

## Minutes of Log Cabin Quilters

March 15, 2022

1. The meeting began at 7:04. There were 34 participants.
2. Erin welcomed us to the meeting. She announced that this was the last Zoom meeting. The next meeting will be in-person at Silver Threads in Petawawa on April 19. Social Hour will be between 6 and 7. The meeting will begin at 7. We will request that people wear masks.

On Saturday, March 19, we will be having another Sew Day. The cost is \$5. There is a waiting list. Connie said she would help people make a wallet.

There has been a request from Wendy and Mark Henderson that we use their business name (Happy Quilter) when labeling quilts they have quilted.

The quilting year is coming to an end and Erin reminded us that the following positions will be open for election during our General Meeting in May: Co-Presidents; Program. If these positions are not filled, it will be difficult to continue with the guild.

For the Quilt show, if you are filling out a hard copy form, please send a picture of that form and send to Cathy Fisher(catfisher2002@gmail.com).

If you need quilts quilted by Wendy and Mark for the show, please get the quilts to them by April 19. Items entered into the Silent Auction will have a minimum starting bid. A large quilt will be defined as anything bigger than 60"x84". A lap quilt is considered to be a small quilt. The category for the Block of the Month is for those who did the Block of the Month from our Guild. Quilt Tops must be completed but not necessarily quilted by the April 30 deadline.

Our April Meeting will be your last chance to enter anything for the boutique.

3. Treasurer's Report (Janna Keeling): We have \$5210. Janna paid \$300 to Silver Threads to pay for our venue rental for in-person meetings and our Sew Days.
4. Membership (Joanne Jefferies): Nothing to report.
5. Notion of the Month (Cynthia Bell): Cynthia presented a custom-made stitch ripper. The man who makes these special devices will be at our Quilt Show. Some will have a large stitch ripper at one end and a small stitch ripper at the other end. Some will have a stitch ripper at one end and a needle threader at the other. The cost for these pen-like devices is \$40.
6. Tip of the Month (Jenn Grahl): Jenn showed us a snazzy way to store our bobbins. She discovered this method from her friend Jo while she was on a quilt retreat. She bought some tubing at a hardware store for about \$10. She cut the tubing to the size of each bobbin with a cut slit for the thread. Then she put

the cut tubes on top of each bobbin. Storing bobbins in this way ensures that the thread in each bobbin stays in place.

Jenn also demonstrated interesting ways to use the "Purple Thang" which can be purchased at Algonquin Sewing Centre. First she showed us how one end has a flat square which you can use as a guide while sewing. Then she showed us an opening eye which you can use to slip your string through if you're stringing a bag etc. The pointed end of this device is useful for pushing out corners so they lay flat.

7. Quilt Show (Faith Van Dam): Everything is coming along quite nicely. At our April in-person meeting, Faith will have sign-up sheets ready for us to pick jobs for the show: Admissions; Tea Room; Members' Boutique; Raffle Ticket Table. There have been lots of donations for the Members Boutique. The deadline for entering anything to this Boutique is at our meeting on April 19. Joyce Layman will also have a sign-up list for food donations.

8. Wendy Henderson - Tonight's Program, "Often Ignored Quilting Tips"

- Measuring: Erin presented the importance of measuring and cutting at every step. She showed us how to measure squares and half-square triangles. It is important to draw the line on the square using a frixin pen instead of freely trying to sew without a line drawn. It is also important to trim at every step to ensure that when pieces are sewn together that they lay flat.
- The Iron: Cynthia presented the difference between "press" and "ironing". When you press, it is an up/down motion - no pushing. Pushing the iron distorts the fabric. Once you have pressed an item, let it cool down before you work on it. It is easy to distort the fabric when it is still warm. It is important to take the time to iron the blocks while you are working on them.
- Rotary Cutters: When it comes to rotary cutters, it is important to always close the blade when finished. Remember when changing the blade to lay the pieces in front of you in the order they come off. Put the parts back on in the same order once the blade is changed. If you are getting a blade from a package of more than one, the blade will be very oily. If you're interested in sharpening your blade, there are gismos out there.
- Rulers: When cutting fabric with rulers, try to use the same ruler because all manufacturers are slightly different. The same goes for cutting mats and measuring tapes.
- Seam Rippers: When unstitching on a quilt top, just cut through every third or fourth stitch and turn it over and pull the entire thread out. If you turn the seam ripper so that the red ball is at the bottom, it is possible to run the blade along the entire seam to pull the stitches out.
- Quilts: The best way to care for a quilt is to actually use them instead of keeping them in a bag. Leave your quilts out. When you wash a quilt, use gentle detergent on the delicate cycle. Use colour catchers to retain the colour of your quilt. It is also possible to put vinegar in the rinse cycle to save the quilt's colour. Quilts can also be put in the dryer.
- Borders: Wendy drew our attention to Donna's Block of the Month video on how to add borders to a quilt. She also drew our attention to the excerpt about adding borders in

the March newsletter. It is important to measure properly and pin when adding a border so that the fabric does not pucker when it is being quilted.

9. Show and Tell.

10. Our next meeting will be April 19 (in-person) and the topic will be "Weighted Blankets and Memory Quilts with Mary-Ann Vannere". The meeting ended at 8:30.