

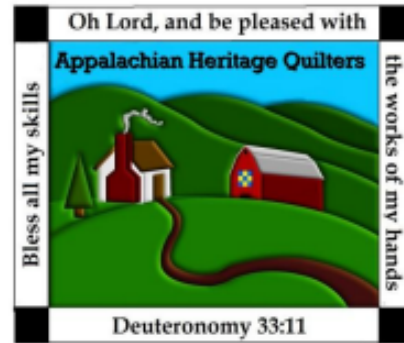
# Appalachian Heritage Quilters

Crossroads Christian Church  
1300 Suncrest Dr. Gray, TN  
**Issue 170 - May, 2026**

**Website:**

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

**facebook:** [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com)



## *A note from our President, Audrey Pantas*

*Congratulations to all that participated in the AHQG Quilt Show. The quilts were beautiful and the volunteer support was outstanding. Thanks to everyone for the successful show.*

*The May meeting is a time to reflect on our successful show and vote for the 2026-2027 Board Members. As announced last month, the very capable nominations are as follows:*

*President: Nancy Wagner Forrister*

*VP Programs: Jackie Smith*

*VP Quilt Show: Jessica Steedman*

*Corresponding Secretary: Shelly Kelley*

*Recording Secretary: Lynn Veith*

*Treasurer: Linda Gibbons*

*Chaplain: Liana Thompson*

*There are many opportunities to be involved in the guild. Committees need to be filled including Charity, Christmas Party, Public Facebook, Membership, Official Photographer, Sit & Sew coordination and Tee shirts. There will be a sign-up sheet at the meeting. Please consider volunteering for a committee. It's a great way to get to know your fellow guild members better.*

*UFOs - Members participating in the UFO challenge should present their completed projects at the May meeting. If attendance is not possible, please send a photo of your finished item via text or email.*

*Important Dates:*

- May 21st: Guild Meeting*
- May 28th: Sit and Sew*
- June 4th: Sit and Sew*
- June 11th: Sit and Sew*
- June 18th: Sit and Sew*
- June 26th: Sit and Sew*

May Agenda:

- Welcome and introduction of new members and visitors
- Devotion (Portia Sams)
- Approval of minutes and treasurer's report
- Fat Quarter Drawing
- 2026-2027 AHQ Board Voting
- Quilt Show Update (Jessica Stedman)
- Summer Retreat
- Consortium Update (Zoe)
- Charity (Vicky Lowe)
- Block of the Month
- Other New Business / Announcements
- Show and Tell / UFO
- Break
- Program - Trunk Show

See you soon. Thanks much,

~ Audrey

**May Quilt Meeting Program - Liana Thompson**

I hope everyone enjoyed the quilt show as much as I did, and are excited to take out those UFOs to enter for next year. This month we are pleased to welcome Jolene Stratton. She is doing a trunk show of quilts made in Europe. I am thrilled to see these beautiful creations.

*Liana Thompson, VP Programs*

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**May Fat Quarter Color - Neutrals**

Bring one or more "Fat Quarters" (18" x 22" cut of fabric) to our meeting and you will be eligible to win a stack of Fat Quarters. The first name drawn gets to choose a theme or color for next month's meeting.

April's First Place winner was Diane Lutton.



## SUMMER BIRTHDAYS



### **June**

- 12 - Arlene Angelmaier
- 21 - Martha Williams

### **July**

- 7 - Pat McKinnon
- 12 - Vicky Lowe
- 14 - Angela Cummings
- 15 - Paulette Burggeman
- 17 - Portia Sams
- 21 - Donna Flynn
- 24 - Sharon Deming
- 27 - Cindey Mingin-Merrick

### **August**

- 2 - Rayma Grohs
- 2 - Carol Mahar
- 2 - Rebecca Tolley
- 7 - Diane Betancort
- 9 - Cyndi Thompson
- 10 - Malinda Measner
- 22 - Angie Harris
- 28 - Annas Clark
- 28 - Diane Lutton
- 29 - Patsy Bevins
- 29 - Jackie Smith
- 29 - Betty Tester

### **Thoughts to Ponder - Chaplain Martha Williams**

*This will be my last communication as your Chaplain for 2026. It has been my privilege to have served in this position and pray I have served you well. Thank you for allowing me to participate in this capacity for the Guild. Please be in prayer for our Guild, our members, for all the specific needs of everyone and for strength and love toward one another. I know there are many spoken and unspoken prayer requests that we are dealing with and I know our Lord and Savior hears them all. May His blessings, comfort and love surround us all and His will be done in all circumstances. My prayer for the incoming Chaplain, Liana: May God's blessings be with you as you pray and share our concerns to one another.*

***Blessings and love to you all,  
Martha***

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### **Treasurer's Report - March, 2026**

Beginning Balance	\$7,122.29
Income	60.00
Expenses	181.09
<b>March Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$7,001.80</b>

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- **May 21 - Guild Meeting**
- **May 28 - Sit and Sew**
- **June 4 - Sit and Sew**
- **June 11 - Sit and Sew**
- **June 18 - Sit and Sew**
- **June 26 - Sit and Sew**

## **2026 Retreat Updates - Arlena Miller**

### **Summer Drive In Retreat, July 16-18, 2026, Crossroads Church**

Come set up and sew. At night we get to go home and leave your stuff set up. Then come back the next day to sew some more! We will have signups for snacks to bring to share at the April meeting.

### **Fall Sleepover Retreat, Sept 30 - Oct 3, 2026, 4H Center in Abingdon, VA**

There are 13 rooms available. You can stay alone or with a roommate. You may come to sew during the day without staying overnight. A chef will prepare brunch and dinner for us as follows:

- Wednesday, dinner
- Thursday & Friday, brunch and dinner
- Saturday, brunch

Deposits will be accepted at each guild meeting beginning in April. Final payments are due by the September meeting.

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## **\*\*Quilt Show Success: May 1-2, 2026\*\* - Jessica Steedman, VP Quilt Show \*What a Wonderful Weekend!\***

Dear Friends and Fellow Quilters,

We are still smiling from the incredible energy and creativity of our 2026 Quilt Show held on May 1-2! This year's event was a true celebration of our quilting community and exceeded all expectations.

### **Show Highlights**

- Almost 500 people walked through the doors to enjoy the beautiful displays and friendly atmosphere.
- 160 stunning quilts were entered, showcasing an amazing range of styles, techniques, and personal stories. From traditional to modern, each quilt reflected the passion and skill of our makers.
- Four local assisted living facilities joined us for the show. As a special thank-you, we were able to donate a lovely **\*\*orphan block quilt\*\*** to each facility — a small way to spread comfort and beauty beyond our event.

The Boutique and Crafter's Corner was a huge hit once again! Shoppers found unique

handmade treasures, and the variety of items available made it a favorite stop for many visitors. A big round of applause to everyone who contributed items and worked the boutique — your efforts helped make the show even more special.

Thank You!

None of this would have been possible without the dedication and hard work of so many people. From those who hung quilts and set up displays, to the greeters, demonstrators, food for workers, cleanup crew, and everyone in between—thank you. Your time, talent, and enthusiasm turned this event into a memorable success.

We are already looking forward to next year’s show and hope to make it even bigger and better with your continued support!

If you have photos from the show you’d like to share, ideas for next year, or would like to get more involved, please reach out. Your input helps shape our future events.

Warmest regards and happy quilting,  
\*The Quilt Show Committee\*

*Best, Jessica*

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**AHQ 2026 Show Financials - Fran Tafer, Treasurer**

<b>Total Deposits</b>	<b>\$ 6,582.57</b>
<b>Boutique/Bake Sale Payouts</b>	<b>- 2,885.75</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	<b>- 1,397.68</b>
<b>SHOW PROFIT / INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 2,299.14</b>

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**Tri-Cities Quilt Consortium Update - Audrey Pantas**

Check your email! We just shared some information via email about an upcoming Shop Hop and the summer Gathering of the Guilds.

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**AHQ Challenge - Zoe Sibley and Lynn Veith**

A new Guild Challenge is coming for 2027... and this year’s theme is all about creativity, memory, and giving cherished materials a second life.

We’re keeping the full details under wraps for now, but you won’t want to miss the big reveal at Thursday’s guild meeting! Be ready for a challenge that invites imagination, storytelling, and a little treasure hunting.

Challenge details, rules, and inspiration will all be announced Thursday night

**AHQ Meeting Minutes**  
**April 16, 2026**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Jessica Steedman in the absence of the President, Audrey Pantas.

All members and visitors were welcomed.

The devotions were led by Martha Williams, along with prayer requests.

Upon a motion by Tony Grohs, and seconded by Donna Flynn, the Treasurer's Report as presented in the newsletter was approved.

Upon a motion by Connie Carr and seconded by Portia Sams, the minutes of the March 19, 2026 were unanimously approved.

The Fat Quarter drawing was held and the winners were: 1st place Diane Lutton; second place Lisa Kleven; third place Robin Noel. The fat quarter choice for May is Neutrals.

The nominating committee presented the proposed slate of officers for the 2026-2027 year.

The nominations are:

President - Nancy Forrister

VP for Programs - Jackie Smith

VP for Quilt Show - Jessica Steedman

Recording Secretary - Lynn Veith

Treasurer - Linda Gibbons

Corresponding Secretary - Shelly Kelley

Chaplain - Liana Thompson

The officers will be voted on at the May meeting.

Tony Grohs said he is working on a new directory and needs pictures of new members.

Future program updates were presented by Liana Thompson and include a talk on international quilts by Jolene Stratton, and a possible trip to the Reece Museum at ETSU to view the quilts on display.

Vicky Lowe, currently in charge of our charity quilts project, reported that a new person will need to take over the program in the upcoming year.

Vicky reported that for the year 2024-2025 we donated 302 quilts, and 441 other items. So far for the current year we have donated 260 quilts and 453 other items. 5 quilts were made from orphan blocks.

The summer drive-in retreat is scheduled for July 16-18 at Crossroads Christian Church. Please sign up to provide food for the retreat.

The Fall Retreat dates are September 30-October 3 at the Abingdon 4H Center. More details will be provided later.

The next Block of the Month block directions was presented by Shelly Kelley and Martha Williams.

UFO / Show and Tell quilts were presented.

After a brief break there was a quilt show planning session.

Minutes submitted by Barbara Kirk, Recording Secretary

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### **2025- 2026 OFFICERS - Appalachian Heritage Quilters**

President - Audrey Pantas  
V.P. Programs - Liana Thompson  
V.P. Quilt Show - Jessica Steedman  
Treasurer - Fran Tafer  
Recording Secretary - Barbara Kirk  
Chaplain - Martha Williams  
Corresponding Secretary Shelly Kelley

### **CHAIR-MEMBERS**

*Charity Coordinator* –Vicky Lowe  
*Sit & Sew* – Lynn Veith, Connie Carr, Laurie Blayney  
*Membership* – Paulette Bruggeman, Sharon Copas  
*Fall Retreat* – Arlena Miller  
*Drive-In Retreat* – Arlena Miller  
*Quilt Challenge* – Lynn Veith, Zoe Sibley  
*T-Shirt Coordinator* – Portia Sams  
*Website Coordinator* – Janet Henne  
*Tri-Cities Guild Consortium* - Zoe Sibley, Jessica Steedman

**[A special Thank You to each member for their service to the guild!](#)**



On Tuesday May 5, Shelly Kelley and Lynn Veith had the pleasure of delivering the quilt show's Opportunity Quilt to the winner, Ms. Katherine Jenkins of Johnson City. Ms. Jenkins immediately asked them to take the quilt straight upstairs to put on a guest bed that she had ready and waiting. She is an experienced quilter, with some of her own handiwork on display in her home, and was amazed with the talent of our guild members who had a part in the quilt. She thoroughly enjoyed the show and was impressed with the teamwork of our guild to organize and host such an impressive show.

**Large Basket Winner - Melinda Carr**

**Small Basket Winner - Judy Johnson**