QUILT CONNECTIONS

Edmonton and District Quilters' Guild Newsletter

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

Issue 389: April 2021

April- Pat Archibald

Pat Archibald: Design Tips for Inspired Quilts





"Travels are inspiring in so many ways. You arrive home with so many thoughts and you really want to make a quilt…..but inspiration drains when you can't quite get started. This talk will tell you what inspired me on my travels worldwide, how I organize my thoughts and ideas and then move onto the design process to produce thought provoking and award-winning quilts. Join me to get a glimpse into my creative process and apply that to your own creativity."

As with most quilters Pat Archibald's fascination for fabric started at an early age, playing with her grandmother's scrap bag. Her mother was a prolific dressmaker and with a house full of colourful cottons, Pat's first piece of patchwork was made at age 11! In 1990 an opportunity arose to take part in the first City and Guilds Patchwork and Quilting course in Scotland. Naturally Pat jumped at the chance and become enthralled with the endless possibilities of working with colour and fabric. With a friend, she opened Scotland's first dedicated patchwork and quilting shop. The shop soon established itself as a leader in the standard and quality of the classes taught.

After ten years of running the business Pat changed direction to spend more time developing her own work and teaching specialist classes. After establishing a studio in Central Scotland and undertaking commissions for public buildings and private and public collections, Pat made another move in 2009 and introduced the *Creative Journeys* courses. The journey continues physically as well as metaphorically, "As my own horizons grow literally, then so too do the experiences that I can express in my quilt making. I feel that each collection of quilts has its own unique identity and captures the essence of my view of the country or city." Pat's work is widely exhibited in the UK, Europe and USA and has received some wonderful awards. Pat's presentation will begin promptly at 7:15pm.

April 21 Guild Meeting
Zoom host at 7:00 pm, meeting begins at 7:15 pm
(watch for blast Monday, April 19)

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April Musings



Saluting Our EDQG Volunteers!

National Volunteer Week, April 18 – 24, 2021, began in 1974 and is a way for non-profits to recognize those who dedicate their time to efforts they care about. EDQG is filled with members who care about quilting and volunteer their time to ensure that the quilting art continues to be valued and appreciated. Every year, members accept the challenge to volunteer their time to act as Board members and help to guide the guild. Without them, the guild would not exist. “Thank you to each member of the 2020-2021 Board: Kathy Strawson, Linda Arango, Charlene Thompson, Dorothy Johansen, Darlene Conroy, Kim Caskey, Linda Thorne, and Karen Schmidt.”

Our Committee Chairs (and behind the scenes, the committee members) ensure that we have inspirational monthly presentations, learning opportunities through a variety of workshops and library books, the opportunity to showcase our art at the quilt show, money to support scholarships at the University of Alberta, sharing our gift by distributing quilts through community services, a monthly newsletter, an updated website, and monthly door prizes. “Thank you to Hilary Lynas, Cynthia Kunkel-Bokavay, Sandra Plouffe, Myrna Purser, Judi Coté, Darlene Stasiuk, Brandis Purcell, Charlene Thompson, and Darlene Conroy.”

This month I would also like to recognize members who have volunteered their expertise over the past few months to do things for our membership that are new and different.

Judy Elliot knew that our members were missing the Show ‘n Tell feature from each month’s online guild meeting. She offered to provide Show ‘n Tell again by compiling pictures into a monthly PowerPoint presentation with the stories to accompany them. The members are happy to view the work of their friends each month and then Judy, along with Kathy Logan de Chavez, took it one step further with a special show in February with unique ribbons for the winners!

The UFO Day has always provided a great way for guild members to get together and share a day of sewing, along with chats and treats, helpful hints, and advice. Not sure how this would work in our virtual work - but willing to organize the first one, and then several of these virtual “sew days”, a bouquet to Cathy Tomm for showing us that it could work and that we could enjoy our days so much that we want to have more.

Missing the 2020 Spring and Fall retreats and the 2021 Spring retreat, two members new to EDQG, Darlene Stasiuk and Judy Schofield volunteered to organize the 2021 Virtual Spring Retreat. Much work went into preparing and organizing three full days of sewing, two fabulous guest speakers, a presentation about Paducah created by Darlene, along with a yoga instructor to show how to loosen up your muscles.

Using a virtual platform to pursue its Vision and Mission over the past year, EDQG volunteers have embraced the challenges and have supported one another to learn, grow and connect. Many of you walked with trepidation into this online world, overcoming your fears to learn how to book meetings for bee groups and then helping others to join you.

In the words of Jane Goodall “What you do makes a difference and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make.”

- Susan Mooney, EDQG Chair

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 in to see the page.

"Zooming" for Your Bee Group

The EDQG holds a Zoom license that allows us to host our monthly meetings, our board meetings, workshops, sew days, and retreats. Committees use the license to hold meetings, to plan the many activities that are being organized and to help everyone continue to feel connected.

It is also used by several "bee groups" including Stitching Connection, Coffee Bee, Quilt Talkers and others. Do you belong to a bee group that would like to meet via Zoom? The EDQG license is available for your use. To get started, please contact chair@edqg.ca and we can help you to get set up.

Volunteers Needed

It should come as no surprise to anyone that our guild is operational because volunteers have stepped up. And it should also be no surprise that I am going to ask you again to put your hand in the air and respond to my annual appeal for volunteers to serve on the board.

Now accepting nominations for:

- Chair
- Vice Chair
- Director of Education
- Director of Member Services

Please email me at pastchair@edqg.ca

- Kathy Strawson, Past Chair

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

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Spring Virtual Retreat

This year the Spring Retreat was held virtually over three days, March 26, 27 and 28 with a total of 56 registrants. Participants were able to come and go as they pleased throughout the three days.

Two presentations were offered on Saturday. Melissa Marginet shared her "Myth: Quilting is an Expensive Hobby" presentation on money saving techniques. Darlene Stasiuk showed her Trip to Paducah and museum tour in the afternoon.

On Sunday morning, Mary Pal's "One Wild Ride" was a hit, with many attendees quickly registering for her online course. Sharon McMullen-Baron's yoga stretch session on Saturday was an excellent addition. Unfortunately, due to host error, the Sunday session could not open.

Door prizes were very well received, with Darlene Bayley, Sandra Hamilton, Donna Cuyler, Sheila Jones, Cathy Schulze, Betty Ryder, Iris Greenhill, and Judy Clements each the lucky recipient of a $50 electronic gift card from a number of local quilt stores.
The Retreat Committee would like to thank everyone for joining in and spending such a fun weekend together.

- Darlene Stasiuk and Judy Schofield, Retreat Committee

Brighten Someone's Day

Many of you will know Marj Thomson who has been a member of the EDQG since the early 1990's. She attended many quilting events, UFO days and retreats. Last fall, Marj suffered an accident which ended in her and her husband Jim having to leave their home and move into a Chartwell Seniors Home. COVID restrictions have made the adjustment to her new living situation even more difficult.

We think Marj would appreciate hearing from her quilting friends. Her email address is marjthom2@shaw.ca. Or, perhaps guild members might like to send Marj encouragement and best wishes via a quilted postcard. Please contact me communications@edqg.ca for her new mailing address. Maybe there is someone else you know of whose day needs brightening – take some time to reach out.

- Darlene Conroy, Communications Committee

EDQG Guild Grant Program

The EDQG started a program in 1992 to support members to attend workshops and conferences. The program has evolved over the past 28 years and, for 2021, there are two grants available to members.

The Continuing Education Grant is to assist members to attend a workshop or conference (and yes, it can be online) while the Teaching Grant is designed to support a member who would like to develop and deliver a one-day workshop.

The deadline for grant submissions is May 19, 2021. With the meeting being held online, it is preferred that the applications be sent via email to chair@edqg.ca (or via mail to 5703-56 Avenue, Beaumont, AB T4X 1A8).

The grant applications will be reviewed at the May Board meeting and the winners will be announced at the Annual General Meeting on June 16, 2021. For more information about the grants, go to: https://edqg.ca/guild-grants/

Edmonton Virtual Festival of Quilts Show

Wow, our members have come through once again! We have received more than 110 entries for the quilt show. The Quilt Show Committee is hard at work creating the Virtual Quilt Show for you to enjoy. The slideshows for each category will include two photos of each quilt, a photo of the maker, the name of the quilt and a brief description of the techniques used in making the quilt.

The **Virtual Quilt Show** will be on the EDQG website on **April 23**. Everyone will be able to view the slideshows - non-members, friends and family and the general public. Tell everyone you know about our Virtual Quilt Show including your quilting friends across the country! Let them know that they too can vote for the quilt they feel is the best in each category.

Ribbons will be awarded based on the number of votes received by each quilt. As you view the slideshow, make note of the quilt number you want to vote for. The survey will be a list of numbers and you will click on the number you are voting for. Voting will be done through Survey Monkey which will be active until midnight April 30 so you will need to vote during that period. There will be an eblast sent out advising you of the survey and when voting will close. Please don't miss the deadline!!! The winners for each category will be announced at the May 19 guild meeting. The Virtual Quilt Show will remain on the website after the deadline for voting has passed.

You will be able to access the slideshow in the banner and below the banner on the home page of the EDQG website. There will be a different link for each category and ALL category links will be on one page. There will also be a link to the voting survey at the bottom of this page and on the EDQG home page. These will be easy for you to find.

Thanks to all EDQG members who have entered their quilts in the show and to all of you for voting for your favorite quilts. Obviously, there would be no show without your quilts. Thank you for sharing your beautiful works of art and for supporting the EDQG and all of their many activities! All EDQG Board and Committee members work hard to organize guild activities and it is great to have such wide support from the membership.

Based on the COVID-19 situation, we have made the difficult decision to reschedule the 2021 Feature Quilter Exhibit. The exhibit, originally planned for May, will be held in the fall of 2021 or spring of 2022. It is disappointing to have to postpone EDQG events but it is better to wait and hold this event when we can all gather safely and enjoy viewing the work of Lois Miller in a comfortable, safe environment. We will anxiously await that day and, of course, we will be promoting this exhibit more in the weeks and months leading up to the chosen date, whenever that is.

-Myrna Purser, Quilt Show Chair



PROGRAM

Our March meeting featured a surprise speaker, since our scheduled speaker was unable to join us. Rhonda Pierce of SCHMETZ graciously joined us – with her 17" sewing machine needle - at the last minute and provided a wonderful overview of everything quilters need to know about needles. Rhonda covered all the different kinds and sizes of needles and explained how to trouble shoot sewing problems. I think more than one of us realized that we should change our needles more often.

Our May speaker will be Joanne Flamand, our 2020 Teaching Grant winner. Joanne attended Victoria Findlay Wolfe's Double Wedding Ring workshop and she will share her experience with us.

Our Show & Tell segment needs your submissions by April 18, so please send your photos to Judy (judym.elliot@gmail.com). Please include your quilt's title and a short introduction of your piece. We need your creations to be clear and crisp, so please send your photos in the highest resolution you can (jpg or .jpeg format).

Spring Workshop: Saturdays, April 17 & 24, 9:00 a.m. to Noon

There's still time to get in on our last workshop for this guild year. Join Kim Caskey for the mornings of April 17 and 24 for fun and creativity as you learn about and plan your own unique Temperature Quilt. Peruse many different Temperature Quilts for inspiration and motivation.

The cost is $35 for members and $45 for non-members.

Full details and the online registration form can be found on the EDQG website under **Program at a Glance/Workshops** (www.edqg.ca). Payments can now be made in the "Square Store" on the website.

- Hilary Lynas and Cynthia Kunkel-Bokovay, Program Co-Chairs

Sew Days

I know you are all having so much fun sewing with each other. I love them too. We will go ahead with planning a few more. I would like some help co-hosting some of the upcoming dates so I can still enjoy the nice weather outside for part of the day. I garden or plan agility with my dogs.



So, mark your calendars:

- Saturday, May 1, 2021
- Saturday, June 12, 2021

We will plan for July 10, 2021, if we still have interest.

I will send the Zoom invites to all those who have already participated in Sew Days. If you haven't attended previously and would like to, please send an email to sewdays@edqg.ca.

I would like to have two co-hosts for each of these days. It is not hard to help out. Susan and I can coach you on running the extra tasks. Please sign up to co-host.

- Cathy Tomm, Sew Days Chair



2021 Prairie Rose Scavenger Hunt

I am so excited to hear that a few of you are pulling through on your challenge pieces. The deadline to be eligible for prizes and judges' comments is the third Wednesday of May (May 19) to my address. Please send me an email at pastchair@edqg.ca for my address for delivery or to make alternate arrangements.

I look forward to receiving your expressions of you.

Kindest regards,

- Kathy Strawson, Past Chair



Library

As I was thinking of which EDQG library book to highlight for this column, I came across something else that I thought was worth mentioning - an article and book review in the latest edition (Spring 2021) of the **Canadian Quilter,** the quarterly publication from the **Canadian Quilters Association.**

Book Highlight for April: Sew Healthy & Happy: Smart Ergonomics, Stretches & More for Makers, by Rose Parr, C & T Publishing, March 2021, $18.95.

Rose Parr, a certified health and ergonomics specialist, sewer and quilter from Guelph, Ontario, has written a book to keep us healthy and free from pain as we pursue our craft. This book includes “exercises, stretches, recipes and tips” to keep us physically and mentally in tune. Check out her website**: healthyquilting.com** where she posts videos and information. I found her information on anti-fatigue mats very helpful, as I have been thinking of purchasing one.

Also in the **Canadian Quilter** issue is an article by Rose entitled **10 Ways to a Better Zoom Call**, which included **10 Tips to Help Prevent Zoom Fatigue.** I know during our EDQG Zoom meetings, I start to get fidgety and need to move around. Some of her tips include having your screen at eye level, putting your feet up on a stool, turning off your screen during a presentation and giving your eyes a break from the screen every 20 minutes.

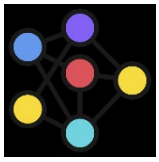
I would like to buy this book for the guild library when we are meeting again. Maybe you would like to purchase a copy for yourself!

Even though we are not meeting in person, if you would like to borrow a library book(s), contact me and we can make arrangements to get the book(s) to you. Check out the library book list on the EDQG website, by logging in with your password and clicking on the library link at the top of the page.

- Sandra Plouffe, Library Chair



Quilt Connections



In the summer of 2020, many EDQG members volunteered to make survey phone calls to our members. Thanks to Carolynne Ross, Judy Elliot was able to reconnect with Viola Brown who is one of our founding members. Here are some excerpts of emails Judy received from Viola's daughter.

Hello Judy,

When I talked to mom last night, I asked her if you could share our letter and she said that that would be fine! Perhaps some of her friends will see it!

Dear EDQG,

Many thanks to Judy Elliot for sending my mom, Viola Brown, a copy of your recent newsletter. She enjoyed looking through it and appreciated your kindness in sending it. How she wishes that she was still able to quilt! - but her vision is failing. She loves that she has not been forgotten!

She said that even more important than learning to quilt, were the special friendships she made through your Guild! This discussion led to reminiscing about her friend Ruby Sills who first introduced her to your Guild and to quilting! Our family and many strangers have benefited from mom's quilting and we are surrounded even now by her beautiful quilts! Mom quilted until she was 90, making one child's quilt a month for Inn From the Cold. Quilting provided such a great way for her to share her creativity and skill, even in later life! She is now 96.

I am a retired Home Ec teacher and understand how rewarding and beneficial sewing and crafts of many kinds are, especially now. These are very difficult times and our creative hobbies have helped to fill long days of isolation. We are so thankful for the technology like Zoom, that keep us connected with crafting friends!

Thank you so much for thinking of my mom!

Very best wishes,
Lynn Slevinsky and Viola Brown

p.s.: Best wishes for every success for your Guild, and hopefully you will be able to meet in person before too long.



Calendar of Events

Guild items are in **BOLD**

2021

April

- **Apr 17 EDQG Workshop: Temperature Quilts (Part 1) 9 a.m. to 12 noon**
- **Apr 19 Stitching Connection Virtual Meeting 9:30 a.m.**
- **Apr 21 EDQG Monthly Virtual Guild Meeting: 7:00 p.m.**
- **Apr 24 EDQG Workshop: Temperature Quilts (Part 2) 9 a.m. to 12 noon**
- **Apr 23-25 EDQG Virtual Quilt Show**
- **Apr 27 Coffee Bee Group Virtual Meeting 7:00 p.m.**

May

- **May 1 Sew Day see p.7**
- **May 4 Stitching Connection Virtual Meeting 7:00 p.m.**
- **May 17 Stitching Connection Virtual 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 Virtual Meeting 7:00 p.m.**
- **Jun 12 Sew Day see p.7**
- **Jun 16 EDQG Monthly Virtual Guild Meeting: 7:00 p.m.**
- **Jun 21 Stitching Connection Virtual 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 June, 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



“Shining the Spotlight” has been a regular feature in Quilt Connections since February 2020. It began with the spotlight on our members who had been chosen by the Canadian Quilters Association to present at Quilt Canada in June 2020. Spotlight has continued to shine on someone new each month.

Have you enjoyed having this feature in Quilt Connections? Would you like to see it continue? Do you know someone in the guild that you would like to “spotlight”?

If so, send a message to communication@edqg.ca with the name of the member you would like to see featured. We know that the guild is filled with members with a variety of different talents, and we would love to see them filling this spot!

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 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 May 2021 newsletter:
Friday, April 30, 2021