



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

President's Message

June brings our Annual General Meeting on Monday, June 1st. To mark our 35th anniversary we will have a catered spread of appetizers and desserts. Because we're not doing a full meal potluck supper, we will be starting the meeting at our usual evening time. Doors open at 6:30 pm and we start with the AGM at 7 pm. We'll have a quick AGM to elect new members of the Executive and then we feast to celebrate our 35th Anniversary!

June also brings membership renewals — if you haven't renewed yet, you you can pay cash or cheque to Betty at the AGM or send an e-transfer for \$30 to mbqgtreasurer@gmail.com (we have auto deposit).

And, finally, June brings entries to September's Quilt Show! Starting June 1 you'll find the application form online at

On behalf of the Guild I'd like to thank all out-going Executive members (Secretary Dawn Pritchard, Membership Betty Learning, Communications Cheryl Borden, Workshops Pina Wall and Past President Annette Fralic for their dedication, kindness, hard work and fellowship. I myself will be moving to the position of Past President as we elect a new slate of officers including a new President, and I'd like to thank

Executive Members

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

Vice President – Vacant

Treasurer – Jill Rafuse –
treasurer@mahonebayquiltersguild.com
E transfers: mbqgtreasurer@gmail.com

Secretary – Dawn Pritchard
secretary@mahonebayquiltersguild.com

Communications – Cheryl Borden –
communications@mahonebayquiltersguild.com

Membership – Betty Learning –
membership@mahonebayquiltersguild.com

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 **June 1, 2026 @7:00pm**.
Doors open at 6:30pm. It will be in-person
only at the Trinity United Church.
*see page 12 for meeting reminders!

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

the Guild for the honour of having served you in that capacity. I love this group and look forward to being deeply involved during the next two years and beyond!

Thank you and I hope to see you at the AGM!

Nina

ANNUAL REPORTS ON PAGES 2-8 WILL BE VOTED ON AS A GROUP AT THE AGM

President's Annual Report

As we reflect on the 2025-2026 membership year that is coming to a close, I think all members can take pride in a busy and exciting year devoted to bettering our craft and connecting with our fellow artists.

In September we unveiled the completed Raffle Quilt, with 100 blocks sewn by our members, a quilt top composed and stitched by Eldora Baillie and Kelly Skelhorn and long armed quilted by Jill Rafuse. Members also shared their finished Mystery Quilts!

October saw a sold-out Thread Painting workshop with Kathy Tidswell as well as Slow Quilting starting up again at a lovely new location: The Nest at Treehouse Village in Bridgewater.

In November we announced a new Mystery Quilt project hosted by Cheryl Borden. We also had a presentation about Quilts of Valour by Rhoda Moore and held a dedicated sewing day for working on QOV blocks and assembling a top to be donated to retired service members from our Guild.

February saw our first Open Sew Day — a day for members to come together and work on their own chosen projects.

March was busy! We had a second Open Sew Day. Betty Learning not only sorted out all the collected Cuddle Quilts from last year, but she hosted a very busy and productive Cuddle Quilt Day in the middle of the month, which saw dozens more quilts donated to local charities. At the end of March many members spent a wonderful day with member artist Judy Cooper learning how to make

her Fantastic Fabrics! It was glittery and fabulous and we all left with finished pieces to turn into lovely objects.

Starting in April 2026 and running through to its finish in June, the Guild hosted a series of workshops so that members could fit and complete a quilted Tamarak Jacket/Coat with Kate O'Brien of Kate's Open Quilt Studio. It was so exciting to see members working on this at the retreat!

In May we marked our 35th Anniversary as a guild with two days of workshops by celebrated Nova Scotian quilter and designer Karen Neary. Many members attended one or both of these workshops which involved projects using foundation paper piecing to produce some of Karen's own designs.

And, finally, also in May, the Guild welcomed many members to a weekend in-person retreat in Liverpool, our second annual one at the Best Western, where we got a really extraordinary amount of work done, while sharing tips, commiserations, advice and laughter.

Respectfully submitted, Nina Scott-Stoddart, outgoing President

Communications Annual Report

Facebook - The site remains popular among our members and with other quilters who follow the non-member page. The public page Mahone Bay Quilters Guild currently has 760 followers and the private page MBQG Members Only Group has 87 members.

Instagram - This year we have a total of 386 followers. Instagram connects followers to our web site and our Facebook page

We continue to update our webpage (www.mahonebayquiltersguild.com) on a regular basis. The Events Calendar updates members on recurring events like our monthly meetings, Sew Zoom and Slow Quilting, as well as special events and activities such as workshops, mystery quilts, quilt shows etc. The Photo Gallery on our site has thousands of pictures covering the guild over the years. There are also archived newsletters, lists of library books and rulers as well as links to multiple sites of interest (other guilds, blogs, shops/services etc). Traffic on the site appears to be steady with regular use by members, and we have 196 subscribers to our blog posts.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Borden, Communications Chair

Programs Annual Report

2025-2026 was my first year as Programs Chair. I volunteered on a whim, to be honest, and I had many questions at first, not certain what was expected of me. As I was also a relatively new member, I did not have much experience to draw on. As time went on, though, I became more comfortable with the position. Don't get me wrong; I still ask for help from the rest of the Executive from time to time. They are very helpful and generous with their knowledge. I am enjoying this position greatly and have decided to keep at it, at least for another year.

Let's look back at the past year. Amongst the monthly programs, I brought back tea, coffee, and snacks at the monthly meetings. I mean who doesn't like a cuppa and a treat, right? Carole Donaldson, a friend and new member, quickly offered her assistance, for which I am very grateful. She is reliably efficient and no nonsense!

September – Welcome back and ice breaker games.

October – Long arm quilting presentation by Jill Rafuse. The do's and don'ts of preparing your quilt for a long arm quilter.

November – 'Quilts of Valor,' presented by Rhoda Moore.

December – Christmas Potluck, ornament exchange, mug rug exchange, 'Quilto' game.

January – 'Gee's Bend Quilts,' presented by Sandy Morrow.

February – Trunk Show, presented by Marilyn Smulders.

March – 'Sew Organized with Didi,' presented by Didi Morton-Spaan.

April – 'Games Night,' led by Sandy Morrow. We dove into Quilting Trivia and 'Family Feud.'

May – ‘Auction Night,’ led by Dawn Pritchard, along with most of the Executive. We raised \$770,

June – AGM, with catered appetizers and a large sheet cake. We will also have a game.

Library Annual Report

The library was a busy spot each meeting and the committee has enjoyed chatting with those of you who perused the selection of books put out each meeting and searched for books in the cupboard.

This year the guild had a donation of 10 books, 8 of them by Kaffe Fassett. We purchased 5 new books and one new ruler.

August 2025

540	Caravan of Quilts – 2004	Kaffe Fassett	Donation
541	Quilts in the Sun – 2007	Kaffe Fassett	Donation
542	Dreaming in Color – 2012	Kaffe Fassett	Donation
543	Passionate Patchwork – 2001	Kaffe Fassett	Donation
544	Kaleidoscope of Quilts – 2006	Kaffe Fassett	Donation
545	Quilt Grandeur - 2013	Kaffe Fassett	Donation
546	Glorious Patchwork – 1997	Kaffe Fassett	Donation
547	Museum Quilts – 2005	Kaffe Fassett	Donation
548	Fabric Dyer’s Dictionary – 2010	Linda Johansen	Donation
549	All About Quilting from A to Z – 2002		Donation
550	The Quilting Bible- -2005	Creative Publishing Int’l	Donation
551	Machine Embroidered Art:Painting the Natural World with Needle and Thread	Alison Holt	

January 2026

552	Freestyle Color Collage Quilting: A unique method For Creating Bold Design with Fabric	Carly Mul	
553	By the Bundle	Emma Jean Jansen	
554	Love Flying Geese	Minki Kim	

April 2026

Ruler – Clearly Perfect Slotted Trimmer

The book cupboard has been organized by catalogue number, the most recent acquisitions are at the top. Hopefully this makes it easier to find the books you are looking for. The online catalogue is an ongoing project. We will take time this summer to do further work on the organization of our library.

We would like to remind everyone to return all books and rulers at the June meeting. The library will be closed for lending but we will be there to receive your returns.

Don't forget to give us your requests for purchases! It is always fun to have new books and tools. Happy summer everyone!

Diane Binmore

Submitted for the library committee

Membership Annual Report

My final year as the MBQG Membership Coordinator has been very fulfilling and lots of fun with so many informative guests and interesting workshops. I have been a member of other guilds in the past, and I have to say that I found Mahone Bay Quilters Guild to be the friendliest with the most fun activities and marvellously creative quilters. It is a pleasure to be involved with such a great guild. In the 2024-25 year, we had 127 members with 15 new members. This past year, we had 116 members as of May 31. Our membership is down this year, but hopefully the upcoming Quilt Show will spread the word and pick up a flurry of new members. We also have 18 Life Members, 2 Honorary Members and will be awarding 2 Honorary Life Memberships to our two local founding members, Val Hearder and Michele Stevens-Mosher. These certificates will be presented at our June luncheon.

I would like to also remind members that they can print their digital membership cards to present at Violet Quilts in New Minas for a 10% discount. This is the only quilt fabric shop that is making this offer at present. And remember, if you cannot attend the regular monthly meetings, a great way to stay involved is to check out our website to get updates and listings of events, plus a list of library books

and rulers to borrow, photo gallery, etc. (www.mahonebayquiltersguild.com) Our members only Facebook page also has many interesting posts, event information and photos.

I will submit separately the Recommended Techniques/Workshops summary from the initial Membership Questionnaire to this newsletter. Thank you to all who participated. Hopefully, these results will help guide the new Executive in meeting your needs.

As a general member, I will continue to be inspired and energized by this group of creative quilters!
Respectfully Submitted,

Betty Learning, Membership Coordinator

Workshop Annual Report

This year's selection:

October 2025	Kathy Tidswell Intro to Thread Painting Kathy guided us through the magical world of thread painting, using a photograph as our inspiration. Step by step, she showed us how to transform a simple image into a stitched landscape featuring an island nestled in calm water, framed by distant hills. With free-motion stitching, we brought trees and foreground details to life, adding texture, depth, and movement with our threads.
November 2025	Quilt of Valour Sew Day Our Quilt of Valour Sew Day was a wonderful mix of stitching, teamwork, and purpose. Everyone worked on individual blocks, and by the end of the day we had a beautiful collection ready to be pieced into a quilt top for a Canadian Armed Forces member or veteran. It was a chance to connect, create and contribute to meaningful cause.
March 2026	Quilted Hugs joins Cuddle Quilt Day This year we added Quilted Hugs to Cuddle Quilt Day. These are cuddly quilted shawls to keep you cozy when sewing, reading, or just pattering around the house. They are especially welcomed by

	<p>those bedridden or in wheelchairs. A big THANK YOU to Valerie and Sheila Langille, who organized all the supplies and sewing process.</p> <p>Fantastic Fabrics with Judy Cooper</p> <p>We experimented with sheer fabrics and an array of playful materials—threads, yarns, lamé, tulle, organza, and other glittery textiles—to create our own unique fabric. This creative technique results in a one-of-a-kind textile perfect for appliqué, backgrounds, piecing, or even framed art. Free-motion stitching tied all the layers together.</p>
April / June 2026	<p>Tamarack Jacket with Kate O'Brien</p> <p>Kate took us through each step in creating the quilted coat that included finding the perfect fit by creating your own mock up jacket, cutting out the pattern, fabric selection, buttons, pockets, embellishments and French seams. Workshop will consist of one-in-person class and 3 on-line.</p>
May 2026	<p>Midnight Magic and Maritime Beauty with Karen Neary</p> <p>To celebrate the guild's 35th anniversary, we were delighted to welcome Karen Neary from Amherst, Nova Scotia for two wonderful workshops: Midnight Magic (curved flying geese) and Maritime Beauty, inspired by the classic New York Beauty block.</p>

Respectively submitted,

Josie(Pina) Wall

President's Challenge Banner

If you have finished blocks to hand in to Nina for the banner please do so at the June meeting, or you can drop them off to her home in Mahone Bay or at the Open Sew Day on Saturday June 6. We'll be starting assembly on June 6, and may meet one or two more times over the summer to finish things off. If you'd like to be involved with the assembly let Nina know at damncats@gmail.com or text her at 902-521-8577.

HELP PROMOTE THE QUILT SHOW !!

To make our 2026 show and sale a resounding success we need more members to
distribute
Posters and Postcards
to businesses and public gathering spaces.

Please see Didi at the June meeting to pick some up
or call/email
902-298-8374
sewdidisew@gmail.com

MAHONE BAY QUILTERS' GUILD

A WORLD *of* COLOUR

2026 QUILT SHOW & SALE



SEPTEMBER 25-27

MAHONE BAY CENTRE
MAHONE BAY, NOVA SCOTIA

mahonebayquiltersguild.com

Entering a Quilt in the 2026 MBQG Quilt Show

Have you decided which quilt or quilts you want to enter into our Fall 2026 show? Now is the time to get started or decide since you must submit your entry during June 2026. Our Show is non-competitive and intended to showcase our member's work at all levels. We are proud of all our members' creativity! Participation is open to all members in good standing. (If you haven't renewed yet you can do so in person at the meeting on Monday June 1 or send an e-transfer for \$30 to mbqgtreasurer@gmail.com for auto deposit)

HOW TO ENTER YOUR QUILTS

Members will fill out and submit an entry form on the guild website for each quilt. The entry form has all the key information required to plan the layout, print the labels, and confirm which quilts will be for sale. When members submit their entries, they will be requested to identify if their quilt has been hand-quilted and if they are a first-time entrant. You'll attach a photo. You'll note whether the quilt is your first, second or third choice for entry. You'll also have a chance to write a quilt story about your inspiration and journey (see the next page) If it's not finished yet, don't worry — submit it anyway!

ENTRY FORM (link will be live from June 1-30)

<https://mahonebayquiltersguild.com/mahone-bay-quilters-guild-quilt-show-application/>

GUIDELINES FOR ENTRIES (please see the website for full guidelines: <https://mahonebayquiltersguild.com/how-to-enter-quilts-into-the-mbqg-quilt-show/>)

- Only quilts that have been made by our members are eligible to be entered.
- Quilts that have been entered in previous Mahone Bay Quilters Guild Quilt Shows are not eligible for entry into the 2026 show.
- Members must have paid their membership dues for 2026-27 on/before the quilt submission entry deadline of June 30th, 2026.
- Members may enter up to three display quilts each, which excludes challenge quilts donated for the silent auction and all products for sale in the boutique.
- Members must rank their three entries to provide the Hanging Committee with the flexibility to curate the exhibit based on available space, quilt sizes, number of entries and overall layout. We endeavour to display all entries, and the committee will ensure every member has at least their first ranked quilt/entry exhibited. Members may submit original works or quilts/wearables made from published patterns, kits or workshops.
- Entries must include a photograph and dimensions of the quilt/wearable.

- Entries must credit the pattern designers, quilting pattern designers and those who created the quilt, including a long-armed. It is not necessary to seek the approval of the pattern designer.

Why you might consider writing a quilt story

One of the options on this year's quilt entry form for September's show will be to write a brief story about your specific piece.

In the art world they call this an artist's statement. While not all our members identify themselves as artists, we think that adding some information about the inspiration for your work will enrich the experience of everyone who views it at our show and increase the sense of connection and communication. Your goal is to help the viewer connect with your work.

Here are some suggestions if you want to write a quilt story for the MBQG show

- Consider writing in the first person, for a general audience, as if you're speaking with the viewer.
- Keep it under 200 words.
- Focus on why you made the quilt. What was your inspiration? Help the reader understand your internal journey - the journey of what it means to you. Don't worry too much about techniques or your bio.

Resizing your photos

We know this can be a problem! We need your photos to be 5 MB or smaller in size (this is larger than last year and we hope will help make things easier).

If you do need to resize your photo you can try this free website. [https://](https://www.simpleimageresizer.com/)

www.simpleimageresizer.com/

- Click the blue button to select images to upload.
- Click resize. You can reduce by percentage or size — it defaults to 50% which is usually fine.
- You may need to allow your computer to download items from this website — click Okay or Accept.
- Your resized photo will be downloaded to wherever you have set for downloads. It saves under the same file name with a "2" added to it.

If all else fails, email your photo to [Nina](#) and she'll resize your photo and send it back!

MBQG Artisan Boutique 2026

Hope members are busy creating items for our Artisan Boutique at this year's quilt show! In the past, the items that have sold the best are smaller items such as bags, wall hangings, items for quilters, decorations, etc.. There is limited space to display larger quilts so those would be folded and displayed. We suggest that if you have a larger quilt to sell, you enter it in the show so it is properly displayed for sale. As a team, we will rotate and replenish duplicate items during the show. Products must be made by members of the guild, unless approved by the Boutique chairs, dependant on space and products.

Members who wish to sell items in the boutique are expected to volunteer to work at least one shift in the boutique.

We have a detailed tracking system for inventory and sales. While it is rare, and we do take utmost care to prevent such occurrences, the Guild cannot be responsible for lost or stolen items. Members will receive payment for products sold during the boutique at the October guild meeting. The Guild retains 15 % of the proceeds of all sales to offset the fees when folks purchase with credit or debit cards, and the costs of the show. This commission is down from 20 % at the last show.

We are excited to see your creations!

If you have any questions, send an email to Elizabeth Tumblin at ejtumblin@gmail.com.

Key dates to remember for Boutique items

If your membership for 2026 - 2027 is paid by June 28, 2026, you are welcome to **register items** for our Artisan Boutique between Saturday, August 1 - Wednesday, September 9, 2026

Drop off items to Boutique on Thursday, September 24, 2026 between 10 a.m. - 12.

Pick up boutique items on Sunday, September 27th, 2026 4:15 - 4:45 p.m

2026 Quilt Show Challenge Quilts

I would like to thank everyone who purchased Challenge Quilt Kits. We have sold all 32 kits! The Completed quilts must be submitted at the September general meeting on September 14th, 2026. They will be presented to the guild membership in a special Show and Tell. We will also check

to make sure that they all have a hanging sleeve of at least 2-inches and a label affixed to the back lower corner.

The label must have the name of the quilt, the approximate date of creation 😊, the artist's name and any pattern rights if used and where you are located, i.e. Mahone Bay, Lunenburg, Blue Rocks etc.

The rules for the challenge were included with the fabric bundle but if anyone needs a reminder or has questions please send me a note over the summer.

We look forward to seeing the lovely creations in September and thank everyone who submits a finished piece for us to use in the silent auction to raise money for the Christmas Daddies.

Annette

Program News

Please join us on June 1st for our final meeting of the 2025-26 season. We will be holding our AGM (Annual General Meeting) and will then enjoy some catered appetizers and cake to celebrate the Guild's 35th anniversary. We will also participate in a game.

Please bring your own plate, cup, cutlery, and napkin. There will be no fat quarter draw.

Library News

There have been no new purchases this past month. We would like to remind everyone to return all books and rulers at the June meeting.

As this is the last meeting before the summer the library will be closed. We will be there to accept your returns.

Happy summer!

Diane, Pam, Julie, Heather

Sewcial Day

Way back in chilly February we launched a new monthly activity for all guild members and temporarily called it "Sew Days". We asked everyone for suggestions for a new name and were delighted to receive so many good ones. It was tough narrowing it down to only four for all to vote on and now, moving forward, our days to gather together and sew will be called:

Sewcial Day

Sewcial Day is a wonderful opportunity to come together for all or part of the day with other guild members to enjoy working on whatever project appeals to you. We swap ideas, helpful hints and most of all, enjoy the companionship of each other.

The last Sewcial Day of the season is coming up on
Saturday, June 6th
10 AM to 3PM
at
Trinity united Church Hall
There's room for more so jump in by
calling or emailing Didi at:
902-298-8374 or sewdidisew@gmail.com

Mahone Bay Quilters' Guild

SEWICIAL DAY

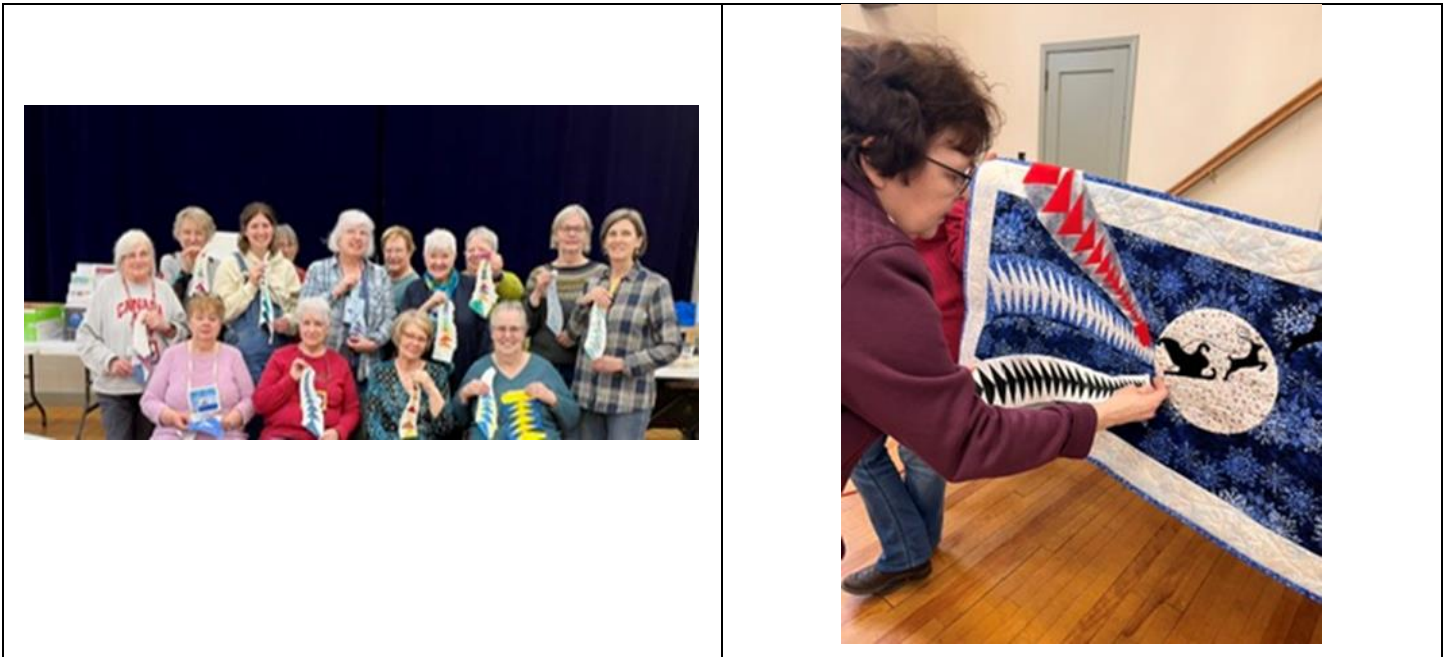


Workshop News

To celebrate the guild's 35th anniversary, we were delighted to welcome **Karen Neary** from Amherst, Nova Scotia for two wonderful workshops: **Midnight Magic** (curved flying geese) and **Maritime Beauty**, inspired by the classic New York Beauty block.

The Mahone Bay Legion Hall gave us all the room we needed and kept our machines safe and ready for Day 2.

Day 1 took us from drawing gentle curves to paper-piecing our chosen fabrics, building the foundation for the *Midnight Magic* quilt. On Day 2, we explored another paper-piecing method to create the dramatic spikes and flowing curves of the *Maritime Beauty*.





Karen's trunk show was a treasure — full of award-winning quilts and creative possibilities that left everyone inspired.





Thread painted Beauties

Thank you for your ideas, enthusiasm, and support. You help make our workshops the fun, creative, community-filled days we all enjoy. We've already begun planning new workshops, and we can't wait to welcome everyone back in September. Wishing you a wonderful summer of finishing projects... or happily beginning fresh ones.

Josie(Pina) & Didi

Sew Zoom

Sew Zoom is a year-round, weekly activity for all members of the Mahone Bay Quilter's Guild to enjoy. Each Wednesday between 1 PM and 3 PM we meet via Zoom while we work on our individual projects. We chat, share ideas and sometimes, help one another sort out a quilting related issue! Please join us for all or part of a session.

The Zoom link is:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89414394950>

The link can always be found on the calendar on the MBQG website

Quilting and Sewing Scraps

Thanks to all who have been saving their quilting and sewing scraps for me. I make bags from home dec and upholstery fabrics I have in my stash. I then stuff them to make pet beds for the SPCA as well as Hope For Wildlife. This picture is one of the recent batches I provided to the SPCA. Thanks again!

Cheryl Borden



Recommended Techniques/Workshops Survey

A summary of the survey I circulated at the April and May meetings and online is below. I have ranked the list from highest interest to lowest. Hopefully, this will help the new Executive in offering Techniques and Workshops in the future. Results are not conclusive, this is just a quick survey.

Members Interested	Technique	Potential Instructor
14	Free-Motion Quilting	
12	Manx Log Cabin	Betty Learning
10	Colour Theory	
10	Miniature Quilts	
10	Art Quilts	Tara Lynas
10	Mystery Quilts	
9	Quilt-As-You-Go	
9	English Paper Piecing	Betty Learning
8	Quilting with Rulers and Templates	
8	Pictorial Collage Quilts	
8	Thread Painting	
8	Traditional Designs	
7	Quilted Clothing	
6	Small Projects (eg:bags, mug rugs, zippered pouch)	Didi Morton-Spaan
6	Paper-Piecing	
5	Quilt Block Exchange	
5	Raw-Edge Applique	Tara Lynas
5	Hand-Quilting	
4	Kawandi Quilting (African immigrants' hand-stitching)	
4	Improvisational Quilting (no pattern)	
4	Modern Designs	
4	Skill Building Segments	
3	Hand-Applique	

3	Machine Binding (added later so may be more interest)	Tara Lynas
3	Machine Applique	
2	Paint Chip Challenge (colours from paint chip)	
2	Round Robin Quilt	
2	Edge to Edge Quilting	
1	Walking Foot Quilting	

Annual General Meeting Information

Meeting is at Trinity United Church hall, Mahone Bay:

- Doors open at 6:30 pm, meeting begins at 7:00 pm
- Catered appetizers and desserts, please bring your own plate, cutlery, cup
- Coffee, tea & punch will be provided
- Wear a name tag, please
- Meetings are scent free
- If you have a finished block for the President's Challenge banner please bring it
- The library will be open for returns only, please return any books you have taken out
- Membership dues/renewals will be handled by Betty at the front sign-in desk. Dues are \$30 and can be paid by cheque, cash or e-transfer to mbqgtreasurer@gmail.com
- There will be no Sew & Tell at this AGM
- There will be no Fat Quarter Draw.