

Ontario Quilting Connections Convention 2003 - Geneva Park

The following article was taken from the Patchwork Patter, the newsletter of the Region of York Quilters Guild.

As you all know, our Guild had some extra money in their Cookie Tin and made a draw last spring for a full Convention Package at the Ontario Quilting Connections, held during the weekend of Thursday, Aug 21st to Sunday, August 24th, 2003. By way of elimination, I became the lucky recipient of the Convention Package that was being offered. Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!!!

Arrived at Geneva Park on Thursday afternoon. Registered for the Convention and checked into my room. Off to the Teacher Show and Share. The organizers reviewed the weekend activities, and the Teacher Show and Share gave us all a good idea of the terrific workshops we could look forward to. Then to the Welcome Wine and Cheese Party. At this event there were tumblers full of wine (if you chose), veggie trays, cheese and crackers and many other munchies. This was an enjoyable event chatting with old friends and meeting many new ones. What fun that was. Back to my room to meet my roommate. This was Mary Hudson from Peterborough. We chatted for a short time and then lights out for the next busy day.

Friday was a 2-day workshop on New York Beauty, with Greta Kristiansen-Jacobs from Picton, Ontario. What a very nice teacher, although all quilting teachers are. She made what I found a very difficult square previously become very easy. Everything just fell together. Greta offers retreats at her home in Picton.

I signed up for a Quilt Appraisal with Judy Lyons who was the Friday evening speaker. I was thrilled to find out that my mother's quilt was an Original Mountain Mist, and is very collectable. This quilt is in pristine condition, has never been used or washed. My task now is to find a picture of my mother and write a small blurb about the quilt and her. During the Quilt Appraisal task, I named my quilt *Memories of My Mother*. Just to let you folks know, I was thinking there may be a value of \$300 or \$400. Appraised value was deemed \$900. I will be treating this quilt tenderly. Judy had some very interesting facts regarding quilt appraisal and insuring your quilts.

Our very own Patti Carey was the speaker on Saturday evening. As usual, Patti had lots of great information about fabrics, how they are made and where.

All meals were great, buffet style, with a vast selection. On Sunday morning I attended a workshop called Double Pinwheel with Irena Hopper, from Toronto who is a member of East Toronto QG, Yorkshire Rose QG, and York Heritage QG. This turned out to be a lot of fun, quick, and easy. Great technique! Great teacher!

On Thursday, people kept asking me if I was related to Leona Sheehan. I would say I don't know a Leona Sheehan, but it could very well be so. Talking with Leona, who is from Peterborough I found out that Leona Sheehan is related by marriage to my father-in-law in Peterborough. Her husband is a cousin to my father-in-law. Small world!

Before leaving on Sunday, lunch was provided and then check-out. During the weekend I made many new friends and had so much fun. It was very relaxing and a terrific way to end the summer. To the Executive, Region of York Quilters Guild, Thank You, Thank You, Thank You !!! What a terrific opportunity. I certainly would have not attended (although in the past I had thought it would be nice) had it not been for winning the draw. Once again... Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!!!

Gratefully, Helen Sheehan