



SUNSHINE SNIPPETS

President's Message

I have to admit, there are things in life that I just don't get. My brain can't wrap itself around some thoughts. For instance, I can't understand string theory in physics.

I don't understand how I can be sitting quietly, get up and have a sudden pain in my knee, or ankle when I have done nothing to cause any problem.

I don't get how Bakers think you can get four dozen cookies out of their chocolate chip recipe. I know it's an old recipe, but I find it hard to believe that people in the 40's thought cookies the size of dewdrops were sufficient.

There's a lot about quilting that confuses me too. For instance, how can I line up my fabric accurately, carefully measure twice, cut with the rotary cutter, measure again, check my quarter inch seam allowance and sew it accurately, and still have blocks that don't exactly fit each other? It's almost mystical.

Or, how come when I am sewing a number of tricky pieces and I fine tune my approach by trial and error until I get a method that I am sure works perfectly...and then it doesn't. It works four times and then doesn't on the fifth. What's with that?

Of course, I suppose that's part of the charm and excitement of quilting. We do our best with whatever section we are working on and then when we have completed it and are lining it up with another section or pressing it out, we hold our breath until we see how accurately our work has come out. Every time it is exact, there is a little sense of satisfaction, a small feeling of triumph. Every time it isn't exact we are perplexed, much like when a friend tells us she doesn't like chocolate. How can it be?

But I digress. Back to things that I am confused about. How can I have been sewing for 50 years, been an avid collector of sewing gadgets for all that time and still end up signing up to 'thimbles & things' twelve day sale? For the uninitiated, Sue puts one or two things on sale each day at a modest price reduction, you tell her you're interested, and she adds it to your bundle. At the end of the 12 days you go in, pay and pick up your bundle? So far I've spent about \$70 dollars.

And it's only day THREE!

However, I didn't get to this age without learning how to make excuses. I once had a beloved aunt who told me every Christmas she bought herself a gift and labeled it, "From the one who loves you most." So this is my gift to myself. At this frantic time of year when most thoughts are on the tasks I do for others, it's rather nice to think of myself. I hope as you continue the preparations for this Christmas season, you, too, put yourself in the equation in some way that will give you pleasure. It's not really decadent because I think my aunt had it right. You are the person who should love you the most. From that sense of self worth comes all sorts of good things which radiate out to those around you.

Hopefully, one of the indulgences you will be giving yourself this season is time to come to the Quilt Guild Christmas gathering. Here we will have a few nibbles, chat with friends and fellow enthusiasts, possibly exchange a homemade Christmas ornament, bring our latest projects for show and share and generally have a nice time. No program is scheduled so no need to learn anything or feel inadequate after seeing 312 award winning quilts all of different styles that some quilter did in one year in between studying for her doctorate in physiology and raising three kids on an alpaca farm. Nope. Just relax with the rest of the mere mortals in our Guild. You deserve it.

Mission Statement: The Orillia Quilters' Guild is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting interest and excellence in quilting.

Meeting at: Royal Canadian Legion, Downstairs
Mississaga St., Orillia
Third Wednesday of the month

President	Gillian Isnor-McVeigh
Past President	Frances Westgarth
Vice President	Leslie Quinn
Secretary	Meryl Drake
Treasurer	Marilyn Lippert

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OUTREACH

Cuddle quilts were delivered to all agencies that needed them.



PROGRAM

There is no 'Program', as such, just eatin' and drinkin' but show and share still goes,



COOKIE CREW

December

Guild Executive

January

Annual Pot Luck
at
12:00 noon



Sunshine Quilt Show

Hello Quilters

Just a reminder that there are lots of Sunshine Quilt Show 2016 Raffle Tickets to sign out and sell or give for Christmas!

I'll be at the door to our meeting room as usual should you need some, or have stubs and money to return.

Last week Gillian Isnor-McVeigh, Lynn Fisher, Marilyn Lippert and myself (and my mother-in-law!) sold 80 raffle tickets over two evenings at Trillium Manor prior to their family Christmas dinners. Everyone who purchased tickets was motivated by admiring the beautiful first and second prize quilts on display and learning that all the proceeds of the raffle will be going back to Trillium Manor.

Let's get those tickets sold!

Leslie Quinn



MEMBERSHIP

Membership fees are due for 2016.

Application is attached or can be downloaded from the website under "About Us"



WHITE GLOVES

December

Elaine MacInnes
Patt Carter
Penny Fitchett
Marcia Stephen

January

Merry Christmas my friends

If I were old Santa, you know what I'd do
I'd dump silly gifts that are given to you
And deliver some things just inside your front door
Things you have lost, but treasured before.
I'd give you back all your maidenly vigour,
and to go along with it, a neat tiny figure.
Then restore the old colour that once graced your hair
before rinses and bleaches took residence there.
I'd bring back the shape with which you were gifted
so things now suspended need not be uplifted.
I'd draw in your tummy and smooth down your back
Till you'd be a dream in those tight fitting slacks.

I'd remove all your wrinkles and leave only one chin
So you wouldn't spend hours rubbing grease on your skin
You'd never have flashes or queer dizzy spells
and you wouldn't hear noises like ringing of bells.

No sore aching feet and no corns on your toes
no searching for spectacles when they're right on your nose.
Not a shot would you take in your arm, hip or fanny
from a doctor who thinks you're a nervous old granny.

You'd never have a headache, so no pills would you take.
and no heating pad needed since your muscles won't ache.
Yes, if I were Santa, you'd never look stupid
You'd be a cute little chick with the romance of a cupid.

I'd give a lift to your heart when those wolves start to whistle
and the joys of your heart would be light as a thistle.
But alas! I'm not Santa. I'm simply just me
the matronest of matrons you ever did see.

I wish I could tell you all the symptoms I've got
But I'm due at my doctor's for an estrogen shot.
Even though we've grown older this wish is sincere
Merry Christmas to you and a Happy New Year!

chris@leapfrogdigital.com

Sugarplums

A sugarplum is a treat served during Victorian times. It's been updated, ingredient wise, with dried apricots, pecans, dates, raisins, ground vanilla wafers, sugar and orange juice. When they're rolled and sugared, they kind of look like a small plum. The sugaring technique is a pre-canning and freezing technique. The taste is quite sophisticated but still homey.

You can dry your fruits with a dehydrator or in the oven. Firm fruit works the best. Do not store in airtight containers, store them in a cardboard box, in between sheets of waxed paper. They will keep as long as store-bought dried fruits.

1 pound of plums

1/2 pound of granulated sugar

pint of water

2 pounds of granulated sugar

2 tablespoons of water

Begin by making a thin syrup with half a pound of granulated sugar and a pint of water.

Slit a pound of plums down the seam and put them into the syrup. Poach gently until just tender, be sure they remain covered with syrup, or they will lose their colour.

Cool, cover and refrigerate overnight. The following day make a thick syrup with 2 pounds of granulated sugar and 2 tablespoons of water.

Boil until a little dropped in a bowl of cold water makes a thick but soft ball.

Remove from heat and allow to become cold.

Then carefully drain the plums as completely as possible from the first syrup and place them gently in the second thick syrup.

Reheat and scald only until the plums look clear, taking care that they are completely covered in the syrup.

Allow to cool again.

Empty them into a shallow ceramic or glass bowl, cover tightly and allow them to develop flavour in the refrigerator for a week.

Take them out and spread them apart on dishes or plates.

Cover loosely with parchment paper, put them in a warm, dry place and turn them every day until dry.

If you put them in a very low warming oven, turning them every half hour, at first, then every hour, etc., they can be dried much more quickly. At this stage a home fruit dryer can also be used if desired.

Newsletter & Webmaster**Pat Hill*****A Message To All Readers***

This is your Newsletter. If you have a story, tip or recipe that you would like to share please forward to Pat Hill by the second Friday of the month.

by E-mail (orilliaquilters@gmail.com)
or in writing

**Next Meeting
January 20, 2016****Don't Forget:**

Name Tag
Show & Share
Mug for Coffee/Tea
\$ for 50/50 Draw
Library Books

50/50 Winners - November

Susan Sullivan Joanne Colton
Don't forget to come early to sell 50/50 tickets

Permission is required to have photos of members and their work published on the website.
If you DO NOT give permission, please advise the webmaster.

Quilters Survival Basket

This makes a great gift. Place all the items along with a print out of what each item represents in a small basket. Then use cellophane and a ribbon to seal the basket.

- Magnifier: Remember to never blow your mistakes out of proportion.
- Finger protector: To remember that you are wrapped up in this wonderful piece of work...Enjoy!
- Toothpick: to remember not to be too picky about your work just relax and do it.
- Paper clips: to help hold things together like the patterns.
- Spool of quilting thread: to help tight up the loose ends.
- Eraser: to wipe away the mistakes you make
- Rubber Band: so you can stretch beyond your current ability.
- Mounds candy bar: to give you mounds of encouragement in your work
- Jelly Beans: for all the colours in your creations
- Pen and Journal: to write down new ideas and record the old ones
- Hand lotion: to ease the pain from the tired hands after a hard days work
- between needles: for all your sharp ideas
- Safety pins: just like your basting you are holding it all together
- Piece of batting: to remind you to seek out a comfortable place to work
- Several pieces of remnants: to show out of a little comes wonderful things
- Disposable camera: picture all your hard work finished
- Lollipop: lick all those tough stitches Aspirin: for all those harder projects to come
- Chocolate: for all the breaks you will need
- Careful gum: to remind you to have fun while you work
- Batteries: so you will keep going and going and going
- Teabag: have a cup of tea and relax you did a wonderful job on the quilt!!!!

