

## Dorothy Hinton - CQG #014

## Quiltmaker's Story

Dorothy joined the guild in 2007. She holds the honour of being the most 'senior' member having celebrated her 93rd birthday on August 29, 2024. In 2005, while wintering in Yuma, Arizona, she joined a community of women who were quilters. Dorothy was a young "74" then. On returning home, she joined the guild. Members recall her showing her "S" shaped (*Spicy Spiral* variation) table-runner at a meeting, and later teaching the technique. And her adaptation of a sweat shirt into a quilted jacket! She spent 16 winters in Yuma starting in 1997. That "S" table-runner from four fat-quarters, is still her favourite pattern.

Needle skills wise, Dorothy was a sewer first - she started with maternity wear as a young wife and graduated to dresses, coats and children's wear and even jeans construction - but quilting was new. Her Aunt Lizzie was a quilter. Dorothy didn't learn from "Lizzie" though she inherited 16 Dresden Plate blocks when she passed in 1976. These were tucked away until 2001, when Dorothy created a bed-size top and had it quilted at *Sew Creative Chalet* in Kimberley.

Dorothy estimates she's made 20 quilts and many small quilted items like bags, table-runners, wall-hangings, all mainly for home use or gifts and each labeled in her pristine hand-writing with the date and who pieced and quilted the creation. She has sold a few pieces. Some have been shown in the guild's shows. Some have been donated to the local community and some of the fire-relief situations. Dorothy was a member of the guild's "Worker Bee Wednesday" group.

Dorothy has recently moved to a senior's village. She moved home several times before and always found a space for her machine cabinet, cutting board and ironing board. A few times in the spare bedroom, and once in the basement with the pool table for cutting/layout! She hasn't yet configured a space in her new abode. Dorothy's first sewing machine was a 1960 *Elna*. In 2009, she purchased a Janome 5200 QDC for ~ \$300 from *Shannon's Fabrics* when the shop was closing its Cranbrook store. Dorothy says "she's economic when buying fabrics, but likes quality". Locally she's had a *Fabricland* membership, and also buys at the special quilt shops in the area. The fabric is always cotton in bright colours - like pink and turquoise - and she still pre-washes each piece if it's yardage. Scraps from one project are re-purposed into another project usually a 'Dorothy design', though for the most part she works from a pattern. Nowadays she likes pre-cuts kits, and makes only smaller items that are easier to handle, but she's always willing to hand-stitch a binding.

In the quilt construction process, her favourite step is hand-stitching the binding, which she willingly does for fellow guild members. Smaller items she has always machine quilted on her domestic machine mainly with stitch-in-the-ditch; bigger pieces she sends to a longarm quilter like fellow guild member Joy French. She did take courses on quilting on a domestic machine through the guild. During the COVID-19 pandemic response, Dorothy made a quilt for her granddaughter.

Quilter	Dorothy Hinton (nee Cyr)
Date of Birth	August 29, 1931 Pincher Creek, AB
Father Occupation Birthplace	William Dolphis Cyr Farmer Pincher Creek

Mother Occupation Birthplace	Olive Elizabeth Hardy Homemaker Pincher Creek
Date & place of marriage	1954 Calgary
Spouse	Thomas Edward Hinton Salesmen (Canada Packers)
Quiltmaker occupation	Secretary (Royal Bank, Medical Clinic)
Children	1 daughter (1956), 1 son (1960)
Education of Quiltmaker	Business School, Calgary, AB
Where Quiltmaker lived	Alberta -Pincher Creek, Calgary, Lacombe, Stettler British Columbia - Cranbrook (1965)
Ethnic/Ancestry Background	French, German

## CQG#14 - Tessellating Star

Quiltmaker/Owner: Dorothy Hinton, Cranbrook, BC

Dorothy started this quilt in 2006 at a workshop while in Yuma, Arizona, to escape the Canadian winter. The pattern was provided. It appealed to Dorothy so she made the quilt 'just for fun' and had fun making it. She bought the fabrics at the *Log Cabin Store* and *JOANN Fabric and Craft* in Yuma commenting that the "burgundy was better quality; the white was cheaper fabric". The quilting was done in Yuma in 2007. As the story goes, the first time this piece was quilted Dorothy wasn't happy as it was all "lumpy and bumpy" so she unpicked all the quilting! Dorothy still sleeps under this quilt. Who will inherit it? - Dorothy isn't sure as all her granddaughters have quilts.

Pattern	<i>Twinkling Star</i> by Debby Kratovil Quilts (2004). Available as a free pattern on: <a href="http://quilterbydesign.com">quilterbydesign.com</a> (retrieved October 28, 2024)
Subject	Tessellating burgundy and white stars
Date	2006-2007
Size	85" (W) x 98" (L). Finished quilt
Overall Style	Layout - Repeated blocks 42 Blocks
Blocks	L 11 1/2" x W 11 1/2" Brackman #1406.5 (Pudding and Pie. OCS Brooks/ Wheeler 1939)
Border or Frame	Border 1. W 3 3/4" one fabric Border 2. W 3 1/2" one fabric

Edge Finishing	½" straight binding, double fold Machine front/hand back
Batting	Polyester
Top	cotton, plain weave fabric feature colour - burgundy flower & leaf print background colour - white print with tiny burgundy & pink berries, leaves and grey dots
Top - piecing method	Machine
Backing	Horizontal & vertical pieced Cotton fabric Feature colour - pink with dots
Quilting	Longarm machine Feathers and edge-to-edge pantograph
Label	2006/7 Tessellating Star Sewn by Dorothy Hinton Machine Quilted by Judy Valentine (hand-written)
Condition	Moderate use