

Raffle Quilt Gallery - #500

The Cranbrook Quilters Guild created its first quilt to raffle in 1986 with the intent of making this a yearly project. This gallery features pictures of most of the quilts the guild members made together as “raffle quilts”. The purpose in raffling quilts was to generate funds for guild activities, especially workshops with “renowned quilter-instructors” who would need to be paid to travel to Cranbrook. Two or three members would volunteer to find a pattern and prepare the fabric - in the early days all the yardage was washed and pressed before it was cut for the pattern. That group would prepare mini-kits of a block for members to take home, create the block, and return it by a certain date. A volunteer would assemble the blocks into the top and the members would hand-quilt it together at their evening meetings or, later at the Tuesday Morning gathering. Another member would volunteer to bind the quilt. Then a few Saturdays would be selected as ‘ticket sales days’ and members setup at various locations in town - Safeway, Overwaitea, and the Malls. Most of the raffle quilts were “queen size” - meaning for \$1, you could win a queen bed-size, hand-make quilt!

Initially, the guild simply printed tickets for the raffle and members sold these at various locations or events - like the biennial Quilt Shows. Cost was \$1.00/ticket. By 1991, they were purchasing a “B-License” from the BC Gaming Commission and donating 25% of the proceeds to a charity with the rest used as general revenue. Then in ~ 2000 - 2001 the new rules for quilt guilds was noted in the minutes:

“As a Quilters Guild does not operate primarily for charitable or religious purposes it cannot use raffle funds as general revenue. The best solution is to set-up an organization for making quilts for the community, essentially a separate organization with it's own board of directors, and to donate the raffle proceeds to this organization. None of the net proceeds of a raffle may be directed to any guild activities. The guild may recover an amount reflecting the real value of the quilt - this amount must be consistent with the true value of the prize in the marketplace. Also, the guild may recover the cost of putting on the raffle event, though it cannot exceed more than 20% of the cost of running an event where the raffle is happening, such as a Quilt Show.” (see also June 25, 2003: Log#220884 Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General - Letter to All Quilters Guilds in British Columbia)

After 2001, the guild and other BC guilds changed from selling raffle tickets to offering folks a chance to win the quilt by making a donation to the guild. The one time trial of this approach reaped more revenue than any of the previous raffles - \$2,795 for *The Thistle Quilt* in 2004. Such as public request was not repeated.

As suggested by the Solicitor General (2003), the members contemplated and rejected the idea of forming a separate Community Quilt Charity. They opted to remain a ‘hobby group’ based on what members saw as the purpose of the guild: to learn quilting techniques as a hobby and for fun; for fellowship with others, sharing talent and ideas; and for creating a sense of community and giving back to the community. Also the guild pursued the idea of finding a community group willing to buy the quilt for the cost of materials. No group was willing. As the guild did not meet the central guideline for a raffle ticket license - to operate primarily for charitable or religious purposes - the last big public raffle was 2002. Since then the guild had some in-house draws, prepared quilts at cost for another group to raffle (e.g. t-shirt quilt for Fish Peak Performing Arts Society (2018), and had one public raffle of a donated quilt in 2019 under the Gaming Rules. The money from that raffle was strictly used to purchase supplies for community quilts and accounted for in the ledger.

In the end, the guild decided to increase it's revenue by charging members \$10 (later \$20) for in-house workshops - workshops taught by guild members - and through other activities such as silent auctions at the biennial quilt shows.

Picture Gallery of the Raffle Quilts

1. 1986 - *Images of Cranbrook* [Cranbrook Clock Tower, Sunrise/Sunset, Mountains, Birds, Train, trees & Fort Steele Water Tour)

Winner: by Nan Fergie

Revenue: \$1310

2. 1987 - *Star Daze*

Winner: Eleanor Heighton

3. 1987 - 88 - *Logcabin Sampler*

Winner: Eleanor Heighton

Revenue: \$595

4. 1988-89 - *Amish School House* (Brackman #866)

Winner: Carol Tanner

Committee: Wendy Litz & Janet Leggett

5. 1988-89 - *Rose of Sharon*

Donated to the Senior Citizens Association to raffle in lieu of a cash payment for using the building.

(Blocks made at a "Freeze-paper Appliqué" taught by Lisa Sharpe workshop in 1988. 100 leaves and 25 buds in the appliqué border)

Committee: Peggy Salvador, Linda Wesley & Shirley King

Revenue to Seniors: \$632

6. 1989-90 - *Sampler*

Winner: Alexis Lang

Committee: Barb Baker, Linda Shaw & Judy Wright

(Plan - each member to make two blocks, one for the raffle quilt and one set for a member to win)

7. 1990 -91- *Iris Medallion*

Winner: Jamie King

(B-License) Revenue: \$901 (Tickets \$1 or 3/\$2)[prize up to \$500 value. Can sell 2000 tickets with 25% of revenue donated to charity]

Committee: Lorraine Harvey, Ellen Stapleton, Sharon Patton & Dawn Cooper

[1990 -91 - *Wholecloth Quilt* was won by Gale Evers) for a profit of \$376]

8. 1991-92 - *Floral Fanfare*

Winner: Lorraine Miles

Committee: Shirley King & Fran Thompson

[1991-1992 - *Wholecloth Quilt* for in-house draw for members who worked on the quilt.

Winner: Yvonne Pitre]

9. 1993-94 - *Tree of Life - Trees, Houses, Geese, Moons & Stars*

In-house draw: Diane Pillet

Revenue: \$700

[Picture of Juananne Wales presenting the quilt to Diane Pillet]

[1993-94 - *Wholecloth Quilt* donated to Seniors Citizens Association to raffle with proceeds to the "CAT Scan Found" at the East Kootenay Regional Hospital - won by Ellen Stapleton]

10. 1994-95 - *Daffodil Quilt*

Presented to the Cranbrook Branch of the *Canadian Cancer Society* to raffle in memory of Chris Ferrier - the guild had finished two quilts for Chris's children and her family gave the guild \$200. The guild used those funds to purchase the fabric for this quilt.]

(in the picture, Wendy Litz is presenting the quilt)

11. 1994-95 - *Drunkards Path*

Winner: Fern Sweeting

Brackman #1039b

Committee: Audrey Carpendale, Bessie Tagert, Cheryl Goodwin & Betty Wardle

12. 1995-96 - *Red Celtic*

Winner: Margaret Rothel

(from a workshop taught by Linda Shaw)

Committee: Sharon Patton, Cheryl Godwin & Dianne Pillet

13. 1997-98 - *Spring Nosegay*

[Paper-pieced pattern] Brackman #776

Committee: Noreen Aikman, Mary Lindquist & Jeanette Oddy

14. 1998-99 - *Windblown Tulips*

Winner: Carol Flowers

Committee: Jeanette Oddy, Ellen Stapleton & Betty Wardle

15. 1999-2000 - *Watercolour Irish Chain*

In-house draw winner: Judy Beaulac

[2000 -2001 *Wholecloth Quilt* donated to the Cranbrook Public Library to raffle]

16. 2001-2002 - *Thimbleberries Village*

Winner: Neenie Danstrom

Committee: Dawn Fenwick & Icille Pighin

17. 2001-02 - *Ozark Beauty*

Winner: Janette St. John

Revenue: \$2,117 (B-License)

Committee: Donna Kovalevich & Bev MacDonald and hand-quilting committee Sharon Petruk, Noreen Aikman & Audrey Mackinnon

Revenue: \$2,117

[Wendy's *Triangles* donated to the Senior Citizen's Association to raffle]

18. 2001-02 - *Draft Horse Quilt*

Made at the request of Lawrence Gibbon to raffle at the *Draft Horse Show* in Sandpoint, Idaho (September 2002). The guild received \$600.

Designed by Audrey MacKinnon and her committee: Pam Falk, Noreen Aikman, Sharon Petruk, Icille Pighin, Helen Ward, Bernice Sargent, Linda Wesley

This quilt was sent to Kelowna to be machine quilted.

19. 2002-2003 - *Wholecloth*

Winner: Chad King

Revenue: \$2,271

Committee: Judy Wright

20. 2003-2004 - *Churn Dash*

In-house draw winner: Kathryn Shannon

Committee: Bernice Sargent, Erika Schulz & Judy Wright (used scraps from other raffle quilts)

Brackman #1646a

21. 2003-2004 - *The Thistle*

Winner: June Vandenberg

Revenue by donation to the guild: \$2795

Brackman #1330

Committee: Erika Schulz, Ellen Stapleton, Susan Alexander & Heather MacKay

22. 2007-2008 - *Myrt's Quilt*

Donated to the Cranbrook Cancer Society to raffle in memory of guild member, Myrt Dent (#400). Myrt had donated the blocks for a quilt to be auctioned at the "National Breast Cancer Support Project: Quilting Project for People Living with Cancer". The quilt was hand-quilted by the Tuesday Morning Quilters.

23. 2007-2008 - *Apple Blossom*

Donated to the "BC Psycho-geriatric Association" to raffle.

(Joy Colombo holding the quilt in the picture)

24. 2008 - *The Thistle*

In-house draw at the *Regional Quilt Conference* hosted by the Cranbrook Quilters Guild in 2008.