

November 2024

Savannah Quilt Guild News

President's Column

Kim Hayes

president@savannahquiltguild.com

Hi Everyone,

It's hard to believe that we're heading into the holidays. I hope that today finds you and your families safe from the hurricanes.

I hope you all enjoyed the Round Robin program last month. We have an extremely talented guild with a ton of tricks up their sleeves! You never know when a 'Good grief, I wish I'd known that!' moment will come along. I've had quite a few myself, since joining the guild.

This month we will vote on our new officers for 2025. If you missed the October meeting, the nominees are Michael Sengstack- President, Jennifer Farago-Vice President, Stephanie Murphy- Secretary and Jan Howard- Treasurer. We will take nominations from the floor before voting.

Were you able to make it to the fair? If you love eating every deep fried food known to man, this was the place for you! Once again our guild had an extremely successful year. The November program will be Lanette Edens talking about our entries. If you entered any exhibits this year (regardless of the category), bring them to the meeting. We want to display them all for everyone to see. If you received a ribbon, be sure to attach it to your entry. If you went to the fair, you know how hard it was to find all of the guild's entries. So this will be our chance to see them all in one place. It took me 45 minutes to find my own!

May November be a nice calm month for us all. See you on the 9th. Kim



Join us for our next meeting:
November 9th, 2024

Southside Baptist Church
5502 Skidaway Road

9:30 – 10:00 am - Sewcial Time
10:00 am – Meeting

Find it here:

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Remember to bring to our meeting:

- * Wear your name tag
- * Your Show and Share

Needling News



Judy Lindsey	Nov 6th
Betty Binion	Nov 10th
Jeanne Reinisch	Nov 15th
Cindy Stuart	Nov 21st
Deb Brown	Nov 23rd

Programs and Upcoming Events
Peggy Caldwell, Vice President
programs@savannahquiltguild.com

The Round Robin at our October meeting was amazing! Thanks to the fabulous five - Renee, Emily, Theresa, Lanette and Mary Bell. Each one did a great job demonstrating a quilt related skill. They truly came prepared to teach!

In November, Lanette Edens will be updating us on the recent fair. She certainly puts her heart & soul into coordinating our participation. Please bring your quilts or anything you entered along with ribbons to our November meeting.

See you soon! Peggy

After Meeting Workshops and Sew-Ons
Cheryl Dingleline, workshops@savannahquiltguild.com

November workshop is holiday ornament crafts. There is still time to sign up for the fun and friend time. Payment is 20 dollars and includes the supplies for our crafts. All you need is a pair of small scissors and an embroidery needle. Payment can be made at the meeting.



This is the last month for fat quarter collection for the December meeting. Get ready for some twists to the game. Remember you must have brought in 1 focus fabric and 9 blenders or solids (they do not have to blend with the focus fabric, that is the job of the elves).

See you at the meeting, Cheryl

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Sewcial

The next Sewcial will be held in December. Stay tuned for the details! Everyone is encouraged to share ideas for the next event.

Cindy Ochoa

912-222-8728/obleo31313@yahoo.com

Upcoming Classes- Nationally Known Teachers

classes@savannahquiltguild.com **Judy Walker and Mary Bell Fuller**

National Class for 2025

We are looking into possible instructors for our all-day Friday class for 2025. Theresa and Cindy have several names in front of them so stay tuned! More information will be available soon.

Judy Walker
jwalkero6@icloud.com
912 547-3166

Mary Bell Fuller
mgbfrog@gmail.com
912 441-6636

BOM

Churn Dash

Click here for link: [BOM](#)



Savannah Quilt Guild News

Things to do this month...



◆ Friday Bee

Friday bee is four hours of sewing fun with ladies that love to quilt. The Sew Bee meets from 10 :00 am to 2:00 pm at Talahi Island Community Center. Contact Renee Christensen at rip-pinrenee@gmail.com to be put on a list to join as a member.

◆ Zoom

Several quilt guild members meet each Monday at 11am for the Monday Quilting Zoom group. If you would like to join us please let me know and I will add you to the email list. We would love to see you on Monday mornings at 11 am.

Mary C. Bass : mbcromartie@gmail.com or 912-604-7781

◆ Hand Appliqué Bee

Appliqué Bee
Tuesday November 26th from 1-4 pm
Center Parc Credit Union Community Room
5698-A Ogeechee Rd Savannah
This month will be a Sit and Sew.



Judy Lindsey
judithalindsey@gmail.com
352-263-6865

◆ Sew it Seams, Weekend Warriors

Members employed full or part-time meet the 3rd Saturday of each month from noon to 4 p.m. at the Talahi Community Center located at 532 Quarterman Drive. Please contact Regina Harris for further information and with any questions: harrisrgm@yahoo.com or 203-837-0322.

◆ Modern Bee

The Guild's Modern bee is a monthly gathering of everyone interested in modern quilting. It meets on the third Wednesday of the month at the Talahi Island Community Center (532 Quarterman Dr.) 1-4 in the afternoon. Bring your sewing machine and participate in a workshop on a technique used in modern quilting. Specific topics are regularly posted on the website and sent to members.

For further information contact:

Rita Richey (rrichey@wayne.edu) Carol Richards (carolrichards@ymail.com)

Member Spotlight

By Deb Brown

We are so excited to have five new members who joined in October: Martha S. Weston, Marcella Jones, Rhonda King-Strickland, Era Hall, Caroline Bartlett; as well as Denise Coakley who joined in September. Take a glimpse into the lives of Marcella Jones and Rhonda King-Strickland below.

Marcella Jones was born in Gainesville, Georgia. She moved to Savannah when her military husband was transferred here in 1989. Marcella retired from Memorial University Health about 6 years ago with a career in Medical Billing and Customer Service. She also volunteered to take photos at Memorial's special events. Marcella has an unfinished hand-pieced quilt top that her grandmother made from clothing over 60 years ago. She plans to increase the size by adding additional patches of clothing and finish it. Marcella considers herself as a beginner mixed media quilter. Her favorite aspect of quilting is applique. She has made six quilts during her quilting journey that have been given away to family and friends. Being a member of the Order of the Confederate Rose, she is most proud of a confederate quilt that she made and was auctioned for more than \$500.00. Marcella sews on a Babylock sewing machine on her dining room table when she is not sewing at the local quilt shop, Sew Much More, on Wednesdays. She describes her fabric stash as lots of fabric with floral prints with a few solids and many clothing items that need to be deconstructed. Marcella is currently working a special quilt for a friend, as well as volunteering to make quilt blocks for quilts that will go to families who have lost children to traumatic brain injury. She has a goal of making the "Ferris Wheel" quilt using the paper piecing technique.



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Rhonda King-Strickland is from West Virginia and currently lives in Ellabell, GA as a newly-wed. She moved to Savannah at age 12 when her parents were contracted by Candler Hospital to move here and work. She is a licensed Emergency Medical Technician but last year she changed careers to become self employed as a residential and commercial cleaning specialist. Her business is called “Dust Gnome”. Rhonda was inspired to quilt by her grandmother who made quilts for her 2 grandchildren before they were even born. Her grandmother passed away when Rhonda was 5 years old but the 60-year-old quilt is still being used today. It was one of her most cherished possessions that weathered Hurricane Matthew a few years ago when she lost nearly everything. Rhonda’s aunt taught her to quilt at age 12 when she made 2 quilts for her father. It wasn’t until about 3 months ago that she was inspired to start quilting again as a stress reliever and a creative outlet “just for me”. She is excited to turn one of her large bedrooms into a sewing and creative studio. Her latest addition is an adjustable craft table that just needs to be assembled. Rhonda describes her fabric stash as lots of Christmas fabrics and bumble bee themed novelty fabrics. Her quilting goal is to try more challenging quilts and to just have fun. Rhonda is also in training to volunteer with CASA (Court Appointed Child Advocate).



Quilting History

Cindy Wallace, contributor

What comes to mind when I say “Tar Beach?” Did you picture little black balls of tar jauntily arranged on Tybee Island beach? Or maybe a freshly paved street running by your house in 100 degree heat? If so, you would be “warm,” but let’s turn it up a notch and think about a famous quilt named “Tar Beach.” This month let’s consider the story of a mixed-media quilted fiber artwork created by a Harlem-born artist, painter, sculptor, performance artist, author, activist, storyteller and quilt-maker, born in 1930, as Faith Willi Jones. Willi was Faith’s mother’s name; she was a dress maker. Louis Jones, her father, was a truck driver. Faith was first married to Robert Earl Wallace, a jazz pianist who unfortunately had a heroin addiction. They had two daughters. Faith divorced Robert Wallace and married Burdette “Birdie” Ringgold in 1962. She is best known to you and me simply as the artist, Faith Ringgold. Ringgold first tried to publish her memoirs in 1980; after several rounds of rejections, she resolved to put her stories into her artwork and her narrative story-quilts were born, in part homage to her mother’s skills as a seamstress and in part inspired by Tibetan *thangkas* (paintings on fabric).

Faith trekked all over New York city with her quilts rolled up and asking if the galleries would host her work. She explained in interviews that these rolled up art-quilts, made of painted fabric, quilt blocks, handwriting made with sharpies and found objects were easier to carry around than framed canvases. This was before computers in every home, digital files, cell phone and digital portfolios etc. Faith Jones Wallace Ringgold was best known for her vibrant, thought-provoking artworks centered on themes of race, gender and social justice. These themes while present in “Tar Beach #1” take a backseat to the fantasy world of Cassie Louise Lightfoot who flies over the George Washington Bridge and totally owns the world floating silently beneath her.

Her quilt, “Tar Beach” is a wonder-filled quilt-narrative where anything becomes possible on a hot summer night for 8 year old Cassie Louise Lightfoot as she flies over New York City (the belief in an ability to fly comes from African homeland legends), the George Washington Bridge, and her family on a New York City rooftop. Her mom, dad, baby brother Bebe and the neighbors Mr. And Mrs. Honey can be seen on the “tar beach” rooftop of their apartment building. Quilt #1 is the first of 5 “tar beach” or “Women on a Bridge” series of story quilts. As you look, notice the lines of handwritten text filling the top and bottom telling the story in the character of Cassie Lightfoot. There is a table set with summer foods: fried chicken, boiled peanuts, watermelon, and beer. The adults are playing cards and the children are laying/sleeping/dreaming on a mattress. There is also a great children’s book about “Tar Beach.” Today it is considered an urban childhood classic. Both the quilt series and the book are known for themes of family, imagination and childhood wonder as seen through a child’s eyes. There are also economic, racial and political themes that show Ringgold’s strong sense of self, her feelings on the importance of emancipation and certainly a commitment to her self-expression, which at times kept her from entering gallery shows. She was even arrested over a poster for a 1970 art exhibition she curated advocating free speech during the Vietnam War Protests – she was arrested for desecrating the flag. She really did live life on her terms while promoting cultural awareness and fighting for civil rights.

Savannah Quilt Guild News

Quilting History continued....

The world will miss this kind but strong, humble and prolific art quilter, painter, and story-teller extraordinaire. I am so thankful we have her wonderful quilts to continue the fantasy and the stories, and to help us remember all the many ways she voiced her beliefs in equality, freedom and civil rights. We lost this vibrant artist and activist just this past April, 2024. She was 93. She was cremated near her home in New Jersey and the ashes were given to her family.

Here are her "Tar Beach #1" from 1988, 76" x 68" and her "Tar Beach #2" from 1990 where you can see the whole fantasy family flying in the night sky.



Faith Ringgold, *Women on a Bridge #1 of 5: Tar Beach* (1988).



"Tar Beach 2" made in 1990 at The Fabric Workshop and Museum of Philadelphia

Multicolored screenprint on silk plain weave, printed cotton plain weave, black and green synthetic moire and quilted.

Tool Talk

By Cat Allard

Rotary Cutters - The search for the best one.

There are a vast array of companies that make rotary cutters: Olfa, Fiskars, Martelli, Grace, Quilters Select, Creative Grids, OESD, Missouri Star Quilter, Kai, Clover and Headley are just a few. Most companies make a variety of styles, including stick, ergonomic, right and left-handed. Most of those cutters come in four different blade sizes. They come in different colors and some are heavy and some are light. And some even have quick change blades. More about blades later.

My very first rotary cutter was the Olfa yellow stick cutter that my quilting teacher recommended, and everyone seemed to have one. If you left your blade open during class you were fined twenty five cents and put your money in a glass jar. We thought we would go out for lunch at the end of the year. The money, it turned out, was spent on band-aids.

Let's take a look at some of the more popular cutters.

Stick cutters: With a straight handle and tab to uncover and cover the blade, the first stick rotary cutters were made by Olfa in 1979. How did we quilt without them? As quilting moved from hand to machine quilting and doing things "faster and easier" became popular (yes, I know some of us still like to hand sew, even if it's just the binding) the rotary cutter became a must have. Along with its cutting mat and rulers, cutting out an Irish Chain or an Ohio Star took much less time and was more accurate with straighter edges. Olfa now has a model with a quick-change option that makes it much easier to change rotary blades.

Ergonomic cutters: The handle of the ergonomic cutters have a two-part handle that when squeezed together exposed the blade. The blade automatically retracts when the blade is set down. Fiskars and Olfa both make ergonomic cutters with retractable blades. The Olfa with the 45-mm blade is my go-to cutter. The blade closes automatically and all cats' feet crossing my cutting board and my fingers are safer for it.

Speaking of Ergonomic, Martelli has become a big name. I jumped on board and ordered one when I decided to write about cutters. At first, I didn't know how to expose the blade but I found out rolling it on my mat worked. Closing was another issue for me as it required looking for the clip and flicking it carefully closed between cuts. It also built-up dust by the blade which I had to regularly clean with a q-tip. That being said, it was very easy on my arthritic hands, less tiring when I had to do a lot of repetitive cutting, but I continually left the blade open. Bad girl.

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Tool Talk continued...

Blades. Blades come in four sizes: 15mm, 28mm, 45mm, and 60mm. They can be tungsten, diamond coated and stainless steel. They come in straight, wavy and pinked edges. And although each rotary cutter company makes blades go with its own cutter, you can also mix and match. Yes, tungsten last longer but my blades rarely get dull before they get nicked, so I buy Hadley's' less expensive blades and change them more often. I always write the date in permanent marker on the blade to keep track of my newest blades.

The 45mm is the one I use most often. It's an industry standard for cutting out quilt pieces. It will easily cut four to six layers with little effort. It fits nicely into any of the Stripology rulers. It also cuts free form curves and makes fast work of clothing patterns. Olfa also makes pinking, scalloped, and wave rotary blades.

The 28mm is my travel cutter and will easily fit in my bag. It also sits next to my sewing machine for nipping off those tiny ears on half square triangles.

The 60mm is useful for cutting many layers – some manufacturers say they will cut twelve layers. I miss-cut things often enough that I hesitate to make that many mistakes with one cut.

I love the little 15mm blade for cutting out small applique pieces but rarely use it with a ruler.

We all have our favorites and, in the end, no matter what the pundits say, the best rotary cutter is the one that works best for you!



Savannah Quilt Guild News

Community Outreach - Brighten the world of a sick child

Jan Howard, sunfish2@att.net Debbie Whiteway, wahoo@gmail.com
Francis Stockton, francis.stockton@att.net



Memorial NICU is always in need of hats/caps for the babies. The very small preemies cannot wear them, but as they grow and the larger children in there do use them. They may be used in the ISN, Intermediate Special Care Nursery, also.

I delivered 13 nursing covers, 49 caps, 82 hearts, and 1 blanket to Memorial Hospital this month. As always, thank you to all that continue to make these. You are truly devoted contributors! Jan

**Project
Linus**

Savannah, GA /
Hilton Head, SC Chapter

Project Linus is a non-profit organization that provides handmade blankets to children ages 0-18 in the U.S. who are seriously ill, traumatized or in need. The Project Linus website offers patterns, links, information about volunteering and donating, and how to join a monthly Zoom meeting.

Questions? Email elliegrix@gmail.com

If you would like to get participate, you may contact Ellie Grix, who is the local chapter coordinator. Ellie is a member of the guild and is at most meetings, or can be reached at

(573) 631-2571.

Everyone Loves the Take-It Table!

Do you have an over abundance of sewing/crafting supplies? Are you down-sizing, clearing the clutter, or making room for new items? Bring your unwanted items (crafting/sewing **only**, please) to put on the Take It Table. Your item might be someone's treasure! **At the end of the meeting please reclaim any of your items that remain on the table.**

Savannah Quilt Guild News

Meeting Minutes



Meeting Minutes for October : [Click here to view](#)

Treasurer's Report

Jan Howard, treasurer@savannahquiltguild.com

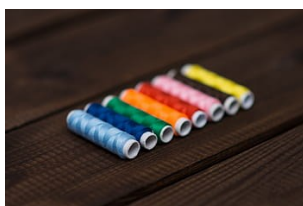


Full Treasurer's Report: [Click here to view](#)

Guild Operating Fund

Beginning balance	5,165.25
New Members 4 @ \$15	60.00
Fabric donations	10.00
Service Charge	(2.35)
Lanette Edens gas to GA National Fair	(100.00)
Donation from fabric sale	350.00
Balance on hand 10/20/2024	5,482.90

Note: If you are making payments using Venmo, our name for Venmo payments is sqgpay@savannahquiltguild.com. The treasurer's name (Jan Howard) may show up during the transaction but rest assured that the money goes directly to the guild bank account.



SQG Website News

If anyone has issues logging on to the website, please contact
Theresa Sapp at theresasapp@aol.com
We hope you enjoy exploring your website!



Officers and Committee Chairs - January through December 2024

President - Kim Hayes

Sewcial - Cindy Ochoa

Vice President - Peggy Caldwell

Retreat - Lanette Edens

Secretary - Joanne Simpson

Newsletter - Joanne Simpson

Treasurer - Jan Howard

Website - Theresa Sapp &

Renee Christensen

Membership - Lisa Sims-Stevens

Friday Bee - Renee Christensen

Classes - Judy Walker & Mary Bell Fuller

Community Outreach

- Nursing Covers - Jan Howard

Workshops- Cheryl Dingleline

Community Outreach

- Pillowcases - Debbie Whiteway

Sunshine Chairman - Bonnie Manley

Frances Stockton

To contact Officers and Committee Chairs

Click here



[Contact Us](#)

The deadline for the Newsletter is the 21st of the month.

Please email your info to: Wertser44701124@comcast.net (Joanne Simpson)