

January 2026

Savannah Quilt Guild News

President's Column

Michael Sengstack

president@savannahquiltguild.com

Dear Savannah Quilt Members,

Happy New Year, everyone—and welcome to a fresh, creative year with the Savannah Quilt Guild!

January always feels full of possibility: new ideas, new projects, and maybe even the courage to finally start (or finish!) something that's been waiting patiently in the wings. As we step into 2026 together, I'm excited about the opportunities ahead and grateful for the community we continue to build stitch by stitch.

A quick reminder that annual dues are now \$35.00 and are payable in January. Your membership supports our programs, workshops, community outreach, and all the ways we connect and learn together throughout the year. Thank you for helping keep our Guild strong and vibrant.

I'd also like to welcome our new board members—Velinda Burnsed, Vice President, and Jenny Mullins, Treasurer. We're so glad to have you stepping into these roles and look forward to the energy and ideas you'll bring to the year ahead.

At the same time, please join me in offering heartfelt thanks to our outgoing leaders. Jennifer Farago, thank you for your leadership and the thoughtful programming that supported our learning and growth. And Jan Howard, we are deeply grateful for your many years of service as Treasurer and for the steady care and commitment you've given to the Guild.

As we move into this new year, know that the Board remains committed to supporting your creative journey—through learning opportunities, shared inspiration, and the sense of community that makes this Guild such a special place. May 2026 be filled with curiosity, color, connection, and creativity.

Here's to a year of making, sharing, and growing—together.

Binding Us Together,
Michael Sengstack
President, Savannah Quilt Guild



Join us for our next meeting:

January 10th, 2026

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



Cindy Wallace	Jan 5th	Gerry Lipthratt	Jan 11th
Karen Sachs	Jan 7th	Denise Coakley	Jan 19th
Marjorie Misek	Jan 9th	Joanne Simpson	Jan 19th
Era Hall	Jan 11th	Maria Quarterman	Jan 25th
Lisa Keal	Jan 11th	Christopher Fuente	Jan 27th
Jennifer Leisgong	Jan 11th	Diane Warren	Jan 30th

Programs and Upcoming Events Jennifer Farago, Vice President

Greetings quilty friends!

Although the calendar says we just got into winter, it's never too early to start planning your spring cleaning. Are you ready to organize your sewing space? At January's meeting, Lisa Sims- Stevens will be doing a program on how to organize your sewing area. I'm sure we could all use some tips! And as you're doing your cleaning, consider setting aside some items for another quilt guild yard sale coming up later this year. I know I'm going to make room for new goodies.

Happy New Year!

Jennifer Farago & Velinda Burnsed



After Meeting Workshops and Sew-Ons



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

February Workshop

Layer Cake Fun! – Learn an easy technique for making multiple blocks with different shapes. This is a creative technique that is great for beginners but still offers a beautiful result for the more advanced quilter. Bring your sewing machine, small cutting mat & rotary cutter, and ruler. (If you happen to have a 10" or 10.5" square ruler that would be handy too!) You will need a layer cake and a matching number of 10" squares of a single contrasting color (example: solid black, white or a blender). Lanette will show you all the ways you can use the beautiful unique fabrics in the layer. Workshop fee:\$20 Sign up at the January meeting.

Contact Terry Duncan for questions: 210-863-1126 or terryduncan53@gmail.com.

Savannah Quilt Guild News

Reminder!!

It is time new your membership.

Dues are \$35 for 2026.



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

Pick a Block

A screenshot of a website titled "QUILT BLOCKS GALORE!!". The page has a dark green background. At the top, it says "Number 60...the Next 24 yr 2006/2009 Patterns by Marcia Hohn" and includes a note: "{(Now Playing: 'Castles' with permission from Bruce DeBoer)}". Below this, it says "Click on each block's picture to get to its full pattern! :o)". There are six small images of quilt blocks arranged in two rows. The first row shows "Friend's Star -Original", "Spinout - Original", and "Nine Patch Plaid". The second row shows three more block patterns. On the left side of the page, there is a vertical strip of images showing various fruits like apples and pumpkins.

Go to www.quilterscache.com

At the bottom of the page click on *Quilt Blocks Galore*

Pick the block of your choice!

Finished size 12 inches

Color choices for winter quilting.... cool blues, aquas, whites, silvers and grays

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.

January 20th
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

New Years Resolutions

As I write this, it's almost Christmas. I have spent the last few weeks rushing to finish all those things that I promised myself would be finished by now in my last New Year's resolutions. Who was I kidding?!

My non-quilting (crafting, knitting, crocheting) friends are having lunch together, shopping together, visiting Christmas and Hanukkah events, drinking eggnog by the fire... you get it. They are enjoying the season. Meanwhile, I'm rushing around pretending that it all can be done "in time."

Time is the most precious gift we have. Instead of spending it alone in our sewing room making quilts (as good as that sounds) giving your time in other ways can be a gift to the people you love and yourself as well. If you can't get that "gift" done – give the gift of yourself on a phone call or a lunch. Give time to say I value you. I appreciate you. I love you.

I'm not suggesting that we give up making quilts for Christmas. Heaven forbid. But if it didn't get done, I give you permission to put it on next year's to-do list. You can still finish those gifts and send them in March or July and everyone will be impressed with how early you are getting things done! I won't tell them if you don't!

A note on New Year's resolutions: Baylor College of Medicine reports that 88% of people that set New Year's resolutions fail before the end of January. Fortune Magazine reports that some call the second Friday in January "Quitters Day" because that's when most people give up their resolutions.

Savannah Quilt Guild News

Tool Talk continued...

I'd like to suggest some quilters' resolutions for 2026 that I think might be obtainable.

1. First, take more naps.
2. Choose a UFO and think about finishing it. That will be a good distraction from vacuuming and laundry.
3. Sort through some of your tools. If you start with your scissors, you can put them in a pile and contemplate what each one is best for and you should decide to do a project that needs a scissor like that you can look for one in the pile.
4. Pet your dog or cat. Make tea or coffee. Have a cookie. Feed the birds. Sprinkle these activities throughout your day.
5. Organize your fabric. Take a pile to your closest horizontal table: your cutting table or ironing board perhaps. Go through the fabrics, admiring their beauty and putting the ones you like best on top. Then carefully replace the pile.
6. Call a friend, talk about organizing and plan a good day to have lunch together next week.

I could go on....

If you really want to get organized, try Karen Brown's yearly "Declutter your Sewing Room Challenge." It starts in January and it's on her Just Get It Done Quilts website. If you make it to Day 5 text me and tell me how you did it. I'll be under that fabric that fell off the top shelf in my sewing room on Day 4.

Happy Quilting! Go easy on yourself. You have a whole year to plan for the things you won't get finished in time next year!



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 33 caps and 6 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	5,203.93		
Dues for 2026	1960.00	Service charge	(2.00)
C. Dingleline lunch supplies	(164.14)	T. Sapp hospitality supplies	(41.51)
J. Howard luncheon supplies	(29.82)	Debit luncheon supplies	(16.44)
Olive Garden food/tip	(1,489.54)	Return of payment made twice	(285.00)
Lisa Sims-Stevens supplies	(17.10)	Jan Howard return of change	(25.00)
Balance of funds to account	20.00		

Balance on hand 11/20/2025 **5,115.38**

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.

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. Contact Lanette Edens or sign up at our January 2026 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 2026

President - Micheal Sengstack

Sewcial - Cindy Ochoa

Vice President - Velinda Burnsed

Retreat - Lanette Edens

Secretary - Stephanie Murphy

Newsletter - Joanne Simpson

Treasurer - Jenny Mullins

Website - Theresa Sapp &

Renee Christensen

Membership - Lisa Sims-Stevens

Friday Bee - Renee Christensen

Classes - Cindy Ochoa, Theresa Sapp

Community Outreach

- Caps/Blankets - Jan Howard

Workshops- Terry 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)**