

July 2025

# Savannah Quilt Guild News

## President's Column

Michael Sengstack

[president@savannahquiltguild.com](mailto:president@savannahquiltguild.com)

Dear Savannah Quilt Members,

Was anyone else *dangerously* inspired by Emily Robertson Hood's June program on Quilted Clothing? If you saw me scribbling frantic notes and quietly muttering "surely I can fit one more project in," you were not mistaken. Who is ready to take a UFO from the closet and turn it from forgotten to fabulous! If you're tempted, check the website to see whether spots remain in Emily's **Quilted Vest workshop this September**.

At our **July meeting** I'll be unveiling this year's **President's Challenge: Savannah Squares**. You'll hear all the delightful **details** then, but you'll be stitching toward a special **Show & Tell in November**, so prepare to capture your slice of Savannah in a manageable sixteen inches!

July also brings our annual **Picnic Celebration**, and Cheryl Dingle's team is whisking us off to the beach—surf, sand, and a splash of boardwalk fun. Remember to bring the **pot-luck dish you signed up to provide** and your jelly-roll strips: we'll be playing Left, Right & Center, swapping strips and laughs in equal measure. It's the perfect chance to relax, connect, and enjoy.

See you at the meeting—it's "shore" to be fun!

### Binding Us Together,

Michael Sengstack

President, Savannah Quilt Guild



Join us for our next meeting:

July 12th, 2025

**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



Bonnie Reddick	July 3rd
Peggy Caldwell	July 6th
Sharon Boatright	July 7th
Renee Christensen	July 7th
Grace Prazak	July 7th
Cat Allard	July 11th
Rosemary Schuster	July 14th
Janie Brodhead	July 15th
Lisa Sims-Stevens	July 17th
Betty Duval	July 20th
Carolyn Ingram	July 21st
Carol Richards	July 23rd
Regina Harris	July 27th
Cheryl St. Germain	July 28th
Audrey Andrews	July 30th

## Programs and Upcoming Events

### Greetings!

Happy summer my quilty friends! I wish I could be here to enjoy the food and games at our fun beach themed July meeting, but I will be 1000 miles away visiting family. I'm sure the food will be delicious! Don't forget to bring that yummy item you signed up for.

August we will hear from our guest speaker Vicki McCarty of Calico Patch Designs. Vicky will teach a wool applique class on Friday before the meeting, so I look forward to hearing her expert views.

**HOT TIP!!** Don't want to miss a meeting or event? You can visit the Guild's calendar and add individual events directly to your own calendar by scanning the QR code below. Never miss a Bee, Meeting, or workshop again. Yay!

Enjoy the summer,

Jennifer Farago



## After Meeting Workshops and Sew-Ons

Teri Duncan, Mitzi Crow, work-  
shops@savannahquiltguild.com



Contact Terry Duncan

210-863-1126

with any questions or information about the up-coming quilted vest class.

## How Artificial Intelligence (AI) Can Help You Explore New Ideas In Quilting

Terry Duncan

What is AI in 2025? The definition of AI is machine learning. The idea is that AI is learning new things and will eventually be able to create unique ideas.

In 2025, AI is collecting information from the internet and makes some connections but isn't creating new ideas or products. At this point, AI is a perfect tool for people who know things. What I mean is, if you understand the topic, you can ask AI specific questions, and it can provide information in an easy way to read.

The two AI programs I have tried are ChatGPT and Google Gemini. They are pretty simple and easy to use. You can use these programs with limitations without registering. Both programs are free. There are upgrades, of course that would cost money.

### How Can We Use This In Quilting?

I asked ChatGPT:

"I want to make a quilt that has churn dash, and nine patch blocks using tone on tone yellow, solid purple and a sunflower print."

ChatGPT said:

That sounds like a beautiful and cheerful quilt! Here's a layout and color suggestion for your quilt using Churn Dash and Nine Patch blocks with:

Tone-on-tone yellow

Solid purple

Sunflower print (as a focal or accent)

### Design Concept:

A balanced and lively layout using alternating block types and a color strategy to highlight the sunflower print without overwhelming the design.

Suggested Layout:

Alternating rows of Churn Dash and Nine Patch blocks

Quilt size: Lap quilt or throw (e.g., 54" x 72")

Block size: 12" finished blocks (for easy math and visual impact)

Total blocks: 30 (5 blocks wide x 6 blocks tall)

### Color Placement Ideas:

Churn Dash Block:

Background: Tone-on-tone yellow

Dash (outer frame): Solid purple

Center square: Sunflower print

This makes the sunflower print stand out in the center and pairs beautifully with the purple frame.

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## **Nine Patch Block:**

Use a checkerboard layout:

Corners and center: Sunflower print

Other squares: Solid purple or tone-on-tone yellow (alternating)

This keeps the theme unified and draws attention throughout the quilt without repeating any single fabric too much.

## **Optional Extras:**

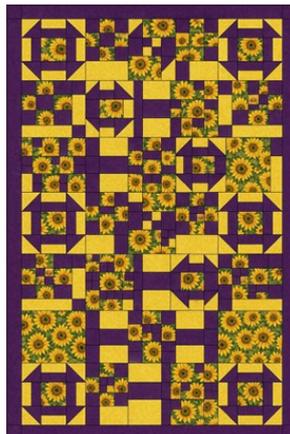
Sashing: Solid purple or sunflower print sashing (2" wide) to separate blocks and let them stand out.

Borders:

Inner border: Tone-on-tone yellow (1.5"-2")

Outer border: Sunflower print (4"-6" wide)

Would you like a visual sketch of this quilt layout or help calculating fabric yardage based on this plan?



As you can see, even though the sketch isn't perfect, it does help to visualize. It help you in determining exact yardage and how to cut each of the blocks.

I found it fun to use and was fascinated with the choices it came up with.

Give it a try!

## Sewcial

Our team is planning a fun filled, beach themed July Luncheon. There will be games (Bring 6 beachy 2 1/2" fabric strips) and gifts, as well as our usual awesome Show and Tell. The cost is \$5 and a side dish. Sign up (and pay) at the front table! If you have questions contact ME...the director of frivolity - **Cheryl Dingledine!**



### Upcoming Classes- Nationally Known Teachers

[classes@savannahquiltguild.com](mailto:classes@savannahquiltguild.com) Theresa Sapp, Mary Bell Fuller, Cindy Ochoa



### National Class for 2025

**Class Update: SIGN UP ALERT!!!**

Vicki McCarty of Calico Patch Designs will be our instructor on August 8, 2025. She will be teaching a wool embroidery class featuring the gingerbread house pictured here. The cost of the class is \$70 plus a very reasonable kit fee. **WE ONLY HAVE A FEW SPOTS LEFT!!** See Cindy Ochoa at our July meeting to add your name to the list for this fun class.

**Theresa Sapp**  
theresapp@aol.com  
912 656-3605

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

**Cindy Ochoa**  
obleo31313@yahoo.com  
912-222-8728

## BOM

### Wonky Windmill

Click here for link: [BOM](#)



## 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](mailto:rip-pinrenee@gmail.com) to join in the fun!

### ◆ 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](mailto:mbcromartie@gmail.com) or 912-604-7781

### ◆ Handwork Bee

The Appliqué Bee is now the Handwork Bee. At our July meeting we will have a wool applique tin needle case workshop. Bring your lunch and stay all day or stop in for a few hours.

Center Parc Credit Union Community Room  
5698-A Ogeechee Rd Savannah  
Tuesday, July 22nd 10-3

Judy Lindsey  
[judithalindsey@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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:

## Quilting History

Cindy Wallace, contributor

Patriotic quilts are a significant part of quilt history since they can serve as expressions of devotion to one's country. In celebrated events like the U.S. Bicentennial groups of quilters made friendship and album quilts with patriotic themes and red, white and blue color schemes. The 4th of July is, of course, always a very popular American theme as are the various quilts whose topic is political commentary such as the many quilts made after 9/11. Americans have used their needlework skills to showcase their views on slavery, civil rights, terrorism and various wars beginning with the Revolutionary War. We see quilt block names like Whig Rose (an applique pattern whose name was chosen because "Whig" was a widely recognized label during the American Revolution for people opposed to autocratic rule), Yankee Puzzle (often used to symbolize unity and resilience) and many versions of the American flag. Popular motifs like American eagles and the Great Seal were/are often made to raise funds for soldiers - during the Civil War these funds even helped pay to produce gunboats (see Barbara Brackman's 2014 blog post). Sometimes existing patterns such as Jacob's Ladder were renamed for patterns like the Underground Railroad during the Civil War (think freedom quilts.) A large variety of star block patterns done in red, white and blue have been very popular throughout history as well. Today, makers are still producing patriotic quilts in honor of veterans and service members with organizations like the Quilts of Valor Foundation. These quilts offer remembrance, comfort and healing to those who have served our country.

Quilts were also part of causes like the women's suffrage movement. Did you know that Susan B. Anthony (whose father was a cotton manufacturer), a leader in the suffrage movement and the person behind the 19th Amendment, was a skilled quilter even as a young girl? In 1835 at the age of 15, Anthony completed a hand-stitched quilt that still exists, but is currently stored in a museum in Rochester, N.Y., because it is too fragile for public viewing. As a leader of the suffrage movement, she sometimes used quilting bee quilters as her audience for speeches on the movement. Did you know she was arrested, found guilty at her trial but refused to pay the \$100 fine?

Jumping across the pond, I would be remiss not to mention the fascinating exhibition of quilts made by military men from their army or navy uniforms. They were made by "soldiers, sailors and regimental tailors using richly dyed, felted wools – the military fabrics of the past three-hundred years. The reveal service in the Prussian, Napoleonic, and Crimean wars, and in British India. Of special relevance are the Australian quilts from WW I and II, including those made by prisoners of war." These were presented as the War Quilts of the Annette Gero Collection from 15 March to 15 June 2025 and when you Google Annette Gero Collection you can see the collection online. The "intarsia" sample below (from this collection) is not a pieced or appliqued quilt but is an inlaid technique (see Barbara Brackman's Material Culture).

# Savannah Quilt Guild News

Quilting History continued....

Once I started investigating this topic, I realized the immense array of military symbols and insignia that have been stitched lovingly into so many quilts. Patriotic motif quilt donations are such a worthy endeavor and do so much to say, “thank you for your service”, Quilts of Honor and Quilts of Valor being the organizations of choice for so many patriotic themed quilts. Maybe your next quilt will be a red, white, and blue one!

Wishing everyone a great 4th of July, Cindy Wallace

Selected Sources:

[barbarabrackman.blogspot.com](http://barbarabrackman.blogspot.com)

Book: Quilts from the Civil War by Barbara Brackman

Book: Civil War Women by “Barbara Brackman

[susanb.org](http://susanb.org)

[www.cairnsartgallery.com.au/whats-on/exhibitions/war-quilts](http://www.cairnsartgallery.com.au/whats-on/exhibitions/war-quilts)

The Quilt Index (a wonderful online resource of almost 98,000 quilts whose National Endowment for the Humanities grant was terminated April 2, 2025 by DOGE)

Dr Gero’s catalogue, Wartime Quilts: Appliqués and Geometric Masterpieces from Military Fabrics.



Whig Rose Quilt

International Quilt Museum, attribute to  
Del Patterson



Intarsia Quilt made by an unknown British soldier

Circa 1800

Wool felt and applique

## New Members

By Deb Brown

Please welcome our new members who joined the guild in May, 2025: Cecile Oberle, Donna Stankiewicz, Angela Prescott and Gloria Davis. Read more about Angela, Gloria , Cecile and Poppy Richards who joined February 2025.

Angela Prescott is originally from CedarTown, Georgia but moved to Savannah in 2011 in search of medical care for her son. Angela is a military veteran who retired from working in the childcare industry as a Pre-K teacher and in the nursery with the infants. Angela's quilting journey began in 2012 when she took a class from Sabrina Wright at the Woodville Community Center. Her first quilt was a log cabin quilt that currently adorns her queen size bed. Although she sewed off and on, her productivity skyrocketed in the last 3 years, making more than 15 quilts. She gives her quilts away, mostly to family members. "I enjoy seeing the smiles and their reactions when they receive one of my quilts." As a breast cancer survivor, Angela discreetly places a pink patch in all of her quilts. Angela considers herself to be a scrappy quilter. She just finished a quilt made from a layer cake(10 inch squares) in beautiful batik fabrics that she plans to keep for herself. Although Angela has a spare bedroom dedicated to her creative crafts, you can find her quilting in community centers like Woodville, Hudson Hill and Lake Mayer. Angela also enjoys yarn crafts like knitting and crocheting. Her fabric stash consists of lots of batiks and African prints. She admits that she has more yarn than fabric. That will surely change as she has been ordering more fabric from Missouri Star. Angela's current project is a scrappy string quilt and her goal is to make more intricate quilts that will make her think.



Angela

## Savannah Quilt Guild News

### New Members cont.

Gloria Davis was born and raised in Savannah, Georgia. She is currently employed as a Department Manager for the Kroger Corporation at the Wilmington Island store. She has been with the company for over 42 years. Gloria started quilting over 30 years ago when she made a quilt for her 1st grandson using the Ohio Star Pattern. Then she started taking quilting classes at the Wesley Community Center. She fondly remembers the class on making crazy quilts. Since then, she has made over 45 quilts, giving them to family and friends on special occasions. Gloria has proudly exhibited her quilts in the Wesley Community Center, as well as the Beach Institute Quilt Shows. Gloria has several sewing machines including a Singer, Kenmore, and 2 Brother sewing machines. She describes her fabric stash as "Abundant" having lots of fabric stored in her garage, as well as a storage unit filled with fabric. Her favorite aspect of quilting is seeing the finished project. "I have lots of unfinished projects but I don't want to discuss that.... they will be waiting for me when I retire soon." Although Gloria loves quilting, she is multi-talented: making T-shirts using the Silhouette die cutting machine, making baby bibs and personalized diaper bags, knitting and crocheting. Her goal is to make a quilt for all 10 grandchildren.

Poppy Richards is from south east Michigan but came to Savannah in 2021. When she and her husband visited Savannah for their 1st wedding anniversary, they became enamored with the city and came every year until they finally moved here. Poppy currently works for the Jewish Education Alliance (JEA) as a part-time receptionist. When she is not working, she is a "stay-at-home dog and cat mom". Poppy was introduced to quilting in 2016 by her mother-in-law, Carol Richards, giving her something to do while she recuperated from a medical condition. "It's all Carol's fault!" Poppy's first quilt was a jelly roll race quilt. It was so well loved by her dog who chewed the corner that it had to be repaired. Poppy considers herself to be a modern quilter and has made more than 20 quilts since the beginning of her journey. She is so proud of a king size quilt she made for her mother using the modern half log cabin. Poppy has a dedicated sewing room with several sewing machines, a serger and an "overwhelming" amount of fabric. Her favorite designer is Ruby Star Society and she enjoys buying charm packs (5 inch squares). Poppy's favorite aspect of quilting is "making something for the people she loves." Her goal is to enter one of her quilted creations into the Georgia National State Fair 2025.

# Savannah Quilt Guild News

New Members continued...

Cecile Oberle is originally from El Salvador but has been living in the United States for the last 48 years. She moved to Savannah 2 years ago from Virginia to be close to her son. Cecile worked as school secretary for 25 years and retired as a bookkeeper a few years ago. Her quilting journey began 20 years ago in Wisconsin when she took a quilting class. Although she has made over 25 small quilts and 10-12 large quilts, she still considers herself to be a beginner. Cecile enjoys making memory quilts using photographs. She gives her quilts away. To keep busy, Cecile makes pillowcases, blankets and burp clothes for children affiliated with the CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) organization. Cecile creatively used 5 inch scrappy squares to make curtains for her sewing room that is filled with brightly colored 100% cotton fabric. Cecile enjoys purchasing fabric from estate sales and Facebook marketplace. She has several sewing machines as well as a serger. Her goal is "to make something that is meaningful and pleasing to the eye."



Gloria



Poppy



Cecile

# Savannah Quilt Guild News

## Community Outreach - Brighten the world of a sick child

Jan Howard, [sunfish2@att.net](mailto:sunfish2@att.net) Debbie Whiteway, [wahoo@gmail.com](mailto:wahoo@gmail.com)  
Francis Stockton, [francis.stockton@att.net](mailto:francis.stockton@att.net)



Happy Summer! I hope you are enjoying the beautiful weather and finding some time to sew. Please bring your finished pillowcases to the guild meeting or to Lake Mayer and remember to drop your name in the jar for the drawing in June. Remember also, your name is entered every time you bring pillowcases, but only once no matter how many you bring that day. Please look for the members' post for the days that are made available to us at Lake Mayer. If you would like to learn more about making pillowcases, that is a wonderful place to learn. If you need to contact us or ask questions Frances is at 912-658-6507 or [frances.stockton@gmail.com](mailto:frances.stockton@gmail.com), and Debbie is at 804-513-9658 or [wahoodeb@gmail.com](mailto:wahoodeb@gmail.com). Thank you for all your support and beautiful pillowcases and fabric donations. Monetary donations or one-yard cuts of any children's fabric are gratefully accepted. Happy sewing, Debbie and Frances



## Project Linus

Savannah, GA /  
Hilton Head, SC Chapter

Project Linus is a non-profit organization that provides hand-made 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](mailto:elliegrix@gmail.com)

If you would like to participate, you may contact Ellie Grix, who is the local chapter coordinator. Ellie is a member of the guild and 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 downsizing, 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 June: [Click here to view](#)

## Treasurer's Report

Jan Howard, [treasurer@savannahquiltguild.com](mailto:treasurer@savannahquiltguild.com)



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

### Guild Operating Fund

Beginning balance	6,104.26
Dues for 2025	120.00
Service Charge	(3.24)
Luncheon	205.00
Donations	45.00
Sale of fabric for community service	1,793.00
Retreat refund for Velinda Burnsed	(105.00)

### Balance on hand 06/20/2025

8,159.02

**Note:** If you are making payments using Venmo, our name for Venmo payments is [sqgpay@savannahquiltguild.com](mailto:sqgpay@savannahquiltguild.com). The treasurer's name (Jan Howard) may show up during the transaction but

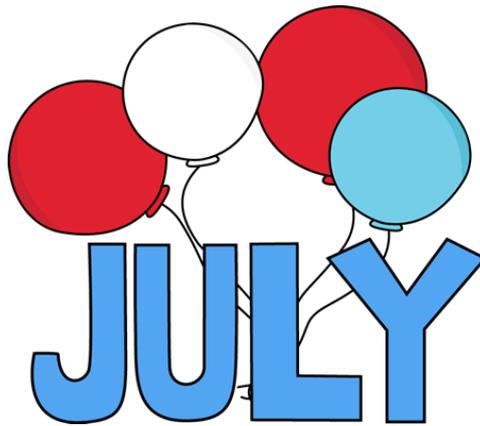
## Retreat News

Forty members have signed up for the 2026 Retreat and there are four on the waiting list. If you would like to add your name to the waiting list please see Lanette Edens at the July meeting.



### SQG Website News

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



## Officers and Committee Chairs - January through December 2025

President - Micheal Sengstack

Sewcial - Cindy Ochoa

Vice President - Jennifer Farago

Retreat - Lanette Edens

Secretary - Stephanie Murphy

Newsletter - Joanne Simpson

Treasurer - Jan Howard

Website - Theresa Sapp &

Renee Christensen

Membership - Lisa Sims-Stevens

Friday Bee - Renee Christensen

Classes - Cindy Ochoa, Theresa Sapp, Mary Bell Fuller

Community Outreach

- Caps/Blankets - Jan Howard

Workshops- Teri Duncan, Mitzi Crow

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 20th of the month.  
Please email your info to: [simpsonj536@gmail.com](mailto:simpsonj536@gmail.com) (Joanne Simpson)**