



Website: <http://www.mahonebayquiltersguild.com/>
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President's Message

Happy November, quilting friends!

As the weather gets colder, and most of us are preparing to spend more time inside, many quilters get ready to do some serious work over the late fall and winter. I've been setting up my new quilting studio in our Mahone Bay home, and I am ready to go!

I've been thinking a lot about what the Guild means to me. As a largely self-taught quilter, with lots of garment sewing experience but no quilting work before the Covid shutdown in 2020, the Guild has been a precious place to learn and share tips with a supportive community. My favourite times in the guild have been those times we've been able to gather and sew in person: at a retreat, slow quilting in a café, working on a project in a workshop or sewing together at Cuddle Quilt days. I enjoy Zoom workshops, but nothing can take the place of sewing in a room with other artists, each of whom has her own knowledge, experience and techniques, and all of whom seem kind enough to share that knowledge generously.

With the aim of increasing social sewing for the Guild, we have a number of exciting events coming up, including the introduction of Open Sewing days for members. See this newsletter for details!

Executive Members

President – Nina Scott-Stoddart –
president@mahonebayquiltersguild.com

Vice President – Vacant

Treasurer – Jill Rafuse –
treasurer@mahonebayquiltersguild.com

Secretary – Dawn Pritchard
secretary@mahonebayquiltersguild.com

Communications – Cheryl Borden –
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Membership – Betty Learning –
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Library – Heather McEwan, Pam Hancock
and Diane Binmore –
library@mahonebayquiltersguild.com

Past President – Annette Fralic –
pastpresident@mahonebayquiltersguild.com

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

Monthly Program – Sandy Morrow-
program@mahonebayquiltersguild.com

Newsletter – Sheena Gibbs –
newsletter@mahonebayquiltersguild.com

Next Meeting

Our next meeting is **November 3, 2025**
@1:00pm. Doors open at 12:30pm. It will be
in-person only at the Trinity United Church.
*see page 7 for meeting reminders!

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

If you're able to attend our November meeting, on Monday November 3, we move to our daytime schedule. Doors open at 12:30 pm and the meeting runs from 1 pm to 3 pm. Our program will be all about Quilts of Valour, with an added special sewing day later in the month to work on blocks for a Guild Quilt of Valour donation.

I hope to see many of you at our meeting on Monday!

Nina

Program News

Our speaker for November is Rhoda Moore, the Halifax representative of Quilts of Valour Canada. Rhoda will be speaking to us about what QOVC does and how we can get involved. Quilts that are created by volunteers are hugs from a grateful nation and are tributes to injured Canadian Armed Forces members, past or present. See you all on November 3 from 1-3 p.m. Doors will open at 12:30. The theme for November's FQ draw is 'florals.'

December is almost here and that means we get to gather for our festive Holiday meeting and Potluck.

The Potluck will be whatever you would like to bring. We are hoping to get a variety of appetizers, mains, and desserts, for a full meal offering. As always remember to bring your own mug/cup, dishes, and cutlery as well as a bag to take home your dirty dishes. Beverages will be provided, coffee, tea, and punch.

We would like to offer an ornament exchange to anyone who wants to participate. There will be a tree to display your hand-crafted ornament until it's time to claim one if you brought one.

We also want to offer a Mug Rug exchange. If you want to participate you will make one Mug Rug and it does not have to be a Christmas/holiday theme. You can use any fabric so it can be used year-round or holiday if that's your preference. These exchanges are voluntary only for those who want to participate.

The handcrafted ornament does not have to be made by you, but it needs to be locally crafted. The mug rug is larger than a coaster but smaller than a place mat. Just big enough for a mug and a cookie or biscuit. They can be square, rectangle, circle, etc.

Submitted by, Annette Fralic and Sandy Morrow

Library Update

Another month has flown by!

As you may have heard at the October meeting , Julie Snook has volunteered to join the library team . That should help us to move along more quickly with the sorting of the library cupboard. Members are reminded to use the website to check for books in our library. Then once our cupboard is organized we'll be able to help you find the books you want. The Thread Painting book-[Machine Embroidered Art: Painting the Natural World with Thread and Needle](#) is available to borrow.

Submitted by, Diane Binmore (for the library team)

Pillowcase News

A reminder to all who took kits, to bring in your completed pillowcases in their ziploc bag to the November meeting. Also, if you have made some pillowcases on your own, please bring those too, but note that bagging them is not a requirement.

Submitted by Janet Joyce

Workshop News

Kathy Tidswell's recent thread painting workshop was a wonderful success! Her talent and generosity shone through as she guided participants through the project and provided detailed instructions to everyone. Visit our Guild website to see the photos from the day.



Quilts of Valour Sew Day – November 15th

Our next Workshop is just around the corner! Join us for the Quilts of Valour Sew Day on Saturday, November 15th from 10-3. This is a **free event**, and we welcome all who wish to contribute their time and talent to this meaningful cause.

 Sign-up Details:

The registration sheet will be available at the November 3rd Guild meeting, or you can sign up by emailing workshop@mahonebayquiltersguild.com.

What to Bring:

Please bring your sewing machine, sewing kit, extension cords, and lunch.

Looking ahead, we have several exciting ideas in the works — stay tuned for updates once plans are confirmed!

Submitted by Josie(Pina) & Didi

Exciting News: Open Sewing Days Coming!

The Guild is delighted to announce that, we will be introducing a **series of Open Sewing Days**—a new opportunity for members to gather, sew, and connect in a relaxed and welcoming environment. These Open Sewing Days are designed to give members dedicated time and space to focus on their quilting projects without the structure of a formal workshop or meeting. Bring your sewing machine, tools, and current projects, and enjoy a full day of creativity among friends who share your passion for quilting.

Each session will feature plenty of workspace, as well as cutting and pressing stations available for shared use. Whether you are piecing a new quilt top, finishing a UFO, or experimenting with a new technique, these days are the perfect chance to make progress and draw inspiration from others. Open Sewing Days are also a wonderful way to strengthen our quilting community. The casual atmosphere encourages conversation, the sharing of ideas, and spontaneous problem-solving—often leading to new friendships, fresh perspectives, and a renewed sense of motivation. Participants are welcome to bring their own lunch or refreshments, and to stay for the entire day or drop in for a few hours as schedules allow. Details—including dates, times, and locations—will be announced in the coming months, along with sign-up information.

We hope you'll take part in this new initiative and make the most of these creative, social, and inspiring days of sewing together. Let's make 2026 a year filled with stitches, stories, and shared joy

OPEN SEW DAY UPDATE!!

We are very pleased to announce that we have the first open sew day booked for THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20 at the Trinity United Church Hall (where we meet) from 9am to 4pm.

You can come for the day or pop in for a shorter visit.

We will have all the tables set up and space will be based on how many people attend.
Hand stitchers are welcome as well as machine sewers.

We have ironing boards and full-size irons but feel free to bring your own travel iron and wool mat if you like.

We have a cutting mat if needed but please bring your own ruler and rotary cutter if using.

Pack a lunch or run out for a snack when you get hungry.

This is an unstructured day to work on whatever you like and share ideas with other members.

Please bring your own extension cord or wheel if you are planning to plug something in, such as a sewing machine, iron, or extra lighting. We have several, but not enough for everyone

Hope to see what you are sewing in November.

Cuddle Quilts Have a New Home

As the next Cuddle Quilt Coordinator, I realized our first task was to donate last year's quilts which were neatly binned up in the storage room. So, four of us volunteers braved the treacherous route in to the Church on Wednesday, October 22, weaving through holes, pipes and every type of construction equipment you can imagine. Inside, we went to work under the lovely quiet contrast to outside. We sorted the quilts into donation piles while making a few phone calls to be sure they were wanted. Some, such as Harbour House, did not need any at this time. So the following decisions were made:

MacLeod Cares (Mahone Bay's newly opened Care Home) - 11 lap and 1 wheelchair, 12 total

South Shore Hospital Mental Health Centre in Bridgewater -15 lap size will be given to patients as comfort quilts to take home.

Ronald MacDonald House (newly opened in Halifax) - 5 baby, 6 child and 5 teenager, 16 total

Second Story Women's Centre in Lunenburg - 9 adult and 6 children, 15 total. Will be given as Christmas gifts to clients

Camp Brigadoon in Aylesford - As Camp Brigadoon quilts are not delivered until June, we have 10 unfinished quilts as possibilities plus new ones will be available from the 2026 Cuddle Day in March.

Including the 10 unfinished quilts, the total for 2025 was 68 Cuddle Quilts, with 58 being designated for donation. The 10 unfinished ones will be at the back of the room at the next meeting, waiting for volunteers to take them home to finish. A big thank you for all who donated in any way to this cause. And the BIGGEST thank you to Barb Robson, Linda Duffley, Diane Binmore, and Donna Egan who were instrumental in helping decide who would most benefit, muscled through the physical lifting and folding, and took bags of quilts home for deliveries. And so all is concluded for 2025. On to the next year! (more details soon).

Betty Learning, Cuddle Quilts Coordinator 2025-26

Meeting Reminders

Meeting is at Trinity United Church Hall, Mahone Bay:

- Doors open at 12:30 pm, meeting begins at 1:00 pm
- Wear a name tag, please
- Meetings are scent free
- Please return any library books you have taken out
- Floral Themed fat quarter(s) for the draw

Sheena Gibbs, Newsletter Chair