

# Quilts of Valour - Canada

Issue 10  
April 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](http://www.QuiltsOfValour.ca)

## Meet Your Representative.....

This month QoV - Canada is pleased to introduce to you Marilyn Fuller, our Victoria, BC representative.

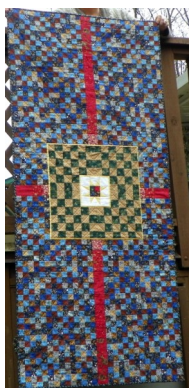
Marilyn was born in Victoria, BC and spent summers with her Nan in Vernon, BC where she learned sewing, knitting, crocheting, needlework, tailoring, and baking. She won some dress design, tailoring and modeling competitions in her teens and started teaching friends how to sew during those same years. She continued to teach sewing while working full time and pursuing her musical participation in community bands and orchestras. While in the bands and orchestras she had the opportunity to design and make some of the dance costumes, develop some of the choreography as well as perform.



She married Ken in 1973, had two sons, took training and became a certified teacher of ceramics, Dresden lace draping, china painting, glass artisan, and porcelain reproduction dolls. She opened a business, then when her boys were older she trained and became a certified international ceramic, porcelain and doll judge. After 18 years in



business she sold her studio and went to work in the health field, started sewing again and took up quilting. She then opened a sewing studio at home to teach children and adults' basic sewing and quilting skills. She is now retired from Health Services and has started teaching quilting at the 55+ Activity Centre in her area. She has organized and attended two quilting retreats each year for the past 9 years and tries to attend as many others as she can.



Marilyn has a strong family history in the military, her father, uncles, and in-laws having served in WWII. She recalls her father having nightmares and had always wondered if there was something more she could do to help. She joined QoV in 2010, teaming up with Judi McCallum to represent Vancouver Island. Marilyn has a long-arm quilting machine and has been enjoying practicing on it.

In March she ran the QoV booth at the Victoria Sewing Show with Lezley. This was the first time CanNorth had used QoV as the quilt show. Northcott also used the show and the QoV booth to launch its new "Oh, Canada" fabric line. The quilt shown to the left is Marilyn's entry to the Great Lakes Seaway Trail War of 1812 Bicentennial Quilt Show. It has been chosen among the top 25 entries to travel with the quilt show for the next two years.

## A Letter from a Soldier ....

Hi, My Name is Ed Bronn, I just wanted to say thank you for what your organization does. I have just received my Quilt from The Blind Bay Quilters and was extremely moved. I love the Maple Leafs in the quilt. I am a 19 yr Vet. I was just medically released from the CF in December of 2011 due to my injuries. I did 3 tours of duty and was injured on two of them. I was in Yugoslavia, Israel and a Support mission for Afghanistan. I came back from my last tour in 2007 and had severe emotional and physical issues. I was soon diagnosed with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder  
It means a lot to me that someone else would take the time to create such a beautiful piece of art just for me. I will treasure it.  
Once again, thank you for the great things you do,  
Sincerely, Ed Bronn.

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Hello  
My name is Anthony and I would like to extend my deepest appreciation for the beautiful quilt which I received over Christmas. I truly appreciate the work that went into making it. The label on the quilt says that a lady named Lynne King made it. I think she may be with the Dunville Quilters Guild. If possible, I would appreciate it if you could convey my gratitude to her for making this quilt and possibly forwarding her the attached picture of me holding my quilt. I really love it and I'm sure it will bring me much comfort.  
Thank you  
Anthony

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Dear Mary,  
Today I was presented with my own quilt of valour, and was honoured and very proud in receiving this beautiful piece of artwork that was made by someone who truly cares and admires the sacrifices that our soldiers do on a daily basis.  
I am still serving, I have had a very long and good military career of 26 years, numerous tours of Bosnia, Kosovo, and Afghanistan, I am diagnosed with severe PTSD and suffer from back injuries. Your lovely quilt will be a new found comfort area for me and my soul to help me cope with the many challenges that lay before me in the years to come, while battling my horrors and daily pain.  
I cannot thank you enough for what you and your group are doing for all the injured soldiers,  
Yours truly Pte. R.G.

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Dear ladies of the Appin United Church,  
My name is Pascal Delisle. I am a Canadian Forces Chaplain and a member of the Canadian Casualty Support Team (CST) currently deployed at the Landstuhl Regional Medical Centre (LRMC), a US military hospital in Landstuhl Germany. In military terms this is called a Role 4 medical facility, which is where soldiers go to receive specialized care if they are injured or become ill while they are deployed in a Theatre of Operations overseas. We have the good fortune to be able to use this wonderful facility for Canadian patients as well.  
The CST is located here to ensure that our soldiers receive administrative and pastoral support from a Canadian perspective in collaboration with the medical support provided by the American doctors and nurses. An important aspect of our mission is to convey to the soldiers the overwhelming support they receive from the citizens of Canada. The quilts that are provided are an outstanding example of the effort and dedication that you and other groups have given to allow the sense of home and comfort to these individuals who are so far from home.  
We have received a patient recently that has a United Church denominational background. I immediately thought of the beautiful quilt that you had provided and thought this would be the ideal soldier to give your quilt to. On Wednesday, September 21st, the CST Commander, Major Savoy, and I had the privilege to give your quilt to him. His name is Lieutenant Colonel Gerry Enders and he was extremely touched by your thoughtfulness and was very appreciative of this gesture of support you have given to Canadian soldiers.  
On the behalf of CST Commander and CST members, I would like to express my sincere and deepest gratitude for your support and prayers for our Canadian Forces members, especially those who unfortunately got injured or ill during their tour. Your quilts made with love and inspiration enhances the morale and welfare of our Canadian patients.  
Yours sincerely,  
Pascal Delisle  
Chaplain  
Captain



Warm welcome... Long arm quilter Marian Vollans had agreed to be our Long Armer Contact for QoV. She will register our long armers, and connect our quilters and longarmers. Thank you so much Marian! We have quilts coming in and going out faster than ever, and it is just going to get busier - especially with the promotion of QoV in quilt shops with the Northcott Stonehenge OH CANADA line expected in stores in June. To register as a long arm quilter, or to request a long armer partner, please contact Marian at [daisystitcherydesigns@sasktel.net](mailto:daisystitcherydesigns@sasktel.net)

### **Long Arm Quilting Partnership:**

**Quilt top maker:** When your quilt top is pressed, free of odours or pet hair, and threads are trimmed; the backing must be 6" to 8" larger than the quilt top (3" to 4" on each side, top and bottom); and the backing has all selvages trimmed away, contact Marian.. She will be able to connect you to a long armer who you can then contact.

**Long Armer:** Upon the receipt of the lap size quilt top, the long armer will quilt it, providing a low loft batting with a good stitch quality. The long armer also provides the thread.

The partners (top maker and long armer) will discuss and determine who will bind and label the quilt. Some quilt top makers have a special label they wish to include, some long armers have a volunteer who will bind the quilt. Also decide who will forward the quilt to the QoV rep.

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## **Becoming a Longarm Quilter for Quilts of Valour** **By Marian Vollans**

In March of 2010 I purchased a used 14-foot APQS Millennium longarm I started practicing on everything I could get my hands on. In May of that year I was looking for a place that I could volunteer my services as a longarm quilter. I had had my longarm for about 2 months and wanted to give something back to those in need. I did a search on the Internet and came up with several possible options. The one that interested me the most was the need for people to longarming quilts for soldiers.

I am proud to be a dual citizen of the USA and Canada. I moved to Canada in May of 1999, after a long process I became a Canadian Citizen as soon as I was able to. The move was made because I had married a wonderful man.

There is a long history in my family of service in the military. My grandfather served in the Army during WWI and decided after getting his motorcycle shot out from under him to start flying planes. His son, my Dad served in the Navy during WWII in the Pacific. My brother served in the Army during the Vietnam War. They all returned without any major injuries.

My husband served in the Canadian forces in the communication division he was a reservist for a number of years. He was never called to active during the time he served.

I also have a number of nephews who have served in the Armed Forces and one even made it a career.

The longarming gives me great pleasure in the ability to enhance the tops that are sent to me for quilting, each one is different. When I received a top and take it out of its package I love to see what the quilt looks like. As I load the quilt onto the longarm the quilt starts to "talk" to me how they want to be quilted. I remember one quilt I did, it was a very pretty one for a gal who is fighting ovarian cancer, and this quilt was really "talking" a lot to me. As I started to quilt it I realized it needed more than just the regular quilting on it and started to quilt words of encouragement as I moved around the quilt. There were lots of hugs in this quilt. I had another quilt that I was doing at the same time and it also wanted words. When I sent them back to the piecers I got a wonderful email saying that they loved the words that I quilted into my quilting. I have been doing this ever since. It is not about the design that you are quilting but the little bit of yourself that you put into every quilt. Each of my quilts I piece and/or quilt have a little bit of me in them, they are all special and all pass on hugs to the new owners from all that have touched the quilt along its way to the new owner.



I do about 2 quilts per month for Quilts of Valor Foundation and have just started receiving quilts from Quilts of Valour - Canada.

I made the decision to start making quilts for both organizations about January 2012 and getting the word out to others about this wonderful opportunity to pay it forward and say thanks to those who have served in the military protecting our freedom. Some have made the ultimate sacrifice by giving their lives in something they believe in and it is something that should be honoured and respected.

I have such a strong commitment to this project that I talked to The Outlaw Quilters Guild an on line guild I belong to and the gals are making me blocks that will be made into quilts for the Canadian soldiers. We are international in flavor and have a great time doing charity work.

What do I expect in return for doing this? Not a darn thing! I do keep track of what I spend: my time, supplies, and postage. If you need to know if any of what you do can be deducted you need to speak to your accountant.

I would then question why you are doing the quilting. It is one thing to say that you donate longarm services to QoV, piecing and quilting QoV quilts because is it something you believe in, but then expecting a tax write off? Those are two separate things in my mind.

I donate my services as part of paying it forward for all those who have served before me.

## Sponsorship Announcement

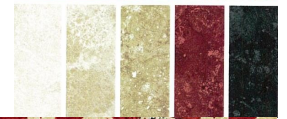
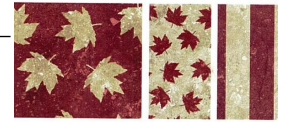


Quilts of Valour - Canada has had their biggest support come this spring with the announcement of a funding sponsor – **Northcott Silk Inc.** The new fabric line of moose and maple leaves is done in Northcott's Stonehenge tradition. Northcott is proud to be an official sponsor of Quilts of Valour - Canada and will donate a portion of the proceeds of designated collections to Quilts of Valour - Canada. Stonehenge, OH CANADA will be available in stores for June 2012. This support will be a very big boost for spreading the word about the quilted comfort for our Canadian veterans and injured service members. I am looking forward to seeing the QoV quilts that will surely come made from these fabrics.

Our website has links to the Northcott fabric – and for those who are designing – their fabrics are all downloadable into the Electric Quilt software!!



**NORTHCOTT**  
*Cottons that feel like silk*



(L-R: Deborah Edwards-Northcott Design Director, Marilyn Fuller, Lezley Zwaal, Daphne Greig-Northcott sales representative for Vancouver Island)



Early February brought a challenge from Can North Shows' **Gil Viveiros** – and our Vancouver Island QoV representative **Marilyn Fuller** wasted no time in accepting it! Gil offered to support QoV with the booth and suggested a quilt challenge – quilts entered into the challenge will go to our veterans and soldiers. They had a very short timeline – and in 25 days 22 quilts were prepared for hanging at the show! Marilyn and her Wednesday senior's quilting group put together a display booth and a fantastic quilt display. What a wonderful surprise to find that the QoV quilts were the hanging quilt show part of the weekend! Through viewer's choice, three lucky quilters were chosen, first choice winning a **Bernina**® Serger 700D and two more winners of a beautiful **Superior**® thread/notion package from **Cindy's Threadworks**.

This was the first time we have seen such a sponsored quilt challenge that directly involved the society and one of its representatives in Western Canada. Gil is working with both Sandy in Calgary and me in Edmonton for the fall shows. Marilyn has set that bar very high – we are going to have to work hard to keep up! Photos show of some of the hardworking quilters: Judi, Marg, Ruth, Liz, Patti, Sharon, Judy, Ev, Diana, Isabel, Preeti, Linda and Christine. They even bound the quilt I brought out for the show while Judi took me on a tour of the Fort Rodd Hill National Historic site – where there will be a great Quilts of Valour demonstration August 15 to 19, 2012.



From a pile of bins, a ladder and a wave of hands – Voila! A booth appears!



First place was awarded to Mae Peterson for her colourful quilt "Iris", the flower symbolizing valour.

Second and third place were awarded to Anne Bell for "Bali Gems" and Christien Shipton for "French Roses".

Bernina, represented by Roberta Wynnyk, kindly donated a 700D Serger for the first place prize and second and third place prizes were provide by Cindy Scraba, owner, Cindy's Threadworks.



### Alison McDonald - Southwestern Ontario



The Binbrook United Church Quilt Show brought in 9 new quilts, plus many comments about the new Stonehenge OH CANADA line of fabric from Northcott. Several shop owners indicated that they would look into carrying the new line.

Thank you to JoAnn Fried at Cock-A-Doodle Quilt Shop in Toronto for giving Pat Castonguay and fellow quilters space in her classroom the first Saturday of every month just for QoV - Canada. The group has now donated 200 quilts with lots more in the process.



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### Mary Ewing - Eastern Canadian Coordinator

In the Ottawa area we are having a raffle on June 6, 2012 at 3:00pm. The quilt is appraised at \$1,800 and tickets are \$5 each. If you are interested in purchasing a ticket please contact Mary Ewing at (613) 446-1600.

Grade 6 and 7 students from Eastview Public School did some delivering and presenting of Quilts of Valour to injured soldiers on Monday, April 2. You can read the full article [here](#).



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### Sandy Carlile - Alberta South

We have had one sewing day at [Along Came Quilting](#) (6432-1A Street SW, Calgary, AB) and have a second one scheduled on May 1. Linda, the shop owner, has been really helpful in getting this started and letting us use her nice large classroom. She is also taking preorders for the QoV fabric from Northcott at a discounted price (\$11.99/meter). I'd like to give Linda a big thank you for the support she's given us and also for ordering in the line of fabric.

Hopefully we will also be able to start having sewing days at a shop in N. Calgary at [Traditional Pastimes](#). A thank you to this shop owner also for welcoming us in.

At both shops we will try to have a sewing day about every 4 to 6 weeks, depending on what works best with those coming and the shop schedule. I've been able to take 9 quilts to the DAL unit at the Colonel Belcher long term facility, and also quilts to the 15 unit apartment building being set up for homeless vets.



Lezley Zwaal, Founder, Quilts of Valour - Canada - [QoV@QuiltsOfValour.ca](mailto:QoV@QuiltsOfValour.ca)  
(780) 983 - 3210

Mary Ewing, Eastern Canadian Coordinator - Manitoba eastward. [marybarry54@sympatico.ca](mailto:marybarry54@sympatico.ca)

Registration [Register@QuiltsOfValour.ca](mailto:Register@QuiltsOfValour.ca)

Webmaster - Elsie Montgomery [webmaster@QuiltsOfValour.ca](mailto:webmaster@QuiltsOfValour.ca)

Newsletter - Deborah Gray [Newsletter@QuiltsOfValour.ca](mailto:Newsletter@QuiltsOfValour.ca)

Please [contact us](#) for a representative near you!

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