



MAY 2025 NEWSLETTER

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

At the April meeting, Dr. Joan Gaither inspired us to tell our stories via quilting. Her vividly-hued quilts chronicled both the African American experience as well as her personal journey and were made using family mementos, found objects, and all manner of embellishments. Her quilts are not confined by conventions, but grow organically, increasing their emotional impact. She called for us to make story quilts to express our own histories or views and suggested that we might want to undertake a group project telling the story of the Guild. Clearly, story quilts may be politically motivated, such as the AIDS quilt or the anti-gun violence quilts, but they can also be more personally meaningful remembrances of family history or experiences. Our “Quilter’s Diary” project is an example of personal story-telling through quilts.

The Board met in March to discuss planning for future Guild activities, particularly concerning our programs. This was partially in response to members expressing their likes and dislikes about our current programming. Some people are more interested in seeing a trunk show type of presentation focusing on traditional quilting methods but others

enjoy learning about new techniques. Some people have called for more workshops while others are less interested in the hands-on programs. We would like to ensure that programming meets the interests of the guild as a whole.

Here are some questions for discussion at the May meeting:

1. Should the summer sewing day (July) and the picnic (August) be added to the annual recurring events (the Christmas party, the charity sewing day, and the June tea), and should the quilts on pews show be added on alternate years to Bingo?
2. Should we continue the group sewing project (currently the “Quilter’s Diary”) and change the work period to a year? What should the next project be?
3. Should there be another summer individual challenge?
4. Should more special events such as a bus trip be planned?
5. Should we organize group projects, such as a quilt bee/Round Robin, or quilt-in-a-box, that would be on-going over the year?

6. Should we have “swap” projects such as exchanging a pincushion, name tag, mug rug, etc., and should we consider exchanges with other guilds?
7. Should programs make more use of members to demonstrate techniques or present particular interests?
8. Should we be spending more of our money to underwrite speakers, workshops, excursions, charitable contributions?
9. Should we link new members with Guild mentors?

We are interested in expanding some of our committees, particularly the program committee, to increase the expertise and share the work. We would like to encourage members to participate in committees or programs and provide opportunities for everyone to showcase their unique talents.

See you in May!

Pam Fischer, President

MARCH WINNERS

Congratulations to the following:

Name Badge – Mary Brown

Raffle Baskets made \$133:

Chris Fittro, Sally Noone, and

Sri “Toeti” Poedjastoeti

TREASURER’S REPORT

At the end of March, we had a bank balance of \$16,604. March income of \$283.14 was from raffles and cookbooks. Expenses of \$673.16 were for rent, speaker and board planning session.

Regina English

PROGRAMS

For our May meeting, we will welcome Sue Richter and Nancy Hambright from Charlotte’s Cottage Quilt Shop, a lovely quilt venue on Shab Row in Frederick, Maryland. Sue and Nancy will offer a presentation on the magic of three-yard quilts, a versatile concept in quilting that is excellent for beginners as well as experienced quilters. They will also offer wares from the shop related to these speedy wonders. What a great way to fill all those “lazy” days of Summer!

Penny Clifton and Mary Rutter

LINUS PROJECT

Thank you so much for the overwhelming donations and quilts for Project Linus at the April meeting. We collected fabric for quilt squares and backings, several packaged battings, 14 quilt tops, 2 crochet blankets, and 12 finished quilts. We also received 4 gorgeous UFO kits if anyone wants to help me finish them so they can get donated sooner rather than later. I will not be able to attend the next VQ meeting on May 15th, so please bring your Project Linus quilts and donations to the June Tea on June 19th.

Stephanie Sanidas

RAFFLE BASKETS

Please continue to look through your notions and stashes for additional treasures you are willing to share to create enticing offerings in each of the upcoming month’s raffle baskets.

Janet Ruehl

NOMINATIONS FOR 2024/2025

Below is the slate for next year's officers. Voting will take place in May and assume office after the June Meeting.

- Laurie Gregg, current Vice President would step in as President for 2025/26
- Patty Cirulli is nominated as Vice President
- Regina English would continue as Treasurer
- Jane Stolte would continue as Secretary
- Penny Clifton and Mary Rutter would continue to chair Programs
- Chairs of other Committees would remain the same except for Hospitality – which Maryellen Kolbe and Bernadette Burley will co-chair.

Joan Costello

5 INCH SQUARE EXCHANGERS

This is a big month for us! Not only will we exchange our May-themed squares, but also, we will show our projects made with 5" squares at Show and Tell Time.

Please make something from your stash of squares to show the entire group. It can be small or medium or larger, new or old. People want to see the possibilities of 5" squares. Ideas – mug rugs, tissue holders, placemats, potholders, a jacket, an apron, scarf, utensil holder, tote bag, wall hanging, lap quilt, or larger if you had done a top.

If you have made anything any time using 5" squares, you can join us at Show and Tell Time, whether you are in the exchangers group or not.

Kathy Appleton & Bernadette Burley

"A QUILTERS DIARY WRITTEN IN STITCHES"

Our May block will be "Children" on pages 42-45 of your book. I chose the Baby Bunting block on page 44. I will be adding names to this block later. I don't have any reason for choosing this block other than I liked the block. I used fabrics used throughout this project to coordinate and blend with the other 35.



We discussed extending this project through the summer and finishing up in the fall. A new BOM is in the planning stages, and I have been given many great ideas. It will be one block each month, a consistent size and hopefully everyone that participates can use their stash if preferred. Again, you will have a finished quilt that you can keep for yourself if you participate each month. It won't be a mystery so instructions and information will be available upfront.

As always, enjoy this block and don't forget to journal why.

HaPpY spring and Happy Easter!!

Patty

Patty Cirulli

FOOD PANTRY



A word of THANKS! The grocery donations from yesterday totally filled up the pew in the parish center! Please remember to bring your nonperishable food items for the food bank. Thank you.

Kay Worley

SUNSHINE

Need some sunshine or know someone who does? Send any Sunshine requests to Janet Ruehl.



MIMI DIETRICH

Mimi Dietrich's *Hometown Girl Quilt* exhibit is at FACES, the Fiber Arts Center of the Eastern Shore, in Denton Maryland now to May 17, 2025.



KITCHEN HELPERS

Thank you to all who helped with our April lunch. For May, we still have some times available.

Morning

1. Jan Barthel
2. _____

Lunchtime

1. Patty Stenpeck
2. Laurie Gregg
3. _____
4. _____

Clean-up – As yet, no one has signed up for clean-up.

Sodas – We do not need any clear sodas. There are enough in the cabinet.

Colas –

- 2 - 2-liter bottles of “real” Coke – Laurie Gregg
- 2 - 2-liter bottles of diet cola, 1 caffeine free – Patty Stenpeck

Thank you!

Kathy Appleton & Joan Costello

THE NEW VQ COOKBOOK

Cookbooks are still available! The price is \$15 each. Get yours while they last!

Cindy Hickman

QUILTS OF VALOR CEREMONY

Heartlands Quilters of the Eastern Shore hosted a Quilts of Valor ceremony on April 6 at the VFW in Centreville MD. A total of six quilts were presented to veterans. One of the quilts was made by members of Village Quilters of Catonsville. That quilt was presented to William Arnold, a retired Naval Officer.

Sally Noone



JUNE TEA

You are cordially invited to the Village Quilters Annual Tea. This year's theme is *In Grandmother's Flower Garden*.

The Tea will be held at the Thursday June 19, 2025, regular meeting at Stafford Hall. More details will be presented at the next meeting. Also, a sign-up sheet will be available at the May meeting. Please be sure to note whether you will bring a savory or sweet table-ready finger food.

Forms to request seating reservations will also be available. Tables can accommodate a maximum of eight people. As in past years, guest tickets may be purchased for \$10 each.

Laurie Gregg



Mark your Calendar

July 17 – Second Annual Sew In at the Hall
Bring your own project and lunch.

August 21 – Second Annual VQ Picnic that will be held in the Hilton Area of Patapsco State Park.

More details on both events will follow.



QUILT BINGO 2025

The 2025 BINGO will be held at the Elks Lodge of Severna Park on Saturday, October 18, 2025, starting at 2:00 pm, with doors opening at 1:00 pm.

1. ****Bingo Tickets****: Will be on sale at the general meeting in May.

2. ****Quilt Donations****: We request that quilts be lap size or larger. Please make sure you label your quilt.

Here is an example:

[Name of quilt] "Summer Beauty"

[Made by] Thelma H.

[Made for] Village Quilters Bingo
2025

Completed quilts may be turned in to Sharon Adams or Cindy Hickman.

Fran Noyes and Patty Cirulli are collecting the Consolation Prizes. Smaller quilts, table runners, placemats, and a set of pillowcases are also appreciated and can be used as consolation prizes.

3. **Raffle Baskets**: If you plan on putting a basket together, please list the items in the basket so Carol Phillips knows and can make a form for the auction. You may also just bring in the items. Carol and Penny Clifton will put them together.

4. Patty Cirulli and Fran Noyes are collecting Door Prizes. They are looking for smaller items: candles, soaps, lotions, note cards, or gift cards. If you want to contribute, you could buy a cookbook and donate it as a door prize.

5. A few members have asked if any of our longarmers could quilt a few tops. Your name would be on the quilt label as well.

I appreciate your support, and let's make this event a great success!

Cindy Hickman

Email: vqchickman@yahoo.com