book entitled "Empowerment: Quilts Honoring Women in Activism", which is available for pre-order through C&T publishing now and will be available in stores in December.

Our December Show & Tell segment will focus on Holidays Then and Now, so please start thinking about your favourite Winter/Holidays/Christmas creations that you've completed over the years and send Judy (judym.elliot@gmail.com) your photos and stories by December 13.

We want your creations to be clear and crisp, so please send your photos in the highest resolution you can in .jpg or .jpeg format. Your email program may ask you what size you would like to send your photo…please choose 'maximum' or actual' size. If you are unsure which photo to send, you can send more than one and Judy will choose the best one. Along with your photo, please send the title and a short introduction to your piece.

Here's a sneak peek of programming plans into the New Year which will include:

January's speaker: Dawn Piasta of DewPoint Arts: Trunk Show a-la-Mode.
You are invited to delve into my 'creative a la mode' and share my excitement for the inspired process and passion for art quilting. Dawn will also be hosting two workshops on February 13 and 14, 2021 (more details and registration available at www.edqg.ca).

Workshops (All workshops are virtual)

January 23, 2021 Workshop: Scrappy Playtime (Cathy Tomm)
(Teaching Grant Workshop)
Pre-class: Monday, January 18 (7:00-8:00 p.m.)

Come join Cathy to play with your pretty scraps. Making fabric out of nothing! She will show you how she cuts, sorts and stores her scraps in a rainbow of colour. She will then show you how to use tiny bits of fabric. You will build fabric using your precious scraps with a few poverty piecing techniques shown. The larger blocks will be based on traditional quilt blocks but will have used poverty piecing to add greater interest and texture. Students can choose the Bouncy Ball block or a Friendship Star block (some students may have time for both blocks). There will be a one-hour pre-class presentation to give you time to sort through your scraps before the workshop.

February 13, 2021 Workshop: Milagro (Dawn Piasta)

In Mexico, little wishes are represented by tiny charms called Milagros. The charms are traditionally used for healing purposes and as votive offerings in Mexico. Let the artisans of Chiapas & Oaxaca regions of Mexico be the base of inspiration to you throughout this workshop. Because Mexico is not only margaritas & sandy beaches.

Using Intense Pencil & blocks, applique and thread you will create a keepsake that will make you want to shake your maracas! You will be introduced to the Appliquick method of applique.

February 14, 2021 Workshop: Bojagi (Dawn Piasta)

Have a fun day creating a one-of-a-kind piece of art. You will spend the day learning design concepts related to composition and colour while using your fabric scraps. We will focus on the ancient art of Bojagi, a Korean textile technique which roughly translates as "covering" or "wrapping cloth." Bojagi is traditionally a square piece of cloth skillfully constructed from a variety of leftover scrap fabrics.

Workshop registration forms can be found on the EDQG website under Program at a Glance/Workshops (www.edqg.ca).

Further information regarding programming will be announced as speakers are confirmed. Stay tuned!

- Kim Caskey, Director of Education (education@edqg.ca)
- Cynthia Kunkel-Bokovay, Program Co-Chair (program@edqg.ca)
- Hilary Lynas, Program Co-Chair (program@edqg.ca)

A Note from Friends

There are times in everyone's life when a note of celebration, appreciation, encouragement or other expressions of caring may be called for. The Communications Committee would like to respond to those.

If you are aware of a situation in a fellow guild member's life that warrants such acknowledgement, please let us know by email: communications@edqg.ca

COMMUNITY SERVICE

EDQG member Linda Tutt, who is also a volunteer with the Society of St. Vincent De Paul, submitted the following email:

"What a pleasure it was to pick up the Edmonton & District Quilters Guild donations this morning. I was able to deliver them to the Society of St Vincent de Paul's Distribution Centre where the 12 full size quilts, 12 toddler/baby quilts and 60-70 pillow cases will be paired with bed sheets and delivered in conjunction with bed deliveries, to those in need. **Please thank the quilters involved and relay our gratitude of the countless hours, talent and supplies that went into each of these quilts.** I can reassure the Guild that these will not be sitting on a shelf but will be delivered soon to those asking for support and to those living in the greater Edmonton area. Some examples of recipients will be single moms, low income families, refugee families, and folks transitioning to independent living, such as the homeless and those from shelters. Below is a photo of the quilts at the St Vincent de Paul Distribution Centre, where you can see in the background the bundles of bedding, ready to be delivered with the beds."

See next page…

Linda also found out that the Edmonton Conference Centre Temporary Shelter does not accept donations at the site but one of the Shelter's sponsors, the Bissel Thrift Store, 8818-118 Avenue, can accept on their behalf. Items can be delivered to the thrift store and on the bag, mark "For the Community Closet, Edmonton Conference Centre". With that label, the donation will not end up in the thrift store, but will be quarantined and then delivered to the Temporary Shelter. Pillows are not handed out at the Centre, but the pillow cases can be stuffed with their jackets or clothing and used as pillows. Both Erica at the shelter and Madhu at the thrift store, thought this idea and donation was brilliant and very thoughtful.

On another note, if Guild members are interested in donating further to the Temporary Shelter, they are in need of the following:



- lip balm
- men's clothing
- warm outwear - not dressy
- warm gloves/mitts - not thin or dressy
- neck warmers, no long scarves
- small containers of personal hygiene products, such as toothpaste, shampoo, toothpaste, deodorant. Large containers will just be discarded-not practical
- warm boots - not dressy
- winter thicker socks - not thin sock

These items can be delivered to the Bissel Thrift Store, 8818-118 Avenue and marked "For Community Closet, Edmonton Conference Centre" if the Temporary Shelter is the recipient of choice.

The Edmonton Conference Centre's Temporary Shelter is operated cooperatively by Bissell Centre, Boyle Street Community Services, The Mustard Seed and Bent Arrow Healing Society. The Hope Mission operates other homeless shelters. The Society of St Vincent de Paul helps those who are in need but live independently. All these charities will accept donations online and will issue a tax receipt.



I am so thankful that so many of you responded to my request for pillow cases. Please call me if you have more to pick up. My husband and I will drop them off next week. (780-436-4392) They will be welcomed and appreciated. The quilts also will make a big difference in the lives of people really struggling. I know you will continue to give in many ways and it makes belonging to the EDQG very special.

Merry Christmas and Peace to your house,

- Judi Coté, Chair, Community Services Committee

Library

I think EDQG Library activity will be pretty quiet for the next few months. We will not have access to the FFAA Studio for book pick up in December and January. Thank you to all the members who returned their EDQG library books that were signed out last February. They are all accounted for.

Book Highlights for December:

Here are two book titles of interest which I would like to purchase when we are back to meeting in person:

- *Empowerment: Quilts Honoring Women in Activism; Projects Featuring Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Frida Kahlo, Angela Davis & Jane Goodall,* by Veruschka Zarate, C & T Publishing, 2020, $27.95 US.
  Wasn't the presentation by Veruschka at our November meeting wonderful! This is her first book, a book of patterns for her amazing paper pieced creations!
- *Alberta Quiltmakers and their Quilts*, by Lucie Heins, Friends of the Royal Alberta Museum Society, 2021. This book is at the publishers now, so the price is yet to be determined. If you would like your own copy, you can go on the FRAMS website and leave your e-mail address to be contacted once the book is available.

I hope everyone is getting some sewing and quilting time. I have been working on masks and pillowcases, and hope to finish one Christmas quilt. The projects pictured on the EDQG Facebook page and at our online Show and Share are super!

Happy quilting everyone, and I hope everyone has a happy holiday time, however we spend it this year!

- Sandra Plouffe (library@edqg.ca) 780-432-9108

Edmonton Festival of Quilts

2021 Festival of Quilts - Sharing the heART of Quilting!

2021 Feature Quilter Announcement

The Feature Quilter Selection Committee (non-guild members) was charged with a very difficult job but they submitted their choice and we were able to announce the winner during the November 18th (Zoom) program meeting. The Committee noted the challenge of selecting just one winner as all of the candidates are extremely worthy of the honour and are amazing women.

We are pleased to announce that **LOIS MILLER** has been chosen as the 2021 Feature Quilter.

Stay tuned for a Quilt Show Committee announcement regarding an event to showcase Lois' work.

- Darlene Conroy, Quilt Show Committee

Virtual Quilt Show Photography Help

The Quilt Show Committee is in the process of planning a virtual quilt show for our members to showcase some of their recent work. In preparation for this show, we have found an on-line tutorial teaching you how to create good quality photographs of your quilts. This short video tutorial will help you avoid some of the common mistakes made when taking pictures of your beautiful quilts. Here is the link to that tutorial:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pB74EcjJOgU&feature=youtu.be

Quilt Show

The online 50/50 has been set up through Rafflebox. Please visit this link to get your tickets! https://rafflebox.ca/raffle/edmquilters

The money raised will go towards the venue rental cost for our next quilt show. (Note: The purchase of tickets will appear on your credit card as follows: BAM*Edmonton and Distr Victoria BC. BAM stands for Bambora which is the company that deals with the ticket sales and collection of funds.) At the time this article was written, there was already $810.00 in ticket sales. The draw will take place on Saturday, February 6, 2021 at the FFAA Studio. I know it feels like the next Quilt Show is a long way away but the time will go quickly. By using the time between now and then, we can more easily raise the funds needed for the show well in advance. Thanks for your support!

The Quilt Show Committee is currently working on a few events for our EDQG members. In light of the COVID-19 situation and the resulting current restrictions, it is difficult to plan events. Please know that we will hold events that adhere to the current AHS guidelines.

We are planning to have an event to showcase the work of our Feature Quilter, Lois Miller.

We are also planning a Virtual Quilt Show and are busy working out the logistics and details of that event. This small, fun, virtual event will be a great opportunity for members who have never entered a quilt show to participate.

We hope to have more specific information for you soon! In the meantime, keep sewing, and have a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! I miss seeing everyone in person and look forward to the time when we can gather in the New Year.

- Myrna Purser, EDQG Festival of Quilts, 2021 Quilt Show Chair



2021 Prairie Rose Scavenger Hunt

It's all about you!

Clue #5 Travel

I appreciate that this is a wistful topic for so many of us, maybe especially so those "Snow Birds" among us. As we think about travel, are you a "stay home in your nest and make short forays" kind of traveller? Or are you a "take a cruise" kind of traveller? Or are you a "take in as many vacation spots as possible constantly checking your glorious itinerary" traveller? Or have you hiked the Camino de Santiago?

Using the procedure of your choice apply your travel ideas. Bias tape, big stitch with perle cotton or your sashiko machine could be used. This may also be the time to layer up your quilt to best take advantage of whatever application method and process you choose.

Do you have some travel mementos that you brought home and now wonder what to do with? Charms on that bracelet you haven't worn since who knows when?

Like travelling, you can cover your piece from any and all directions.

-Kathy Strawson, Past Chair

Focus on Fibre Art Association

FFAA Seeks VP and Chair for 2021 Exhibition Committee

Due to unforeseen circumstances, a key member of our leadership team has had to step down. As a result, FFAA is seeking a new Vice-President as well as a new Chair of the 2021 '*Self-Expression*' Exhibition Committee. We are looking for volunteers from within the membership (guild members as well as individual FFAA members) to take on these positions.

The FFAA Vice-President helps to plan and implement activities for the benefit of FFAA members.

The Chair of the Exhibition Committee oversees the planning and staging of a non-judged exhibition of fibre artworks in June/July 2021 in the Focus on Fibre Art Studio. A budget has been prepared and the call for entry has been drafted. The committee has a couple of volunteers signed up to help and more are expected.

FFAA has a dedicated group of volunteers who are working hard to fulfill our mandate to offer skill-building workshops and showcase your fibre art. We need more help from members to continue to deliver the programs that you have said you value and want to see continue.

Please step up to volunteer in whatever capacity you can to help the leadership team and to make the '*Self-Expression*' exhibition a reality.

If anyone would like to volunteer or for more information, please contact me at info@focusonfibreart.org.

Thank you,

-Vicki Robson, President, Focus on Fibre Art Association

Wanted: A Walk in the Mountains

I am sure many of us would like a walk in the mountains about now! But I am referring to the wildflower pattern from "Piece 'O Cake" designs, by Becky Goldsmith and Linda Jenkins. I purchased this pattern some time ago and now can only find one section- the one I started on! I would be happy to either purchase or borrow this pattern. Please contact me at brandis.purcell@shaw.ca or 403-512-8347.



Calendar of Events

Guild items are in **BOLD**

2020

December

- **Dec 14** **Stitching Connection Virtual Meeting: 9:30 a.m.**
- **Dec 16** **EDQG Monthly Virtual Guild Meeting: 7:00 p.m.**

2021

January

- **Jan 2** **EDQG Virtual Sew Day 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.**
- **Jan 5** **Stitching Connection Virtual Meeting 7:00 p.m.**
- **Jan 18** **Stitching Connection Virtual Meeting 9:30 a.m.**
- **Jan 20** **EDQG Monthly Virtual Guild Meeting: 7:00 p.m.**
- **Jan 26** **Coffee Bee Group Virtual Meeting 7:00 p.m.**

February

- **Feb 2** **Stitching Connection Virtual Meeting 7:00 p.m.**
- **Feb 6** **EDQG Virtual Sew Day 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.**
- **Feb 15** **Stitching Connection Virtual Meeting 9:30 a.m.**
- **Feb 17** **EDQG Monthly Virtual Guild Meeting: 7:00 p.m.**
- **Feb 23** **Coffee Bee Group Virtual Meeting 7:00 p.m.**

March

- **Mar 2** **Stitching Connection Virtual Meeting 7:00 p.m.**
- **Mar 15** **Stitching Connection Virtual Meeting 9:30 a.m.**
- **Mar 17** **EDQG Monthly Virtual Guild Meeting: 7:00 p.m.**
- **Mar 23** **Coffee Bee Group Virtual Meeting 7:00 p.m.**
- **Mar 26-28** **EDQG Virtual Retreat**



April

- **Apr 6** **Stitching Connection Meeting 7:00 p.m.**
- **Apr 19** **Stitching Connection Meeting 9:30 a.m.**
- **Apr 21** **EDQG Monthly Virtual Guild Meeting: 7:00 p.m.**
- **Apr 27** **Coffee Bee Group Virtual Meeting 7:00 p.m.**

May

- **May 4** **Stitching Connection Meeting 7:00 p.m.**
- **May 17** **Stitching Connection Meeting 9:30 a.m.**
- **May 19** **EDQG Monthly Virtual Guild Meeting: 7:00 p.m.**
- **May 25** **Coffee Bee Group Virtual Meeting 7:00 p.m.**

June

- **Jun 1** **Stitching Connection Meeting 7:00 p.m.**
- **Jun 16** **EDQG Monthly Virtual Guild Meeting: 7:00 p.m.**
- **Jun 21** **Stitching Connection Meeting 9:30 a.m.**
- **Jun 22** **Coffee Bee Group Virtual Meeting 7:00 p.m.**

Stitching Connection

Stitching Connection will be meeting via Zoom until the end of the year, at which point we will re-evaluate the situation to decide where to go from there. We will be meeting on the usual dates, the first Tuesday of the month at 7pm and the third Monday morning at 9:30. Join us if you would like to participate in some show and tell and conversation! Let Ethel Ray know if you would like to add your name to our email mailout list: ethel.wellspring@gmail.com

Coffee Bee Group

The Coffee Bee Group meets on the Tuesday of the week after the guild meetings. Normally, we would alternate between two different locations, one on the south side and one on the North side of Edmonton, but with COVID-19, we are meeting virtually on ZOOM.

This is a group that gets together to talk all things quilting. Each year, we select a quilt pattern and make a quilt to donate to the EDQG charity. It is usually an easy to do pattern that doesn't require buying fabric, assuming you have a stash to draw from!

Best of all, this group is open to everyone and is "Drop In" – so no commitment! New Guild members are always welcome!

Please feel free to join us when and if you can. If you have any questions, please contact Myrna Purser at 780-464-9047 or email at myrnapurser@hotmail.com

Newsletter Submissions: Email your submission to **newsletter@edqg.ca** . Please use EDQG Newsletter as the subject line. Your submission should include your name and contact information. We encourage submissions from members such as book reviews, articles about the accomplishments of guild members (Shining the Spotlight), upcoming events of interest to quilters, information on free patterns, websites, tips and tricks or new quilting ideas or techniques. We reserve the right to edit articles. If you are including photos with your submission, you must include information about the person or group to be given credit for the photo and confirmation of permission to publish the photos with your submission. We reserve the right to publish submissions without photos if the necessary information and permissions are not provided.

Website Submissions: email your submissions to the webmaster, Charlene, at **webmaster@edqg.ca**. The same rules apply to pictures submitted for posting on the website as apply to pictures submitted to be printed in the Newsletter

Newsletter Ads: email requests to Communications Chair: communications@edqg.ca

Check the website regularly for additional news: http://www.edqg.ca/

Deadline for submissions to the January 2021 newsletter:
Monday, December 28, 2020