

BLOOMINGTON QUILTERS GUILD NEWSLETTER

Bloomington Quilters Guild

PO Box 5802

Bloomington, IN 47407

May 2018

Changes Are In the Works...

By Dedaimia Whitney, BQG President



Lots of news this month: By a 77 to 6 vote, members present at the April meeting approved a change to the guild's

dues structure: People between the ages of 19–79 will pay \$30/year, and people who are 18 or younger, and 80 or older will pay \$15/year. How can you tell if you qualify? If you are 18 or younger or 80 or older *on the day you pay your dues*, you pay the lower rate. If not, you pay the higher rate.

Looking for a new home

The church informed us a few weeks ago that, after our June meeting, we will no longer have the basement for our meetings. They are going to reconfigure the space and don't think it will be appropriate for us once the work is finished.

Tara Babcock, our president-elect, has coordinated the search for a new meeting place. She is still gathering a few last details, but it looks like we have found at least one, maybe two, places we could use. We would like to keep the expenses down (although we will have to pay more than the \$500 a year we currently pay), stay on Tuesday night, and be able to have our potlucks. It's been challenging to find a place that holds 100–125 people *and* provides a secure space for our audio-

visual equipment *and* provides chairs and tables *and* allows food.

If you know of a place you think we should consider, suggest it to Tara. She and others have personally contacted 40 to 50 locations—churches, schools, community centers, you name it. The probability is high that Tara will have already talked to any you might mention, but it doesn't hurt to make a suggestion!

Why do I quilt?

This month I asked our newsletter editor, Ann, to answer the question.

"I didn't start out as a quilter—I started out as an embroiderer-of-frolicking-kittens. My mom stamped a pillowcase for me when I was about 6. I dutifully embroidered the kittens and crocheted an edging. What happened to that pillowcase I'll never know, but it was mercifully out of sight shortly after its completion.

"I also sewed, mostly doll clothes, on a tiny hand-cranked sewing machine. I eventually graduated to making all my clothes. I no longer did pillowcases, but was deep into cross-stitch and ethnic embroidery for years.

"My mother, an accomplished needleworker, was bitten by the quilting bug when she was in her 50s. After that, we started working on quilts together. I did most of the piecing; she did most of the hand-quilting, each of us choosing the task we liked best. Later, we made



quilts for my stepdaughters when they married, but I was on my own for my daughter's wedding quilt after my mother's death. Recently, I made quilts for my mother's two great-grandchildren from star blocks she pieced many years ago.

"Well, that's a long story for a short conclusion. I quilt because it is a craft laden with history and connections—from grandmother to mother to daughter. And it's there for every quilter, even if their mother never picked up a needle."

Next-to-last newsletter for the year

Next month, I'll answer the question "Why do I quilt?" myself. I'd like to thank all of the generous quilters who shared their responses with us. What has struck me, over the months, is that none of the answers were the same. I wonder, if we had time for everyone to tell us why they quilt, if that would still be true. I'm betting it would.

Dedaimia

Laura Brown-Cano

Modern Patchwork on May Program Schedule



At our next meeting on May 1, we welcome guest [Catherine Redford](#). Catherine is a long time crafter and stitcher who discovered quilting in 1998. Her patterns and techniques have been offered on Quilting Arts TV and DVDs, Craftsy online classes, and in *Modern Patchwork* magazine. Her book, *Modern Machine Quilting*, has contributed to the popularity of walking foot quilting. Catherine is also known for her folk art stitching, where she uses hand-dyed cotton threads to create

embroidered scenes inspired by traditional folk patterns. Put it all together, and you can see how her creative, unique style and love of quilting inspires others. She states, "I have found that as I pass on the knowledge I have gained on my journey, I learn more tips and techniques that take me still further."

Sounds like one of my goals for this year in planning the programming for our guild. The more we share our passion for quilting, the more we can learn and inspire others! Wednesday's workshop will focus on finishing quilts on a domestic machine with a walking foot attachment, creating modern grids, matchstick effects and spirals. Contact me if you'd like to determine if there is still room available.

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Jane Pitt

2018 IHQS Delights, Inspires

On behalf of the board of the Indiana Heritage Quilt Show, I want to offer my thanks to all who volunteered for helping to make the 2018 show the success that it was! All hands are important, so whether you took a shift with white gloves, monitored an entrance, hung up coats, or worked at the admissions counter, we thank you! Also many thanks to those who helped with receiving and shipping of quilts, set up and take down of the show, judging room, and classroom setup. The show couldn't happen without you.

But lest I be remiss, thank you for participating with your quilt entries. We love all of the quilts, from local entries to international entries. The scope of quilts brings a wonderful diversity to our show. Comments were positive about the teachers and workshops, and we hope you were able to take a class and learn

something new.

The planning never stops, and we are looking forward to 2019. The challenge category will be announced soon, and we hope to have a great response once again. Workshops will be announced in early August, so watch your email and Facebook for more information.



"Eternal Beauty" won Best of Show in 2018.

Brenda Roach

Sneak Peak



Looking ahead to the programs for 2018-2019, we're pleased to tell you that the October program will be presented by [David Taylor](#), who creates amazing pictorial quilts. Next month we'll have information about the workshop that he will teach.



"Beneath My Wing" by David Taylor.

Pat Surra

Note from the Treasurer

In an ongoing effort to discuss and clarify the finances of the guild, this month's Note from the Treasurer is about the programs and workshops items on the guild budget. These are the largest dollar expenditures of the operating budget. The workshops do generate revenue but, historically, have always had to be subsidized by the guild to some extent.

The programs budget consists of speaker fees, supplies and travel for the speaker. The travel expense is actually the largest cost for our programs. Each year the program chairs secure contracts for our programs, usually two years in advance, and try to estimate the cost for each program. This is the detail budget for this year just ending:

Speaker Fees	\$2,025
Travel	\$2,775
Supplies	\$360

When a speaker also is giving a workshop, the program chairs have to come up with a price for members to attend the workshop that will hopefully cover the teacher's

fee, the cost of the space, and any kit fees or supplies. This pricing involves some estimates as to how many will attend. History has shown that even with the best plans, the workshops cost the guild a small amount each year. This is the detail budget for this year for workshops:

Revenue	\$3,160
Teacher fee	\$2,540
Facility cost	\$400
Supplies	\$90

That kind of sums it all up for programs and workshops. Please let me know if you have any questions about the budget and financial workings of the guild. In the meantime—Sew On!!



At A Glance

I See Stripes!

I am sleeping much better at night! Many of you have striped projects ready to go for our Stripe Challenge. There is still time for more of you to join our party. Remember your piece should be around 25 inches square, be predominately constructed of stripe fabric, completed with a binding, and ready to share! See you all on June 5 for our potluck and Stripe Challenge.

Barbara Richards

New Member Gift



BQG gives new members a pincushion as a welcome gift. If you are one of those twenty-three new members and you did not get a pincushion, please see me at the next meeting or contact Bobbie Mentzel (219-928-8823).

Quilt History Road Trip

The Monroe County History Center is proposing a quilt history road trip this summer or fall. Tentative plans include a tour of the history center's own quilt collection, followed by a trip to the state museum, which has a large collection of Amish quilts. The history center would provide transportation and lunch for a small fee. Stay tuned for further announcements. Contact [Kathy Sheehan](#) if you have questions.



Monroe County History Center

Depre Workshop

Elaine Reed of the Morgan County Quilt Guild says that they still have a few open seats for their Mickey Depre workshop on June 20. The workshop runs from 9 am to 4 pm at the First Church of God at 1396 East Columbus, Martinsville. The cost is \$60. Anyone interested should contact [Elaine Reed](#).

Intrepid Hospice

Here's an opportunity for individuals to apply quilting arts or donate to a good cause. [Intrepid Hospice](#), based in Terre Haute, gives a lap quilt to any veteran who is admitted to the facility. They are asking for donations of lap quilts (red/white and/or blue and with an Americana feel) and also monetary donations or donations of appropriate fabric. Contact [Stephanie Deboer](#) (812-521-4074) for more information.

Dedaimia Whitney

Board Proposes By-law Change

The board is going to ask you to vote on one last proposal this year, this time on a change to the by-laws. Following the “two-meeting rule,” we will present our proposal (below) at the May meeting and ask you to vote on it at the June meeting.

Background

Currently, we face persistent difficulty filling the job of president-elect. It took me until the next-to-last meeting to find my president-elect, and Tara is going into the May meeting without having found hers. What we’re told is that not everyone feels comfortable making a two-year commitment and, likely more important, not everyone wants to do the public speaking required of the president.

The board thinks we can remove some of these obstacles with a few changes to language and practice. Our by-law proposal redefines the position as a one-year “vice presi-

dent” instead of the two-year “president-elect.” The vice president would no longer automatically become president the following year (although s/he certainly has that option). All of the other duties will remain the same (open the meeting room, recruit greeters and set-up crew, etc.).

The new president for the upcoming year could then be nominated from the rest of the extended board and the membership at large (many of whom served as president in previous years). The new arrangement may also make being president more attractive, since there are some who are willing to be president, but who don’t want to be vice president first.

The board is hoping that these changes will encourage more of you to step forward to help. Please—help! We can’t run the guild without you.

Tara Babcock

From the Board

Volunteer of the Year

Every volunteer plays an important role in keeping our guild going. However, everyone knows there are those members who go above and beyond to support our guild. I’m asking for nominations for Volunteer of the Year. We will be voting at our May meeting. If you would like to nominate someone, please email me and give me a sentence or two as to why you think this member deserves to be named Volunteer of the Year. The award will be presented at the June meeting. Past winners include: Ann Birch, Susie Goodman, Claudette Stultz, Pat Surra, and Judy Wagner.



Call for Officers

Time is running out for you to join next year’s board! There are only two important positions open. One is the president elect or vice president position. We will be discussing making this position into just a VP job. So if that part of it interests you, please let me know. If you want to become president someday, I can help make your wish come true! Let me know. The other job is the quilt show chair. This is a great job for two or more friends to do together.

The board meets monthly to keep the guild running smoothly. Next year, the meetings will be on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 6:30 pm.

PROPOSED

Section 2.b

Current language:

2.b The **President-Elect** shall:

1. Perform the duties of the President in his/her absence.
2. Assist the president in the general supervision over the activities of the organization.
3. Work on special projects as deemed appropriate by the Executive Board.
4. Be responsible for the coordination and preparation of the physical space for each monthly meeting.
5. Assume the office of President the following year for a one-year term in order to provide continuity to the Board.

Proposed changes:

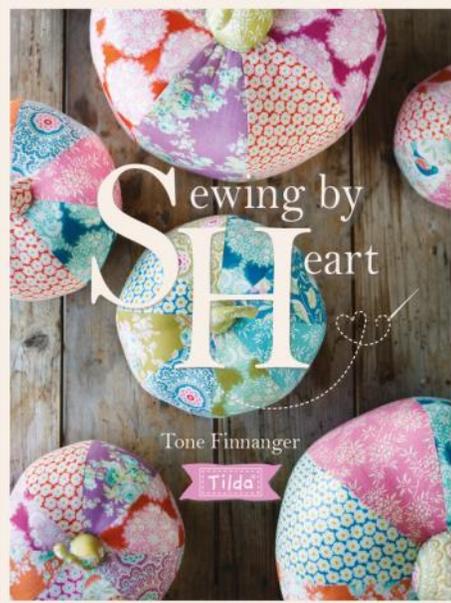
- I. Strike item 2.b.5 above.
- II. Replace “president-elect” with “vice president” in all other occurrences in the bylaws.

Ann Birch

Tilda Designs Are Fresh, Pretty

Sewing by Heart, by Tone Finnanger, features a sweet and summery approach to quilts and other fabric crafts. Featuring [Tilda fabrics](#), the book gives what appear to be clear (and attractive) instructions for each project. Quilts, pincushions, pillows, and toys are among the items covered, and each is well-illustrated and appealing.

Once in a while, you come across a quilt book that is a work of art in itself, and I think this is one of them.



I've enjoyed looking at it even if I never make one of the projects. Come to think of it, I often do more "looking" than "quilting"! But this time I have my eye on one quilt (shown in part below), that I would really like to try. The curved piecing may be a bit of a challenge, but it's about time I broke out of my comfort zone.



Sewing by Heart is available at the Monroe County Public Library. (At least it will be once I return it, which may be a while.) In the meantime, do you know of any good quilt books to recommend? Send your review to me, and we'll get it into a future newsletter.

Bobbie Mentzel

Here Comes the Sun!



The Sunshine Committee welcomes new members, leads birthday celebrations, and sends cards to members or family of members who are ill or bereaved.

Beth Gerth, who has co-chaired the Sunshine Committee since its beginning, will be moving to Texas soon. She has been active in the guild for many years and has been a great co-chair. She will be missed! Becky Lomasney will co-chair this committee with me effective May 15, 2018.

Raffle Quilt Drawing Soon!

What a wonderful year we have had for our beloved raffle quilt! Georgia and I want to thank everyone for their help making it a success. As a reminder, turn in your money and stubs because the drawing will be during our last meeting in June. And if anyone wants to put in a few more chances, we have some raffle tickets left.

Kathy Sheehan

Beautiful Quilts Displayed at April Meeting



Our speaker, Michele Hellmann, gave a lecture on English paper piecing and showed many quilts from her collection.



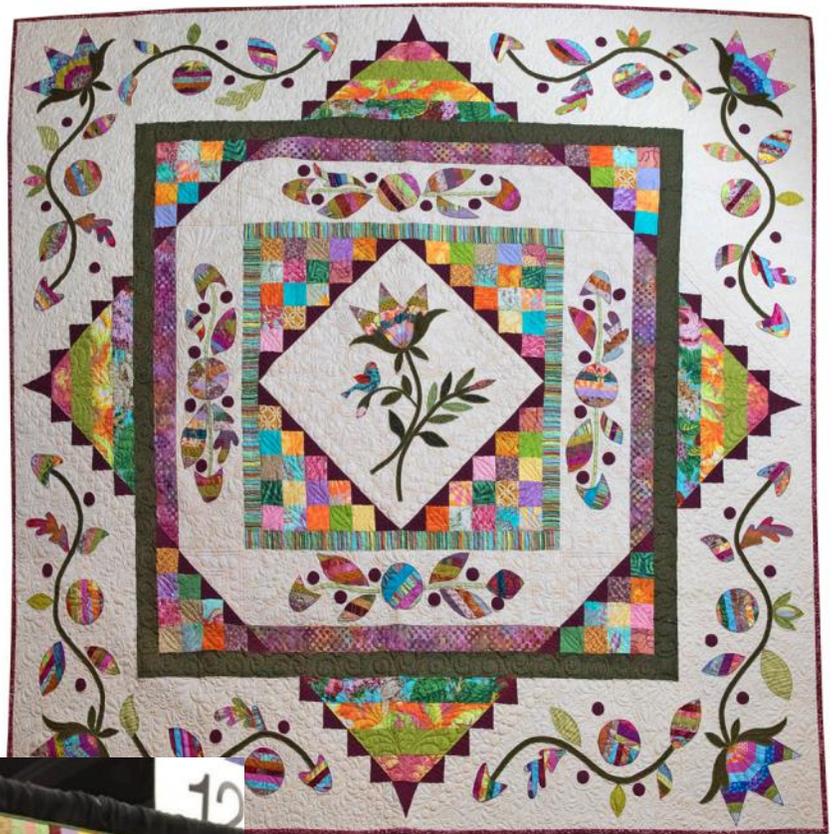
This lovely quilt was one of many displayed by members during the meeting.

Ann Birch

Ohhh, Paducah!

Two quilts from Bloomington Quilters Guild bees made it to the Paducah show in April. We are very proud of these innovative and talented quilters! The quilt on the right is “[Blooming Peonies](#),” completed by the Block Party bee. It is a round robin quilt and is an original design inspired by motifs and designs by Edyta Sitar and *Material Obsessions Two* by Kathy Doughty and Sarah Fielke. (Click on the link to see the AQS blog spot about the quilt.) The Block Party bee has 10 members and has been in existence for more than 15 years.

The quilt below is “*City Square*,” made by the Quilters Without Borders bee (Laura Brown-Cano, Julie Higgins, Georgia Kou-shiafes, Maryam Othman, and Dedaimia Whitney). According to Dedaimia, “The quilt didn’t win any prizes, but Laura and Georgia got to dance in front of it!”



Former Member Donates

Dorothy Arnold, a former member of the guild who recently moved out of the area, has made a sizable donation of fabrics, books, and other quilting/sewing related objects to the guild. Dorothy is a talented seamstress and designer who had a small shop in her home in Bloomington and conducted sewing classes. Thanks, Dorothy!



BQG 2017-2018 Executive Board

President: Dedaimia Whitney, 812-327-2454 , president@bloomingtonquiltersguild.org

President-Elect: Tara Babcock, 812-272-7422, pres-elect@bloomingtonquiltersguild.org

Treasurer: Pat Surra, 916-768-3492, treasurer@bloomingtonquiltersguild.org

Secretary: Molly Gleeson, 812-339-2469, secretary@bloomingtonquiltersguild.org

Standing Committee Chairpersons

Membership: Janice Arvesen, 812-325-4191, membership@bloomingtonquiltersguild.org

Jennifer Dwiell, 812-345-9062, membership@bloomingtonquiltersguild.org

Historian: Kathy Sheehan, 720-284-1757 , historian@bloomingtonquiltersguild.org

Programs: Laura Brown-Cano, 812-360-6206, events@bloomingtonquiltersguild.org

Programs Elect: Brenda Roach, 812-384-7209, events@bloomingtonquiltersguild.org

Newsletter Editor: Ann Birch, 989-430-4075, news@bloomingtonquiltersguild.org

Web Manager: Katha Soens, 317-529-2286, webmanager@bloomingtonquiltersguild.org

Community Quilts: Twin Lakes Stitchers; Ann Birch, 989-430-4075, community@bloomingtonquiltersguild.org

Sunshine: Beth Gerth, 812-272-2245, sunshine@bloomingtonquiltersguild.org

Bobbie Mentzel, 219-928-8823, sunshine@bloomingtonquiltersguild.org

Special Committee Chairpersons

Fall Retreat: Carol Evans, 317-272-4634, fallretreat@bloomingtonquiltersguild.org

Sandy Warren, 812-325-0181 , fallretreat@bloomingtonquiltersguild.org

Winter Retreat: Ruellen Fessenbecker, 812-837-9550, winterretreat@bloomingtonquiltersguild.org

Molly Gleeson, 812-339-2469, winterretreat@bloomingtonquiltersguild.org

Raffle Quilt: Georgia Koushiefes, 812-360-2869, raffle@bloomingtonquiltersguild.org

Christina Feaster, 812-322-2137, raffle@bloomingtonquiltersguild.org

Outreach: Christina Feaster, 812-322-2137, outreach@bloomingtonquiltersguild.org

Challenge Quilt: Barbara Richards, 812-219-0165, challenge@bloomingtonquiltersguild.org

Careful Quilting

By Ruellen Fessenbecker

We cut, we piece. Our skills expand
To make the quilts our friends demand.
Some made by machine or made by hand.
“More quilts, more quilts,” across the land.

So let me give to you this bandage, a plastic talisman
And this friendly reprimand:
Cut the fabric—not your hand.

Ruellen supplied sewing bandages and the poem to attendees of the Winter Retreat. No injuries reported!



Calendar

Events

Fall Retreat at Clifty Falls, Oct. 25–28

May Guild Meeting

Doors open at 6:00 pm for the guild meeting on Tuesday, May 1, at North Central Church of Christ.

May Board Meeting

The board meeting will be at 6:30 pm on Tuesday, May 29. Contact a board member for more details.

June Newsletter

Articles for the June newsletter are due May 24 to [Ann Birch](#), 989-430-4075.

The Bloomington Quilters Guild is a 501(c)3 organization. The purpose of the BQG is to develop an appreciation of the history of quilting and quilters and promote continuation of the art in our community.

We welcome guests to our meetings! Meetings are on the first Tuesday of each month at the North Central Church of Christ, 2121 N. Dunn St.

6:00 pm: Doors open

6:30 pm: Show and tell

7:00 pm: Program

Website: <http://www.bloomingtonquiltersguild.org>

Facebook: Search for “Bloomington Quilters Guild”

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