



Website: <http://www.mahonebayquiltersguild.com/>
Email: info@mahonebayquiltersguild.com
Flickr: <https://www.flickr.com/people/mbag/>

President Message

Congratulations to all those whose efforts contributed to another successful Cuddle Quilt Day in March, with 63 quilts being collected so far. Thanks to Betty Learning for her excellent organization of this event.

April will be a busy month, highlighted by our first Extraordinary Quilter (EQ) event since 2019. As always, ticket sales for the EQ tea have been strong. Almost all of the required food is assigned, and we'll have wonderful door prizes donated by our favourite quilt shops. Pam Wells, Eldora Baillie and Pina Wall have worked hard to put together four days of fun and education with our guest quilter, Melissa Marginet.

At the April meeting, the winner of the President's "Ugly Fabric" Challenge will be chosen and voting will open for our 2024 Volunteer of the Year.

Remember to pick up your Raffle Quilt tickets to sell if you have not already done so. See you at the meeting!

Krista Garber, Past President

Executive Members

President – Annette Fralic –
president@mahonebayquiltersguild.com
or 902-624-6467

Vice President – Vacant

Treasurer – Nina Scott-Stoddart –
treasurer@mahonebayquiltersguild.com or
902-634-9140

Secretary – Kellie Skelhorn –
secretary@mahonebayquiltersguild.com

Communications – Colleen Paton –
communications@mahonebayquiltersguild.com
or 902-444-0559

Membership – Eldora Baillie –
membership@mahonebayquiltersguild.com

Library – Judy Cooper –
library@mahonebayquiltersguild.com
or 902-527-5570

Past President – Krista Garber –
pastpresident@mahonebayquiltersguild.com
or 902-677-2867

Workshops – Josie (Pina) Wall –
workshop@mahonebayquiltersguild.com
or 902-693-2018

Monthly Program – Daphne Strowbridge -
program@mahonebayquiltersguild.com

Newsletter – Sheena Gibbs –
newsletter@mahonebayquiltersguild.com

Next Meeting

Our next meeting is **April 8, 2024 @ 7:00pm**
Doors open at 6:30pm. It will be in-person only
at the Trinity United Church.
*see page 13 for what to bring!

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

Quilt Show 2024

Raffle ticket sales are going well. We are still in need of a Raffle Chair and Sales Committee to sell tickets at various locations throughout the summer.

We are working on the advertising and promotion of the quilt show on various social media platforms. Postcards and posters are being printed for distribution throughout the province by guild members.

The quilt committee has discussed award ribbons for different categories of quilts in the quilt show. We are opening up this bit of fun to all members of the guild. All you have to do is choose a category and then make an award ribbon for that choice. Quilt Show committee members for the last quilt show had a lot of fun making their ribbons.

There will be gift cards for Best in Show and Viewers' Choice.

Donna Egan, Co-chairperson, Quilt Show 2024

President's Challenge

Voting will take place at the April meeting to determine the winner of the President's challenge. If you were among the brave souls who took Annette's ugly fabric and turned it into something new and lovely, please bring your challenge entry to the meeting in an opaque bag and drop it off in the parlour on your way into the meeting.

During our break, all members in attendance will have an opportunity to vote for their favourite entry. The winner will be announced at the conclusion of the meeting. Annette has donated a lovely prize for the lucky winner. Good luck to everyone!

Volunteer of the Year

Each year the Guild recognizes the extraordinary contribution of one member who volunteers their time and skills to support the guild. This recognition puts a spotlight on our amazing members who give of their time. It can be any member!

It's time to start thinking about nominations for this year's Volunteer of the Year. You can nominate as many members as you wish. Nomination Forms will be available at the April and May meetings with the award being presented at the June meeting.

If you are unable to attend either of these meetings, you can also send an email to Eldora with (1) name of the member being nominated and (2) the reasons to support your nomination.

Nominations will close at the end of the meeting in May.



Volunteer of the Year Ballots

At our Annual General Meeting in June, we honour a person who has been nominated for an outstanding contribution to the Guild over the past year.

Nominations will be done in person at the April and May meetings or via email. Ballots will be available at the sign-in desk and are anonymous.

Alternatively, to vote by email, send your nomination to Eldora at membership@mahonebayquiltersguild.com.

Eldora will be collecting and recording the votes until the big reveal at the June meeting.

Membership News

Membership Renewal Time – the best deal in town!

2024-25 membership renewal is now open. Your membership runs from July 1 – June 30 and costs only \$30 per year. By renewing your membership early, you are eligible to enter quilts in the upcoming Quilt Show in September, participate in Sew Zoom and Slow Quilting sessions, attend monthly meetings, and enjoy all the benefits of the quilting guild, including a 10% discount at Violet's Quilts in New Minas.

For a payment of \$30, you can renew in the following ways:

1. e-transfer to: mbqgtreasurer@gmail.com. Please include your name in the comments.
2. Pay at any in-person meeting via cheque or cash.
3. Send a cheque to: MBQG Treasurer, 177 York Street, PO Box 1819, Lunenburg, NS, B0J 2C0. Please include your name on the re: line at the bottom of the cheque.

Membership Chair Position

The Membership Chair position is up for renewal at our AGM in June. Interested volunteers should contact Krista. The Guild relies on a dedicated team of volunteers to ensure the livelihood of the Guild. If you're considering this role, you are welcome to shadow me at the April, May and June meetings to become familiar with the role and responsibilities or contact me directly for more information.

Eldora Baillie, Membership Chair

Communications Help Wanted

We need your help to manage the Guild's website. These are not technical jobs – the website has excellent technical support from Nina Mosey, our webmaster. However, the website content needs a few extra hands to keep it up to date and useful for our Guild members. Please take a look at the following volunteer roles and consider lending a hand for the upcoming quilting year.

#1 - Calendar Manager

The Events Calendar on our website is where you will find out what is going on. You can search by event, by date, by month and get the details. We include Guild activities but have also begun adding other events of interest to our members such as other quilt shows or exhibitions.

The task is:

- To add Guild events to the calendar such as regular monthly meetings, Sew Zoom and Slow Quilting, and adding other events – workshops, exhibits, special Guild events – on request
 - Step by step instructions and technical support, if needed, are provided
 - Your access to the website will be for this task only so you can't affect other parts of the website

Level of Effort – 30 to 40 minutes per month on average

#2 - Gallery Manager

The Photo Gallery is an important part of the Guild's history as it contains all of our photos of Sew and Tell, Program speakers, Workshops, Quilt shows and special events. We no longer maintain the Guild Flickr album.

There is only one task:

- Add photos to the website after Guild meetings and as required, after special events like the EQ Tea and the Quilt Show
 - Step by step instructions and technical support, if needed, are provided
 - Photos are sent to you by email and you load them on the site – and it doesn't really matter whether you can attend the meeting yourself.

- You will have access to the website for this task only, so relax, you can't mess this up even if you are not "technical"

Level of Effort – 30 to 40 minutes each month

#3 - Guild Blogger

The Guild Blog gives absent Guild Members a snapshot of what went on at a meeting and provides timely reminders to members of upcoming events and deadlines. The Blog also shows non-Members what the Guild has to offer and hopefully interest them in membership. If you like to write, this may be the perfect volunteer job.

The blogger is asked to:

- Write and post a monthly blog post after each Guild meeting and include photos and other materials at your discretion.
 - You can add occasional blog posts on other related topics – for example visits to quilt shops in the region, or other topics
 - Step by step instructions will be provided along with technical assistance if you need it and your access to the website is limited to just this task.
 - Blog posts are distributed automatically once published so no need to send emails.

Level of Effort – between 1.5 to 3 hours monthly to write, edit and publish

And of course, we need a new Communications Chair

This year marks the end of my second term as Communications Chair and it is time to pass the baton. The main task for the Communications Chair is to manage the content of the web site pages, aided by the Guild's webmaster, Nina Mosey, who provides the technical work.

Specific tasks:

- Keeping our web pages up to date with information provided by others
- Checking the Guild's general information emails; replying or sharing the content
- Sending occasional emails to Guild members on time-sensitive info
- Maintaining a master list of passwords for our communications systems/software

- Setting up and/or transferring email accounts for members of the Executive
- Attending monthly Executive meetings (10 meetings/year) – the Comms Chair serves a - year term

Level of Effort – about 1 day per month, including Executive meetings

These are volunteer positions that are very do-able in terms of time required and skills involved and are essential if we want to keep a web site that meets the needs of Guild members. Please give them some thought. If you have any questions at all, or you would like to volunteer for one of these spots, please email me at communications@mahonebayquiltersguild.com or call Colleen Paton at 902-444-0559.

Colleen Paton, Communications Chair

Workshop News

The days and months have flown by and in a few days, our EQ Melissa Marginet will be here! This will be my first EQ and am excited to learn from such an expert.

There are still spaces available for the Friday Zen Tree Workshop. This would be an excellent opportunity to try Melissa's techniques on a small scale and take home a finished project. Register at workshop@mahonebayquiltersguild.com .

For those taking her workshops, a few reminders:

- Have your supplies and homework done prior to class.
- If you have an extension cord/power bar, please bring it.
- Bring your name tag.
- Pack a lunch. Coffee/tea will be available for \$1.
- All classes are at the Mahone Bay Legion, 21 Pond Street, starting at 10am.
- The Legion has a new ramp at the side of the building. Trolleys and assistance will be available to get your sewing machines and equipment into the hall.

This concludes Workshops for this year. Thanks to the executive for their patience and guidance and to the members who took the Skills Days/Workshops. Keep your ideas and feedback coming.

Josie(Pina) Wall, Workshop Chair
MBQG April 2024 NEWSLETTER

Slow Quilting Link

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84862604080?pwd=ZFdYMHJPT093OWVBOCtjN1QzYmFaZz09>

Meeting ID: 848 6260 4080

Passcode: MBQG2021

Sew Zoom Link

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87958143153?pwd=eU5PSGJ0OGpZZHNBdmdaL1JIYStxdz09>

Meeting ID: 879 5814 3153

Passcode: 121475

Cuddle Quilt Day 2024

We had a very successful Cuddle Quilt Day this year, with 17 energetic volunteers and a grand total of 63 quilts readied for donation. Our volunteers jumped right in on Cuddle Quilt Day and did a great job finishing off the quilts at the various workstations. We also had many quilts handed in that were completely finished and absolutely beautiful! You can see some of them in the photos provided by Elizabeth Tumblin. We packaged 17 large lap and single bed size quilts for the Brigadoon graduates, and the others are packaged by size, waiting for destinations. I sent out an email for suggestions this year, and volunteers to help deliver them. Please send me a private message if you know of an organization needing these quilts. We have all sizes from preemie up to queen, as well as wheelchair and walker quilt caddies.

A sincere thank you to all Cuddle Quilt Day volunteers and to the "at home" quilters who completed these wonderful donations. I would like to give a special thank you to Krista Graber and Annette Fralic who provided the information and guidance I needed in the process. In addition, Annette helped me before and after each meeting with fabric and batting, then she and her daughter set up the room the evening before CQD and Annette was the lead in packaging the quilts afterward in the church.

All in all, a very successful Cuddle Quilt Day thanks to the many generous MBQG members! Any suggestions or recommendations for next year are welcome.





Betty Learning, Cuddle Quilt Day Coordinator

MBQG 2024 Retreat

Response for the online Zoom retreat has been far greater than expected. The theme for the retreat will be "Show Time." Just as our UFO Day had a particular focus, this retreat will emphasize working on pieces that will be entered in our upcoming quilt show. Scheduled demos will address tips/techniques that have been requested by members.

On May 7 & 8, we will be online from 10 am – 3 pm. There will be periodic prize draws interspersed with our sewing time. Of course, you may come and go as you wish during this time. This Zoom link will go out only to those registered for the retreat.

A separate Zoom link will be sent to all members to attend our Happy Hour on May 8th at 4:30 pm.

Our in-person luncheon at the Seaside Shanty in Chester Basin is scheduled for May 9th at noon. This recently renovated venue has a great view, has separate equipment for preparation of gluten-free foods and has designated their full main level space for our use.

Space at the luncheon is now full. Registration for the Zoom portion, (\$10 registration fee) will remain open until April 13th. After that, updates will be sent only to registered members.

I'm so grateful to the members who have offered to help put this experiment together. Thanks to Peggy Abbott for shopping for our terrific prizes. I still need a volunteer to demonstrate how to make a facing for a small wall hanging. Please email me at krisgarber@aol.com if you are willing to present brief (maybe 10 minute) instruction on this topic.

Krista Garber, Past-President

Meeting Reminders

The program for the April meeting will be a presentation and pop-up shop with Lynn Jones of Lynn's Quilting Studio. Please bring a bag and some cash – you never know what treasures you might find.

Reminders for the April meeting:

- Doors open at 6:30pm; meeting begins at 7:00 pm
- Events are scent free
- Wear a name tag
- The theme for fat quarter draw are “batiks” themed fat quarter(s)
- Ensure you return library books
- Pick up Raffle Quilt tickets
- Vote for President's Challenge and Volunteer of the Year while at the meeting

Sheena Gibbs, Newsletter Chair

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS April 27!