

# Lethbridge Centennial Quilters Guild

## Newsletter

January 23, 2018 – 7PM CASA Meeting Room

President, Judy Barnett welcomed everyone to the meeting at 7 pm. We had a number of guests, Bernadine, B.J. (owner of Fabric Fusion), and a number of Modern Quilt Guild members. We hope you enjoy the meeting.

Workshop Chair, Michelle Demers is accepting registration for the Terry Aske workshop being held April 22 and 23 at CASA with a registration cost of \$220 to Guild members and \$270 to non-Guild members. For more information, contact Michelle at: [mdemers@telus.net](mailto:mdemers@telus.net).

Val Beasley shared that Prairie Tractor Museum in Picture Butte is having their annual opening on Saturday, May 19, 2018. They have asked our guild members if they would like to provide 50-75 quilts for what will be their first ever Quilt Show. The size is to be no larger than queen and Kaye Borthwick and Val will be accepting quilts at the March and April meetings. The quilts should have a label on the back and forms will be supplied for completion. The Quilt Show will run Saturday May 19 – Saturday May 26 and will be available for viewing during normal Museum hours. There is no cost to enter the quilts and the tea is by cash donation. If you have any questions, please contact either Kaye or Val.

Sandra Wickend showed the membership a new book going into the Library, "More Twist and Turn Bargello".

Judy reported on the Post Card Challenge as part of Quilt Canada 2018. Poster is included as the last page of the Newsletter.

Judy Gilmour showcased the entries for Winter and Christmas Quilt on a Stick and Eleanor won for the Winter Quilt and Gail for Christmas. Congratulations ladies.

Members who are participating in the block exchange did their exchange for the month of January and received instructions for the block to be completed in February.

There will be another Silent Auction for the month of February, so bring items you want to share as part of the auction and you will receive the money received from the auction.

March the For Sale and Give Away tables will return. A good time to spring clean our Sewing Rooms.

The Challenge Project for this year will be: A quilt, table runner, wearable item no larger than 40-60 using the initials of your name when making your color choices. No more than 3 colors can be used as well as a neutral. i.e.: we will use my name (I hope I remembered it correctly) I am Valerie Renee Beasley, so my colors are "v, r and b as well as a neutral. So, violet, red and black to make it simple, this could be interesting!

Our guest speaker this evening is a member of our guild as well as President of the Modern Quilt Guild, Shena Boes. Welcome Shena. She provided us with the elements of modern quilting as well as showing us some of the wonderful quilts and other members of the Modern Quilt Guild have done. Rather than jot down the notes I madly scribbled, I have asked Shena for a copy of her presentation and I will insert a portion of that. Enjoy this wonderful information ladies:

"A familiar saying of modern quilters is that the only rule of modern quilting is that there are no rules. This is an easy thing to say, but it is a little bit simplistic. It might be more accurate to say that modern quilting has rules, but that there is no fear of what happens if you break the rules. Modern quilters do not mind experimenting. When you hear the words: "There are no rules." it gives people the ability to try something new because the option of failure isn't there anymore.

## Design Elements of Modern Quilting

Modern quilting is not easy to define. I like to say that I can't describe it, but I know it when I see it. In the long run, however, this is not a helpful thing to say. If people genuinely want to learn about modern quilting, they need to be able to understand what it is. To help you understand, I've compiled a list of design elements of modern quilting. Think of these like a check-list that you can go through to see if a quilt is modern or not. Not every modern quilt has *all* of these elements. To be a modern quilt, you only need *one or two* of these elements to be present in your quilt! But, the more you have, the more modern your quilt is.

**1) Use of Solid Fabrics:** This is one of the most familiar design elements, so I'll start with this one. Many modern quilters use a lot of solid fabrics in their work. They like the starkness of the solids and how the focus is on the design instead of on the fabrics. They can let your quilting shine and emphasize your piecing.

**2) Lack of Borders:** Borders are very seldom seen on modern quilts, if at all. If there is a border, it typically is part of the negative space

**3) Improvisation:** This is another familiar one. Modern quilts often feature a lot of improv work. This can be illustrated in different ways. It can mean that the fabric was put together in a way that did not follow a pattern. It can mean that the quilter got out their scrap bin and just started sewing pieces together, with no plan in mind for what the finished project would look like. It can simply mean that the quilter decided to throw all the rules out the window and just wing it. Many of the quilts I will show feature improv.

**4) Graphic Colors and Modern Fabrics:** Many modern quilts feature graphic colors and strong contrasts within the different fabrics. The combination of colors could be unusual, or the colors could be in unexpected places within the blocks. Using modern fabrics can be a great way to dip your toe into the modern quilting world. A traditional pattern made in modern fabrics takes on a completely different feel. Typical background colors for modern quilts are grey and white, and these can be comprised of solids or low volume fabrics.

**5) Negative Space:** This refers to the areas between the design elements that are used to draw focus to other areas of the space. It can be a larger background. It can be a quilt block reimagined with a background where there used to be piecing. It does not have to be white! Negative space can be any color.

**6) Minimalism:** Closely linked with negative space, as minimalism is often found in conjunction with it. The more negative space there is, the more minimalistic a quilt becomes. Minimalism breaks down a quilt to the most basic aspects of its design and construction.

**7) Scale:** Playing with scale can be a fun way to make a modern quilt. You can increase or decrease the size of a classic quilt block. Or you can mix different scales together: Jumbo with small. Modern quilters tend to prefer expanding scale over miniature scale.

**8) Modern Traditionalism:** When you update a traditional pattern or block using scale, negative space, graphic colors, solids, or any other aspects of familiar modern quilting design elements, you are working with modern traditionalism. Modern quilters who prefer this style, and I count myself among them, love working with traditional blocks. Why fix what isn't broken? Traditional blocks are so beautiful! We try to update the tradition of quilting in a restrained and impactful way.

**9) Alternate Gridwork:** Traditionally, quilts are laid out in rows and columns, or on point, in a predictable pattern. And, many modern quilts retain this grid pattern in their construction, but they update it with a graphic color palette or an unpredictable orientation. Modern quilts can also use a non-grid layout where you cannot detect any columns or rows.

**10) Asymmetry:** This can be accomplished in different ways. The focal point could be off-centre, or cropped off to the side. Or, the quilt could be designed in such a way that the sides do not mirror each other.

**11) Playing with Blocks and their structure:** Many modern quilters do make traditionally block-based quilts, but many also choose to make quilts that do not have an obvious repeating block pattern. They may rework a traditional block in a new way, or make a completely new block all together.

**12) Quilting styles:** Early modern quilts relied heavily on straight line quilting, and many modern quilts now still employ this technique with much success. Free motion quilting is also often used on modern quilts and the two methods can be used together on one quilt as well."

This is a large piece of Shena's presentation, but to just list the design elements of Modern Quilting does not do it justice. Thanks again Shena for the wonderful presentation.

Guild prize draws with items purchased from Village Quilts:

Door Prize #1: winner Elinor Forrester

Door Prize #1: winner Doreen Rombough

Regular Draw:

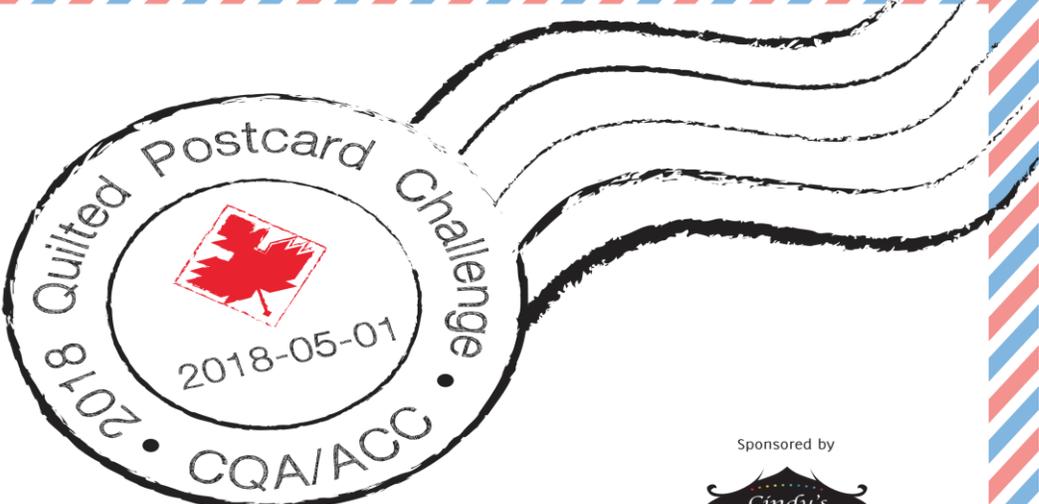
Prize winners: Judy Gilmour, Vi Armstrong, Helen Raczuk

Show and share finished off the evening.

As Judy closed the meeting at 9 pm she challenged us to use a modern quilt design when working on our Challenge Quilt using our initials.

February Executive meeting: Wednesday, February 21, 2018, 7 pm at Casa

February Regular meeting: Tuesday, February 27, 2018, 7 pm at Casa



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## CQA/ACC 2018 Quilted Postcard Challenge

**Challenge Theme: Inspired by Nature!**

Canada's natural bounty is a source of inspiration for quilters from coast to coast. Participants are invited to celebrate their regional uniqueness and beauty in a postcard!

**Eligibility**  
Open to the public. You may submit as many entries as you wish.

**Finished dimensions**  
6" wide x 4" high.

**Three construction layers**  
Top, batting and/or stabilizer, backing fabric.

**Design**  
All styles and techniques encouraged: traditional, contemporary, modern, fibre art, abstract, pieced, hand embroidered, thread play, etc.

**Edging**  
All edges to be finished.

**Label**  
Sewn to back of postcard with your name and location.

**Deadline**  
To be eligible for judging, entries must be mailed by May 1, 2018 to:  
Karen Killins-Robinson  
1423 Haida Rd.  
Duncan, BC V9L 5P4

**Note: Postcards will be accepted after May 1, but will not be eligible for judging.**

Postcards will be displayed at *Quilt Canada 2018* in Vancouver, BC. Each postcard will be for sale by donation (minimum \$5.00), and will be taken at time of purchase.

Postcards may be purchased by donation (minimum \$5.00). All proceeds from postcard sales will be donated to the BC Children's Hospital.

**For questions, please contact:**  
Cindy Scraba  
[cindysthreadworks@telus.net](mailto:cindysthreadworks@telus.net)  
Karen Killins-Robinson  
[bccorep@canadianquilter.com](mailto:bccorep@canadianquilter.com)

Prizes	
First Place	\$500
Second Place	\$300
Third Place	\$200
Excellence in thread use by machine	\$250
Excellence in thread use by hand	\$250

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