



## State of the Guild

June of 2024

The purpose of this report is to review events and activities for the Baltimore Heritage Quilters' 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

The Outreach Committee has donated exactly 50 quilts since August of 2023. The charities receiving our donations are:

GBMC Hospital Domestic Violence/SAFE program  
 LifeBridge Healthcare DOVE program  
 Project PLASE - People Lacking Ample Shelter and Employment  
 House of Ruth  
 Veterans Hospital  
 Franklin Square Pastoral Care Center

Additionally, 2 quilts donated to Outreach were delivered to Mount Washington Pediatric Hospital by the mini group "By Design."

We also donated 94 cat wraps to the Baltimore Humane Society. 7 Pet beds delivered to Baltimore Humane Society and 41 pet beds to SPCA.

### **EXPO – Linda Anderson and Sally Wingo**



EXPO: Showcasing our Love for Quilting  
 Every two years, we share our love of quilting by showcasing almost 300 quilts made by our members. Over the years, the venues have ranged from hospital conference centers to school gymnasiums, to the Maryland State Fairgrounds' Home Arts Building.

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 feature 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, a quilt raffle, a sewing machine raffle, demos, and classes.

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**

This year the Guild Library purchased 7 new books with its budget allocation and added several books which were gifts. We have 332 titles in our online database, Each year we try to remove

books that are 20 years old (excluding titles of local interest) to make space for newer titles. At each general Guild meeting we rotate the books on our book truck to show the entire collection every four months. We also have some CDs. When older titles are removed, they are stamped "Discarded" and placed on the free table at the monthly meetings for members to pick up. Any remaining discarded books and gifts that have not been added are placed in the "Stash to Treasure" sale at the next Guild EXPO.

### **Membership – Marie Tai**

At the time of this report in June 2024 Baltimore Heritage Quilt Guild has a current membership of 132 persons. The number represents a 19% increase since 2022. It is partly attributable to our very successful Expo held in April 2023 where 18 new members joined. During this current fiscal year (2023–24) an additional 16 members joined the guild. We have tried to actively reach out to new members by offering a New Member Zoom question and answer session in fall of 2023 to engage our new members and inform them of guild offerings. Additionally, perusal of this website gives details of many activities our guild offers including monthly meetings, guest speakers, workshops, retreats, show and tell, sit and sew events, small group retreats, and a Facebook group. Click on the, "Join up or Renew Membership" tab on this website to become a member. You can join us through this website, by mail using a printed membership form, or in person at one of our meetings. Come visit! Your first meeting is free.

Email [membership@baltimorequilters.com](mailto:membership@baltimorequilters.com) if you need to connect with our Membership Committee. We look forward to hearing from you.

### **Newsletter - Carole 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**

September 2023 – Summer Challenge Reveal, Ice Breakers welcome new members.

October 2023 – Paula Golden speaker, Art and Science of Quilt Making.

November 2023 – Joy Duke speaker, Making it Your Own.

December 2023 – Holiday Party.

January 2024 – Cathy Perlmutter speaker, Scrap Cities.

February 2024 – Diana Boston speaker, Lucy Boston's life and books.

March 2024 – Joyce Hughes speaker, Journey Thread Painting.

April 2024 – Barbara Dann speaker, Diva Detectives.

May 2024 – Mary Pal speaker, Cheesecloth One Wild Ride.

June 2024 – Member Demos

### **Workshop**

April 2024 – June Piper-Brandon, Spicy Spiral

## **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**

### *September 2023: Reveal of Summer Challenge quilt entries*

Our BHQG year began with our September 2023 meeting and the reveal of the quilts entered in our Summer 2023 Challenge- “Inspired (by Expo)”. For the Summer Challenge, members selected a quilt displayed at our March 2023 Expo that inspired them to create their own quilt. Having all the Expo quilt photos available on our Guild website helped members to make a selection! Thirteen members were able to complete their Summer Challenge entries. Members could view the entries via a PowerPoint if they were attending remotely, or in person at the guild meeting. Three winners received Bear’s Paw Fabrics gift certificates valued at \$50, \$30, and \$20, which were graciously donated by Bear’s Paw Fabrics in Towson, MD. Linda Rubin, Casey Cunningham, and Ruthie Gumnitsky won first, second, and third prizes, respectively, in a vote of the meeting attendees.

### *December 2023: Reveal of 2023 Annual Challenge/End-of Year Holiday Party*

Our December 2023 meeting featured the reveal of our 2023 Annual Challenge “Bucket List” contest quilts. Ten members entered. As Debbie Riley has had first prize quilts for the two years in a row, she graciously declined the award for first place. Susan Brightman’s “Starry Night” then received first place, and Marie Tai’s “Sakura” took second place. “Doors Wide Open”, a modern quilt by Jo Ann Stelmack, won third place. Once again, Bear’s Paw Fabrics donated the \$50, \$30, and \$20 prizes.

50 members attended the End-of-Year Holiday Party in person, and 7 members attended online. In-person attendees brought food to share, either sweet or savory.

Arden Quick expertly called the simultaneous on-line/in-person Bingo game. There were Bingo prizes and Door Prizes, which included quilting tools, quilting accessories, gift cards to Starbucks/Dunkin Donuts, and our FQ Fabric Toss happened throughout the meeting.

### *January 2024: 2024 Challenge Announcement*

Our 2024 Challenge is a BLUFO- it’s a hybrid! Members are challenged to either complete a UFO project or choose a quilt that has been on your Bucket List. Members are gearing up for Expo 2025, and hopefully many of our members will enter a 2024 Challenge quilt in Quilt Expo.

### *May/June 2024: Summer Challenge Announcement*

Our Summer Challenge is to make a 40th Birthday/Anniversary quilt, as this fall BHQG is celebrating completing 40 years as a guild. Summer Challenge quilts will be displayed at our September 2024 meeting, during which we will have our Birthday/Anniversary celebration.

### **Technology – Arden Quick and Sari Holt**

The tech team has been managing the updates of the website as well as introducing Constant Contact, our main source for notifications to members. We have acquired some new pieces of equipment (wireless microphone, projector, ring light, and webcam) over the past year to help increase the quality of the presentation of our meetings. We offer hybrid meetings using the Zoom platform.

Over the course of 23-24 membership year, we have updated the Facebook (Baltimore Heritage Quilt Guild) and Instagram (@baltimoreheritagequilters) pages with the upcoming events of the guild. We created and introduced a private group page on Facebook to allow members to share their projects, ask advice, and teach techniques.

### **Weekend Retreats - Kathy Fader**



This Guild-sponsored retreat takes place in the spring and fall of each year. During 2024 we have our seventh and eighth retreats taking place in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. We are served eight meals for our stay. 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.

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 Heinfeldten**

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.