



Joan's Jibberish!

Hello Everyone!! As you read this note, Christmas will be in the past and 2023 will be upon us! Where has this last year disappeared to?! I want to thank Maggie Tomich for the wonderful Christmas party she put on for us, and thanks to everyone who brought such awesome food! Wow, it was great.

This Christmas my grandchildren picked out and cut down a tree for us and it was very wide and pear shaped. They did all the decorating of the tree and house and they laughed as they ran from one room to the next. My granddaughter especially loves decorating while my grandson enjoyed making a Christmas wreath for his Mom and Dad out of the left over pine branches we cut off the tree.

The day after the Christmas party, I had just come in from taking Jazzy for a walk, and was hanging my jacket upon a chair when BANG!! I jumped sky high and did a little scream which scared Jazz. The decorated Christmas tree had fallen down right beside me!! It was the loudest crash I had heard in a long time. I quickly picked it up, but it took three tries of hoisting it up to get it to stand on its own. I was so shocked that I had to gather my wits together to think what to do next. I called my neighbours and they were able to help me to get it to stand straight. Yes, we did break some of the ornaments. What a mess between water everywhere and pine needles & ornaments!! Next thing I knew, the computer and internet went down for two days! There went my good timing of sending out Christmas cards and letters to my friends. Then the hose to the fridge decided to freeze and burst – what a mess!! Oh, I forgot to mention that the Christmas tree took another dive. We ended up tying it around the couch in hopes that it would stay standing.

I do hope you all had a wonderful Christmas together with family and friends. I hosted Christmas for nine people this year – I hadn't done this at Christmas in over six years! It was fun having everyone together at my house even if it was a bit crowded!! I send a big thank you to my daughter for doing appies and special festive drinks for all of us. She even made a candy cane out of cheese, tomatoes and spinach. It looked quite festive.

I am now looking forward to an exciting year coming up. Hopefully 2023 will provide us all with good health, many friendships, new and old, and do I dare say some prosperity!!! If only . . . !! Ya well, we all know how that goes, but we do have many things to be thankful for. Enjoy your New Year's celebrations and hope to see you all in 2023!

Happy New Year!

Newsletter Editor: Nancy Bradley | Guild Website: www.vssq.org
VSSQ Mailing Address: #92-12560 Westside Road, Vernon BC V1H1S9.
Deadline for the FEBRUARY issue of Patchwork is January 27th.

2023!

January Events

(Check our online
Calendar for updates)

January 5:

Guild Business Meeting
- Newcomers follows.

January 9:

Classics Subgroup

January 10:

QuArtz Subgroup

January 12:

Open Sewing Day

January 16:

Scrappy Subgroup

January 19:

VSSQ General Meeting
- Inktense Mini Workshop
follows.

January 23:

Talk Around the Block

January 26:

Community Care Day

Guild Meeting Days:

doors open at 9:00 am
meeting starts 9:30am

Subgroups and Classes:

doors open at 8:45am
for setup, ending 3:00pm



Please remember,
our meetings and
classes have been
designated as
fragrance-free.

We Met, Ate, Sang and Partied!

Photos by Shirley Weishuhn

December 8th was a great day for getting together with VSSQ members to celebrate the Holiday Season with good food, fun and friendship.

A big thank you goes out to Maggie for organizing a well-run and entertaining time for all of us, and thanks to all who helped her put it all together. Let's not forget to thank each other for coming out to share the great company and bringing so much tempting food – from appies to salads to main dishes and scrumptious desserts.

Congratulations to each table when we were asked to chose a favourite Christmas tune and then – surprise! – had to stand up and sing out the first verse to all in attendance. Many pitched in with added support!

The giveaways were plentiful and everyone participated in the exchange of brown bags containing Joan's suggested mugrug with cookies and their recipe. A good time was had by all!

(See more candid shots on the Members Only webpage, courtesy of Pat Bennett)



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Soup & Sew

Submitted by Ester Pitt

Kudos to Lorene and Chef Endy for a gourmet Indonesian soup Soto Ayam enjoyed by the ladies who attended the Soup & Sew on December 15th. We were given a quick explanation of the preparation of the soup. Endy also warned us of a hot sauce that could be added to the soup if so desired. We made up our own bowls of what ingredients we wanted in the soup (buffet style) and then added the delicious broth.

A great time was had by all – and yes, there was even some sewing involved! Thanks again Lorene and Endy.

Scrappy Subgroup Report

by Ester Pitt

Scrappy had their appetizer Christmas gathering on December 5th. There was a wonderful array of appies that were enjoyed by all.

Ladies were busy with various quilting projects on the go. It was a beehive of activity and fun.



Workshops Report

by Lorene Woronchak

We've had a busy calendar so far and your participation and enthusiasm have been appreciated. I trust that you will be encouraged to be part of next year's selection of activities as they have been generated in response to your suggestions and input.

On another note, there is a need for someone to come on board to be part of the workshop committee. If you are interested in helping out, please let me know, and I will let you know how you can help.

Thank you for your continued support. I look forward to being a contributing member of the workshop committee in the New Year.



For Sale!

VSSQ Vest

I would like to sell this VSSQ vest to any of our members who might be interested. It is a size 3XL, but fits smaller than that. It has only been worn a couple of times. I'm asking \$25.00.

Contact Connie Kokonis at either 250-540-0814 or 250-542-7681, or email me at: tigerlilies@shaw.ca.



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Getting to Know You...

Bev Keith

I live in Armstong with my husband of 46 years. We have three children, three grandchildren and a grand dog. I grew up in Revelstoke and left after graduation to become a teacher. I taught in both Vernon and Armstrong. I quit teaching and became a teacher-on-call when we started wheat farming in 1982. We then wintered in Armstrong and grew grains for the rest of the year in Saskatchewan. We travelled between Armstrong and Saskatchewan for 20 years.

I took my first quilting class in 1982 but didn't have much time for it because of small children at home. I have always liked crafting/sewing, but put those on hold until the kids got older.

I joined the VSSQ Guild and have been a member since 1992. I was also a member of the Salmon Arm quilting guild for a couple of years, but because I was also working at the time, I felt I could only belong to one, so I chose Vernon.

I have made over 100 quilts/wall hangings. Along my quilting journey I have taken classes with notable quilters like Joen Wolfrom, Ruth McDowell, Mary Ellen Hopkins, Joan Statz, Mary Mayne, etc. (name dropper that I am). Of course, no matter who you take a class from, either a local quilter or one from afar, one always seems to learn something new.

I am a topper. I love to gather the fabric and play with the colours and movement in fabric. You have heard the expression, "She who dies with the most fabric wins." I will certainly fall into that category. I could wake up in the middle of the night and put together a whole quilt plus have everything that I need to make it from my own stash.

It is a good thing we have a quilt show every three years because this prompts me to get some of my toppers finished. I have just learned (on a friend's machine) how to use a longarm. I can't afford one of my own, nor do I have the room for one, so I will continue to quilt using my own regular sized sewing machine. I loved using the pantogram and free motion quilting options.

I recently joined Quartz and am finding that I love the challenge of creating without a pattern by using different ideas and techniques we have played with or I have read about along the way.

Quilting is my passion. It keeps the brain and hands active. I have gotten to know many great friends and acquaintances along the way because of this stimulating hobby. I never have nothing to do. I can always finish, work on or start a new quilt. Who needs a reason for making a quilt anyway? That's my story and I am sticking to it!

Caring



If you know of a Guild member who has lost a member of their family, or has been ill, please let Evelyne Reitsma know so she can send a caring card on behalf of all of us.



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Exploring Traditional Blocks - #2

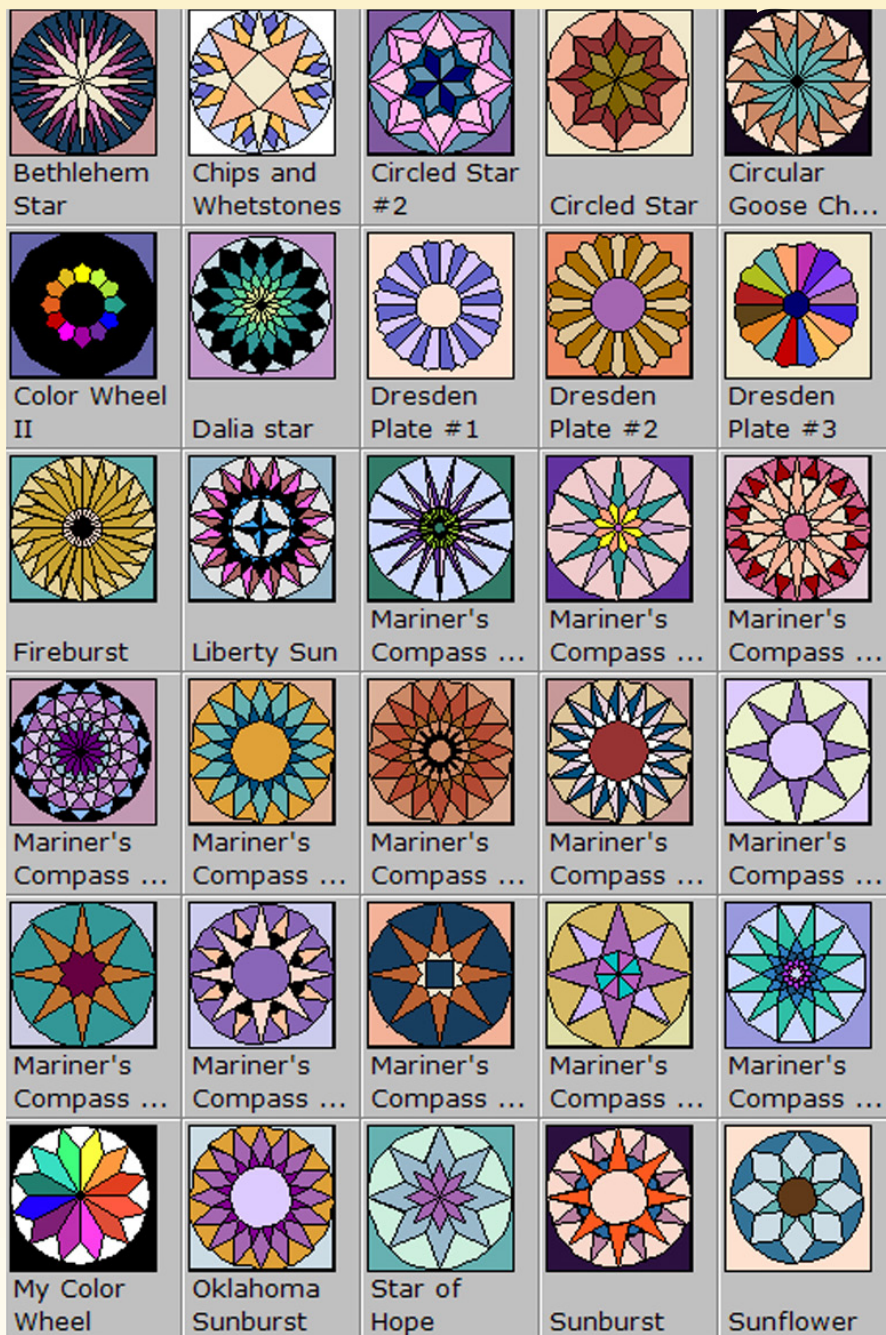
An investigation by your Editor

Not only are Dresden Plate quilts sweet and fun, they're also unique in their construction. A mix between patchwork and appliqué, with a specific geometry and a slew of specialty rulers on the market, there are a lot of approaches to making a Dresden Plate quilt.

Often seen as a challenging quilt block, the Dresden plate is made out of a single circle at the center that is surrounded by multi-colored and patterned tie-like shapes. This is traditionally a paper-pieced pattern, although cutting and piecing the "ties" or "blades" using templates or rulers are other methods. Using strips of fabric that have been well starched is helpful to maintain crisp points and folds and avoid fraying edges.

Mariner's Compass blocks are a kind of cousin to the Dresden Plate in that they are both based on a circular design with radiating points. Mariner's Compass can be rather simple, or stunningly complex.

I've never attempted either of these two types of blocks, but after just a bit of research and watching a couple of readily available on-line tutorials, I've found them to be much less intimidating. The trick seems to be using the right template or ruler with accurate cutting and piecing. I think I might be able to do that!



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For more information contact us at info@quilttoursinternational.ca or call 416-937-6739 or visit <https://quilttoursinternational.ca> to see all our other wonderful tours that may interest you.



Fat Quarter Draw for January

The next draw will take place during the **January 19th** Guild meeting and the colours for that draw will be **Sapphire Blue and Grey** (elegant and calm).

As always, you will gain one entry for each fat quarter that you bring to submit for the draw, and each should be about 20" x 22" of good quality cotton. The more fat quarters you submit, the better your chance of winning more back!



In Praise of the Walking Foot

According to Wikipedia, “a walking foot is a mechanism for feeding the workpiece through a sewing machine as it is being stitched. It is most useful for sewing heavy materials where needle feed is mechanically inadequate, for spongy or cushioned materials where lifting the foot out of contact with the material helps in the feeding action, and for sewing many layers together where a drop feed will cause the lower layers to shift out of position with the upper layers. A walking foot is also good for sewing materials with varying layers because it can climb up and down these layers easier than other feeding mechanisms.”

Depending on the brand of sewing machine, a walking foot may be called a dual-feed foot, an accufeed system, or just a walking foot, but they are usually sold as separate accessories.

Most commonly, quilters use a walking foot when quilting – either with stitch in the ditch or straight line quilting, or when adding a binding, or using a minky-type of backing. But there are other great uses for these accessories, such as:

- matching plaids, stripes and other prints
- sewing bias cut fabric pieces
- sewing fabrics such as knits, or fleece
- sewing plastics and leathers
- ensuring even stitching on straps, etc.



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Happy Birthday to our VSSQ January Babies!

- Jan. 2..... Sheila Patt
- Jan. 3..... Julie Glinsbockel
- Jan. 4..... Judith Beaver
- Jan. 6..... Joan Griffith
- Jan. 8..... Debbie Bachman
- Jan. 8..... Pat Bennett
- Jan. 10 Sharon Roddy
- Jan. 12 Glenda Goodman
- Jan. 12 Yvonne Hayden
- Jan. 17 Christine Robson
- Jan. 18 Janis Meyn
- Jan. 20 Patty Greenwell
- Jan. 21 Daryl Pike
- Jan. 27 Valerie Goodale
- Jan. 28 Mary Prentiss
- Jan. 28 Miriam Bowles
- Jan. 30 Dorothy Spina
- Jan. 31 Lynn Dyck



Decadent (but easy!) Millionaire Pie

- 1 (8 ounce) package cream cheese (softened)
- 1 (14 ounce) can sweetened condensed milk
- 3 Tablespoons lemon juice
- 1 (12 ounce) container frozen whipped topping (thawed)
- 1 (20 ounce) can crushed pineapple (well drained)
- 1 cup maraschino cherries (chopped)
- 1-1/3 cups and 1 tablespoon chopped pecans
- 2 (9 inch) prepared graham cracker crusts

In a large bowl, beat together cream cheese, condensed milk, and lemon juice. Using a spatula, gently mix in the whipped topping.

Gently mix in the pineapple, chopped cherries, and pecans. Pour the mixture into pie crusts and chill for 3 to 4 hours.

Slice and enjoy!

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Spring Retreat March 27-30, 2023

by Julie Glinsbockel

As some of you may already know from our meeting on December 1st, those who attended the 2022 Fall Retreat are getting a \$25.00 refund. We received a 10% discount since we had 30 ladies attend the retreat! Our Treasurer Anita Reimer, has cash to return to each of you who attended the retreat, so please see her at our next meeting. You will need to sign that you have received this money.



Now about the upcoming March 27-30 retreat at Gardom Lake: the cost will again be \$300 and sign up will begin at our meeting on February 2nd. Normally sign up would begin at the January 5th meeting, but I will be away for all of January. If anyone wishes to help out in getting things organized for this retreat please let me know, and don't hesitate to offer any suggestions or ideas you may have.



IFAQH.com

Suggested by Val Tucker

IFAQH stands for **I Found A Quilted Heart**, a random act of kindness project. Quilters from many countries have embraced this project by creating quilted hearts and "sowing" them in public places where a random stranger will eventually find one and take it home.

Hearts are made of fabric, generally the size of your palm, and can be any shape of heart you choose. Most have a layer of batting or fiberfill and you can embellish with buttons, sequins, ribbon, etc.



After creating your heart(s), there is a link to a printable tag that should be attached to each heart. If you cannot print the tag, hand write only the following information:

I Need A Home, www.ifaqh.com

#IFAQH, I Found A Quilted Heart

Do not add any other words to the tags or to the hearts. Embellishments should not have text. Tags should be plain text, without images.

Examples of good places to sow tagged hearts would be: a local park, hiking trail, highway rest stop, community center, outdoor shopping center, town square, foyer of public place, community bulletin board, beach, nature trail, museum, tourist attraction, trees, bushes and fences in downtown areas, etc.

Found hearts can be reported and posted on the IFAQH website, although not all of them are. The recipients who do post can describe where their heart was found and what it meant to them.

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