

Parksville Quilt House Quilters' Guild

Looking Back - Quilt Show History

In the '80s

In early Guild recorded minutes (April 1979) Guild members and the executive of the day decided they should have a quilt show. Seeds were planted in Flo's Quilt House and Betty Wood volunteered to chair the event. There were 25 members in these early days, and by 1981 membership grew to 45.

Several "small exhibits" and quilting displays were hung at Parksville Arts and Crafts Shows, the QB Street Fair, etc.

A quilt show, from the very beginning, was to: showcase members' beautiful quilts, support Guild charity projects and raise funds for Guild activities. The Quilt House Quilters' Guild set the stage for shows to come, invited sponsors (AGS, Overweightea Foods, Parksville Sand & Gravel), displayed quilts at The Old School House in Qualicum Beach and set up displays at the ferry terminal in Nanaimo to advertise the event. They applied to the BC Government for the Grants-In-Aid Program for a raffle. Martha Sundquist made a baby quilt as one of the items for this raffle.

A Century of Canadian Quilting (1881 – 1981) – July 1-4, 1981

was the first "official" quilt show of the Quilt House Quilters...162 beautiful quilts were hung.

Quilts of the 80's - June 28-30, July 1st, 1986

Admission: \$2.00

Convener: Betty Wood again convened this show.

1991 – 1997

Quilting was popular and Quilt Shows were held regularly and planned by the Victoria Quilt Guild, Nanaimo Quilt Guild, Schoolhouse Quilters and many others throughout British Columbia. Because quilters like to share, island guilds decided to rotate their quilt shows and hold one every three years. Program and leaders from each guild met regularly to plan workshops, share teacher travel expenses and share information.

Quilts in Transition – Preserving the Heritage - September 20 - 22, 1991

Qualicum Beach Curling Rink at Memorial in Qualicum Beach

Admission: \$3.00 for a 3-day pass, Children under 12 admitted free.

Convener: Jan Ford

The show continued the heritage themes of shows established with 100 years of Canadian Quilting. Members pursued the traditions shown in the Heritage Quilts on display as well as exploring new awareness of contemporary quilt making. Jan Ford convened the show, with leadership from Joan Jeffs who looked after demonstrations; Donna Martin organized and set up the display of quilts and Janet Finch made a raffle quilt. She also won "Viewers Choice" for her quilt - "Tidal Waves".

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Home by the Sea - September 23, 24, 25, 1994

Admission: \$3.00 @ Parksville Community Hall

Convener: Carol Harradine

The raffle quilt was a breathtaking "Mariner's Star". Twenty-eight members did a lovely job hand-quilting, travelling from Port Alberni and other locations to do the hand-quilting work which took 275 hours of work to complete the raffle quilt for the quilt show.

"Hands Across the Water - A Cape of Many Hands" was a star attraction at this show; it was created to honour Canadian and Commonwealth athletes. The cape featured hand outlines of male and female athletes from each of the 67 participating Commonwealth nations, as well as each Canadian province and history. This gigantic wall hanging was 16 x 25 feet and weighed about 27 pounds. The Council agreed to have city staff hang it from the community hall roof.

Forest Fantasies - April 18, 19, 20, 1997

Parksville Community Hall

Conveners: Donna Martin, Coreen Zerr (with committee Donna Paisley, Nanette Banks, etc.)

Membership had grown to 270 including novices to professionals who travel the country teaching and speaking about their obsession of quilting. Snip and Stitch donated a sewing machine as a major prize.

Quilt Shows 2000 – 2009

Our Guild has an incredible quilt show history - a reputation for delivering fabulous shows! Nanette Banks, who was President of the Guild from 1991 – 1992, was quoted in the local newspaper at the time.... ***"More than 3000 people streamed through the doors of the Quilts in Transition display at the Community Hall this weekend. We had them coming from as far away as Georgia, across Canada, says Banks."*** What follows is a summary of four incredible shows from 2000 – 2009; Y2K was the beginning of the next century of quilting for the Parksville Quilt House Quilters' Guild.

Stitches in Time – Candlelight to Computers - March 17, 18, 19, 2000

Qualicum Beach Civic Centre

Conveners: Carol Harradine, Margaret Cochrane (some committee members: Marilyn Mercer, Nanette Banks, Giselle Brewster, Cynthia Stanhope)

The focus of this show was to build a quilt show in the new century and really capture how the craft of quilting had developed. What happened from quilting in the time from our grandmothers to 2000 was a revolution and would change quilting in the future.

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Solstice 2003 - June 20, 21, 22, 2003

Admission: \$4.00 @ Qualicum Beach Curling Rink at Memorial in Qualicum Beach

Conveners: Ionne McCauley, Frankie Michaluk

This was a new venue – more space was needed to showcase the quilts and supporting activities: curling rink to stage the show, cafeteria for food delivery, merchant mall, challenge quilts, boutique, etc. The entire facility was used (curling rink, meeting rooms, community hall, etc.). Because it took time to move from one part of the show to another, Ionne and Frankie used walkie/talkies to communicate and trouble shoot, and thought roller skates would have made things easier. The theme, Solstice – changing of the seasons fit perfectly: the world of quilting was on the cusp of change. And the curling rink was not used again, we continued to outgrow venues, it was just too small.



Donna Paisley (President), Frankie Michaluk

“Dainty Delights”- Saturday, June 11.

A One-Day Miniature Quilt Show @ Bradley Centre

Admission: \$5.00

Conveners: Donna Paisley, Laverne Sommerville

Space at the Bradley Centre dictated a small show: wall hangings, small and miniature quilts. Even though it was staged for one day, the planning, set-up, hanging, etc. demanded just as much work as a big show.

Note: During the years 2000 – 2009, LaVerne Sommerville organized private quilting displays at the Annual Morningstar Farm Summer festival.



**Dainty
Delights**
Tea and Show of Small Quilts

Presented by
Parksville Quilt House Quilters' Guild

Saturday, June 11, 2005
10:00 am to 6:00 pm
at Bradley Centre
975 Shearmer Road, Coombs, BC
(Vancouver Island, near Parksville)

\$5 admission
Includes a visit to our tearoom

<small>Come shop in our boutique</small>  <small>1st Prize Wall Hanging</small>	<small>Raffle Tickets \$1.00 each</small>  <small>2nd Prize Table Runners/Placemats</small>	<small>Easy parking Wheelchair accessible</small>  <small>3rd Prize Embellished Tote Bag</small> <small>Lottery #TR-RG0023</small>
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Silver Threads - June 23, 24, 25, 2006.

Admission: \$6.00, 3-day pass @ \$10.00 @ Parksville Community Centre

Conveners: Coreen Zerr, RoseMary Slaney

This show celebrated the Guild's 25th Silver Anniversary. The show was multi-faceted and the following were organized for, and during the month of June:

- Workshops over two days
- Guild members' quilts were displayed at the Craig Bay Heritage Museum (25 antique quilts)
- Quilt walks (quilts were hung in merchant windows/stores in both Parksville and Qualicum Beach. The public could follow a map to seek out and view the quilts in our communities).
- Wall hangings/art quilts were hung at the MacMillan Art Gallery in Parksville, and at TOSH in Qualicum Beach.

It was a festival of quilts for the month of June, with the Quilt Show at the community centre as a final culmination for Silver Threads.



Parksville Major Sandy Herle with founding member Betty Woods

Seasons by the Sea - May 29, 30, 31, 2009

Admission: \$6.00, 3-day pass \$10.00 @ Parksville Community Centre

Conveners: Barb Wilson, Donna McAskile

A fun-filled theme, poster and materials used art work created by Mary Dubuc, one of our Guild members. It reflected the humour, fun-filled atmosphere and success of the Parksville Quilt Show. Once again, the crowds were great and Guild members created beautiful quilts and wall hangings for a very successful show. Cathy Miller and John Bunge performed at the opening night event on May 28th held at Knox United Church.



PARKVILLE QUILT FESTIVAL
MAY 29 - 31, 2009

Seasons by the Sea
Over 300 Quilts
Merchants Mall
Special Exhibits
Demonstrations
Food Court
Quilt Walks
Raffle Quilts
Cathy Miller, Singing Quilter

Parksville Community Centre
132 East Jensen Avenue
Parksville, BC, Canada

Workshops June 1st - 4th
Exciting Instructors
Gloria Loughman, Judy Farrow
Nancy Lee Chong, Ianne McCauloy
Kathy Klassen, Susan Paynter

Trunk Show June 2nd
With Gloria Loughman
Nancy Lee Chong

Parksville Quilt House Quilters Guild hosts a fabulous event in one of the most beautiful settings on earth!



QUILTER AT PLAY

www.parkvillequiltshousequilters.com
Email: ParkvilleQuiltFestival@shaw.ca

Parksville Quilt House Quilters' Guild

2012 – May 2018

Seasons by the Sea – June 1, 2, 3, 2012

Admission: \$8.00, 3-day pass \$10.00 @ Parksville Community Centre

Conveners: Lynne Foreman, Charlotte Hitchin

This quilt show built on the success of previous shows. It was an event that managed expenses and resources very well. The theme, logo and PR materials were used again. We learned from this show and the following recommendations helped shape the direction of future shows:

- The need to explore a different venue for the quilt show
- The importance of management committee and guild member support

Generation to Generation – May 29, 30, 31, 2015

Admission: \$8.00 @ RDN Oceanside Arena

Convener: Lola Denesyk

After holding the triennial quilt show at the Parksville Community Centre for a number of years, we moved to the RDN Oceanside Arena. The change in venue provided us with much more room to more adequately display the quilts as well as to integrate the merchants into the show itself. It also allowed us to expand the ever-popular boutique and bring the heritage quilt display into the same venue. A change in venue presents challenges but also new opportunities.

BeDazzled – June 22, 23, 24, 2018

Admission: \$8.00, 3-day pass \$10.00 @ RDN Oceanside Arena, Special Event: \$10.00

Conveners: RoseMary Slaney, Ronni McCallum, Rita Schotte, Marlene Waters, Elaine Eddy

This show differentiated itself from previous great shows with some new features:

- Trunk Shows (Entry by Donation) with proceeds going to designated charities as identified by Guild members
- An additional raffle – BeDazzled Basket Bonanza to compensate for the loss of revenue due to Concession Rights to food service
- A wine and beer balcony
- A KidsZone
- A wonderful lobby display.

Each show has its own flavour and the most important aspect is the wonderful outstanding quality of the quilts on display. A Special Event was organized and held at the Parksville Community Centre: An Evening with Quilt Artists Judy Lesley and Robin Fischer.

The conveners worked with an incredible committee to produce a fabulous quilt show. The “era”, affluence and economic conditions enabled one of the most successful financial quilt shows for the Guild.