



State of the Guild

June 2025

The purpose of this report is to review events and activities for the Baltimore Heritage Quilt Guild. Our by-laws define the Guild's purpose: The purpose of the Guild is to preserve and promote knowledge of the art and craft of quilts and quilt making to all interested persons in the Greater Baltimore Area. The Guild holds monthly meetings, often with speakers, and hosts a biennial quilt show open to the public. Additionally, the Guild sponsors periodic quilting classes for its members and other interested people and offers quilting demonstrations to inform the public about the art of quilting. Members of the Guild also make quilts to donate to charitable organizations.

Come and Go Retreat – Nancy Andrew



The Come and Go Day Retreat is held locally once a year in January or February. The cost is about \$25 for two full days! This Come and Go Day Retreat is perfect for people with busy schedules. You can come and go for as little or long as you like. Our Guild members really like to share ideas for patterns, sewing tips, gadgets, and layout designs.

Community Outreach – Ruthie Gumnitsky

The Community Outreach committee acts as a liaison between our quilters and the non-quilting community through educational events and charity quilts. We represent the guild to the public, hoping to contribute in a positive way.

To make this happen, the committee chair has the following jobs:

- connect with charitable organizations, assessing needs and offering help if asked
- collect charity quilts donated by members, attach guild label and deliver to organization
- collect fabric and materials from guild members and the general public to be used in charity quilts

- schedule “charity quilt-a-thons” where members sort and cut donated fabric, organize into kits, sew blocks, and prepare quilt sandwiches for quilting and binding.
- order batting and backing fabric to be used in charity quilts
- contribute article to the monthly newsletter
- exhibit our good-works and provide a hands-on quilting experience at EXPO
- collect completed pet beds and cat wraps and deliver to animal shelters

EXPO – Linda Anderson and Sally Wingo



EXPO: Showcasing our Love for Quilting

Every two years, we share our love of quilting by showcasing quilts made by our members. This year members exhibited 400 quilts. The show was held April 26-27 from 10 am until 5 pm in the 4H/Homearts Building at the

Maryland State Fairgrounds. We welcomed 1800 visitors at EXPO 2025!

The EXPO is a fun-filled, and very busy, weekend that enables us to explore the enjoyment, skill, and historic significance of quilting with scores of others. In addition to amazing quilts, the EXPO also features many vendors, our own booth where Guild members sell items, a “Buy It or Bid It” booth where visitors can purchase or bid on quilts and other items donated by members, a quilt raffle, a sewing machine raffle, raffle baskets, demos, and classes. We also had a memorial exhibit dedicated to recently deceased long-time member Mary Stewart.

The EXPO is managed and staffed by Guild members, and the proceeds from the EXPO are used to fund our teaching and outreach activities, including bringing in nationally recognized teachers and funding the supplies needed for our extensive charity quilt program.

Library - Ellie Hofstetter

The Guild Library was allocated \$150 to purchase books in 2024-25. We added 8 titles to our collection of 332 books. At each general Guild meeting we put books from the shelves in the storeroom onto our book truck so that every 4 months the collection is rotated for Guild members to select books. New titles are announced in the monthly Guild Newsletter and are in a special box on the book truck.

After the last Guild meeting in June, we reshelve all the books and conduct an inventory, removing some titles which are older than 20 years (with broad exceptions for local interest books).

Historian – Edna Jones

September 2024

After voting on the revised By-Laws, we celebrated the Guild’s 40th Anniversary with the reveal of the summer challenge theme of 40 things, enjoyed a member name tag fashion show, took group pictures from the decades, and of course there was Cake!

The Guild was well represented with entries in the State Fair and several ribbons were awarded.

The Fall Retreat at Bongiorno followed at the end of September. Kathy Fader was presented with a wall hanging signature quilt to remember her time as retreat "Sheriff". Cathy Kleeman has stepped into the job.

Buoyed by our memories we looked forward toward planning EXPO 2025. Co-Chairs Linda Anderson and Sally Wingo held the first committee Meeting on September 17 in the meeting room at Cross Keys. Marty Vint and a team of volunteers began working on the Raffle Quilt named Baltimore Charm.

Ellie Hofstetter began taking Stash to Treasure donations before General Meetings.

October 2024: At our General meeting Terry Rowland from Alberta, Canada Zoomed in to present "Scrap Attack". On October 17, Outreach Chair Ruthie Gumnitzky hosted a Charm Square-a-thon to sew 5-inch squares into charity quilts. She also worked with Linda Barone to complete a quilt for Woodlawn Middle School using squares the students made.

November 2024:

Our speaker at the General Meeting was Tammy Wycherley from West Virginia. She is a certified Laura Heine instructor and presented in person. She also taught a workshop the next day at Towson United Methodist Church.

December 2024:

At our festive end-of-year General Meeting we revealed the yearlong Bucket List/UFO challenge, enjoyed games (Bingo!) and holiday treats provided by members (Last name A-M brought sweets and N-Z main dish or savory).

OUR EXPO RAFFLES were revealed in the December Newsletter. Baltimore Charm Quilt was ready to be shown to sell raffle tickets, and Barbara Shelton introduced the Bernina 475 Kaffe Edition sewing machine.

January 2025:

Because of possible winter weather conditions, we had in-person and Zoom meetings in January and February. Our speakers were on Zoom. The January speaker was Pam Weeks who presented her lecture "Women's Writes—Signature Quilts."

Community Outreach continued its charitable quilt giving and even inspired a non-member who made and donated a puff quilt. We were also still making pet beds and cat wrap blankets for kennels.

The Come and Go Retreat was January 24-25 at Towson United Methodist Church.

February 2025:

The speaker for our General meeting was moved to May. She was coming via Zoom from Spain and had timing difficulties.

February was deadline month for entering quilts in EXPO. There was a Quilt Registration Marathon in-person at WoodBrook Baptist Church on Saturday, Feb. 15. The last day to register a quilt was Feb. 17.

Project Linus sit'n sew began meeting at Handcraft Happy Hour.

March 2025:

Tina Craig was our General meeting presenter in-person. She spoke on EPP (English Paper Piecing) vs FPP (Foundation Paper Piecing). She also led a Design Party EPP workshop on March 12 at Towson United Methodist Church.

Mary Stewart, a long time and well-loved Guild member died at age 99. A memorial exhibit of her work was planned for EXPO.

April 2025:

EXPO Month. The General Meeting was dedicated to volunteer training and last-minute planning.

EXPO April 26-27, set-up April 25. It was a very successful event.

May 2025:

We elected the new Officers at the May General meeting. Our speaker Christina Arcenegui Bono came to us via zoom from Spain. The topic was "Unleashing Your Creativity through A.I."

June 2025:

Last meeting of the Guild year is Demo night. New Officers will be installed.

Monthly zoom Sit and Sew meetings occurred every Thursday from 1:00 to 3:00.

Membership – Jamie Needham and Dee Medlin

At the time of this report in June 2025 Baltimore Heritage Quilt Guild has a current membership of 149 persons. The number represents a decrease since 2024 and 2025., which is attributable to 17 members not renewing. We also got 15 new members through out the year and during the expo 14 new members signed up. Since May 1, 5 more members have joined the Guild.

Newsletter - Carol Ann Frost and Amy Krasnansky



The newsletter is published 11 times a year, September through June and once in the summer. The newsletter is filled with information about our upcoming meeting year and quilting related activities in the mid-Atlantic area. Most of the material in the newsletter is provided by Guild members

Programs – Ceil Foster and Karen Holt

Guild Monthly Meeting Speakers
2024

September - Guild 40 th Anniversary Celebration, Bylaw vote

October - Terry Rowland virtual speaker, Scrap Attack

November – Tammy Wycherey, Trunk Show

December – Annual Holiday Party

2025

January – Pam Weeks, Women's Writes – Signature Quilts
February – open discussion
March – Tina Craig – EPP vs. FPP The Showdown
April – Prep meeting for EXPO 2025
May – Cristina Arcenegui Bono, Unleashing Your Creativity Through AI
June – Member Demo Night

Workshops

2024

November - Tammy Wycherey, Laura Heine method of collage quilting

2025

Tina Craig – EPP Design Party

Refreshments – JoAnn Stelmack and Casey Cunningham

Refreshments are served at every meeting, with varied offerings and seasonal themes. Members enjoy a variety of drinks and snacks, with gluten free offerings available.

Special Projects - Carolyn Dryden

Technology – Arden Quick and Sari Holt

The tech team manages the updates of the website as well as Constant Contact, our main source for notifications to members. We have equipment (wireless microphone, projector, ring light, and webcam) to help increase the quality of the presentation of our meetings. We offer hybrid meetings using the Zoom platform.

Over the course of 24-25 membership year, we updated the Facebook (Baltimore Heritage Quilt Guild) and Instagram (@baltimoreheritagequilters) pages with the upcoming events of the guild. We maintain a private group page on Facebook to allow members to share their projects, ask advice, and teach techniques.

Weekend Retreats – Cathy Kleeman



This Guild-sponsored retreat takes place in the spring and fall of each year. During 2024-2025 we had our ninth and tenth retreats taking place in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. We arrive on Thursday and leave Sunday afternoon. We are served eight meals for our stay, Friday breakfast, lunch, and dinner, Saturday breakfast, lunch, and dinner, and Sunday breakfast and lunch.

We are hosted by the Bongiorno Conference Center which is owned by the Assemblies of God Church. They provide twenty-three of us with a very large workroom and an eight-foot table each strategically surrounded by specialty tables for ironing, laying out fabric, and cutting, the plan of which is dictated by our layout person.

Other activities include a SWAG exchange, trips to the local quilt shop, and a block exchange.

Beds are made up for us and linens are supplied in our personal bathrooms. Most people request private rooms, but there are doubles available if you register as such.

These retreats are tremendous fun and there is great time for building new relationships while you are laboring on a new masterpiece.

Meeter and Greeter – Barbara Heinfeld

The Meeter and Greeter sits at the membership table usually at the beginning of the Sit and Sew. She helps the membership chairman when needed. The main function is to greet each person as they come in. I like to get to know everyone's name. If they are new and do not know anyone, I try to find someone they can sit with. I answer any questions they may have and say hello during the break.