

Log Cabin Fever Challenge Submissions & Artists' Statements

Month Presented	Name	Submission
February	Judy M.	When the call for fabric masks and other PPE came in the spring from Michael Garron Hospital and other GTA organizations, I went to work using some of my extensive stash to make fabric masks, scrub caps and some isolation gowns. Cutting up fabric for these projects left smaller scraps and since I had always wanted to make a log cabin project, I started cutting those small scraps into 1-1/2 inch "logs". This table topper was made from some of those scraps. I made sure that the only repeated fabrics in the piece are the red squares in the centres of the four blocks, so there are 66 different fabrics in this 20-inch square piece! I still have many "logs" to use. Somehow my stash doesn't seem much smaller after making over 300 masks and cutting fabric for another 200+!
March	Lori D.	Here's my log cabinesque submission for the log cabin challenge. The rules say 2" x 2" and I'm just a smidge over. In the COVID-times' spirit of making do, I used left-over "City Lights" from Peter Byrne's excellent workshop for the centre. The HST was made from scraps. And I got a chance to experiment with the hand-quilting look stitch on my sewing machine.
	Sandra B.	Square – Title: <i>The Seasons of COVID</i> With COVID stretching out to more than a year, I thought I would try to depict how long we have been coping with this virus. By using the colours, green for spring, yellow for summer, orange for autumn and blue for winter, I wanted to depict the seasons of this year all moving around the central motif of a mask which has been constant throughout.
	Tella V.	My inspiration came from Gwen Marston and her book "Liberated Quiltmaking". She was a pioneer of improvisational quilting...this block starts with a centre piece, then adding a second piece to it and squaring up as you go...continuing in rounds. Strips are varying widths and scrappy in this block.
	Daryl W.	This is a knitting bag made from men's ties. Each side is a wonky log cabin block.
	Kim W.	Quilt – No description given
	Gail L.	Quilt - Completed March 2021 Design inspired by Emiko T Loeb - a quilter mentioned by Karen K Stone in a York Heritage workshop November 2020 and by Tamara Kate in a York Heritage Workshop in November 2019 on Half Square Triangles. I enjoyed the routine of sewing, pressing, trimming multiple scrap fabric strips. Concentrating on stitching took my mind off the repetitive news of the day. The back is one big log cabin. Quilting is randomly spaced straight lines by machine.

April	Leslie B.	When the Log Cabin Challenge was announced, I had never actually made a log cabin block but had admired them for a few years. I decided to select fabrics I had used for the 25 International Sister Blocks I made in the last year.
	Jean P.	Quilt - Title: "I Spy Log Cabins" since I used a child's print fat quarters and a car print on the back. The pattern was taken from Fons and Porters' Modern Baby Quilts. It is 44 x 44 inches and machine quilted. Has fleece as batting.
	Jean P.	Quilt - No description given
	Wendy D.	<p>I put this piece together early in the pandemic: probably Sept 2020. At that time, we in Ontario had had a relatively quiet and, in retrospect, a summer that with safety measures in place seemed to be manageable. Safety measures (physical distancing and masking & disinfection of surfaces) needed to be followed. However, spread of the virus seemed to be contained. It looked as if 2021 would see 'THE END' of the isolation especially since prospects of vaccine development were on the horizon.</p> <p>So, this little piece has a lightening of colours in the first band of colour above the yellow centre. How very optimistic of me! Because, I think as far as progressing up into the lighter blues and to the ideal world of the pink band of colour, at this time (May 2021), we are still in the first band of blue above the yellow centre. The entire world has not made a great deal of progress because sadly, of the continuing high rates of infections and deaths, especially in India and Latin America</p> <p>Below the centre blocks, the stitching is random and hairing off in multiple directions. These lines represent governmental response where leadership has been sorely lacking provincially and in many other countries. The measures to contain the spread has often been illogical and frustrating. And the behaviours of many disappointing and threatening. These random lines represent the response of many to COVID 19.</p> <p>When I look at what appear to be a sunrise kind of motif of stitching in pink, I believe was terribly optimistic. There are many vaccines now but getting to herd immunity is still some time off.</p> <p>The surround of the dark navy represents the continuing threat of other or more of the same virus and its mutations. New and other viruses will envelope the entire globe.</p> <p>The black and white stripe in the binding.....will there ever come a time when the threat will be minimal?</p>
	Shirley D.	<p>This wristlet was created using 1/4" wool strips originally cut for rug hooking.</p> <p>Using the QAYG method, I attached the strips to a foundation piece, first using a glue stick to tack them down as they needed to be sewn flush to each other, rather than with a seam</p>

		allowance.
	Shirley D.	Quilt - "Lucky Log Cabin" Pattern by Emily Dennis of Quilt Love
	Joan H.-V.	Quilt - Daughter Elsie's White on White Log Cabin quilt that she asked for about ten years ago...it was to be made of scraps from her grandmother's sheets and duvet covers, her family's cotton dress shirts and polyester blouses and some damask, bridal, sheeting and other white remnants covering several decades from the 1940's to 90's. When she said she was going to get a dog and would allow it up on the quilt, I balked. Instead, in 2013, I made her a wall-hanging in the 8" blocks she was asking for, with the gold centre. But she still wanted a summer-weight queen-sized bed-quilt, so this year, in January, I set myself the task of starting the 36 fifteen-inch blocks for her quilt. It is quilted stitch-in-the-ditch, with two-inch logs (no creams allowed). The only way I could make an all-white quilt with contrast, was to use "shiny" vs "matte" whites. Even the maple-leaf embroidered plackets from her sister's Air Canada uniform shirts are in there.
	Rosemary M.	COVID Rose – A Triptych
	Martha H.	Wall Hanging - My COVID Bubble – 4 log cabin blocks joined to form a 13" wall hanging. It represents the 3 separate family units plus the whole family at the cottage for the summer.
	Daniela T.	"Loving Log Cabin" (98" x 88") This quilt was created for a young newlywed couple. They are among the crowd that is living in muted colours of white and off-white and so I kept the palette very muted. During COVID I challenged myself to work only with the fabric on hand. Therefore it is made entirely from scraps on hand. I found it very soothing to just cut and sew without pressure and ended up creating tops bigger than I had ever imagined. Luckily the very talented Jeanie Jenkins was willing to take on my creations on her long arm and she quilted a beautiful pattern of hearts. The back has one very large log cabin block and a braid that symbolizes the joining together of their union. I made it with love, and can't wait to be able to see them again and give it with love and hoping that they will feel the same while sleeping with it.
	Donaleen V.	Log Cabin Quilt – This scrappy quilt was begun on March 3, and completed on March 21, a marathon for me! I used scraps from years of sewing, but needed "reinforcements" of black and white prints from my friends in the CQ group. It measures 70" x 70", and was machine pieced and quilted on my trusty Bernina.
	Teresa M.	Log Cabin Block
	Anne B.	Log Cabin Fever Entry Tea Cosy – A warm cup of tea in these COVID times is so satisfying! I used scraps from my stash, a different pattern on the back, and lined it with fabric from the 60's.

	Irene B.	Log Cabin Star King Size – longarmed by Blue Heron Quilts, Barry's Bay
	Megan M.	Just before the onset of COVID 19, my stepdaughter mentioned to me that she loved scrappy quilts. Early on in COVID, I came across a Log Cabin block pattern that would make a good scrappy quilt! I am usually more of an appliqué person but (having already completed quite a few masks...I thought why not piece a Log Cabin block? Cabin fever ensued and I quickly became addicted to completing block after block, enough to make a full quilt. And then I made for the first time, Courthouse Steps! So...out of COVID, and my stash, came a Log Cabin quilt, just when the Log Cabin Fever Challenge was announced!
	Janet P.	When I completed the first two log cabin blocks, I thought I might make placemats. But I really got into using my scraps, and I liked the effect of setting the yellow in the centre, so it grew into a 47" x 57" comfort quilt to be donated to someone in need. The yellow fabrics are meant to convey that hope is within us, and all around us.
	Catherine L.	Log Cabin Square – I have long been a fan of the BBC Science Fiction program Dr. Who. This shows the Tardis surrounded by the stars it travels through.
	Maria S.	Table Topper Quilt – DTQG presented each Guild member with a Christmas present – a gift bag full of scraps and a very nice hand-made card. I used up all the aforementioned scraps in my bag making the Log Cabin Challenge for YHQG. The Table Topper Quilt was pieced and quilted by machine.
	France B.	The quilt is blue, to represent my mood at the beginning of the pandemic. I started off with a 6 ½" square block with owls, representing me. The first strip added was 4.5" wide. I continued to add strips that were ¼" less wide as I went around the square block, until reaching the final strip of only ½". This small table-top quilt has 18 blocks – each block representing how many months I thought the pandemic would last. Now that we are a good year in, I see how totally wrong I was and should have made a much bigger quilt.
	Joy T.	Placemats - From this simple exercise, I learned that I can make at least 2 placemats by reaching into a bag of scraps next to my sewing machine. Very efficient but sadly, a reminder of fabric "spread"!
	Mical P.	"When Life Gives You Lemons" – This little quilt (14" x 20") is my way of making lemonade, or something cheerful out of the pandemic. The log cabin block is made from scraps left over from the masks that I made for others during this time. The appliqué COVID virus is represented as playful flowers and the flower stems are from strips of bicycle tube that I used at the time when elastic was in short supply.
	Anne S.	This quilt was made from Orphan blocks from a asymmetrical

		log cabin quilt made about ten years ago. I added saskhiko in the light and tried big stitch quilting for the first time in the dark. Most of the fabrics are Japanese. Without the challenge I am sure the blocks would have languished for ten more years.
May	Ethel P.	Log Cabin Square Quilt - I am still trying to use up my stash. It's not so successful. I still have lots. The squares are slightly askew just like the year has been. However we quilters are a determined lot and we keep at it.
	Carole Th.	Log Cabin Denim Bag – I saw a pattern online for a handbag (not this one) that I would like to make for my daughter-in-law, but I have never worked with denim before so I traded fabrics with a friend for 3 pairs of old jeans, and decided to make a half-square log cabin bag for myself and was very pleased with the results. It measures 13" square, is lined, and has an inner pocket and magnetic closure.
	Jean P.	Log Cabin Quilt with Centre Stars – This quilt is completely flannel on the front and back. The appliqué stars are flannel too.
	Ruthie S.	The pattern was a mystery quilt I designed for my store, Ruthi's Needlebed. It was a carpenter star, done as a log cabin. I started it in two colourways. The first colourway was in black and white and red music fabric, which I finished, and donated to the Oakville Symphony to raffle off as a fundraiser. This was the other colourway, which was never finished. The log cabin challenge inspired me to find and finish it. It was in a bag with a few blocks done, the pattern, and all the fabrics.

	Bev Stu.	<p>“Staying Cool in the Cabin” – I saw this pattern in the Keepsake Quilting Magazine and figured it out in a different colour palette. After hours of ‘figuring’, fabric selection and sewing, I finally found the pattern for free on-line. Too bad as the half-square cutting instructions were much easier and faster than the way I did it! Also, I had a limited stash of purples and grays – like many quilters, my stash leans heavily to the medium and dark values – so many of the strips are the reverse side of the fabric to get the lighter colour value. These are the colours of my living room, and this quilt will go on the wall above the recliner.</p>
	Pat S.	<p>Wall Hanging – I started quilting with a view to making quilted clothes. I made two jackets. Leftover fabric from one of the jackets was used in this mini-quilt started in a workshop during a retreat many years ago. The almost-finished mini-quilt was recently taken from its storage place – the binding finished, a hanging sleeve added and a support wire cut. The quilt is now resting on the wall going upstairs.</p>
	Judy E.	<p>‘My Brilliant Log Cabin Pin Cushion’ – Pin cushions were our PNQG President’s Challenge for this year. So, a Log Cabin Challenge, when it comes from YHQG was the spark. A log cabin pin cushion made from six small log cabin quilts, using some reproduction-type fabrics I had and I made those quilts into pin cushions. I plan to use it for both challenges.</p>
	Irena H.	<p>‘Hope’ – machine pieced and quilted – 53” x 63” My Hope is that cancer can be cured. Background: Bev Stevens passed on a quantity of breast cancer-themed fabric and in conjunction with the log cabin challenge I was inspired to use the precut 2 ½” strips in a log cabin variation, adding a number of my own fabrics. The heart blocks in the centres of the log cabin signify my love, hope and support to everyone affected by cancer.</p>
	Velta Z.	<p>Pandemic...Log Cabin? Ascension Day...Courthouse Steps? Mary B. Peters’ hymn “All Will Be Well”...Courthouse Steps blocks with rings of colour! A contemplative design is created using the blues, greens and browns of the Earth, focused on various block centres that are skirted by stitch-in-the-ditch, straight line and point-to-point quilting. Keyboard music notes in alternate block centres reflect the inspirational hymn. A gift to our pastor, who translated this hymn into Latvian, and is celebrating his 85th!</p>
	Daryl W.	<p>Tea Cozy – COVID 19 provided the opportunity to clean my sewing room. I have found unfinished projects and several orphan blocks. This tea cozy was made from two orphan blocks with extra strips added to the side.</p>
	Jane S.	<p>Tiny Logs from Border Creek Station, 9” x 10” paper pieces</p>
	Susan G.	<p>I knew when I finished stitching the “Dumpster Fire 2020” cross-</p>

		stitch that it would be the perfect centre square for my log cabin wall hanging. Hand-stitching the names of all family members and their pets kept them close in my heart while we have been apart.
	Phoebe V.	My COVID 19 quilt, all bent out of shape, as our lives have been this year!
	Jan S.	“Ode to Joy” is my COVID cabin fever challenge quilt. Perimeter is 120”. I made the quilt top in December, reflecting upon the best of what had happened in my life during the pandemic. I was able to celebrate many events in my personal and family life (good health and family milestones – son’s engagement, daughter’s new home, grandson starting school, zoom family gatherings) but in my quilting world I was able to celebrate many completed quilts and use of my stash, a new found love of improv piecing and big stitch quilting and a wonderful virtual community of guilds, sewcials and classes. I found this hand dyed fabric that I had purchased from Elaine Quayle in my stash and it seemed to represent a joyful outlook on life. I found both pink and gold Perle cotton in my supplies and finally I found a wool batt that had been made from wool shorn from a dear friend’s mother’s sheep and was carded into a batting in an antique woolen mill in Carstairs, Alberta.
	Melanie L.	“Shopping List 2020” – toilet paper
	Kim W.	Pillow – I had taken a lot of embroidery books out of the library during COVID. In fact, most of them are over 100 days overdue! I thought it would be a good opportunity to practice my stitching and the log cabin block.
	Toby S.	No Description Given