



# **Common Thread Quilt**

## **Guild Annual Report**

**For the year ending  
June 30, 2024**

Presented at the AGM, December 10, 2024

## **President's Message 2024**

**Diane Grover**

This year was one of growth and generosity, of challenges and yet considerable achievements, all made possible by the guild membership and especially the hard-working executive. There were several issues that the leadership had to address this year, including updating our website and relocating it to another hosting service. The rise in electronic banking made things easier yet also added more work for the Treasurer. The need to update our constitution to meet new provincial legislative requirements caused considerable extra work for the guild executive and the Past President. And of course, any year that we put on a quilt show will be busy. But we forged on ahead and got things done, often with little fanfare. Of course, we had fun too, enjoying such guild activities as retreats, workshops and Sew Days. Often these times sewing together were spent on items to be donated to our various community projects, further extending the reach of our guild's mission to support the needs of our community. In fact, with over 700 quilts donated this past guild year, it is clear that we are a group of caring, compassionate and giving makers.

The use of technology has continued to broaden our reach not only for our members but also our guests. We made the decision to continue to use Zoom for the three winter months, which allows members to join in from anywhere, and also secure guest speakers and even workshop presenters from much further afield. The Executive met exclusively on Zoom. Common Thread is also now on Instagram.

The guild year concluded with the quilt show, in a new location with year – the Earl Amstrong Arena and in a new month. The venue was well-suited to our unique needs and effectively showcased the stunning entries into this memorable show. What a way to close out a fabulous guild year!

### **Annual General Meeting (AGM)**

Tuesday, November 14, 2023 at 7:30pm

At MIFO, Ottawa

Diane Grover, President, Common Threat Quilt Guild called the Annual General Meeting to order. The Past-President was not in attendance and the Vice-President position was vacant. Diane reminded members that they had received an electronic copy of the Annual Report and Financial Document two weeks before the meeting. She reviewed the highlights of the report, which had been prepared by the Past-President, Laura Evans. There were no questions from members. A motion was made to accept the Annual Report and Financial Review and it was seconded. The motion passed. The Business Meeting was adjourned.

### **Past President, Laura Evans**

The Ontario Government's Not-for-Profit Corporations Act (ONCA) has updated the rules for how organizations are governed. Our Guild is registered under the Act so we are required to change some of our articles of incorporation to comply with ONCA. We also wanted to ensure that our bylaws reflect the rules that apply to a nonprofit organization.

I took the lead to revising our Guild's Articles and Bylaws. This was an opportunity to update and streamline some of our practices and procedures. The draft was discussed and modified over several Executive Meetings before being approved to send to the Guild Membership for approval. The revised

Articles and Bylaws, which we call our Constitution, were circulated to members with the June members' meeting announcement. Changes were also described in the Guild May newsletter. The motion passed and the document will be filed with the Ontario Government before their October 2024 deadline.

### **Guild Executive Election**

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

At MIFO, Ottawa

Diane Grover, President, called the Business meeting to order and welcomed all members present. She presented a rose as thanks to outgoing members, some who have served for many years: Laura Evans, Lesley Pelletier, Rhonda Thibault, Susan Thibault, Lynn Bradley, Maria Fleming, Sonia Latchman, Judy Loree and Lisa Fedak. Diane Grover then presented the following slate for the 2024-25 Common Thread Quilt Guild executive and Committees:

President: Diane Grover (returning)

Vice-President: Janice Namiesniowski (new)

Secretary: Sherrill Crowder (new)

Treasurer: Libby McRobbie (returning)

Library Veronica Baker (new)

Retreats: Catherine Parkinson (returning)

Newsletter: Marian Burke (returning)

Newsletter - Billing/Advertising: Roberta Ronayne (returning)

Membership: Susanne Martin (returning)

Community Projects: Elizabeth Barr (new)

Programme: Vacant

Workshops: Laura Malo (returning)

Sew Days Lynn Bradley (in-person) & Ruth Oswald (Zoom) (returning)

Website Administrator: Daphne Uras (new)

### **Non-Executive**

Fat Quarters Club: Del Jazey & Susan Baker (returning)

Challenge: Libby McRobbie and Marian Burke (new)

Shop of the Month: Monique Boileau-Levesque (new)

There were no nominations from the floor. The slate was acclaimed by the membership. The new Executive was welcomed by a round of applause.

The Business meeting was adjourned.

### **Financial Report for 2023-24**

Treasurer: Libby McRobbie

Note: The following Financial Statement for 2023-24 is presented as a true statement. The entire statement and supporting documents are being sent for external Review and were not received in time to be circulated. The Reviewers statement and any changes that are required to meet good

accounting standards are not reflected in this statement and will be presented to the membership at a later date.

The Final Reviewed Financial Statement will be posted on the Guild website.

**Common Thread Quilt Guild  
Balance Sheet  
2024**

	2024	2023
<b>ASSETS</b>		
		23,1
Cash	<b>38,424</b>	81
Short-term deposit	<b>17,365</b>	16,5 56
Prepaid rent	<b>0</b>	5,28 0
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		45,0
	<b>55,789</b>	17
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>		
Accounts payable	<b>3,287</b>	610
Deferred revenue	<b>4,015</b>	3,12 0
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		3,73
	<b>7,302</b>	0
Retained Earnings beginning of period	<b>41,287</b>	41,2 56
Net Income (loss) for the period	<b>7,199</b>	31
<b>Retained Earnings, end of period</b>		41,2
	<b>48,486</b>	87

TOTAL		
LIABILITIES		44,6
AND EQUITY	55,789	45

**Common Thread Quilt Guild  
Income Statement**

	Year Ended Jun 30, 2024	Year Ended Jun 30, 2023
<b>REVENUES</b>		
Guest fees	150	245
Guild pins and nametags	235	400
Library fines and fundraising	114	250
Membership	8,520	7,070
Newsletter advertising	2,176	2,048
Quilt Show	22,620	0
Retreats	12,110	12,946
Sew days	744	322
Shop of the Month - Fundraising	1,639	1,838
Term deposit interest	905	77
Workshops	1,840	2,839
Misc income	5	211
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>51,058</b>	<b>28,247</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Bank charges	249	24
Challenge (includes prizes)	300	225
Community Projects	1,884	1,704

Equipment Lending	<b>626</b>	420
Guild pins and nametags	<b>203</b>	509
Insurance (via CQA)	<b>398</b>	311
Library	<b>736</b>	196
Membership	<b>168</b>	318
Newsletter	<b>0</b>	0
Office and general	<b>1,657</b>	1,452
Programme	<b>3,816</b>	3,523
Quilt show	<b>13,199</b>	(250)
Rent	<b>5,370</b>	3,720
Zoom	<b>518</b>	113
Retreats	<b>9,563</b>	10,467
Sew days	<b>367</b>	413
Shop of the Month	<b>1,092</b>	1,220
Website	<b>351</b>	81
Workshops	<b>3,265</b>	3,769
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>43,763</b>	28,215
<b>NET INCOME (LOSS) FOR THE PERIOD</b>	<b>7,294</b>	31

### **Membership Committee**

Chair: Susanne Martin

This year saw a count of 219 members of the Common Thread Quilt Guild for 2023-2024 term a small increase over the prior year. 170 returning members and 49 new members. The updated website is performing better and easier e-transfer instructions assisting half of the membership to join or renew online. Eight new members joining in May and June were granted membership through to June of the following year. Monthly attendance at the seven MIFO center on-site meetings grew this year averaging 115 members as people are more comfortable in group settings. January, February and March remain as zoom meetings.

Many thanks to those members who assisted at the membership table this year. And heartfelt thanks to Quilty Pleasures Quilt Store in Orleans for giving four fat quarters & Frixion pens for each months' door

prizes to members and guests attending the in-person meetings.

## **Programmes**

Committee Chairs: Susan Thibault & Rhonda Thibault

Our programs for 2023-2024 were very well received by our members. We were well within our budget and had a diverse variety of presentations. They were as follows:

**Sept 2023** - Marilyn Farquhar shared her trunk show "How Quilts See us Through"

**Oct 2023** - The planned speaker cancelled due to illness. We pivoted quickly and had an evening where each of our groups (Community Projects, Library, etc) did a quick presentation on what they do within the guild. The feedback was really good - members really appreciated hearing about everything the guild does and has to offer.

**Nov 2023** - Monika Henry (Penny Spool Quilts) presented a trunk show "From Idea to Quilt—Finding Inspiration in Everyday Things" and shared about her journey in quilting and how ordinary things have inspired her creations

**Dec 2023** - The guild celebrated our 30th anniversary with information about things that we have done through the years, cake, and prizes. We also had JC Mobile Sharpening set up outside for members to get their scissors, knives, etc. sharpened on site.

**Jan 2024** - Our meeting was via Zoom with Gloria Loughman gave her presentation "A Quilted Landscape" which included sharing her landscape quilts along with tips and tricks for making them.

**Feb 2024** - Once again our meeting was via Zoom. We were joined by Cyndi McChesney who gave her presentation called Panel Palooza - ideas of what to do with panels.

**Mar 2024** - For the first time we were on Zoom in March. This allowed us to have Hope Bell share her Quiltangle Quilts with our members - a very different approach to creating quilts through the art of zentangle.

**Apr 2024** - We were back to in person meetings with a presentation from Jane Roszell and her Inspiration for quilting by modifying fabrics through the use of paints, thread work, or simply cutting up fabrics and reassembling them.

**May 2024** - This month we had a social and worked with Community Projects to hold a destash event for their loads of fabrics. We also had an Accuquilt demo along with lots of info for the Quilt Show coming up (including sign ups for quilts, volunteers, etc.)

**Jun 2024** - Our final presenter of the year was Tamara Serrao (Tamara Kate) with her presentation "For the Love of Colour". She also had some of her designed fabric available for members to purchase. Throughout the year our members really stepped up to share the quilts and other quilted items that they have been working on - all were beautiful! We gave out many prizes and enjoyed the camaraderie. We did determine that we need a dedicated evening for members to share their challenge quilts and give out the available prizes. Moving forward we will have this as the program for one of our spring meetings. This was the second year as Program Coordinators for Rhonda Thibault and Susan Thibault though the position was not filled as of this report.

## **CTQG 2024 Quilt Show**

2024 Quilt Show Coordinator: Janice Namiesniowski

The 2024 CTQG quilt show took place in a new venue (thru the City of Ottawa), new dates and times. It was held at Earl Armstrong Arena (hockey pad), 2020 Ogilvie Road, in the east end of Ottawa, on Friday

June 14 10:00am-7:00pm and Saturday June 15 10:00am- 6:00pm. Tickets remain at \$10. Advance tickets were sold at the guild meetings

The successful quilt show had over 220 quilts hung with participants voting in the noted categories:

1. LARGE: a quilt with a perimeter of 350" or greater (*Maximum of 1 Entry*)
2. MEDIUM: a quilt with a perimeter of 181" – 349" (*Maximum of 2 Entries*)
3. SMALL: a quilt with a perimeter of 180" or less
4. MINIATURE: a quilt with a perimeter less than 96" total.
5. ASSORTED QUILT ITEMS: Quilted clothing, bags, pillows, etc.
6. BLACK & WHITE PLUS ONE CHALLENGE: a quilt with a perimeter of 349" or less, made with black and white fabric, plus one other colour (*Maximum of 1 Entry*)

Ribbons and cash prizes were awarded and the winning quilts are posted on Facebook, Instagram and the CTQG website. Special quilt Exhibits were shown with youth quilts (<13y) and (>14y) and CTQG quilt challenges from 2022-2023 Zodiac challenge and 2023-2024 Library book challenge. "No Touch Quilts", made by members, were hung among the quilts as a creative way to as viewers not to touch the quilts. A successful CTQG Members Market was supported to enable members to sell their quilt related items. Market sales were \$3,695. Twenty-one Quilt Show vendors were present.

The two-day attendance total was 1275. 150 volunteer shifts were filled for the quilt show. Expense cost for the show \$22,620 and revenue \$13,198 with a profit of \$9,421. By far the majority of the feedback was positive, by attendees, vendors and volunteers. A huge success following a lot of hard work by many volunteers.

Winner	Name of Quilt	Placing
Linda Won	Summer Solstice Swirl	Best in Show
Linda Won	Summer Solstice Swirl	1st Large
Sherida Giddings	The Goodnight Star	2nd Large
Ann Ryder	Peaches & Cream	3rd Large
Corrie Haughton	Medium Bed	1st Medium
Olivia Thompson	Square Peg Round Hole	2nd Medium
Danielle Butt	Le Jardin de Grand-Mere	3rd Medium
Daphne Uras	Changing Course	1st Small
Elizabeth Barr	In Honour of You	2nd Small
Luzia Senn	Miss Edelweiss	3rd Small
Thelma Robbins	Pineapple Delight	1st Mini
Thelma Robbins	Black Diamonds	2nd Mini
Kirstin Fearon	Scale Study	3rd Mini
Lisa Fedak	The Lovestar Quilt	1st B&W+1
Ann Knechtel	A Touch of Whimsy	2nd B&W+1
Carole Maisonneuve	A Glow in the Dark	3rd B&W+1 TIE
Janice Namiesniowski	Red Onion	3rd B&W+1 TIE



Jan Peszat	Red	1st Assorted
Jan Peszat	Matilda	2nd Assorted
Susanne Martin	Spring Time	3rd Assorted

### **Guild Challenge**

Coordinator: Diane Grover

The Guild Challenge this year was the Library Challenge. The rules were simple in that members could make any quilted item using a pattern from a book or magazine from the guild's library or using one of the library's rulers. Members had to have signed out the library reference material during the challenge, with the secondary goal of encouraging greater use of this guild resource. As the previous year's challenge had not yielded many entries, the number of entries this year was underestimated. Initial plans to display the entries at the April meeting were not satisfactory as 28 quilted items were entered and could not be effectively displayed. Subsequently, challenge participants had the opportunity to bring their quilts back for the May meeting to share during the Bring and Brag portion of the evening. Four cash prizes totalling \$400 were randomly drawn from the entries and awarded.

### **Shop of the Month**

Coordinator: Lisa Fedak

Company Name	Month Book
Young Vintage Fabrics	12-Sep-23
Happy Wife Quilting	10-Oct-23
Maker's Lodge	14-Nov-23
Quilter's Barn and Gifts	12-Dec-23
3 Dogs Quilting	9-Jan-24
Wilton Creek Fabrics	13-Feb-24
Watergirl Quilt Co.	13-Mar-24
Mad About Patchwork	9-Apr-24
Mimi Fabrics	14-May-24
Quilty Pleasures	11-Jun-24

## **CTQG Library**

Library Coordinator: Janice Namieskiowski

The CTQG library is accessible to members only at in-person guild evenings from 6:30-7:20pm. Set up begins at 6:10 and it takes 3-4 people to do so. We have a cadre of 4 regular volunteers plus drop-by. "Put away books" starts at 7:20, thus enabling the volunteer to attend the guild meeting. The inventory consists of 440 books, 207 magazines, 15 novels and 11 rulers. This year the new additions were a combination of newly purchased and donated items; 26 books, 15 magazines and one novel. The current inventory list is posted on the Website. Members can request books using the on-line form.

CTQG Library policy for loans; max of 4 books and 4 magazines for one month, or until the next guild meeting. Overdue fees are \$1 per item per month. Items overdue 3 months are considered "lost: and a \$30 replacement fee is due. The librarian communicates to the patrons via email for overdue notifications, as no one answers their phone to an unknown number.

The 2023-2024 library budget was increased from \$500 to \$800. This was a valid amount and the library operated within our budget.

## **Community Projects**

Committee Co-Chairs: Lynn Bradley and Maria Fleming

Members continued to actively contribute to the Guild's support of shelters, residences, hospitals, and care homes. Members donated quilts and quilt tops, as well as their time and expertise in piecing, quilting, and binding hundreds of quilts. The Guild was also supported by local area residents, in donating fabric and batting, as well as by a number of fabric manufacturers who provided us with permissions to use their patterns for the purposes of making quilts for charitable purposes. The list of charitable organizations that the Guild supports was streamlined during this past year in order to focus on local institutions and organizations that are supporting people at risk and in need in our local communities. The Guild provided 715 quilts to recipients in and around Ottawa and Orleans, as follows-

- Over 400 (411) cuddle quilts to the Ottawa General Hospital Neonatal Intensive Care and Post-Partum Delivery unit
- Eighty (80) wheelchair quilts to the Perley Rideau Health Care Center (37) and the Osgoode Care Center (43). With the support of Community Projects, some Guild members also made a Dignity Quilt which the Osgoode Care Center had requested.
- Sixty (60) children's quilts of a variety of sizes to the CHEO Foundation for children undergoing long-term care and treatment
- Twenty-two (22) children's size quilts Miriam Center, which supports young parents
- Twenty one (21) comfort quilts for clients of Ottawa Hospice, which are included as part of home care bundles for clients remaining at home
- Eight (8) bed-size quilts for the new beds opened by Ottawa Hospice to serve the Francophone and eastern end of the city (near the Montfort)
- Twenty-four (24) bed-size quilts to Carty House, which provides a helping hand and first home to refugee women in Ottawa

- Twenty-two (22) bed-size quilts to Interval House, which provides a safe place for women, their children, and pets to escape abuse
- Twenty-two (22) bed-size quilts to Cornerstone Housing for Women, which supports homeless women
- Twenty-nine (29) quilts to the YMCA/YWCA TRY program, which provides low cost housing for men and women who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless, as well as a further 11 children's quilts for other YM/YWCA programs
- Five kids (5) size quilts were also provided to a group outside of the local area in Algoma

A sincere thank you to all of the members of the Guild who have supported this worthwhile activity.

### **Retreats**

Committee Chair: Catherine Parkinson

This past guild year, we held all 6 in-town retreats at the Notre-Dame-des-Champs Community Centre, 3659 Navan Road.

Homemade meals were provided by attendee volunteers at all the retreats.

The number of participants and dates were as follows:

- 25 – October 20-22, 2023
- 25 – October 27-29, 2023
- 23 – January 19-21, 2024
- 26 – January 26-28, 2024
- 27 – April 19-21, 2024
- 30 – April 26-28, 2024

For each April retreat we held a group project to make a quilt top using squares cut from Community Projects fabric. Two tops were completed and one of the retreat attendees volunteered to quilt the two, to then be given to the Community Project Committee for distribution.

### **CTQG Workshops**

Coordinators: Sandra Baynes & Gisele Pilon-Brant, Laura Malo

Free Motion Quilting for Beginners

October 18, 2023

Instructor: Edith Choiniere (in-person)

Mannequin Pin Cushion

November 22, 2023

Instructor: with Suzan Bouchard (in-person)

Montage Art Quilts using Panels

Thursday February 15th and Thursday February 22nd, 2024

Instructor: Cyndi McChesney (virtual)

Patchwork Illusion

Saturday, April 13th, 2024  
Instructor: Paul Leger (in-person)

Tamarack Jacket  
Thursdays, May 16th and May 23rd, 2024  
Instructor: Melanie McDonald (in-person)

### **Sew Days**

Coordinator: Lynn Bradley

Many Guild members enjoyed coming together at the Notre Dame de Grace Community Center on Navan Road to quilt, compare notes, engage in a little show and tell, and to enjoy each other's company and ideas. Sew Days are typically held on the second Saturday of the month, except for the summer period. In-person Sew Days occurred on: 11 Nov 23, 9 Mar 23, 13 Apr 23, 11 May 23, and 8 Jun 23. Ruth Oswald hosted virtual Sew Days on: 14 Oct 24, 9 Dec 24, 13 Jan 24, and 10 Feb 24. Participants not only enjoyed sewing together but shared tips and links electronically when the day was done. In order to encourage usage of the Guild's Accuquilt Go! fabric cutter, the dies were brought up from basement storage and made available in the main hall during all In-person Sew Days and Retreats. Seeing the fabric cutter in action reminds Sew Day and Retreat participants of its utility and availability. Shirley McFadden gave a number of demonstrations at the January Retreats, at a Sew Day, and at the May Guild meeting. Guild members are encouraged to come to the Community Center during all Sew Days and Retreat days to use the Accuquilt system without having to pay any fees. Starting this year, Guild members have been encouraged to drop off Community Projects completed kits and/or donations to In-person Sew Days, making it easier for some to bring in their completed items at a time other than the busy Tuesday night Guild meetings.

### **Freecycle Initiative**

At Lynn Bradley's suggestion and with the Executive Committee's approval, the Guild undertook a trial of a recycling table at Guild meetings. Members were encouraged to bring whatever quilting related items they were no longer using – or no longer intended to finish – and to take whatever they would like. There are only two rules: items must be related to quilting and if your item isn't taken by someone else, you must remove it at the end of the evening. The recycling table is synergy in action: fabrics and UFOs from recycling have become quilts donated to Community Projects and some fabric and batting pieces that are donated to the Guild but aren't suitable or too small have been distributed to Guild members through the recycling table. Although the original expectation was that the 'recycling' or 'give-away' table might be rather short-lived, it has continued to thrive and is a wonderful way to help other quilters while being kind to our environment.

### **Fat Quarters "Club" Draws**

Coordinators: Del Jazey and Susan Baker

Fat Quarters continued to be a popular activity, often having enough fabric for two bundles to be drawn. Quilts made from fabrics won during the guild year were eligible to be drawn for a prize in an effort to encourage not just participation but using any fabrics won at a meeting. The month's fat quarter themes continue to be posted online and in the newsletter before each meeting.

## **Newsletter**

Editor: Marian Burke

The Newsletter was published 10 times, monthly from September to June, and was e-mailed to each member and posted on the Guild website.

## **Newsletter Advertising**

Committee Chair: Roberta Ronayne

In 2023-24 our Guild had the support of 20 advertisers compared with 22 the previous year. Three (3) advertisers did not renew for 2023-24 and one (1) business closed. Two (2) new advertisers were added this year: Artistic Quilts with Colours and Quilting Stitches. The majority of advertisers retail quilting fabrics and supplies. Six (6) offer longarm services. Thanks to our Webmaster for updating and revising the regional map of advertisers on the last page of the newsletter and for solving problems with accessing the link to advertisers. Guild advertising rates remained unchanged and will continue for the 2024-25 season. All advertisers but one (1) pay by e-transfer. Goals for 2024-25 include: recruitment for new advertisers and surveying Interguild members regarding advertising rates.

## **Website**

Committee Chair: Sonia Latchman

Our website continues to be a good communication tool for our current and prospective guild members. The website was regularly updated to provide up-to-date information about events such as guild meetings, retreats, workshops, sew days, the quilt show and quilt show volunteer signups. The website also offers valuable information about membership, community projects and resources available to members such as the library inventory, the monthly newsletter, a map (and list) of our of advertisers, and more.

The website and its underpinning continues to evolve and improve. During the past year, our website hosting service changed a couple times, and our website is now hosted by WHC.ca. The other significant and important change that occurred this past year is that the website is now more secure. Most significantly, our website now has an SSL certificate. The website is now accessed at <https://www.commonthreadquiltguild.ca> (note the “s” after http), and you should also see a lock in front of the domain name in the address bar. A very welcome benefit of the security improvements undertaken is that the deliverability of emails auto-generated by website from submissions has improved substantially. Prior to the security improvements, the proportion of emails that were blocked by spam filters or other gmail security features kept increasing as spam filters or other gmail security features got more stringent and had reached as much as 40%. Although all completed submissions were recorded and available to the website administrator, the improved email deliverability facilitates speedier responses.