

Violet Knox, Vice President, welcomed everyone to the Jan 27th 2024 Guild meeting. We acknowledge we are meeting on traditional Blackfoot Treaty 7 Territory and Metis ????

Guests:

- Cheryl's guest – Judy Prince and her daughters: Shalayna & sister Verderyl
- Lia's guest – Audrey Meerhead
- Kristin – introduced her mom as a new member 😊

Reminders:

- If you had items at the Sale and Free table, please make sure to pick up any items that were not claimed.
- And we have orphan blocks for adoption!

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Community Quilt Supply – Lynn Gibson
 - Batting: We have a new 96" wide batting in stock. This gives us a new size 48"x60" available. The 50"x60" precut batting is pieced from the trims from the new batting.
 - Sew Days: We hold two community quilt sew days per year. The next one is March 9th, in CASA, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. We provide batting, fabric for quilt backs, cutting board, rulers, irons, and ironing boards. You just need to bring your sewing machine and fabric and pattern you wish to use for a quilt top and your lunch. So far only 16 people have signed up.
 - The CASA community room costs us \$150/day. With such low attendance, should we discontinue the community quilt sew days and put the \$300 for room charges towards supplies instead, or have one sew day and put \$150 towards supplies. Or is the issue this community room with its dark walls. There was a general indication that members didn't like the dark room and would prefer more light. Lynn will do research into alternate facilities and costs.
 - We've had a request from the Chinook Regional Hospital Child Life (mental health care) program. They are looking for bright, cheerful, child appropriate lap quilts to small twin size quilts, and as well, pillowcases as well.
 - We have members who provide longarm services for free for community quilts: These members are Dolores Schilling, Pat Phillips and Lynn Gibson. We also have members who perform longarm services for a fee: these members (in attendance at this meeting) are: Maui Wills, Dolores Schilling, Kaye Borthwick, and Lia Britton.
- Special Events – Kathy Oliver
 - I have organized a bus trip to enable members and friends to attend Quilt Canada in Edmonton. We leave on June 20th and return on June 22nd.
 - As of today we only have 10 members who have signed up. We need 30 people to help cover the costs of this trip.
 - The CQA website is now open to CQA members to register for workshops and the show/merchant mall. March 6th non-CQA members can register.

- The coach bus has WiFi, and a bathroom. We'll leave from a central location in Lethbridge at 9:00 a.m. Thursday. We'll stop for a meal break (pay for your own meal), and you will be dropped off at the Hilton Double Tree Hotel.
- You are very welcome to bring a friend or friends. The Bus transport cost is \$240.00 per person and includes the one day pass to Quilt Canada.
- We need to decide at the end of March if this trip will proceed or not.



- Kathy reserved 6 rooms at the Hilton Double Tree Hotel. All are taken now. If you want to participate on the bus trip, you will need to find accommodation. If we have to cancel the bus, you can still use the booked rooms at the Double Tree hotel.
- These bus trips are a lot of fun and a great way to get to know fellow quilters.
- \$100 deposit is required if you want to join in on the fun and reserve your spot on the bus.

- **Retreats and Workshops – Bonnie Boulton**

- Barn Board Quilts with Joan from Quilters' Pallet (Priddis) (they were a vendor at our quilt show last year). Two one-day workshops: April 6 or 7th. 9:00 a.m. at CASA. The fee is \$160 per person and includes soup and sandwich luncheon.



[Gallery | Quilters' Palette \(quilterspalette.ca\)](http://quilterspalette.ca)

- Jane brings all the supplies, and the barn boards will be already primed for you. All the paint choices are outdoor paints.
- In-town Retreat: Friday, May 24th evening, Saturday and Sunday.
- We have a varied fee structure depending on whether you want to do one/two or three days, with or without workshops.
- Friday night is the golden iron challenge. We'll be organizing teams of three people in each team to choose three orphan blocks, and 3 bags of scraps. The goal is to make a 50"x50" quilt top and the binding (at least 230"). The quilt top will then become part of the community quilts activity so that the quilt can then be completed and donated.
- We are looking for donations of scraps: can't be smaller than 5"x5" and strips 2" or wider, fat quarters (even if there is a bit cut out of it), or fabric pieces you no longer want. Please bring these to the March or April meetings.
- Workshops that will be available: making Origami bags with Jackie Mignault. You just need to bring 2 FQs and 1.5 yards of narrow ribbon and your sewing machine and tools and you will have a terrific bag. This workshop is \$7.00 and includes the pattern and great visual aids to help you with assembly of this bag.

- I hope to confirm Nadine Crowchild to help us learn more about beading. She does amazing work!! Stay tuned.
- Out of town Retreat at Dragon's Den facility in Pincher Creek: new date – April 20, 21, and 22nd. More information to come.
- Annual General Meeting – Filling Vacant Exec. Committee positions – Donna Kendall
I am looking to fill the following positions for the upcoming two year terms:
 - Secretary – need to computer savvy, manage the email list and take and distribute minutes.
 - Community Quilt Supply – would like to have one or two members join them.
 - Community Service – would like to have one or two members join them.
 - Program – one member has come forward – Helen Raczuk (thank you Helen)!
 - Membership – Kay is staying on (thanks Kay)
 - Sales Table – Darlyn Davies has volunteered to help Maria Craft (thanks Darlyn).
 - Retreats & Workshops – Brittany Wilton has volunteered to serve on this committee (thanks Brittany)
 - Special Events – we have Trudy Walker and Deb Cartwright who have stepped forward to serve on this committee with Kathy Oliver (thanks Trudy and Deb).
 - Website/technical – Sue Nagy needs a computer savvy person to help maintain our website and Facebook pages and help at the meetings with the YouTube videos, etc.
 - Treasurer – we have a potential member who might be interested in filling this position. However we may need to encourage Barb Thomsen to serve beyond her completed term. We will discuss this at the next Exec. Comm. Meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

- After a long discussion at the January 2024 Guild meeting, the membership decided there was a need for an inhouse quilt show that was different and less onerous than the “Festival of Quilts.” Therefore the “official” Festival of Quilts quilt show is cancelled.
- A motion was passed (46 members through show of hands – 68 members attended the meeting) that the Guild hold our own Quilt Show in 2025
 - To celebrate the 40th anniversary of the guild.
- Connie Chaplin spoke to the matter of a 2025 Quilt Show
 - If we are going to have a quilt show, we need first to have a member willing to serve as the chairperson for this endeavor. (There are good records in place to help guide that person through the organization process, and Val Beasley is willing to share her experiences). If you know someone who might be interested please let Donna know.

PROGRAM: Cherilyn Jorgensen

- Today's program will feature Kaye Borthwick, tips to prep your quilt for long arming; Sharon Selwyn, Block of the Month programs, Judy Prince – trunk show feature wooly quilts, and Donna Kendall – threads.
- Kaye Borthwick – Thoughts on Longarming a quilt:
 - Check to make sure your quilt lays flat – no bubbles, to wavy borders, as longarming will only make this worse.

- If your quilt has a bias edge, carefully stitch 1/8" from the edge to keep the quilt from stretching.
- Make sure your quilt is square – both sides are the same length, and top and bottom are the same length. If your quilt is out of square more than 1/4", there will be a problem for quilting.
- Batting and backing should be at least 3" larger than the quilt top all the way around the quilt top.
- If your backing is stretchy, then it needs to be at least 6" larger than the quilt top, on all four sides, in order to manage the stretch.
- Pieced backing – seams on the horizontal if at all possible.
- Always trim the salvages.
- Please don't use bamboo batting. The bamboo batting will disappear after two or three washings, ruining your quilt.
- Identify who your quilt is for: man or woman, boy or girl, as this affects the choice of quilting pattern used.
- If you are using pieced batting, make sure both pieces are the correct size up.
- When you bring your quilt to your longarmer, have all three pieces separate (top, batting, and backing) as the longarmer has to load each onto the machine separately anyway.
- Sharon Selwyn - Block of the Month
 - MODA has excellent block of the week sessions available through MODA Blockheads. [Block of the Week | modafabrics.com](https://modafabrics.com)
 - [\(20+\) Moda Blockheads | Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/moda_blockheads/)
 - It is easy to join this Facebook group. You'll see lots of ideas and people are really great and sharing ideas and support.
 - Moda Block of the Week website has two to four block sizes for each block which enables you to create a project of a size that is suitable for you.
 - These blocks are very instructive and a great way to learn new techniques.
 - Sharon showed some of the quilts she has made through the MODA blockhead sessions. The mystery quilts projects are a lot of fun as well.
 - Riley Blake also has a variety of block challenges: [2024 RBD Block Challenge Block 1 - Free Mystery Quilt Along \(flamingotoes.com\)](https://flamingotoes.com)
 - Bonnie Hunter also has terrific mystery quilt block challenges. Her challenges help teach you about colors and values, and techniques. Her instructions are very detailed and great for beginners. Bonnie gives you a piece to work on each week. You can even make just a few blocks and not do the full challenge or download all the PDFs and then print so that you can see how the final quilt will look.
 - Sharon showed some of her quilts made through these challenges.
 - [Home \(quiltville.com\)](https://www.quiltville.com)
 - [Bonnie Hunter Winter Mystery 2022-2023: Chilhowie - Quiltingboard Forums](https://www.quiltingboard.com)

- Canadian Quilters Association also has a yearly quilt along: [Quilt Alongs - Canadian Quilters Association/Association Canadienne de la Courtepointe](#)
- Pat Sloan also has quilt a longs: [\(20+\) Quilt Along with Pat Sloan | Facebook](#).

- Judy Prince – Wooly Trunk Show
 - Judy is a member of the quilt guild in Cardston. Her mother-in-law was a hand quilter. Judy lived in California for a number of years and joined the Bakersfield Guild in 2020 where she got interested in using wool in her quilts. She now hunts for wool everywhere, including thrift shops.
 - She started with small projects:
 - Very cute hanging project with scissor pockets,
 - Reversible small hanging with a snowman on one side and a bird on the other,
 - Fall harvest hanging,
 - Snowman pillow with a flannel back, and
 - Very cute Halloween project.
 - Judy whip stitches all her wool applique with embroidery floss or wool thread.
 - Judy also showed more lovely projects:
 - Bench pillow with penguin faces,
 - Nativity hanging,
 - Picture of a little shepherd with his sheep,
 - Winter scape hanging,
 - Lovely quilt featuring a Lynette Anderson pattern with very tiny motifs,
 - Judy also dyes her wools in order to get the color she wants:
 - Beautiful HSTs in black and a deep orange.
 - Large quilt featuring fall designs,
 - A terrific quilt with applique houses and forest scenes and bordered in log cabin blocks.
 - And a snowman.
 - Judy folds her quilts on the diagonal and rolls them up.
 - Judy washes her wool in hot water and then a dryer which shrinks her wool and makes it perfect for applique and blocks.
 - Judy's last quilt of the show featured a variety of flowers in vases, and cute houses.
 - We thank Judy and her daughter Shalayna for the excellent, inspiring trunk show!

- Donna Kendall – Threads
 - Batting – tip: pimples on the back, dimples on the front side.
 - Another way to stabilize bias borders – on the outside edge of the bias border use organza ribbon sewn with water soluble thread.
 - Threads are commonly available in cottons, rayons and polyesters.
 - 60 weight is as fine as you can go in a natural fiber.
 - Rayon – do not piece with Rayon as they are water sensitive.
 - A lot of Polyesters will stretch so you may need to loosen the top tension.

- Metallics, holograms and industrial threads (which have a different weight category) need some different sewing techniques.
- Really heavy weight threads will NOT feed through your needle so can be used in the bobbin or for hand sewing. Sue Spargo is one of the well known heavy weight threads.
- Be aware that red thread as with fabric, is sometimes not color fast. This includes blues and black. Test them if you are seriously concerned about their behavior..
- Common problem with dyes – black thread is overdyed a number of times. This can cause the thread to be weak and if it continually breaks – throw it away.
- Monofilament – should be avoided.
- Price point – read the labels: 1000m for \$15 or 500 yards for \$15. If you really like the color of the 500 yard thread, then buy it.
- Needles: Metallic needles and top stitch needles are identical, but you pay more for metallic needles.
- Variegated thread – to really see the colors in the variegated thread always look at the top of the thread whenever possible.
- Pre-wound bobbins – don't buy the cheap ones with the paper spindle – they don't stand up.
- Thread is affected by a dry climate or if the humidity changes due to rain – affects the thread's performance.
- Top Stitch needle – is the only needle that is rounded on all parts of the eye and enables the thread to slide smoothly through the eye.
- If your getting skips or a rat's nest – it's usually either the wrong tension or the wrong needle.
- Schmetz needles – years ago, when the manufacturer was changed, there were problems with some of the first runs and needles were prone to breaking. Some of those are still getting out into the market. If this is happening to you, throw those needles away.
- Be aware of factory issues in thread manufacturing. They may be changing the run or there may be breakage and the ends are just tied together... maybe more than once. As the factories run at such a high speed, the bad spools are missed in the inspections. You could end up with a spool of colored knots.
- Lint build up – keep your machine clean and oiled, especially when using polyester threads. You need to clean the tension disks – keep these clean.
- Speed sewing also affects the performance of your thread – you may need to slow down 😊
- You can use different weights of threads together when sewing – you can use a very fine thread in the bobbin and a 50 wt. in the top –

Upcoming programs:

- March – for those members who drew the fat quarter kits or the bags of 2.5" squares – please bring your quilt tops to the meeting.
 - Kirstin will be doing a PowerPoint on historical quilts inspired by New York!
- April – we'll be having 8 mini-classes.
- May – after the AGM, we are having a market. Please let Cherilyn Jorgensen or Pat Phillips know if you need to reserve a table.

Prize draws:

- Door prize – Book on Table Runners – winner: Marion Jankunis
- Prize: Ruler and Iron Cleaner – winner: Samantha Parker
- Prize: Patterned charm pack and seam ripper – winner: Bonnie Jaeger
- Prize: Magnetic pin, lint roller, batting seam joiner tape and purple thang – Connie Chaplin.

SHOW & SHARE

- 1) (Sorry – did not get member's name) - showed her vintage quilt, well loved, and then her revisioning of this quilt with new blocks. Both are beautiful. She needs more of the blue Penny Rose fabric with a tiny print.
- 2) Gerilyn Beazer – Loves to learn new things and showcased her quilt with a terrific sorceress.
 - She also saw a pattern in a store, and she made the lovely medallion like quilt.
 - Gerilyn made a bag for retreats that caught everyone's interest. It has all sorts of organization pockets for sewing tools, rulers, etc. It is called the Ultimade Carry On Bag by Natalie Patterns (Quiltessa)
- 3) Cherilyn Jorgensen – Made a cute baby quilt top with super cute birds,
 - She and a group of other quilters came together to use fabric the Judy Barnett purchased to make a quilt for her great grandson. Judy passed away. The quilt features quilt train faces blocks and is perfect for a little boy. Terrific group effort.
- 4) Lia Britton – made a gorgeous quilt in purples and prints.
- 5) Dolores Schilling had us in awe with her terrific Mickey Mouse applique quilt and quilting that she made for Monica (Sewing Lane)
- 6) Lynn Gibson – showed her quilt made from scraps that she has worked on at the community quilts sew day – very lovely. Good work.

NEXT MEETINGS:

- March 13th 1:30 p.m. Exec. Comm. Meeting
- March 19th 7:00 p.m. Guild Meeting at CASA

54 members attended and 1 new member.

Huge thanks to all the committee members who work so hard to make each meeting an excellent occasion for us!

Many, many thanks for all the donations for The Collectors appeal and the Ukraine appeal. It is so very appreciated. Jackie 😊