

Niagara Heritage Quilters' Guild

Volume 32 Issue 2 NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2026

Meeting Location: Meridian Community Centre
100 Meridian Way, Fonthill ON
2nd Floor Accursi Room

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 284, Thorold, ON L2V 3Y9

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info@niagaraquiltersguild.com

Multiple Chemical Sensitivity (MCS)

Niagara Heritage Quilters' Guild

Activities, Meetings & Workshops Are

SCENT FREE

For the Health & Comfort Of All Members

General Meeting Dates
Fourth Wednesday of the Month

November 18, 2026 (3rd Wed
January 27, 2027
February 24, 2027
March 24, 2027
April 28, 2027
May 26, 2027

BRING WITH YOU

Name Tag
Community Quilts
Placemats
Neonatal Quilts
Show and Tell Quilts
A Friend

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Wow, what an awesome start to our new year. We had 5 new members and 16 guests for the September meeting. Thank you to everyone who brought a guest with them. Nina Stahlschmidt's trunk show was impressive. I heard several gasps of surprise at how beautiful those feed bags were.

The first ever NHQG Silent auction yielded an amazing amount of cash to be used both for our Giving Back Programs and for our Guild activities. The auction ran smoothly and we were able to leave the room before the appointed time. Debbie Hipple and her team did an awesome job and deserve a thousand thank you. We can't possibly thank you enough for all your hard work. Thank you to all those members who donated items for the auction or solicited donations within our communities. Thank you to all who turned out to help wrap up the baskets. Thank you to everyone who bid on items and congratulations to those whose bids were successful. We couldn't have done it without you!

By the time you read this, we will have already enjoyed Judy Lyons presentation on "Canada's Forgotten Artifacts" and will be looking forward to Elizabeth Klassen's "History of Mennonite Quilts." I know that we are.

Gloria and Jean

VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This year's Vice-President's challenge uses packaging as our inspiration to create a small quilt. I hope many of you will consider participating again this year. We all look forward to seeing those challenge quilts at the AGM in May.

By the time you read this newsletter you will already have your box top, having picked it out of the bag at the October meeting. If you could not attend the meeting and would still like to participate, I will bring the bag with the remaining package pieces to the November meeting.

I hope you will enjoy this challenge, and it really gets those creative juices flowing.



Box Top Challenge



Your challenge is to create a quilt that uses <u>all</u> the colours appearing on a box top provided to you by the VP. The box tops come from household products such as cereal, tissues, crackers, etc. Why box tops? Commercial artists are professionals trained to choose colours that will catch and please the eye of the customer. So, we can expect that the colours on the box tops will lead to striking results. But perhaps just as importantly, this challenge may take you out of your comfort zone. You are put in the position of using colours and combinations you might not have chosen for yourself.

Challenge Rules

- At the October Guild meeting you will blindly and randomly select a box top.
- If you seriously dislike the box top you drew, you are allowed <u>one</u> chance to draw again after all other participants have drawn their pieces.
- Select fabrics that you feel best match the colours appearing on the box top, including the colours of any wording. You must use all the box top colours in your piece. You may not use any colours that do not appear on your box top.
- You may use any quilting design or pattern you choose.
- The quilt may be pieced by hand or machine. Appliquéd submissions may be sewn by hand or machine. You may use fusible web, glue or interfacing. Embellishments such as hand embroidery, ribbons, buttons, and decorative stitches are welcome.
- The challenge quilt must consist of a top, batting and backing. It must be finished with a binding, facing, or envelope pillowcase style.
- The submission must measure 10” by 21”, within a 1” tolerance. The dimensions are those of a small table runner.
- The challenge quilt needs to have your name on some kind of label on the back.
- IMPORTANT: Your box top must be attached to the bottom of the quilt so that viewers can see how the colours of your quilt match the box top colours. Use the two holes and string, thread or yarn to attach the box top, centered at the bottom edge of the quilt.
- All entries must be submitted to the VP at the April Guild meeting in some kind of bag that hides them from view. They will be returned at the AGM in May when prizes will be awarded. Voting will take place at the AGM for Viewers’ Choice.

Dorothy DeRose

2026/2027 EXECUTIVE

As of July 1, 2026

President	Jean Christie Gloria Simon
Vice President	Dorothy DeRose
Secretary	Andrea Frances
Treasurer	Theresa Bell
Past President	Irene Bootsma

CHAIRS & COMMITTEES

Committee	Chair	Sub Committee / Initiative	Committee Members
Archives	Andrea Frances		
Fundraising	Doreen Sherk		Christine Miles
			Marcia Fehrman
Giving Back	Gloria Meyer	Community Quilts	Gloria Meyer
	Sharree Eidt		CQ Team
		Meals On Wheels	Sharree Eidt
		Neonatal Quilts	Gloria & Sharree
		Raft	Julie Bayza
Membership	Towana McMeekin		Margrit Richardson
	Jane Ann Morland		Lynne Wilkinson
Program & Workshops	Coby DeJonge		Luci Ronald
	Donna Rauscher		Anita Hardison
Publicity	Carol McRae	Website	Carol McRae
		Publicity	Maureen Augerman
		E-Mail Blasts	
		Newsletter	Pat Andres
		Facebook Group	Jean Christie
Scholarship	Dorothy DeRose		Anne Converset
			Marlene Paulak
			Kathy Smith
Special Events	Shannon Vary		Linda Anderson
	Marty Crowder		
White Gloves & Greeters	Karen Ciancio		

GIVING BACK

The Giving Back people have been busy this fall. Our "Sew Days" have been well attended and we have been very productive sorting very generous fabric and batting donations. This has allowed us to put together backings and batting with quilt tops on hand, for completion. Our next Sew Day will be November 12. There will be no sew day in December but will resume in January.

A donation of 10 children's quilts has been delivered to the Kristen French Advocacy Centre along with a queen size quilt they will use for a fund raiser at their Fall Gala. (See picture below)

We'd like to thank everyone who has been so diligent in making place mats for Meals on Wheels. We expect to be in great shape for the numbers required this year. This small item makes such a difference for the recipients, as they are used all year. We do however need "**signed**" Christmas cards to include with the placemats. The message should be a simple greeting from the Guild, wishing them a wonderful holiday.

At our November meeting only, we will be collecting items for RAFT as we have in previous years. This includes personal hygiene products for men and women, e.g. shampoo, conditioner, soaps, deodorants, shaving cream, feminine products etc. In addition, they also would like **NEW** hats, scarves, gloves, mittens, underwear and socks. Thank you for supporting the youth in our Region.

Happy Holidays.
Sharree and Gloria



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BERNINA JANOME

PROGRAMS AND WORKSHOPS
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Date	Name	Trunkshow	Workshop
October 28, 2026	Judy Lyons	Canada's Forgotten Artifacts	
November 18, 2026	Elizabeth Klassen	History of Mennonite Quilts	
November 19, 2026	Anita Hardison		Disappearing Pinwheel
January 27, 2027	Member Demos		
February 24, 2027	Dorothy DeRose	From Poland to Pelham	
March 24, 2027	Joanna Dermenjian	Quilting as to War	
March 25, 2027	Anita Hardison		Wandering Ways Quilt
April 28, 2027	Diane Carson	Fabrications	
May 26, 2027	AGM		

2026 - 2027

PROGRAMS AND WORKSHOPS

What a terrific start we had to this year's Programs and Workshops agenda at our September meeting! Nina Stahlschmidt gave a fascinating talk on her Journey as a Handquilter, showing us beautiful quilts that she had creatively pieced from feedbags, assorted fabrics, vintage hankies, laces and rickrack… all hand quilted with exquisite stitching! The Programs table was busy with inquiries and sign-ups for some of the planned Workshops.

At the time of this writing, we have had a wonderful day at our new workshop location at Club Belvedere. Many thanks to the baker's dozen of members who exceeded our target by stitching almost 150 little houses for our "Village" Quilt top! We hope to have it assembled and long-armed before the November general meeting.

Unfortunately, there were not enough registrants for the October 22 Bargello Workshop, so it had to be cancelled.

On October 28, Judy Lyons from Burlington is to speak on Canada's Forgotten Artifacts, focusing on quilts that were made for Canada's Centennial celebrations and highlighting important things we should be looking for in older quilts.

Continuing with the community spirit on November UFO/Pillowcase/Placemat Sew Day will be held at Club Belvedere, 9 am – 4 pm. Everyone is welcome to make pillowcases or placemats for Giving Back or complete your own UFO projects. A $10 fee applies to cover the hall rental. It is sure to be another wonderful day.



November 18 brings us Elizabeth (Liz) Klassen, coordinator for the New Hamburg Mennonite Relief Sale Quilt Auction held annually in May. Her topic will give us all a better appreciation of the world of Mennonite quilts and the disaster relief efforts that are beneficiaries of their work.

Over her lifetime Liz appreciated the talents of quilters like her grandmothers and her mother-in-law but prior to her retirement, from years as a Registered Nurse, she had not completed a quilt with any success other than a baby quilt she made for her eldest son. She had embroidered the squares and pieced the top, only to have her mother-in-law quilt it.

Her involvement with the New Hamburg Mennonite Relief Sale began as a child, volunteering to work the food venues and the quilt auction. Now as Chair of the Quilt Committee for the Relief Sale along with a huge number of dedicated volunteers, who receive a multitude of donated quilts, they can make the sale the huge success it is. In doing so Liz and her husband have been able to live out their faith.

Our last workshop this fall is Anita Hardison's Disappearing Pinwheel on November 19. She has a fascinating way to make a simple Pinwheel block disappear, only to reappear in different configurations as totally different blocks. Don't miss out on this opportunity to make a unique table runner… in Christmas colours if you wish!

We look forward to a good turnout for our fall meetings, planned for your enjoyment and learning. And, as always, if you would like to participate and be a member of the Programs and Workshops committee or have ideas for topics, speakers, or workshop instructors, please do not hesitate to reach out to anyone on the committee.

Program and Workshops Committee,

Donna Rauscher and Coby deJonge, Co-chairs

Luci Ronald and Anita Hardison

WHITE GLOVES AND GREETERS

I've been contacting everyone about their desired participation as a Greeter or White Glove lady, but if I haven't reached you yet and you would like to help us out, please contact me.



Email me at kmc@cogeco.ca or phone 905-684-7912.

We really appreciate your help. Thanks.

Karen Ciancio



CLASSIFIED ADS

Guild members may place one free personal Classified Ad per issue of the newsletter. Advertising in the guild newsletter is a courtesy provided to every guild member in good standing. Content must be QUILT related.



To arrange for advertising please send your classified ad via e-mail prior to the Newsletter deadlines indicated below.

In your e-mail please include a picture of item for sale, a brief description, the cost, and your contact information.

Newsletter Deadlines for 2026- 2027

August 15, 2026
October 15, 2026
December 15, 2026
February 15, 2027
April 15, 2027

All correspondence pertaining to the sale or purchase of an item should be directed to the respective individual listed in the advertisement. The Niagara Heritage Quilters Guild is not responsible for any communication or transaction between individual parties.

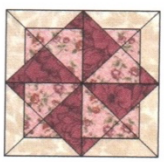
ADVERTISING

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN ADVERTISING WITH US?

E-Mail us at: info@niagaraquiltersguild.com and request our advertising application form or visit our website and download the form which can be found on the Newsletter page at: www.niagaraquiltersguild.com

(PLEASE NOTE THAT PAYMENT IS DUE BEFORE THE AD IS POSTED ONLINE OR WITHIN THE NEWSLETTER – THANK YOU.)





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Hamilton Sewing Warehouse



Hello, my name is Leonard, co-owner with my wife Michele of Hamilton Sewing since 1988. We specialize in Sewing, Quilting, and Embroidery Machines. After working as a technician for a major Sewing Machine Company for 20 years I'm very confident in my abilities to repair all makes. If you have any questions, need help please contact me at 905 388 9400, or emai: hamiltonsewingcom@gmail.com or visit my shop at 43 Bigwin Road. Hamilton...
hamiltonsewing.com



Exciting News at Hamilton Sewing! Please join us in welcoming John Stam, retired from Brampton Sew N Surge, to our team! John brings over 40 years of experience in the sewing machine industry and is our newest technical expert here at Hamilton Sewing. Whether it's repairs, tune-ups, or expert advice, John's knowledge and skill are second to none. We're thrilled to have him on board and know our customers will be too!. John and I will be working as a team and be more efficient with faster turn around times



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Whether you're piecing together a cozy quilt or stitching an intricate embroidered design, thread is the lifeline that holds your vision together. The right choice of quilting or embroidery thread doesn't just affect the durability of your work — it influences texture, appearance, and even the way light plays on your finished piece.

Hamilton Sewing 1564 Main St. W. Hamilton Ontario
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SIDE EFFECTS of QUILTING

(MAY INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO):



1. UNCONTROLLABLE URGE TO BUY FABRIC



2. STASH ACCUMULATION (RAPID AND UNEXPLAINED)



3. "JUST ONE MORE FABRIC" SYNDROME



4. STAYING UP LATE TO "JUST FINISH THIS ROW"



5. NEGLECT OF HOUSEWORK, LAUNDRY, AND COOKING



6. SEAM RIPPER ATTACHMENT



7. DAYDREAMING ABOUT QUILT DESIGNS



8. RANDOM BOUTS OF FABRIC CUTTING



9. TALKING ABOUT QUILTING TO ANYONE WHO WILL (OR WON'T) LISTEN



10. FEELINGS OF GUILT WHEN NOT QUILTING



11. BELIEVING THERE IS NOTHING A NEW QUILT CAN'T FIX



12. OVERWHELMING JOY WHEN A QUILT TOP COMES TOGETHER



13. HOARDING BOBBINS, PINS, AND ODD SCRAPS "JUST IN CASE"

WARNING: QUILTING IS HIGHLY ADDICTIVE AND KNOWN TO IMPROVE MOOD, REDUCE STRESS, AND BRING GREAT JOY TO LIFE!

SEW MUCH ♥ HAPPINESS!