

**From the quilting table of Patricia
CQA Central Ontario Regional Rep
December, 2023**

I have just returned from travelling abroad and found this trip very educational on many different levels. Who knew that so many of our quilt patterns were present in architectural details from many centuries ago? The Cueva Pintada Museum & Archaeological Park in Gran Canaria is an active archaeological site with ancient indigenous cave paintings. Geometric shapes were used to express rituals or calendars; it is believed. What I was seeing were half square triangles in red, black, or white pigments.

I also visited the National Museum of the Azulejo in Lisbon, Portugal. Azulejo is the art of creating the tiles that are everywhere in Portugal. This artform began in Seville, Spain. The tiles are usually 5"- 6" square. The making of the tiles, placement, gridding etc. was well explained and it reminded me of how we set up our blocks & their placement in our quilts too. Colour combinations depended on the natural materials available to create the paints. Looking at blues, yellows and whites reminded me of what we now often call "French Country". The tiles I was looking at were from the 14th – 16thC. Again, elements of Ohio Stars, Churn Dash, and geometric shadow style square patterns were present.

As quilters, we look at things with a different lens. When I taught a novice learn to quilt course I always found it rewarding when my students would start to share how they could "see" the way quilt blocks were pieced based on the skills they were learning in my class. They were starting to break down the quilts from the images that they were looking at. This is what I was doing in my travels.

**Save the dates June 19-22, 2024
for Quilt Canada Edmonton.**

The CQA website is having new information added frequently so continue to check for updates. Hotels have been added as well as the bio's of workshop instructor's, lecturers are now available. Early bird registration for members with a 10% discount will be Feb. 2nd - March 5th, 2024. General public registration begins March 6th, 2024.

Trend Tex Challenge Kits

There are still kits available for the Trend Tex Challenge. I have kits available for purchase, \$25.00 members, \$35.00 non-members. This will save you the shipping and tax. If you live in Durham Region we could arrange to meet prior to Dec. 9th otherwise order your kit from the website.

Youth Challenge

There are kits available for the Youth Challenge. Perhaps you would like to mentor a young person in your community. I would be more than happy to sponsor the child as a CQA member is required to sponsor the entrant if the mentor isn't a member.

CQA Rosette Invitational Returns

Planning a quilt show next year? Remember to apply for your CQA Rosette. It can be awarded to Best of Show or Viewers Choice. Be sure to take a picture of the winning quilt with the award AND the quilter. Upload to the CQA website to participate in the Guild Rosette Invitational. All three (3) items must be in the photo to qualify for the invitational.

CQA Mystery Quilt Along 2024 Oatmeal Raisin

Kathryn Wilson Tucker from Next Steps Quilt Designs has designed our newest Mystery Quilt for 2024. The fabric requirements are now available. New clues (patterns) will be released on the 3rd Friday of each month until June. Level of difficulty is for beginners. Perhaps there are some novice quilters who are new to your guild? This might be an excellent project to carry one through the winter and spring. And it's FREE!

Final Remarks

Thank-you to the quilt guilds who have graciously forwarded me their newsletters. I hope that other quilt guilds will consider adding me to their email to help me see what's going on in my region and how I can help. Perhaps you will consider inviting me to do a presentation to your guild? Many of you will be moving to ZOOM for the winter months and I would be more than happy to be invited to speak to your guild. My contact information is: oncrep@canadianquilter.com

To access specifics to all the above information the CQA website is:
canadianquilter.com

Until January!