

# Courthouse Quilters President's Bulletin

May 2025

April 27 was a busy day for guild members with a workshop, the Shad Fest Poster Auction and the Anniversary Challenge. With these three different activities happening on the same day it is an example of how our guild has something for just about everyone and you can choose to do one thing or all.

The day started with the Quilts of Valor Workshop which was very productive and based on the work done that day it looks like we will be able to make several quilts to present to veterans. There were about ten members that made quilt blocks that were put into quilt tops. A big thank you to those who participated and to everyone that made blocks (many blocks) in advance. It took some advanced math skills to work out the quilt layouts but luckily we had the right people there to do it. Quilt math is definitely not one of my skills.

While we were working on the QOV blocks and quilt tops several members were at the Shad Fest Poster Auction. The Shad Fest is always a fun event and it is great to see our members participate in the poster auction with their creative interpretations. Our guild was very well represented (including some of our husbands) and helped raise money for this very worthy cause.

The activity filled day wrapped up with the guild meeting and was highlighted with the celebration of the guilds 37th anniversary and reveal of the Challenge. The pieces on display were beautiful and hearing the stories behind the creations makes it even better. It was appropriate that since the theme behind the challenge was music that there be music playing. Thank you Carol Esch for providing the music playing on the cute record player.

Next up is the UFO Auction at the May meeting. Please read the articles on this event for all the details and the request for volunteers that are needed to make it a success - [sign-up for a shift](#).

Lysa Martinelli  
[President@CourthouseQuilters.org](mailto:President@CourthouseQuilters.org)

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## Upcoming Meetings

**Board Meeting - ZOOM** (all members welcome)

Date/Time: Thursday, May 15, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

**UFO Auction & Guild Meeting**

Date/Time: Sunday, May 18, 2025

- Auction Items Drop Off: 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.
- Auction: 3:30 p.m. 5:00 p.m.
- Business Meeting / Show & Tell: 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. ([sign-up to bring an appetizer](#))

## UFO Auction and Guild Meeting

Our May meeting will be an auction where members are asked to donate quilt-related items such as UFO's, fabric bundles, patterns, kits, rulers, etc. Please place items in a clear plastic bag marked with a brief description of your donation. Drop off begins at 2:30 p.m. where you'll be met by volunteers to register your donation and assign you a bidder's paddle.

Cash, Checks or Credit Cards will be accepted with proceeds from the auction sales going to the local Charity, Safe Harbor.

Schedule:

2:30 - 3:30 p.m. - Drop Off

3:30 - 5:00 p.m. - Auction (Dana from Dana Balsamos Auctions, LLC will host our live auction)

5:30 - 6:30 p.m. - Business Meeting / Show & Tell

Please bring an appetizer to share - [sign-up to bring an appetizer](#).

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## Volunteers Needed for the May Auction

We need several volunteers for three shifts during the auction. Please sign up for a shift to help make this event a success - [sign-up for a shift](#).

### **Donation In-Take Table: (3-4 people from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m.)**

At drop off we will need 3-4 people assigned to this area; 1-2 people to write down the entry item with a brief description and assign a lot number; 1-2 people to tag the item with the lot number; 1 person to write down the member donating the item and assign/hand out a numbered bidding paddle.

### **Auctioneer's Table: (3-4 people from 3:30 - 5:00 p.m.)**

Once the auction begins, we'll need 1-2 people to rotate handing items to the Auctioneer, helping her out with the item descriptions. Sold items will then be handed to 1 person to log the items on the tracking sheets noting which member (numbered paddle) purchased it. Sold items will be brought by 1 volunteer to the member that purchased the item.

### **Register/Check-out Table: (3-4 people from 5:00 - 5:30 p.m.)**

After everything has been sold, we'll have 2 cash box stations setup. At each station there will be 1 person tallying up each bidders purchase from the tracking sheet and 1 person collecting the payment (cash/check/credit card).

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## Shadfest Results (Note from Gina)

I wanted to say thank you to everyone who made a poster for Shadfest! This year, the scholarship fund awarded \$65,000 in scholarships (two \$25,000 awards and three \$5,000 awards). As always, it was great fun to see the variety of offerings that the guild put forward - fabric, wood, and paints, oh my! During the live auction, Amy Coss recognized our guild for all its continued support. Fourteen guild members contributed posters, which in total raised over \$2,900. Special congratulations to Lisa C. who won the award for best acrylic art!

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## 37th Anniversary Challenge: Can You Dig It?

Members were asked to create a quilt inspired by a randomly selected 45 rpm record. The piece could focus on the song from either side, the singer or group, or a lyric that spoke to them. This trip down memory lane delivered a diverse collection of quilts from modern to traditional, serious to whimsical, all showcasing creativity.

At the April meeting Challenge pieces were on display with eighteen members participating in the quilt and non-quilt categories. The pieces will also be displayed at the Pennsylvania Motivational Quilt Extravaganza in Oaks, PA on September 11-14, 2025.

Ribbons were awarded to:

Quilt Category:

1st Place - Kathy Stewart "Kung Fu Fighting"

2nd Place - Gina Krejsa "Carolina Moon"

3rd Place - Cass Garner "Stoned Love"

Non-Quilt Category:

1st Place - Barbara Fusco "Rhinestone Cowboy"

2nd Place - Margaretanne Reina & Greta Casella  
"The Theme from Jaws"

3rd Place - Dyan Rosario "The Crickets"

**June 22, 2025**

**\*\*Workshop\*\***

*Fabric Dyeing*

with Pam Ambrosio

Location: Rt 12 County  
Complex

Time: 1:00 - 5:00

Cost: \$13 plus any kit fee

**\*\*Evening Program\*\***

"Kaffe & Morris: A Color  
Collaboration Across Time" -  
Marisa Simon

[www.courthousequilters.org](http://www.courthousequilters.org)

### Courthouse Quilters Guild Program

#### Workshop

Join us for this hands on outdoor session as we learn about dyeing techniques from talented member Pam Ambrosio.



#### Evening Presentation

"Kaffe & Morris: A Color Collaboration Across Time"  
- Marisa Simon, NJ Free Spirit Fabric Sales Representative, will speak about the recent collaboration of Morris & Co, with a 150 year influence on the decorative arts and Kaffe Fassett, well known for his influence on color and pattern in the craft industry. Learn why this collaboration between the father of the Arts & Crafts movement and a modern day color genius works so well.

## 4-H Fair and Quilt Show

The Hunterdon County 4-H Fair is held each year in August and includes a judged quilt show. Courthouse Quilters and Hunterdon County Quilting Guild alternate coordinating the quilt show at the fair. This year it is our turn. Participation at the 4-H fair also gives us an opportunity to sell handmade items and Caring Hearts Quilts in a Boutique. For the Boutique we would like to make and sell only 4-5 different items. Do you have an idea for an item that would sell well at the 4-H Fair? Let us know your ideas - email [President@CourthouseQuilters.org](mailto:President@CourthouseQuilters.org).

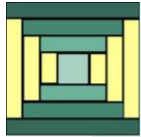
We will be looking for volunteers to make items for the Boutique as well as work shifts but right now you should start thinking about what quilt you want to enter in the show. This year's 4-H Fair and Quilt Show

will be held on Wednesday, August 2 - Sunday, August 24. The Show Information can be found at: [Hunterdon County 4-H Fair](#)

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## Caring Hearts Quilts

We will be selling Caring Hearts quilts at the 4-H Fair Quilt Show in August and need to increase our inventory of quilts. Please consider making and donating a quilt for the sale.



## Caring Heart Quilts

Fifty percent of sales made is donated to Safe Harbor. You can make either a baby, lap, or a larger quilt if you wish. We will have 3 size categories and 3 price points.

| Size 1                | Size 2                          | Size 3                |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| \$45                  | \$65                            | \$85                  |
| Minimum 30" x 30"     | Minimum 34" x 34"               | Minimum 45+'' x 45+'' |
| Maximum 34-'' x 34-'' | Maximum 45'' x 45''             | Maximum 60'' x 60''   |
| (Under 1156 sq. in.)  | (Between 1156 and 2024 sq. in.) | (Over 2025 sq. in.)   |

Note: These are just guidelines for your use. If you choose to make a quilt larger than 60" x 60", that is fine, just be aware that the price will be \$85.00. Items under 900 sq inches should be boutique donations.

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If you have any questions, reach out to Barbara Slaton.

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## Donated Fabric and Sewing Goods

The guild is often contacted by quilters or quilters family members about donating their fabric, notions, patterns, books and other items. We held off on collecting items until we had a chance to organize and inventory what was left over from the quilt show boutique. We also needed to decide what type of items we will collect and what we no longer will collect. We are now ready to start taking in donations. All offered items will be collected and reviewed before it goes into the storage unit. Items will be sorted into the categories of keep, donate, discard, and offer to members. The items that will be kept for the boutique will mainly be fabric and some notions but no books, patterns or other items that don't sell.

Dates will be coordinated for the intake and review of donated items based on when donations are received. If you would like to be part of the intake and review process please let us know. There aren't specific dates for this work but you can sign-up that you are interested and we will coordinate the schedule with people that volunteered. [Volunteer Sign-up](#)

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## 2025 Guild Meetings

The guild generally meets on the third Sunday of the month but there are exceptions to that schedule due to holidays and availability of the meeting space.

The remaining 2025 meeting dates are:

- May 18, 2025
  - June 22, 2025 (4th Sunday)
  - July 20, 2025
  - August 17, 2025
  - September 21, 2025
  - October 26, 2025 (4th Sunday)
  - November 16, 2025
  - December 21, 2025
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## Vintage Fabric Frenzy Online Auction

Dana Balsamos Auctions, LLC (<https://www.danaauctions.com/auction/272-vintage-fabric-frenzy/>) is holding an auction of antique & vintage fabric including Barkcloth, Waverly, Schumacher, MCM Modern Home Decor Fabrics, 19th Century Quilt Fabric, 20th Century Cotton Fabrics including florals, abstracts, geometrics, novelty prints and more. This is an online only auction on Saturday, May 17 at 11:00 AM.

If you are participating in the auction and have the winning bid Dana is offering to deliver the items to you on Sunday at our auction.

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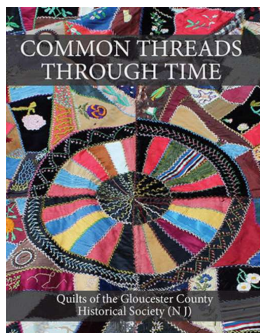
## For Sale - 1937 Singer Featherweight

Several accessories, newer case, in good sewing condition - \$600 OBO.

Contact Roxanne Walter, 215-990-1560, [sewcrazy363@gmail.com](mailto:sewcrazy363@gmail.com).



## Common Threads Through Time: Quilts of the Gloucester County Historical Society



The Gloucester County Historical Society has published a new book about its extensive collection of quilts dating back to the 1700s. The book includes large photographs and descriptions of the quilts and the local people who made and passed them along from generation to generation as family heirlooms.

The Society's collection includes fine examples of quilts in the signature/autograph/friendship, crazy quilts, drunkard's path, grandmother's floral garden, Jacob's ladder, log cabin, nine patch, postage stamp, and yo-yo styles and patterns — just to name a few. The book underscores how regional quilt makers engaged in a craft that was both a practical and aesthetic endeavor, preserving the social and cultural history of the time while reflecting the realities of life and commerce in those earlier eras.

The book is available for sale from the Historical Society website: <https://bit.ly/quilt-book>.



## Executive Board, Committee Chairs, Special Committees

### Executive Board:

President: Lysa Martinelli  
1st Vice President: Barbara Fusco  
2nd Vice President: Kerry Cogan  
Treasurer: Patty Gertz  
Secretary: Donna Slovak

### Standing Committee Chairs:

Archivist: Regina Krejsa  
Boutique: **Appointment On-Hold**  
Charity & Outreach: Cheryl Dennis  
Circulation: Jan Hunold  
Hospitality: Greta Casella & Margaretanne Reina  
Membership: Sara Mlynarchek  
Newsletter/Photography: Al Accettola  
Publicity: Dyan Rosario  
Quilt Show: **Appointment On-Hold**  
Web Presence: Cathie Giambalvo

### Ad-Hoc Committee Chairs:

4H Fair: Barbara Fusco & Lysa Martinelli  
Raffle Quilt Sales 2026: Gina Krejsa & **TBD**  
Raffle Quilt Construction 2026: Juliet Leonard  
Nominating: Joan Lasota, Cass Garner, Kathy Stewart

## Courthouse Quilters Guild: Our Mission

The purpose of our Guild is to:

- preserve and promote the tradition and history of quilting.
- to foster fellowship among interested persons in all aspects of quilting.
- to sponsor and support educational quilting activities.
- to encourage quilt making and collecting.
- to promote the appreciation of quilting throughout the community.
- and to support charitable activities.

**Website:** Visit the Courthouse Quilters website ([www.courthousequilters.org](http://www.courthousequilters.org)) for information on meetings, presentations, workshops, and general information about the guild.

**Facebook:** Become Facebook “friends” with Courthouse Quilters. Search for “Courthouse Quilters” and “like” us. See what guild members are posting related to quilting, sewing, art, and other interesting things.

**Newsletter:** The deadline for the newsletter is the Sunday following a meeting. For the even numbered months newsletter send all of your articles, news, photos and other newsworthy items to Al and for the odd numbered months send your information to Lysa.