

December 2025

Savannah Quilt Guild News

President's Column

Michael Sengstack

president@savannahquiltguild.com

Dear Savannah Quilt Members,

As we wrap up another year together, I want to take a moment to say thank you—for your creativity, your generosity, and the warmth you bring to our Guild. It's been a wonderful year of inspiration, learning, and friendship, and I couldn't be prouder of all that we've accomplished together.

Our December Holiday Party is always one of my favorite events of the year, and I want to extend a huge thank you to Cheryl Dingledine and her incredible team for all the planning and preparation that goes into making it so special. I know it will be a day full of laughter, delicious food, and good company.

While I won't be at the meeting this month (I'll be chairing the Savannah Holiday Tour of Homes), please know I'll be celebrating with you in spirit!

As we head into the holiday season, I hope your handmade and heartfelt gifts are received with joy and gratitude. Whether you're finishing quilts, stitching ornaments, or crafting something special, I hope the process fills you with pride and peace.

Please join me in welcoming our incoming board members for 2026—Velinda Burnsed, Vice President, and Jennifer Mullins, Treasurer. I know they will bring great energy and ideas to the Guild in the year ahead.

And finally, thank you to everyone who participated in the President's Challenge: Savannah Squares. The creativity and stories shared through your blocks were truly inspiring—each one a unique and beautiful reflection of Savannah through your eyes.

Wishing you a joyous holiday season filled with creativity, warmth, good food, and time spent with those you love. Here's to a bright, inspiring, and quilt-filled 2026!

With gratitude,
Michael Sengstack
President, Savannah Quilt Guild



Join us for our next meeting:

December 13th, 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



Rhonda King-Strickland	Dec 5th
Jean Alshire	Dec 7th
Charlotte Gerkin	Dec 8th
Patricia Anglin	Dec 9th
Heather Leavitt	Dec 19th
Jennifer Brown	Dec 22nd
Angela Prescott	Dec 27th

Programs and Upcoming Events

Dearest Quilty Friends,

As we close out the year, I want to share what a pleasure it was to be able to curate what I hope was an educational and inspirational year of guild meeting programs. From color theory to surface design, fabric designers and the ever-popular round robin, there's always something to spark a new project or way of creating. We might be ignited by the ideas and skills we were exposed to right away, or they might resonate and come out in a year or so, but they are there. We have learned and grown.

I look forward to seeing the fresh ideas our new VP Velinda will present in 2026!

While she's getting up to speed, in January we will have Lisa Sims-Stevens presenting on how to organize your sewing room, perfect timing with the new year! In February, Taura Horn will be presenting a trunk show and talking about her quilting journey.

I wish everyone a joyful holiday season.

Best,

Jennifer Farago, VP

After Meeting Workshops and Sew-Ons

Teri Duncan, Mitzi Crow, workshops@savannahquiltguild.com



Contact Terry Duncan

210-863-1126

with any questions or information

Savannah Quilt Guild News

Reminder!!



It is almost time to renew your membership.

Dues are \$35 for 2026.

Holiday Luncheon

Our luncheon in December will be catered by Olive Garden. If you haven't already done so, please contact Cheryl Dingleline or Theresa Sapp. The charge for guests will be \$20.

Snacks for Meetings-

Thank you to those who have been providing yummy snacks for our guild meetings. When the blue sign up sheet is passed around you have generously volunteered. We do have need of someone who would be willing to set up the refreshment table by 9:15 (set out napkins, cups, coffee maker, water pitcher, etc...). If you would be willing to assist please contact Theresa Sapp (theresasapp@aol.com).



BOM

Ornament Block

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 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 or 912-604-7781

◆ Handwork Bee

This month will be a sit and sew of your handwork project. Bring your lunch and stay all day or stop in for a few hours.

December 16th
10-3
Center Parc Credit Union community room
5698-A Ogeechee Rd Savannah

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 Epiphony Church on the corner of Waters and Washington across from Daffin Park. 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.

Tool Talk

By Cat Allard

Gifts for Quilters

Picture me and Snoopy sitting side by side on top of his doghouse. The caption is “Oh good grief! What kind of present can I give to my quilting friend?”

I googled gifts for quilters. That was several hours ago, and I can advise you to leave some sort of message with your husband, house mate, dog or cat, to come and get you if you miss more than two meals. There are gifts galore in all shapes and sizes and price ranges. There are a variety of places to shop! There are opinions from every website, teacher and author.

In a **VERY** small nutshell, here is what I found out:

The first and most popular gift for a quilter is a gift certificate to her local quilt shop. If you need a gift to give for a Secret Santa or a Christmas party you can pick out something at your local shop and if they have one, they can return it (unopened, etc.) for something else.

That said, if you are shopping online here are some suggestions that might help (she said hopefully!)

Amazon: If you are not a quilter or need a generic gift Amazon.com has t-shirts, jewelry, calendars, journals, mugs, and a variety of quilting tools every quilter uses such as scissors, mats, and rotary cutting blades, etc.

Fat Quarter Shop: Fat quarter bundles of course, but for those that have almost everything, they have an adorable pink mini (smaller than a tennis ball) vacuum to clean off those tiny fuzzies than cling to your cutting board. It's under \$10! You really must have one. They also have a teal faux leather travel kit. Barely 5 by 7 and just 2 inches high it has two compartments for thread, small scissors, clips, embroidery floss and a pocket to stash a few hundred-dollar bills for emergency shopping! It is under \$15.00.

Savannah Quilt Guild News

Tool Talk continued....

Etsy: Etsy has some customizable items that will knock your socks off, including socks with sewing machines on them. They have personalized pre-cut quilters labels. There is a fancy Victorian-looking seam ripper with your (her or his) name engraved on it. Also personalized cherry wood clappers, personalized door signs for your sewing room and personalized sewing machine ornaments for your Christmas Tree or Hanukkah bush. They have novelty dice you can roll to decide what you will do with your day with sides that say things like “buy fabric” or “finish a UFO” and a candle whose scent is “the calming scent of a finished quilt.” Deb is the only one I can imagine lighting it on a regular basis, but we can always hope.

There are quilting retreats and courses, and quilt shows to be funded. Fabric to be chosen and tools to be wrapped and given but it’s the intangible items that are often the best; taking over a chore so that the quilter has more time to quilt, showing excitement over a quilt that took many hours and was sewn with love.

It’s the season for giving so give of yourself. Help finish that binding for your friend’s grandbaby quilt. Make quilts for friends and neighbors that need a warm hug from a quilt that says, “I value you.” Donate to the Linus Project or a Local Shelter. Giving makes the giver, and the receiver, feel good! And don’t forget to slow down enough to enjoy the season however you celebrate it.

Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, Joyful Kwanzaa!

Love, Cat

PS... It cost me \$168.00 to write this article. I can’t wait till the little pink vacuum arrives.



Savannah Quilt Guild News

New Members

By Deb Brown

We are so excited to have four new members join the guild in October 2025: Angela Grosse, Allison Peusch, Alfreda Brinson and Linda Rodden. Keep reading and you will get to know Alfreda and Linda.

Alfreda Brinson was born in Charleston, SC and moved to Savannah when her parents relocated to here as a child. She is a retired elementary school educator who taught special needs children with learning disabilities at Bartow Elementary School in Savannah. Alfreda took garment making classes at Savannah Tech many years ago. Her interest in quilting sparked when she joined the Eastside Golden Age Center after retirement. Her first quilt was a blue and white 9 patch quilt that was pieced by hand and tied with yarn. When her friend came to visit from California, she saw the quilt, fell in love with it and took it home. Since then, Alfreda has made 4 other quilts that include the "Underground Railroad" quilt which remains unfinished. Alfreda is very proud of the quilt she made for her granddaughter. She gives all of her quilts away to family and friends. Alfreda considers herself to be a beginner traditional quilter who also enjoys modern work. You can find her sewing at the Pennsylvania Avenue Resource Center. She does own a Brother sewing machine that "needs love". She describes her fabric stash as "a little bit of this and that". She enjoys buying fabric whenever she is traveling and shopping. Alfreda's current project is making an "Atlanta Falcon" quilt for her daughter, who is a huge fan. Her quilting goal is to make quilts for all 7 grandchildren. Alfreda also does food craft projects with the children at her church.



Savannah Quilt Guild News

New Members con't.

Linda Rodden is from New York. She spent the winters in North Carolina for 7 years before moving further south to Townsend, GA earlier this year. Linda retired from the IBM corporation and had multiple jobs there, from administration work to trouble shooting machines. Although Linda has always admired quilts and wanted to make them, her passion for quilting didn't start until she retired. While in North Carolina, she was a member of the Twin Rivers Quilt Guild and found the Savannah Quilt Guild while searching the internet. She admits that her "quilting addiction" began immediately after she took her first basic quilting class eight years ago. Since then, she has made many baby quilts, a few table runners and two large queen size quilts. Linda enjoys giving her quilts away to family, friends and Project Linus. Linda is planning to tackle a 1940's vintage quilt that was made by her mother in law when she was young. When she took it apart from the backing, she found out that the batting was made from old t-shirts and skirts. Linda was fortunate enough to secure a spare bedroom as her very own craft room in their newly built home. She has 3 sewing machines: a Janome M-7, a Viking Sapphire and a small Janome sewing machine used for travel. Seeing fabric buying as a "hobby as well as an addiction", Linda has lots of fabric stored in 3 huge bins. She loves Moda fabric, especially Grunge fabric. Linda considers herself to be an eclectic quilter - "I like odd things." Her favorite aspect of quilting is putting the pieces together and seeing it take shape. She enjoys cutting fabric the least. Linda is currently working on two projects: a clover leaf quilt for her granddaughter and a quilt for her husband, made with a crab pattern. Her quilting goal is to finish her grandson's quilt and be able to donate full size bed quilts.



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



We are always so proud and grateful when we deliver large bags of colorful and beautifully made pillowcases to the Willet's Children's Hospital at Memorial. We are proud of your creations, and grateful for your support of this project to brighten some scary days. We are also grateful for those who help with washing and ironing to prepare the pillowcases for delivery.

Many of you are buying and coordinating two or three fabrics to make cases with contrasting colors and the results are beautiful. You have noticed that we are offering the option of making a pillowcase from a single yard of fabric without a contrasting cuff. There are several reasons for this. First, it reduces fabric waste when fabrics on hand do not match. Second, it improves the efficiency of cutting and stretching our budget as far as possible. And thirdly, it offers an easier option for new members. Please let us know what you think. You always have the choice to combine our fabrics with yours to make two pillowcases, or to use creative decorative stitches on the single yard cuts. We wish you love-filled holidays and lots of time to sew.

Debbie Whiteway, wahoodeb@gmail.com

Frances Stockton, frances.stockton@gmail.com

Jan Howard delivered 8 caps and 2 blankets to Memorial Hospital this month...thanks to the makers!!



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 elliegrrix@gmail.com

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	5,146.52
Dues for 2025	60.00
Dues for 2026	35.00
Service Charge	(.40)
Bluehost	(37.19)

Balance on hand 11/20/2025 **5,203.93**

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.

To view the **proposed budget** for 2026 click Here: [2026 Budget Proposal](#)

Retreat News

Our March 19-22, 2026 retreat is full and Lanette is maintaining a waiting list.

Signups for the October 22-25, 2026 retreat began at our September meeting. There are 30 slots for this retreat. In order for this event to become a reality we still need around **15 more folks** to sign up. Contact Lanette Edens or sign up at our December 2025 meeting. We will keep you posted on the status of the second retreat.

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 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 (Joanne Simpson)**