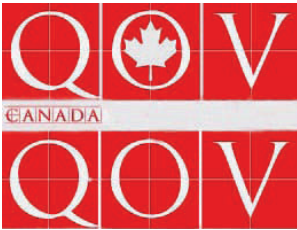


Quilts of Valour - Canada

Issue 3
August 2009



Our Mission

to ensure that our wounded Canadian soldiers are recognized for their bravery and commitment of their true patriotism to our country. We give this support through the presentation of quilts of comfort made for our military service people.

Quilts of Valour - Canada Society!

The paperwork has arrived and Quilts of Valour - Canada Society is now officially a Canadian registered charitable organization. We received our Letter Patent in early June that officially incorporated the society, and later in June we received the letter acknowledging our charitable status. We will be known as Quilts of Valour - Canada or QoV Canada. Please note if you are using the “long” version of the name, the dash “-” is a part of our official name and must be included in any promotions, documents, etc.

There are specific rules that Revenue Canada has for us to follow regarding reporting the charitable donations, so please contact Lezley if you have or are going to be receiving funds on behalf of Quilts of Valour - Canada. All funds received on behalf of Quilts of Valour - Canada should be sent to our head office in Edmonton. Charitable receipts will be issued from head office for the full amount of any cash gift where the donor receives nothing in return for the gift. If your guild/bee or quilt group is receiving the funds and using them to make your QoV quilts to be delivered to our soldiers, you need not report it to QoV Canada. Mary Ewing, our Eastern Canadian coordinator has a great idea for obtaining sponsorships for making quilts. Please keep in mind, the sponsorships idea is not a sanctioned QoV Canada program but rather one that your group or guild can do. QoV Canada will then ensure the delivery of the QoV quilt(s) that you make. QoV Canada does not make the quilts or kits or sponsor quilts.

Any quilt made for our soldiers, and delivered through QoV Canada is considered a QoV Quilt - and you are then a QoV Quilter! Please register with Anita at Register@QuiltsOfValour.ca. We would like to register our QoV Quilters - for several reasons. We would like to be able to email you from time to time to ensure you are aware of what is happening in QoV so that when you are talking to others about QoV you have the correct information to share. Lezley gets many calls from across Canada. When they ask to confirm information they have heard, or want to contact someone closer to them, or need a long arm quilter, or know of a soldier they want to see receive a quilt - she can go to the list of registered quilters and either direct the inquiry to the correct contact, or she can get in touch with potential helpful quilters before giving out any email or other information.

If you want to set up a booth in a quilt show, please do so. Let Lezley know so that if she hears back from someone at the show she doesn't wonder what they are talking about. We can send you a brochure that can be printed and distributed, forward ideas from other shows, or direct you to others who have done quilt shows. If you have expenses in preparing for the show, the goal of QoV Canada is to help you cover those identified costs. Contact Lezley if you are planning to set up a table/booth at a quilt show. Check with your local show coordinator to see if they will donate the space at no charge. At the moment we do not have any dollars - head office hasn't received any monies, so cannot send out any assistance. However, one of our first fundraising ideas will be to raise some funds to cover such costs.

We are in the process of expanding our board of directors and look forward to announcing our first Annual General Meeting before October 31, 2009. If you are interested in helping out in an official board capacity, please let Lezley know. If you are willing to act as a contact for your geographical area, please let her know that too!

Our founder, Lezley Zwaal can be reached at QoV@QuiltsofValour.ca

Our website—supported by the Halton Quilters' Guild is www.quiltsofvalour.ca

In June we were contacted by Heather McArthur, the new editor of Connections for Quilters magazine. They had printed an article about Quilts of Valour - Canada a few years ago and were hoping we would be interested in sending in an update for an upcoming issue. Of course we're interested! Keep your eyes open for an article about QoV in the next issue, which should be out in September.



Ontario Activity from Mary Ewing

Since April 2009, we have participated in the following quilt shows: Burlington Halton Guild (April), Ottawa Valley Quilt Show (Mother's Day weekend), Petawawa Log Cabin Quilters (end of May), and the Trent Valley Quilt Guild (June 6-8). The response was great since numerous people had not heard about QoV. We made many contacts who will support us in different ways (organize bees, donate quilts, etc.). We sent thank-you cards to all show organizers to thank them for providing a booth free of charge and for their support. A sponsorship program was launched at these quilt shows as a local fundraising initiative. The response was very positive and many individuals and organizations have indicated that they would sponsor a quilt. To date, 9 quilts have been sponsored with more to come in the fall. In recognition of the sponsorship, a picture of the quilt and label was sent to the sponsor in a thank-you card. We have also started a sponsorship photo album to use as publicity at our quilting bees and quilt shows.



Burlington Halton Guild Show

The money raised to date as a result of donations and sponsorships has been used to purchase fabric, batting, and flannel backing to prepare kits for our quilting bees. We have slowed down for the summer months but are actively preparing kits for our next bees.

Two quilting bees are scheduled for the fall, one on September 19 and the other on November 14. The bees will be held at the Orleans United Church on Orleans Blvd in Orleans, ON from 9am - 4pm.



Ottawa Valley Quilt Show



Petawawa Log Cabin Quilters

In June, Mary and Karine Chapleau met with LCol Moore, Base Commander of CFB Petawawa to present 75 quilts from QoV (Eastern Canada).

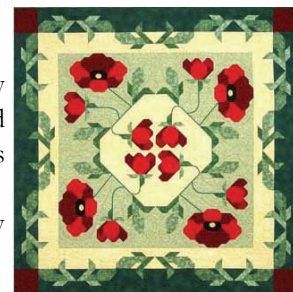
On July 10, Mary and Jane met with the Padre at CFB Uplands to present a quilt to an injured soldier. The soldier could not thank us enough for this gesture. He is based out of Shilo, MB but is recuperating in the Ottawa area. Since April 2009, a total of 105 quilts have been distributed to CFB Petawawa and CFB Valcartier.



Trenton Valley Quilt

If you would like further information on a sponsorship program for your bee group or guild, please contact: Mary Ewing, Quilts of Valour - Eastern Canada Coordinator at Mary.QoVEast@QuiltsOfValour.ca

In May we had an email from Pam Bono, with a generous offer to donate her Remembrance Poppy Quilt Pattern to QoV. In her email she said that On Nov. 11, 2008, this pattern was officially recognized by the Royal Canadian Legion Dominion Command Poppy and Remembrance Committee as Canada's Quilt Of Remembrance Day. It hangs in the Royal Canadian Legion headquarters in Ottawa. Pam sent the pattern for us for distribution to our quilters on request. Our soldiers love the quilt poppy pattern as they also remember their fallen friends.



CWO Chris Rusk, Sharon's son, asked one of his soldiers to confirm he had received a quilt. This was the response.

I did receive one. It's really kind of hard to express in words how much it did mean.. My grandmother used to make beautiful hand made quilts but as she got later on in years she was unable to make them. She passed away about 2 years ago. The last quilt she made was in 1982 for me and I still have it at home. Due to the nature of my injuries and dressings when I came home I was always wet, acticoat dressing need[s] to be kept moist to work properly. As well with burns to that much surface area it makes it hard for the body to regulate temperature. I have other blankets at home but nothing seemed to keep me as comfortable as the Quilt. I don't know if it was the material the quilt was made from or the mental thought of knowing it was made specifically for a wounded soldier but I can't thank enough the women who spent their time making this quilt. Sounds kind of soft for a tough mean old Warrant like me I know but it's the truth.

Ken Power, Warrant Officer, CFB Petawawa, ON

Quilts of Valour Presentations in Newfoundland



A group of ladies from Deer Lake, NL with one of the quilts done from their monetary donation.

Elizabeth Snow, Mary Ellsworth, Linda Temple, Shirley Crocker, Maxine Turner

Presenting Major Greene with 11 quilts, on their way to comfort soldiers.



Linda Temple has been working with some groups of quilters in Newfoundland this spring and they have been very productive. There are two groups of ladies, one in Cormack, NL, the other in Stephenville, NL who have between them presented numerous quilts to their local military contacts.



Linda Temple and Elsie Pottle

The Cormack group shown above gets together every Tuesday to work on Quilts of Valour. They have five regular attendees and have had quilts donated from Mt. Moriah, and monies donated for “supplies”, as well as batting and other materials.

Capt. Laldin (left) and Major Garfield Green (right)

The group made a presentation in May to the local military Chaplain, Padre Edmond Woodman, who was in charge of getting the quilts to the right people. To date they have presented 11 Quilts of Valour, including 4 from the Mt. Moriah quilters.

Elsie Pottle is the founder of the Sunshine Quilters; a group of 17 ladies that gathers every Thursday in Stephenville, NL.. Every May at their annual quilt show they do a quilt for an organization in their area, this year they decided to do some quilts and bags for Quilts of Valour. Linda was there to do a demonstration and speak to people about QoV, as well as make a presentation of 7 quilts to Capt. Laldin and Major Greene.



On May 19, 2009 Linda Greer organized another QoV sewing group at the Coboconk, ON Legion. They had 14 ladies out to sew QoV rag quilts. The local Lindsay, ON paper was out to take pictures and do a short video which will appear on their website.

They have now completed 6 rag quilts which will be presented to Sharon Middlehurst's son at the Haliburton Highlands Quilt Guild (for a photo only by the local Haliburton paper) then they will be forwarded to Ottawa for distribution by Mary Ewing.



Front and centre with black rag quilt is Linda Greer to the left and Sharon Middlehurst to the right



Sharon explaining QoV to the ladies



Working on a quilt



If you're looking for a new alternative for a quilt pattern to use in making a quilt for QoV, you might want to check out the Canadian Seasons quilt which was featured in Canadian Living magazine. The pattern is available on their website, so it cannot be distributed due to copyright. However, it can be downloaded by individuals for their own use from http://www.canadianliving.com/crafts/sewing/quilt_canada.php

Lois writes "It's been a few years since the design was featured in the magazine, but it continues to be popular obviously. I've had letters from Rome and Australia with pictures of the quilts made from it. It's also a design which is suitable for men, as well. It would be really nice to have it going to our soldiers."

You'll notice that the instructions for this quilt are all in metric, which can be confusing, so you might want to see if your library has "Quiltworks across Canada" by Gail Hunt. She chose a quilter from each province, and I'm the NB rep. The whole quilt workshop is given there with photo instructions and is MUCH easier to follow. The quilt shown here was made by Jane Lay.

Lois Hooper, Designer, Canadian Seasons Quilt Pattern



Please check the following list for a contact person in your province:

Lezley Zwaal, Founder, Quilts of Valour - Canada — Sask, AB, BC QoV@QuiltsOfValour.ca

Mary Ewing, Eastern Canadian Coordinator — Manitoba eastward. Mary.QoVEast@QuiltsOfValour.ca

Within those boundaries:

Sandy Carlile — Alberta South. AltaSouth@QuiltsOfValour.ca

Debby Gray — BC mainland. scrappyblue@gmail.com

Liz Seamans — Manitoba, west Ontario. ebeth0@rogers.com

Betty Mahar — PEI, Nfld/Labrador. peimom17@hotmail.com

Johanne Bennings — Nova Scotia. nsquilts@gmail.com