



# PIECE TALK



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

## President's Letter by Lois Dean

Are you ready for the NEW YEAR? How can it be 2026 already?



Thank you for trusting me to lead YVQG. I'm both honored and somewhat terrified! I do tend to insert my opinion when I shouldn't and have been known to be long winded. I trust you will keep me in line. :=)

Did you hear the news? The Yakima City Council has approved funding for the Harmon Center for 2026. I am very thankful we are able to continue meeting there! The first Wednesday in January is the 7th and our board meets at 5:30. The general meeting starts at 7:00. This first meeting of the year always has extra business – be there to be a part of the action.

For those who haven't met me yet .... I joined YVQG in 2007, with three goals: 1. To learn to be a better quilter; 2. To get a discount when I shopped; and 3. To experience retreats. 14 years later, goals met, I became more interested in how the guild was run and agreed to serve as Secretary. I have three adult children, and 5 grandkids, all involved with very busy lives and rarely make it to Yakima. Quilting has become my primary pastime (that and avoiding housework) along with reading lighthearted fiction and one yarn project or another. I'm also actively involved in my church and Beta Sigma Phi. I enjoy live theater, especially musicals, and way too many restaurant meals, even though I'm a pretty decent scratch cook. My favorite charity to donate to is Buddy Bags.

My goal for 2026 is to do our best to remember that it's okay if Board business (all the committee chairs) and General Membership business meetings are different. We're asking some of our members to attend two meetings, so we need to remind ourselves there's a reason for that.

There will be some decisions made in that regard at our first meeting .... Which will happen after the due date for this article and before it publishes. My hope is that our General Board meetings focus on motions and decisions and our General Membership meetings focus on hearing the information – the who what when where (and sometimes why) – and to ultimately give us more time for socialization, show and tell, learning, and quilting fun.

Back to quilting!  
Lois





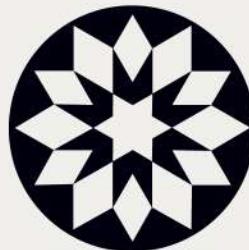
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## Past-President's Letter by Carol Meier

Reach around and pat yourself on the back! Why? Because – in just the last 6 months of the last year, our Guild has given:

- 2 completed lap quilts, 2 baby quilts, and 1 twin quilt at our meetings
- 43 quilts to the Women's Shelter & Children's Village
- 55 Shoe Box quilts created; 32 completed
- 7 twins + 10 children's quilts are set aside for the YWCA addition
- 6 Children's quilts from the Fair Display will be shown at the Quilt Show in May
- \$237 cash donation to Rod's House, + \$166 cash donation to Union Gospel
- Many, many other donations for other worthy causes



PLUS....with just 33 members turning in their Volunteer Hours forms, 1,424 total hours were logged! (And – Just in case you haven't heard – the winner of the most hours logged was honored at our Christmas Party with a very nice prize! 200 hours! Impressive, to say the least! Way to go, Lois Dean!)

If you were one of the many who did NOT turn in your donated hours, the form can be found on our website; turn them in monthly to Kathy Winters at any meeting. We document these donations of works and hours to justify our tax-exempt status to both the IRS and the State of Washington when they check our records – they are important to them, as well as the lucky communities we serve.

You all should be proud!

-Carol Meier

**Need to mail us something?**  
PO Box 2813  
Yakima, WA 98907



**Get Well Soon,  
Connie! We miss you.**

## A Quick Look at Important Dates to Remember:

- Next Meeting: January 21<sup>st</sup> at 7 pm: Come Meet Your New Board & Committee Chairs!
- Sew Day: January 31<sup>st</sup> from 9am to 3 pm: PAGE 4
- Quilt Show 2026 Registration Begins: February 2<sup>nd</sup>: PAGE 3
- Programming Special Guests: March 18th: PAGE 8
- Sew Expo Bus Trip: PAGE 5



# PIECE TALK



## QUILT SHOW 2026

*The Yakima Valley Quilters' Guild  
presents our 2026 quilt show...."Inner Reflections"*

**May 1 - 2, 2026**  
Yakima Convention Center, 10 N 8th Street

Friday—open 10am-6pm  
Saturday—open 10am—5pm  
Raffle Drawing—Sat at 3pm  
Admission \$10.00 cash  
Children \$5.00 - 15 & under  
(good for both days)  
Featured Artists  
Merchant Mall  
Demonstrations  
Free parking

2026 Raffle Quilt, *Inner Reflections*



Guild Featured Artist *Nancy Rayner*

Community Featured Artist *Kim Mikkelsen*

Cindy Huntamer is the Quilt Show Chair this year!  
Thank you so much for all of your hard work and support!

- Lois Dean is the Registration Chair and Kathy Winters is in charge of the Friendship Groups and the G
- Next Quilt Show Meeting is Wednesday, January 21<sup>st</sup> at 6pm in the Harman Center's classroom
- Spread the word: This year we have a YOUTH



# PIECE TALK



## DON'T MISS THE NEXT SEW DAY!

### Sew Day by Cindy Fontaine

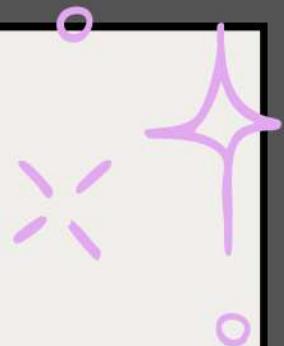
The first two sew days for 2026 have been reserved!

What is a sew day, you may ask.

A sew day is a day spent sewing with your YVQG friends. We will set up tables and have a cutting mat and iron and ironing board for your use.

You just bring your sewing machine and project you're working on, as well as a sack lunch. You may also choose to bring a snack to share with others.

Sews days will take place at Christ Lutheran Church on 56th and Lincoln, on Saturday 1/31 and Saturday 4/25. We will start at 9am and finish at 3pm.



Please RSVP to Cindy Fontaine. [crfontaine@live.com](mailto:crfontaine@live.com), or 425-232-7518.

# Yakima Valley Quilters' Guild



## Sewing & Stitchery e.x.p.o

### Saturday, February 28, 2026

\$75 per person and includes bus ride, your ticket into **SEW EXPO 2026**, and gratuity for driver!

\* Depart at 7:30 am sharp from The Harman Center at 65th and Summitview. Be sure to **park at the back of the lot** or otherwise known as the south end!

#### Itinerary:

- \* Stop in Ellensburg at the Buzz Inn truck stop to pick up passengers
- \* Drive straight to Puyallup, \* Lunch is on your own
- \* Load back on the bus between 4 and 4:30 pm (we will depart as soon as everyone is on)
- \* Stop in North Bend for a quick dinner
- \* Drop Ellensburg passengers off at the Buzz Inn (imagine that!)
- Arrive back in Yakima between 8:30 and 9:00 pm

The bus will be locked during the day, so anything you leave on there during the day will be safe, but you will not have access to the bus.

Vendors—Lots of them!

Quilting, Clothing, Cross Stitch—everything you can imagine!

Don't be afraid to buy the big items as we have the storage under the bus for the longarm!

Warm raspberry scones....oh so good!

Checks made payable to YVQG  
Mail to: Linny Cummins  
6811 W Chestnut, Yakima, WA 98908

Please mail your payment and this form to:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cash \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_

# 2026 Quilts in the City Quilt Show Challenge “Trinkets and Things”

***Perimeter needs to measure 120 inches or less.***

Measure top, bottom, left and right sides. Total of all side needs to be 120" or less.

***Add some of your favorite trinkets and things like buttons, buckles pins and gems. Have some fun. Dig through your jewelry, notions and special little trinkets you have saved. Shop the thrift stores. Above all enjoy the journey as you create your “Trinket and Things” quilt.***

***Register them in the quilt show by the deadline under Quilt Show Challenge category.***



Questions:

Contact Renee Miles 509-930-9612 or [grandmanay2@gmail.com](mailto:grandmanay2@gmail.com)

# **Yakima Valley Quilters' Guild: Slate of 2026 Officers & Chairs**

## **Executive Board:**

President	Lois Dean
Vice-President	Sue Laib
Secretary	Reesha Cosby
Treasurer	Debbie Stone
Past-President	Carol Meier

## **Education:**

Central WA State Fair	<b>Chair</b>
Lectures & Workshops	Sue Laib
Lotto Block	Mary Whitney
Program	Susan Yearout
Quilter's Academy	Cindy Fontaine
	Jasmine Aldrich

## **Administration:**

Audit	Sue Laib
Charitable Works	Kathy Winters
Membership	Beverly Brietenfeldt and Pat Gaudette
Nominations and Elections	open
Policy and Procedure (and By-Laws)	Sue Laib
Quilt Show 2026	Cindy Huntamer
Quilt Show 2028	<b>open</b>
Raffle Quilt Crafters	Tina Bolin
Raffle Quilt Marketing	Isabelle Patlan
Treasure Trunk	Cindy Huntamer and Sally Nelson-Bustetter

## **Fellowship:**

Birthdays	Tina Bolin
Bus Trip – (Sew Expo)	Diane Poulin
Christmas Stockings	Mary Whitney
Cookies/Refreshments	Isabelle Patlan
December Dinner Party	Renee Miles
Facebook/Social Media	Mary Whitney
Member of the Year	Linda Lortie
Newsletter/Publicity	Reesha Cosby
Print/Media/Video	<b>OPEN</b>
Retreat	Connie Bowman
Secret Sister	Linny Cummins
Sew Days	Cindy Fontaine
Sew-A-Long	Susan Yearout
Show and Tell	Sally Nelson-Bustetter
Slide Show	Kaitlin Hovanes
Summer Challenge	Tina Bolin
Sunshine	Lael Lloyd
Website	Lael Lloyd

# Lisa Mortell Quilter

Lisa hails from NW Washington and in 2010 discovered her passion for quilting through a Kaffe Fassett book and by the time she completed her first quilt she was completely hooked. Over the past fourteen years her quilting journey has evolved significantly with a deepening love for hand appliquéd with embroidery taking center stage. Lisa began teaching quilting techniques about six years ago including wool appliquéd, needle-turn appliquéd, paper piecing, and general quilting. She launched her wool appliquéd patterns in 2024. Her recent works draw inspiration from the natural beauty of her Pacific Northwest roots, particularly the greater Seattle area. Notably, in November of 2024, Lisa's quilt *Garden Friends* was displayed at the prestigious 2024 Houston International Quilt Festival and won Second Place at Road to California. Her most current work, *Nataliya* will be at the 2025 Houston International Quilt Festival.

Lisa will be teaching a wool applique class to us. We need to vote on one of 3 designs.

This is the Honeycomb Bee bag. It is a cute zipper pouch



This is a cute needle minder that we can do as well



The 3rd choice is this cute Mushroom pouch



We as a Guild voted to make the one with the Honeycomb Bee Bag at the first January meeting last week. Lisa will put the kits together for us.

Class fee will be \$65. There is a fee for the kit if you don't have your own fabrics to use. The kit includes all the thread for the decorations. Cost for that is \$50-52. If you have your own supplies, you will only need to purchase the pattern. The trunk show and class are March 18 & 19, 2026.



# PIECE TALK



## December Dinner Party 2026 with Renee Miles

This year's theme is, "*Home for the Holidays*".

Wednesday, December 2nd at Cascade Garden Lodge  
5704 W Washington Ave in Yakima.



Let's celebrate the end of the year. We all dedicate our time to volunteering and now we can celebrate and have a nice enjoyable social evening with a few games, great company and delicious food too!

Cascade Garden Lodge has a large stone fireplace, heated floors, rustic look, and is decorated for the holidays.

Dinner is \$30; Includes tax and tip. Lion Chef Catering. Members pre-pay for dinner by the second meeting in November. Start saving now \$3 each month!

Bring an unwrapped theme related, quilted by you, gift to exchange. People can bring their own wine or other sparkling drinks, with or without alcohol, with no surcharge fee!

A variety of Christmas cookies will be donated by the committee, plus Chocolates and nuts and party favors on the tables!

### Agenda:

- Installation of Officers
- Guild Member of the Year
- Volunteer Recognition Gifts



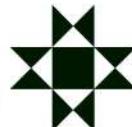


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**From Paula Ferry,  
a YVQG member who now  
lives in Spokane**

**Shout out to our very own Renee Miles!**



Congratulations to Renee Kammer- Miles. She has been chosen as Featured Quilter for the 2026 Washington State Quilters - Spokane Chapter quilt show!



- Congratulations from all of us!!



The Spokane show is October 16-18, 2026.

## **From Renee:**

"I have been keeping this a secret for over a year. I am very humbled and honored. I look forward to my three demos. The *Amazing Circle Attachment*, Decorative Stitching and adding that special touch to your quilts!"





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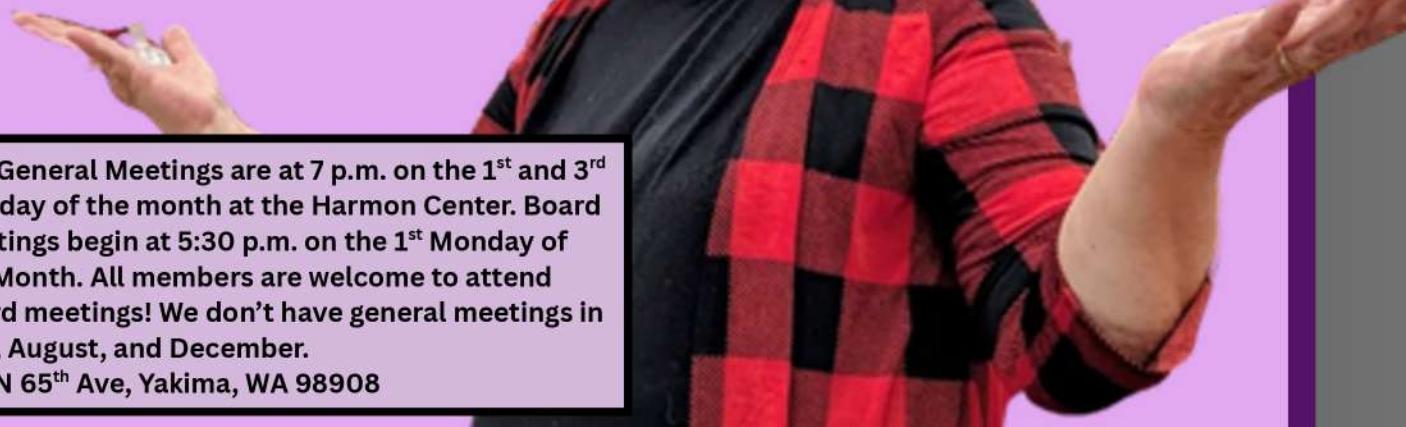
## Other Announcements

YVQG Quilt Show 2026 is May 1st and 2nd. Registration will open by February 2nd, and the last day to enter your quilts will be April 4th, giving us time to create the best possible floor displays. There is a limit of 5 entries per person, but that does not include your friendship booth or our guild displays. I hope you are hard at work creating your own quilts!! If you have any registration questions, please contact me at 509-833-7362 (or email me at [lizzdean@hotmail.com](mailto:lizzdean@hotmail.com).)



**Congrats again to our  
2025 Quilt Guild Member  
of the Year, LINDA LORTIE!**

**She was so shocked! :)**



Our General Meetings are at 7 p.m. on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month at the Harmon Center. Board Meetings begin at 5:30 p.m. on the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the Month. All members are welcome to attend board meetings! We don't have general meetings in July, August, and December.  
101 N 65<sup>th</sup> Ave, Yakima, WA 98908



# PIECE TALK



## Letter from the Editor by Reesha Cosby

Happy January! This is where I will wax on about my quarterly tidings of quilting joy, including a reminder for you to bring a friend to the next meeting and to remember if it's your turn to bring your cookies, haha! I hope you win a Door Prize this quarter!

If there is something you would like to see in the April newsletter edition, send me an email! [soireesh@gmail.com](mailto:soireesh@gmail.com). See you soon, for somethin'!

### Show + Tell Spotlight

### Shout out to:

**Susan Yearout**

Thank you to our  
Advertisers! More  
coming soon!

Want to be an advertiser in our Newsletter? Ads  
are \$35 annually for the newsletter and website.  
Quilt Show 2026 Program is an additional \$15.





# PIECE TALK



**Know of any upcoming April, May, or June  
Trunk Shows, Fabric Yard Sales, etc., or any  
longarmers you want to see mentioned here?**

email: [yvqg2015@gmail.com](mailto:yvqg2015@gmail.com)

**Classifieds:**

Let us know of any sewing and quilting items you (or someone you know) have for sale:

- Send us a description of Item and contact info (name, email, phone)

to: [yvqg2015@gmail.com](mailto:yvqg2015@gmail.com)



Shout out to Tina Parr!

**Resources: Where to Buy...**

Now that JoAnn's is gone (sniff, sniff, wipes eyes), send us a list of where you love to find quilty items in Yakima County, like:

- Batting
- Fabric
- Notions, etc.





# PIECE TALK



## **Yakima Valley Quilters' Guild Mission Statement**

The purpose of this organization is to preserve and continue the traditions, culture and history of quilting; to promote fellowship among interested persons in all aspects of quilting; to contribute to the knowledge of and to promote the appreciation of fine quilts; to sponsor and support quilting activities through charity; to encourage quilt making and collecting; and to contribute to the growth of knowledge of quilting techniques, textiles, patterns and quiltmakers through educational meetings and travel.

We are a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization



## **Who We Are and What We Do:**

Our purpose is to foster the art of quilt making through sharing and teaching, sponsoring workshops, demonstrations and quilt shows.