–QUILT CONNECTIONS

Edmonton and District Quilters' Guild Newsletter

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

Issue 413: December- January 2024

January – Irene Roderick



Irene Roderick's exuberant improv(ised) quilts are amazing! Her work is displayed in galleries across America and she has been published in numerous places. Her book, "Improv Quilting, Dancing With the Wall" was released in 2022. Colours, shapes, and fabrics dance across Irene's work, displaying a stunning command of quiltmaking skills. I am sure that everyone will join me in welcoming Irene's Zoom presence to our Guild!







In the interest of keeping everyone safe, we strongly encourage members and guests who attend EDQG activities in person to sanitize hands often and physically distance when possible. Masks are optional and can be worn at your discretion.

January 17, 2024 Guild Meeting
Zoom doors open at 7:00 pm, meeting begins at 7:15 pm in the Auditorium
(watch for e-blast link Monday, January 15)

Board and Committees

https://edqg.ca/2023/05/13/board-members-and-committee-chairs/
This link is for a members' only area. Members will need to be logged in to see it.



Musings from the Chair

Happy New Year!

Quilting is a celebration of connection, community, and the enduring bonds that tie us together.

At its core, quilting is a communal experience, when friends come together and share the joy of creating something beautiful, transforming the ordinary into the extraordinary. Each stitch becomes a testament to the laughter, support, and shared memories that define true friendship. This is always reflected in the number of quilts produced every month for charitable organizations in Edmonton and beyond by the Community Service team.

When quilters gather, whether virtually or in-person, it goes beyond the exchange of quilting tips and techniques - they become spaces where friendships flourish. The hum of sewing machines and the rustle of fabric serve as the backdrop to conversations that weave the fabric of friendship tighter with every shared moment.

The collaborative nature of quilting enhances the sense of belonging. Friends working together on a quilt project learn to navigate challenges, celebrate victories, and ultimately create something that transcends the sum of its parts. It's a metaphor for the strength that comes from supporting each other through the twists and turns of life.
As we cherish the art of quilting, let us also celebrate the friendships that blossom within its folds. Whether you're a seasoned quilter or a novice, the shared experience of creating something beautiful together is a reminder that, much like a quilt, friendships are crafted with care, patience, and a multitude of colorful threads that bind us in a patchwork of love and companionship.

Happy quilting and may your friendships continue to flourish!

-Warmly, Melissa D., Chair, EDQG

EDQG BOM

Block of the Month “Scrappy Chevron”
https://edqg.ca/2023/12/29/bom-january-2024-scrappychevron/

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Member Carolyn R. has an update on the quilts that we set aside for the community of Fox Lake which was wiped out by forest fires this summer. Some families were able to move back to new homes before the ferry had to stop. They are now waiting for the ice road to develop so more can be moved to the area. The Team that delivers health care services took five quilts to a few of the families and they were greatly appreciated. Carolyn still has more in her basement to go to this community, but more would be appreciated.



Our quilts are often a group effort and the quilt pictured here is no exception. In the spring we received a call from an elderly quilter who was downsizing. Several boxes of quilting supplies were dropped off at my house and we sorted through them at the FFAA Studio. One item was a small pizza box full of prairie points. The box sat on the shelf for a few months until one day Kathy S. said “Give it to me. I will find someone to do something with it”. She took it to a bee group where Carole D. said” I hate prairie points.” Sue, a visiting Yellowknife evacuee said” Give it to me. I will iron them flat.” The group then trimmed them to a consistent size and Carole sewed the blocks together. Kathy S. brought the top back to the next sew day. Cheryl McK. and I picked out fabric for the back and binding. Cheryl pieced together some batting pieces we had just received, and she prepared the binding. I cut the pieces to make the back and Nancy W. sewed them together and pressed. Vicky R. took the quilt sandwich home to do the quilting. Brenda M. sewed on the binding and label. Linda T. then picked up the quilt and delivered to The Society of St. Vincent De Paul for distribution to a needy family. A young mother and father living in the inner city with 2 daughters, 3 and 10 years of age received the quilt. The mother said “I love quilts. Ever since I was a little girl, I have loved quilts.”



On the same day, another household of three men and two women refugees from Uganda received some twin sized quilts. They arrived in Edmonton in late November and were setting up an apartment after living at Hope Mission. St Vincent de Paul delivered household items and furniture including beds and bedding. They were so happy to get everything but especially the quilts and pillows. One told Linda’s husband Larry as he was leaving that she” felt the love and thank you”.

What a team!!

(picture by St Vincent de Paul volunteers and permission to print in our newsletter is granted)

Put the next sew dates at the FFAA Studio, 10554-110 street NW, in your calendar:

Tuesday, January 9
Tuesday, February 13
Tuesday, March 12
Tuesday, April 9
Tuesday, May14
Tuesday, June 11

Happy New Year! I look forward to another great year of quilting with all of you.

Judi C., Community Service Committee Chair, communityservice@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



2024 Prairie Rose Quilt Show

Each year, the Past Chair has the privilege of setting a challenge for EDQG members. This is an opportunity to work under the constraint of a theme and size, perhaps stretching out of one's comfort zone! The challenge quilts will be shown at the year-end banquet in June 2024. So here's what you need to know:

Theme:	Block Party!
Size:	No larger than 160 inches (perimeter).
Shape:	That's up to you!
Entry Deadline:	Wednesday, 15 May 2024

This theme will work for both traditional and art quilters! If you are reluctant to have your challenge piece judged, it does not have to be judged. If there are enough non-judged quilts, we will create a special category for those and a separate viewers' choice ribbon will be awarded. For those quilts that are judged, the viewers' choice will receive the CQA ribbon.

Keep in mind, quilt judges are not "quilt police"! Their goal is to identify what they think worked well in your piece (which gives you wonderful affirmation of your choices) and what they think might have improved it. Comments are kind and sometimes very helpful.

Can we get 40 entries??

- *Kathy LdC., Past Pres.*



Library

Happy New Year 2024! I hope you had time for some rest and relaxation during the holiday season. Did you finish your quilted treasures for gift giving? My Christmas Presents quilt is still in the unfinished state, but I did finish a Christmas stocking for my new granddaughter and a Christmas "I Spy" quilt for her and her family.

Now my thoughts turn to organizing my quilt room. Perhaps I will find a pattern or two for new project inspiration! If you are organizing your quilt room, *perhaps take a check for two EDQG library books*. In our summer inventory we were unable to find these two titles:

Sunday Morning Quilts by Amanda Jean Nyberg and Cheryl Arkison; and
Kaffe Fassett's Quilt Road by Kaffe Fassett.

For our January meeting we are bringing library book box #11, with titles starting with the letters Q and R. Each month we bring a new box of books that are stored in our storage locker. You can look at all books on the **Book Titles List** on the EDQG website under Library. You can also request any book from the storage locker by clicking on the **"Shopping Cart"** feature or contacting me via the library email. Members can borrow up to five books for a one-month period. If you are not finished with your book, you can renew it for another month. If you can't make a meeting to return your book, please contact me at library@edqg.ca so I can keep track of the library books. Books can also be picked up or returned at Trapunto Quilt store, or at the Community Service days at the FFAA site.

For January our raffle books are:

Here Comes Winter: Quilted Projects to Warm Your Home, by Jeanne Large and Shelley Wicks, Martingale, 2014. Winter is here, a good time to start a winter themed project, or, if you are like me, start a Christmas quilt now, so it is ready for giving in December! (Donated book).

Scrap School: 12 All-New Designs from Amazing Quilters, by Lissa Alexander, Martingale, 2021. If you are organizing your quilt making space, and wondering where to use all those scraps that are left over from other projects, here is the book for you! (purchased at Quilter's Dream).

The November raffle raised $154.00 to purchase raffle books and new books for the library. November raffle books and winners were:

The Best of Jelly Roll Quilts, won by Darlene C., green ticket #412534.
Quilt with Tula & Angela, won by Bonnie H., green ticket #412563.

Sandra P., Library Chair *library@edqg.ca*

BEE GROUPS

Coffee Bee Group



The Coffee Bee Group started out a few years ago meeting at a local coffee shop on the first Tuesday after the EDQG Guild Meeting. Currently, we are meeting by ZOOM, partially due to COVID-19 and partially due to the large size of our group now.

We "meet" to talk all things quilting. Each year, we select a quilt pattern and make a quilt to donate to the EDQG charity of choice. It is usually an easy to do pattern that doesn't require buying any 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, or would like the link, please contact Myrna vicechair@edqg.ca

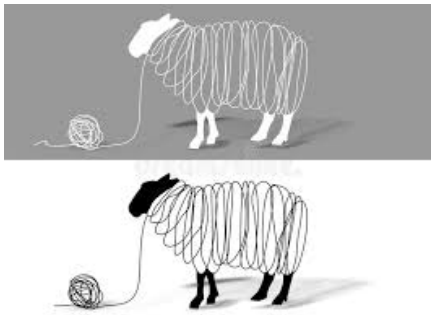
English Paper Piecing is the first Wednesday of the month

Nimble Thimbles (appliqué) is every second Wednesday afternoon. We are working on our individual projects- some on TAS (The Appliqué Society) projects, some on patterns, and some on finishing up those ubiquitous UFOs! Come join us, if you like appliqué/ handwork.

Stitching Connection
We meet the **first Tuesday evening** of the month. We meet the **third Monday morning** of the month, which will be in person at **Mill Woods United Church**, 15 Grand Meadow Crescent, Edmonton. Bring your machine if you want to sew, or bring a hand project of whatever type you wish, or just come and catch up on two and a half years of not meeting in person! Questions? Contact: stitchingconnection@edqg.ca

For information on all bee groups, contact communications@edqg.ca

WOOL



The following is an article you might be interested in, especially if you knit, felt, or love to wear wool to stay warm!

Canadian wool is 'fuzzy gold' - so why isn't it getting into the hands of consumers? - The Globe and Mail

-The author doesn't mention Alberta producers and mills, so I looked some up:

https://twistedsistersmill.com/ (Leduc County, so next door! I saw them at the Strathcona Farmers Market in December '23—alpaca wool products)
https://qiviutinc.com/ (100% Inuit owned business in Nisku, also next door! They use qiviut (muskox fibre) to make yarn, knitwear, as well as Indigenous-made jewelry)
https://www.pinterest.ca/pin/ilyashort--442760207109528901/ (I have one of his handwoven wool and cashmere lap sized blankets, soft and warm)
https://kaleatheluddite.ca/pages/about (Edmonton. "The global textile industry is broken, but here at Luddite Yard, we do things the old-fashioned way.")
https://pasu.com/ (Carstairs, around for 40 years, shop, restaurant—sounds like a good spot to stop on a road trip)
https://www.canadianwool.org/copy-of-saskatchewan-wool-producers (13 Alberta farms)
customwoolenmills.com (Carstairs…has been "providing custom wool processing services for a long time, and also give tours. You can shop carded wool, yarn, bedding, patterns, socks, artisanal products)

- *Ethel R.*

Show and Tell



Please send your beautiful creations to showandtell@edqg.ca by Sunday, January 14th to be included in this month's presentation and to qualify for the quibit draw.

Virtual Sew Days!

Come sew with us. It's easy!

Contact Cathy at sewdays@edqg.ca and she will send you the link. All dates are Saturdays 9 am till 5. Join when you like and stay as long as you like.

Here are the dates for Sew Days:
Jan 27th
Feb 17
March 16
April 15 (Last one of the season)

– Cathy T., Sew Days

Resources for EDQG Members:

ZOOM - The EDQG pays for a ZOOM account in order to hold our monthly guild meetings. We are able to host up to 99 people per session. As a paid member of our guild, you have access to the use of this ZOOM account for no cost. It is an underutilized resource of the guild so bee groups and individuals are encouraged to use it for your sewing related activities. Please contact me by email in order to check availability and set up your next zoom activity!

FFAA – The space that is currently leased by the Focus on Fibre Arts Association is shared with the EDQG. We currently have access to this space on the second Tuesday of each month and is currently being used by Community Service for sew days. It is also available on the fourth Monday of each month. The space is located at 10554 – 110 Street NW, Edmonton, T5H 3C5. If you or your bee group need a sizable space for your "sewing" activities, feel free to contact me and check the availability of the space.

-Myrna P., vicechair@edqg.ca

General Bulletin Board

The Edmonton Quilt Board has a General Bulletin Board online where any individual can post without charge quilt-related items for sale. You do not need to be a member of the guild to post.





Come visit us or check our website for upcoming events, classes and travel plans!

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Calendar of Events

Guild items are in **BOLD**

January		
Jan 9	**9:30 – 4**	**Community Services**
Jan 13	**10:00 – 1:00**	**Basket Case workshop**
Jan 15	**9:30 -12:30**	**Stitching Connections**
Jan 23	**7- 9pm**	**Coffee Bee Group**
Jan 27	**9:00 – 5:00**	**Sew Days (online), Basket Case workshop**
February		
Feb 6	**7 – 9**	**Stitching Connections**
Feb 13	**9:30 – 4**	**Community Service**
Feb 17	**9- 5**	**Sew Days (online)**
Feb 19	**9:30 -12:30**	**Stitching Connections**
Feb 27	**7-9pm**	**Coffee Bee Group**
March		
Mar 5	**7 – 9**	**Stitching Connections**
Mar 12	**9:30 – 4**	**Community Service sew day FFAA**
Mar 16	**9- 5**	**Sew Days (online)**
Mar 18	**9:30 - 12:30**	**Stitching Connections**
Mar 26	**7-9pm**	**Coffee Bee Group**
April		
April 1	**7 – 9**	**Stitching Connections**
April 9	**9:30 – 4**	**Community Service sew day FFAA**
April 15	**9- 5**	**Sew Days (online)**
April 15	**9:30 - 12:30**	**Stitching Connections**
April 23	**7-9pm**	**Coffee Bee Group**
May		
May 7	**7 – 9**	**Stitching Connections**
May 14	**9:30 – 4**	**Community Service sew day FFAA**
May 20	**9:30 - 12:30**	**Stitching Connections**
May 28	**7-9pm**	**Coffee Bee Group**
June		
June 3	**7 – 9**	**Stitching Connections**
June 11	**9:30- 4**	**Community Service sew day FFAA**
June 25	**7-9pm**	**Coffee Bee Group**

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.

Newsletter Ads: email requests to: Ethel R., memberprizes@edqg.ca
Check the website regularly for additional news: http://www.edqg.ca/

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.



Happy Birthday, January Babies!

Deadline for submissions to the February 2024 newsletter:
Sunday, January 28, 2024