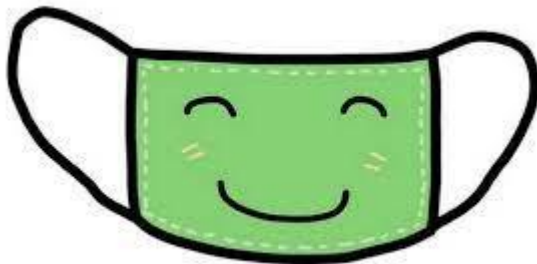




Website: <http://www.mahonebayquiltersguild.com/>
Email: mahonebayqg@gmail.com
Flickr: <https://www.flickr.com/people/mbaq/>

Open House

There were smiles all around (even though you could not see them) during the Open House. The chatter was loud and happy, the sanitizer was well used and bundles of fabric and challenge kits were purchased. A great time was had by all those who attended. It was so nice to see everyone in person. Pictures and more details are on page 3.



Executive Members

President – Krista Garber – krisgarber@aol.com or 902-677-2867
Vice President – Annette Fralic – aandbf@eastlink.ca or 902-624-6467
Treasurer – Heather Rafuse wrafuse1@eastlink.ca or 902-543-7410
Secretary – Sandy Emenau semenau@icloud.com or 902-543-0404
Communications – Colleen Paton – paton.colleen@gmail.com or 902-444-0559
Membership – Elizabeth Tumblin – mbqgmembership@gmail.com – or 902-543-0242
Library – Judy Cooper – judy.ltc@live.ca or 902-527-5570
Past President – Pamela Wells pammied01@gmail.com or 902-527-2819
Workshops – Alicia Anderson workshopsMBQG@gmail.com or 902-579-7097
Monthly Program – Mary Gray - graymary007@gmail.com or 902-543-8827
Newsletter – Gail Stryde - mbqgnewsletter@gmail.com or 902-624-0407

Meeting Dates

Our next meeting is **April 12th** and it will be held via Zoom. The agenda and meeting code will be sent out the day before, with sign-on beginning at 6:30 pm.

Hope to see you there!

Slow Quilting via Zoom

We would be happy to have you join us online on Monday, April 5th and then again on Monday, April 19th, both from 2-4pm.

It would be a great time to practice signing on to Zoom before the meeting on the 12th

Check your email for the Zoom Link.

Program News

This month we have the opportunity of seeing the work of member, Tara Lynas. It should be an inspiring trunk show.

Membership News

The Guild welcomes new member Irene Freeman and returning member Letitia (Letty) McFall, who took advantage of the open house to join us. A warm welcome (and welcome back) to these members!

Survey Results

Thanks to all our members who responded to our most recent survey about virtual quilt shows. The majority of those who responded had not attended any virtual quilt shows. The virtual quilt shows attended by a few of our members were virtual tours of actual in-person quilt shows, in North American and international locations. The quilts were professionally photographed and often narrated by a famous quilter paid to take you on a tour of the show.

The advantages of virtual shows are you can often see the works of the best quilters in the world from your own home, in your pj's! Often such shows are inspiring and may spark an idea for your next project.

One of the main disadvantages of virtual quilt shows is the inability to get up close to see details such as the piecing and quilting. Several said they missed the chatter, and informal discussions with fellow quilters about quilts and quilting. Others said they got bored easily.

A few respondents noted that our virtual show and tell sessions this year satisfy their need for virtual quilt shows. Many commented that why would you want to pay to see quilts online when the internet has so many featured for free!

Sew and Tell

Please send your pictures including details such as name of quilt, designer, if known, techniques used, who quilted it etc. to Barb at robsonbh@eastlink.ca before April 10th.

Open House

As I mentioned on the first page the Open House was a great success! It was so nice to see members we have not seen in ages. We had over 50 attend during the 2 hours. Fabric bundles and challenge kits were sold, zoom assistance provided, library books returned and more borrowed. We also had 2 new members sign up.

We had 61 pillowcases, 23 cuddle quilts, and 27 premie quilts dropped. Thanks so much everyone!

A draw ticket was given to each member for each cuddle quilt, premie quilt or pillowcase they dropped off. The winner of the fat quarter draw was **Daphne Strowbridge**. A special thank you goes out to Denise Milheron as she donated 43 items. I have a couple of fat quarters for her.

Here are a few pictures:



Janet Joyce and the Pillowcases

Workshop News

The Dresden Workshop was a lot of fun. It was amazing to see all the different neighbourhoods being created. There will be a few at Sew and Tell in the near future, I'm sure. Here are a few pictures:



Vicki Burke's beautiful neighbourhood



Alicia's creative neighbourhood under construction



Elizabeth Tumblin's Neighbourhood in production

Library News

It was great to see so many of you at the Open House last week! Lots of books were returned and 57 books and two rulers were taken out. Three boxes of books and magazines were donated to the library. After several of us went through the books, 30 of them were kept (there were several duplicates) and the rest were put out for sale. The magazines went to the free table. Four new books arrived today with three on back order. I have two more to order. A list of new books will be in the next newsletter.

Submitted by
Judy Cooper

Executive Committee Positions

Once again it is that time of year to nominate for Committee Chairs. To date Mary and Judy have offered to remain as Chair of their respective Committees. We also have a nomination for the Treasurer. If others wish to be nominated, an election will be held at the June meeting.

Members of the Executive Committee serve two-year terms, which are staggered so that not all positions renew in the same year. Committee members may offer to serve more than one term.

Executive Committee meetings are held on the third Friday of the month.

In June 2021, terms for the positions of Secretary, Treasurer, Program Chair and Library Chair will be renewing. If you are interested in putting your name forth for nomination to one of these positions, please email Pam at pammied01@gmail.com.

An update will be provided in May on expressions of interest in these positions.

Brief position descriptions are below, and any questions can be directed to the person currently serving in that role on Executive. Members must be willing to meet either in person or via Zoom.

Secretary – currently Sandy Emenau (semenau@icloud.com)

The secretary's primary duties are to prepare and distribute minutes of all Guild meetings (General, Executive and special meetings as required) and to handle incoming and outgoing Guild correspondence. Maintains records of minutes, policies, contracts and bylaws for reference and provides updates to the Registry of Joint Stock Companies.

Treasurer – currently Heather Rafuse (wrafuse1@eastlink.ca)

The Treasurer prepares the Guild's annual budget and monthly treasurer's reports, processes payments from members (dues, workshops, etc.), reimburses members for Guild-related expenses, serves as the contact person for banking issues and books/pays for Guild rentals. Maintains records pertaining to bank, insurance, CQA, and "Square" accounts. Advises the Committee on financial issues.

Program Chair – currently Mary Gray (graymary007@gmail.com)

Researches, selects and books presenters for programs at monthly meetings. Handles contracts and correspondence pertaining to presentations or other special events.

Library Chair – currently Judy Cooper (judy.ltc@live.com)

Researches and sources new quilting publications suitable for purchase. Maintains records of items checked out and updates library lists for blog posting. Reviews library collection to remove outdated items.

Who should be our next “Volunteer of the Year”?



Each year, a Guild member is honoured for extraordinary contribution to the Guild. Several people voted at our Open House, but we'd love to have more votes.

Is there someone in the Guild you think has done an outstanding job this year?

Please take a moment to vote for this year's volunteer honour. You can vote by email at (krisgarber@aol.com) until May 18, 2021.

There are just two questions:

Who is your nominee for Volunteer of the Year?

Why did you select this person?

The winner will be announced at our Annual General Meeting on June 7, 2021.

A beautiful Banner

We were asked by the Minister of Trinity United Church in Mahone Bay to make a Funeral Banner for the lectern. Johanna Alford graciously volunteered.

Rev. Lee Simpson's message to Johanna and the Guild said *"What a treasure this will be for high and holy days in years to come! It will debut on our altar pulpit on Easter Sunday and I know when I speak of the themes represented, it will be as inspiring to all as it is to me. Thanks for all the thought and stitches that went into this!"*

Here is a picture of Johanna with the completed Banner and a close up picture along with information about it.

The embroidery designs are from "Embroidery Library" and stitched on my sewing machine.

Each one of the embroideries represent grief and healing.

Cross.....symbolizes life everlasting, salvation, love and glory.

Dove.....grey is the mourning dove and above all symbolizes a spiritual messenger of peace, love and faith.

Lily.....represents innocence, rebirth and hope.

Star.....the light in the darkness and the spirit rising to heaven.

Peals.....for the people grieving peals are said to be calming, protective and strengthening.

Thanks, Johanna, for volunteering and creating such a beautiful piece. I am sure the Church will cherish it for years.





Pillow Case Update

We received a huge pile of pillowcases at the Open House (sixty-one!). They have been delivered, and we received this thank you note from the co-ordinator:

To the Mahone Bay Quilt Guild:

Please convey my sincere appreciation to your Guild members for their generous support of the non-profit program Ryan's Case for Smiles.

The children, their families, as well as their caregivers have shared their enthusiasm for this program and the small measure of comfort each pillowcase brings. Each child chooses a pillowcase that is used during hospitalization, and then taken home when the child is discharged.

Approximately 5000 children are hospitalized every year in Nova Scotia in our eight hospitals with paediatric beds. In addition, hundreds stay at Ronald McDonald House while receiving treatment at the IWK. In 2020, despite the pandemic, hundreds of volunteers made more than 1600 pillowcases that were delivered to our healthcare facilities. This year we plan to deliver more. Donations like yours will make this possible.

You can learn more about this program at caseforsmiles.org. I encourage you to watch the video there.

Sincere thanks,

*Kay Desborough, Nova Scotia Coordinator
Ryan's Case for Smiles*

(P. S. Kay also told me that the MBQG members: "... always choose delightful fabrics and sew them beautifully!")

Many, many thanks to all!

Quilt Show Update

The Quilt Show Committee met in March to discuss the advisability of pursuing an in-person show this fall. The show has high fixed costs for rent, hanging, security and advertising, much of which is covered by raffle ticket sales. The absence of bus tours, uncertainty about the Scarecrow festival and vaccine schedules, and space restrictions for socially distanced viewing were among the factors that lead to the agonizing conclusion that a live show will have to wait until next year.

As mentioned in Elizabeth's Survey results, a virtual quilt show was discussed but with all of the other online offerings it was decided to not pursue this type of event.

Plans will resume in the fall of this year (2021) to have a spectacular live event in September of 2022.

Zoom buddies are standing by!

On March 20th, we asked for volunteers to help anyone needing assistance to start using Zoom for Guild virtual events. Eleven members answered the call, with several offering to make home visits if requested. **The contact information for these Zoom buddies is in an attachment to this newsletter. For phone assistance, feel free to contact any of the names on the list.**

I wanted to share some comments received from members on how using Zoom allowed them to enjoy Guild offerings:

Zoom has been life changing in this time of isolation. I look forward to all the events that have moved to a zoom format, slow quilting, quilt along, workshops, and meetings. I continue to feel connected to the guild and have made many new friends. Now I use it independently by staying in contact with long-time quilt friends in PE. It is so very easy!!!

I can attend regular meetings and not have to drive 40 minutes, in the dark on the highway. (Saves time and gas money)

I can see everyone, not just those around me and don't have to crank my neck to see who is speaking.

My back loves Zoom because I can sit in my comfortable chair at home.

I can chat with members who are online prior to the meeting and everyone hears the chat.

Zoom workshops are the greatest. I have my machine, fabric, tools, and everything I would have forgotten at my fingertips. It is like bringing my entire quilting studio with me to the workshop.

I learn all kinds of things from others about shops, patterns, interesting people, tools and other activities during the Slow Quilting Zoom calls.

Best of all, I now feel like part of the Mahone Bay Guild. I used to be a member in name only as I was unable to attend meetings.

I started using Zoom to attend Guild workshops but now find so many organizations using it. I've maintained many interests on Zoom during the past year, including weekly chats with grandchildren who live outside the province.

Even though we are slowly approaching a return to in-person events, opportunities will remain to book Zoom events with well-known instructors. Zoom allows us to avoid teacher travel and accommodation costs, and we hope more members will take advantage of these events.

One last thought – if you are reading this newsletter on your laptop, tablet, phone or computer, you already have the skill to use Zoom. So, if you've missed recent Guild events, please call a Zoom buddy and get all the benefits your dues provide.

If you have any questions not answered in the Zoom primer attachment, please let me know (krisgarber@aol.com).

Happy Quilting,

Krista

MBQG Retreat

The Retreat at the Quarterdeck Resort in Summerville is now full but if you would like to be added to a waiting list please contact Pam Wells at pammied01@gmail.com.

Marvelous Member(s)

Recently, Glenna Mills was featured in the South Shore Breaker. She earned kudos for her caring LPN manner. The article boasts Glenna for her compassion, knowledge base, skills and confidence. Her patients and colleagues feel comfort and calmness in her presence. Not only is Glenna a LPN, she also volunteers for the Greenfield Recreation Center and is a firefighter and medical first responder with the Greenfield and District Fire Department. Congratulations, Glenna and thanks for all you do.

I thought I would also share this amazing quilt that Laurie Swim has created for the 100th anniversary for the sailing ship The Bluenose! Laurie did a wonderful quilt commemorating this amazing vessel. Congratulations on this beautiful quilt.



Bags, bags and more Bags

We have many members who have created bags of different shapes, styles and sizes. I asked for information on bag making last month. Instead of reworking the information, I have decided to share the information and pictures as I received it. I am sure they would be willing to answer any questions you may have.

Perhaps this article will provide you with some inspiration to make your first bag or delve into a more difficult pattern. I hope you enjoy.

Colleen Paton shared:

Here is some additional info that might be useful building on the great piece that Vicki provided after her program (included below). In fact, it was Vicki that inspired me to give making bags a try. I have also included some photos.

Pattern designers:

* Andrie Designs - <https://www.andriedesigns.com/o>

The free Good To Go Messenger bag pattern is an excellent beginner project, easy to make with professional results (photo below).



* Sallie Tomato - <https://sallietomato.com/>

Sallie Tomato recently provided free access to their bag tutorials. All you have to do is buy the pattern and you have a class as a bonus. There are free patterns on the site as well.

* Noodlehead- <https://noodle-head.com/>

This is my favourite site as the patterns are well designed and easy to make. There are free projects. She recently offered a 5 part video sew along to make the Sandhill Sling, pictured in the photo below. For the cost of the pattern, you have a ready-made class for this cross body bag.



* Chris W. Designs - <https://www.chriswdesigns.com/> her site included a number of patterns for designer bags including freebies

Supplies:

*Sallie Tomato has a full range of supplies but is in the U.S. Avonport carries some Sallie Tomato products.

*byAnnie.com is also in the U.S. though Avonport carries some of her supplies as well.

In particular, Avonport has zippers by the yard - purse zippers are far better for bags as they have a wider zipper tape. You use a lot of Pellon SF101 fusible woven interfacing so be prepared. I also like Annie's soft and Stable for extra shape, particularly in tote bags. It is available at Avonport though Fabricland has a Pellon alternative.

The Stitch Studio <https://stitchstudio.ca/> is a new shop in Black Point at 8230 St. Margaret's Bay Road. Her primary focus is bra making supplies and classes, but she also stocks Emmaline bag making supplies and has plans to offer bag making classes. She has a good assortment of zippers and zipper pulls.

Here are a few other bags that Colleen has made:



Colleen also shared this link as there are some nice free patterns.

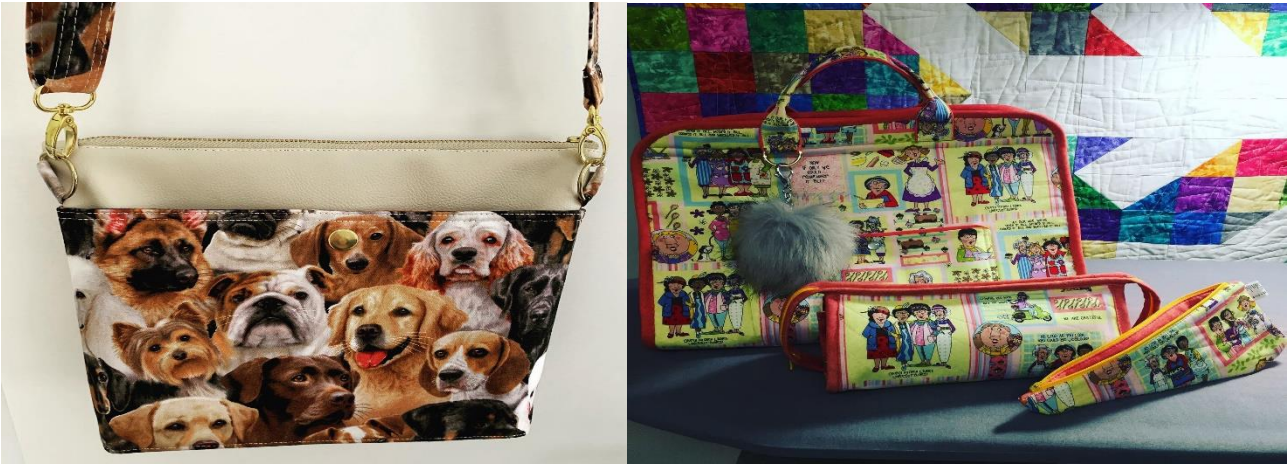
<https://www.mrs-h.com/shop/patterns.html>

Eldora Baillie shared:

Sarah Lawson from Sew Sweetness has some great sewing tutorials on her webpage. Here is the link to making perfect zipper tabs – works for me every time.

[VIDEO: How to Make your Zipper Tabs Look Nice - Sew Sweetness](#)

I've made a few bags and my favourite designer is: Noodlehead. Her website is: <https://noodle-head.com/> She has really easy to follow patterns that range from beginner to experienced. I've sewn a few and here are a few photos.



Debbie Breeze shared:

Here is a picture from Debbie. I have seen the Ultimate Travel bag in person. It looks like it was purchased in a store.

From the front - blue and gold cross-body bag with just enough room for my phone, passport (in a secret pocket on reverse side), lip balm and a small wallet.

The Retreat bag is a free pattern download on Emmaline Bags website, frames were available at Avonport. I made the small floral and the larger red one with contrast fabric on base and handles. Rockport tote in blue was completed in a workshop at Lynn Jones' studio. The pattern is by Aunties Two.

The Ultimate Travel bag is a pattern By Annie. Hardware, zippers and stabilizers were found at Avonport. Great for car travel but too big to fit under the seat in an airplane. Large enough to accommodate a small sewing machine with lots of pockets and a shoulder strap.



Vicki Burke shared:

Here is the list of sources Vicki had provided previously.

Vicki's Bags - Supply Sources

1. **Emmaline Bags** (Alberta) <https://emmalinebags.com/>
- Patterns, hardware, zippers etc., vinyl,
2. **Bringberry Handbag Hardware** (New Brunswick) <https://bringberry.com>
- Site has US pricing
3. **Avonport Discount Fabrics**, NS (No website but they are on Facebook)
- Patterns, hardware, interfacings
4. **M & M Cork Supply** (BC) <https://mmcorksupply.com/>
- Cork made in Portugal, plain and printed
5. **Dinkydo Fabrics** (BC) <https://www.dinkydoo.com/>

6. **Birdie & Dot Fabrics** (BC) <https://birdieanddotfabrics.ca/>

7. **Tangled Blossoms Fabrics** (Bridgetown, NS) <https://www.tangledblossomdesign.com>

Interfacings

1. Woven 100% cotton fusible - Pellon sf101

2. Fusible Fleece - Thermolan, Pellon, needle punch, fleece

3. Foam - Soft and Stable by Annie, non-fusible. Pellon, fusible and non-fusible. Bosal Double Sided Fusible Batting

4. Stiff Interfacings: Pellon Peltex, Non-sew. Fusible and non-fusible. Stiff Stuff by Lazy Girl, sew in.

5. Misc. craft fuse, Decor Bond, Pellon Decovil (one sided fusible)

Free Patterns

Emmaline - "Retreat Bag" <https://emmalinebags.com/products/the-retreat-bag-pdf>
"Miss Maggie" <https://emmalinebags.com/products/miss-maggies-handbag-a-free-pattern>

Blue Calla - "Clematis" <https://bluecallapatterns.com/products/new-the-clematis-wristlet-free-pdf-sewing-pattern>

Swoon - "Ethel" <https://swoonpatterns.com/shop/ethel-tote-2/>

Sew Sweetness - "Clydebank Tote" <https://sewsweetness.com/2019/03/free-clydebank-tote-videopdf-pattern.html>

Kennedy Bag <https://sewsweetness.com/2013/10/free-bag-pattern-kennedy-bag.html>

Oriole <https://sewsweetness.com/2018/05/video-oriole-bag.html>

Thanks to all the contributors. It looks like we have a few expert bag makers. Perhaps a class or two of bag making might be an idea.

IWK NICU Preemie Quilts Update

My daughter Kate and her son Ben made a delivery of 96 preemie quilts to the IWK Children's Hospital today, March 23. Many thanks to all Guild members who have donated quilts in the past year. We had been on hold for a while but we are back in business now! Please keep up the great work and make a few preemie quilts for the IWK NICU. If you need a refresher on the guidelines, please check on our website here <https://www.mahonebayquiltersguild.com/cuddle-quilt-guidelines.html> I estimate that we have donated about 1500 preemie quilt in the past 14 years. I can't thank you enough for embracing this Guild project.

Barb Robson



Special thanks from the IWK-NICU

We received this special thank you:

"On behalf of the NICU staff, families and their babies, we can't thank you enough for the lovely donation of handmade quilts. They are so beautiful. We have decided to give each family and their little one a quilt for Easter. The kind quilters will be our Easter bunnies for the babies.

So much appreciated!!

Warmly,

The NICU

Peggy's Travels

A new section this Month. Peggy Abbott has been all over the Province during her travels checking out quilt/craft shops so I thought it would be nice if she shared her experiences with us. Peggy will share a trip with us every now and then. Thanks so much Peggy for agreeing to do this.

As mentioned in Colleen's bag write up there is a new store in Black Point at 8230 St. Margaret's Bay Road. Peggy was there recently and has this to share:

Nadine and I made a trip to the Stitch Studio in Black Point to source her bag making supplies. We took the Highway up and turned off at Exit 5a and it was not far from there Located on the left side of the road and you really must watch for the small sign. She has a Mecca of bag making supplies and if you don't see it ask as it's probably there. There were beautiful zippers by the yard and lots of different zipper pulls even themed ones like Star Wars, Disney and sewing machines. She carries vinyl, interfacing etc. She is a bra instructor and carries those supplies as well. She offers classes in bra and bag making. It is a worthwhile road trip!

The "be a star" Quilt Along

There have been many stars created this month. Here is a picture of Mary's Block 8 and 9:



The Quilt Along group will be meeting again on Zoom in April. It has been a great quilt along. I can't wait to see some finished quilts.

Thank you MBQG Executive

I would like to thank the current executive for the work they have done to keep our guild running this past year. This cannot have been easy, but they turned on a dime, got us access to zoom and provided a forum for us to meet and learn. Their efforts have allowed us to:

- Continue our regular monthly meeting via zoom. (Those of you who have not participated should give it a try; it's not hard at all)
- Have really great program presenters (Note that using zoom gives us access to presenters from almost anywhere in the world)
- Participate in workshops, again via zoom
- Participate in a sew along
- Attend an open house (so we can access the library, have a few minutes with friends, show us how to use zoom, give us a place to drop of our pile of cuddle quilts, etc.)

Who would have thought one year ago, that we would be still waiting patiently, to be able to meet in person? So, I hope this short note expresses the gratitude all members have, to the executive, in keeping us together this past year, and will be continuing to do so as long as necessary.

Christine Bell

CQA News

This is the 40th Anniversary for the CQA so there are some special events planned.

Each month there is a guest lecture offered and there will be 2 per month after the summer. This month's lecture is presented on April 17th by Kate Ward who resides in Nova Scotia. A list of upcoming lectures is being finalized so check back to the CQA website often for more information.

Even though we have a guild membership with CQA there are many benefits to becoming an individual member. The monthly lectures are half price for members and other events are at a reduced cost for members. The Members only section of the new website is rich with content and will be growing all the time as new information is added.

Quilt Canada is a virtual event this year that everyone can attend from June 16-19th.

There will be a small charge to enter and with that you can view ALL of the Quilt displays and enter the merchant mall to shop. There will be added lecture events on June 17-19th as well as guided tours of the quilts that will all be different, providing a focus in various areas. None of the tours or lectures will overlap so that you can attend it all and not miss a thing!

There will be an additional small charge for each lecture or guided tour, which is reduced if you are a CQA member. Registration opens April 20, 2021. June 16th is open for viewing the Quilt Galleries and the Merchant Malls with the National Juried Show in the evening.

Because the 40th Anniversary colour is Ruby, there is a FQ lottery occurring every 40 days this year. Members can send in a red FQ to the organizer to get entered in the lottery. Each draw will be for a bundle of red FQ's and the amount of winners will depend on how many FQ's were received. This will start new every 40 days so sending another red FQ gets your name back in the lottery again!

The Trend Tex winning wall quilts from the past 5 years have been returned to CQA to auction off. The details are on the website and the Auction is open on April 7th-11th.

Be sure to take a look at the new website for any further information or to sign up to be a member.

Annette Fralic

Free Quilt Pattern

Here is a link for a free "Redwork Baskets" - Block of the week program from "Piecing the Past Quilts"

<https://www.piecingthepastquilts.com/block-of-the-week-programs>

Have you checked out the Guild's Blog? Do you have a personal blog?

Have you looked to see what Colleen has been saying on our Blog, here is the website

<https://www.mahonebayquiltersguild.com/>

Also, I plan on featuring guild members who have their own blog in the May newsletter. If you have a blog and you would like it mentioned in next month's newsletter, please send me an email with your information at mbqgnewsletter@gmail.com

Quilt Game

This month's game is Quilt Anagrams. An anagram is a word or phrase formed by rearranging the letters of another word or phrase. For example, **Pecan Hint to Nine Patch**. Here are 5 anagrams for you to solve. I have a prize waiting for the 1st person to send me the correct answer before the April meeting.

1. a green pole
2. crack dirt
3. crush hand
4. nice flare
5. wrap base

Your laugh for this month:



**The quilted apron:
just another sign that you live with a quilter.**

Newsletter Submissions

Get your ideas in before the deadline!

Month	Deadline
May	Saturday, April 24
June	Saturday, May 29