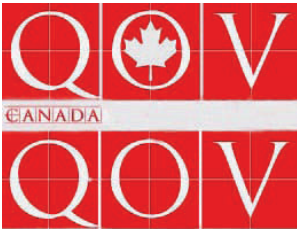


Quilts of Valour - Canada

Issue 6
July 2010



Our Mission

to ensure that our injured Canadian soldiers are recognized for their bravery and commitment of their true patriotism to our country. We give this support through the presentation of quilts of comfort made for our military service people.

Meet Your Representative.....

This month QoV - Canada is pleased to introduce to you, Sandy Carlile, our Alberta South representative.

Sandy's family moved up to Canada from Washington State in 1973. She lived on a farm near Camrose, AB for 3 years and then moved to Calgary. Her husband is a chemist and had wanted to raise purebred Herefords with a friend, but once they moved to Canada he decided not to. They were on the farm for 3 years, which gave them lots of different experiences, lots of new friends, and their fourth child.

Sandy and her husband have two daughters and two sons. Their oldest son and his wife live in S. California where he works for Lockheed Development and she works in rocket testing for the U.S. Air Force. Their oldest daughter and husband and their two daughters live in Seattle where he works as an engineer for Boeing and she for a computer consulting company. Their youngest son, an accountant, is in Seattle and he has his own company making specialized nylon gear for police and military use. Their youngest daughter



is in Hawaii doing a post doc fellowship to study fresh water algae in the islands.

Sandy was a nurse before retiring and is now a longarm quilter. Her business is "Quilts from the Closet".

She first met her husband when they were stationed at the same military base in Madison, WI. It was an Air Defense base also staffed by some Canadian Air Force folks. They were in the military for two years and then decided to go back to civilian life. They got married in 1974, just before they left military life.

Sandy first heard about Quilts of Valour in the U.S. and thought it was a wonderful idea. She was an Air Force nurse during the Vietnam conflict and her brothers, father-in-law and brothers-in-law were all stationed in Vietnam for a time. She can remember how the military personnel were talked about and treated after that time and wanted to be a part of a far more positive welcome home to the military now. Unfortunately, since they live in Canada, she was unable to help with the quilting (the postage is just too much going across the border) and then she heard of the Canadian QoV group and got Lezley's email from the U.S. QoV website. She got in touch with Lezley and in wanting to be in touch with how things were going was asked to be the S. Alberta representative. She has quilted a number of QoVs for others and has made and quilted several with a good friend.

Now she joins all the other quilters in wanting to cover all our injured with a warm hug in the form of a quilt to thank them for what they have given for our country.



Southwestern Ontario - Alison McDonald

On April 18th in Winona, ON at Alison’s husband’s (the Rev. Maj. (Ret’d) Jack Cox) small parish, they held a quilt blessing/dedication service. The Friday prior to the service they had a media day with most of the local media out, school kids, and members of the public to see the display of 57 quilts. Several of the quilts were brought in that weekend because people had seen the article in the [Hamilton Spectator](#) or had seen Alison on Morning Live on CH TV.

They had a large crowd out for the service and celebrating the Eucharist was the Rt. Rev. Michael Bird Bishop of Niagara. The church of St John the Evangelist is a small church and it was really wonderful to see the crowd fill the church that day to celebrate the gifts and talents of the people involved in the making of the quilts. Mary Ewing was out that weekend with her sister, Joanne, and after the service and delicious lunch they packed up all the quilts into Mary’s car to be delivered.

Here are links to some great articles that Quilts of Valour has been featured in this spring, along with a short video about the Winona services.

- <http://www.stoneycreeknews.com/news/article/207593>
- <http://www.niagarathisweek.com/news/article/801833--stitching-a-story>
- <http://www.hamiltonspectator.com/video2/Quilts100416/>
- <http://www.thespec.com/article/751812>
- <http://david-mitchell.ca/quilts-of-valour-hanging-at-st-johns-church-in-winona/>



L-R: Kathy Hird, Virginia Mitchell (show Convener), Alison McDonald, Joan McNeice, Madeline Hagan (Guild President)

On June 23 Alison went out to a meeting of the North Lambton Quilters’ Guild at the Port Franks, ON community centre on the shore of Lake Huron. The guild there is very active with enough activities to rival a much bigger guild. They had a wonderful Show & Tell, the ‘reveal’ of a box challenge and some yummy desserts.

The members there had seen the article about QoV in Canadian Quilter last year and challenged themselves to produce some quilts and the results were stunning ... 7 large quilts, all finished.

Earlier in June Alison had participated in the “Our Canada” Haldimand Quilters’ Guild show in Hagersville, ON. She had visited their guild last September and talked to them about QoV ... they took the information and ran with it, and had 13 finished quilts decorating a booth at the show. She had a wonderful and busy two days with them and gave out many brochures and info on QoV, which will hopefully generate more interest in the cause. Pictures from the Haldimand Quilters’ Guild show are shown here on the left.

One of the ladies that Alison had spoken to at the quilt show had taken some brochures back to the Grimsby Seniors Quilting Group. Shortly after that she brought Alison three large quilt tops from them.

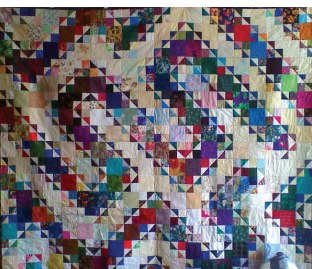


L-R: Kathy Hird, Virginia Mitchell, Debra Allen, Joan McNeice, Madeline Hagan



Vancouver, BC - Debby Gray

This spring I decided to make a quilt for my grandfather, who served in WWII, to present to his legion in Ottawa, ON. I used the Poppy Remembrance pattern that [Pam Bono](#) had given to QoV for our use. I pieced it in various reds, greens and light backgrounds, then hand quilted maple leaf shapes into the background in red. Here’s a picture of him (Bill Lloyd, right) and another veteran (Shane Tallon, left) holding it up at their monthly meeting in May. This is at the Bells Corner Legion, Branch 593.



I’ve received many quilt donations over the winter and spring from various groups and individuals all over the province, including Vancouver Island. In May I took about 40 of them out to the OSI (Occupational Stress Injury) Clinic at UBC for our soldiers that are being treated there for PTSD and other related injuries.



A note from our Founder, Lezley Zwaal

Quilt Connections.

Once again the soldiers at Edmonton’s base are amazed at the quilts that are coming in. I had the opportunity to meet with a new contact on base, Mike Hogan. As I photographed the quilts from various people across the three western provinces before taking them out to him, I too am amazed and proud to see such great work in all the quilts! The quilting, the colours, the matching pillow cases and carry cases! Thank you quilters and supporters all!



This spring I went out to Drayton Valley and saw a beautiful display that was being donated to QoV.

The quilt on the left has photos of soldiers, some no longer with us. When I looked closely at the quilt made by Cindy Hay Brydges, I saw a name - LaPerle. I live in the west Edmonton community league of La Perle. Our area is named after the LaPerle family (Cindy’s family) who lived just west of where there is now a vibrant neighborhood. When Cindy brought in all the quilts to Edmonton, she also brought her family tree/history book with her - and I was able to read about the origin of the namesake for the neighborhood (community league) that I live in - and read about a bit of history of west Edmonton too! What connections quilts can be!



The end of April was also the Canadian Quilters’ Association Quilt Canada quilt conference in Calgary. Sandy Carlile and I were able to set up a display table in the “My Sewing Room” booth. The CQA also gave us the window space at the entrance to the merchant mall where we were able to display Cindy’s Veteran quilt! Sandy and I spoke with hundreds of quilters over the week, and will no doubt be speaking to various quilting guilds over the winter. It was a very positive event.

Have a safe and wonderful summer,
Lezley



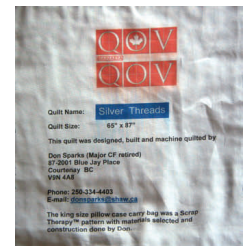
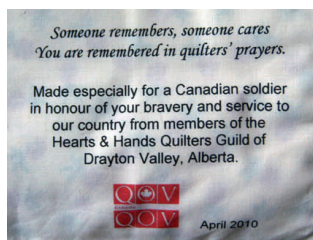
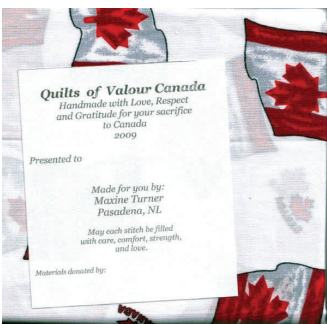
Prince Edward Island - Betty Mahar

The Red Clay Quilters Guild completed a quilt and it was presented to Betty Mahar in June. MFRC is working on a red rally and hopes to incorporate presentations at that time. Featured in this picture holding the quilt are Betty Mahar and Marilyn Peters.



Always label your quilts!

The recipients of the quilts will want to know where it came from, so be sure to include the names of all who participated, or the group name if there is one, and your location. You can download the Quilts of Valour logo from the website at www.QuiltsOfValour.ca. Here are a few prime examples of labels that have been put on quilts donated to our soldiers through Quilts of Valour.



This past June, Lezley was contacted by Jan in Innisfail. Her group, the Operation Peace and Comfort have been making the denim/flannel ragstyle quilts. Several had been shipped through Quilts of Valour to Landstuhl, Germany at the request of our Chaplain General for Canada last fall. In June of 2010 Jan was contacted by one of the nurses who travel with the soldiers on their route home. She wanted to thank Jan's group for the comfort that the quilts give to the soldiers. Jan arrived in Edmonton with another 120 such quilts to be sent out. They were taken along with many more quilts out to Edmonton's base in June. Timing was perfect, as Chaplain Callaghan was requested to send out more quilts to Landstuhl.



*Hello
My name is Cpl Jeff Hodder. I am a Flight Engineer on the CH47D Chinook Helicopter. I am currently based out of Borden, Ont. I received a quilt from Quilts for Valour in Jan 2010 as I prepared for my journey home from Afghanistan, after being injured by my helicopter in a training accident. I would like to thank the people involved in creating my wonderful quilt, it will forever hold a special place in my heart. As a member of the Canadian Forces who has served overseas, it is a great comfort to know that we have so many great people back home supporting us.*

*My Quilt is never too far from my couch and will always hold a very special place in my household.
Thank you to Quilts for Valour for providing such a great service.
Keep up the great work.
Cpl Jeff Hodder*



Please check the following list for a contact person in your province:
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**** We ask that you please put QoV or Quilts of Valour in the subject line of any emails.**