



Baltimore Modern Quilt Guild

BMQG Newsletter – August 2022

Volume 3, Issue 8

The purpose of the guild is to share knowledge of modern quilting techniques, patterns, modern fabrics and quilt-making by providing meetings, social gatherings, educational workshops and fieldtrips to support quilting activities, encourage modern quilt-making and promote the appreciation of this craft. The Baltimore Modern Quilt Guild supports and encourages the growth and development of modern quilting through art, education and community.

Notes from the President

We are at the peak of summer veggie season! I hope you are enjoying the fresh local produce, beautiful (though hot) sunshine, and summer fun activities. This month we will have a lecture by Laura Hartrich on quilt labels. Laura's lecture is very inspiring and she shows you many different labeling options which go beyond the basics..

Sign-ups are also going on for the October 2022 retreat. There are several places still available. Read on for more information- the retreat is a great way to get to know your fellow quilters better.

Be sure to check out the final article by Janet Schoenfeld on Modern Quilting at the end of the newsletter. There are many great tips shared by members!

If you have any suggestions or ideas, feel free to email the board at baltimoremqg@gmail.com

Happy sewing,

Kathy Schwabeland BMQG President

Meeting Programming

We have an amazing line up of activities in store for you during our monthly meetings this year. Here is what is coming up in August, September, and October.

August 14th: Laura Hartrich Lecture

Labels as Love Language



Laura will talk about how labels factor into her quilting practice. She will share lots of images and discuss technique, inspiration, and motivation for creating labels as detailed and unique as her quilts.

The meeting will take place via Zoom.

September 11th: *Catonsville Art Festival*

We are scheduled to be at the Catonsville Arts Festival from 10:00am to 5:00pm sharing our love of modern quilting. Part of our mission as a guild is to educate the public about modern quilting. The Catonsville Art Festival is a great way to achieve this goal through sharing our beautiful quilts and teaching adults and children about quilting with hands on techniques.

Volunteer are needed to help with set up, take down, and staffing the booth.

We also need baby quilt TOPS which will be hand tied by community members that day.

You can sign up to volunteer for the event or donate baby quilt TOPS [here](#) or contact Janine at choppiepanda@gmail.com.

October 9th: *Sewing Marathon Day*

This year's October guild meeting falls on the same weekend as the guild retreat. In the spirit of sewing fun, for the October monthly meeting the guild will be hosting an all day sewing marathon at a location in the Parkville area. More specifics in regards to the time and location of the marathon will be available in the September newsletter.

Workshops

None scheduled at this time.

Workshop Policy: Currently, all workshops will be held via Zoom and in general, more people can attend a workshop, so we have not had the need for a wait list.

If you have signed up for a workshop and cannot make it, it is your responsibility to find someone to take your spot. They can

pay you directly. You will also need to notify the Education Chair if you cannot make it so that Zoom links can be sent to the correct people.

October Retreat

This year's fall retreat will take place at Maritime Conference Center from October 7th to October 9th, 2022. The cost of this year's retreat will be \$265.00 and includes daily continental breakfast, lunch, and afternoon snack.

The majority of the retreat is unstructured so you have time to work on your own personal projects. There will be one free mini workshop open to everyone and as always we will have some fun games.

Single day passes are not available- if you are unable to attend all three days, you can share a retreat pass with another member. Several people did this last year and it worked out well.

There are still several spaces available for retreat. Please contact Kschwabeland@yahoo.com if you are interested in attending.

September Community Event

Looking for quilters who are interested in sharing their quilt stories. Anyone interested in getting involved with sharing their quilt/story or helping to video tape members sharing their stories, please reach out to Janine Fesler, 443 354 0834 or choppiepanda@gmail.com.

This is an important part of sharing modern quilting with our community. Your stories are important! We want to see and hear your story. This is for ALL modern quilters from novice to experienced.

<https://quiltalliance.org/projects/qsos/>

Membership

As of August 1st, we have 93 members for 2022.

Welcome new members Ann Boland, Susie Willenbrick, and Karen Jenning!

Reminder: To access the National Modern Quilt Guild site:

- Navigate to themodernquiltguild.com
- Click Member Login
- Enter the email address you used to register with Baltimore Modern Quilt Guild
- Enter your password, **OR**
- To create a password, enter the email address you used to register with Baltimore Modern Quilt Guild and click “reset password”
- Enjoy all of the resources available to you!

National Modern News

Ready to stitch, craft, and connect from home?

Spend the weekend learning from some of the best quilting instructors in the comfort of your own home with the first MQG Sessions Virtual event on October 13-16, 2022.

Registration begins on July 26th. You can view more information about the event [here](#).

QuiltCon 2023 registration begins on August 16th.

The upcoming show will take place in Atlanta, Georgia from February 23-26, 2023. Information about the show and registration process can be found [here](#).



Bingo

Save the date! Yay! We have an official BMQG Charity Bingo fundraising event scheduled for Saturday, April 15th, 2023. The bi-annual bingo event hosts approximately 300 people to include friends and family for an evening of fun and helps the guild raise money for the support of guest speakers/events throughout the year. During the evening there will be 20 rounds of bingo, 5 special rounds of bingo and lots of door prizes, raffles, fun and food! We will be collecting any sewn or quilted items to give at the event. This is a great time to look at your sewing stash to try new techniques or make small projects such as coasters, pot holders, mini quilts, table runners, wall hangings, etc. We will also be giving away lap size quilts (or bigger) as a prize for each bingo round. Several quilts have been collected but there are still some open spots for completed quilts. If you are interested in making a quilt or donating a recently finished quilt please let me know at meganprice1011@gmail.com Be on the lookout for a sign up sheet coming out soon! Thank you to the many guild members who have already donated a completed quilt or sewn prize for this event! See you there- it's gonna be a blast!



Social Media

Guild members can keep up with all the latest news and updates and see what their fellow BMQG-ers are making by following the guild on Instagram (@baltimoremqg) and Facebook (search Baltimore Modern Quilt Guild).

Did you know that we have two Facebook pages for our guild? One is a member only page. This page will communicate specifics

of what is happening within our guild and celebrate our members.



Baltimore MQG - Members Group

Private group - 60 members

There is also a public page where you can see what is happening with the National Modern Guild and have some fun.



Community Relations

I will be available for you to drop off items to me once a month in the parking lot of Loch Raven High School, off the Baltimore Beltway at Cromwell, if coming from the west, or the Loch Raven exit, if coming from the east, exit 29, every 2nd Saturday of the month at 11am, unless otherwise noted.

The next pick up will on Saturday, August 13th at 11am Loch Raven High School.

Please let me know in advance if you will be dropping off as to avoid any communication issues. Or, you can drop off at my house on Stansbury Mill Road in northern Baltimore County, if that is more convenient. isewmuchtime@gmail.com

If you are in the Ellicott City/Columbia Area, Kim Rotter has agreed to collect charity quilts to deliver to me. If you are in that area, call Kim to make arrangements.

I have quilt labels available. Let me know if you want any, and I'll put some in the mail to you.

If you have any questions, feel free to email me at isewmuchtime@gmail.com

JoAnn Stelmack
Community Relations/Charity Chairperson.

COVID 2022 Policy

For indoor events longer than 2 hours, you will be required to be fully vaccinated as defined by the CDC.

The guild will follow local, state, and business rules regarding masking, distancing, etc. as set forth by those entities.

Board Meetings

BMQG Board meetings are open to all members. The calendar of board meeting is included at the end of the newsletter

This is the last in a series of 3 articles for 2022 on Modern Quilting.

Thank you to the contributors for providing your own experiences as well as links for techniques and tools whether videos, websites, or blogs.

Guild member contributors in no particular order: Kate Lane, Helene Gardel, Pat Simrell, Jan Wemmer, Sue Till, Amy Verne, MJ Snyder, Cindy Barcelles, Judy Dunlap, Linda Shiffer, and Valarie McNeese.

The theme for this article is relevant to traditional, modern, and art quilting movements. They all share a common goal: to educate quilters, to continue to master sewing skills, and construction techniques needed throughout the quilt making process.

This article focuses on exploring the various phases to make a quilt and providing resources to help you learn them. We are fortunate to have so many ways to learn at our fingertips, whether it is YouTube videos, websites and blogs, books, and classes (online and in person). Many of the resources are considered tried and true content from experts in the industry, whether from 10 years ago, or a few weeks ago. My hope is that this article is only a starting point for helping Baltimore MQG members to learn new skills, as we continue to share content with ideas coming in from all members. We also have to remember that we might not like every technique, so learning from others helps you identify where your strengths are, and narrow down what other skills you want to focus on. Leading with your strengths will help give you more confidence to tackle those you haven't mastered yet.

I asked a couple of members recently about their process to grow and learn about quilting, so thought I would share their responses:

KATE LANE – “Finding Your Zone”

Member for over 5 years. T-Shirt Quilter, English Paper Piecing, Prolific Quilt Maker

Kate, Which events, activities or meeting content have most helped you grow as a modern quilter?

Kate's Answer: "Sewing without a pattern, as well as the "Stack and Whack" (also known as slice and dice) types of classes, where you don't know where you are going until you're finished. I think these classes helped me define my skill set and made me trust in the process and not to rely on the pattern."

HELENE GARDEL – “Taking Risks”

Joined the guild in 2022 and new to quilting, taking classes at Domesticity as well as Baltimore MQG classes.

Helene, As a new member this year, which activities or meeting content have most helped you grow as a modern quilter?

Helene's Answer: "I did not feel I was skilled enough for the first guild workshop and tried the curve workshop. It was wonderful and hard, and maybe not for beginners, but I did ok. It gave me a lot of ideas I hope eventually to use and incorporate in my efforts on scrap material quilts. At Make May Modern, I learned a lot by watching as I didn't feel I could have participated with a sewing machine. Cutting blocks and adding strips I found was freeing -- to try different things [class by Heather Kojan]. I wasn't sure I'd like the QR Code class [by Phyllis Cook], but I did. I will make a wall hanging for an activist friend and I chose the word "Peace".

Steps to Making the Quilt Top – The Core Techniques

Part 1: Preparing and Cutting Fabric

It's important to know what you are buying when you are at a fabric store, and while we might not realize it, there is a wide variety among quilting fabrics. The Fabric Patch video provides you all the details you will need to know about buying fabric and how best to use and take care of it. Additional links offer information about prepping and cutting fabric.

- [What You Need to Know About Quilting Fabrics](#) by The Fabric Patch

- Washing fabric: Traditionally, washing fabric, separating lights and darks into different loads, was the gold standard. More recently, some quilters have backed off from that due to the higher quality of quilting cottons, and less shrinkage. In this video series by Leah Day, she shares her process for washing and preparing fabric for cutting as well as many other tips.
- [#1 How to Prepare and Cut Fabric for Quilting](#) with Leah Day
- Core tools used are scissors, cutting mats, tape measures, rulers, and rotary cutters, and wool mats for pressing

Part 2: Managing the Pieces and Parts

After you have cut all these pieces (strips, triangles, curves, etc) we have some tips to share to keep them in an orderly fashion.

- Project Boards that you can make yourself using foam core poster boards, cutting them to the desired size, gluing some batting to one side and even adding a binding for smooth edges.
- Using labels marked with numbers either stuck or pinned to your fabric pieces will help them stay in order as you move them to your machine [Phyllis Cook, MJ Snyder].
- Others have great success with basic white paper plates, and labels and block numbers can be written right on the plates [Judy Dunlap].
- Printable labels that fit A4 label sheets can be purchased as well to help you keep those pieces organized from [LynsAvenue](#). [Pat Simrell]
- Using the camera in your phone can also help you check your layouts and colorways. Taking photos and turning them to black and white helps you to check value difference. In addition, taking a photo of the final layout on the design board can be used as a reference to avoid mixing up rows or turning a block the wrong way [Pat Simrell].
- Large design boards are helpful as well – check out this link on how to make one using engineered insulation boards, with glue and batting.

- Sew Yeah Video [Design Board](#)
- Lori Hold Video [Small Design Boards for blocks](#)

Part 3: Careful Sewing and Pressing are Miracle Workers

Piecing techniques are critical to making a block finish at the intended size, as well as neatly sewn and pressed so that it lays flat. The resources in this section provide two notable experts in the community, as well as some tips and tricks from some guild members. This covers a range of topics to get those quarter inch seams accurate, learn string piecing, deciding on a stitch length, and pressing with your fingers and irons.

- [#2 Beginner Quilt Piecing Basics](#) with Leah Day
- [Piecing Accuracy 101](#) ~ Quilting tutorial from GE Designs
- [7 Major Quilt Hacks](#)
- [Partial Seams](#) tutorial by American Patchwork and Quilting

Guild Member Tips:

- The importance of keeping your piecing in order can help you in the long run by sewing units in a web. It keeps the seams going in the right directions and reduces bulk. [MJ Snyder]
- My best tip is an adhesive seam guide, (“Adhesive Seam Gauge” by Jean Adkins) and used with double-stick tape. It's especially helpful in keeping accurate 1/4" seams for long strips. I have the ability to move my needle position so that I can butt the guide right up next to my presser foot. It also helps to have a flat bed. I've seen & used flexible seam guides as well - good for curved machine beds. [Sue Till]
- I use a basting stitch (3.5") to match points for precision piecing before sewing the final seam. Sewing about 1" before the match and about 1" after, check the match points; if all good, then I will sew the entire seam with regular stitch length. Basting stitch is easily removed. I learned this when I was a garment sewer and recently saw this recommended by Christa Miranda of Ships n Violins. [Valarie McNeese]

4. MODERN/IMPROV QUILTING TECHNIQUES

- [Easy Improv Quilting with Leah Day](#) - Quilting Tutorial Collaboration with Vicki Holloway
- [3 Improv Piecing Tips with Christina Cameli | Scrap Quilting for Beginners](#)
- [How to Create Improv Paper Pieced Borders](#) Tutorial by Janome Maker Annabel Wrigley
- [Making a Mini Quilt Using Improv Curves](#) Tutorial by Carolina Oneto, sponsored by JANOME



- Instructables Craft [Quilt as You Go](#) Step by Step
- [How to Join Quilt as you Go Blocks and Borders](#) - Quilting Tips & Techniques 074

ENGLISH PAPER PIECING

- [How to English Paper Piece with Tula Pink - Part 1 - Cutting | Fat Quarter Shop](#)
- [How to English Paper Piece with Tula Pink - Part 2 - YouTube](#)

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Calendar of Activities for 2022

(subject to change)

Date	Activity	Time	Location
8/14/22	August Meeting: Lecture by Laura Hartrich	1:30-3:30PM	Zoom
9/10/22	BMQG Board Meeting	10-11AM	Zoom
9/11/22	September Meeting: Community Event	10am to 5pm	Catonsville Arts Festival
10/7/22 to 10/9/22	BMQG Retreat	All Day	Maritime Institute
10/9/22	October Meeting: Sewing Marathon	All Day	In Person
11/6/22	BMQG Board Meeting	10-11AM	Zoom
11/13/22	November Meeting: Lecture with Rose Parr	1:30-3:30PM	Zoom
12/11/22	December Meeting: End of the Year Celebration	1:30-3:30PM	TBD

We meet on the 2nd Sunday of the month unless otherwise noted.

Want to see what we're up to? Connect with us on social media!

Instagram: [@baltimoremqg](#) [#baltimoremqg](#)

Facebook: [BaltimoreModernQuiltGuild](#)

Email us at baltimoremqg@gmail.com