



### Next Meeting:

**January 13th, 2025 ONLINE Meeting**

**Link to zoom meeting will be sent out on Monday, January 12th, 2026**

**\*Doors/Library open: will reopen April 2026!**

**\*Meeting: 7:30 pm—9:00 pm**

**Log in will start at 7:00 pm**

**\*Programme:**

**Irene Roderick**

**\* Shop of the Month:**

**\* Fat Quarter Club: will restart April 2026!**

**SEE YOU ONLINE!!!**

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*If you are a guild member and not receiving the newsletter, please let us know at:  
[ctqg.membership@gmail.com](mailto:ctqg.membership@gmail.com) and [ctqg.newsletter.editor@gmail.com](mailto:ctqg.newsletter.editor@gmail.com)*

## PROGRAMME INFORMATION—Irene Roderick (Improvitational Quilting)

Hello quilters and sewists! Here we are in a new year again. Maybe it is our busy hands, minds, and sewing machines that make the year pass so quickly.

We start January off with a Zoom presentation by Irene Roderick who is a quilter from Texas. Irene started quilting in 2016 with a background in painting.

Irene has said that she didn't know anything about quilting at that time. Her artistic journey began as a child when she was given an oil painting set at Christmas. A few of us can probably relate to that, I know that I can. Irene kept herself busy with other crafts as she experimented with other raw materials that were available to her. Eventually Irene became a skilled painter.

Quilting began as a new way to express her creativity and create functional items at the same time. Irene learned to quilt and by accident, found improvisational quilting. She feels that this form of quilting is intuitive and spontaneous, and has called it, "dancing with the wall".

Irene will give us some insight into abstract and improvisational quilting. It should be an interesting and motivational concept to start our new year off.

Also: You may have seen an update about our December presenter, Jen McMillan on our website meetings page. It is very kind of Jen to send us her blog information. She also suggested a YouTube video on needle-turn applique which is short and to the point. I am looking forward to trying it out. Basically it answered all of my questions about needle-turn applique. Please enjoy the process and don't worry about perfection. Links to video is on page 9!





## Executive Committee Members

President: Janice Namiesniowski

Vice-President: Emily Adams

Past President: Diane Grover

Secretary: Sherrill Crowder

Treasurer: Libby McRobbie

Programme: Ruth Lenarduzzi

Membership: Debbie Jolley

Community Projects: Elizabeth Barr



## Activity/Volunteer Positions

Workshops: Heather Wolczanski and Joanne Villeneuve

Retreats: Catherine Parkinson and Laurelle Callaghan

Sew Days: Joanne Villeneuve and Cathy Caron-Tatta

Fat Quarters Club: Del Jazey & Susan Baker

Shop of the Month: Monique Boileau-Levesque

Quilt Show: Janice Namiesniowski & Tammy Davies

Quilt Show Registrar: Elizabeth Barr

Library: Veronica Baker

Website: Daphne Uras

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Newsletter Ads/Billing: Cathy Duchesne

Newsletter Editor: Marian Burke

*Click on position (which is a link) to send an email to the person in this position.*

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE—Janice Namiesniowski

Happy New Year, everyone!

As another Ottawa winter settles in—with its bright snowbanks and long evenings ideal for sewing—I find myself reflecting on how January always feels like a clean quilting slate. It's the month when many of us feel the irresistible pull to start something brand new... while our UFO bins gently whisper, "Remember us?" Or perhaps you have taken on Karen Brown's Declutter Challenge 2026 (check it out on YouTube).

Whether you're diving into a fresh project or determined to finish a long-paused one, this is the perfect moment to reconnect with your creativity. A single block, a single seam, a single hour at your machine can bring so much satisfaction. Let's embrace both the thrill of beginning and the joy of completing.

I'm excited to share that our guild has two new wonderful workshops lined up in the spring to spark that motivation: look for more details in the Workshop News in this newsletter. (Spoiler alert: one involves fabric dyeing, and the other might just turn your quilting world upside down—figuratively, of course!)

And as we look ahead, mark your calendars for our **2026 CTQG Quilt Show**, running **June 12–13**. It may feel far away now, but it's the perfect mid-term goal for anyone hoping to showcase a completed quilt. Whether you're planning something ambitious or polishing off a UFO, we'd love to see your work hanging proudly in the show.

With 207 members strong, our guild continues to be a place where creativity, community, and inspiration flourish. I hope you'll share your progress, your challenges, and your triumphs with us throughout the year.

Wishing you a cozy, creative January filled with new beginnings, finished projects, and plenty of joyful stitching. And remember, if your sewing machine starts talking back, it's probably just excited to get to work!

Warm regards,

**Janice Namiesniowski**, President, Common Thread Quilt Guild

[ctqg.president@gmail.com](mailto:ctqg.president@gmail.com)





## IN TOWN RETREATS—Catherine Parkinson and Laurelle Callaghan

Come and sign up for one (or more) of our retreats! This is a great opportunity to meet new people, make some friends, and enjoy some good food! Food, Laughter, Sewing! Does it get any better????



### Dates for the 2025-2026 retreats

#### Winter 2026:

⇒ January 23rd to 25th OR January 30th to February 1st (both retreats are now FULL)

#### Spring 2026:

April 17th to 19th or April 24th to 26th (registration opens February 2nd)

Cost is \$80 for members and \$95 for non-members. We look forward to seeing you there!

#### HOW TO REGISTER AND PAY FOR AN IN TOWN RETREAT:

Register for any retreat by sending a email to [ctgg.retreats@gmail.com](mailto:ctgg.retreats@gmail.com)

Payment for any retreat can be done by e-transfer. Please send the funds to [ctgg.treasurer@gmail.com](mailto:ctgg.treasurer@gmail.com)

## VIRTUAL SEW DAYS, WINTER 2025—Ruth Oswald

Dates for the upcoming virtual (online) sew days are as follows:

2026: January 10, February 21, March 14, 2026

Questions with regard to virtual sew days? Please contact [ctgg.sewdays@gmail.com](mailto:ctgg.sewdays@gmail.com)

We will be hosting Virtual Sew Days, 9:00 am to 4:30 pm on the following Saturdays:

- January 10, 2026
- February 21, 2026
- March 14, 2026

Consider joining us! To attend, register ahead of time by emailing [ctgg.sewdays@gmail.com](mailto:ctgg.sewdays@gmail.com) and you will be sent a Zoom link for each Virtual Sew Day. Please note that previous participants will need to re-register for this membership year. Questions to [ctgg.sewdays@gmail.com](mailto:ctgg.sewdays@gmail.com)

#### Frequently asked questions:

**Q: A virtual sew day? Really? What do you DO? Do you really sew in front of your computer?**

A: Yes, we connect on Zoom and sew in front of our computers (or tablets, or phones). It's social! We chat, show our projects, share sewing and quilting tips, and do most of the same things as at an in-person sew day except borrow tools from each other.

**Q: Why bother with a virtual sew day?**

A: Because we can sew safely from home no matter what the weather or road conditions. No need to pack up and transport everything!

**Q: Isn't it noisy with all those sewing machines running?**

A: Surprisingly, it's not noisy. Zoom has an excellent sound-cancelling algorithm that filters out constant machine noise. Also, some people may be cutting or doing hand-sewing.

**Q: How many quilters participate? Does everyone stay all day?**

A: Last year there were usually 10-15 participants, and more are welcome! Some participants are online all day, and others come and go as they are available. Zoom also allows the creation of "rooms" so it's possible to split off a group that wants to chat together separately.



## VICE-PRESIDENT FOR 2025-2026!

*Welcome*

Please welcome EMILY ADAMS as our new Vice-President!!!

Emily has met with our President a couple of times with chats about the Guild, activities and what the job entails. –We are happy to share that she has agreed to be our Vice-President.

We believe she will be a great addition to our team!!!

Janice Namiesniowski

[ctgg.president@gmail.com](mailto:ctgg.president@gmail.com)

## IN PERSON SEW DAYS, SPRING 2026—Joanne Villeneuve & Cathy Caron-Tatta

Dates for the upcoming in person sew days are as follows:

2026: April 11, May 9, and June 13, 2026

Questions with regard to in person sew days? Please contact: [ctgg.sewdays@gmail.com](mailto:ctgg.sewdays@gmail.com)

## THANK YOU NOTE FROM THE HOSPICE .....

“Hi Janice. I just unpacked the quilts. I am blown away by their beauty. I feel beyond privileged to give these out in our community. They are more than just a quilt to people. They are comfort, beauty and for many a legacy to pass down. A big thank you and Merry Christmas to all of your quilters.”



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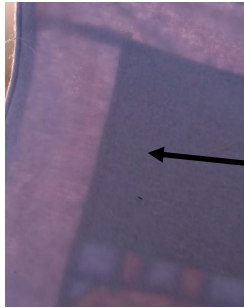
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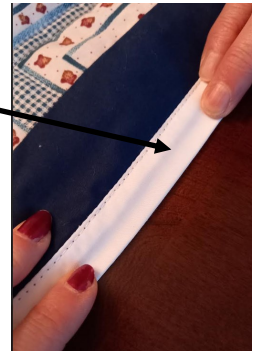
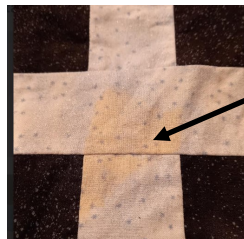
## COMMUNITY PROJECTS - Elizabeth Barr

As we move into the New Year with resolutions to finish UFOs and intentions to start new projects, it is a good time to remember that anything gifted to our Community Partners should be of the same quality as anything we give to our families. We proudly donate as a guild and the quality of our donations speak volumes.



A few points to ensure your quilts meet the quality for gifting to our partners:

- ♥ Quilts should be sandwiched with batting and not just the top and backing material, regardless of what it is.
- ♥ Use Colour Catchers (or any equivalent Dye Catcher) to prevent heavily dyed fabric from running colours onto lighter colours. Colour Catchers are easily found [here on amazon](#)
- ♥ Soiled or iron scorched fabrics are unacceptable.
- ♥ Binding should be tight to the quilt sandwich and not be "empty". Jenny Doan has a fabulous binding tutorial [here](#)
- ♥ Binding should be neatly attached to the back cleanly, without extra material. This happens sometimes when the binding is machine attached. Sew Becca provides a great tutorial for TWO ways to machine attach binding (either final attachment to the back or final attachment to the front) along with how to achieve beautiful mitered corners on [this video](#)



Warmest wishes that 2026 bring good health, much love and happiness, an abundance of time to play in our sewing rooms and may we always win our games of Bobbin Chicken! Elizabeth

### Friendly Reminders:

- ★ All finished quilts need labels. We will provide a label, needle and thread and ask that you sew one on during the meeting if not already attached.
- ★ Fabrics with any reference to violence and/or alcohol/substance use must be avoided.

Quilts of the following sizes are always appreciated:

- ⇒ Cuddle quilts - 22" square
- ⇒ Wheelchair quilts - 36" x 36" to 36" x 40"
- ⇒ Kids quilts from crib to twin  
- 40" x 40" to 60" x 72" (older teens may be tall)



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## WORKSHOPS WINTER 2025 —Heather Wolczanski and Joanne Villeneuve

The Veil - Precision Piecing Masterclass presented by Peter Byrne—**THIS WORKSHOP IS CURRENTLY FULL. PLEASE EMAIL [ctgg.workshops@gmail.com](mailto:ctgg.workshops@gmail.com) IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE PLACED ON A WAITING LIST!**

**Date:** Feb 28 & March 1, 2026 **Time:** 10:30 am-3:45 pm (virtual) **Location:** ZOOM  
**Cost:** \$110 (includes kit!-4 colors to choose from!),  
**Optional for purchase:** 6" Add-a-Quarter (\$10) and 9" Clammy Rulers (\$25) are available at cost

**Class Description:** Level up your piecing skills over the course of this two-day virtual workshop. This masterclass has been designed around the techniques developed during the creation of Peter's precision pieced quilts titled Veil and Veil 2.0. The Veil won First Place in the Modern Category at Quilt Canada 2025!



### FAUX CATHEDRAL WINDOWS By Michelle Van Dyke

**Date:** March 28, 2026 **Time:** 9:30 am - 4:00 pm (in-person)  
**Location:** Notre Dames des Champs Community Centre  
**Cost:** \$60 (supplies not included)

**Class Description:** This workshop invites quilters to explore the elegant illusion of cathedral windows - without the hand-sewn curves! Using the *Faux Cathedral Windows pattern* from Bits & Pieces Quilting, participants will learn how to create dimensional blocks that mimic the classic look with clever folding and stitching techniques. Make a quilt or a table runner, both available in beginner and advanced options.

Beginner Option - focuses on the main cathedral windows block and offers an easy finishing option with straightforward construction

Advanced Option - introduces a more advanced construction option that is more time consuming, but so worth the effort!

Whether you are new to quilting or looking to elevate your skills, this workshop delivers inspiration, technique, and a touch of textile magic.

**About the Instructor:** Michelle is a lifelong maker inspired by her mother and raised in southern Ontario's Mennonite country, where quilting was a way of life. From hand-quilting whole cloth quilts to machine piecing and quilting, she has developed a deep love for colour, design, and texture, with scrap quilts as her favourite creative playground. Today, quilting is both her passion and creative outlet.



**There are more workshops booked. Please see the following page.**



## WORKSHOPS WINTER 2025 CONTINUED

### Improv for Planners By Monika Henry

**Date:** May 23, 2026 **Time:** 9:30 am - 4:00 pm (in-person)

**Location:** Notre Dames des Champs Community Centre **Cost:** \$60 (supplies not included)

**Class Description:** Are you overwhelmed or intimidated by improv quilt techniques? Do you feel like you're too much of a planner to enjoy making a quilt without knowing what it's going to look like, and possibly "ruining" fabric in the process?

Join Monika Henry for Improv For Planners, a full-day workshop where she teaches you her easy, not-intimidating method of making an improv quilt while still having control and structure throughout the process. And yes, the use of rulers is very much encouraged ;-)



**About the Instructor:** Monika is the designer and teacher behind Penny Spool Quilts, based in Ottawa, Canada, where she creates bright, modern quilt designs with a nod to tradition. Her own quilting journey started a bit over 20 years ago, when she was at university in Switzerland, with traditional patterns done the traditional way. And while she calls herself a modern quilter now, she still takes inspiration from traditional blocks and designs and tweaks them to suit her taste for modern fabrics, colours, and bold shapes.



### HOW TO REGISTER AND PAY FOR A WORKSHOP:

Register for any workshop by sending an email to [ctgg.workshops@gmail.com](mailto:ctgg.workshops@gmail.com). Payment for any workshop can be done by e-transfer. Send all workshop fees to [ctgg.treasurer@gmail.com](mailto:ctgg.treasurer@gmail.com).

### Payment Policy for Workshops:

You will not be considered registered for a workshop until you have paid for your spot in full. For your convenience, we accept e-transfers to [ctgg.treasurer@gmail.com](mailto:ctgg.treasurer@gmail.com) payable within 2 days of signing up. You may also send a cheque by mail to the Common Thread Quilt Guild. If you mail a cheque, please inform the workshop coordinator at [ctgg.workshops@gmail.com](mailto:ctgg.workshops@gmail.com) that payment is on the way. Your spot can not be "held" without payment. Placing your name on the list without payment does not guarantee you a space. We understand that a registrant may not be able to attend a workshop for any number of worthy reasons, but to ensure that a workshop does not have to be cancelled at the last minute because of withdrawals, no refunds or credits will be issued unless the workshop is cancelled by the Guild. If we are given enough notice and are able to fill your spot, we can then offer you a refund.



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## MEMBERSHIP DESK—Debbie Jolley



Happy New Year Members!

At the end of December I sent out membership cards to those who were unable to pick them up. Please let me know if you haven't received your card.

During January, February & March, while our meetings are conducted online with Zoom, you can still join the Guild. Please download an application form from [commonthreadquiltguild.com](http://commonthreadquiltguild.com), and email the completed form to me at [ctgg.membership@gmail.com](mailto:ctgg.membership@gmail.com). You will need to pay via etransfer to [ctgg.treasurer@gmail.com](mailto:ctgg.treasurer@gmail.com), please add your email and 'Membership 2025-2026' in the message section.

**Our Membership fees stay the same for the 2025-2026 year.**

Adult \$40

While we have Zoom meetings, Guests are still welcome to join us. Please email me at [ctgg.membership@gmail.com](mailto:ctgg.membership@gmail.com). Once you have paid the \$5 fee to the treasurer, [ctgg.treasurer@gmail.com](mailto:ctgg.treasurer@gmail.com), I will send you a link to the Zoom meeting.

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## PLEASE READ—DECEMBER 2025 MEETING UPDATE/INFORMATION!!!

**Update to our December in Person Meeting:** Attendees received small applique block kits (thanks Ruth!) to finish and bring to our next in-person meeting for a community quilt. These quilt blocks will be due at our April, 2026 meeting. She suggested this [YouTube video](#) for a demonstration of needle turn applique.

**As well, our December speaker,** Jen McMillan provided some resources in a [blog post about her December 2025 CTQG presentation](#).

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## CTQG QUILT SHOW NEWS! - Tammy Davies

# CTQG QUILT SHOW

June 12-13, 2026

Blackburn Hamlet (Lois Kemp) Arena

The Guild Quilt Show is coming in June 2026!

Keep those sewing machines humming to fine tune your quilted entries!

Please see the November and December, 2025 newsletters for more information.

We are also planning to feature a special memorial table at the Show to honour the cherished members of our guild whom we have lost in the last couple of years. Please help us identify all those who should be recognized by sending names and background information about the quilter (e.g. length of membership in CTQG, volunteer roles with the Guild, quilting interests and activities, etc.) to [ctqg.quilt.show@gmail.com](mailto:ctqg.quilt.show@gmail.com).

We're looking forward to another successful event showcasing the incredible talent within our guild. Stay tuned for more information in the coming months.

## CTQG 2026 QUILT SHOW—MEMBERS' MARKET INFORMATION—Paulette Beauchamp

Would you like to take part in the Members' Market at the next quilt show??? We had a great sale at our Members' Market at the last quilt show! Again at our quilt show in June 2026, we will be offering the members of the Guild a place to sell their crafts (sewed or quilted) at no cost to you.

To participate in the Members' Market, you must be a member of the Common Thread Quilt Guild and do a shift of volunteering at the craft table either at set-up, during the show, or take down.

The show is in **June** so you have plenty of time to start on the products you would like to sell.

Please contact me if you have any questions. My email address is [quiltingqueen30@gmail.com](mailto:quiltingqueen30@gmail.com).

Paulette Beauchamp, coordinator of the Members' Market.



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## LIBRARY NEWS—Veronica Baker

Happy January everyone!

Our library will reopen at our next in person meeting in April, 2026.

Looking for a book? The full library catalogue is available online at the CTQG website Common Thread Quilt Guild, under [Resources](#). From there you can reserve a book using the form on the library page.



Done any decluttering in the Quilt Studio? Books can be Donated to CTQG Library. However, the published date must be less than 10 years. The books can be added to the library if we don't carry it, or it can be added to the annual used book sale.

Any questions or suggestions come and see us or drop us a line at [ctqg.library@gmail.com](mailto:ctqg.library@gmail.com)  
Sharron and I look forward to seeing you at the next meeting.

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Our in-store hours are Wednesday - Friday 12 pm - 5 pm  
& Saturdays 10 am - 5 pm



## ACQUILT GO! CUTTERS—Joanne Villeneuve & Cathy Caron-Tatta

Two Accuquilt Go! and one Accuquilt Go Me! cutters and dies are available to Guild members during In-Person Sew Days and Retreats.

Members are free to drop by and cut their fabric during these times and are not obliged to pay for the Sew Day or Retreat if they stay for only a short time and only for the use of the Accu-quilt. For example, one is free to drop by with pre-ironed fabric and use the Accu-quilt for a short time. If your cutting time is preventing paying participants from ready access to the Accuquilt, or if you plan to use the iron for other than a quick touch-up, then perhaps paying for the day is warranted.



Plan ahead to cut out a quilt or just some blocks or appliques at the next SewDay or retreat.

Check out the complete list of dies as well as handy tips for using the cutter at <https://commonthreadquiltguild.ca/resources/accuquilt-fabric-cutter/>

Questions to [ctgg.sewdays@gmail.com](mailto:ctgg.sewdays@gmail.com).

## Sew and Share!

We work hard on our quilts so let's show them off. Let's take pride in our quilting accomplishments and inspire others!

Please send pictures of your December quilt finishes to [ctgg.newsletter.editor@gmail.com](mailto:ctgg.newsletter.editor@gmail.com). Please include your name and a brief description and/or story of the item(s) (ie. Project title, reason for making the item, was it a UFO that you completed?, etc.)



We would love to include them in a special on-line Sew and Share at our January meeting! Big or Small projects are welcome!!!

### Advertising Space

Business Card: \$8 / month (3½" x 2" or 2" x 3½")

¼ page: \$16 / month (4⅛" x 3½")

½ page: \$30 / month (4⅛" x 7¼" or 8½" x 3½")

Full page: \$55 / month (8½" x¼")

Contact: [ctgg.newsletter.billing@gmail.com](mailto:ctgg.newsletter.billing@gmail.com)

Our guild's Facebook page,

**Common Thread Quilt Guild (Ottawa)**

can be accessed at

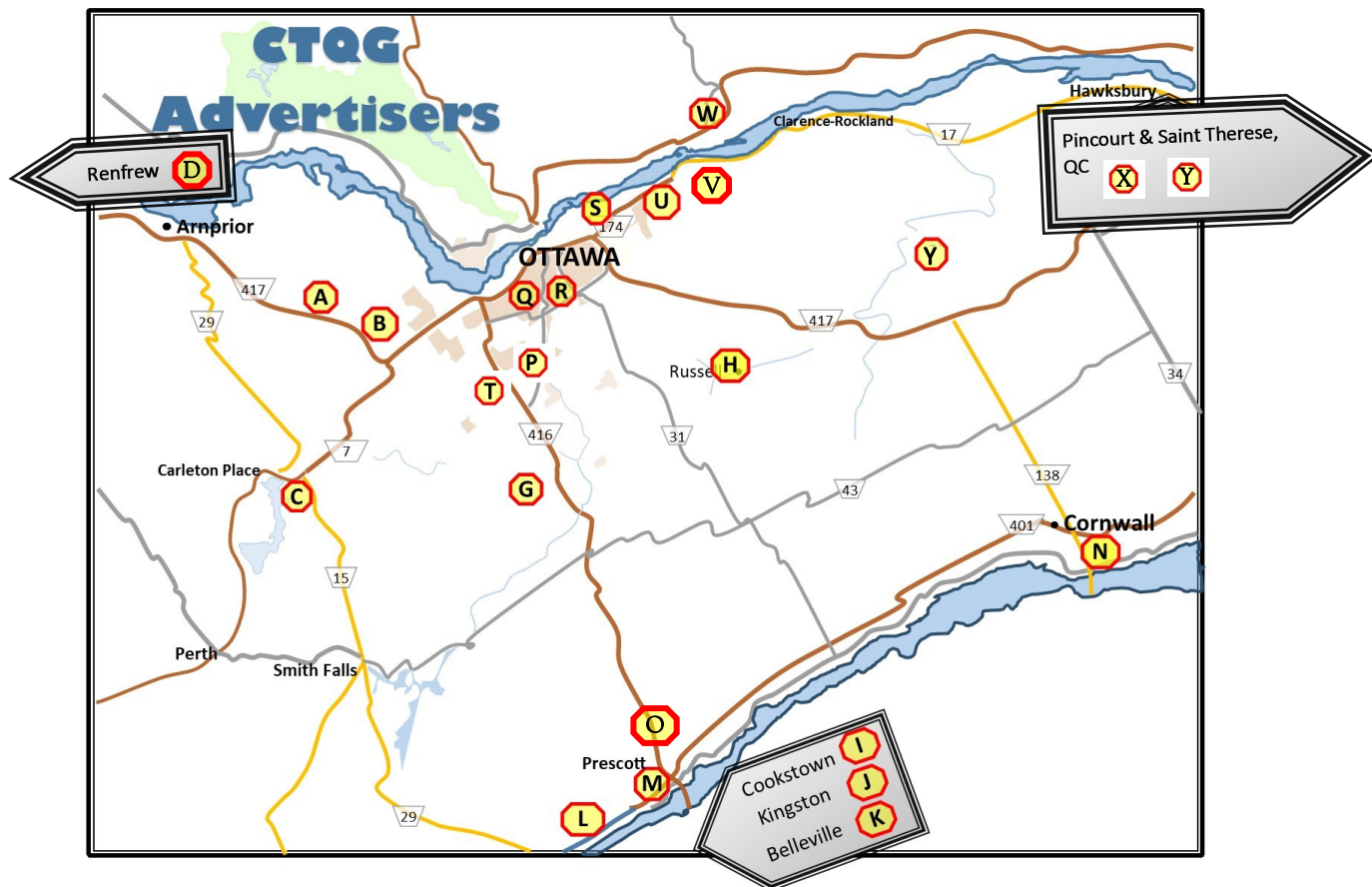


<https://www.facebook.com/groups/526558034114649/>

CTQG is now on *Instagram!!!*  
*[Check us out and give us a like!](https://www.instagram.com/commonthreadquiltguild/)*



<https://www.instagram.com/commonthreadquiltguild/>



Approx Zone	Map Listing	Advertiser (in order of Zone/Map Listing)	Address	Phone #
West	A	<a href="#">Happy Stitch Quilt Co</a>	105 Terraview Drive, Ottawa	289-219-3121
	B	<a href="#">Paisleys Quilt Shop</a>	112 John Cavanaugh, Carp	613-203-9011
	C	<a href="#">Happy Wife Quilting</a>	280 Timberwood Dr, Carleton Place	613-257-9023
	D	<a href="#">The Needle and Thread Emporium</a>	688 Storyland Road, Renfrew	289-241-9367
South & South-West	H	<a href="#">Quilters Barn and Gifts</a>	1087 Concession St., Russell	613-496-2276
	I	<a href="#">Country Concessions</a>	35 King St. N., Cookstown	705-458-4546
	J	<a href="#">Stitch by Stitch</a>	550 Days Road, Kingston	613-389-2223
	K	<a href="#">Artistic Quilts with Colors</a>	1963 Old Highway #2, Belleville	613-966-4715
	L	<a href="#">Taylor Sewing Quilt Shop</a>	7712 Kent Blvd., Brockville	613-342-3153
	M	<a href="#">Watergirl Quilt Co</a>	235 Water Street West, Prescott	343-260-9227
	N	<a href="#">Auntie Em's Scrapbooking &amp; Quilting</a>	109 11th Street West, Cornwall	613-938-4888
	O	<a href="#">Charles Street Quilt Retreat</a>	8 Charles Street, Spenserville	CharlesStreetRetreat@gmail.com
Central	Q	<a href="#">Ottawa Sewing Centre</a>	1390 Clyde Avenue, Ottawa	613-695-1386
	R	<a href="#">Fran's Quilting Services</a>	60 Sparrow Way, Ottawa	613-733-7865
	S	<a href="#">Sew-Jo's</a>	405 St Laurent Blvd, Ottawa	613-748-7878
	T	<a href="#">Sewing Machine Hospital</a>	1568 Merivale Rd, #11, Ottawa	613-729-4379
East	U	<a href="#">Quilty Pleasures</a>	2211 St Joseph Blvd., Orleans	613-834-3044
	V	<a href="#">Cathy's Quilting</a>	319 Cottonwood Crescent, Orleans	613-791-7907
	W	<a href="#">Quilt et Coton</a>	110 rue George, #15, Gatineau	819-617-6777
	X	<a href="#">Mad Moody Quilting Fabrics</a>	1727 Des Pommeliers, Pincourt, QC	514-425-0775
	Y	<a href="#">Elegante Virgule</a>	45 rue Saint-Joseph, Sainte-Thérèse, QC	450-818-9189