

Quilts of Valour - Canada

Issue 11
November 2012



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.

www.QuiltsOfValour.ca



Quilts delivered to our injured military service members and veterans:

3348

Meet Your Representative.....

This month QoV - Canada is pleased to introduce to you Julie Poirier Mathur, our Quebec representative.

Julie grew up “franco-ontarienne” in Cornwall, ON, moved to Montreal to attend Concordia University and settled there. She now lives in Beaconsfield, QC with her husband of 18 years and their two sons.

Julie spent 8 years in the Canadian Reserves - Royal Montreal Regiment (Westmount, QC) and 11th Field Artillery Regiment (Guelph, ON).. She spent some time with Parks Canada until starting her family, at which point she decided to try a career as a full time mommy. Now she is a stay-at-home mom and a career-volunteer.

She dabbled in stained glass art for a while, then discovered quilting in 2002. Now she designs her own quilted projects, as well as teaching and lecturing locally about the history and advancement of art quilts in Canada and her own creative process. She and her family enjoy traveling, camping, kayaking, and winter sports. Her husband is from India and they have traveled there several times.



Julie has exhibited several award winning pieces in various juried and invitational exhibitions including *Quilts: a World of Beauty in Houston* in 2009 (Green Pear); all provincial Salons of Courtepointe Quebec Quilts since 2004; *World Piece - Quilts from Near and Far*; Quilt Festival 2005 in Waterloo, ON, at the Musée des Maitres et Artisans du Quebec in 2006, as well as countless exhibitions with the Beaconsfield Quilters' Guild. She also enjoys leading group projects with other artists from her guild (Guitar Blues, 2011). Here she divided a photo into sections and asked each participant to reconstruct their own piece in blue, then reassembled the pieces to see the original image again.



Julie has been working with QoV for 2 years now as the Quebec representative and official translator starting with our QoV labels, now in English and French. She also participates with other organizations as the Vice-President of Courtepointe Quebec Quilts, the Annual Exhibition Coordinator of Beaconsfield Quilters' Guild and is an active member of Studio Art Quilt Associates (SAQA) - Central Canada.



Get involved one block at a time!

Hugs From Across the Nation

Northcott designer Linda Ludovico created the fabric collection OH CANADA in support of Quilts of Valour – Canada. Nine fabrics are in this Stonehenge line - and Quilts of Valour – Canada is inviting quilters across the country to make a block (or two, or more) from this line. Northcott is sponsoring Quilts of Valour – Canada through the sales of this line.



Blocks must be 8 1/2" UNfinished; UNWASHED; any pattern, any design. ONLY the OH CANADA Stonehenge line of fabric from NORTHCOTT© *must* be used for the block. Save your other fabrics for another great quilt! Please check our website for the fabric line! www.QuiltsOfValour.c

Blocks will be gathered and grouped for a quilt top. Quilters, quilting bees, guilds and anyone interested in completing a quilt is asked to register to complete a quilt and we will forward a set of blocks once we have a set from across the nation. You will be expected to complete the quilt, add borders if you wish, bind and label, include making a presentation case, or pillow case to go with the quilt. *Please do not make the quilt from all the blocks from your guild for this project.* We want to make **quilted hugs from across the nation!!**

Quilt shops are encouraged to make up a block pattern from their shop! Some are putting together a kit of the fabrics for the quilters to purchase, along with a free block pattern.

Please let us know who you are, and what part of the country you are from. We want to ensure each quilt made has blocks from coast to coast. *Please sign your block – with your region/city/town/guild name and your name too if you wish!!*

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| <p>Please send with your block:</p> <p>Your Name:</p> <p>Your City/Province/Region:</p> | <p>Are you interested in completing a quilt across the nation?</p> <p>Name of Quilt group:</p> <p>Contact person:</p> <p>Contact PHONE number:</p> <p>Contact EMAIL address:</p> <p>Contact MAILING address:</p> |
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Please send your blocks to your local Quilts of Valour – Canada rep if you know who she is, or mail to:
 Quilts of Valour – Canada, 9721 – 189 ST NW, Edmonton AB, T5T 3P1

There is no deadline – we will keep making the quilts as long as blocks keep coming in!

Lezley Zwaal, Founder, Quilts of Valour – Canada
www.QuiltsOfValour.ca



Have Questions? Need more information? Email QoV@QuiltsOfValour.ca or call 780-983-3210.

Vancouver Island - Marilyn Fuller

It has been a busy year for the Island QoV group starting in March with the Sewing Show thanks to the support of CanNorth Show Management. That brought in 21 quilts to add to the growing number we were collecting. Then it was on the Victoria Quilters' Guild Quilt Show and the Parksville Quilters' Guild Quilt Show again bringing in more quilts. Then five days at Ford Rodd Hill and Fisgard Lighthouse Historic Site and followed by Luxton Fall Fair. Overall we took in a total of 81 quilts with presentations of quilts to a Veterans House, to Veterans themselves and to the Navy.

We presented 12 quilts to Cockrell House for Veterans, 10 to the military, 56 to the Navy, and 3 to Veterans. We are scheduled to do a presentation at the West Shore Quilters' Guild in November and possible booth space at their show in March.

When we have done these shows we have tried to make it an interesting and educational event for both the public and the workers. So we are always talking to people about the quilts, about the additions to the main showing of Quilts of Valour. This we do by having some samples of Underground Railroad Quilts and Cot-to-Coffin quilts. All these types of quilts are related to conflict and war and how they helped or comforted the participants. We were thrilled when people asked questions and we heard comments like "I didn't know how important quilts have been throughout history, thank you so much for taking the time to explain". Or other comments like "I'll never look at a quilt again and just see a pretty blanket! Thank you for educating me".

As I said at the beginning it has been a very busy year, but it has been a rewarding one for us all and even though we didn't quite get our target of 100 quilts this year, we have a year ahead of us to try again. A major thank you has to go to all the folks who helped make the quilts, organize and man the booths and were always

Luxton Fall Fair there to encourage and support.

*** Note: This article in the [CFB Esquimalt Lookout](#) is a great depiction of the work QoV has done on the island and the military's great appreciation of it.



Fraser Valley, BC - Carolyn Jennings

In August, Carolyn Jennings, Fraser Valley Rep, delivered 20 quilts to Honour House in New Westminister. Honour House provides a temporary home for Canadian Forces personnel, veterans, first responders (ambulance paramedics, firefighters and police) and their families while they are receiving medical care and treatment in the Metro Vancouver area. Ten quilts were handed out to a representative of CFB Chilliwack for distribution both in Chilliwack and at CFB Jericho.



Manitoba - Edith Taylor

Our Manitoba Prairie Quilters guild held our Quilt Show April 13 - 15 in Winnipeg. There were over 200 quilts including competition and show. We also have a challenge of which there were 60 that were auctioned for charity. It is a busy time for all of us but it was amazing how many appliquéd and handquilted quilts there were this year. As you can see by the picture attached, QoV was also represented with our display. There was much interest so we hope it proves fruitful in the days to come. The banners were a great help as it added to the quilt of yellow ribbons that we made for this purpose. They will be shared with other guilds in the province at their quilt shows. We hope to get some of the new fabric that Northcott has designed and make up quilts with it.



Parksville Guild Quilt



Victoria Guild Quilt



Ford Rodd

Western Ontario - Elizabeth Seamans

Carl and Liz Schueler opened [Lilac Lane Quilts](#) in 2002 and have been involved in many community support services. They are located in Alliston, ON, near CFB Borden. Carl also works at the Toronto International Airport. When soldiers return there is a ceremony at the airport and along the highways. The airport employees had taken it upon themselves to update and dignify the equipment used in the transport, which gave Lilac Lane Quilts the motivation to have Liz Seamans go to speak to them about the needs for our Service men and women. Fabric, batting and backing have been donated, as well as sewing and quilting skills and services to complete some much needed quilts



Nova Scotia - Johanna Benning

Hosting a Christmas dinner and dance for veterans of Camp Hill Hospital in Halifax has become a tradition at the “Earl Francis Spryfield Memorial” Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion Br.#152. The one held on December 15, 2011 was a very special event for all participants. The Camp Hill veterans were greeted by the Branch Executive and several members, then escorted to their tables in the main hall where they were treated to a turkey dinner, music, and entertainment.

Santa Claus paid a visit with gift bags for all. During the planning of this event Johanna Benning (NS QoV representative serving at the CF Recruiting Centre, Halifax) was contacted to inquire about the possibility of having quilts presented to the veterans. Johanna sent out the call to the QoV Western Ontario representative, Liz Seamans, who is also a member of the armed forces at CFB Borden. Between herself and Alison McDonald (SW Ontario representative) Liz managed to collect the quilts required, packed them up and shipped to Halifax by courier, arriving the day before the event. Johanna was able to attend the Christmas dinner and participate in the presentation of the quilts to each of the visiting veterans who were touched at



the recognition of the work that went into making each quilt. Many of the quilters who donate to QoV are relatives of returning Afghanistan veterans, some of which include a personal note or message embedded within the patterns and designs, all expressing our special thanks to all veterans in serving their country. Branch #152 offers their heartfelt thanks to the Quilts of Valour organization for their labours, their cheerful cooperation and respect for Canada's veterans.



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Quilts of Valour extends a warm welcome aboard to Brenda Hulan in NS, taking over for Johanna Benning who is now the NT representative in Iqaluit. Also, welcome Doreen Folk, our new Okanagan rep!! Thank you for taking time in your world to encourage quilters in your areas to make quilts for our Canadian Forces members and finding points of delivery for quilt presentations and veterans who are dealing with physical and psychological stresses.

Please contact a representative nearest you!

** We ask that you please put **QoV** or **Quilts of Valour** in the subject line of any emails.