

**From the Quilting Table of Patricia
CQA Central Ontario Regional Rep
April/May, 2024**

As it continues to be a cool, wet spring I am not distracted by having to work in my garden (yet) but continuing to enjoy quilting. I attended a presentation recently about the importance of labelling my quilt and the kinds of information that could be included on the label. When I taught a novice quilter course, I always stressed the importance of labelling the quilt to include the name of the pattern, designer, quilter's name, etc. My go to expression of the time was 'the police would always find the quilt, not the silverware but not know how to return the quilt to its owner as there was no label.' For some families, that quilt could have had more value and be a greater loss than the silverware.

This year has seen a revival of quilt shows throughout our area. I have just completed a small wall hanging. My quilt label is much more detailed than what I would have done in the past from what I have recently learned. I plan to show this in my quilt guild's fall quilt show. I have been to several quilt shows recently and one of the things that I like to do is read the write-ups beside the quilts. Although I have observed that few people do this, I find the information provided to be useful as I have followed up with searching out the pattern identified, or technique used. I have, sadly, seen some very incomplete write-ups.

I am hoping you can consider the following information as best practices. Some examples that I have seen: Source: 'in a magazine or in a book I own'. No mention of the name of the magazine/book, the artist who designed the quilt, or the name of the quilt. Perhaps, the quilt was given no name. Indicate this but also indicate what you have decided to name it. Who quilted the piece? Was it a collaboration? I have seen this information left blank. Am I to assume that the name of the quilt owner also quilted it? Was it done on a domestic machine, sit-down longarm, or longarm machine? Perhaps ruler work, free-motion quilting, or a pre-programmed digital format was used? Was it the quilters original design? Was a digital program used to assist the designer or quilter? Add the name of the digital program to help inform the viewer. They may want to try it out!

What story will you include in your write-up? I have read some very heartfelt write-ups sharing very emotional events that inspired the artist to quite funny stories behind the making of the quilt. This is referred to as the artist's statement. During a juried show, a judge could request that the artist statement be read to them as it may include techniques and/or materials used in the creation of the piece. I have been on the jury floor when a judge asked for the artist's statement to be read to clarify if a particular thread was used in the quilting, as there was prize money attached to the use of this sponsor's product. Upon reflection I will include that my wall quilt was from a specific sewing club, the year that I bought the kit (decades ago I might add), designer unknown, the techniques used such as trapunto, template work, curved piecing, free-motion quilting, etc. As your guild gets ready for their quilt show, consider enhancing the information that you include in your artist statement. Consider having proof-readers too! Wishing the guilds much success in their shows this year.

Quilt Canada, Edmonton, AB June 19th-22nd, 2024

Registration for non-members is currently open and some classes are already full. The hotels are available for booking. A list of the 67 confirmed vendors is on the CQA website and continues to be updated as further confirmed vendors are added.

The jurying of the quilts has been completed. Acceptance notices have been sent out via email. Congratulations to all who will be showing their quilts in Edmonton!

It is not too late to submit the following quilts for Quilt Canada.

- **2024 Youth Challenge:** Submissions accepted February 1st – April 30th, 2024.
- **Trend Tex Challenge:** Judged quilts accepted until April 30th, 2024. Quilt donations not to be judged but for the silent auction must be received by May 24th, 2024.

Good luck to all participants!

The website is now open to register as a volunteer to Quilt Canada Edmonton.

CQA Volunteer Opportunities

The positions of Membership Director and Communications Director are currently vacant CQA Board positions.

My 2-year position as Central Ontario Regional Representative will end this June. I am looking for a replacement. I have a binder of information to pass along. CQA National Meetings are once a month via Zoom, and it is exciting to hear what is going on across Canada in the quilt world.

Perhaps you have a talent that you can share through volunteering?

Worth Repeating

What is going on in your guild this year? Have you had a show or are you planning a show later this year? Did you have an activity that was remarkably successful in fundraising? I encourage your guild to share these experiences through the guild reports section on the CQA website. This is not meant to be a taxing process. Simply fill out the form with a brief description of your activity in 500 words or less. Pictures are welcome and easy to include. This report is not meant to reflect a year's worth of activities.

Consider using the calendar on the CQA website to promote your guild's activities. Include that upcoming show or perhaps the guild is hosting a speaker to your guild meeting that is open to the public. This could be a way to generate income to increase paying guests for this presentation at your guild meeting. This is free for member guilds and \$25.00 for non-member guilds. I hope you take advantage of this.

All the above information can be found at canadianquilter.com

Until next time.