November 2026

Pine Tree Quilters' Guild of Muskoka

President's Message



Can you believe it is already November? As the days grow shorter and the weather cools, my favorite place to be is sitting at my sewing machine with a warm cup of tea. Hoping everyone had a lovely Thanksgiving with family and friends, and that you have recovered from the goblins and scary visitors on Halloween night!

Before the festivities begin for the holiday season, Canadians pause in November for a time of remembrance. On Remembrance Day, during the Week of Remembrance (November 5-11) and throughout the year - we take time 'to remember and honour the sacrifices of more than two million men and women who have served, and continue to serve, in times of war, conflict and peace' (Canadian Legion). We honour those who gave their lives to serve our country.



The Quilts of Valour Canadian Society presents handmade comfort quilts to past and present members of the Canadian Armed Forces who are coping with physical or mental service-related injuries.

(Continued on next page)

UPCOMING EVENTS

MODERN GROUP
Thursday, November 5th
1:00 p.m.
Bracebridge Library at the Muskoka Lumber Community Centre

GENERAL MEETING
Thursday, November 12th
1:00 p.m.
"A Stitcher's Life"
Trunkshow: Sharon Fisher
Muskoka Lumber Community Centre
* In-person & via Zoom *

WORKSHOP
Friday, November 13th
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Introduction to Wool Applique
with Sharon Fisher
* Registration Required *

QUILT ARTISTS GROUP
Thursday, November 19th
10:00 a.m. – 2:00pm
Autumn Leaves Seniors Centre, Baysville

Let's Connect



Let's greet with a simple hello and this…

"Do you press your seams OPEN?"

Take a few minutes to meet at least one new – to – you quilter at our meeting.

Did you know?

The word "quilt" comes from the Latin word *culcita*, which means a cushion, bolster, mat, or stuffed mattress.

Evolution: The Latin term passed into Old French (*cuilte*, *coute*) and Anglo-French (*quilte*) before entering the English language around the 13th century.

We're better together. Inspire. Create. Quilt.

President's Message - *Continued…*



There are a variety of ways we can contribute to this program:

- sew and donate complete quilts: make and submit finished comfort quilts, quilt tops, or individual blocks to a local representative
- provide longarm quilting services: offer your time and skills to quilt unfinished tops together with batting and backing
- help with binding and labeling: assist with machine or hand-stitching quilt bindings and attaching proper recognition labels
- financial and material support: donate funds via paypal or e-transfer or contribute quality quilting materials and batting

Please contact Donna Miner for further information (donna.miner@quiltsofvalour.ca) or visit the Quilts of Valour website quiltsofvalour.ca.

Making Time to Sew

With the clocks going back at the start of the month, I have been reflecting on our question last month of "How do you find time to quilt?". Over the years, my answer to this question has changed, but whether working full time or being retired, here are the ways I have always found time to make time for quilting:

- my sewing machine is always plugged in, threaded, and accessible with an ironing and cutting station ready to use
- sewing time is scheduled in my calendar - on average 4 - 5 times a week (my virtual 'do not disturb' sign is up for household chores such as cleaning and laundry during these times!)
- quilting sessions may be ***shorter*** periods of time for working on a specific task (e.g., winding bobbins, pressing fabric, etc.) or **longer** periods of time for tackling larger quilting tasks (e.g., cutting fabric, piecing, squaring up blocks, assembling blocks, completing borders, marking the quilt top, layering the quilt, quilting, binding, etc.)
- creating a checklist for larger tasks helps me feel like I can celebrate the completion of small tasks and have a clear idea of 'what's next?'
- grabbing 15 - 30 minutes to skill build (e.g., hand applique) or complete a simpler task (e.g., sew binding)
- everything for my current project in one place — the cut fabric, thread, pattern pieces, and any necessary notions
- a "go and sew bag" is always ready to take along when I am traveling or attending social events like book club - keep hand-sewing, binding, or a portable project like embroidery in a designated bag for quick progress during travel or idle moments
- shifting my mindset from "I don't have enough time to sew" to "how can I make the most of the time I do have?" has allowed me to maximize time - I have been known to hand stitch hexies as I wait for water to boil or casseroles to cook in the oven!

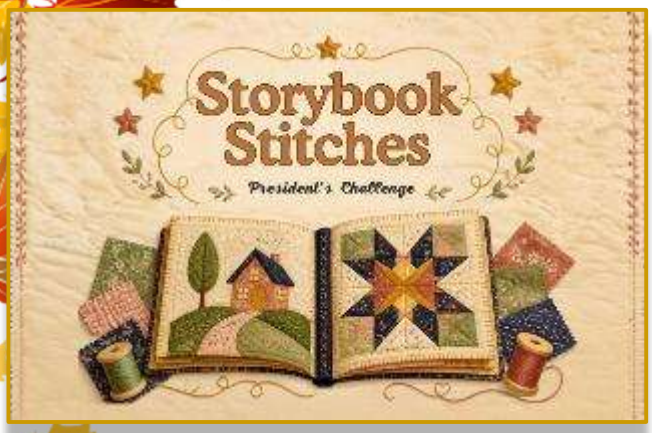
You don't have to be perfect to start - just begin! The only way to make progress is to take that first step. Pick up your needle, press that pedal, and see where it takes you! (AliceCaroline.com)

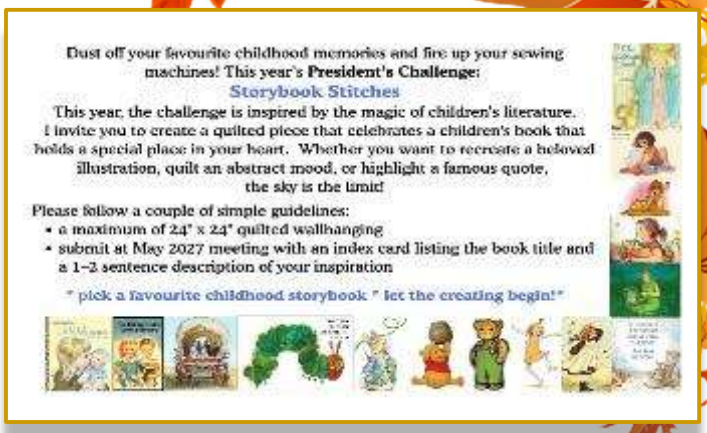


Warmly,

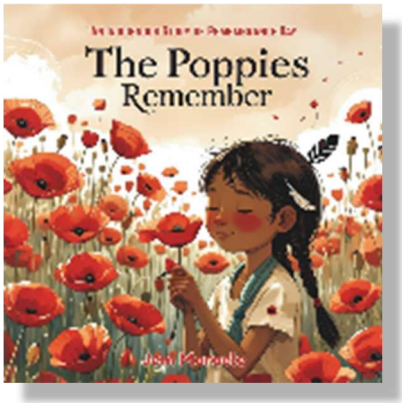
Lisa Serebrin

President's Challenge





Storybook Stitches Book Recommendations!



The Poppies Remember

Written by Bright Bookland

In **The Poppies Remember**, Ontario author Jem Maracle invites young readers on a journey through fields of red poppies, village squares, classrooms, and quiet lakeshores. Each page gently shows how Indigenous families and communities honour those who served and keep their stories alive.



Remembrance Day in Canada

Written by Bright Bookland

With the help of her teacher and grandfather, Emma discovers why Canadians gather on November 11, why the red poppy has become such an important symbol, and why communities pause for moments of silence to honor those who served - a touching journey of learning, remembering and hoping for peace. As Emma learns about old photographs, letters, memorials, veterans, and stories from the past, she discovers that remembrance is not only about looking back, it is also about building a kinder and more peaceful future.

Membership



We have 161 registered Guild members as of October 23, 2026.

As you arrive for our November meeting, please follow these guidelines:

- **If you have registered your membership online and have paid**, please go through the "EXPRESS" line, and simply check off your name on the attendance sheet.
- **If you have registered** but need to pay ($40.00 cash) OR wish to pay for your name tag ($10.00), please arrive a bit early to process those cash transactions at the cash table.
- If you are a guest (Welcome!); please sign in and pay your $10.00 at the cash table.

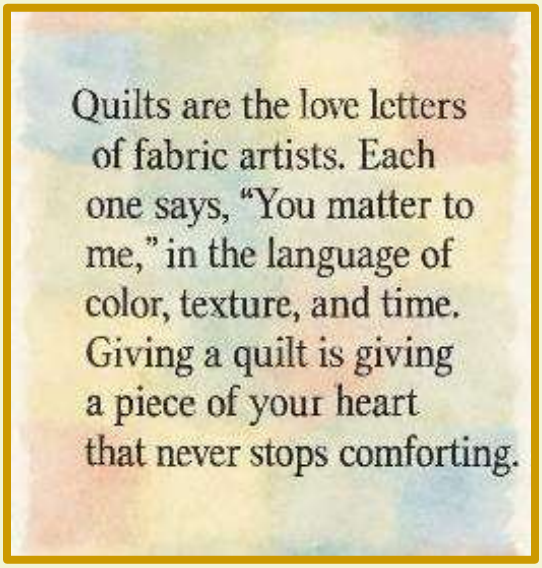


A reminder that the registration is on-line only and a two step process.
Complete the registration form by clicking the link below.
Be sure to click "submit" to finish.
https://forms.gle/7ERdxSKZ6qkvCKWp8

Payment can be made in 3 ways:

1. **Send an e-Transfer to:** muskokaquilts@gmail.com
   (Preferred method)**.** Be sure to indicate what your money is for. (i.e. membership, name tag, workshop, etc.)
2. **Sending a Cheque:** Make cheque out to **Pine Tree Quilters' Guild of Muskoka**
   and mail to the Guild Treasurer: Treasurer, PTQGOM
   1150 Golden Beach Rd, Bracebridge P1L 1W8
3. **Cash: This option is only available at in-person meetings.**
   PLEASE NOTE: If you are bringing cash or cheque to the meeting, please put it in an **unsealed** envelope with your name on the front, the amount, and what it is for (ie Membership only, or membership PLUS name tag).
   Thank you!

If you have any problems, please email membership@ptqgom.com for assistance. *Joyce M.*



Program



We welcome Sharon Fisher to our guild!

"A Stitcher's Life"

Thursday, November 12th, 2026

at the Muskoka Lumber Community Centre at 1:00 p.m.



Sharon Fisher, from Mount Forest, Ontario, is our guest speaker for November.



Sharon's quilting journey began over three decades ago, evolving into a lifelong passion for texture, rich colour, and unique embellishments. Specializing in wool appliqué and hand stitching, she expertly weaves traditional, primitive, and whimsical styles into vibrant works of art.

Sharon is a highly sought-after educator who has shared her skills including teaching at Quilt Canada. She also channels her creativity into custom longarm quilting producing numerous award-winning quilts for clients.

We are thrilled to welcome Sharon to our guild to share her incredible techniques and inspiring enthusiasm!

Please join us in person (Muskoka Lumber Community Centre) or via Zoom (link to follow the week of our meeting).

Terry W. & Julie D.

Workshop

We will continue learning from Sharon as she will be teaching us the basics of working with wool with…

"Introduction to Wool Applique"

Friday November 13th, 2026 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

at the Muskoka Lumber Community Centre

Cost: $75 and includes needles, thread and wool to complete a beautiful needle book.



To register for this workshop:

Complete this Google form: **https://forms.gle/VnRXi877jYWU8GKy9**

OR Send an email directly to **program@ptqgom.com**, and let us know how you will be paying the $75 fee.

Please note: All workshops are open to all members on a "first-paid-first-served basis", with a limit of 20 participants.

Terry W. & Julie D.

Block of the Month



Sew Along with Meadow Mist Designs

We have just finished the fourth month of our guild's Block of the Month. For the month of October, we made three different blocks, which are called Shoefly, Uneven Patch and Square Within a Square. We had to make five of each of these blocks. It's fun to see how participants' choices of fabrics create different effects.



We are all looking forward to the November instructions. Now that all the blocks for the quilt are done, what will our next step be? Can't wait!

As always, you will receive the next instructions on the first Thursday of the month, which is Thursday, November 5th. Our group's Zoom Sew Along Session is scheduled for:

Wednesday, November 18th from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Our Zoom Sew Along sessions are just another way for our guild members to connect (and sew virtually) with other quilters in an informal Zoom setting. It's still not too late for members to join:

www.MeadowMistDesigns.blogspot.com



Please email me at **bom@ptogom.com** to let me know that you are joining so I can add your name to our fun group.

Hope to see you soon!

Suzanne B-R

Hospitality



So great to see everyone at last month's meeting.

Thank you for bringing delicious treats to our October meeting...

Barbara A., Elaine O'G., Syliva B., Julianne M., Wendy W. and Linda F.

I have a plastic serving dish that was left behind after the meeting. I will bring it along to our November meeting for you to pick up.

For our November meeting

Rena W., Donna N., Judy S., Ann R., Wendy B., Kim W., and Kelly S.

have offered to bring treats.



I will be sending you a gentle reminder the week before. Please bring along a copy of your recipe so those with food allergies will be able to see the ingredients.

Please remember to bring your own hot/cold beverage to the meeting. The cafe downstairs does not seem to be open on a regular basis

.

Ardith S. & Suzanne B-R

Sunshine



If you know of a member who is facing a medical challenge or has recently lost a loved one, please be sure to contact Heather, who will sending out cards on our behalf.

Heather's contact information can be found in the 'Members' Only' portion of our website. Thank you to all who notify us of members who are dealing with an illness or loss.

Heather M.

In Remembrance

We are introducing a dedicated space in our newsletter to honour and celebrate the lives and contributions of guild members who have passed away. Moving forward, we will use this section to thoughtfully remember our members as we are notified of their passing.

Please reach out to Heather M. with any notifications or details so we can ensure they are honoured and thoughtfully remembered.

Heather M.

Outreach



Amazing!



Outreach has had an amazing start to the guild year!
At our October meeting, the Modern group presented us with 18 beautiful wheelchair quilts. It was difficult to take them all in during the meeting, so be sure to spend a few minutes to admire them in the photo gallery on our Guild's website section.
Here is the link: **Modern Quilt Group Show & Share**

In addition to these 18 wheelchair quilts, members completed and returned 16 lap quilts, and we received 1 large, long-arm quilted quilt that will be delivered to Andy's House next month. The quilts and pillowcases that are donated are used to help give the hospice rooms a comfortable home-like setting for the patient and their families rather than a hospital atmosphere. Andy's House is always very appreciative to receive our donations.

We also received 8 pieced quilt tops returned to us, which Andrea will cut batting and find suitable backing and binding for before we bring them to a future meeting.

A huge thank you to everyone who has contributed their time, talent and creativity to Outreach.



Joanne R. & Andrea O.

Located along the Indian River in Port Carling, **Andy's House** offers 24/7 whole-person palliative care in a warm, home-inspired setting with 10 private rooms. Opened in 2020 through community fundraising and a generous land gift from Brock Napier, the facility serves residents across Muskoka Lakes, Bracebridge, Gravenhurst, the Township of Georgian Bay, Wahta First Nation, and Moose Deer Point First Nation. Referrals are initiated by your healthcare provider through Home and Community Care Palliative services.

Stash & Tell...

We are celebrating the hands behind the quilts to get to know our fellow guildies on a much deeper level - a sneak peek behind the curtain of your brilliant creative minds...

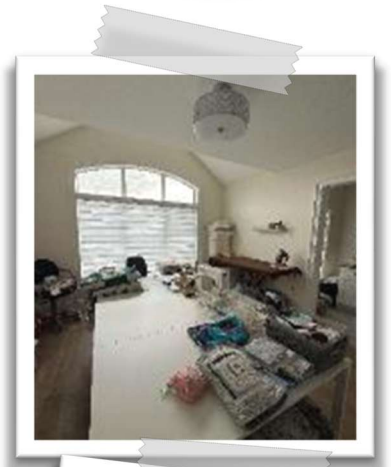
This month we are spilling the 'quilt-tea' with Julie B.!

Julie made her first quilt in 1986, then her second in 2004 and hasn't stopped since. She is also a Member of our Modern Group.



"How would you describe your sewing space: organized chaos or pristine sanctuary?"

Julie: *Organized chaos, wish I could blame that on having just moved but honestly, it is only slightly more organized than chaotic on any given day. My chair is on the end and my sewing machine is on the side - why you might ask? I still haven't found my cords for my sewing machine so have used my "portable" (class/workshop) sewing machine at the end until I discover what box the rest of my machine supplies are in. [Editor: Seriously, Julie did JUST move!]*



"Do you wear shoes, slippers, or totally barefoot when working the foot pedal?"

Julie: *Sock feet is my go-to foot pedal pleasure!*

"How many UFOs are currently hiding in your closets?"

Julie: *I could share that I have none in my closet but to be fair, I have 30 in my corner cupboard and that is not counting any of my boxes in the basement that I haven't opened since the move or the "kits" I have that I haven't started … let's just say I am nearer Terri's UFO count than what is actually in my cupboard. [Editor: Terry's count was +/-100!]*





My stash – pieces that are less than a fat 1/4 size & sorted by colour.

"What is your biggest quilting confession?"

Julie: *My love of scrappy quilts. I have built my stash to have and use multiple fabrics instead of the one colour that a pattern might call for. I will change any pattern into a scrappy quilt pattern.*

"What colour, designer, or fabric style dominates your collection, even if you don't mean to buy it?"

Julie: *When I was first starting out as a quilter, a girlfriend who was more experienced than myself shared that if you go into a quilt store and don't have a project in mind, you can always pick up low volume fabric that you can decide what to use it in later. Needless to say, it works perfectly for me and my love of scrappy quilts and a controlled scrappy background.*



My 2-1/2' strips & squares drawer Organized by size (vs. colour) and I also have a drawer for the 1-1/2" sizes.

Thank you for sharing, Julie!

Modern Group

November 5th, 1:00 – 3:00 pm
(1st Thursday of the month)
Castle Peak Room, Bracebridge Coulson Library at Muskoka Lumber Community Centre

Our next meeting's program will be lead by Margaret G. with a number of members demonstrating how quilts can be made more interesting using various disappearing blocks techniques.

We had a fun sew day in October and donated nearly twenty wheelchair quilts (about 32" x 42") to our Outreach Committee for distribution to local seniors' homes. Pictured is Mary M. with the wheelchair quilts she made over the summer.



Winter month meetings are held by Zoom.
All Pinetree Quilters Guild members are welcome to attend.

Wendy W. & Mary M.



Quilt Artist Group

November 19th, 10:00 am-2:00 pm.
(3rd Thursday of each month)
Baysville Seniors Centre 12 University St, Baysville.
Cost: $3.00 per person for facility rental.
Bring: Your own Lunch, beverage, cutlery, supplies for the activity, Show and Share.

Each meeting is a play date (see leadership schedule below). For more information visit our guild website.
www.pinetreequiltersguildofmuskoka.com/quilt-art-group

November	January	February
Leader: Ingrid	**Leader:Inge**	**Leader:Dale**
Shiva Sticks	TBD	Silk fusion & hand spinning silk fibres for rustic embroidery

The Leader each month looks after planning the technique and play activity, sending out a supply list, videos, tutorials and meeting details. They will email this information a week or more before the meeting date.



Questions or to join this group contact:

Carol C. and Dale M.

Find out what the **Quilt Artist Group** did with this luscious bunch of botanical goodness! Take a peek at their amazing Eco Printing Process and get a recipe to try it yourself.

See the Art Group's Eco Printing Photos & Recipe



A Visual Treat: Art Quilts at the Baysville Library

As a point of interest, there is a colourful display of 19 art quilts created by the **Quilt Artists of Muskoka** at the Baysville Library. This gorgeous exhibit runs until the end of October—making it the perfect destination for an autumn drive!
If you want to check it out, the library is open Tuesday through Saturday.
Please see their website for hours of operation: **www.lakeofbayslibrary.ca**



Website



Fresh Website Updates:

Our website has been freshly updated with important resources and details for the 2026/2027 Guild year. Take a look at what has been added and where you can find the information you need.

- ✓ **"Goodies from Meetings" Recipes:** Newly updated with delicious treats.
- ✓ **2026/27 President's Challenge:** The full instructions are now posted online in case you misplaced your physical instruction postcard.
- ✓ **Events Page:** Updated with upcoming dates, including an early "Save the Date" for an exciting 2027 event!
- ✓ **Member Want Ads:** The 'Members Only' page now includes a dedicated section for **Local Businesses – Quilting Related**
  This directory features businesses owned by or involving our very own members. Please note this is provided strictly for member information; it does not represent paid advertising or an official Guild recommendation.

Need information about our Guild?

Are you looking for specific Guild information? The website is your best resource to find quick answers regarding:

- Upcoming speakers, meeting dates, and specialized workshops
- Local quilt shows and surrounding community events
- Direct questions about our Outreach Quilts program
- Contact details for executive members or fellow Guild members
- Current and past Guild newsletters
- Catching up on missed meetings (including video recordings of past sessions!)

This information and more is available at our website **www.pinetreequiltersguildofmuskoka.com**
Our **Members Only** page is password protected and contains information meant just for our members to access.
The password is available in the email that the newsletter is attached to.
HEADS UP: THE PASSWORD HAS NOW CHANGED WITH THE OCTOBER NEWSLETTER.

Sherry M.

Notes:

Pine Tree Quilters' Guild of Muskoka

www.pinetreequiltersguildofmuskoka.com

muskokaquilts@gmail.com

P.O. Box 446 Bracebridge, ON P1L 1T7

Our meetings take place at:
Muskoka Lumber Community Centre, 34 Salmon Avenue, Bracebridge, ON
2nd Thursday each month from September to June
In person or via Zoom