

May 2026

Savannah Quilt Guild News

President's Column

Michael Sengstack

president@savannahquiltguild.com

Dear Savannah Quilt Guild Members,

May always feels like a fresh start—longer days, new energy, and a perfect time to reset our creative spaces.

This month, I'm excited to introduce more of our President's Challenge: "Space to Create." The idea is simple: create a space that makes you want to sit down and make something. Whether it's a full studio or a small corner, it should invite you in and support your creativity.

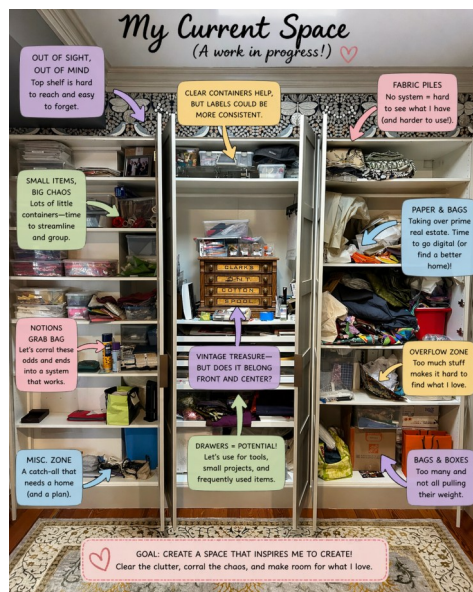
To get things started, I've taken the plunge and shared a photo of my own space below—real life, in its current state and all! I invite you to do the same. Consider posting a photo of your space on our Savannah Quilt Guild Facebook page—it's a private group and a great way for us to inspire each other with how we each create, organize, and work.

And if you're looking to make a little room, our Guild Yard Sale in June is the perfect opportunity to clear out what you no longer need. Pass along those items and maybe find a new treasure—or a little extra cash—to support your next creative idea.

May also brings Mother's Day, a time to appreciate the makers, teachers, and creative influences in our lives—the ones who taught us, inspired us, and continue to shape our creative journeys.

I'm looking forward to seeing your spaces—and what they inspire you to create.

**Binding Us Together,
Michael Sengstack
President,
Savannah Quilt Guild**



Join us for our next meeting:

May 9th, 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



Brenda Dyer	May 8th	Janel Vavrenyuk	May 22nd
Joyce Wooldridge	May 9th	Margaret Proctor	May 23rd
Naomi Richardson	May 11th	Kathy Deguara	May 24th
Mary Bass	May 15th	Kathleen Mulligan-Brown	
Taura Horn	May 16th		May 24th
Rosie Timms	May 22nd		

Programs and Upcoming Events

The May meeting features Brenda Dyer and we are preparing for the Yard Sale in June.

Velinda Burnsed

Fun With Free Motion Quilting Class

Have you ever wanted to learn more about free motion quilting using your domestic sewing machine? Maybe you want to quilt your own projects? Or maybe you just want to enjoy a fun afternoon learning a new skill with friends. Please join us on August 8th for this exciting learning opportunity! The Class will begin after our Guild Meeting and a short break for lunch.

In this class you will learn how to set your machine up for successful free motion quilting. You will practice the five basic shapes in a relaxing, sew at your own pace environment. All you need is your sewing machine, a few quilt sandwiches and a spirit of adventure!! The cost is only \$25!!! Sign up at the May Meeting. A supply List will be provided.

See Theresa Sapp or Cindy Ochoa for further information.

After Meeting Workshops and Sew-Ons



Terry Duncan, Mitzi Crow, workshops@savannahquiltguild.com

Mary Bass will be teaching a patchwork roll-up bag this month. It is not too late to join!!

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

Brenda Dyer, Certified Quiltworx/Judy Niemeyer Instructor

The May meeting will feature Brenda and foundation paper piecing.

Read on to find out more...

Brenda has lived a life full of creativity and many avenues of handcrafts. She enjoys sewing, quilting, and embroidery and loves teaching these crafts to others. She has taught both children and adults how to sew and quilt, quilted for others, and even owned and managed a quilt shop. Being an owner of a longarm quilting machine, she has made and quilted several quilts that range anywhere from placemats and beautiful appliquéd wall hangings to amazing Judy Niemeyer quilts. She thoroughly enjoys teaching others the incredible art of quilting!! Her passion and love is to share and teach Judy's foundation paper piecing process and her amazing assembly techniques.



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****Yard Sale****

Our June Yard Sale is quickly approaching!!! I hope that you will be participating both as a seller and a buyer! This is a great opportunity to clear out what you no longer need/want and resupply your sewing space with new treasures. I am using cardboard boxes/lids from the Sams Club free discard bins to help corral my fabric. In order to plan the room setup accordingly please let Theresa Sapp know how much space you will need.

Snacks for Meetings-

Thank you to the following people who have signed up to provide snacks for our next meeting. We appreciate your willingness to share with the group!

Margaret Proctor, Camille Payne, Beverly Williams, Deb Brown, Machiell Futch, Vicki Watts and Janet O'Hara



BOM

Patriotic Pinwheel

Click here for the link: [Instructions](#)



New Members

By Deb Btown

Please join me in welcoming our two newest members, Denise Boatright and Lynnette Martin. Read on to take a glimpse into their lives.

Denise Boatright is a native of Savannah, Georgia and has lived here all of her life. She worked in the Clerical Department at the Chatham County Board of Education and retired from Memorial University Health System as an Analyst Assistant working with the Birth Certificates. Denise is a new beginner quilter who has made two quilts. Denise began her quilting journey at the Pennsylvania Avenue Resource Center (PARC) in 2025 after witnessing people sewing and having lots of laughter in the Art Room. She then took a sewing class at PARC making small crafts like the table runner, placemats and a pin cushion. Afterwards, she was inspired to create her first quilt—a vibrant string quilt for her niece who was enduring medical issues. "She was so happy when she got it and she loves it so much." Denise's second project was a Rail Fence Quilt made using various scraps and small pieces of gifted fabric under my guidance. It was a learning process but she successfully completed the entire quilt including the binding. Denise has a small but growing fabric stash that consists of small pieces of miscellaneous scraps that she stores in the trunk of her car. She doesn't have a dedicated sewing space at home so she uses the Art Room at PARC. Denise sews on a computerized Brother sewing machine that was given to her by her cousin when she discovered that Denise was learning to quilt. Denise's favorite aspect of quilting is putting the quilt together and seeing the final outcome. She is still working to master the quarter inch seam. Her current project is the Underground Railroad Quilt that is being taught in the sewing class at PARC. She is also working on the "Potato Chip" quilt using scraps. She was inspired to join our guild by Linda Nnamdi after viewing photos of our members' beautiful Show-N-Tell projects. Denise's quilting goal is to make a special quilt for each of her family members. Denise and her husband cherish an antique quilt made by his grandmother from rice bags.

Savannah Quilt Guild News

New Members con't...

Lynnette Martin is originally from Texas but has lived all along the east coast for many years. She moved to Savannah about a year ago when her husband found employment here and now they are close enough to visit their children more often. Lynnette considers herself to be a "Professional Mom" having raised six children. She has worked as a Medical Transcriptionist for a group of physicians but is currently employed by Chatham Orthopedics as a Business Office Specialist. Lynnette has always been crafty. She sewed outfits for her children and also did some smocking. Her grandmother was a prolific quilter and her mother quilted as well. About 25 years ago, Lynnette tried her hands at quilting and became completely hooked. She has come a long way from her first quilt that was a "Fan" pattern quilt kit given by her mother. "It was an appliqué project that had no instructions and the pieces did not fit together." She was so disgusted that she threw the entire project into the trash. Her second quilt was more successful, a scrap quilt for daughter's baby doll. For many years, Lynnette made custom memory quilts and T-shirt quilts for customers. Since then, she has made more than 75 quilts, mostly for family and friends. She considers herself to be a traditional quilter. Lynnette won a first place award when her mother entered one of her quilts in a quilt show in Cleveland, Tennessee that was sponsored by the local museum. Lynnette currently sews on her kitchen table using a Kenmore sewing machine given by her husband 32 years ago and has to move the sewing machine for meals and family gatherings. She has an immense fabric stash filled with mostly Kaffe Fassett fabrics, her favorite designer. Her current project is a jelly roll quilt being made for her grandchild that was born in January. Lynnette's goal is to complete all five of her UFO's (unfinished objects). Lynnette's other hobby includes water painting. She also enjoys being outdoors. Lynnette found our quilt guild through an internet search as she wanted to make friends with like minded people.

We are so fortunate to have both of them join the guild.

Savannah Quilt Guild News



Denise Boatright

Lynnette Martin



Savannah Quilt Guild News

Georgia Bonesteel

By Mary Cromartie Bass

I first saw Georgia Bonesteel in the late seventies on her Public Television show “Lap Quilting with Georgia Bonesteel”. I was not a quilter at the time, having attempted making a quilt about a decade earlier quite unsuccessfully.

Years later I encountered Georgia’s work again at a show in Asheville, NC.

Georgia began quilting when she moved to New Orleans and joined the Cajun quilters guild. While in New Orleans, she made small evening bags in a crazy quilt pattern using men’s ties. She sold these in the French Quarter. Later, she moved to Western North Carolina, where her husband opened a hardware store and she took up quilting. She taught quilting classes and then in the late 70s she had her television show on North Carolina public television. You can watch the show on her YouTube channel.

I have enjoyed getting to know Georgia Bonesteel again recently. I hope you check out her YouTube channel or any of her many books on quilting.



Georgia Bonesteel

Two bags by Georgia Bonesteel on display at the Southern Highlands Craft Gallery in Asheville, North Carolina.



Retreat News



October 22-25, 2026, St. Christopher Camp, Johns Island, South Carolina

See Lanette Edens at our May Meeting to check your status, sign up and/or make a payment.

February 18-21, 2027, St. Christopher Camp, Johns Island, South Carolina

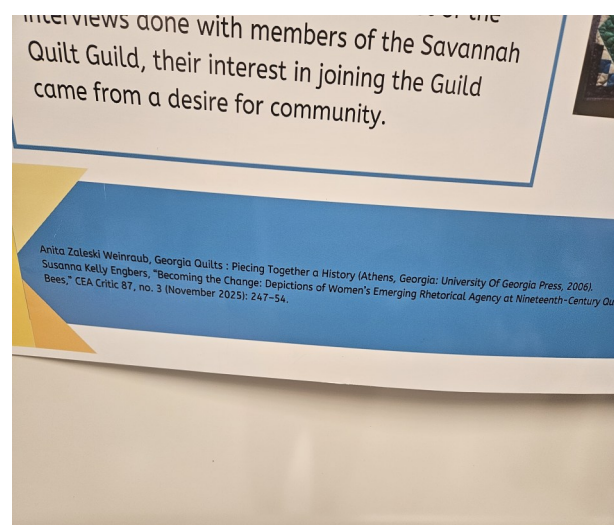
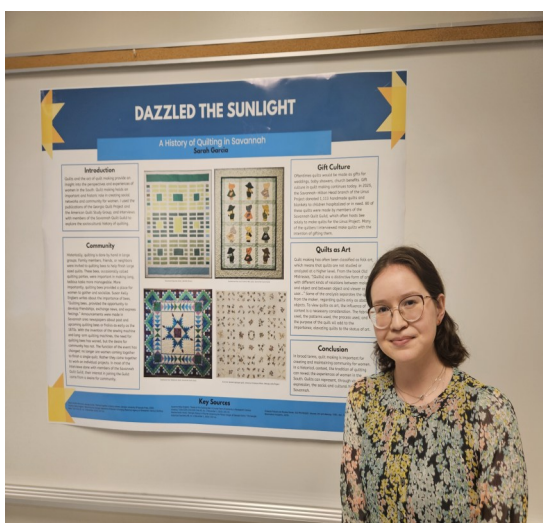
Save The Date!!!! Sign ups for this retreat will begin at the July 2026 Guild Meeting.

October 21-24, 2027, Hotel Tybee, Tybee Island, Georgia

This is a new location! Sign ups for the Fall, 2027 retreat will begin at the October 2026 Guild Meeting.

Quilt Research Project

This is Sarah Garcia with the quilt research project. Thank you again to everyone at the Guild for being so kind, welcoming, and generous with your time! I had a wonderful time working on this project and getting to attend meetings. The book at the bottom of the poster will be of interest to many Guild Members.



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.

May 26th
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.

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



I was listening to a podcast today about compassion and about the fact that we often feel that we are not doing enough, or are helpless to assist those who are in pain. The theme was to "do what we do" where we are, as a way to let others know that we are all in this life together. I related this to our pillowcase project, that our goal is to let families of sick children know that they are not alone. What we do is make pillowcases, or bear gowns, Linus quilts or baby caps, or gifts to show others that we care. I want to continue to thank you for doing what you do! I know you will continue to support the next coordinators of the pillowcase project with your creative skills and help.

Debbie Whiteway and Frances Stockton

**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 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 April: [Click here to view](#)

Treasurer's Report

Jenny Mullins, treasurer@savannahquiltguild.com



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

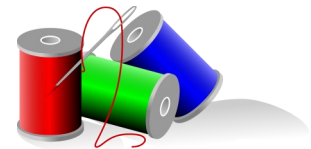
Guild Operating Fund

Beginning balance	5,188.71
Dues for 2026	340.00
Service Charge	(0.85)
Bank Service Charge	31.00
Microsoft 365 Renewal	(129.99)
Check R. Christensen Google Storage	(20.67)

Balance on hand 4/20/2026 **5377.20**

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

Class News



Our class offering this year will be a different type of format. At the August Guild Meeting our program will be "Fun With Free Motion Quilting-a video presentation by Leah Day". After the meeting (from 1:00-4:00) Cindy Ochoa and Theresa Sapp will guide Class participants as we go step by step through the free motion quilting process together. Using your sewing machine along with the instruction and tips from Leah Day's video you can begin your own journey of free motion quilting! More details to follow. In the meantime you can learn more about Leah Day at www.leahday.com

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!

Savannah Quilt Guild News



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)**