

PATCHWORK



The Vernon Silver Star Quilters Guild Newsletter—May 2026 Vol 19, Issue 8



Greetings from our President

Spring Retreat Recap

Spring retreat happened this past month and the house was full! From what I could tell, everyone had a wonderful time. Gardom Lake provided a beautiful setting for the retreat, and I highly recommend it for anyone considering attending in the future. If you missed out this time, perhaps you can join us for the Guild's Fall Retreat October 19 – 22.

Congratulations to New Lifetime Members

Congratulations to our new lifetime members. There are certainly some perks that come with reaching the eighth decade of life, and we are pleased to celebrate this milestone with you.

Celebrating 40 Years of the Guild

As we approach the end of this Guild year, we are excited to announce that two special events are being planned to commemorate our 40th year. The first event will be our year-end picnic, organized by Mary Lou and her team—further details can be found in this newsletter. The second celebration will be unveiled at our first meeting in May.

June End of Year Picnic

If you know any charter members of the Guild who might be able to attend our June end of year picnic, please invite them and let Mary Lou know. We would like to ensure they are included in our numbers and recognized at the event.

Summer Sewing Plans

Looking ahead to summer, I am preparing some projects in my sewing studio. I have decided it is time to make progress on some unfinished projects—of which I have a few!

Upcoming Garage Sale

Be sure to plan a visit to our garage sale on 2026-05-21. After all, we could all use a few more treasures, right?

Newsletter Editor—Jean Donker Guild Website: www.vssq.org VSSQ Mailing Address: PO Box 20014, Vernon, BC V1T 9L4
Deadline for March Newsletter submissions isy April 25, 2026

Life Members

At our April 16 meeting, four members were presented with Life Member pins. Val Tucker, Marlene Cummings, Daryl Pike and Christine Wejr shared a bit about their life, a photo or two of them as youngsters as well as the oldest and youngest quilt they had on hand. It was a great walk down memory lane and showing how quilting has changed. Phrases from their information that resonated with the audience included-

- To slow to make a Quilt-in-A-Day
- Surprised at how precise measurements had to be
- Was creating with used items before ‘up-cycling’ was a thing
- Learned she had to make big pieces out of little pieces
- Favourite sewing machine is a Singer Treadle as old as she is
- Moved with 500 birds in a 10” Boler trailer

Congratulations ladies and we hope to recognize the remaining life members at a upcoming meeting.



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Hello,

A beautiful quilt has made it way to my son in Tumbler Ridge. A tag notes on it that its made from vernon silver star quilters and we just want to thank you so much for such a heartfelt donation.Ours is sporting a country theme with brown cow spots on one side and brown,blue and tan patch work on the other. My son loves it and it is bringing him comfort. We appreciate all the time and thought you put into it the quilts and are so thankful you sent them to our community.

Thank You Nina



Vernon Silver Star Quilters 40th Anniversary Challenge – May to December 2026

This is a **scrap table challenge** so you must use **either a pattern or fabrics** from the scrap table!

As this year is our ruby anniversary, you must include some **red** in your piece!

The **theme** is “forty”, and here are some options:

Something that reminds you of when you turned 40

Something to celebrate the guild turning 40

Something you imagine for 2066 (40 years in the future)

Size: Perimeter must be between 48” and 96”.

Completion date: December 2026 (the meeting before Xmas luncheon, TBA)



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QUARTZ

We have been busy at QuArtz working on our project for this year, the prompt is HOME. A few pieces are finished and look wonderful. We have a deadline of June for the rest. It will be an exciting meeting!

We also continue exploring beads, making them and using them on your quilts.

This month we did Image Transfer for our Toolbox Tuesday. All of the techniques we learn are going into a small Accordion Book, and display of the books this month.



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TO ALL WHO



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:A past VSSQ member is giving away her vest, ladies medium. Looks new!

Anyone interested should email me: valtuck@yahoo.com

I WILL DRAW the lucky lady's name at the June meeting.




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LIBRARY SECRETS

Sampler quilts have been popular for more than 100 years. Traditionally every block within a sampler is different, so each time you look at one of these quilts you are sure to notice something new.

It is something fun to work on. Instead of making 40 of the same block, samplers offer variety. Each block gives you a chance to try new skills or work on improving existing skills.

Each block is a new sewing adventure and a short-term sewing commitment. Working on sampler quilts gives us dozens of chances to play with simple shapes and to put them together in creative and interesting ways.

The Civil War Sampler by *Barbara Brackman*

This book offers a variety of pieced or appliqued blocks, each shown in two colorways with instructions for assembling two sizes (8" and 12"). Each block offers a historic recollection or accounting of life during the American Civil War offering a journey through historic times. The blocks are mostly familiar traditional blocks, but the patterns and information can easily be made current with today's fabrics or fabric from your stash.

Alice's Wonderland Sampler Quilt: 100 Quilt Blocks to Improve your Sewing Skills by *Alice Caroline*

The author invites you to embark on a delightful journey through the whimsical realm of Alice's Wonderland. The early blocks introduce you gently to the basics, then gradually you'll encounter more intricate designs. As you journey through this Wonderland, you'll discover which techniques resonate most – perhaps you'll find joy in the rhythmic repetition of patchwork, the artistic freedom of raw-edge applique, or the meditative precision of English Paper Piecing. Unleash your creativity.

Mix and Match Sampler Settings by *Scott A. Flanagan*

This book is meant to be used as an inspiration and to help you find ways to mix and match blocks and settings together – whether you are using sampler blocks from the book or orphan blocks lying around your quilt studio! This book features 12 sampler blocks in two different sizes, 12" and 6", and eight different settings using 12 blocks each.



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LIBRARY SECRETS con'd

Scrap Happy Block of the Month Sampler by Sherri Noel

This booklet is a Block of the Month Sampler with 12 Block Patterns. This was a guild workshop project a couple of years ago.

Sister Sampler Quilts by AnneMarie Chany

Modern quilts today are known for the use of bold colors, and prints, high contrast, graphic areas of solid color, minimalism, expansive negative space and alternate grid work.

The three samplers in this book are designed to feature “sisters”. Sister blocks are two of the same block within a quilt that make a visually interesting design when they are arranged with the sampler setting.

Tula Pink’s City Sampler 100 Modern Quilt Blocks by Tula Pink

The blocks in this book finish at 6”. You choose the fabric, you choose the colors to use, you choose why you are making the quilt and what will give the quilt a purpose. This book is a collaboration between you and Tula. She is the platform and you are the speaker, so stand on her shoulders and tell the future who you are, why you make. Tula says, “In the end, it all comes down to this: Making something again is easy, making something new is brave and making something personal is essential.”

Farm Girl Vintage by Lori Holt

Lori Holt says that Sampler Quilts make her quilty heart sing! You are the boss of your own quilt. Mix and match making your own personal statement. The Farm Girl Sampler Book offer some traditional blocks, but mostly originals drawn from her farm girl upbringing and memories.

Farm Girl Vintage 2 by Lori Holt

This book offers more mix and match farm themed and traditional patterns. Choose patterns between both books to make your personal Farm Girl Vintage Quilt Sampler!

Christmas Vintage by Lori Holt

Offers a variety of Christmas blocks to make the sampler quilt on the over. The blocks can stand alone, be used in runners, pillows, placemats, mug mats and more.

These three Lori Holt books offer all the blocks in 12” and 6” formats and can be mixed and matched within the quilts.

Barn Star Sampler Quilts by Shelley Cavanna

Inspired by painted and wood blocks that adorn barns, the author shares 20 blocks and 7 quilt designs the will pass the test of time. Block sizes range from 4” to 24”. The book provides many star variations and layouts and tutorials.

Flower Farm Sampler by Shelley Cavanna

Create a full sampler from 18 floral inspired blocks, or make one of seven other blossoming quilts, all with the vibrant hues of a flower farm.

40 Years

A Ruby Anniversary Celebration



RED is the colour of the day!

- Wear something Red ?
- or a fashion from 1986 ?

Bring your oldest quilt creation (just 1)

No need to fly to Toronto to retrieve one from your family! Just one from your cupboard!



Thursday

June 25, 2026

PICNIC LUNCH

Arrive at 11:30

Pot-luck Lunch at 12:00



Menu Sign-up sheets will begin circulation at April 16th meeting (after retreat)



Bring your own plates & cutlery



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