

HHQG Meeting May 27, 2024: Held at Optimist Club 13439 Hwy & Georgetown, ON.

President—Margaret Newey: Margaret has assumed the role of President for the remainder of the Guild year because of Ida's health emergency. Unfortunately, Margaret was unable to attend tonight's meeting as her mom is in hospital. Jane Symmes chaired the meeting. (Thanks for pinch hitting Jane!) Jane started the meeting at 7:03 and welcomed the members. She encouraged the members to volunteer for the current vacant Guild Executive positions. The vacant positions for the next Guild year are, President (Margaret would like to share this role), Secretary, Membership and Publicist. Donna has volunteered to serve as Vice President, starting in the next guild year and will continue to run the BOM. If Donna is called on to chair meetings, she will not be able to take the minutes, so a volunteer is needed for the Secretary position. Marg Brown is going to help with Membership until the end of the Guild year as Margaret cannot function as both President and perform the Membership role at the Guild meetings. Jane simply noted that if more members did not step up to help the Executive, the Guild is in danger of folding.

Jane reminded the members of the President's Challenge "a small piece that portrays the concept of peace to you". The challenge is due at the June AGM. Jane noted that there will not be a potluck supper at the AGM. Both Jane and Barbara asked the members to contribute a treat for about 6 people. Please sign up to bring treats to next year's Guild meetings and bring a reusable mug for your drink rather than a Styrofoam cup. Thanks to Jane and Barbara for the treats for today's meeting. Please remember to wear your name tags. It really helps us get to know one another. Jane asked if one of the members would accept the April minutes. The minutes were accepted by Anne Balanyk and seconded by Brenda Mathies.

Program--Melinda Noble: For the AGM could you bring some fabric, in a paper bag, to exchange with others to make into an 18" maximum unfinished block. Please put your name in the bag with the fabric and any thoughts about the fabric that you have picked for the challenge. The bags will be exchanged, and you will take home another member's fabric. You will not know who has your fabric until the September 2024 meeting when the challenge is due, and the blocks returned and admired. Please return any unused fabric with the challenge block. In addition, please bring 2.5-inch jelly roll strips (100% cotton, width of fabric, strips) --as many as you like --to play "Strip Poker". Melinda will have some strip/chips in her reserve bank for the AGM.

Secretary—Donna May: Nothing to report.

BOM—Donna May: This will start at the June meeting. The patterns and example photos of two blocks and the block for the layout that I selected will be sent electronically to you with the June Newsletter. There are 18 blocks and one layout pattern in total for this project. You can expect two new blocks every Guild month. The last two blocks will be assigned in May 2025. If you want paper copies of the blocks, for the duration of the challenge, that can be provided but there will be a \$5.00 fee. Please let me know if you want paper copies. I will have a sign-up list for the paper copies at the June meeting. I hope that you will consider making some blocks for Outreach out of blue and cream cotton fabric. A small amount of accent colour is ok, if the block reads as blue. If there are many blocks submitted for Outreach, more than Irene can realistically use, we might draw a name for a bundle of blocks. I will keep track of who submits blocks and how many if this becomes necessary. (Similar to how we run the fat quarter draw). If you like this format, I will start another similar challenge at the June meeting in 2025.

Treasurer – Irene Rushworth: Irene had another commitment and was unable to attend the meeting. The summary of the Guild accounts was published in the Newsletter.

OutReach—Irene Rushworth: Irene was not able to attend the meeting. There is a report of the Outreach activities in the Newsletter.

Newsletter—Barbara Shein: The deadline for contributions for the June Newsletter is June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Please continue to enrich the Newsletter with your contributions.

Membership---Marg Brown: There were 16 members and 3 guests at the meeting. Welcome guests! The theme for the fat quarter draw was flowers. There were 14 flowery, fat quarters submitted, and the bundle was won by Ulda Keleris. The theme for the fat quarter draw for the June meeting is “at the beach”. The member “signed in” draws were won by Lindsay Dunlop and Brenda Mathies. The member “wearing a name tag” winner was Anne Balanyk.

Website—Margaret Newey: Absent because of a family emergency.

Zoom--Sew and Chat –Margaret Newey: Absent. This is not active currently. Jane mentioned that Margaret would like to know if there is interest in meeting in person at the Optimist Club during the week. Jane was not sure what the fee for a weekday rental would be.

Facebook—Margaret Newey: Absent/Nothing to report.

Postcards—Margaret Newey: Absent. Jane asked those members making postcards this year to please bring them to the June meeting, if you have not already delivered them. Jane brought several examples of postcards that she has made. They are a good way to try a technique without committing to a big project. They can be pieced, appliqued, or embellished. Try out your fancy stitches on your machine.

Workshop--Jane Symmes: A sew day was held May 4<sup>th</sup> at the Optimist Club. This was a lot of fun for the eight members that attended. Jane asked if there was interest in a postcard or bag making workshop. Barbara noted that there was a good write up about postcard making in a recent copy of Needle Pulling Thread.

Hearts and Hugs—Elaine Karton. The birthday cards for this month have been sent.

Theresa Lockerbie from the Acton Fall Fair was at the meeting to promote the Fair, distribute entrance rule books and sell raffle tickets on a quilt (proceeds will support the Fair). The winning ticket draw for the quilt will take place at the Fair in September. If you have a craft to enter, please consult the book or contact Theresa 519-856-4183.

Jane called for a 10 min break at 7:25. Thanks to Lorna for making the coffee for all the meetings for this and last year when we started back in person! At 7:40 the meeting resumed.

Program Convenor—Melinda Noble:

Melinda introduced today’s speaker Mary Lou Olah. Mary Lou was one of the founding members of our Guild. She studied how sewing, and fabric has had a positive and negative effect on women’s lives in history. She has a Ph.D. in this topic. She had some small examples of her work that she was able to pass around so the members could have a close look at the crafts.

The 50 -50 draw raised \$35.00 for the Guild and \$35.50 was won by Jane Symmes. Thanks, Anne, for looking after the 50-50 during the meeting.

Janie Gow mentioned the sad news that a well-known crafter, past President of the Ontario Hooking Craft Guild and founder of the Georgetown Rug Hooking Guild, Shirley Lyons, has passed away. The funeral service will be Wednesday May 29<sup>th</sup> for those that want to attend. Anne remembered taking a class from Shirley. She will be missed.

The meeting finished with show and share. Thanks to Melinda who helped to take the photos in Margaret's absence. One of the quilts was a pattern called Garden of the Gods. The surface was embellished with organza to great effect. The piecing could be seen shadowing through the organza. Anne Balanyk had a few NICU quilts and encouraged the members to make some. They are quick and a good stash buster.

The next Guild meeting is June 24 th. Jane adjourned the meeting at 8:55 pm

Submitted May 30, 2024, by Donna May