



Quilts of Valour - Canada Society

### Quilts of Valour - Canada Society Mission

To ensure our injured Canadian Forces members are recognized for their service and commitment to our country. We give this support through the presentation of quilts to comfort our past and present Canadian Forces members.

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**10,888 Quilts of Valour™ Presented**

**Spring 2018**

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### President's Message

Well spring has sprung and with that comes quilt shows. It is a busy time of the year for all of us. Preparing hug blocks, organizing volunteers to help at the booth, getting to the show and educating quilters about Quilts of Valour - Canada Society.

It is also a time for sharing. Sharing a few of the thank you letters that QOV<sup>TM</sup> has received. Sharing with friends and supporters how many quilts have been presented since 2006. Sharing how the presentations make you feel. Sharing how great the need is even though we are out of Afghanistan. Sharing that we (our military) are heading for another peace keeping mission. Sharing how you wouldn't know the ladies in the booth with you if you weren't involved with this great cause. Sharing how many new friends you have made both quilters and CAF members. Sharing how your house has been taken over by fabric, batting, backing, brochures and the thank you cards that go with each quilt, oh yes and the quilts. Sharing how much time you spend on QOV<sup>TM</sup>, when you were told "it will only be a few hours a week". Sharing the wonderful talent that you see in the quilts that are left at your door step. Sharing the gratitude that you feel when you pick up that quilt from your door step.

There are many other things you can think of to share with family, friends and supporters about Quilts of Valour - Canada Society. It is an honourable cause to be involved with.

It is not the pats on the back, the articles that are written about you or the fame and let's face it; there is no fortunes that keep us doing what we do. It is knowing that we, YOU are making a huge difference in the life of an injured Canadian Armed Forces Member and their family. The presentation of a quilt; supporting Quilts of Valour - Canada Society with fabric donations, or monetary donations; your time helping in the booth, organizing a sew day *all* of this makes Quilts of Valour what it is today.

Thank you for all you do and Happy Spring



**Tammy Gauthier receiving quilt from Settlers Village Quilters**

## **Tammy Gauthier Receives a Quilt**

Thank you so much for giving me the honour of accepting such a beautiful gift.

I served 16 years as an MSE OP 1985-2001. This has got to be the highlight of my Military career!! I am so honoured and humbled. I know the work that goes into a Quilt! I promise to cuddle in it and cherish it forever.

I know when life sends triggers my way I can cuddle in my Quilt and know that someone truly cares. It's an amazing feeling

Bless you all  
Thank you

Tammy Gauthier  
Retired Corporal CD



## Viewpoint Quilters Presentation

This year we had 5 quilts available to present at the Viewpoint Quilter's Point of View Quilt Show. Pictured are presentations to Don Waller, our own quilter and Vet Eileen Anderson, Jim Anderson, and Art Sibley. Their very interesting military careers were in Communications, Engineers and Intelligence. We appreciate their service!

As a side note, Diana Fulte of the U.S. QOV has asked us to join them for their Veterans' Day service this November where we will present a quilt to one of our veterans.

## Quilt Show, Point Edward ON

ON6 has been invited to be part of the Sarnia Quilters Guild Quilt Show on June 1 and 2, 2018.

The show is named "A Feast for the Eye".

It will be at the Point Edward Area in Point Edward, ON.

Quilts of Valour have become a part of the meaningful charities they support.

The Quilts of Valour - Canada Society booth will have 300 Hug Block kits available for purchase. We will also showcase the quilting skills of Jack Stewart, of Corunna, ON. Mr. Stewart runs "JMS" Jack's Magic Stitches where he long-arm quilts most of our Quilts of Valour - Canada Society quilts for free.

Quilts of Valour - Canada Society Presentation to Mother and Son



Pictured above and to the left are Ruth and her son Hans with Quilts of Valour - Canada Society representative Chris Longmore. It is rare that we get to thank a mother and son for their service. Ruth enlisted in the Canadian Women's Army Corps in 1943 and served until the end of the war. Her son Hans has served in both Bosnia and Afghanistan. Military service runs in the family, Ruth's husband, Hans' father, served in the Air Force for many years. Members of the Valley School House Quilters Guild in Cumberland, BC, provided the quilts. Ruth's 'hug' was donated by Carren Webber and Joan Boyle; while Hans' 'hug' was donated by Carren Webber and Margaret Letkeman.

## Guelph Quilts of Valour

By Rose Parr

I wanted to make a Quilt of Valour and went to the website, <http://www.quiltsofvalour.ca> to see where I would ship it to. I realized there was no connection in this area so I volunteered to be a Guelph representative, thinking I would be a “drop off” location. Next thing I knew I was speaking at local quilt guilds and organizing QOVC™ sew days and I am happy to help.

Our first sew day was April 7<sup>th</sup> at our local Legion. We had fifteen (15) volunteers and luckily most of them were very experienced quilters because I had never attended a sew day, a retreat, or a workshop! I made up 10 quilt kits from fabric that had been donated locally and Lezley Zwaal, of Quilts of Valour - Canada Society, sent me some much needed fabric and enough hug blocks to make another two quilts. I emailed seven (7) area quilt guilds a blurb for their newsletter and they kindly included our information. The Bee, as our sew day was now known, was also listed in several publications that print the Guelph community events calendar.

I had been advised that Snap might be coming by to take pictures but I was totally surprised when CTV Kitchener and Magic 101FM also stopped by. Ironically, they interviewed the only non-quilter in the room, fortunately, she was great on camera.

<https://kitchener.ctvnews.ca/video?clipId=1368556>

We had a great day! The Guelph area is well known for its quilting enthusiasts and I am so pleased that these busy quilters are willing to donate their time and skill to Quilts of Valour - Canada Society as well as the many other charities they service. Our next Sewing Day is on May 12<sup>th</sup>.

## What Is A Quilt of Valour?

A Quilt of Valour™ is a Tribute to an injured CAF Member past or present  
A Quilt of Valour™ is a "hug from the nation" to an injured CAF Member or honoured Veteran who has served and made sacrifices for our country. The quilt standards must reflect the level of gratitude that we want to demonstrate to the recipient. Quilts of Valour™ can be made by individuals, social groups or quilting bees. In all cases we request that these standards we have established are followed to ensure that a high quality symbol of gratitude is presented.

A Quilt of Valour™ must be a minimum size of 55" by 70".

Quilt of Valour™ Design: A Canadiana theme is a good choice. Please select fabric patterns that are suitable for a CAF member, choose colours and patterns carefully. Refer to our webpage for patterns that have been made available to QOVC™ quilters.

When you give a completed Quilt of Valour™ it speeds delivery to a CAF member.

## A Family Affair

By Christine Drab and Robbie Chapman

During the summer of 2017, while Canada celebrated its Sesquicentennial, the Mann family gathered in Manotick ON for an overdue reunion. Sisters, Susan Modarai, Diane McDade and Christine Drab hosted approximately 50 family members spanning 4 generations. How do you entertain so many people for the day? The obvious comes to mind...sharing stories, looking through old photographs, playing games and a fire pit, which was enjoyed long into the night. And, why not make a quilt or two! I mean, how hard can that be?

With the help of family friend, Robbie Chapman, and a supply of QOVC™ hug blocks from Quilt Canada 2017, the Mann family made blocks that would eventually become 2 Quilts of Valour. One would be presented to Leslie Mann - Uncle Les to everyone in attendance. Most people had never sat in front of a sewing machine, but they were undaunted. Throughout the day; among a great deal of joyful laughter, block after block were completed by various family members. By the end of the day, there were enough blocks for a beautiful Canadian Chain Quilt of Valour



Pictured L-R:

Diane McDade.  
Robbie Chapman  
Scott Fowler  
Christine Drab  
Susan Modarai  
Behrooz Modarai

Story continues on next page....

**A Family Affair** continued

October of last year Uncle Les was feeling under the weather so he made his way to the hospital. As it turned out he had pneumonia that caused additional medical problems, which led to him being admitted to Sunnybrook Hospital in Toronto, away from Oakville and his home. With pneumonia raging in his lungs Leslie fought hard as he was determined to be at the Oakville Remembrance Day service. Up until that time he had never missed one. On Remembrance Day Leslie Mann, still in hospital, was visited by his family, which included his niece and great nephew in military uniform. They presented him with a Quilt of Valour for his WWII Army service, most of it spent in Europe. They wrapped him in a quilted hug in his time of need. Afterwards he rallied until his battle was won and he reached his centenary, his 100th birthday on the 3rd of March 2018.



Pictured with Mr. Leslie Mann  
Lt(N) Joshua Stansbury  
Major Christine Drab

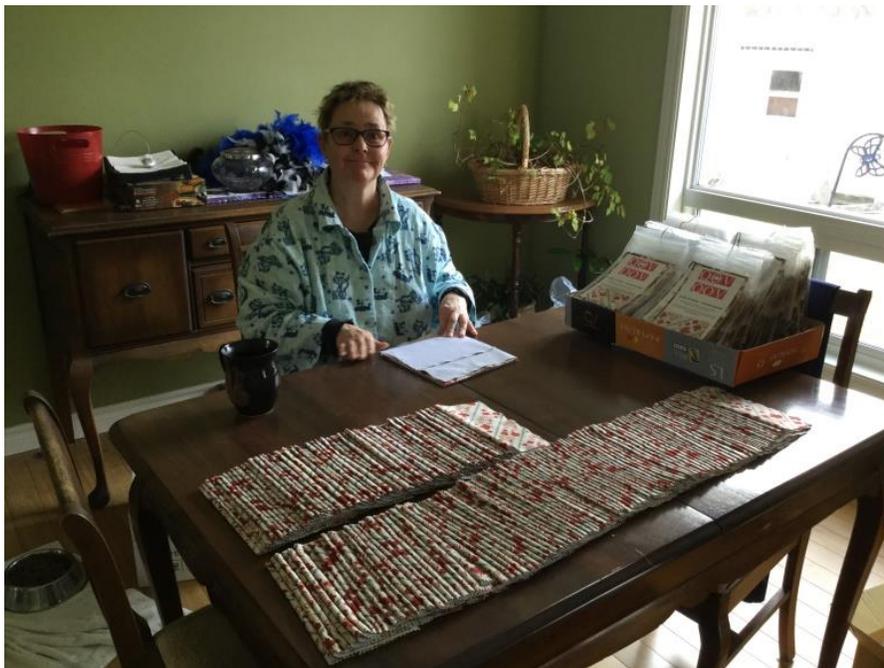
## Seasonal Musings

By Robbie Chapman, Ottawa

It is that season again....Quilt Shows. Here in Ottawa, the local quilt guilds host a Mother's Day Quilt Show each and every year. It is a great way to spend Mother's Day...looking at beautiful quilts, the Vendors Mall, all the new gadgets on the market for quilters, and of course Quilts of Valour. I'm sure that is why everyone comes to the shows...to see us

Recently, while my dear friend Heather Sudbury, was visiting me from Brampton, I started preparing the Quilts of Valour - Canada Society promotional eyeglass cleaning cloths. It was evil of me I know because, (evil grin), she just can't sit there watching me do something like this without stepping in and helping out, or taking over. She worked for hours! She even woke up early and decided to work on them while the rest of the house was still snoozing. Don't you just love friends like that!

Between the two of us (mostly Heather) we managed to prepare 687 bags and only stopped because we ran out of the information inserts. I really need to get her back here...we need to continue preparing for the Ottawa show, the Petawawa show in late May and Mary Ewing will need lots for the show in Vancouver 30 May-2 June 2018!



Heather Sudbury preparing QOVC™ promotional eyeglass cleaning cloths

## Integrated Personnel Support Centres (IPSC)

Glorious and Free quilts have been presented to Integrated Personnel Support Centres (IPSC) across Canada as a thank you for the support that they give to the Quilts of Valour - Canada Society. IPSC centres have helped present approximately 10,888 quilts to injured military members.



Pictured above, Glorious and Free quilt hanging at the Comox IPSC (Integrated Personnel Support Centre) with Service Manager Cheryl Rouseau.

## Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for submissions for the next newsletter is August 21<sup>st</sup>. Thank you.