

Community Quilts

- Tuesday Morning Hand Quilters (#047)
- Worker Bee Wednesday Group (#046, 048)

The Cranbrook Quilt Guild has donated countless quilts to local community services, to individuals in need, to the *Wrap a Smile* project of Rotary International, to sites of fires or floods or other tragedies - even to Hurricane Katrina, the Trade Centres 9/11, plus Fort McMurray, Rock Creek, and Lillooet forest fires. The number donated is likely well over 2,000 quilts. Initially these were baby size quilts, the size grew to include larger pieces for older children, and now range from baby to even queen size. The guild's Constitution includes an objective: Article 2.b. "To donate quilts to community-based social and health services." And further, under the membership responsibilities: Article 3. a. c. "Members are asked to help make a community quilt each year by piecing, quilting or binding a quilt."¹ Members meet this obligation in three ways:

1. Many members make a quilt start-to-finish specifically to be added to the quilts that will be donated to the community. They use their own fabric and batting, or they are welcome to use the guild's supply. Many members have been exceedingly generous. In the early guild years, members were still working and building their own quilt collection. As the members have aged and retired, they still enjoy quilting but have little need for more quilts, thus more quilts are made for fun, to use up their stash, and then are donated.

2. Some members hand-quilt with the Tuesday Morning Hand-quilters. The top is usually one that has been donated by a guild member or found unfinished - sometimes at the Thrift Store and sometimes by the family of a member who has died. When done, the quilt is donated. Lately the guild has reserved these pieces to donate to groups to raffle, for example in 2023, one went to the local Dragon Boat team "*Abreast in the Rockies*" to raise funds for breast cancer support.

3. A few members join the *Worker Bee Wednesday* group weekly on Wednesday evenings from 6-8 PM to help make quilt tops. Other members might take one of the group's finished tops to quilt or bind.

The *Tuesday Morning Hand-Quilters* started gathering every Tuesday morning in 1989. Initially the time was spent hand-quilting the guild's yearly raffle quilt. When the raffles stopped because of changes to the government oversight in 2003, the members continued to stitch on Tuesday mornings for the joy of the quilting bee. Each year, they complete one or two quilts. The number of hand-quilters in the guild has diminished over time as machine quilting became the 'faster' way to finish quilts. Of the 60 members in 2024-25, only 11 regularly hand-quilt.

Worker Bee Wednesday was the brain-child of Jennifer Rea in 2016 when she was the President. The plan was for interested members to gather on Wednesday evenings to make community (donation quilts) using the guild's fabric. The participants were asked to bring a sewing machine, but if that wasn't feasible, to come to cut or press or organize patterns and fabric. Since its inception, 10 or more members have shown up most Wednesday evenings. Initially the group was lead by Jennifer and then Brenda Arnold (#060) took over as coordinator when the guild was able to reconvene after the Covid pandemic.

Quilts have been delivered to the local services by the "Community Quilts" committee - over the years the member(s) responsible was:

¹ Cranbrook Quilters Guild, Constitution and Bylaws, May 10, 2022

Noreen Aikman (1987-1996)	Betty Wardle (1996-1997)	Tammy Ekman (1997 - 1998)
Grace McGregor (1999-2000)	Jackie Brennan & Linda Wesley 2000- 2001	Ileane Sampert (2001-2010)
Ileane Sampert & Pat Braun 2010 -2102	Donna Cockwell, Beth Lenz & Pat Skordal 2012-2013	Donna Cockwell, Pat Skordal & Robin Taylor (2013 - 2014)
Pat Skordal, Robin Taylor, Judy Beaulac 2014-2015	Pat Skordal & Robin Taylor (2015-2017)	Linda Holm, Betty Valin, & Carol Hoodicoff (2017-2020)
Linda Holm & Betty Valin (2020 - 2022)	Donna Lamond & Deidre Gold (2022- 2023)	Deidre Gold & Linda Wesley & (2023 -2024)
Deidre Gold & Linda Wesley & Jan Gordon-Hooker (2024 -2025)		

CQG#046 - *Love Hearts*

Quiltmaker: Guild members & Worker Bee Wednesday Group

Owner: Columbia Basin Institute of Regional History

A guild activity was a “block of the month” - meaning that a block theme/pattern would be announced at the business meeting and members had until the next month’s business meeting to make two blocks to donate. One set of blocks would be won by a member and the other set would go to the *Worker Bee Wednesday* group to make a donation quilt. Barb Olson (#044) won the set of heart blocks and donated them back to the guild. The theme was *Love*, and the block colours were to be red and white.

The quilt was made by ‘many hands’:

- Blocks: Judy Guido, Susan Little, Betty Valin, Barb Olson, Brenda Arnold, Linda Holm, Joy French, Elaine Ransom, Jennifer Rea and others “who can’t remember” if they made a block.
- Layout and top piecing: Barb Olson, Jennifer Rea
- Borders: Julie Laird
- Longarm Machine Quilting: Joy French
- Binding: Lesley Harman

This quilt and the *Sparkle Nine Patch* (#047) have been donated to *Columbia Basin Institute of Regional History* for a online auction to raise funds to pay the yearly website fees for this project.

Pattern	Heart blocks designed by individual quilter. Traditonal sash and block layout.
Subject	Love and hearts
Date	Specific date: February 2019 - Fall 2019
Size	L 73½ x W 64

Overall style	Finished quilt Varied blocks, Sash & Block Realistic
Block	Blocks: Appliqué, Embroidery, Paper pieced, L 8¾" x 8¾", square Sashing cornerstones Number of blocks: 30
Sashing	W 2", straight, Colour: Red Cornerstone: 2" square, Colour: white
Border or Frame	Border 1: W 2", straight, one fabric, Colour: white Border 2: W 3¾", straight, one fabric, Colour: red Cornerstone: 5½" square with appliqué, Motif: heart
Edge finishing	Binding: W ¾", straight, double fold, machine front/hand back Colour: red
Batting	Polyester
Top fabric	Cotton, plain weave Motif: flowers, stripes, geometric, plain/solid, polka dots Feature colours: red, white, pink Background colour: white, off-white
Top piecing method	Machine piecing, foundation paper piecing
Embellishments	Machine Embroidery, Thread: cotton Stitch: straight stitch
Appliqué	Motif: hearts, bird, fussy cut patch, basket Methods: machine blanket stitch & satin stitch, turned edge, raw edge fused/machine stitched
Novelty technique	Fabric weaving, Fussy cut
Backing description	Vertical pieced, cotton, plain weave Specific fabric: Flannel Feature colour: red; Motif: mottled
Quilting	Mid/longarm Machine, Thread colour: white polyester Pattern: edge-to-edge pantograph swirls and feathers
Condition	Unused
Label	In-seam tag: <i>Cranbrook Quilters Guild</i> <i>For your comfort</i>

Comment	Blocks donated by CQG members. Quilt construction by CQG Worker Bee Wednesday Group.
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CQG #047 - *Sparkle Nine Patch*

Quiltmaker: Jan Gordon-Hooker & Tuesday Morning Hand Quilters

Owner: Columbia Basin Institute of Regional History

The pattern for this quilt, *Sparkle Nine Patch*, was taught by Juananne Wales (#078) at a guild workshop in 2007, having received the pattern form at visiting truck show by Dianne Jansson. It's a great pattern for using coloured scrap strips with a light background fabric and a bold accent fabric (solid/"acts like a solid" fabric). At the workshop, Juananne encouraged participants to swap the 2½" strips to increase the variety of colours on their quilt as it's that variety that makes the top sparkle. It is constructed using the strip piecing method - the pattern calls for strips of three fabrics sewn together and then cut into small patches that are assembled into a 9 patch block. The arrangement of blocks and setting triangles mimics the concentric effect of a traditional *Trip Around the World* pattern.

Pattern	<i>Sparkle Nine Patch</i> or <i>Round the World</i> - concentric diamond layout.
Date	Specific date: 2007 - 2020
Size	L 70" x W 59"
Overall style	Finished quilt Repeated blocks, Unequal Nine Patch Scrappy
Block	Pseudo Medallion, Unequal Nine Patch Number of blocks: 80 Featured block: L 5 ¾" x W 5 ¾" , Brackman#1601a (Nine patch) Secondary block: L 5 ¾" x W 5 ¾" , Brackman#3150 (Ocean Waves) Spacing - side-by-side
Border or Frame	W 5¾", Pieced with secondary block on sides & cornerstones Colour: green, cream Cornerstone: Nine patch (#1601a) (top colours)
Edge finishing	Binding: W ½", straight, machine front/hand back Colour: rust, Motif: batik
Batting	Polyester, med loft

Top fabric	Cotton, plain weave Fabric motif: batik, geometric, leaves Feature colour: Brown, cream, gold, green, rust, tan Background colour: off-white, sage green, Motif: batik
Top piecing method	Machine piecing
Backing	One fabric, cotton, plain weave Feature colour: pale sage. Motif: leaves
Quilting	Traditional hand quilting - 6 stitches per inch Knots visible Thread: Cotton. Colour: pale green Pattern: echo, in-the-ditch, criss/cross, piano key
Comments	Top donated by Jan Gordon-Hooker. Hand-quilted by Tuesday Morning Hand Quilters: Betty Wardle, Linda Wesley, Jeanette Oddy, Marg Hall, Erika Schulz

CGQ# 048: *The Scrappy Star*

Quiltmaker: Worker Bee Wednesday

Owner: Donated May 2025

The quilt was designed by Brenda Arnold (#060) and made by Betty Valin (#127) - both regular *Worker Bees*. The pattern is "modern". A relatively new trend is to really enlarge one block pattern to become the whole top (see #002). This pattern for a common "pieced eight point star" is totally constructed with large half square triangles, starting with the pinwheel centre. It's classed by Brackman as an "unequal nine patch with a large centre square like Sawtooth or Lonestar" (#2145 Pieced star).

This quilt has been donated to a the Maternity Unit of the *East Kootenay Regional Hospital*, Cranbrook, BC - May 2025. Likely it will be used as a 'tummy time' quilt on the floor as *Canada Public Health* recommends that quilts not be used to cover babies - the danger is overheating and suffocation.

Pattern	Public domain 'Pieced Star': Brackman #2145
Subject	Eight point star
Date	Specific date - 2025
Size	L 39" x W 39"
Overall style	Finished quilt One block/ Medallion Whole block design Scrappy

Medallion	L 34¾" x W 34¾", pieced Number of patches: 16 - Made of 12 half-square triangle patches and 4 square patches. Patch size: L 8¾" x W ¾", square Brackman #2145 (Pieced Star)
Border or Frame	W 1½", straight with 1½" square cornerstones Multiple fabrics, Colour: orange, yellow, green, blue, red, mauve
Edge finishing	Binding: W ½", straight, double fold, machine front & back Colour: green, multiple fabrics
Batting	Unknown
Top Fabric	Cotton, plain weave Motif: novelty, lacquer print, tone-on-tone Feature colours: lime green, yellow, mauve, orange, green, blue, pink, red Background fabric: off-white
Top piecing method	Machine piecing
Backing	One fabric, Polyester Motif: double knit Specific fabric: minky-like Feature colour: sage green, plain/sold
Quilting	Domestic machine Pattern: geometric Thread: matching patch fabrics/cotton/polycotton
Condition	Unused
Label	In seam tag: <i>Cranbrook Quilters Guild</i> <i>For your comfort</i>
Comments	A community quilt for donation Made by CQG - Worker Bees Wednesday Group