



Website: <http://www.mahonebayquiltersguild.com/>

Email: mahonebayquilters@gmail.com

Flickr: <https://www.flickr.com/people/mbag/>

Happy November everyone. As the weather outside cools down and the days get shorter many of us are starting to spend more time in our sewing spaces. I'm sure there are lots of holiday gifts being made this month and plans being made for upcoming winter projects.

Our Workshop Chairs have been busy searching for fun and inspirational workshops for all of us and we are hoping to get some ideas of teachers and/or techniques you would like to see offered. Unless the teacher is a member or lives locally, we would be looking at a virtual workshop. We certainly have had our eyes opened to the wonderful options this has allowed us to participate in over the past 2 years. Please take a minute to think about something you would be interested in attending and drop an email off to Johanna at joquilt@bellaliant.net.

Sewing days are always fun and informal and we have not had many in person opportunities the past few years to do this. I would like to hear from members who would be interested in Sew days. We have a large, bright venue at the Lahave Firehall and would be able to host full day Open Sew days if there are members who are interested. We could also sew charity quilts in the Gows Home Hardware Community Room as a small group if there are members that are interested. If either or both Sew Day options sound like something you would like to attend,

Executive Members

President – Annette Fralic –
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Newsletter – Jan Strachan -
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Meeting Date

Our next meeting is **November 7, 2022**. It will be in-person only at the **Trinity United Church**

For Information on Slow Quilting, Sew Zoom and other Guild Activities check out our Website Calendar
<https://www.flickr.com/people/mbag/>

please send me a message and let me know which you like and if you are more likely to attend on a weekday or weekend. Your input is important when we make these decisions. afralic100@gmail.com .

Our Christmas Daddies Donation is ready. We will be calling in our donation to the program when it airs on CTV2 Saturday December 5 from 11am – 6pm. We have \$1445 to donate this year thanks to the challenge quilt silent auction that was held at the Quilt Show. Thank you to everyone for making this happen!

Finally, I want to thank all the members who helped with the Pillowcase Donations. We were able to set up at the Gows Home Hardware on October 22nd to receive donations for Ryan's Case for Smiles. We received 63 pillowcases!! WELL DONE! If there are still pillowcases to be dropped off, we will have a drop off table available at the November General meeting.

Happy Quilting

Annette

Membership News

The October "Meet the Quilters" was a resounding success with six new members present that evening. We welcome a new member, Wenda MacDonald from Lunenburg to the Guild. The Guild now has 126 active members.

Members are encouraged to wear their name tags to the meetings, workshops and special events. Members can find the name tag instructions on the website under the "Members Only" tab ([Guild Name Tag Instructions – Mahone Bay Quilters' Guild \(mahonebayquiltersguild.com\)](http://mahonebayquiltersguild.com)). The website is a great source of information about the guild. Members are also encouraged to like and follow our FaceBook Page. Be sure to make a request to join the members' only page (<https://www.facebook.com/mahonebayquiltersguildofficial/groups>) - again lots of great information can be found here.

There will be a Fat Quarter draw at the November meeting. The theme is "Autumn". Fabric can be seasonal or holiday themed, any colour and must be quilt quality.

Happy Quilting!

Eldora

Membership Chair

Program News

November Meeting

Wondering about Quilt Canada in Halifax? Why not join Carole McCarville, CQA/ACC Executive Director at our November meeting. She will bring the "2022 Rewire Individual CQA/ACC Member Challenge" and the "2022 Reaffirm CQA/ACC Member Guild Challenge" quilts for a trunk show. These thirty wall hangings, which were displayed at Quilt Canada 2022 in Vancouver this past June, are a wonderful example of Canadian quilters imagination and talent.

And have you heard.... Quilt Canada 2023 is coming to Halifax on June 8-10 !

Perhaps after seeing the 2022 challenge quilts, you will be inspired to create an entry for one of the 2023 challenges to be displayed in Halifax next June.

In addition to the trunk show, Carole will give you detailed information about QC2023, including how you can help by volunteering to show quilters from across Canada and beyond what Nova Scotia hospitality is all about.

December Meeting

Don't forget about the Mug Rug and Christmas Ornament Exchange at the December meeting.

Both have to be hand made (not necessarily by a member). For the new members, you bring an ornament and/or a mug rug and you go home with one. If you have any questions, please give me call or send me an email at gstryde@hotmail.com.

Here is a link for a few free mug rug patterns: <https://www.craftsy.com/post/free-quilted-mug-rug-patterns/>

Also, there will be a **potluck** at the December meeting, a beautiful door prize donated by Heidi at WoolWorks as well as other draws and perhaps a game. It should be a fun time. More information in the December Newsletter.

"Meet the Quilter"

Lots of laughter and visiting happened at the October meeting while trying to find the answers to the questions as well catching up with members who you have not seen in awhile. As promised, for those of you who could not make it, here are a few of the

questions (and the answers as they appeared on the sheet) that were asked at the meeting. (the rest will be in the December Newsletter).

Who is from Newfoundland and Labrador? **Judy, Gail, Janet J .**

Who loves Needle Turn Applique? **Deanne, Christine B, Marilyn V, Barb R., Carole**

Who has been quilting for more than 40 years? **Barb, Daphne, Rita, Deanne H.**

Who is wearing red underwear? **Gail**

Who is an Opera Singer? **Nina**

Who has a Newfoundland Dog? **Krista**

Who spends their summers on PEI? **Elizabeth**

Find someone who was not born in Nova Scotia: **Pina, Janet, Donna E, Sheena, Johanna, Gail, Marjorie, Rita,**

Find someone not wearing a bra? **Alicia (thanks for taking it off)**

Who has attended Slow Quilting? **Barb, Eldora, Krista, Tara, Annette, Ann P., Peggy A.**

Find a new Member: **Rita, Kelly, Sheena, Peggy L., Shelly, Nancy**

Who has been on a Cruise recently? **Fiona O, Eldora, Beverly**

Library News

At the November meeting I will have two new books to share with you.

1. *Modern Triangle Quilts* by Rebecca Bryan

This book was recommended by a member of the guild and looks quite interesting. There are 70 pieced triangle blocks which form bold, geometric designs. The 11 sampler quilts are simple to piece with no set-in seams. If you are in love with triangles and want to stitch up a thoroughly modern quilt, this one's for you.

2. *Cool Cotton & Whimsical Wool Quilts* by Kim Schaefer

I have written a book review of this one which is in the newsletter.

There will also be several new issues of magazines:

Canadian Quilter Autumn 2022

Love of Quilting Nov / Dec 2022

Quilt Mania Issue 151 Sept / Oct 2022

Simply Moderne Issue 30

If you have any overdue books or current magazines, please return them at the next meeting.

Keep safe

and hope to see you soon.

Judy Cooper

Guild Librarian

Book Review

Cool Cotton & Whimsical Wool Quilts by Kim Schaefer



I purchased this book for myself last year just because I liked the cover project. I know, you never judge a book by its cover but sometimes that's hard to do. And often, that works out big time. In any case, I like the 'whimsical, modern, folk-art style' that Kim Schaefer has designed.

Instead of rewording the brief review from the book, I decided to include the one from C & T Publishing. Here goes! More input from me further down.

"Sew funky folk-art fun!"

Combine bursts of cotton color with wool wildlife, flowers, and more! Best-selling author Kim Schaefer introduces 12 new quilt projects in her beloved whimsical, modern, folk-art style. The quilts are perfect for beginners to explore easy fusible appliqué projects, as well as experienced stitchers, who can enjoy these

brand-new designs. Just layer your felted wool pieces, from flamingos, owls, bees, potted flowers, and much more, and add to your cotton fabric background.

- *12 contemporary quilt projects in Kim's classic whimsical style*
- *Create a colorful world using cotton fabrics and felted wool appliqué*
- *Beginners welcome! Every stitcher from novice to experienced can enjoy these projects”*

Last February I decided to make a wall hanging for Spring and choose Birds of a Feather from this book. Finished, this piece will measure 18 ½ x 18 ½ inches. The largest project in the book is about 20 inches so the 12 projects are quick to complete for a dedicated quilter. My goal was to have it finished in a month or two – didn't happen!! I am at the quilting stage as you will see at the October meeting. To make this piece my own, I decided to embroider each of the 27 leaves with different stitches – call it a sampler! The three birds, two butterflies and bee are also embroidered but I sort of followed the embroidery from the book. This took time. I also didn't work on it every day and got caught up in many other things.

The patterns in this book could be made without embroidery and could use all cottons instead of wool felt on a cotton background. However, the projects are a great way to practice different hand embroidery stitches. I think this book is a great addition to our library and I look forward to seeing some of you making something from it.

To have a brief look on the inside of this book check out https://www.amazon.ca/Cool-Cotton-Whimsical-Wool-Quilts/dp/1644030780/ref=sr_1_1?crid=24PHQ79RC9XFC&keywords=kim+schaefer+book+cool+cotton+%26+whimsical+wool+quilts&qid=1666534829&qu=eyJxc2MiOiIwLjA2IiwicXNhIjoiMC4wMCIsInFzcCI6IjAuMDAifQ%3D%3D&srefix=%2Caps%2C99&sr=8-1&asin=1644030780&revisionId=&format=4&depth=1

I have no affiliation to Amazon or any other book seller. The link was included for a quick look at the book.

Our library also owns Kim's Whimsical Wool Applique book.

Submitted by

Judy Cooper

Workshop News

We still have a few spaces “Learn and Explore Beginner English Paper Piecing “by Sue Conrad. Registration has been extended to November 7. This is an in-person workshop on November 19, 2022. \$35 for members and \$55 for non members.

We have confirmed a two day (3 ½ hrs ea.) virtual workshop on January 21 and February 4, 2023 by Kerry Foster. She has been teaching quilting and patchwork classes around Southern Alberta, Canada for a number of years and has a growing YouTube following, but now for the first time, she is bringing her full length, detailed classes, online for quilters everywhere to enjoy! Kerry is the author of Paint By Number Quilts (Stash Books 2018) and over 60 magazine projects and articles for publications internationally. She is also an MQX ribbon winner and has shown her work in quilt and art shows alike. Watch the next newsletter for more information.

Johanna and Pina

General News

Preemie Quilts

Preemie Quilt Specifications:

- Preemie quilts should be **31 x 33** inches
- They can be appliquéd or pieced by hand or machine in any pattern of your choice.
- Fabrics should be prewashed 100% cotton -- do not use fabric with glitter or harsh metallic threads. **Do not** use scented fabric softeners.
- Backing can be prewashed flannel or cotton.
- Preferred batting is cotton or flannel.
- Use 100% cotton thread
- Quilting can be done by hand or machine, but PLEASE put enough stitching on the quilt to hold it securely together. Use at least ¼ inch seam allowances so the patchwork is going to stay together.
- **Do not** use any monofilament or metallic thread as it is too harsh for the fragile skin of the preemie babies. Also do **NOT** tie the quilts.

Remember -- These quilts do not have to be elaborate.
A simple nine patch, or four patch quilts can be lovely!

New to the Newsletter the **Mahone Bay Quilters Buy and Sell**

You will be able to sell quilt related items here but not fabric, thread or finished quilted products (like boutique items). This is where you can sell sewing machines, quilt frames etc.

I will try to make sure that you are aware of the deadline for the newsletter in this section of the current newsletter. The Deadline for the December Newsletter is **November 26, 2022**

Mahone Bay Quilters Buy and Sell

Wooden quilting frame, adjustable for quilts from baby to queen size (and maybe king?)

Includes:

4 support/stand pieces

2 - 4ft boards

2 - 6ft boards

2 - 8ft boards

Requires:

4 regular 2" C-clamps

Free to a good home. Email:

susanlilley@gmail.com or phone 902 530 5260

Susan Lilley



WANTED TO BUY

Ladies adjustable garment making form : Size Large

Please contact Annette Fralic at 902-624-6467

Or e-mail at aandbf@eastlink.ca

Next Deadline November 26, 2022.

Retreat News

Quarterdeck retreat

Our retreat for May 9-12, 2023 is now full, with 23 members expressing an intent to attend. In the next few weeks, accommodation details will be sent out. Currently, we are working on a final price for use of the community room. Stay tuned! If you have any questions about the retreat, please contact Krista at krisgarber@aol.com.

DesBrisay Museum News

On October 28, 2022, Pam Wells and Krista Garber participated in a presentation for NS social studies teachers at the DesBrisay Museum. The topic was the economic, political and social impact of quilting throughout the years. Tracing quilting's history in NS from the late 1700's to today, the attendees discussed the ways in which quilting gave women a voice. Also shown were examples of the evolution to art quilting that has emerged today. The teachers then got to try hand quilting on small hoops, with guidance from Pam and Krista.



Newsletter News

In June I asked Nina if she could do a write up for us to help us produce better pictures of our quilts using our cameras. Even though she is very busy here is her article. I know you will all benefit from this information. Thank you Nina!!!

Photography for Quilters 101

One of the most important non-sewing skills you can have as a quilter is to be able to photograph, edit and share photos of your work. You'll want to do this to share your creations on social media or keep a visual record of your projects. You may also need to do it to enter quilt shows. Quilt shows may have more stringent rules about photographs of items for entry -- always double check the guidelines!

For this walk through I'm going to assume you'll be taking photos with a phone, either an Apple iPhone or a phone running the Android operating system. With the excellent quality of cameras on modern smart phones, there's really no need to use any other kind of camera for this. Full disclosure: I'm an iPhone user and have never used an Android phone myself, so my suggestions are based on my experience. But most smartphones have similar basic settings.

PHONE CAMERA SETTINGS

Go into your Phone's Settings

Pick Camera

Click on "FORMATS" - Choose most compatible because .jpgs are much easier to share

Turn on "GRID" (this will give you guidelines that divide your screen into nine segments -- this will help you centre everything or arrange an attractive composition. It will also turn on the levelling crosshairs -- more on that later)

Turn off "Smart HDR" or "HDR"



SET UP YOUR QUILT FOR BEING PHOTOGRAPHED:

The most important kind of shot for entering shows or selling your pieces or having as a record of your work is the quilt photography equivalent of a passport photo -- straight-on (no artsy angles or odd trapezoids) with every bit of the piece visible and equally lit.

Tips for setting up your quilt to be photographed:

HANGING:

Hang the quilt outside -- on a railing, from a wall or from a clothesline. For a casual or record shot, this is perfect.

Use a stand: I bought this stand (originally designed for holding a backdrop for photo sessions) and it's been wonderful for me! https://www.amazon.ca/Yesker-Background-Adjustable-Photoshoot-Photography/dp/B08BYFJCM3/ref=sr_1_12?crid=3OWB3H29CQTJC&keywords=backdrop%2Bstands&qid=1662130816&srefix=backdrop%2Bstands%2Caps%2C119&sr=8-12&th=1

It can be adjusted to up to 8.5' high and from 5 to 10' wide. You can set this up on your driveway or patio with natural light and get a great shot!

PIN IT TO YOUR DESIGN WALL:

Use T pins or similar pins to pin the quilt securely to the design wall. Pinning it all around will make sure it's nice and flat.

LAY IT FLAT:

Smaller projects can be laid on a table or even the floor, or a bed. You'll need to be well above it and centred to take a good photo, so consider standing on a chair if you need to!

STAGE THE QUILT INSTEAD OF HANGING IT

You can also photograph your pieces for social media or as extra shots in a more relaxed or natural way. Set the table with your quilted placemats. Fold the quilt and put it on a rack or ladder, or over the back of a chair.



LIGHTING:

Lighting is everything for photography. The very best lighting of all is natural light with no flash.

NATURAL LIGHTING - OUTDOORS:

Outdoors with the light falling on the object, not behind it. Taking photos on an overcast day is ideal - the clouds naturally diffuse the light. Best time of day is early morning (there tends to be less wind) or late afternoon.

Full sunlight can be too harsh and wash out your colours. Dappled light can really detract from the quilt, too.

NATURAL LIGHTING INDOORS:

Pick a room with great lighting which usually means lots of windows. You can even open a door to increase your natural lighting indoors.

STUDIO LIGHTING:

My own setup is to pin the quilt on my design wall and use several studio lights plus the natural light of the room to get the most even lighting coverage I can. If you don't have a design wall and want to photograph indoors, use any wall, especially one that offers a neutral background and is in an area that gets quite a lot of natural light.

My studio lights are just the 2 adjustable tripod uprights from my backdrop stand (see above) each with an 8.5" clamp light fixture and a 150-watt daylight bulb. The clamp fixtures are easily available at any hardware store, and I just clamp them on to the top of the tripod uprights and move them around. I arrange the two lights, one on each side of the quilt hanging on the wall, far enough away to keep the light coverage more even and avoid hot spots. Note that the clamp fixture I use only takes incandescent bulbs.

TAKING THE PHOTO:



Some basic tips:

- Don't use flash
- Don't use the digital zoom -- you'll end up degrading the image. Get closer.
- On the other hand, don't get too close to the quilt with your phone camera (which tends to have a wide-angle lens) -- it may distort the image.
- While smartphones are great at stabilization to reduce camera shake, you can use a tripod and a smartphone holder for even better results.
- If you are unable to secure a tripod, try this: frame the art work with your smart phone, inhale and then exhale fully, hold your smartphone steady and make the image. With practice you will get sharp images every time!

If you need a clear photo of the entire quilt, you ideally want the lens of the camera to be aligned with the centre of the quilt. This keeps the subject of the photo un-distorted. The grid in your viewfinder will help with this, too. This means you may need to crouch down or get on a ladder or chair so that you are aligned with the centre of the quilt in both directions.



If your subject is lying flat, and you're using an iPhone or Google Camera, there's a great aid for you. Once you've turned on the grid, you'll be able to use the levelling cross hairs. A pair of crosshairs (+) will appear, one fixed and one floating. Try to hold your phone as straight down as possible to make the two crosshairs appear and line them up,

EDITING YOUR PHOTOS:

You can do basic edits in your phone (rotate, etc.). Check out these links for specific tips:

How to take and edit photos on an iPhone: <https://support.apple.com/en-ca/guide/iphone/iphb08064d57/ios>

How to take and edit photos on an Android Phone: <https://support.google.com/photos/answer/6128850?hl=en&co=GENIE.Platform%3DAndroid>

MAKING A LARGE PHOTO FILE SMALLER:

Depending on the settings on your phone, you'll probably be taking photos that will be saved as .jpg files. The file size of jpg images encompasses two things: the actual size of the image (measured in pixels - the smallest units of the image) and the amount of compression (often expressed as a percentage of the uncompressed image).

When editing photos to reduce size, you'll see options like "reduce quality", "make smaller", "reduce resolution". Photos for the web are usually saved at a resolution of 72 pixels per inch -- photos for printing need to be at 300 ppi.

You can download photos from your phone to your laptop and edit them with a photo editor.

Mac: Preview for the Mac comes pre-installed and it's remarkably useful. You can crop, change the size and compression of the file, correct colours, rename the file -- whatever you might need. You can change the file size if you export the file -- Under File menu choose "Export" and then choose the file type JPG and you'll be offered a slider to pick the quality of the image. Reducing the quality reduces the file size!

Other image editors include GIMP and the built-in Photos editor.

<https://improvephotography.com/53771/photo-editors-on-the-mac-the-built-in-editor-vs-five-free-options/>

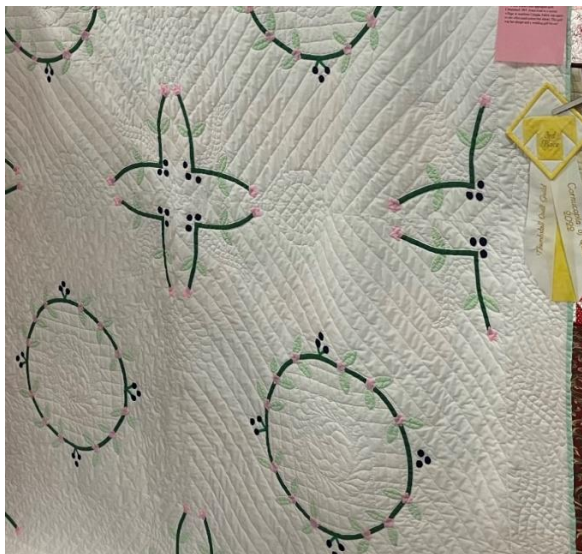
Microsoft Photos is the built-in photo editor with Windows 10 and will do all of the above tasks. A free download for Windows machines is GIMP -- an excellent open-source photo editor.

<https://www.blog.motifphotos.com/how-to-reduce-the-file-size-of-a-photo/>

This is a shortened version of a MBQG blog post -- see the full post at <https://mahonebayquiltersguild.com/?p=1688>

Other News

Article from Musee Acadien



In 1985 I received a quilt for a wedding gift. The quilt was entitled Nova Scotia Blueberry. It remains one of my most cherished possessions. The quilt was pieced, appliquéd and quilted by hand by Irma Smith of Argyle, NS.

Irma has passed, but her work lives on in my family.

I entered her quilt in my quilt guild show this year. The quilt received a third-place ribbon and many oohs and ahs!

I hope that she is smiling down on us with the knowledge that her talent is appreciated and loved by so many.

I'm enclosing a photo of this quilt! I wanted to share with fellow quilters in southwest Nova Scotia.

Debby Cutten
Skaneateles NY

If anyone finds an interesting article you would like to share, please forward it to me. I think we all would love to see it.

Another New to Newsletter **Best in Sew and Tell**

This month we will play best in Sew and Tell as our game. If you go to Flickr <https://www.flickr.com/people/mbqg/> and look up the quilts shown at the October Meeting month in Sew and Tell and vote.

How to find the file. Use the link, open Albums, find Sew and Tell for October 2022. Then vote. There were 8 quilts in October Sew and Tell so just pick your favorite using the numbers 1 through 8. Email your vote to me (Jan) at mbqgnewsletter@gmail.com.

