

Kincardine Sunset Quilters' Guild

New Member Guide 2018 - 2019

Kincardine Sunset Quilters welcome you to our Guild. We hope that you enjoy being part of our group. To assist you in understanding the workings of the Kincardine Sunset Quilters' Guild (KSQG), an outline of some of the most frequently asked questions has been pulled together. However, having this outline does not prevent you from asking anything, at any time, to any member – it's all about mingling and joining in our Guild activities.

As with all historical Guilds, the primary function of a Quilting Guild is to bring like-minded people together to share and teach others for the benefit of all. Article III of the KSQG Constitution states the following objectives:

1. Promote quilting in the community;
2. Share our knowledge, expertise, books, sources and tools with other members;
3. Assist those practicing quilting in any way deemed advisable;
4. Improve the skill and artistry of those practicing quilting through educational services;
and
5. Provide community support, through donations, to those in need.

Membership:

A **\$35** annual membership fee entitles you to:

- All Guild sponsored events;
- A monthly electronic newsletter (September to June);
- Attendance to monthly Guild business meetings;
- And, for a nominal additional charge - workshops and Trunk Shows.

Each year you will receive the Sunset Quilters' Guild Program, which will outline all of our activities for the upcoming year; and, as a member, you can order your own personal name tag for **\$2.00**, which will help us to welcome you, and will also assist you in learning other member's names. As an incentive to wear your name tag; each month, there is a draw for a fat quarter – put your name on a slip of paper and enter it into the draw when you sign in.

Note: your membership badge can be left attached to the 'pin square' at the end of the meeting – where you can pick it up the next time you attend – saves forgetting it at home!

What happens at the monthly meetings?

Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month, unless otherwise stated in your Program and run from September through to June. Once you sign in at 9:30, you can start with coffee and conversation followed by the business meeting, which starts at 10:00 a.m. and usually runs for 2 to 2 1/2 hours. Each month we talk about Guild projects and workshops, do demonstrations, show each other what we are working on, and have time to talk about methods, tips, and social events related to sewing and quilting. The big highlight of each month is 'Sew & Tell' – what an inspiration it is to see the work of others! During the meeting we have a draw for a quilting book (nominal fee to participate), which is voluntary. There will be time to sign out books from our extensive Guild library or look through any books and magazines.

Can I bring along a friend who is not a member?

We welcome guests to our meetings; there is a **\$4.00** charge for guests to attend and we ask that they also wear a name tag. For workshops, guests may sign up if space is available and they are asked to pay the regular workshop fee plus an additional \$5.00 as non-members. We hope to welcome many guests and wish them an enjoyable experience at our Guild events.

How does the Guild Library work?

The books are arranged by category - Blocks, Appliqué, Novels, etc. and the categories are identified above the books on the shelf. When browsing the books, please return books to the right section or if unsure, please place them in the 'Return Box'.

The Guild library is created for the use of members of the Guild and operates on the honour system. Guild Library books may be borrowed for one month (from one meeting to the next meeting).

Sign Out Procedure:

1. Remove the sign out card from the pocket in the front of the book.
2. Record your name, telephone number and the month that you are borrowing the book.
3. Put the signed card into the Card Box –Please note that the cards are filed alphabetically by the first word in title not including ‘The’. If there is no card, ask one of the librarians and they will either locate the card or make a substitute.
4. A maximum of 3 books may be signed out by one member.

Returning a Book:

1. From the Card Box - find the card that you signed out,
2. put it in the sleeve inside the front of the book
3. put the book in the Return Box.

The library staff will handle the rest. If you forget your book(s) or need more time, there is no problem as long as you inform the library staff!

We don't charge for overdue books but be considerate of other members by returning your books each month. The new books can be in great demand. If you have books to donate to the library, please see the librarians.

How do I enter the Book Raffle?

Raffle tickets are **3/\$2 or \$1 each**. The book will be described at the meeting and in the Monthly Newsletter. If you wish to participate, please put your money in the bucket and fill out your name on the draw tickets; if your name is drawn, the book is yours.

When do I get to quilt?

Year round, on Wednesday mornings, at St. Anthony's Church, each member can bring in their own projects to work on or ask questions about quilting. This is our UFO (UnFinished Objects) Club. Also, there will be workshops offered during the year that deal with a variety of skills. You are welcome to sign up and participate in these workshops. For Members, the usual cost is \$20.00 per workshop plus materials. However, please note that the cost may increase if we bring in specialized workshop leaders who travel from greater distances to provide certain requested workshops.

Why is a quarter inch seam so important?

The key to improving your piecing skills is achieving accurate seam allowances. The quarter inch seam has become the standard for quilt making and almost all books and patterns you will read assume that you will use this size seam allowance when sewing your blocks and borders.

What is a Block Of the Month? BOM

Each month a Guild member presents a new block for the members to try on their own at home or at UFO Mondays. Instructions on how to assemble the block are given, along with other pertinent details at the meeting. During the break, members wishing to make the block can pick up a BOM kit for \$1 which includes written instructions and background fabric. Remember to put your name on the finished block and hand it in. At the end of the year the blocks will be in a draw and you could win all of that month's blocks, enough to put together a whole quilt

Finished vs. Unfinished Quilt and Block Sizes

New quilters usually have questions about the terms used in quilt patterns, and two terms often used to describe a block are **finished size** and **unfinished size**. Those two terms can be used to describe any component used in a quilt, but when written in patterns they usually refer to the sizes of blocks or the quilt itself.

Finished Size:

A quilt block's finished size refers to its dimensions after each of its sides is sewn to a neighbouring component. Finished sizes can be given for any component, not just a quilt block.

Unfinished Size:

A block's unfinished size is its dimension after the block or other unit has been constructed, but has not been sewn to another portion of the quilt.

Example - If the pattern says the block is 6.5" finished, its unfinished measurement is $6.5" + 0.5" = 7"$ unfinished. That extra 0.5" is for the two $1/4"$ seam allowances that will disappear into the seam once the blocks are joined.

Why does the Guild need to raise money?

The Kincardine Sunset Quilters' Guild is a non profit, volunteer organization, and the monies gained through membership fees and small sales help purchase fabric and other materials needed for donation and charitable projects as well as new books for our library. Generally, our workshops are self- sustaining and the fees pay for the Instructor, their mileage, and the Church Hall rental fee.

What do you do for Charity?

As a non-profit organization, money brought in from periodic Quilt Shows or donations is used to purchase supplies needed to complete a quilt that is donated to a local charity.

Over the years, the following organizations/individuals have benefited from the diverse talents of our guild members including:

- AIM (a local group against worldwide human trafficking)
- Kincardine Community Living
- Kincardine Hospital Auxiliary
- Kincardine Legion
- Bruce County Women's House
- Project Japan
- Linus Quilts that go to children in hospitals in southern Ontario
- Community individuals based upon their needs
- Fort McMurray Fire Disaster

What is a 'Dawg Sale'?

During the year we have money raising events for the Guild such as the annual Dawg Sale where you can bring in any of your unwanted items and they will be sold or raffled off with the proceeds going to the Guild. The only rule is, if it doesn't sell, you have to take it back home!

As a new quilter what do I have to do?

We invite you to take part in all, or any, of the activities that interest you. There are lots of varied activities and we welcome all members, regardless of their skill level. Wear a smile, tote your mug for coffee, wear your name tag, enjoy the fun of quilting and don't be afraid to ask questions or for help. We're there for the joy of fabric and quilting it into wonderful final projects – just enjoy the process!

How can I be involved in Guild planning and projects?

Talk with the people you meet and show your interest. In May, the Past Presidents hold nominations for various Executive and Committee positions; if you are interested, volunteer to help out. We try to plan our programs and workshops according to the ideas expressed by the membership in our spring survey. This New Member Guide was a suggestion from one of our annual surveys and we hope that it has helped you become a bit more familiar with our Guild and how it operates.

Privacy Statement:

As with most organizations, businesses and events these days, there is always the issue of sharing personal information. For this reason, when you complete the Registration form to become a KSQG Member, you will be asked to sign that you give permission for your personal information to be used, by the Guild, for the express purpose of an historical photographic

collection of projects and personal work; promotional advertising of Guild Events such as Quilt Shows and Newspaper articles; and personal photographs of self and creations on the Members' private website. You also agree NOT TO SHARE personal information beyond the Membership of the Guild without the express permission of those impacted, i.e. e-mail addresses should be shared only as 'BCC' (blind copied) when sharing information outside of the Guild.

With all this said – slip-ups can happen, and it is hoped, that in good faith, there is understanding amongst KSQG Members that there is never any intentional violation of the Privacy Statement.