

## QUILTS OF VALOUR - CANADA 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 in their time of need.*

### MARY EWING PRESIDENT



It is hard to believe how much has been accomplished in our first year as the new board of directors. It has certainly been a learning curve for me and new appreciation for our Past President.

We recognize the high value that our recipients place on a Quilt of Valour and the dedication

that our representatives willingly provide. We have strengthened our brand value with new trademarks, a new brochure and a new Quilt of Valour label.

Focusing on our goal of 10,000 Quilts of Valour by 2018 we have organized our directors, officers and representatives with clear roles. We are looking to expand our officers with new responsibilities and provide extended coverage as we increase our number of representatives Canada wide.

We have introduced a Quilt of Valour - Canada Society membership program with an on-line application form. To help with volunteers for Quilts of Valour events, we now display an event calendar on the website with a simple form for volunteers to let us know they are interested in helping.

Quilts of Valour - Canada would like to thank our major sponsor Northcott for our extended partnership. Their generosity is making a huge impact on the quality and quantity of quilts that are being given for presentation to an injured CAF member.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the Quilts of Valour representatives across Canada, your hard work and dedication is making an enormous difference in the lives of Quilts of Valour recipients.

### QUILTS OF VALOUR - CANADA SOCIETY

#### INTRODUCES MEMBERSHIP

Quilts of Valour - Canada Society has introduced a Membership Registration Program. Quilts of Valour relies on support from many dedicated volunteers, individual donors and corporate sponsors to fulfill our mission. Your membership is a testament of your support for our mission; *providing comfort to our injured CAF members and Veterans in their time of need.*

There is no cost for membership. As a member we look to you to join us in promoting Quilts of Valour - Canada. All members will be invited to attend our Annual General Meeting as an active participant in planning our future success. Becoming a member is simple with a Membership Application available on our website, [quiltsofvalour.ca](http://quiltsofvalour.ca).

### VETERANS VOICES OF CANADA VISITS WWII VETERAN RUDY DEUTSCH

Allan Cameron, Founding Executive Director/Producer of Veterans Voices of Canada sent the following letter:

Thanks for allowing me to hand over one of your amazing pieces of artwork to a very deserving hero. You made this 92 year old lover of life very happy, VERY happy with it to say the least. Flags of Remembrance National Director Jeannette Giesbrecht assisted me and what an honour for the two of us to be able to represent Quilts of Valour in this way. Rudy is quite a character and a true Canadian "D-Day Dodger" hero who saved many a life during his service in Italy and Northwest Europe.

I first visited Rudy Deutsch several years ago when I interviewed him for my organization, Veterans Voices of Canada. This trip saw us having a fine visit, presenting him with a quilt on behalf of the wonderful people at Quilts of Valour. Rudy showed Jeannette a thing or two about checkers (she lost). Thank you Rudy, this is the least we all as Canadians can offer you. Cheers my friend!



Rudy Deutsch

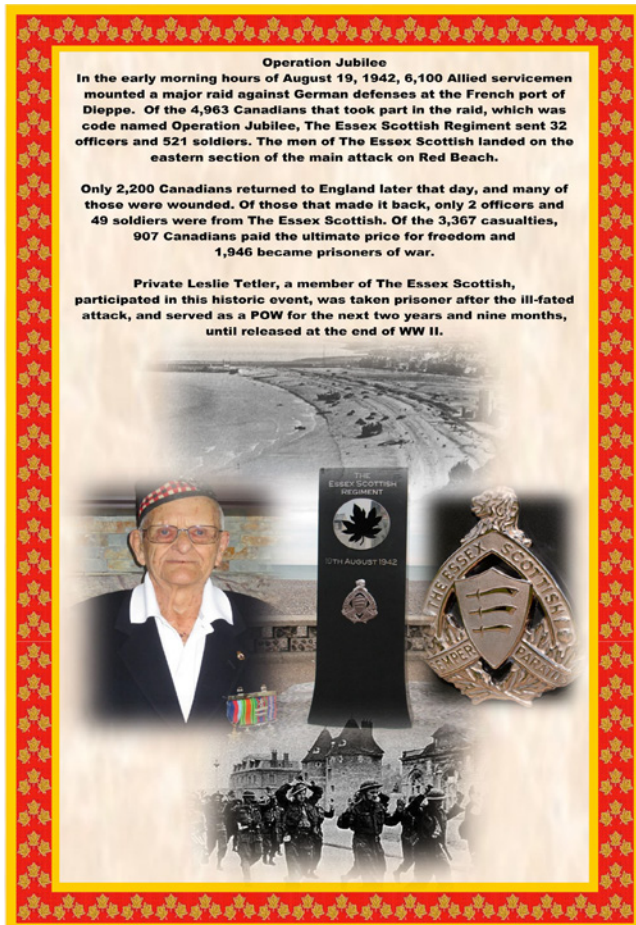


Rudy Deutsch & Allan Cameron



## DIEPPE FRANCE, AUG. 19, 1943

Pte. Leslie Tetler is the last surviving Essex Scottish veteran of the ill fated raid on Dieppe France on Aug. 19, 1943.



Pte Tetler is shown receiving his Quilt of Valour, presented to him by Honourary Colonel Phillip Berthiaume in front of the Dieppe Memorial which is an exact duplicate of the memorial at Red Beach where the Regiment went ashore. ON Southwest Rep Brenda Oliphant assisted in the presentation.

submitted by Don Oliphant, ON Southwest Rep

## 39 YEAR CAF VET, STILL A PEACE KEEPER

Major Alan Woolley, CD served in the Canadian Armed Forces for 39 years. He spent much of his time in Africa on peacekeeping missions to Egypt, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Sierra Leone. He also was deployed as part of Canada's mission in Afghanistan.

During the last 7 years of his career, his mission was to teach African Union officers to plan and conduct peacekeeping missions. This task took him across Africa as his team trained over 600 officers from 25 different African nations.

Alan retired from the Army in 2013 and now works for the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. His job as a cease-fire monitor in the Ukraine allows him to continue to work as a peace keeper.

Alan's new quilts was made by Doreen Taylor of St. Catharines, ON. Doreen expressed her love of country with motifs such as an Inuksuk, the Rocky Mountains and the Northern Lights.

(newsletter editor)





## “THE BEST OF THE BEST”

Guest Column by Diana Bayles, Edmonton AB

As a child, I knew first-hand the sacrifices those serving DND and their families made. I also knew the pride, joy and privileges that come with being a part of the DND Family. I lived it every day, I am the proud daughter of Warrant Officer David McLaren (Retired) with 31 years of service. I was blessed to marry an amazing man who had a very similar upbringing as me. He too is a Military Brat whose father, Captain Gerry Bayles retired with 26 years of service. My uncle Terry Mosher has put in many tours and is still committed to DND at a civilian level.

As a Mom with 4 young children, it was eye opening last year, the different world my children live in. At our school Remembrance Day celebrations, the kids were asked to bring in photos and information on family and friends that served or are active with the Military, to be posted on the school wall of honour. Most children brought 1 sheet, my children brought over 20 sheets, from great great grandfathers all the way to their cousin who just finished her first year at RMCC. When our kids realized this difference, how they were impacted by their own family and friends' service to Canada, a new sense of pride and admiration hit them. It was amazing!

Days after the celebration, I heard about Quilts of Valour in passing from a work colleague. I looked up the website and while scrolling the pages, my 8 year old son noticed and without hesitation asked, “Are those for our honour wall family?” It was his question that started our beautiful journey to the QOV family.

After we submitted their names to QOV requesting quilts, we received pictures and phone calls from my father and my uncle who were humbled by their Quilts of Valour. My kids loved seeing the pictures and thought it was so great their family received them. It wasn't until Lezley Zwaal showed up at our house with 2 more quilts that due to timing and distance just weren't finding their way to their homes, that my kids started to see how special this all really was. Now we were being given the privilege of presenting the two quilts to our own family loved ones.

My kids practiced their own speeches and were so excited to present the first quilt to their uncle, Chris Byrne (Retired) Sgt 2 Battalion. We met him for lunch on his way back to Ft McMurray AB from Winnipeg MN. Listening as our 4 children spoke about the quilt and the love and thanks that volunteers from QOV had stitched into it, how they were so proud of him, thanking him for all he did so they can do whatever they want (as long as Mom says it's ok), as a Mom

and Dad it was a proud moment. Many a tear fell.

To these kids, watching their uncle, who is one of their role models and hero in general, as he hugged them so tight with tears running down his face, it hit them hard. It was that moment, because of a quilt, that my children realized how important their uncle was, how special the work and sacrifices he made were to others in Canada who don't know him and who will never ever meet him. My youngest looked at her brother and said **“That blanket is very special, only special people get them, it's like a medal!”** It's a day that will forever be with us.



Chris Byrne, Tristan, Macalynn, Aidan, & Hunter Bayles, ages 5, 3, 8 & 14

Next, my eldest son was blessed to have the opportunity to present the 2nd quilt to his other grandfather, Captain Gerald W. Bales, Retired, while visiting the grandparents in Tucson AZ this summer. While we all watched on Facetime, Hunter spoke about how proud he was to be able to recognize his Grandpa by the honour of delivering a quilt for QOV. He said he was privileged to be given the opportunity to say thank you from so many in such a cool way. His grandfather was humbled and grateful

for the gift, the recognition and the heartfelt love that came from everyone involved with QOV.

In the end, I know that these quilts all found their true owners. They all will be a constant reminder to those who received them, that their service is recognized and appreciated even after they have retired, not just by their family, but by others they have never met. To say Thank you to you all doesn't seem enough. The impact you made on the lives of my children is priceless. They smile every time they see the photos. They made a connection to DND through these quilts. I don't think they truly grasped how special those that served our country are. My 5 year old said it best, **“they didn't just have a job like you mom, they had a job only really special and important people have, they are the best of the best in Canada, and now everyone knows it cause they got their quilt”**

Thank you for making these service men know how important their service was, Thank you for giving us the privilege of being involved, and Thank you for teaching my children, the next possible service men and women, what an honourable sacrifice it is to serve our country. Lezley the legacy you are creating is truly amazing.



Warrant Officer David McLaren, Retired

## SIGN A QUILT AND THANK A SOLDIER



The International Plowing Match 2015 was held in Finch, ON during August and September. The IPM showcases all aspects of farm life, which of course must include quilts! Autumn Splendour was the quilt competition for



the IPM and all of the quilts from that competition were on display at the Quilt Tent. Quilts of Valour Ottawa Region volunteers set up a booth at two shows and sold Hug Mugs as a fundraiser for QOV Ottawa Region. Robbie Chapman brought quilt blocks for guests to sign for a signature block quilt. In fact, two Quilts of Valour will be made from these blocks and eventually presented to two CAF members. Robbie says, "It was a wonderful opportunity for our 8 volunteers to educate people about Quilts of Valour and what we do for our military community. We had lots of laughs and made new contacts for future projects."

submitted by Robbie Chapman

## RESOLVE, PRIDE AND CONFIDENCE

I have been going to jail. OK – I have been going to a women's prison and instructing the women there who are learning life skills to survive when they are released. They are near the end of their time served, and have earned, through their behaviour, the right to attend sewing classes. These women make a lot of items for the various shelters in need of children's clothing and other sewn items. They also have made several quilts for QOV to present.



*The Lone Star QOV quilt presented by Lezley Zwaal*

Their favourite pattern is a variation of the Lone Star quilt. After receiving one of their quilts, I sent them (through their instructor), a picture of the soldier receiving their quilt. One of the women actually knows him! They were so excited! It meant so much to see proof that their quilts are truly given out. We often reflect on the impact our quilts may have on the recipient, but don't realize the pride and confidence this presentation gives to those who make the quilts.

submitted by Lezley Zwaal, QOV Founder and AB Edmonton Rep



## DEPARTING WITH DIGNITY



*Padre Nelligan: Padre Walton, Padre Nelligan, Jan Easton, ON Belleville rep*

Padre Timothy Nelligan celebrated his Departed With Dignity parade on August 21, 2015. Originally a Reservist, then Regular Force, followed by seminary training, Padre Nelligan's military career included six tours in Bosnia, Iraq and Afghanistan. The Royal Canadian Chaplain Service has approximately 192 Regular Force chaplains and 145 Reserve Force chaplains representing the Christian, Muslim and Jewish faiths. The vision of the Chaplaincy is to "be an operationally relevant Chaplaincy that supports and cares for all CAF personnel and their families, wherever they live and serve, empowering them spiritually and morally to meet the demands of military service."

Jan Easton, VP of Quilts of Valour Canada recently presented Padre Nelligan with a Hugs Across the Nation quilt.

(newsletter editor)

## TIME FLIES WHEN YOU'RE HAVING FUN

Somehow without really intending to, I am close to completing 34 years in the Canadian Armed Forces. It has been exciting and rewarding but it did take a toll on my body. Would you believe that some medical professionals believe that jumping out of aircrafts in flight or humping a rucksack for miles is not good for you in the long term? As a result, the medical release process has been initiated. I am expecting the decision from Ottawa at any time. Do not worry for me as I consider myself luckier than most as many others are released without a pension large enough to meet their needs.

I met Debbie Bristol who is my counselor at the Warrior Center in Petawawa. She will be guiding me through the release process ensuring that I get the most of the services available to me. However, she had a big surprise for me: a quilt! That was totally unexpected.

I want to take this occasion to thank you for your generous donation. It means a lot to me. As I leave the Armed Forces, I will get many things that are mandated by custom or regulations. However, your gift is clearly from the heart as nothing compels you to do so. It is even more valuable as my wife explained to me how much time and effort goes into the creation of a quilt.

Thanks again! Sgt / Sgt Ray Hebert CDAO PC & Trg, 4 CDSG Canadian Armed Forces

## CONTINUOUS SERVICE FROM 1936 TO RETIREMENT

Brenda and I were privileged along with our MP Dave Vankesteren to present a Quilt of Valour to 93 year old Captain Sheridan Edward Atchison of the Royal Canadian Regiment.



*Captain Atchison, RCR with MP Dave Vankesteren and Brenda Oliphant*

Captain Sheridan Edward Acheson's service is quite unusual, as he is probably one of the only living Veterans who saw service in 1936 with "B" Company 2nd Machine Gun Battalion. At the outbreak of WWII in 1939, 'Sher' enlisted as a member of the Royal Canadian Regiment (RCR) lying about his 17 year's of age, stating that he was 21.

After arriving overseas, his true age was detected so "Sher" was sent to London, ON where he served in a variety of support and training roles. He was promoted Warrant Officer Second Class and being old enough to serve overseas, he was transferred to the front lines.

On 10 July 1943, 'Sher' along with another 100,000 allied soldiers landed in Sicily. He led a platoon of RCR infantry through very intense fighting across the island. Two weeks later 'Sher' was severely wounded by a hit from a German 88 mm anti-tank gun at Agira, Sicily. He convalesced in allied hospitals in Tunisia, Algeria, London England, and finally home to London ON in Dec. 1943, convalescing at Westminster Hospital.

Following a very short stint in Korea, "Sher" completed his career as a director of DVA in Ontario where with steadfast determination he looked after the rights and welfare of injured war veterans.

submitted by Don Oliphant, ON Southwest rep

## LIFE LONG FRIENDS SERVED IN THE WOMEN'S AIR CORPS

Lezley Zwaal, founder of QOV Canada sent the following article that reveals the richness and constancy of friendships, the ones that last a lifetime. The Quilts of Valour that we present are not only our way of thanking those who have served our country, for the freedom we have to be here today, doing what we love doing (quilting), quilt making also stitches the fabric of our lives in ways we often cannot predict.



*Pat Carson's Quilt of Valour*

Lezley met Mary Waugh quite a few years ago at her son's school where Lezley volunteered and Mary worked in the office. They stayed in touch and 3 years ago, Lezley supplied Mary with some hugs blocks, enough to make a Quilt of Valour. Mary's quilter friend and neighbour for many years, Ann Burrell, put the blocks together and made a beautiful hugs blocks quilt. Lezley discovered through Ann that Mary is a CAF veteran! Ann recommended we present the quilt to Mary, who was going to be catering an event at a quilt camp with another long term friend and veteran Pat Carson. During Mary's service in the Women's Air Corps, Mary met



*Mary Waugh and Pat Carson*

Maureen Devich – who Lezley knows from their quilt guild, and Mary & Pat know from Girl Guides Through Quilts of Valour - Canada, we are able to honour these women - thank them for their dedication and service to all Canadians. In doing so, our own life "quilt" just got a little bigger.

Pat Carson, who trained in St. Jacques, QC, Clinton and Aylmer ON. Ann, Mary and Pat remain life long close friends. At that quilt camp this summer, Lezley arranged for Ann's quilt to be presented to Mary, and for another quilt to be presented to Pat. Both veterans were very surprised and pleased to receive the quilted thank you from another mutual friend,

## BRENDA HICKS - AWESOME AMBASSADOR

She traveled from Regina to Moose Jaw SK and arrived with a Quilt of Valour tucked under her arm, ready to deliver to a 92 yr. old veteran of WW II. Once again, Brenda Hicks helps make wonderful things happen. Edwin (Ebbie) Henry, his wife Sarah and daughter Marilyn Wirsche greeted Brenda and invited her into their home. Brenda unfolded the beautiful Quilt of Valour and presented it to Ebbie, expressing thanks and gratitude on behalf of all Canadians.



*Ebbie & Sarah Henry with Brenda Hicks*

She wanted him to know that his contribution to the war effort has not gone unnoticed, and that this quilt contains warm hugs of appreciation. She gave him a big hug and received a big hug in return.

Ebbie reminisced how his twin brother John and he joined the war effort the day after Pearl Harbour was bombed. Ebbie went into the Army. After basic training, Ebbie learned the quota for soldiers was full, so he went to university for a year. When called back, he had to go through basics



*Ebbie & John Henry*

again in England, this time in paratroop training. John went into the Navy, serving in the York Rangers 220 Naval escort service searching for U boats in the North Atlantic. Sarah showed Brenda a framed picture of two young handsome men, decked out in their uniforms, Ebbie and John. Both men received honourable discharges at the end of the war. John stayed in Ontario where he met and married Ruth, the love of his life. Ebbie returned home to Shamrock, SK. and lived with

his mother until he married Sarah in 1950.

Being a very hot day in August, everyone agreed to a cold drink and cookies. Brenda was an awesome ambassador for Quilts of Valour. A big thank you goes out to the quilters and to all those who helped make this presentation happen, especially Gina DeLorenzi, Ebbie's niece, who submitted his name. Many, many thanks.

submitted by Marilyn Wirsche, Hodgeville, SK



THE BATTLE OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC

The Battle of the North Atlantic was the longest battle of WWII and possibly the most decisive of the conflict. It was also a battle that stretched deep into Canadian territory



*Benjamin Franklin Sherk & wife Marjorie*

and impacted the homeland directly by the sinking of over 1000 merchant ships by German U boats in the northern sea lanes. Benjamin Franklin Sherk was a radar operator on a Royal Canadian Navy corvette patrolling

the North Atlantic, searching for U boats and providing protection for Allied convoys that were providing crucial support for England's survival. Surrounded by his 3 daughters and wife Marjorie, Mr. Sherk was presented with a beautiful Quilt of Valour in August at his home in Niagara Falls by ON Niagara rep Gina DeLorenzi. He noticed that the quilt colours were the same as the cold dark waters of the ocean and the quilting was done in wavy lines. Mr. Sherk showed us his photo as a young sailor, he still has the same beautiful, open smile 70 years later.

(newsletter editor)

IN THEIR TIME OF NEED



15 KILOMETRES OF FABRIC

Add 5 kilometres of batting and copious amounts of thread and you might have a rough estimate of yard goods that Joan Keeline O'Leary of Hamilton ON has run through, literally, in making over 1800 quilts. Joan's love and dedication are immeasurable. Over 95 of Joan's quilts have been given to Quilts of Valour and the remaining are gifts to Ronald MacDonald House in Hamilton and for her family and loved ones.

Joan has been quilting for 35 years, and early on it was the hand quilting of Hawaiian quilts that inspired the 800 hours necessary to stitch quarter inch echoing lines around the Hawaiian motifs on a single quilt top.

Every month since 2007 Joan has made one quilt for QOV and 15 to 20 children's quilts. She says the children come first and the children's families are equally important to her.



*Douglas MacKay*

Joan advises new quilters to start simple, that if you love it, it will grow, and that quilting takes talent and time. When asked about the challenge of obtaining such large quantities of quilting supplies, Joan was very modest about the personal expenditures she makes. Instead she spoke about once receiving 3 large packing boxes of fabric that were given by a family who had inherited the supplies. From those 3 boxes, Joan sewed 100 quilts for the children. At Ronald MacDonald house, Joan is known as The Quilt Lady. In Hamilton, Joan is a Home Town Hero.

While Joan says she never expects to be thanked, that she only wants to help another person, she was delighted to see a photo of Korea War veteran Douglas MacKay, recipient of her red and white Quilt of Valour. Mr. MacKay's quilt and 33 other Quilts of Valour were presented in St. Catharines, Niagara Falls and Fort Erie in August 2015 by ON Niagara rep Gina DeLorenzi. (newsletter editor)



## 401 FALL QUILT RUN 2015/EASTERN ONTARIO REPORT

Sixteen quilt shop in 31 days! That's the challenge this year for quilters living close to HWY 401 in Ontario, with 16 different block patterns to be collected, mileage cards to be stamped, prizes to be won and merchandise discounts. Jan Easton, VP QOV and Belleville ON area rep has been busy filling orders for hug mugs sales at several of the quilt shops. Andjareenas in Trenton ON has kept Jan especially busy cutting many metres of fabric for the hug mugs. Literally, it's plain hard work cutting fabric for over 200 mugs at a time. Volunteers, anyone?

Being National Vice President is a very time consuming responsibility for Jan. She also represents much of Eastern Ontario, initiating and co-ordinating efforts that encourage quilters and quilt related activities. This fall season, Jan made presentations at the Lindsay Creative Quilt Guild, at the Durham Trillium Guild in Whitby, she supported Pineridge Knit and Sew with their mini "use up your stash day and make a Quilt of Valour" event held on November 9, she accepted 10 quilts from the Napanee Heritage Guild plus 19 more stunning quilts delivered by Jean Humpage from quilters in the Pickering area and a further 10 quilts from the Rouge Valley Guild also in Pickering. Jan presented 10 Quilts of Valour to WWII Veterans at Westgate Lodge in Belleville.

Local quilt shop participation in promoting Northcott fabric, QOV's National Sponsor, is sincerely appreciated by our organization. A quilt shop Signature Block, designed by and featured in a local quilt shop's events calendar is another way individual shop owners show their support for the mission of Quilts of Valour.

(newsletter editor)

## BANNER SAYS IT ALL

### DELIVERING YOUR QUILTS TO INJURED CANADIAN MILITARY PERSONNEL AND VETERANS

On September 25 and 26 the Creative Stitches Show took place in Calgary at Spruce Meadows. We had a hung quilt show this year but not a quilt challenge. Many of those attending the show had a good look at the nearly 30 quilts we had. When we first started having a booth at the show very few had heard of Quilts of Valour. Now we are

finding that most visitors have at least heard of our organization and many have made a quilt. submitted by Sandy Carlile AB South rep



## QUILT OF VALOUR ADVERTISED ON LINE

The following article is excerpted with permission from the American Quilts of Valor Foundation newsletter.

From time to time, word spreads through the QOVF community that a Quilt of Valor is being offered on eBay or Etsy, both of them web commerce sites that allow individuals to post items for sale on line.

From the foundation's standpoint, once we award a Quilt of Valor, it stays awarded. We don't take them back. We have no control over what the recipient may do with his or her quilt, or what the recipient's family may do with the quilt when the recipient dies. While we may regret a person's decision to sell an awarded quilt, it is out of our hands.

Recently, a Quilt of Valor offered on eBay included a photo of the label. The names of the top maker and quilter were clearly visible. The recipient name was still blank. How disappointing for those who have spent time, effort and love making a Quilt of Valor for a veteran or service member!

According to past Executive Director Susan Gordon: "Each time a situation like this came to my attention, I contacted the seller and explained that a Quilt of Valor is an award presented to a specific veteran - that QOV's are never bought or sold. Respectfully, I asked them to remove the quilt from their listing. Most of the time they complied, and apologized for not realizing the meaning behind a Quilt of Valor."

Occasionally a seller has ignored Susan's request. In those cases she contacted eBay or Etsy. Both of these on line sales platforms know our name is Trademarked. Monitoring such sites, however, is difficult.

Please let us know if you ever see a QOV advertised on line. We will follow up as best we can. Please, never bid on these items. Lack of sales may discourage sellers who do not respect our work from listing again.

by Ann Rebhein, Executive Director, Quilts of Valor Foundation

## MORE SAGE ADVICE FROM SUSAN GORDON

Reprinted with Susan's permission:

-Nothing moves as fast as we want in an all-volunteer organization, but that doesn't mean we aren't dancing as fast as we can to accomplish our goals.

-The more we learn from our local sew groups, the better the decisions we will make at the Executive and Board of Directors levels.

-I have found that I am capable of lying. "15 hours a week," comes out of my mouth without a second thought when asked how much time is needed for a national position or volunteer project.

by Susan Gordon past Executive Director, Quilts of Valor Foundation



THE QUILT OF VALOUR BRAND

The Quilt of Valour - Canada Society brand serves a very important role in our mission. We rely on support from sponsors, donors and many volunteers. By clearly demonstrating an appropriate and professional brand we give a clear message that we are committed to our mission. Our brand also plays an important role in the perceived value of a Quilt of Valour to our recipients who deserve the best that we can offer.

Our new brochure and quilt label are fully bilingual. We have selected colours and a style that are easily recognizable by both past and present CAF members. We know that recipients cherish the Quilt of Valour Label and now it is even more meaningful to them.

Our key brand labels and terms have been Trademarked in both official languages. The new brochures are available now from our representatives. The new Quilt of Valour Label is printed directly on fabric ensuring a quality result. The new fabric labels are provided by our sponsor Northcott and will be available this month from QOV reps.

Our Colours



Primary

Secondary



Past



Present



Quilts of Valour - Canada Society brochure

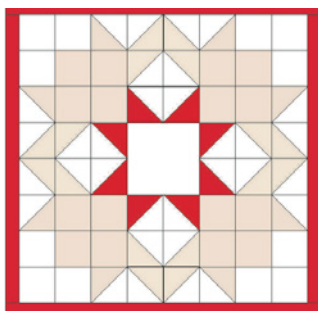


new Quilt of Valour label

THE QUILT FRAME - A VIRTUAL BEE

**Website Quilt Block Library** - We're requesting designs from your area of the country to build up our Canadian Collection Block Library. The topic could be geographical, historical or natural. Pieced and/or appliqué originality is our goal. Examples are a leaping salmon, a lone pine, perhaps a stockade or campfire. Please send your 9" finished design to Albert, [webmaster@quilts ofvalour.ca](mailto:webmaster@quilts ofvalour.ca).

**Register Your Quilt** - When you or your sewing group make quilts and present them in your local area, please notify the local Rep or register on our website. Registering your quilts will add to the total count for QOV.



Two New Quilt Patterns available as free downloads on our website: [quilts ofvalour.ca](http://quilts ofvalour.ca)

Advice for new quilters, by Maria Peagler

Master the basics. Learn to cut accurately and piece consistently.

Kick the perfectionist habit and aim for fun.

Get involved with a quilt or sewing circle where you feel comfortable. Quilters are generous, funny, creative people. Make connections with them and you'll enjoy not only their quilts, but their support and ideas as well.

QOV SNOWBIRDS



Greetings fellow quilters, from our Quilts of Valour Group in Mesa Arizona. We are looking forward to fun under the sun this winter, and getting back together with everyone. We have all designed blocks during the summer months, and are ready to sew them into a new patriotic quilt.

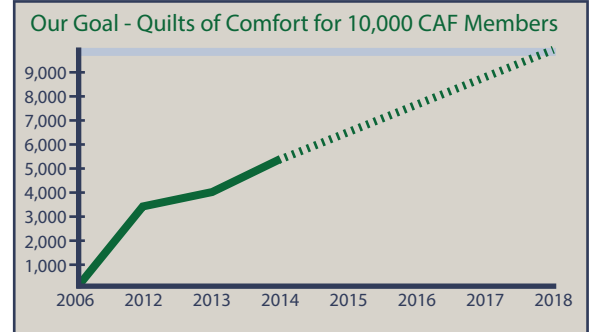
submitted by Connie Mitchelmore Snowbirds rep

*Did You Know*

## QUILTS OF VALOUR WEBSITE

To support our new Membership program we now provide Membership Application Forms on-line making them accessible to everyone. Volunteers provide critical support at our events. You can now view our Events Calendar and offer to volunteer right on the website.

To support our move toward bilingual support we have started to include French versions on the website and will be looking to improve our support of the French language in the future.

*Our 2018 Goal - We Need Your Help*

Send your submissions for Our Tribute to the editor Email: [newsletter@quiltsofvalour.ca](mailto:newsletter@quiltsofvalour.ca)

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