

Nanaimo Quilters Guild

Volume 42 Issue 5 ~ January 2026

www.islandquilters.ca

Next Meeting

Wednesday, January 21, Nanaimo Curling Club, doors open at 1:00 and 6:00 pm, meeting starts at 1:30 and 6:30 pm

All about our May 2026 Quilt Show

Next Executive Meeting (Zoom) January 14 , 1:30 pm

Newsletter Deadline

January 22

Refreshments:

In January, members whose last names start with the letters I, J, K and L, it's your turn to bring goodies to the meeting for our coffee / tea break

In our newsletters' online version, blue lettering gives a live link to websites and email addresses. Best viewed in Google Chrome (may not work on a Mac).

See what our Guild and its members are up to. You can submit photos of your quilts to our Facebook and Instagram sites. Click on the FACEBOOK link [here](#)

Guild Website

The Members Only section password is printed on the back of your membership card. If you have something of interest for our Guild web site, please send it to Sue Creba at smcreba@gmail.com

Presidents' Pen

Happy New Year, everyone! Our December seasonal celebration was well received, with lots of wonderful finger-food, abundant door- and raffle prizes and even an opportunity to learn the names of new quilt blocks!

We hope the hustle-bustle of the holiday season is settling down and that you can see a noticeable difference in the increasing daylight.

We are now only a few months away from our Guild's triennial quilt show, Material Magic. Did you also make a resolution to focus on the projects you're planning to enter? How about the O! Canada show challenge? As we enter the depths of winter, may we all have the time to settle in to quilt-making in earnest. Even those not entering anything in the Show can get involved, since this month we will have a chance to sign up for the many volunteer roles that will be available before and during the event.

Another thing to look forward to this month is seeing the progress on the Farm Girl Vintage 2 Blocks of the Month. By the time we meet we've all have had lots of time to work on those blocks. Check them out at the meeting - there is still time to join if you might be interested. It's the ideal scrap-buster.

And speaking of getting involved, this month (Jan 31st) we will also have our annual Quilt Bee, another Guild initiative that encourages us to pool our creative resources to make quilts for the many worthy charities we support. Together, we strengthen our Quilting community.

Happy January, folks. Stay Warm and Sew On!

Your Co-Presidents Ellen Ellis & Kathleen Kane

Quilt Bee January 31, 2026

Oliver Woods Recreation Centre doors open 8:45 a.m. until 3:45 p.m. Please bring your machines and tools. There will be cutting boards, irons and boards for your use. This is a potluck lunch so bring something to share as well as your own dishes and utensils and a mug for coffee, which we'll provide. If you have finished quilts to donate and want to bring, please do so even if you are not sewing. Batting and backing fabric will be available as well as kits to complete. Please contact Joan Irving if you have any questions.

Guild Program and Workshops

Consider joining us on Wednesday March 4th for a workshop with Darcy Hunter **COLLAGE FLOWER MINI ART QUILT (via zoom)**

"Why not try a fun collage technique to create one of four flowers? Everyone in your group will choose a flower to create. They can use their own fabrics or buy a kit to create the artwork. The collage can be mounted onto an 8 by 10-inch mat board, or they have the option to create a 10 by 12.5-inch wall hanging. This is a beginner/intermediate workshop." Visit her website to see Darcy's work and learn more about her art. <https://www.darcyhunterart.com>

Carolyn Hunter, Programs Committee

Placemats

There was a bit of a miscount of placemats turned in at the evening meeting in November, the count was actually a total of 29 placemats for the November meetings. There was 1 placemat turned in at the December meeting, giving us a grand total of 438 placemats and 37 tea cozies. Our Christmas giving was very generous. The Guild donated in December as follows:

Meals on Wheels Nanaimo 195 placemats * Meals on Wheels Gabriola Island 58 placemats * Meals on Wheels Ladysmith 17 placemats, 17 matching tea cozies * Salvation Army Christmas Hamper Program 130 placemats, 20 tea cozies. **Total: 400 placemats and 37 tea cozies.**

I realize this only leaves us with 38 placemats and we need 100 by May for the Show, but I am sure the Guild will be able to make this up over the next 4 months with no problem. I am counting on your generosity. I will have more batting to hand out at the January meeting and you will have scraps left over from the quilts made for the show. Thank you all so much for your contribution. The people who receive these placemats are very grateful.

Your Placemat Committee: Heather, Norma & Maureen

Library

Welcome back. Books signed out in November are due this month. Many of the date due slips in your books read January 21, 2025. They should read January 21, 2026.

We have begun weeding out some of our older titles. They were brought to the December meeting for members to take. The ones we still have will be on the "Free Table" in January.

We have two new books to share with you (photo below). Labels begin with B-25- and are displayed on the window ledge:

Pillow Talk by Edyta Sitar of Laundry Basket Quilts

Tabletastic! 3 by Doug Leko

The Library Team



Placemats from the November evening & December meetings



Thread Spools Needed

Joan Irving will be collecting thread spools at our meetings for Canada Comforts Society.



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Donation Quilts

In December, we received 2 lap quilts. Thank you to everyone who made such beautiful donations. We have now distributed quilts to all of our community partners.

We are beginning to train anyone who is interested in the Committee for the upcoming Guild year. We have four new volunteers so far. Please see any member of our Committee if you would like to volunteer next year for Donations.

We have new small labels, batting, and lots of new backings available.

We have received a number of quilt tops from Marlene Jones, complete with batting, backing and binding, if you would like to finish one of them to donate. An easy project!

The Donation Quilts Committee



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NQG Quilt Show May 28-31 2026

The new year is here and so we are on the final countdown to our show.

For our January meeting I will be going over the changes and what you can expect. There will also be a demo on how to register your quilts. Volunteer signup will also start at this time. Please try to attend the January meeting as there will be a lot of new information to go over.

In the new year we will start with the raffle ticket sales. This is a very big part of the fund raising for the show, so be prepared to sell some tickets. For now and until the show starts, help get the word out. Tell everyone.

Next meeting is on January 22, 1-3 pm at Bowen Country Grocer. *Thanks, Janet and Bonnie, co-conveners. Janet quiltyjan@gmail.com 250-245-5936*

Guild Quilt Show Challenge

Our Quilt Show Challenge "O' Canada!" was revealed to Guild members at the November meeting. Packages are \$4 and will be available at our meetings. Approximately one fat quarter of three assorted fabrics to be worked with plus your own additions. You have until the May meeting to hand your entry in. *Barb Kerfoot & Laura Beswick, Show Year Challenge Coordinators*

Quilt Show Boutique

The Boutique will be open for the 2026 Quilt Show to members who wish to sell their wares. In February we will have a table where you can pick up your vendor packages. These packages will have information about the boutique and how the "system" works for tagging your products. We will not be allowing items that are knitted, crocheted, or felted, fabric only, and please no scented items. Some ideas that were popular at our last show were microwave bowls, placemats, runners, first aid purses, bookmarks, aprons, oven towels, and a record number of quilts of all sizes. If you need inspiration or ideas try Pinterest. Look at those scraps and rethink how you can use them up outside of making a quilt. *Linda Macey*

The guild boutique sale is open to all guild members whose membership was paid by October 2025.

The boutique is looking for a wide variety of good quality items made from fabric. This excludes all knitted, felted or crocheted items.

Each member is invited to bring up to 100 items in total. Member's name and guild number must be on ALL totes and lids. If you have more than 100 items please contact the Boutique coordinator to discuss.

Items having identifying business labels, business cards, etc will be pulled from the sale.

Members putting items into the boutique are required to volunteer a shift in the boutique on each day of the show. Sign up sheets will be available for you to book your times.

Each member decides their own prices. The guild will be taking 10% off your total sales to cover boutique expenses and anything over this goes to benefit the guild, so take that into consideration when pricing your items.

Do not multi price your items, e.g. buy one at \$10.00 or buy two for \$15.00.

Props...bring whatever special props you want with your items. If you have a large prop, let us know before set up day to ensure we can accommodate it.

Members with fewer items can expect all items will be put out to start. Members with a larger number of items will not have all items put out to start. Boutique items will be replenished throughout the day by committee members as space becomes available.

Items are to be checked into the boutique on set up day (Thursday) between 8 and 11:30.

We will help with labelling corrections but do not have time to do corrections for you. This will take some time as together we inventory all items in your tote and check they match your inventory sheet and that the price tags are correct.

Items will be ready for pickup (Sunday) between 10 and 12:30 on first come first served basis. Again together we will inventory what items have not been sold and match this with your inventory sheet.

The Treasurer will issue cheques for sold items as soon as the quilt show accounts are completed.

(continued on page 5)



Carol Grant Powell

Owner

250-667-6535
carols_corner@yahoo.com

#101 - 890 Grace Street,
Nanaimo, BC, V9R 2T3

Quilt Show Boutique continued

A boutique committee member will be available to answer questions at all guild meetings and we are looking forward to seeing your creations and to having a great sale.

The Boutique Committee 2025 Contact:

Linda Macey 250-758-6811 wrmacey@gmail.com

Laverna Anderson 250-756-0446 lorrie.anderson@telus.net

Moire Porter 250-754-6457 moire@uniserve.com

Nancy Lutes 250-751-0251 dnlutes@telus.net

Sharon Horncastle 250-758-8107 smhorncastle@gmail.com

Sandy Blakey 250-754-5310 sandscb07@gmail.com

Calling for Depot Captain Volunteers!

Main duties of a Depot Captain:

1. Collect exhibitors' quilts - at your convenience, at your home. * **NOTE: NON-SMOKING ENVIRONMENT ONLY** *
2. Deliver these quilts on the morning of Thursday, May

28th between 9:00 and 9:30 AM to the "Quilt Hanging" team at the curling rink.

3. On Sunday, May 31st, starting at 10:00 AM, receive the same quilts from the "Take Down" committee and redistribute them to their rightful owners.

We have 14 volunteers who have already signed up, we are still looking for 9 more for the following areas:

1 for Duncan/North Cowichan/Crofton

3 - Ladysmith/Saltair/Chemainus

1 - South Nanaimo (South end of Jingle Pot Rd., Westwood Lake, Downtown and Harewood)

2 - Central Nanaimo (North or 5th St. Turnoff on the Parkway and north of Comox Rd. To Mostar/Rutherford Rd.)

2 - Nanaimo North (North of Mostar/Rutherford Rd. To Aulds Rd. And south of Dickinson Rd.) designs.

Sandra Dobson and Leslie Millward

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OPEN: Tuesday - Saturday 9:30-5:30
CLOSED: Sunday, Monday & Holidays

General Meeting Minutes of December 10, 2025

Call to order: President Kathleen Kane called the meeting to order at 1:34 pm.

Hospitality: Members attending: 49.

Motion: Moved by Christine Hustins that the Minutes of the November 19, 2025 meeting as published in the newsletter be accepted. Seconded by Tuesday Shay **Carried.**

Announcements: The NRGH Auxiliary will hold their Sale in the Hospital lobby on November 28 and 29 from 10-4. All proceeds go to NRGH.

Correspondence: A letter from Nanaimo/Ladysmith Schools Foundation requesting the funds for our bursary.

Treasurer's report: will be presented at the January meeting.

Committee Reports:

Challenge: There are currently 3 challenge packages left.

Quilt Bee: Joan Irving announced that the sign up sheet is available today.

Library: Pat Ryan reported that they are starting to cull some of the older books. Members are invited to take any that are displayed on the table.

Program

Ellen Ellis presented the members with a perplexing cryptic puzzle about Quilt blocks which generated a lot of merriment.

The members then enjoyed a delicious variety of savory and sweet treats to celebrate the holiday season.

Raffles:

Mystery Fabric – Sarah Beyer and Karen King

Raffles – Jean Pennington, Linda Campbell, Heather Henderson, Laura Beswick, Joanne Van Oosten, Pat Ryan, Kathleen Kane, Barb Kerfoot

Hospitality Draw – Jean Pennington, Teresa Bellinger

Show and Share – Maureen Bryson, Val Ursulak

Adjournment: at 3:21pm.

Submitted by Valerie Ursulak, Secretary

Quilters' Chat

It has been a busy holiday season, but now I am looking forward to some quiet time to sew. There are projects stacked up waiting to be completed, quilt show entries to be considered and ...oh look: something new and off I go... (continued on page 7)



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Quilters' Chat continued

When I first began my quilting journey I found **TeresaDownUnder** on Facebook. Her short videos focussed on specific techniques; with pictures she took me through the steps of making a new block while clearly demonstrating the techniques. Each tutorial included examples of changes in the block using colour or placement to demonstrate the versatility of the block. She still posts most days. You can find her videos at TeresaDownUnder on YouTube and Facebook.

Sam from **Curious Handmade** is a new find for me. She focuses on "sewing made beautifully simple with inspo for all beginners and free resources". The first post I found was about some of her favourite sewing tools, some of which I have and a couple I really must get! Her projects are attractive, useful and look fun to make. Sam's Facebook page is growing rapidly and her webpage is being redesigned as I write this, so much more is coming. <https://linktr.ee/samcurioushandmade> Sam is starting a weekly video on YouTube focusing on a variety of sewing projects: <https://www.youtube.com/@curioushandmadeuk>

When I began quilting I wasn't going to build a stash, I would only buy what I needed for each project! I am now on my third bookcase of fabric, some is waiting for the possibilities and some is the extra fabric left over

due to careful planning or buying extra for the cutting "mistakes". The rest is the smaller bits sorted by colour, ready for sewing projects. This is all the result of trying to catch up on all the time I wasn't quilting by making as many quilts as I can. As a result I have made quite a few quilts and other sewing projects and have given many to family, friends and as donations. As they leave the house I think "I will always remember that one because of the time and effort I put in" and then I don't because there are new materials and patterns to swirl around in my brain. But, I don't want to lose all those memories so I started looking for solutions. I found a digital recording program online to house my quilt photos and information. It was easy to learn and has helped me organize my records. It is fun to look back at what I have created. I have just begun the recording and these darker winter days are a great time to spend a little time each week getting the file updated. Do you keep a record of your quilts? Is it paper and pen, photos, digital or something else....? Let me know!

If you have a recommendation for the next newsletter, please send in your idea along with why you are making this recommendation and the web link to: ellenellis53@gmail.com

Wishing you a wonderful New Year and time for quilting,
Ellen



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