



# PATCHWORK



The Vernon Silver Star Quilters Guild Newsletter—February 2026 Vol 19, Issue 6



## Greetings from our President



Hello Quilters!

As we approach the end of January, the mild weather has been unusual, but it has provided ample time for quilting projects. I am currently working on a hand-appliquéd quilt commemorating Jane Austen's 250th birthday, as well as a replica of the coverlet she created with her family. These projects have deepened my appreciation for antique quilt designs.

In 2026, our guild will celebrate its 40th anniversary. Nancy T. is organizing commemorative mugs and travel mugs, which will be available for pre-order at our next meeting. Further details will be shared soon.

Thank you to everyone who has taken on roles within the guild. Please note that our Treasurer, Anita, will be stepping down in June after serving in multiple capacities. If you have accounting experience and are interested in this important position, contact Anita or a member of the Executive.

We also welcome our new kitchen and refreshment coordinators, who bring valuable food service experience and certification. Please thank them when you enjoy refreshments.

Finally, if you have not yet participated, consider joining one of our free sew days. These events are an excellent opportunity to connect with fellow members and work on unfinished projects. Please refer to our online calendar for dates and times.

Best regards,

Deborah

Newsletter Editor—Jean Donker Guild Website: [www.vssq.org](http://www.vssq.org) VSSQ Mailing Address: PO Box 20014, Vernon, BC V1T 9L4

Deadline for March Newsletter submissions is February 25, 2026



# Let's make a Koinobori



## Wind sock

*with Mary-Lou  
Wightman*



**You provide:**



- 1 metre of quilt cotton (this is enough to make 2 wind socks!)
- (2) 6" x 6" scraps of contrast for Eye background
- (2) 6" x 6" scraps for Eye Swirl (strong contrast)
- (2) 1-1/4" x 16" Bias strips (contrast) for Gills
- (4) 10" squares (or equivalent) - contrast inside tail
- Use Polyester thread (will not breakdown in sunshine)
- Coloured thread for machine applique (eyes & swirls)
- Non-stick needles for fusible appliqueing the eyes.

\*\* These are GREAT for machine applique. Prevents gumming up of needle and thread breakage.

I recommend these, but not a must.

I recommend using a machine with blanket stitch or zig-zag to attach your appliques.

**ALL OTHER SUPPLIES WILL BE PROVIDED AT THE CLASS**

**\$5**

**per person**

**Thursday, March  
12<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

*Pattern  
will be provided  
by email*



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Congratulations to Mona Philcox of Lumby.  
Winner of the “Farm Girl” quilt raffle drawn December 11th, 2025, made by the Cherryville Quilters.

Big Thank you to Debbie MacLeod long arm quilting of Vernon for the donation of her services.

Thank you for supporting the Cherryville Quilters by purchasing tickets.



## QuARTZ

Happy New Year! We are looking forward to another creative year!

We welcomed in the new year with a great discussion on Copyright issues. It is such an important topic for quilters and all artists.

Kathleen Bissett addresses it in an article for Canadian Quilter Magazine. She covers very important information for those who want to exhibit quilts or sell their work.

[http://www.kathleenbissett.com/How\\_Copyright\\_Affects\\_the\\_Quilter\\_Updated.pdf](http://www.kathleenbissett.com/How_Copyright_Affects_the_Quilter_Updated.pdf)

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## February “Workshop” Activities

We've got some great activities scheduled for February.

February 5 will be a busy meeting. We will have our business meeting as usual; however, because the girls are away enjoying better weather, there will not be any “Library Secrets”.

Also at that meeting signups will continue for upcoming activities. Mary-Lou's “Wind Sock” class on March 12 is almost full, so be sure to get your spot. Registration for Spring Retreat March 30 – April 2 will continue. Registration will start for Penny Latter's “Jacket Making course” to be held April 30 and May 28 – remember even if you attended the preliminary meeting your spot is only guaranteed after you register and pay.

“Community Care” will have a sewing day on February 12. On that day, work will continue on the “Orphan Block” quilt. So check your stash and bring in all those orphan blocks that “you mean to, but will probably never get around to using”. These blocks can also be brought in to any of the meetings and given directly to a member of the Workshop Committee – don't just drop them on the scrap table, those girls have enough to sort.

We have a guest speaker for the meeting on February 19. Klia, from Pleasant Valley Quilting, will show us some of the new gadgets available to make quilting even easier. So make sure to bring your wallets as she will also have some for sale.

There will be an “Open Sewing” day on February 26. Be sure to check the full VSSQ calendar for dates

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## February Calendar Highlights

**2026 February**

- 02 Scrappy**
- 05 Business Meeting**
- 09 Classics**
- 10 Qu'Artz**
- 12 Community Care**
- 19 General Meeting**
- 23 Talk Around the Block 8:30**
- 26 Open Sewing Day**

*Check the online calendar for any updates.*

***Guild Meeting Days***

*Doors open at 9:00 am  
Meeting begins at 9:30 am*

\*\*\*\*\*

***Subgroups and Classes***

*Doors open at 8:45 am for set up,  
Ending at 3:00 pm.*



## Membership

Guild pins are available at the sign-up table for \$5.

Please check the membership list on the website for accuracy of your details. If you find an error, please let Susan Wilson know by emailing [quiltingforyou2@gmail.com](mailto:quiltingforyou2@gmail.com). If you cannot get into the Members Only page to check, you have not yet completed both parts of membership—payment of dues **and** submitting the membership form.

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## COMMUNITY CARE

Browsing, Shopping for Patterns and Fabrics, Sewing with Friends: All for Free!

No, it's not quite a free retreat, but a mini version of a good time right here at the Community Care Event on Thursday, February 12 th , 9 a.m. and beyond...

You're invited to come on down. Beautiful fabrics are spread out on the tables, and a stack of simple patterns are available. With fellow guild members you choose fabrics that "go" and find patterns that will "work" - fun camaraderie. Come sew up those choices right on site or take home your findings.

There will also be "ready to go" kits that need piecing or sandwiching or quilting and binding: the choice is yours. There is absolutely no time pressure – the project you choose can be returned to the next meeting, or next month or next fall – sew the project up at your leisure.

We're hoping many of you will come out to the next Community Care Sewing Day. The beautiful quilts you make are greatly appreciated by community members from babies in the preemie unit to the aging adults in elder care places.

Your Community Care Team: Betty, Yvonne and Linda



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## Quilting Here & There

A Twist on Mystery Quilts

Make & Take and Thread Play Space still available



## Silver Linings Originals Bonanza!

Recently the Community Care Team benefitted from a large donation of fabric, patterns, and partially completed projects.

Much of the beautiful fabric will be added to the Community Care bins. However, the patterns and projects will be made available to guild members.

You may be familiar with Silver Linings Originals. The website offers a vast collection of packages of fabric and patterns for paper pieced flowers, butterflies, parrots, sea creatures, jungles creatures and on and on!

Available to you are two small totes:

**Rain Forest Kit** which has 13 packages of fabric and paper piecing instructions

**Wee Water Ones Kit** which has 6 completed blocks and 9 more packages with fabric and Patterns

If this opportunity interests you, please look at the items at our next meeting and sign up – indicating your interest. If there is considerable interest, we will hold a draw to choose the lucky winner. (possibly the winner may choose to share the winnings)



**Please remember! All our meetings are scent free. Thank you!**