

## Table of Contents

<i>Words of Wisdom</i> .....	1
<i>New Start Time</i> .....	1
<i>OOTB Program Lineup 2014/15:</i> .....	1
<i>Out of the Box Display at Shenkman Centre</i> .....	1
<i>Experimenting with Eco-printing on paper</i> .....	2
<i>TAFTA</i> .....	2
<i>Workshops</i> .....	3
Kouki squares improv .....	3
Mosaic jacket .....	3
<i>Meetings</i> .....	3
<i>Planning Committee</i> .....	4

## Words of Wisdom

I have a lot of weird interests, but everything I do is artistic. – Ansel Elgort

## New Start Time

At the last planning committee meeting, it was decided to change the start time for our meetings to 7:00pm. This will take effect with our November meeting.

## OOTB Program Lineup 2014/15:

**December 15**, 7:00pm Bring one of your favourite projects of 2014 to share as well as promotional items that you use to promote your work

### 2015:

**January 19**, 7:00pm – Guest Artist Sayward Johnson

**January 26 date change**, 9:30am-3:30pm Member Playdate (Connie ten Bruggenkate, make your own stamps)

**February** – OOTB members' show at Shenkman Centre, Orleans

**February 16**, 7:00pm – Show Committee: Prep for OOTB's Fibre Fling 4 plus member's artwork due for 12x12 Colour Challenge and hand stitching challenge

**March 16**, 7:00pm -- Margaret Dunsmore and Pat Hardie share their African experience and SAQA trunk show on display

**April 10-11** - Fibre Fling 4, Kitchissippi United Church hall

## Out of the Box Display at Shenkman Centre

February 2 – March 2, 2015

Reminder that if you have a piece that was in the Stittsville show and would like it to be in the February Shenkman Centre display, I can pick up the piece at our December 15<sup>th</sup> meeting. Other pieces for the display can be brought to either the December or January meeting.

For pieces that were not in the Stittsville show, please email me the following information by **January 5<sup>th</sup>** please – this will allow us time to create tags for all the pieces.

- Photo (jpg) of your work
- Title
- Maker
- Size (including frame)
- Inspiration (50 words or less)
- Techniques and materials used

I will try to re-use cards from any pieces used at the Stittsville show.

Pieces must be maximum 24" in any direction. Items such as scarfs that are longer than 24" can be submitted as well as they can be folded to meet the 24" requirement.

Pictures cannot be hung up this display case, so will be either placed on small easels or will lean against walls and boxes. Three dimensional pieces are encouraged. Some small items will be needed as well to fill in some space. If you plan to put in any cards, please ensure they are in plastic see through envelopes as we will be using the blue mactac to attach them to the display boxes.

Please be sure your name is on all pieces, and also on your packaging materials.

Many thanks in advance for your submissions,

Anne Warburton

## ***Experimenting with Eco-printing on paper***

submitted by Nancy Garrard

In the early fall I became very interested in experimenting with natural dyes inspired by the works of local artist Wendy Feldberg (former member of OOTB) and Dorothy Caldwell who both are doing very experimental work with Canadian dye materials and fibre. India Flint is another international pioneer in this field and Dorothy Caldwell travels to Australia to dye with India Flint using local materials.

I started off using the techniques from Cassandra Tondro's tutorial( <http://tondro.com/blog/category/leaf-monoprint-process/> from Wendy Feldberg's blog <http://wendyfe.wordpress.com/> ). I mostly used freshly fallen autumn leaves as my plant materials. From this starting point I experimented with using some mordants and different papers and some fabric. It didn't take long to get hooked. I found that the reference book Wild Colour (Jenny Dean with Karen Diadick Casselman as consultant) was very helpful in identifying local plants that might generate interesting colours. Wendy's blog is also a very good reference as is the website [www.maiwa.com](http://www.maiwa.com).

The process is quite simple, soak paper in water (and mordant, if using) for an hour; layer flattened plant material between pieces of paper and tie together tightly; steam over simmering water in a roasting pan (not for food use) for 2 hours turning the pile once; let sit overnight before revealing the printed paper; let paper dry out.

I played around with different papers - cardstock, printer paper, tissue paper, brown paper watercolour paper and handmade paper. Paper that could absorb water well worked the best (watercolour 90 and 140 lb) although the other papers had their own features. Sadly my glued tissue paper mostly disintegrated. Without a mordant, the process produced lovely lines with overall green and light brown colours. With mordants (I used 1 tbsp alum and 1 tsp cream of tartar) the same plant material produced more vibrant colours - lots of yellows and rusts. The plants will provide a range of colour - mostly earth colours. Red cabbage will give lavender and blues and beets and berries will release pinks and reds.

OOTBers Marie Ansai and Val Rochester have already done some more experimenting with this technique playing with a variety of plant material.

Wendy Feldberg makes lovely books using this technique. It can be quite addictive.

I have gone on to stitch on these papers. The sewing machine seems to stitch without any problems but handstitching can be difficult with the heavy papers. Please join me in experimenting with these plants and share your experiments.



Ecoprinting without a mordant



Ecoprinting with a mordant

## **TAFTA**



TAFTA stands for The Australian Forum for Textile Arts, Ltd. TAFTA has been a not-for-profit company since 1987. Detailed text on upcoming events is posted near the start of each month (NEWS & EVENTS) on the TAFTA website: [www.tafta.org.au](http://www.tafta.org.au)

Their current newsletter can be found at the TAFTA website as a PDF file (until the next one is produced, then it's Archived) so you can always find it again. [www.tafta.org.au](http://www.tafta.org.au)

In the current edition you will find articles on

- \* A message from Janet De Boer, CEO of TAFTA
- \* The 2015 Geelong Fibre Forum
- \* CONTEXTART 2015 in the Blue Mountains of NSW
- \* Gallery 159 Exhibitions, Current and Upcoming
- \* Latest Australian Awards & Competitions
- \* Recent Overseas News & Competitions

## Workshops

The Ottawa Valley Quilt Guild (OVQG) is running a number of workshops in the winter and spring of 2015. There are a couple of these workshops coming up in January which don't yet have the minimum number of participants. We cordially invite any members of other guilds to sign up for these workshops if they are interested. We extend the members fee to members of other guilds.

The workshops for which we would like to increase enrollment are the following: KOUKI SQUARES IMPROV by Patricia Belyea from Seattle (her website is [www.okanarts.com](http://www.okanarts.com)), and MOSAIC JACKET by Susan Curtis from Ottawa (her website is [www.stitchtogether.com](http://www.stitchtogether.com)). I've attached descriptions of the two workshops to this email for your reference.

### Kouki squares improv

Patricia Belyea  
Saturday, January 24, 2015  
10 am to 4 pm  
Maki House, 19 Leeming Drive, Nepean  
Workshop Fee: \$50 members / \$60 non-members  
Supply Fee: none  
Workshop Description:



If you're ready to start making quilts without patterns, this is a great intro class for "stepping outside of the block." This one-day class works with solids and patterns to make a lyrical quilt top with playfully changing strip widths and block directions.

### Mosaic jacket

Susan Curtis  
Saturday, January 31 and February 14, 2015 (2 class project)  
10 am to 4 pm  
Maki House, 19 Leeming Drive, Nepean

Workshop Fee: \$80 members / \$100 non-members  
Supply Fee: none

Workshop Description:

This is a fun jacket to make, featuring a mosaic of coordinating Batik fabrics outlined with self-made bias tape. Completely reversible, as all inside seams are finished with binding.



A TWO-CLASS PROJECT. MUST HAVE SOME PRIOR CLOTHING CONSTRUCTION EXPERIENCE  
Start this project in a novel way—choose your solid colors first and then add the patterns. Look forward to a fun day where you can experience the freedom of making your own design choices that result in a completely unique graphic quilt.

Happy Quilting!

Sheryl McKendry  
OVQG Workshops Coordinator  
[613-723-2378](tel:613-723-2378)

## Meetings

Meetings are normally held the third Monday of the month, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Ottawa Citizen Main Floor Board Room, Baxter Road, Ottawa.

Submission deadline for the January Newsletter is January 11, at 5:00 pm.

### Really Bad Weather & Meetings

If there is any weather condition that makes travel risky, members will be notified by e-mail by 4:00 pm the afternoon of the meeting. If you do not have email or cannot access email at work, please partner with someone who has access. Members should NOT call the Citizen for this information as nobody there would have it. (They lend the facility to organizations for a nominal fee and do not want any involvement in administrative matters).

**Planning Committee**

PC Convenor	Sally Rutherford & Nancy Garrard
Programs	Doreen Meyer, Lynn Ruff, Connie ten Bruggenkate
Secretary	Meredith Filshie
Membership	MaryAnne Toonders
Treasurer	Sandy Goldsmith
Web-coordinator	Sally Rutherford
Newsletter	Helen Gordon
Library	Rita Rottman
Publicity/Marketing	Open
Shows	Rita Rottman & Meredith Filshie
Contacts: <a href="mailto:info@outofthebox.org">info@outofthebox.org</a>	

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