

## A Stitch in Time - September 2020

### President's Message

Dear PECQG Members,

I am writing this message on August 27, 2020.

I hope this finds you well and still coping with the unsettled state of the world. All of us are very lucky to be living in Canada, and especially in the Bay of Quinte region. It has been a strange summer in our household, living a "back to basics" kind of lifestyle. We are very focused on spending time with close family and keeping up with the needs of our neighbours, or simply "keeping tabs" on them.

I don't know about you, but the summer heat and dry conditions can leave anytime now! These conditions have been perfect for the life cycle of the chigger. They feed while in the small, red, tiny larvae stage of the adult chigger mite. They like to bite in warm moist folds of the skin and can crawl anywhere on the body. They find me really tasty,....sigh. In the photo below, I am standing beside our 1 Kilowatt wind turbine. We lowered down the 80 foot pole to perform routine maintenance on the turbine head and blades. Our 5 year old grandson had the opportunity to watch it being pulled back up into position, following which he delighted in helping to tighten down some shackle bolts with an impact driver. (we sprayed him against bugs, sadly not ourselves though.....sigh) I'm glad that job is done for a couple of years!



During breaks from making fabric face masks and scrub caps I worked on completing a quilt for a family friend, then I started to machine quilt the Festival of Trees quilt. The top was pieced by Gail Fox. The fabrics are simply gorgeous. I love the gold highlights found in every fabric, even the backing. As I deliberated what colour of thread to quilt it with, I was shocked to discover that

"Celery", a pale green coloured thread blended best overall (refer to quilt close-up photo below). Who knew that gold, cream, red or green thread just wouldn't do the job?! I am unsure if there will be a Festival of Trees this year. No matter what is decided by the Hospital Auxiliary, the quilt will be ready for their next scheduled silent auction!



While wishing for cooler weather I spent some time picking out my next two quilting projects. The first one I have been planning for several months now and the other I just decided on last week....good old Pinterest. The work involved for both of them should carry me through the long winter months ahead. Now if I could just find the time to start one of them!

Our Guild has gone into a state of hibernation for the next few months, into a kind of reactive mode rather than proactive in a "wait and see" mode. Even though businesses and some other services are becoming available within Ontario, there are simply too many variables and unknowns for PECQG to "chart any sort of definite course".

Everyone is tired of this pandemic, of having to think everything through from every possible angle, avoiding potential risk to yourself, family and friends. If you are feeling down, lonely or simply overwhelmed there is help available. Personally, I have received many offers of support and mental health advice from several sources; offers from my pension provider, cell phone provider and even my favorite charity organizations, to name a few. Locally, for Seniors aged 60+, I suggest people contact the local Community Care for Seniors. They know the conditions of where you live and the best way to assist you! Email them at: [info@communitycareforseniors.org](mailto:info@communitycareforseniors.org) or give them a call at (613) 476-7493.

I joined the Prince Edward County Quilters' Guild in September 2011. During my first year as a member I observed how the Guild meeting activities unfolded, witnessed a few Challenges being judged and enjoyed the vast library of quilting books. I started volunteering on the Hospitality Committee along with Ellen McFaul in September 2012 after receiving a phone call request from a Nomination Committee member. Even though I was working full time and on-calls, I still managed to help on the Hospitality Committee and attend most Executive Committee Meetings. With every meeting I attended I absorbed a sense of how every committee functioned and how it all fit together as a whole. From the job of "making the coffee" I jumped straight into the role as President in September 2016. I actually began performing some duties in the summer of 2016 because there hadn't been a PECQG President for the previous two years, the 2014-2016 term and much was to be done. Now after more than 4 years, I am at the end of my second and final 2 year term as your Guild President. It is time for some new energy and vision at "the helm". So if in a few weeks or months from now you receive a call from someone on our current Nomination Committee, please consider helping out your Guild in any capacity you feel would suit you. Thanks a bunch!

Take good care everyone.

Submitted by Janet Reader Day (August 27, 2020)

## Mask Making (and other PPE)



Since our last newsletter, we have delivered over **800** masks to various groups in The County. We sent out a note with the annual report in August telling you about all the places that got masks like the youth centre, the HUB, Mental Health and Addictions, children's Aid, and Career Edge.



I think the highlights were delivering to the food banks for the return to school this August. We delivered 200 to the Salvation Army, 90 to Picton United Church food bank and 100 to the Wellington Storehouse food bank. In addition, another 50 we recently dropped off to the ROC.

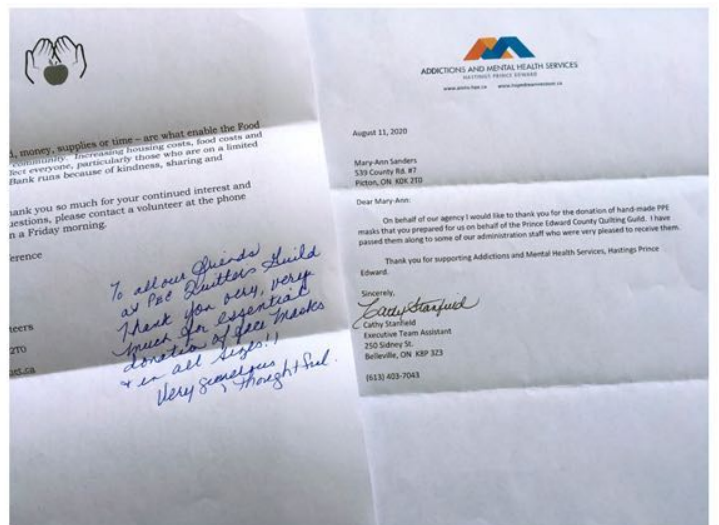
Everyone is so very grateful and it makes us happy to see folks wearing our masks. We could not do it without you!



The masks requests are slowing down and our inventory is dwindling. All in all, I think we can take a bit of a break!

Thanks for the help and support!

*Marianne Sanders (Mask and PPE Coordinator)*



Thank you to all our members who are making and donating masks!

**For more info - Email Marianne Sanders**

## A very special quilt, "Reta's Quilt"

by: Greta Kristiansen

I have an affinity for vintage quilts and their stories, so when Joscelyn Matthewman brought 24 hand-pieced old stars to a PECQG meeting at Pinecrest School a few years ago offering them for free, I could not resist taking them. The stars were hand-pieced by Reta Parks who died in 1994 at the age of 71; Reta was an avid and frugal quilter who provided her entire family with quilts mostly made from scraps left over from other uses and the stars appear to be made from 1940-50s fabrics. Those of you who are old enough to remember when mothers and grandmothers wore house-dresses may even recognize some of these fabrics. At the time of her death the stars were left to her daughter, Marlene (since deceased) and subsequently to her brother, Gary.

Since I thought the stars deserved to be saved for posterity and made into a quilt, I undertook that task and provided the fabrics for the completion. Background squares were cut but my eyesight is now too poor to appliqué and my friend Vicky LaFleur undertook that task. In trying to retain a look of yesteryear, I finished the sashing and borders with 25-30 year old fabrics from my stash. The end result was a truly old-fashioned looking quilt that really cried to be hand-quilted, a task my eyesight no longer allows. I therefore, collaborated with machine quilter, Deanna Gaudaur who applied her artistic skills to produce a hand-quilted look of cross-hatching and sashing designs. An amazing task! Completion of this quilt gave me a great deal of satisfaction.

My intention was to show the quilt in our 2020 Quilt Show and subsequently present the quilt to Gary & Nancy Parks in memory of his mother. I have now decided that the time has come for the presentation. Several factors played into my decision, the future being rather uncertain, considering that Gordon Parks, Reta's husband is now in his 90s, my own advanced age, all helped to make the decision.

However, before I do that, I thought I should share the quilt and its story with the guild since after all; the story began when the stars appeared at the guild meeting.

*Submitted by Greta Kristiansen, Historian*



"Reta's Quilt" is a beautiful collaboration with pieced stars by Reta Parks, finished by Greta Kristiansen, appliquéed by Vicky LaFleur and machine quilted by Deanna Gaudaur

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## Placemats for Community Care

Even though we are not meeting right now, the Comfort Quilt Committee would like to continue with our custom of making placemats for Community Care for Seniors Meals on Wheels program.

For those new members who might wonder what this means, the Guild makes placemats which are delivered to seniors with their Christmas meals. This is a good way to use up your stash and odd bits of fabric that you don't know what to do with but don't want to discard. We deliver the placemats to Community Care at the end of November, beginning of December. We have had a terrific response to this project from members who generously make beautiful placemats. The seniors who receive them are very appreciative.

Placemats should be made from cotton fabric that is NOT Christmas fabric. The seniors like to use the placemats all year. We do the usual front, batting, and backing. The design or pattern and quilting is up to you. Preferred size is about approximately 11-12"x15-17".

The Comfort Quilt Committee would be delighted if the members would continue with what has become somewhat of a tradition. We hope to get the placemats around the end of November. Let's hope that we are able to soon meet in person. If not, we will contact you around the middle of November to explain how we will get the placemats from you.

Thank you very much for participating in this project. We really appreciate it! If you have any questions feel free to call or email Colleen Kelly or Betty Beaumont.

## Comfort Quilts

Comfort Quilts has been busy during the summer. Six bed quilts and five children's quilts were donated to Alternatives for Women for Vi's Place, their new home in Picton. Thank you to all who helped construct and finish the quilts.

As well, Betty and Colleen reorganized and renumbered the Comfort Quilts that are currently stored safely in Janet's sewing loft. At this time, we have about thirty-five quilts of various styles and sizes in storage.

As with most other groups, Comfort Quilts has not been active since March. Hopefully, we will be able to reconvene in the not too distant future. In the meantime, if any member wishes to make a Comfort Quilt as a project, contact Betty Beaumont or Colleen Kelly.

Hopefully we will all be able to get together soon!

*Colleen and Betty*

*PECQG Comfort Quilt Coordinators*



In June, guild representatives Betty Beaumont (left) and Colleen Kelly (right) donate 6 quilts to Leah (middle) of Alternatives for Women at Vi's Place - their new home in Picton.



In July, Betty Beaumont and Janet Reader Day presented 5 childrens quilts to Lorna (right) at Alternatives for Women



Some more of the lovely Comfort Quilts generously machine quilted by members: Robyn Hardman, Anne Russell, and Lisa Castonguay.



## Stitch in the Ditch Club

### Quilt Show Committee Update

Last summer, we started out with very enthusiastic and motivated members on the Quilt Show Committee. A lot of work was accomplished towards our goal of having the best quilt show ever. We had the Wellington arena booked. We had a new online quilt registration system up and running. We had our Quilt Judge confirmed. Raffle Quilt tickets had been distributed to members and we were planning the various locations to sell them in the community. We had both new and returning vendors lined up. We were promoting the Boutique area to Guild members. We were well on our way to achieving our goal.

Then COVID-19 hit. The difficult decision was made by the Quilt Committee in conjunction with the Executive Committee to postpone the Quilt Show until July 10-11, 2021. We were able to reschedule the Wellington arena booking and we were pleased to receive permission from the County to extend our Raffle Quilt draw until July 11th 2021. This will, unfortunately, have financial repercussions to the Guild in the upcoming year, as we will not have the proceeds from the draw to fund our charitable donations and our programming. We were able to rebook many of our vendors for the new dates, as well as our Quilt Judge.

We are currently 'on hold' until a 'new normal' in our world has been achieved. We do not know when that will happen as there are still too many unknowns to be resolved regarding COVID-19.

Your Quilt Show Co-Chairs: Deelia Johnson Evans and Janet Reader Day

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## PECQG Challenges 2020

### COVID Quilt

Kathie Oliver made a quilt (see photo below) using blocks and pieces she already had in her stash. So, here's the latest challenge: Use only blocks already completed and strips or squares already cut and ready to go from your stash.

### African Challenge.....due: when we can meet again

Did you buy some of the beautiful African fabric when the representatives from TEMBO came to our Guild meeting in February? If so, please use it for this challenge! The challenge is to make a pillow or small wallhanging (approx. 36" square) using predominately the African fabric purchased from the TEMBO fundraiser sale.

Thank you from your Challenge Committee: Kathie Oliver and Wendy Lulham



Kathie Oliver's quilt using only blocks, strips and squares that were already in her stash.



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# Quilts in the County

Read below to find out how you can get a Quilt Canada 2020 lapel pin

## We need your photos for our SOCIAL MEDIA!

We are making a new 'Show and Share' page on our guild website. We need pictures! Share your quilts with your quilting friends virtually! As an added incentive, the first ten people who submit a photo will receive a rare 'Quilt Canada 2020' lapel pin. We will post all photos received on our website (under a new 'Show and Share' heading) and on our social media pages ('Quilts in the County' on Instagram and Facebook).

The weather and scenery are beautiful now and the County is quiet again. Take your quilts outdoors and take photos of them in front of beautiful scenery or a local attraction, with no people in them. You don't have to go far to find beautiful scenery. Most of us have photogenic porches, trees, and gardens right on our properties.

You can submit your photos via a form on our website, under the Quilt Show tab or email them to [pecqguild.webmaster@gmail.com](mailto:pecqguild.webmaster@gmail.com). If you send them by email, try to provide a short caption and specify the location. Also indicate if the quilt will be in the 2021 show, and whether or not you want your name mentioned.

So far, the Quilts in the County Instagram account has attracted over 400 followers and the Facebook account has 1400. Our Instagram account has been particularly well received by the Picton Business Improvement Association and 'Visit the County', the official County tourism office. These social media pages promote the guild, its good works, and our next quilt show.

Social Media Coordinator: Barbara Jordan



Here's a sample of recent Instagram posts from our @QuiltsInTheCounty account. As you can see, it was a beautiful summer to showcase our quilts, whether in the sunflower fields, a front porch, the museum grounds or at the Courthouse. We'd love to see your #QuiltsintheCounty too! Send Barbara your photos!

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# I CAN'T GET OUT OF THE SEWING ROOM THE FABRIC HAS ACCEPTED ME AS ONE OF THEIR OWN AND IF I LEAVE NOW I MIGHT LOSE THEIR TRUST

# DAYS FOR GIRLS



The Days for Girls project, that started off so well, has been on hold as we all have been making masks and self-isolating. We are ready to slowly start up again if people are interested. Our greatest need is for serging to be done. I can supply the thread and fabric if you have the time to serge the long strips at home. Our first 10 kits will be going to a women's shelter here in Canada. We will link up with the International group from Brockville once we can meet and work with them again. Thanks to everyone who contributed financially, with fabric, and with your valuable time. You can call me (Anne Longston) or Molly Jones if you can help at this stage.

*Days For Girls Coordinator: Anne Longston*

**EMAIL: Anne Longston if you can help**

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Here is Janet Reader Day and her submission "Totally Red". Janet created her quilt in response to the theme "2020" for the annual TrendTex Challenge. In a normal year, this would be displayed at the Quilt Canada Show but we all know this is no normal year. Instead the entries will be put up for online auction on October 19, 2020. There are 76 quilts to bid on and the proceeds go to the Canadian Quilters Association. Click below to see all the cool entries but you'll have to wait till October to bid. Enjoy the eye candy!

**TrendTex Challenge Quilts and Online Auction**

<https://bit.ly/3k7fiAB>

# QAYG Ruler Sleeve

Quilt-As-You-Go Project and Tutorial by Krista Hennebury



Dive into your scrap bin and create this colourful Quilt-As-You-Go (QAYG) ruler sleeve to protect your rulers in transit to your next workshop or sew-day.

The main sleeve holds a 4" x 14" ruler and the outer pocket is perfect for a 3" x 9" ruler or your rotary cutter. This is the perfect project to use up those long strips of wadding trimmed from the edges of your quilts. She has included several options to customize the look of your ruler sleeve.

[Click here for Krista's Ruler Sleeve Tutorial](#)

<https://www.thefestivalofquilts.co.uk>



## 2018-20 Guild Executive Officers

President .....Janet Reader-Day  
Vice President .....Marianne Sanders  
Past President .....vacant/open  
Treasurer.....Christine Hays  
Secretary.....Mary Campbell

## 2018-20 Standing Committees

Block-of-the Month...Nancy Hicks  
Challenges.....Wendy Lulham, Jeanette Henderson, Kathie Oliver  
Comfort Quilts.....Sandy Jeapes, Betty Beaumont, Colleen Kelly,  
Judy Blemkie, Rosanna Worden Hawker  
Goodwill .....Patricia Fullerton  
Hospitality .....Colleen Young, Carol Hobbs, Nancy Westervelt  
Internet Communication & Publicity .....Barbara Jordan  
Library.....Betty Beaumont, Sandy Jeapes, Colleen Young, Barb Hofstra  
Membership.....Anne Russell  
Newsletter.....Kelly Panacci  
Workshops.....Chair: Lyne Lusk, Committee: Lisa Castonguay  
Program Co-Chairs:..... Lee Waterhouse, Jeanette Henderson  
Quilt Show Co-Chairs ..... Janet Reader-Day and Deelia Johnson Evans  
Sewing with Your Friends ..... Colleen Young (starting in January 2020)  
Raffle Ticket Sales ..... Anne Russell



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## Aims and Objectives Directing Our Guild

- To enhance the knowledge of quilting within the group and the community.
  - To preserve quilting as an art form.
- To establish, maintain and upgrade quilting standards.
  - To encourage an exchange of ideas and methods.
  - To participate in community projects.
- To research and preserve the history of quilting in Prince Edward County and surrounding area.