

P Skordal - CQG#129

Pat's first quilt was a flannel "rag quilt". This is a variation of a "quilt-as-you-go" quilt characterized by exposed, frayed seams on the right side of the quilt created by clipping the seam allowances and washing the finished quilt. She was introduced to quilting and encouraged to join the guild by her sorority friend and guild member, Myrt Dent (#400). Pat joined in the fall of 2005, at age 63.

Pat's key contribution to the guild, besides attending many of the workshops, was her years of planning and delivering the guild's "community quilts". She took on this role in 2012 through to the spring of 2017. Pat was joined by various members in those years: Donna Cockwell (#400), Beth Lenz (#128), Robin Taylor (#034) and Judy Beaulac (#084). Besides donating to local groups, quilts were sent to communities experiencing 'disasters'. In June 2013, the 13,000 residents of High River, AB, were evacuated as the town flooded. Quilters from western Canada sent over 1000 quilts. The guild received a thank you letter from the organizers for their contribution, though it wasn't recorded how many quilts the guild sent it was likely more than 10. 2013 was also the year when groups were asking for quilts more suitable for boys and for adults with families, and to add texture to the quilts donated for person's with special needs.

For 10+ years, Pat quilted most Sunday's at Louise Dunn's (#075) grand studio with Robin Taylor, and Doreen Peebles. At home she converted a bedroom to be a quilting room, and this is where she has stored her stash! Pat's in the process of a move so her space for quilting will be changing. Her sewing machine is a *Janome My exhale 4023*. She uses the fabric "as is" meaning that she no longer pre-washes. In the past she did hand-quilt. Now she quilts either on her domestic machine, rents the longarm at *Sew Creative Chalet*, or sends large pieces to a "longarmer" - either Joy French (#042) or Brenda Augustine (Feather My Heart Quilting).

A favourite block is the log cabin (Brackman# 2573) - "they are easy to do and the colours are fun to work with". Pat leans towards batiks and blues, mauves, greens and reds - the more traditional palette. She's made about 20 bed size quilts, some 'throws' (lap size), and even some dog bed quilts! Pat was a dog-owner. And she has exhibited pieces in the guild's Quilt Shows and at Fort Steele in the Fall Fair - there she won the 3rd place ribbon for her "Mexican Star" Quilt (Southwind Designs).

Pat's two daughters have joined her in the guild. Terri Brogan (#033) and Tracey Vanderlaars are avid 'Worker Bee Wednesday' (#048) quilters and join almost every 'Quilt-till-you-wilt' Saturday.

Quiltmaker	Pat Skordal (nee Lewis)
Date and place of Birth	April 9, 1942 Guelph, ON
Father Occupation Birthplace	Roy Lewis Government of Canada Minnedosa. MN
Mother Occupation Birthplace	Emily Lewis (nee Purpur) Homemaker Leader, SK
Date and place of marriage	1983 Cranbrook, BC

Spouse Occupation	Allan Skordal Jail Gaurd
Quiltmaker occupation	Social Worker
Children	3 daughters
Education of Quiltmaker	Bachelor of Social Work (BSW)
Where quiltmaker lived	Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, Manitoba, Cranbrook, BC
Ethnic/ancestry background	Austria-German (mother) English (father)

CQG#129: *Pretty Petals*
Quiltmaker/Owner: Pat Skordal

Pat made *Pretty Petals* for herself and it will be passed to one of her girls or a grandchild. She treated herself to a workshop to learn the piecing technique from Jane Walker at *Quilt Canada 1998*, “*Pacific Connections*”, in Vancouver, BC. It took her 2-3 months to complete the top. Pat used her ‘free motion’ skills to finish the quilt on her domestic machine. The whole exercise was “lots of fun”.

An event announced at the 1998 Quilt Canada was the “Quilt of Belonging” project initiated by textile artist Esther Bryan. The aim was to recognize Canada’s diversity. From the website: “a richly hued portrait of the human family, *Quilt of Belonging* is a 120 foot (36 metres) long collaborative textile art project. Its 263 blocks portray the rich cultural legacies of all the First Peoples in Canada and every nation of the world at the dawn of the new Millennium.” (quiltofbelonging.ca) The quilt’s home (March 2025) is at the *Tri Sisters Art House*, St Jacobs, ON.

Pattern	<i>Pretty Petals</i> by Jane Walker, at CQA/AAC Quilt Canada 1998
Subject	Flowers/Orchids
Date	Specific date: 1998-99
Size	L 78" x W 61¾"
Overall style	Finished Quilt Repeated blocks, Sash & Block
Block	Feature block: L 14" x W 14", square Curved piecing - cut circle variation Number of blocks: 12 Spacing: Plain sashing Brackman # (unknown, likely variation of #1464 Drunkard path or #1476 Windflower)

Sashing	W 2", straight, one fabric, Colour: purple
Border	Border 1: W 2", straight, one fabric, Colour: purple Border 2: W 5½", straight, one fabric, mitred corners, Colour: purple print
Edge finishing	Binding: W ½", straight, Colour: purple Machine front/hand back
Batting	Unknown, low loft
Top fabric	Cotton, plain weave Motif: flowers, plain/solid Feature colour: purple Background colour: multi lighter tones of purple & blue floral
Top piecing	Machine piecing Machine topstitch (zig-zag)
Backing	Pieced, one fabric Cotton, plain weave Feature colour: mauve Motif: flowers
Quilting	Domestic Machine Pattern: all over meander
Condition	Used