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The Country Register of Ontario
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Meet our cover artist:

Bernadette Deming



Bernadette Deming was born and raised in New York, where she currently resides. She and her husband, Marty, live on 100 peaceful acres surrounded by wildlife. She loves spending time with her three children and their friends. She prefers the simpler things in life and enjoys decorating with twigs and bird nests, eggs and leaves, and things from nature. Bernadette's hobbies are bird watching and gardening. She also collects ice cream and old-fashioned candy themed antiques.

Bernadette has painted all of her life and remembers painting on stones when she was a child. At the age of twelve, she participated in her first craft show and has been creating things ever since. Bernadette likes to sculpt clay Santas and snowmen, but her true passion is painting. Her artwork is best described as American primitive. She enjoys painting with acrylics and she looks forward to developing new ideas and having a ball painting! Bernadette looks for inspiration everywhere and tries to find humor and whimsy in everyday life. She thanks God for the gift that He has given her and she appreciates the happiness that her work brings to others. Her best friend says that Bernadette's paintings make her smile . . . she occasionally tries to "steal" artwork when she comes to visit!

To view Bernadette's art prints, go to www.PennyLaneFineArt.com or call Penny Lane Fine Art at 800-273-5263 for more information.

Our Search for Cover Artwork —

Across Canada and the U.S, you can always tell *The Country Register* by its cover. Our publishers seek to find cover art or photos from the province/state the paper represents. To that end, we are seeking the work of artists from Ontario to feature on our covers. The art must be in good taste and consistent with the theme of the papers. If you would like your work to be considered, please send an email indicating your interest to OntarioCountryRegister@gmail.com



Letting Great Grandma's Treasures Go

by Becky J. Dunlap

It's hard letting Great Grandma's treasures go. What do you do with Great Grandma's vase and all the other vintage items you have been storing for 20+ years? These items have been in you and your spouse's family for years and you are tired of storing them. You may be having health or financial issues, or you are getting ready to downsize or move. You have checked with your family members and everyone has said "no, or "not right now." An estate sale or auction is not an option, yard sales are not your thing and you don't want to throw these treasures in the trash bin. It's not about making money—you just want your family items to go to a new home where someone will love them as much as you have. So where do you turn to for help?

Antique stores are often the last option for customers in this situation. As an antique store owner, almost every day someone contacts me asking if we buy or consign vintage items. Having experienced this myself, I know this is a hard emotional experience and I understand what they are going through. I like to encourage customers on this journey and get them to think outside the box. Over the years, I have put together a special 'Suggestion' or 'Aka Help List.'

When you want to gift a special treasure to family members and they say no, they may be concerned that you are not in good health and they want to remember the item always being in your home. Or they think they might be taking it from you. I suggest you let your family know you want to see and enjoy the item in their home while you still can. Don't forget to ask your extended family beyond your immediate family. Often overlooked are the rest of your relatives, the aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews. This might also a good time to gift an admired treasure to a friend.

Check with local museums, historical societies or fraternal organizations for those items that have special connections. Ask a local military museum if they would like Uncle Bob's WWII uniform, metals, photos and his story that has been stored in his footlocker trunk. Your donation will allow many generations to learn more about his and our country's history. Non-profits can give you a tax donation receipt.

I have learned that these vintage items are not just 'things.' They are precious treasures with a special heart connection to us and our pasts. They represent stories to tell. Passing them along to the next generation is a wonderful feeling for those who are caretakers of these inherited family's treasures. To whomever and in whatever manner we "gift" these treasures, we pass along their history and stories for a new generation to take over as caretaker.

Several years ago, I gifted a special family treasure I had to a friend. Their comment was, "Thank you, I now have a new heirloom to pass on to generations in my family."

Becky J. Dunlap has been the owner and restorer for 22 years of Airport Antiques & The Furniture Lady, located in the Pendleton Airport Industrial Park at 1816 NW 51st Street in Pendleton. Learn more at <https://www.pendletonfurniturelady.com/> and on Facebook. Call 541-278-0141 or 888-222-2397.



Past & Present Pincushion

Requirements:

- Ecu (background): 11 cm x 11 cm
- Red (flower and sides): 10 cm x 17 cm
- Green (stem and leaves): 6 cm x 10 cm
- Yellow (heart): 4 cm x 5 cm
- Green (back): 11 cm x 17 cm
- Stuffing
- Lace: 20 cm
- (Freezer paper)
- Matching sewing threads



Cut (All given measurements are without seam allowance):

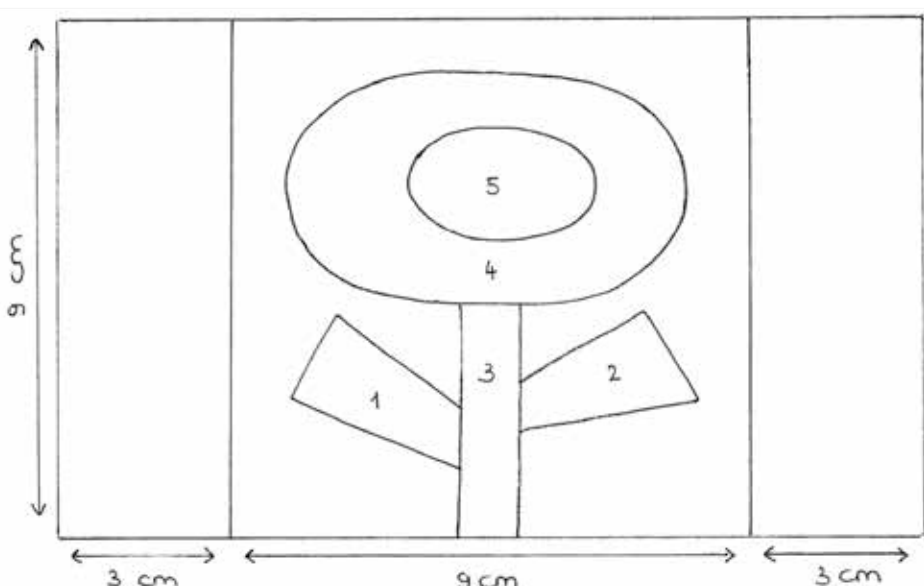
- Ecu: 9 cm x 9 cm
- Red: 2 - 3 cm x 9 cm
- Green: 9 cm x 15 cm

Assembly:

Appliqué the flower onto the 9 cm x 9 cm ecru background fabric. Sew the 3 cm x 9 cm red fabrics to both sides of the flower block and add a piece of lace (see picture).

Place the green fabric, right side up, on the table and place the flower block, right side down, on top. Pin and sew, leaving a 5 cm opening at the bottom. Turn the pincushion right side out, stuff it and sew close.

Happy quilting!



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Building Harmony

Summer Pond

by Jeff Cappis

I love summers out here in Harmony Acres. I love the sweet smell of the forrest under a warm sun, the smell of freshly cut lush grass and the shivers of a cool breeze on a hot day. I can see the milky way at night and the moon is somehow brighter. These things are great but marry them with the sound of the fountain splashing water in our pond and you've got a great experience.

Our pond isn't huge—maybe 25 feet wide and 60 feet long with a dam shaped retaining wall at one end covered in plants. It holds a lot of water. Deer, moose and even birds stop by for a drink.

Back and somewhat above it is our deck. Cathy and I love to sit there talking or reading under our umbrellas, looking down over it all. Any time of day or night, we have our paradise. The place is quite a bit of work to maintain but it's proud work and we get creative with it.

So far, so good. Right?

The last few years have been drier so, by August, the pond is mostly empty. It slowly turns into a mud hole with the water so low the fountain sometimes sprays ick into the air. Kinda reminds me of an oil rig hitting oil.

The animals churn up all this mud trying to get to the water and wind up leaving craters in the pond and muddy footprints all over our lawn. One deer walked out of the pond and into a pile of grass and leaves. I noticed he was still trying to shake them off two days later. I saw two birds get into a mud fight over water left in a footprint. Then, if things weren't ugly enough, a moose got stuck in the mud.

A big moose. A frustrated moose. A big, frustrate and stuck moose. His feet had sunk into the mud. Cathy sat up in her chair on the deck, lowered her sunglasses and looked at me with that "Well, what are you going to do about it" look.

No problem, I have a lot of experience getting hostile moose unstuck from mud. Doesn't everyone? I'm sure Cathy had no idea what to do so I manned up and got an idea. If I could loosen up the mud with more water, the moose could walk out. Yup, I got me a plan.

Moose watched me as I put together the garden hose. He got this "What the heck are you gonna do?" look. When I tested the spray, he got this "Oh, God, no" look just before I accidentally sprayed him in the face.

Now I had a big, frustrated, stuck and insulted moose with a "When I get out of here, buddy, yer gonna die" look. For a moment I considered leaving him there and maybe later turning him into a fountain. Cathy was on the deck giving me a "Well, get on with it" look. This was followed by an "If this goes badly, I may have to find another husband" look.

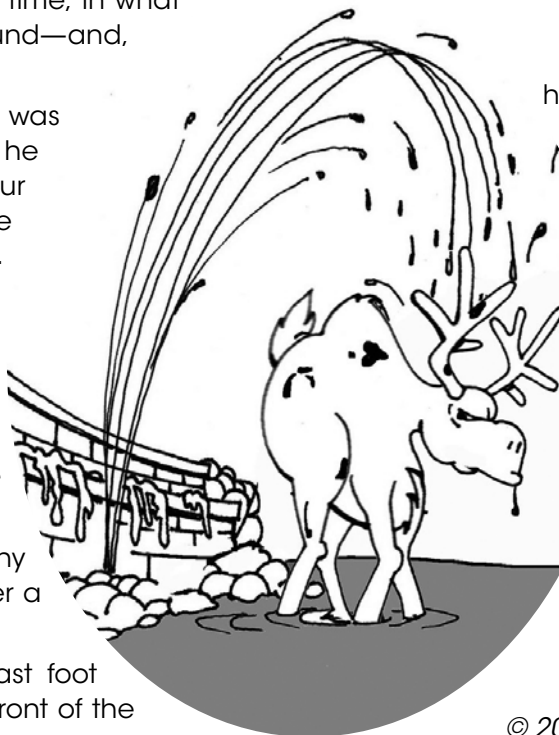
I began spraying around the moose's feet. He managed to get a hind foot free long enough to kick a large blob of mud in my face. Then he got it stuck again. The mud was loosening up, though. Soon he was getting his feet unstuck and then stuck again, one at a time, in what became a slow walk towards more solid ground—and, as it turns out, me.

I hadn't noticed this detail, of course. I was busy trying to aim for his feet. It wasn't until he was five feet away from me with three of his four feet unstuck that I realized I was going to have to deal with a really angry 3/4 ton wild animal. Oh joy.

He was still stuck, but just by one foot, so I had to act fast. I knew Cathy was watching me. So, in order not to look like any kind of a wimp, I put the hose down in a calm and manly way, then ran off screaming like a little girl.

When I got back up on the deck, Cathy gave me a, "What was that?" look. I gave her a "What else could I do?" look.

The hose water loosened up moose's last foot and he got free. He shook mud all over the front of the



house. He looked up at us for a moment, then trampled through Cathy's flower bed, across the plants on the retaining wall and left big muddy footprints all over our lawn. Then, as customary, he killed part of the lawn by leaving some water of his own and sauntered off into the forest.

Understandably, I don't care much for moose anymore but they are welcome—when the pond is full.

Now Cathy and I sit on our muddy deck, covered by our muddy umbrellas in front of our muddy house, looking at our trampled yard and the fountain that spits globs of mud into the air. Maybe the melting snow next spring will wash it all away and we can start over.

Still, I love summers out here in Harmony Acres.

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Vintage Sewing Machine Trade Cards

by Rachel Greco

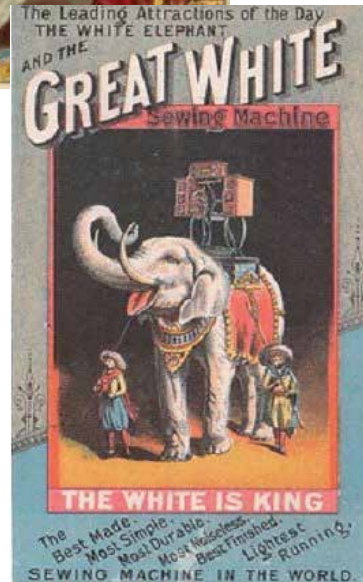
In the late 19th Century, Trade Cards were used to promote and advertise a variety of products.

Like many other businesses, sewing machine companies and dealers distributed these cards to keep their sewing machine brands at the top of the mind.

These Trade Cards featured a variety of scenes that included animals, children playing or working, women sewing, landscapes, and flowers. These themes were all geared toward Victorian sensibilities.

Earlier in the Century, Trade Cards were printed in black and white; however, as printing methods improved, the cards became very colorful. The hope was that women would find these cards attractive and keep them. Then, when deciding to make a purchase, they would remember the sewing machine company featured on the cards they had saved. Many of these Trade Cards were kept in scrapbooks or framed and hung on the wall.

Today, Vintage Trading Cards are quite collectible and can be found at antique stores or on the web. Prices vary depending on condition and rarity of the card.



Rachel Greco owns Grandma's Attic, a traditional quilt shop in Dallas, Oregon. A quilt historian and avid reader, she gives talks on needlework, the role of women in American history, and their connection to fabric. Rachel has written several books and patterns and runs Grandma's Quilt Club, a monthly quilt class where participants collect quilt block kits, learn about quilt history, and make new friends. Contact her at <https://grandmasatticquilting.com>.

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Eat Your Zucchini and Never Be a Meany

by Colleen Gust



Did you hear about the woman who left a zucchini in her car while she went shopping? When she got back, someone had broken in and left her three more.

In this edition, I'd like to do something about peoples' hatred of zucchini, this much-maligned vegetable. In our house, we wait all June and July for them, and then the bounty starts in August, but then you have more zucchini than you know what to do with!

My love affair with zucchini has been going strong since the '80s. My appreciation of the vegetable comes oddly enough from Lorretta Lynn. Those of you that remember the '80s will recall that Loretta used to be the spokesperson for Crisco. I think my mom found the recipe for Autumn Vegetable Sauté in a Good Housekeeping magazine. Thanks to Google I found the original recipe...but I know Mom used a can of mushrooms instead of fresh, and I'm certain she used margarine instead of the Crisco, and I believe she used whatever tomatoes she had.... What can I say, it's a "Mom" recipe – lots of substitutions based on what was available.

Autumn Vegetable Saute (4 to 6 servings)

- 3 Tbsp Butter Flavor Crisco
- 1 medium onion, thinly sliced and separated into rings
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 1 lb. zucchini cut into 2 ½" x ½" strips
- 1 cup sliced fresh mushrooms
- 10 cherry tomatoes, cut in half lengthwise
- ½ tsp salt
- ¼ tsp dried oregano
- 1/8 tsp pepper
- Parmesan cheese (optional)

Melt Butter Flavor Crisco in a large skillet. Add onions and garlic. Cook and stir on medium heat until onion is tender. Add zucchini and mushrooms. Cook for 10 to 12 minutes, stirring occasionally. Add tomatoes, salt, oregano, and pepper. Cook for 2-3 minutes, or until zucchini is tender. Sprinkle with Parmesan cheese before serving, if desired.

A fun fact about zucchini is that while us cooks consider it a vegetable, in botany it is a berry, as it is the swollen ovary of the zucchini flower. Also, did you know that you can (accidentally) grow toxic zucchinis? Members of the zucchini family which include marrows, pumpkins and cucumbers contain cucurbitacins which have a bitter taste. This is only an issue if your zucchini cross-pollinates with ornamental pumpkins which can have high levels of cucurbitacins. Dry weather and irregular watering can also cause the formation of the toxin which is not neutralized by cooking. Botanists recommend not eating bitter zucchini and not to save your seeds, as a reversion to a version containing the toxin may occur.

Also, how many of you have tried fried zucchini blossoms? We've made them a few times later in the season when we're not anxiously awaiting our first zucchini.

For those of us who enjoy zucchini, you will be pleased to know that you can freeze it for winter use by either slicing it into pieces or grating it. If you are slicing it make the slices approx. 1/2" wide and then blanch the slices. To blanch: cook the slices for 1 min. in boiling water, remove with a slotted spot and immerse in an ice bath until cool to the touch. Dry off the zucchini with a paper towel or a dish towel. Once they have been thoroughly dried, place them in a single layer on a large baking sheet. Freeze for 1-2 hours until the zucchini is firm and frozen. Store in freezer bags.

To freeze shredded zucchini, shred using a food processor or a boxed grater. Wring out as much moisture as possible using a tea towel. Measure into 1 cup portions (or your favourite recipe amounts) into freezer bags.

And remember...what is a zucchini's favourite sport – Squash!

Zucchini Fritters

Or as Kirby calls them, zucchini pancakes. I discovered microwaving the grated zucchini from a recipe for potato fritters and just transferred over the technique. I find it helps remove the excess moisture and ensures you don't get a raw taste in the finished fritter. We serve these with sour cream or sweet chili sauce. If you have to pack a lunch, this warms up well in the microwave.

- 1 ½ pounds zucchini, grated
- ¾ teaspoon salt
- ¼ cup all-purpose flour
- ¼ cup grated Parmesan cheese
- 1 large egg, beaten
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- kosher salt and ground black pepper to taste
- 2 tablespoons vegetable oil

Mix zucchini and salt together in a clean tea towel inside a large microwave safe bowl and rest for 10 minutes. Microwave the zucchini for 2-3 minutes just until hot. Once you can comfortably touch the zucchini, wring out the excess moisture.

Transfer zucchini to the center of a piece of cheesecloth; wrap cheesecloth around zucchini and squeeze to drain as much moisture as possible.

Mix flour, Parmesan cheese, egg, and garlic together in a large bowl. Stir in zucchini, then season with kosher salt and pepper.

Heat oil in a large skillet over medium-high heat.

Working in batches, scoop tablespoonfuls of zucchini mixture into the hot skillet and fry until golden brown, about 2 minutes per side.

Zucchini Fettuccini

When we first were married our apartment came with cable and we really enjoyed watching PBS' Frugal Gourmet. This is the recipe from the show, as we remember it, and it's become a staple as it's quick to put together, despite all the slicing.

- 1 medium zucchini, sliced thin, cut in matchstick style
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 Tbsp olive oil
- 1/4 lb. Italian salami, sliced thin, cut matchstick style
- 2 Tbsp capers
- Fresh ground pepper, generous amount
- 3/4 cup whipping cream
- Salt to taste
- 1/2 lb. fettuccine, cooked
- Grated Parmesan cheese

Slice the zucchini; put several slices together and slice again into matchsticks.

Sauté the garlic in the oil until barely browned. Add the zucchini and saute for 3 minutes. Add the salami, capers, pepper, and cream. Simmer until all is very hot.

Serve over the hot pasta. Top with the cheese.

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Lemon Zucchini Salad

This is nice and refreshing, and I've served this for Sunday lunch along with a frittata on hot summer days.

4 small zucchinis or 2 medium zucchinis

1/2 fresh chili or about 1/2 of a dried chili

1 lemon

extra virgin olive oil

1/2 teaspoon mustard powder

1/4 cup fresh basil, chopped

Parmesan cheese

Using a vegetable peeler, peel the zucchinis lengthways into long thin ribbons, then finely chop the chili and add to the bowl.

In a small bowl, add the juice of the lemon and top up with double the amount of extra virgin olive oil. Stir in the mustard powder and a pinch of sea salt, then mix well and pour over the salad. Toss to coat, then add the basil leaves and Parmesan cheese to taste and serve immediately.



Zucchini Brownies

A little bit different from the usual zucchini chocolate cake. It is quite moist and dense. One thing we discovered is to let it sit overnight before serving as it improves the flavour and texture immensely. This recipe just makes an 8x8 cake, which is a more manageable size if you're a smaller family, like us.

BROWNIES

1 1/2 cups shredded zucchini

3 Tbsp melted butter

3 eggs

1 tsp vanilla

3/4 cup white sugar

2/3 cup unsweetened cocoa powder

1 tsp espresso powder

1/2 tsp baking powder

1/4 tsp salt

1/2 cup flour

3/4 cup chocolate chips (bitter or semi-sweet)

FROSTING

3/4 cup chocolate chips (bitter or semi-sweet)

1/3 cup whipping cream

Preheat oven to 350°F. Lightly grease an 8" square pan.

Add the zucchini, melted butter, eggs, and vanilla into a bowl and beat until just mixed.

Add the sugar, cocoa powder, espresso powder, baking powder, salt, and flour; mix until well combined

Add the chips, mix to distribute evenly.

Pour the batter into the prepared pan.

Bake the brownies for 30-35 minutes, until a toothpick inserted into the center comes out clean, or with a few moist crumbs clinging to it. Remove the brownies from the oven, and allow them to cool completely before frosting.

To make the frosting: Combine the chocolate chips and milk or cream in a microwave-safe bowl or small saucepan. Heat until the milk is steaming, and the chips are soft. Remove from the heat, and stir until smooth.

Spread the frosting on the brownies. Place them in the refrigerator for an hour or so, to set; then store them at room temperature, covered, for several days.

Harriston • Severn

Zucchini Chocolate Cake

This is my go-to zucchini chocolate cake. It's nice and moist and easy to make. I confess that I guesstimate the amount of chocolate chips when I make it. I just grab a couple of generous handfuls and sprinkle them over the top.

Makes one 13 x9-inch cake

½ cup butter, softened

½ cup vegetable oil

1¾ cups white sugar

2 eggs

1 ½ tsp vanilla

2½ cups flour

¼ cup cocoa

1 tsp baking soda

½ tsp salt

½ cup buttermilk

2 cups shredded zucchini

1 (6-ounce) package semisweet chocolate chips

½ cup chopped nuts (optional)



Preheat the oven to 325°F. Grease and lightly flour a 9"x13" baking pan.

Beat together the butter, oil and sugar in a large bowl until light and fluffy. Add eggs, one at a time, beating well after each addition. Blend in the vanilla.

Combine dry ingredients

Add to creamed mixture alternately with buttermilk, beating well after each addition.

Stir in the zucchini.

Pour into a prepared pan. Sprinkle with the chocolate chips and nuts. Bake approx. 55 minutes or until wooden pick inserted in center comes out clean; cool on wire rack.

Rosemary Focaccia Bread

This is a straightforward focaccia bread to make, and you have many options for different variations. I was doing recipe testing and taking it to the guys at work and they enjoyed all of the versions – with and without zucchini, chive, thyme, and sage.

5 Tbsps. olive oil

1 (1¼ oz.) env. active dry yeast (2 ¼ tsp)

1 ¾ cups flour

3 tsp chopped fresh rosemary

½ tsp salt

¼ tsp kosher salt or coarse sea salt

¾ cup warm water

½ cup very thinly sliced zucchini

¼ cup grated Parmesan

Great a bowl and a 10" cast iron skillet. Mix ¾ cup warm water, 3 Tbsp oil and yeast; let sit 4-5 min. In a mixing bowl, using a dough hook, beat yeast mixture, flour, 2 tsp rosemary and ½ tsp salt until dough forms, 3-4 min. Transfer to the greased bowl. Let rest for 30 min.

Transfer the dough to a skillet; flatten to even thickness to the edge of the pan. Press the remaining 1 tsp rosemary into the top of the dough. Cover; let rise 1 hr.

Heat oven to 425°F. Using fingers, press indentations into the dough. Brush with the remaining 2 Tbsps. oil. Tile the zucchini over the dough. Sprinkle with kosher salt and Parmesan.

Bake until golden brown and baked through in the center, 20 min.

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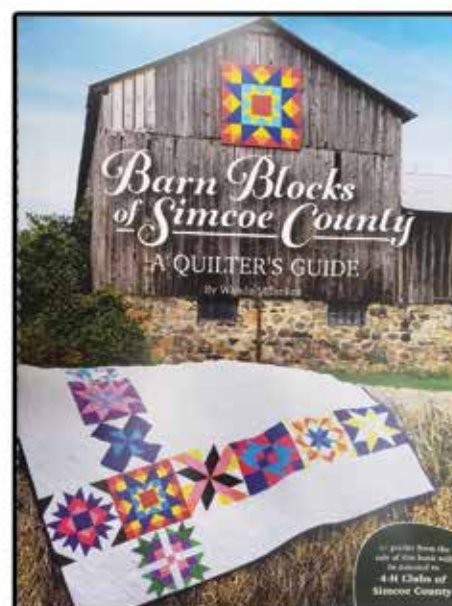
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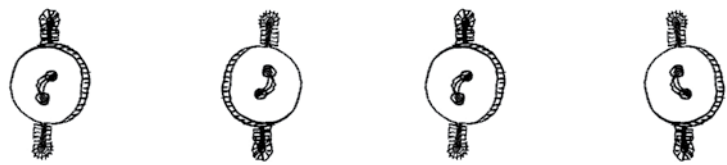


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ACROSS TIME

by Sheila Tinkham

The stitches flow across my fingers
Like dew before the morning

There is a rhythm
A cadence to each stitch
Stitch one
Stitch two
Double knot

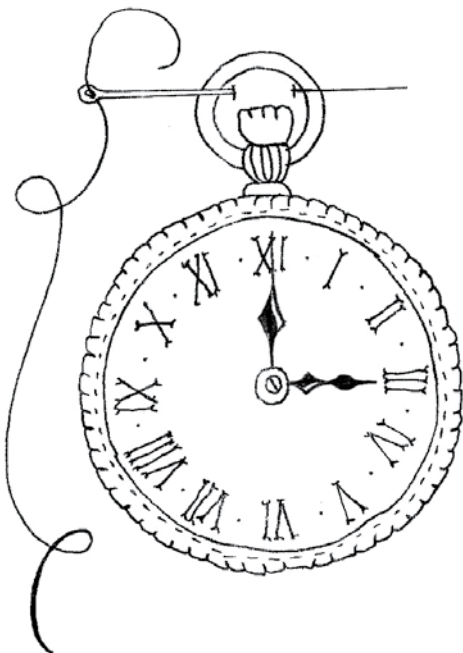
Like the drops of water
Flowing from a stream
Lost in time
Lost in space

Sewing like my Irish mother
Sewing like my Irish grandmother
Sewing like my husband

There is a quiet beauty in each Stitch
A wholeness in the design

Sewing by hand
Sewing by machine as my mom did

Sewing
Like life
A tad messy yet complete
Sewing
Sewing.....



Sheila Tinkham lives in Ainsworth, NE. She started quilting when she sprained her ankle and fell in love with the process of sewing and the focused peacefulness of making and designing quilts. Writing is her passion and she has self-published three poetry books. You can follow her on Twitter at SheilaTinkham.

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Something Old, Something New

by Marlene Oddie



Island Batik has issued another beautiful fabric collection—Vintage—that is now available in quilt shops and goes right along with this Antiques, Vintage and Collectibles issue. There are at least eight different lace-like motifs used across a variety of colors.

The name of the collection and the motifs used in it inspired me to come up with a vintage “posie” block using AnglePlay® shapes (half rectangle triangles). This is a single block colored two ways, which gives it a bit of movement and interest. The middle border seems to have some yellowing like an old piece of lace might. There is another fabric used that has just a little bit of yellow in it as well. Used sparingly, it works!

Given the many shipping issues and market closures this past year, I was asked to photograph the quilt myself. As the spring flowers started blooming, this tree across the street from my classroom space seemed like the perfect backdrop. The tree seems very ‘vintage’ with the long hanging clusters of flowers giving it a soft touch.

Finding just the right space to photograph a quilt can really make a difference in how it is presented.

The Lace Posies pattern and AnglePlay® templates are available at Kissed Quilts.

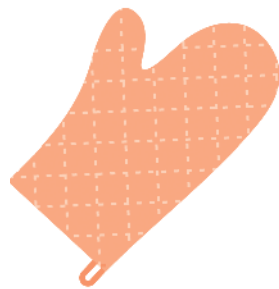
Marlene Oddie (marlene@kissedquilts.com) is an engineer by education, project manager by profession and now a quilter by passion in Grand Coulee, WA, at her quilt shop, Kissed Quilts. She quilts for hire on a Gammill Optimum Plus but especially enjoys designing quilts and assisting in the creation of a meaningful treasure for the recipient. Fabric, patterns, kits and templates are available at <http://www.kissedquilts.com>. Follow Marlene’s adventures via <http://www.facebook.com/kissedquilts> and <https://www.instagram.com/marlene.kissedquilts>



Chocolate Zucchini Cupcakes

This much-appreciated recipe was given to us by Sew Happy Quilts n More. She's right – it is a good recipe. We even enjoyed the frosting, and we're not frosting people.

- 2 cups zucchini, shredded
- 3 eggs, beaten
- 2 c. sugar
- 3/4 c. oil
- 2 tsp vanilla
- 2 cups flour
- 2/3 cup baking cocoa
- 1/2 tsp baking powder
- 1 tsp baking soda
- 1 tsp salt
- 3/4 cup chocolate chips
- Peanut Butter Frosting:
- 1/2 cup creamy peanut butter
- 1/3 cup butter, softened
- 1 Tbsp. milk
- 1/2 tsp vanilla extract
- 1-1/2 cups powdered sugar



Beat peanut butter, butter, milk and vanilla until smooth. Gradually beat in powdered sugar.

Combine zucchini, eggs, sugar, oil and vanilla. Add flour, cocoa, baking powder, baking soda and salt; stir in chocolate chips.

Fill paper-lined muffin cups 2/3 full.

Bake at 325 degrees for 25 minutes, or until a toothpick inserted near the centre tests clean. Cool in tin for 5 minutes. Remove from tin; cool completely. Frost with Peanut Butter Frosting.

Makes 2 dozen.

Carrot Cake

I found this recipe about 30 years ago and I make it at least twice a year. It's good to take to a potluck, as most people enjoy a good homemade carrot cake, and it's easy to transport.

CAKE

- 4 eggs
- 1 1/4 cups vegetable oil
- 2 cups flour
- 2 cups white sugar
- 2 tsps. baking soda
- 2 tsps. baking powder
- 2 tsps. ground cinnamon
- 1/4 tsp salt
- 3 cups grated carrots
- 1 1/2 cups coarsely chopped pecans or walnuts

CREAM CHEESE ICING

- 4 cups powdered (icing) sugar
- 1 pkg. (8 ounces) cream cheese, softened
- 1/2 cup margarine, softened
- 1 tsp vanilla

Preheat oven to 350°F. Grease and flour 13" x 9" baking pan.

Beat eggs and oil in small bowl.

Combine flour, sugar, baking soda, baking powder, cinnamon and salt in large bowl. Add egg mixture; mix well. Stir in carrots and pecans.

Pour into prepared pan. Bake 30 to 35 minutes or until wooden pick inserted into center comes out clean.

For the Cream Cheese Icing– Beat in a medium bowl until smooth.

Cool the cake completely on a wire rack. Spread with the icing.

Crayons by Deb Heatherly

My sister Donna is not a quilter.

While she totally appreciates the art of quilt making, sewing of any kind is not her thing. My mother, an accomplished seamstress, taught me to sew at a very early age and I was making my own clothes in high school. My sister, 8 years younger, just never caught the sewing bug. Her passions lie elsewhere and that's okay. Yes, she has a sewing machine, and to her credit, she has hemmed curtains, but most of the time her sewing machine is just a decorative accessory.

That being said, you might understand why Donna would ask this question while visiting my quilting studio, "With all these bolts of fabric, you look like a fabric store. Why does anyone need this much fabric?"

Hmmm... I did not think my fabric collection was excessive. Like Goldilocks in the story of The Three Bears, I thought it was "just right".

After pausing to think of an answer that might make sense to a non-quilter, I replied, "Do you remember when we were kids and you wanted that great big box of crayons with the built-in sharpener?"

Another pause and I added, "Well, maybe you actually got one since you were the baby, but I always had to settle for the smaller box. Momma said it had plenty of colors and I could mix colors together if needed. Not that I was ungrateful, but somehow I always wondered if I was missing out on a color I might really need. I wanted crayons with strange and exotic names like perky persimmon or lemon-lime cola— you know, the cool colors."

"Are those real colors," Donna asked. I could sense her thinking—what does this have to do with all this fabric?

"I'm not sure, but they sound like they would be fun colors, don't they?" I replied.

As I continued, I tried to explain, "These bolts of fabric are my crayons. When I am ready to design a new quilt, I want to have every color I might need right here in my studio. It's much easier to imagine how they will work together when I can lay them out and see how they look placed side by side. If I like what I see, I 'color with it'. If I don't, it goes back in the box, or in this case back on the shelf. I like to say it's all Momma's fault for never buying me that big box of crayons that I wanted as a child!"

We both laughed and I think she partially understood. I knew that if she was a quilter, it would have made perfect sense, and she would never have asked such a silly question.

Conversation forgotten, we went on to enjoy a wonderful visit. A trip to a huge antique mall was one of our best adventures. We have that passion in common and it was fun discovering new things together.

Months later, I made the trip from my home in North Carolina to visit my family in South Carolina for Christmas. When all of the presents were opened and we were cleaning up the ribbons and paper, my mom said I needed to sit back down because I had one more present. It was a small box and I could not imagine what it might be. I think a tear may have rolled down my face as I unwrapped my childhood wish—finally, that big box of crayons was mine! I guess Donna had shared my story.

Such a silly thing for someone at my age, but probably one of best gifts I ever received. That box is now sitting proudly on a shelf below some of my fabric. It's unopened and I'll probably never actually use those crayons. Instead, that wonderful box sits there making me smile, reminding me of innocent childhood days and reminding me to never stop wishing.

Deb Heatherly is a designer for Creative Grids® rulers. She is the designer of the Creative Grids® Cat's Cradle Tool, Strippy Stars Tool, Turbo 4 Patch, Ultimate Flying Geese Tool, Cat's Cradle XL, and Kitty Cornered Tool. She is also the author of the books 'Cat'itude, Strippy Stars, 4-Patch Panache, The Ultimate Flying Geese Book, Catitude XL, Creatively Yours, and The Build A Quilt Workbook. Visit her website at www.Debcatsnquilts.com. Creative Grids® fans are invited to join her Facebook group, Grids Girls, for tips and inspiration. Grids Girls' members have the opportunity to participate in Grids Girls' mystery quilts two times each year. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/770429649800457/>.

Quilt Shop Owners, you are invited to join the group above and Deb has an additional Facebook group just for you. Grids Girls for Quilt Shop Owners Only. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/273593657256524/>

You can contact her at Debcatsnquilts@aol.com or call the studio, Deb's Cats N Quilts Designs, 828-524-9578.



SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL QUILT GUILD

Ajax	<i>Twisted Stitchers Quilt Guild</i> For information about our guild please go to our website twistedstitchersquiltguild.com
Alliston	<i>Quilting Corners Guild</i> We meet at St Johns United Church at 7pm on the first Tuesday or each month, except January.
Almonte	<i>Almonte Quilters Guild</i> We meet at the Almonte Civitan Club, 500 Almonte Street Active at 7:00 pm from September through June (no meeting in December).
Ancaster	<i>Ancaster Quilter's Guild</i> We meet at the Marshall Memorial United Church, 20 Gilbert Ave. at 7pm on the 3rd Wednesday of each month from September to June.
Arnprior	<i>Arnprior District Quilt Guild</i> We meet at the Christian Education Centre, 257 John St. N. at 6:30 pm on the fourth Wed. of each month from Septl. to June.
Barrie	<i>Simcoe County Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at the Simcoe County Museum, 1151 Hwy 26, Midhurst at 1:00 pm on the Fourth Thursday each month except the 2nd Thursday in Dec and 3rd Thursday in June, from September to June. <i>Kempfenfelt Quilt Guild</i> We meet at the Lion's Gate Banquet Hall on Blake Street, the 3rd Thursday of the month from 7-9pm <i>Barrie Modern Quilt Guild</i> We meet at Grace United Church, 350 Grove St. East the last Thursday of the month, on alternate months from September to May - 7pm and on various Saturdays during the alternate months, for Activities and Workshops, from October to June.
Belleville	<i>Quinte Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at the Recreation Centre, 116 Pinnacle Street. At 7:00 pm on the first Wednesday of each month.
Binbrook	<i>Binbrook Country Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at the Binbrook United Church, 2623 Binbrook Rd. 7:30 pm the last Monday of the month from Sept - Nov and Jan - June.
Bracebridge	<i>The Pine Tree Quilters' Guild of Muskoka</i> We meet at the Bracebridge Memorial Arena, 169 James St at 1:00 pm on the 2nd. Thursday of the month from September through June.
Brampton	<i>Brampton Quilters Guild</i> We meet on the 4th Thursday of each month from September to June at 7:30 pm. Meetings are held at Jim Archdekin Recreation Centre, 292 Conestoga Dr, Brampton.
Brantford	<i>Brant Heritage Quilters</i> We meet at St George United Church at 7:30 pm. on the second Thursday of the month.
Brockville	<i>The Thousand Islands Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at the Royal Canadian Legion,180 Park Street at 7 pm on the 4th Thursday evening of the month. No meetings December, January, July and August.
Buckhorn	<i>Buckhorn Area Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at Hartley Hall, St. Mathews / St. Adian Anglican Church at 9:00 a.m. on the last Wednesday of the month (excluding July, August and December).
Burlington	<i>Halton Quilters Guild</i> We meet at the Mainway Recreation Centre, 4015 Mainway Dr. at 7:00 pm on the first Thursday of the month from September through June).
Caledonia	<i>Caledonia Grand River Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at 7pm on the 2nd Wednesday of the month from September through June.
Cambridge	<i>Busy Hands Quilters Guild</i> We meet at the Preston Scout House, 1580 Queenston Road at 9:30 am on the third Monday of each month.
Chatham	<i>Chatham-Kent Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at St. Paul's Congregational Church, 450 Park Ave W at 7pm on the third Wednesday each month, except December.
Cornwall	<i>Cornwall Quilters Guild</i> We meet at St. Mathews Lutheran Church, 1509 Second St West at 7pm every third Monday evening from September through May.
Courtice	<i>Clarington Quilt Guild</i> We meet at Faith United Church, 1778 Nash Road on at 6:30 pm on the 3rd Thursday of every month.
Dryden	<i>Sunset Country Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at 84 St. Charles Street at 7 pm on the 4th Tuesday of each month.
Dunnville	D.O.T.S. Quilt Guild (Dunnville's Own Tiny Stitchers). We meet at Maple Creek Community Church, 110 Inman Rd. @ 6:30 pm on the first Wednesday of the month from September to June.
Elliot Lake	<i>Elliot Lake Quilt Guild</i> We meet at Gentle Shepherd Church, 3 Ottawa Ave. at 7:00 pm on Tuesdays from September through June.
Elmira	<i>The Elmira Needle Sisters</i> We meet at the Elmira Mennonite Church at 7:00 pm on the fourth Monday of the month.
Etobicoke	<i>Etobicoke Quilters Guild</i> We meet at Neilson Park Creative Centre - 56 Neilson Dr. at 7:00 pm on the third Monday of the month.
Four Corners	<i>Four Corners Quilters Guild</i> We meet at the Mount Forest & District Sports Complex at 7 pm on the second Tuesday of the month from September to June. For more information email 4cornersquiltersguild@gmail.com
Georgetown	<i>Halton Hills Quilters Guild</i> We Meet at 8958 Trafalgar Rd, Georgetown, ON L7G 4S5. 6:45pm till 9pm from September till June on the fourth Monday of the month.
Gloucester	<i>Common Thread Quilt Guild</i> We meet at Le Mouvement D'Implication Francophone D'Orléans (MIFO), 6600 rue Carriere in Orleans at 7:30 pm on the second Tuesday of the month from September through June.
Goderich	<i>Goderich Quilters' Guild</i> We meet once a month on the 2nd Tuesday.
Grimsby	<i>Grimsby Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at the Livingston Activity Centre at 7pm on the third Thursday of the month.
Guelph	<i>Royal City Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at Three Willows United Church, 577 Willow Road at 7:00 pm on the second Tuesday each month from September until June.
Gwillinbury	<i>Gwillimbury Quilt Guild</i> We meet at the Sharon-Hope United Church, 18648 Leslie St. at 1:00 pm on 4th Monday of the month from September through May.
Hagersville	<i>Haldimand Quilter's Guild</i> We meet at the Hagersville United Church at 7:00 pm on the first Monday of the month from September through June.
Haliburton	<i>Haliburton Highlands Quilter Guild</i> We meet at the Stanhope Community Centre, 1095 North Shore Rd, Algonquin Highlands at 1:00 pm on the second Wednesday of each month.
Hamilton	<i>Hamilton Quilters Guild</i> We meet The Church of Resurrection, 435 Mohawk Rd. W.at 7:00 pm on the 2nd Wednesday of each month from September through August.
Ingersoll	<i>Oxford Quilters Guild</i> We meet month at the Ingersoll Creative Art Centre, 125 Centennial Lane (in Victoria Park) at 7:00 pm on the first Wednesday and 9:00 am on the first Thursday of each month.
Kanata	<i>The Kanata Quilt Guild</i> We meet at the Glen Cairn United Church, 140 Abbeyhill Dr. at 9:30 am on the second Wednesday of the month from September to June.
Kemptville	<i>Kemptville Quilters Guild</i> We meet pm at the Kemptville Pentecostal Church 1964 County Road # 43 at 7:00 pm on the second Monday of the month (except for holiday Mondays).
Kenora	<i>Lake of the Woods Quilter's Guild</i> We meet at St. Louis Catholic Church, 912 Superior St in Keewatin at 7 PM on the second Thursday of the month.
Kincardine	Kincardine Sunset Quilters Guild. We meet the second Wednesday of every month except July and August, at 10 a.m. in the basement of St. Anthony's Church on Russell St. in Kincardine.
Kingston	<i>Kingston Heirloom Quilters</i> We meet at St. Johns Anglican Church Hall in Portsmouth Village at 9:30 am on the first Tuesday and 7:00 pm on the first Thursday of each month. <i>Limestone Quilt Guild</i> Meeting Area usually is – Kingston Senior Centre, 56 Francis Street, Kingston, Ontario, but we are on zoom right now. We meet on the first Wednesday of each month at 7 pm on zoom.
Kingsville	<i>Erie Shores Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at the Kingsville Arena, 2nd floor at 7p.m. on the third Tuesday of the month.
Kirkton	<i>Huron, Perth Quilters Guild</i> We meet at the Kirktown/Wooddham Community Centre at 9:00 am on the second Tuesday of the month from September through May.
Kitchener - Waterloo	<i>The Waterloo County Quilters Guild</i> We meet at the Parkside Community Room of the Parkside Arena in Waterloo at 1:30pm and 7:30 pm on the third Wednesday of the month.
Lambton	<i>North Lambton Quilt Guild</i> We meet at the Port Franks Hall on the 4th Wednesday of the month.
Lindsay	<i>Lindsay Creative Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at Celebrations, 35 Lindsay St. N at 1:00 pm every 2nd Monday of the month except for October, December and June.
London	<i>London Friendship Quilters Guild</i> We meet the 2nd Thursday of the month from September to June. The meeting usually runs from 7pm to 9pm. We are located at St. George's Presbyterian Church, 1475 Dundas Street, London, Ontario N5W 3B8. To contact us: lfqg.president@gmail.com or our web page: lfqg.onon.org Friendship Quilt Guild
Manitoulin Island	<i>Island Quilters Guild</i> We meet at the Community Hall in Mindemoya at 7:00 pm on the third Thursday of the month from September though June.

Markdale	<i>Queen's Bush Quilters</i> We meet at Annesley United Church, 82 Toronto St. at 7:00 pm on the 1st Tuesday of the month from September to June.
Meaford	<i>Georgian Quilters Guild</i> We meet at the Meaford Opera House, Sykes St. at 1:30 pm on the 3rd Thursday of the month.
Mississauga	<i>Cawthra Senior's Centre</i> We meet at the Cawthra Senior's Centre at 7:30pm on the first Thursday of the month (except July and August). <i>Mississauga Quilters Guild</i> We meet at the Tomken Twin Arenas at 7:30 pm on the first Thursday of the month (except July and August).
Miramichi	<i>Miramichi Quilt Guild</i> We meet at the Seamans Hospital at 7:00 pm every Tuesday and 10:00 am every Thursday.
Napanee	<i>Heritage Quilters Guild</i> We meet at the Strathcona Paper Center at 7:00 pm on the third Tuesday of each month from September through to June.
Newmarket	<i>The Region of York Quilters Guild</i> We meet at the Newmarket Community Centre, 200 Doug Duncan Drive on the fourth Wednesday of the month from September through May. <i>Moraine Quilt Guild</i> We meet in the hall at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church – 484 Water Street, Newmarket at 9:30 am – 12 Noon for Social Sew and 1:00-3:30 pm for the Meeting on the first Wednesday of each month year round.
Niagara Region	<i>The Niagara Heritage Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at Merrion Community Centre, 7 Park Ave., St. Catharines on the third Wednesday of each month.
Nobleton	A chapter of the <i>Modern Quilting Guild</i> We travel to various locations in Southern Ontario on a rotating basis.
Norwich	<i>Quaker Quilt Guild</i> We meet at 89 Stover St N, Norwich at 9:30 am on the second Monday of the month.
Orangeville	<i>Dufferin Piecemakers' Quilting Guild</i> We meet at the Orangeville Event Centre at 7:30 pm on the third Monday of the month from September through June.
Orilla	<i>Orillia Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at the Royal Canadian Legion, 215 Mississauga St. E. at 1:00 pm on the 3rd Wednesday of the month.
Orleans	<i>Common Thread Quilt Guild</i> Meets the second Tuesday of the month at 7pm at MIFO, 6600 Carriere St, Orleans. www.commonthreadquiltguild.ca
Orono	<i>Ganaraska Quilters Guild</i> We meet at the Seniors Activity Centre. 200 Station St. W at 7:15 pm on the last Wednesday of the month.
Oshawa	<i>Durham Trillium Quilters'</i> We meet at the Zion Christian Reformed Church 409 Adelaide Ave. E, Oshawa at 7:00pm every second Monday Sept.- June
Ottawa	<i>Ottawa Valley Quilters Guild</i> Our guild continues to meet on the ZOOM platform because of the covid-19 pandemic situation. Our normal in-person meetings will resume some time in 2022. The meetings are usually held the second Monday of every month September to June, at the Riverside United Church, 3191 Riverside Drive, Ottawa ON, K1V8N8. Our email address is ottawavalleyquiltersguild.org <i>QuiltCo</i> We meet at the Trinity Anglican Church in Old Ottawa South on the second Monday evening of the month except July and August.
Owen Sound	<i>Bluewater Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at the Harry Lumley Bayshore Community Centre, 1900 3rd Av E at 7:00 pm every third Monday from March to December (except May which is on the second).
Paris	<i>Paris Quilting Bees</i> We meet on the 3rd Wednesday of the month from September to June at the Paris Fairgrounds at 7 PM. For information email: parisquiltingbees@gmail.com .
Perth	<i>Lanark County Quilters Guild</i> We meet at Lions Hall, Perth Fairgrounds at 7pm on the 4th Tuesday of the month.
Pickering	<i>Rouge Valley Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at Peace Lutheran Church, 928 Liverpool Road, Pickering at 7:00 pm on the 4th Monday of the month September through May, excluding December.
Port Loring	<i>Argyle Quilters Guild</i> We meet at the Lions Den in Arnstein on the second Thursday of the month.
Port Perry	<i>Port Perry Patchers</i> We meet at the Hope Christian Reform Church, 14480 Old Simcoe Rd. in Prince Albert at 7:00 pm on the 3rd Wednesday of the month from September to June.
Prince Edward	<i>Prince Edward County Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at the BCR Church in Bloomfield at 7:00 pm County on the second Wednesday of each month.
Rayside	<i>Rayside Balfour Quilting and Stitchery Guild</i> We meet at the Chelmsford Arena (upstairs) 215 Edward Avenue, Chelmsford, Ontario at 7:00 p.m. every Monday from September to May.
Renfrew	<i>Quilt Guild Renfrew & Area</i> We meet at the Horton Community Centre, 1005 Castleford Road, Horton from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month from September to June.
Richmond	<i>Richmond Area Quilters Guild (RAQG)</i> We meet at the Richmond Legion, 6430 Ottawa Street at 7:30 on the third Wednesday of each month.
Ruthven	<i>Erie Shores Quilter's Guild</i> We meet at the Ruthven-Olinda United Church every third Tuesday.
Sarnia	<i>Sarnia Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at the Redeemer Christian Reformed Church 5814 Blackwell Sdrd, Sarnia at 7pm the first Monday of each month.
Sault St. Marie	<i>Stitches From The Heart Quilt Guild</i> We meet at the Senior's Centre on Bay St at 7pm the last Monday of the month.
Scarborough	<i>Rouge Valley Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at Peace Lutheran Church, 928 Liverpool Road, Pickering at 7:00 pm on the 4th Monday of the month September through May, excluding December.
Simcoe	<i>Twilight Quilters' Guild of Norfolk County</i> We meet at the Old Wyndham Church, 30 Glendale Crescent at 7:00 pm on the second Monday of the month. <i>Norfolk County Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at the Vittoria & District Community Centre on the first Tuesday of each month except October.
Stittsville	<i>The Quilters Club</i> We meet at the The Pretty Street Community Centre at 7:00 pm on the third Monday of the month.
St Marys	<i>The Stonetowne Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at the End Zone Room of the Pyramid Centre at 9:30 am on the third Tuesday of the month from September to May.
Stony Creek	<i>Stoney Creek Quilters Guild</i> We meet at the Royal Canadian Legion, 12 King Street East, at 6:30 pm on first Wednesday of the month from September to June.
Sudbury	<i>Sudbury & District Quilting & Stitchery Guild</i> We meet at 140 Durham Street at 7:00 pm on every Tuesday from September to April.
Sutton	<i>The Georgina Pins and Needles</i> We meet at the Knox United Church 34 Market Street at 7:00 pm on the first Tuesday of the month from September to June.
Thunder Bay	<i>Thunder Bay Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at Calvin Luthern Church on Edward Street at 7:30pm on the 3rd Monday of each month from September to June.
Toronto	<i>Etobicoke Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at the Neilson Park Creative Centre at 7:15 pm on the third Monday of the month. <i>Pieceful Nights Quilters' Guild of North Toronto</i> meets the second Wednesday of each month. During COVID-19 meetings will be held via Zoom. Guests welcome. https://www.pnqg.ca . <i>Toronto Modern Quilt Guild</i> We meet at The Workroom Studio, 46 Nobel St Studio 102 at 3:00 pm on the last Sunday of each month. <i>York Heritage Quilters Guild</i> We meet at the Toronto Botanical Gardens on the 3rd Tuesday of every month from September through May. <i>Yorkshire Rose Quilters' Guild of Toronto</i> We meet at Danforth Mennonite Church, 2174 Danforth Avenue at 7:30 pm on the second Wednesday of the month from September through May.
Wasaga Beach	<i>Slope to Slope Quilters Guild</i> We meet in the Community Hall at the Wasaga Stars Arena at 7pm on the first Tuesday of the month September through June.
Waterloo	<i>The Waterloo County Quilters' Guild</i> We meet the Albert McCormick Community Centre at 1:30 pm and 7pm on the third Wednesday of each month from September through June
Whitby	<i>Kindred Hearts Guild</i> We meet at the Whitby Baptist Church on the third Tuesday of the month.
Windsor	<i>Windsor Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at Royal Canadian Legion Branch 594, 5030 Howard Ave., Windsor, ON N9A 6Z6 at 9:00 a.m. the first Wednesday of the month from September to June.
York Region	<i>The Moraine Quilt Guild</i> We meet at the St. Andrews Presbyterian Church at 1:00 on the first Wednesday of the month.



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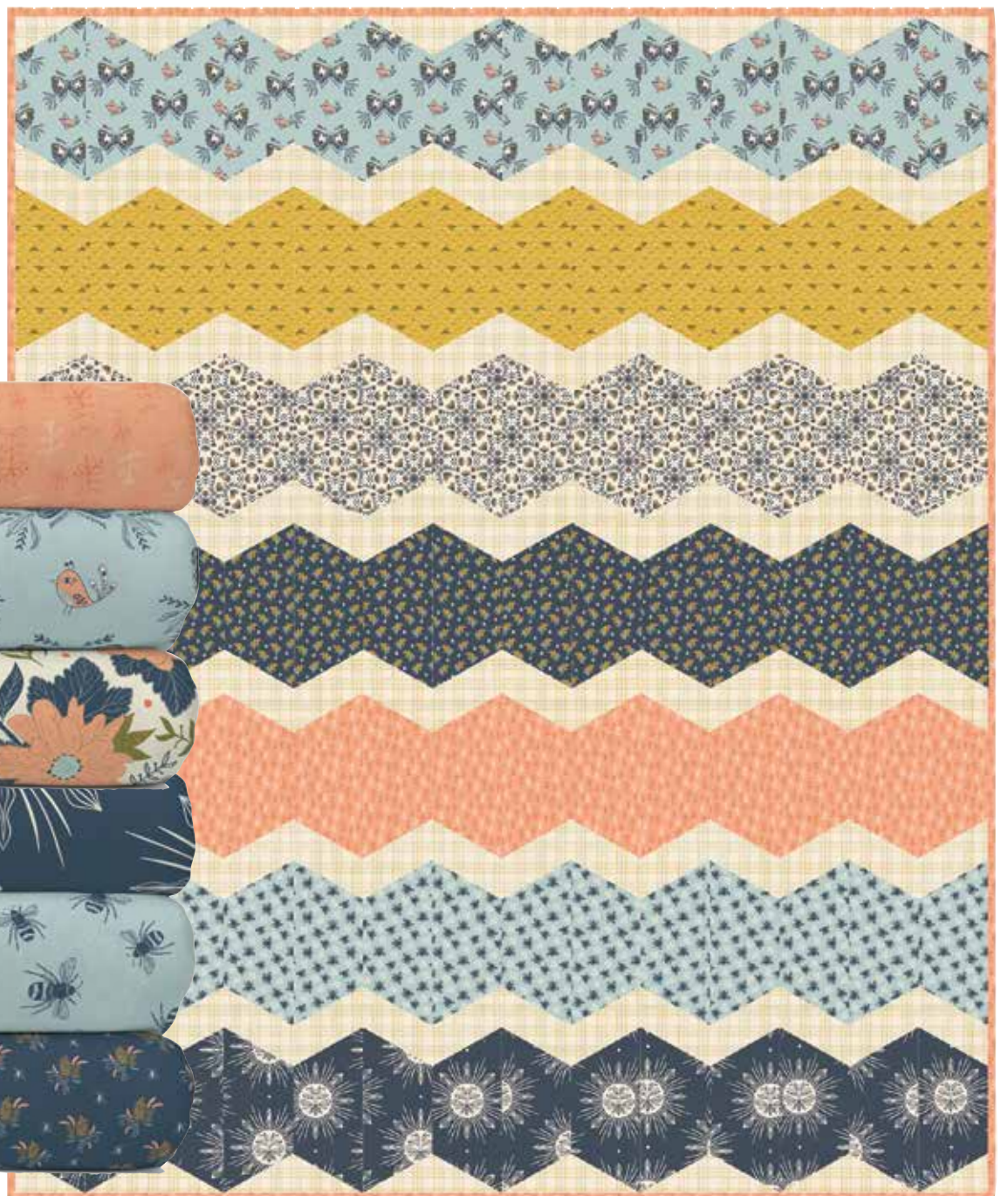
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I found an ornate crochet pattern on a UK website that I tried to make this summer. I kept forgetting that in the UK a double crochet is our single crochet, and their double treble crochet is our triple crochet. Well, it was "double treble" all the way for me, and I eventually just gave up. What I did learn from that pattern though, was the stitches that make this afghan. I decided to just do something simple after I struggled with that pattern and I ended up with this afghan. The more and more I crocheted it kept nagging me that it looked like something familiar. It wasn't until I was finished and laid it out to admire my work that it dawned on me what it reminded me of, expanded metal grating.

You can make any size afghan you want by chaining in groups of 2 and then adding one chain for turning. I chained 115 and ended up with an afghan 34 inches wide. I used 800grams (19.6 oz) of yarn to make it almost square. (I just used up what I had for leftover yarn and quit when I ran out)

Stitches used

Ch – chain

Sc – single crochet

Dc – double crochet

Fpdc – front post double crochet

Ch 115 (or any combination of 2 plus 1 for turning)

Row 1 – Sc in first chain from hook, then sc in each chain across. Ch 2 and turn.

Row 2 – Chain 2 counts as first double crochet. Dc into each stitch across. Ch 1 and turn.


Row 3 – Sc in first double crochet and into each double crochet across. Ch 2 and turn.

Row 4 – Chain 2 counts as first double crochet. *Working under the single crochet from the previous row, Fpdc around the next double crochet from 2 rows below. Dc into next single crochet* Repeat from * - *. Ch 1 and turn.

Repeat rows 3 and 4 until desired afghan size is reached.

Final Row – Sc in first stitch and each stitch across. Tie off and work in ends.

GIRLFRIEND WISDOM



GIRLFRIENDS
In the Garden of Life

Tending to our friendships, is like tending to a garden. When spending more time with our friends, as if they were plants in our garden, we could watch them grow. The attentiveness would show if they were flourishing or needed a little care, like water and sun with our plants. Any weeds popping up to choke off the good flow that leads to beautiful blossoms? As in our friend, do we see any self sabotage or negative self-talk that needs our support? The goal is to share in the special moments in the Sun. Standing tall, beautiful in all their glory! Sunflowers are especially inspirational. No flower can lift someone's spirits quite like a sunflower in late summer. With brilliant yellow petals, also known as "rays", sunflowers have an unmistakable sun-like appearance. They symbolize adoration, loyalty and longevity. Adoration, loyalty and longevity are great qualities for our Girlfriends in the Garden of Life as well.

The **Girlfriend Wisdom** for all Girlfriends is to Stand Tall, Turn your Faces to the Sun and bask in a brighter, more delightful day!

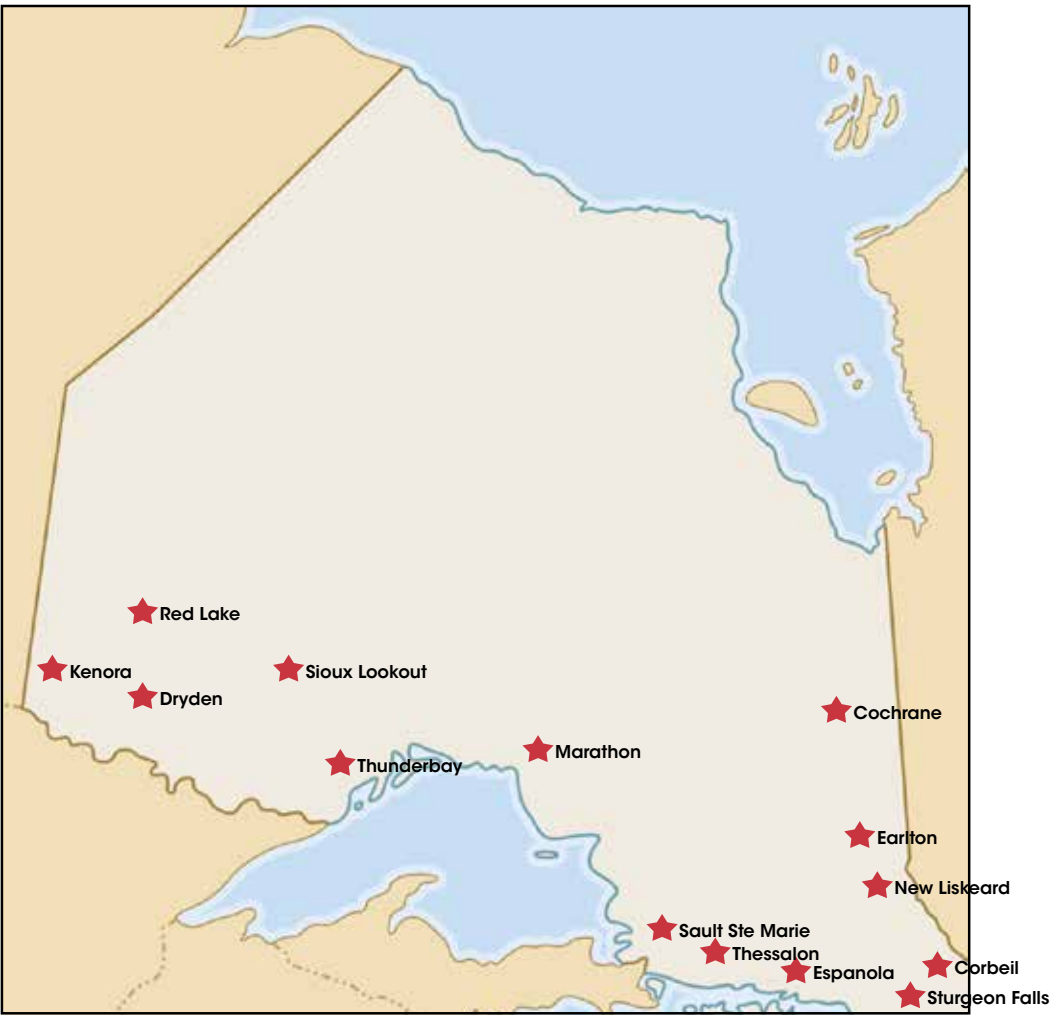
Joy & Blessings, *Jody*

Girlfriend Wisdom is written and illustrated by Jody Houghton®.
Color files of this writing and artwork are available: www.JodyHoughtonDesigns.etsy.com



Before you venture out to visit your favorite quilt shops, please check with them first for their current hours.

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MINI DRESDEN PINCUSHION

Materials Needed;

12 pieces of fabric each measuring 1" square
8"-10" piece of background fabric
8"-10" piece of thin batting
Embroidery thread and stuffing

Dresden
Template
Cut 12

Finished Size; 5" - 6" depending on size
of container

SEWING TIPS;

Reduce your stitches when sewing the dresden blades so you don't need to backstitch. It can create bunching on these tiny pieces.

**You can find instructions for making this pincushion on my
YouTube Channel - BerryBirdy.**

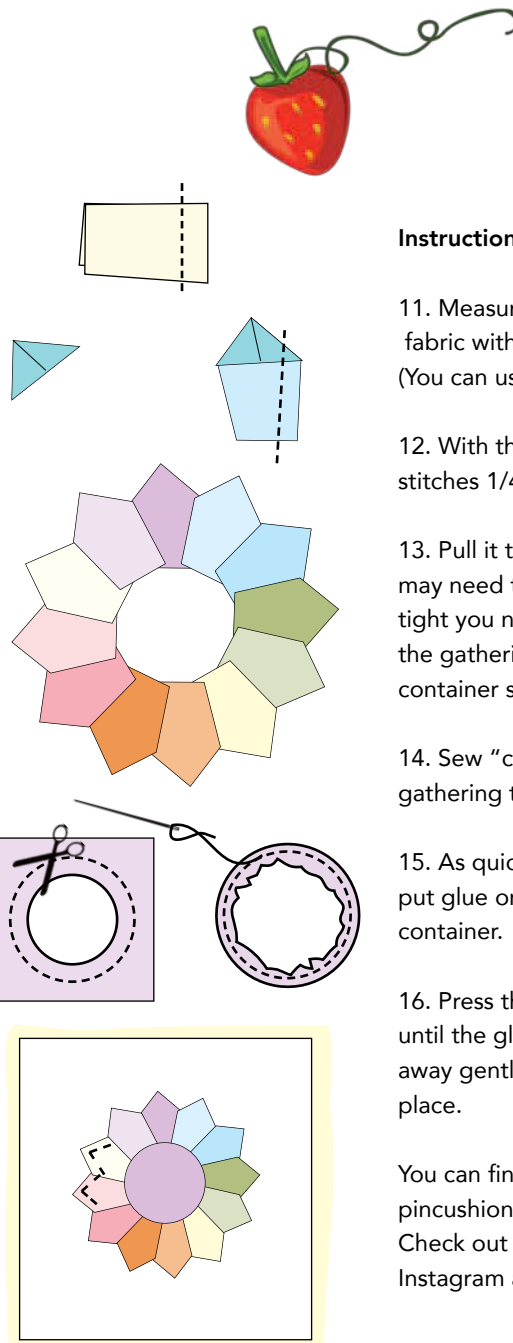
www.etsy.com/shop/berrybirdy or IG @Berry_Birdy



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Instructions to make the dresden;

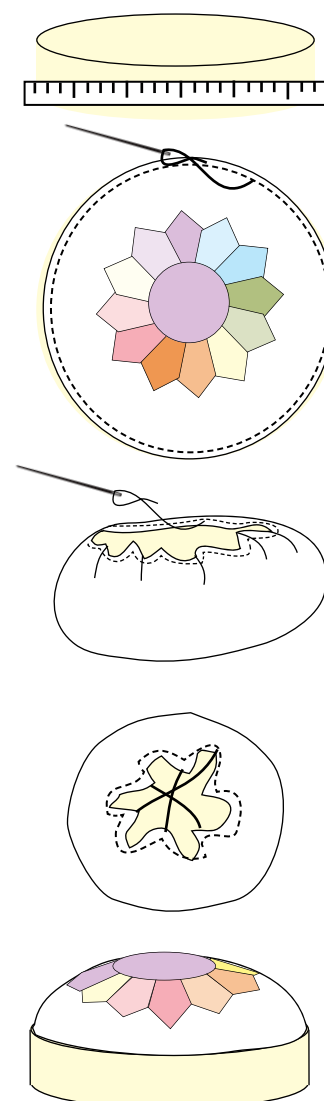
1. Cut 12 pieces from the dresden template.
2. Reduce your stitch length to 1.8. Fold the dresden blade pieces in half lengthwise and sew a 1/4" seam across the wide end.
3. Using your scissors, turn the pieces right side out. Gently push out the tip to create an "arrow" shape.
4. Finger press the point and sew the 12 blades together using a 1/4" seam.
5. Form the blades into a circle and press on the back side so all the seams are pressed in the same direction.
6. Cut out the circle and trace it onto cardstock (like a cereal box). Place onto the centre fabric and cut around the circle leaving a 1/4" seam.
7. With a needle and thread, make tiny gathering stitches 1/8" from the edge of the fabric circle.
8. Pull the gathering stitches tightly around the cardstock circle. Press. When cool, remove the cardstock and press again.
9. Layer the background fabric with the thin batting. Place the dresden and circle onto the middle of the background fabric and pin them in place.
10. Using a decorative stitch, sew around the edges of the blades and the circle.



Instructions for assembling the pincushion;

11. Measure your container and cut your piece of fabric with dresden 3" bigger than the container. (You can use a bowl or a lid for a circle template.)
12. With the embroidery thread, sew gathering stitches 1/4" from the edge of the fabric circle.
13. Pull it tightly and begin to fill with stuffing. You may need to fit it into the container to see how tight you need to pull it or if you need to let off the gathering slightly. It should fit into the container snugly.
14. Sew "cross" stitches from either side of the gathering to keep the stuffing in place.
15. As quickly as you can, using a hot glue gun, put glue on the inner sides and bottom of the container.
16. Press the pincushion into the container firmly until the glue dries. You may need to pull the sides away gently to add a little more glue to keep it in place.

You can find my video showing how to make the pincushion on my YouTube Channel - BerryBirdy. Check out my other dresden designs on my Instagram and Etsy Shop!



RULES OF QUILTING

by Lesley Chaisson of Berry Birdy Designs

Ever so often I catch myself mindlessly scrolling through various pictures, videos, reels and facebook stories, getting lost in cyberworld where everyone is perfect, beautiful and exciting. At times, I allow these images to entertain me briefly while waiting in the car, at the dental office, or in bed late at night when I can't fall asleep. I usually add my comments and "hearts" as a normal follower would, until one night I came across a post that made me stop, and it shocked me far more than I think I would like to admit. What was it? Most of my scrolling includes quilting and sewing posts (and cute animals - I know we all can't help checking those out ;)), but this one particular post had the simple statement; Rules of Quilting. I scrolled back to it and found a list of "Quilting Rules" listed by the quilter. It made me cringe. Now, don't get me wrong, I do believe it is always good to learn techniques and there are many proven ways of doing certain things, but, in creativity, I have to say I am not a rule follower. I find even in my classes when I show students a different way of doing something other than "by the rules" many of them struggle to change their way of thinking. I have even had pattern testers tell me I should update my pattern to use the classic quilting techniques, and then after they have tried what my pattern suggests, message me and tell me they like my process. Why do we limit ourselves to new ideas? Why does this rule following cause my gut to turn? Because I feel that to develop new ideas, to expand on new ways of doing things we need to break the rules! I have spent years, and yes, I truly mean years, trying to figure out a new way to install a zipper to hide the zipper tape. I was successful and my technique is wonderful...but still not perfect! This process is thrilling to me, and as Marilyn Monroe once said, "If I'd observed all the rules, I'd never have gotten anywhere." I hope that we can all learn to break the rules a little more and try something new, and maybe even come up with a new technique so that someone will be scrolling through videos and photos and want to try it too!

Lesley Chaisson is a designer and author. She has had many of her creations published in magazines around the world, and is now offering her patterns to be purchased wholesale. With over 44,000 followers on Instagram she is well known for her creative and modern dresden patterns and "Micro Mini" Quilting. You can check out her Instagram page @Berry_Birdy, BerryBirdy on Facebook, www.etsy.com/shop/berrybirdy, and wholesale orders www.berrybirdy.com.

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