



PIECE TALK



yakimavalleyquiltersguild.org

President's Letter by Lois Dean

SPRING!



How are your 2026 plans shaping up? Have you gotten some projects completed? That's always my first resolution after Christmas ... to finish a stack of UFO's. I guess I'm doing okay since the answer isn't zero. So far I've completed one quilt, have one quilted and ready to bind, one in the process of being quilted, and one pinned and ready to quilt. I'm enough of a squirrel that I've also made two new tops this month (and started a third at our YVQG retreat) just because I was in the mood to tackle some fabric stacks purchased long ago. I also successfully ignored another dozen works in progress – including Postage Due started at least ten years ago. Happily, I do have some I've finished and kept since the last show so I will be entering those. I was reminded this week about Nancy Chong (we met her at a YVQG trunk show) – she told us to never take on a quilt that doesn't give you joy. With that in mind, I've learned to go with my own shifting moods and almost always feel joy when they are finished ... surprising even myself.

As your show's registration chair, I've been keeping busy monitoring the incoming show registrations. Part of my job is to fix the typos and ensure entries are listed where they belong. Very soon I'll be reporting final statistics to the chairs who are part of working out the floor layout. My next task is to see if I remember how to make Excel create the labels that will be printed from your entries.

In January YVQG members made the decision to stay at the Harmon center for 2026. Considering our years of history there, it felt like the right choice for now. But staying means extra expenses so members have voted to host a bonus treasure trunk sale in September. In February, our program night was all about our upcoming quilt show. March brought us our first trunk show of the year with Lisa Mortell where we saw some awesome quilts created with applique and wool. I can't wait to see what you all make! In April we will learn more about the charities in our community we donate our quilts to.

It's exciting to see all the energy that comes from finishing projects and jumping into new ones. Whether it's completing quilts, tackling long-standing UFOs, or simply enjoying the creative process, the momentum is building. The enthusiasm and dedication being shown in our projects and preparations for the upcoming show (May 1st and 2nd) truly reflect that we're beginning 2026 on a high note. Here's to more completed works, joyful quilting experiences, and another successful year together!

Happy Quilting!

Lois



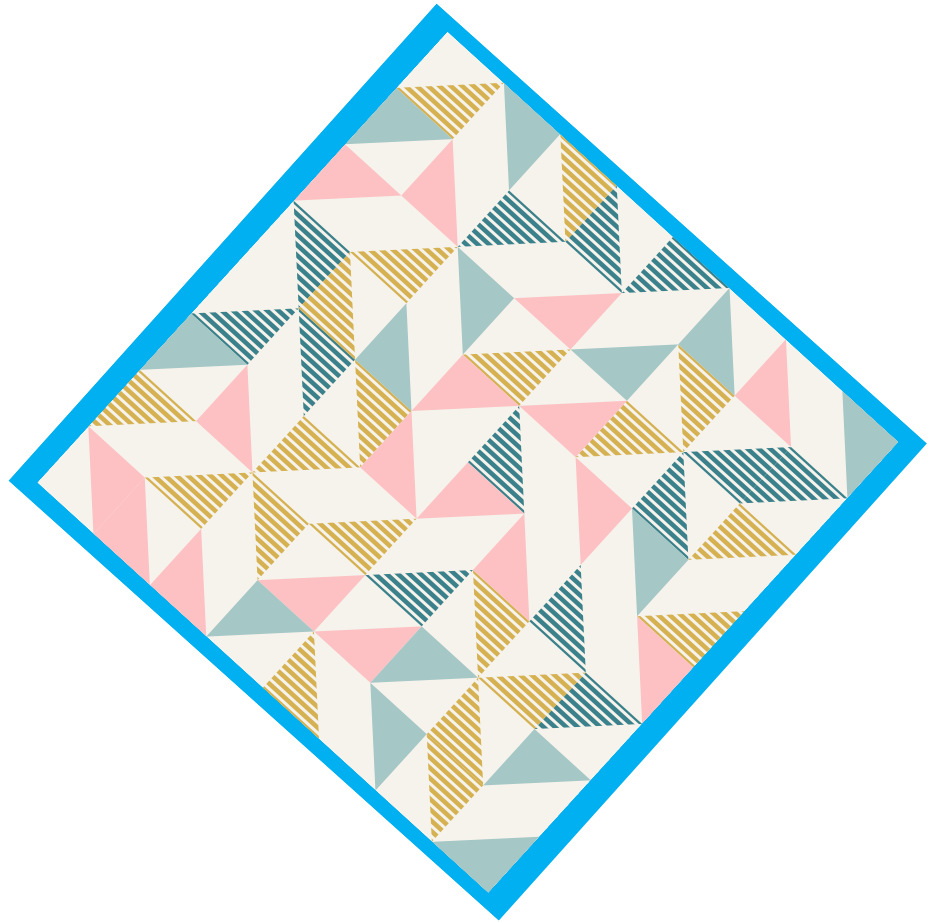


Piece Talk
April 2026

Table of Contents

Page Number

- 1: President's Letter
- 2: Table of Contents
- 3: Letter from the Membership Committee
- 4: Save the Dates & Virtual Sew Along
- 5: Lotto Block
- 6: Upcoming Retreat
- 7: Juneteenth Quilt Trivia
- 8-9: Quilt Show Guild & Featured Artists
- 10: Quilter's Academy
- 11: Quilty Horoscope
- 12: Quilt Word Scramble
- 13-15: Scenes from Show & Tell
- 16: Friendship Groups
- 17: December Dinner Party & Word Scramble
- Answer Key
- 18: Upcoming Program Nights
- 19: Calendar of Events Reminders
- 20: Thank You to Our Sponsors



The Yakima Valley Quilters' Guild
presents our 2026 quilt show... "Inner Reflections"
May 1 - 2, 2026
Yakima Convention Center, 10 N 8th Street

2026 Raffle Quilt, Inner Reflections



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



Guild Featured Artist
Nancy Rayner



Community Featured Artist
Kim Mikkelsen

~Membership Committee News~

Happy Spring YVQG members!! Hope you all enjoyed National Quilting Month and specifically National Quilting Day, March 20, 2026. So many talented quilters in our ranks. This year, your Co-Chairs for the Membership Committee are **Bev Breitenfeldt** and **Pat Gaudette**. To make things fun at each meeting (remember the fruit activity?), we have been trying some *new seating arrangements* for our meeting. And so that we can put names and faces together, we have begun providing *name tags* at the sign-in table each meeting. Hopefully, you have found these fun and enjoyable. We welcome your feedback and any ideas you would like to give us to make our meetings even more successful.

At last count (member list published recently), we have 55 paid members and hope that number will continue to grow. So, grab your quilting friends (or just grab those quilters you run into at the fabric stores) and encourage them to join the guild!

There are so many fun things going on this year, including the recent bus trip to *Sew Expo*, upcoming trunk shows and classes, the 2026 "*Inner Reflections*" Quilt Show, two retreats, Quilters Academy, our fun summer get togethers, and of course our dinner party celebration in December 2026. Whew, lots happening this year! We are working hard to bring fun ideas and activities to our meetings and would be delighted for any of you talented folks to join our committee, after all, many hands make light work. And speaking of many hands, our **2026 Quilt Show** is coming up fast and we invite all of you to join us in manning the **Membership Table** at the show. We know each and every one of you are just looking for an opportunity to answer questions and share the many great reasons to join the guild and increase our membership numbers!

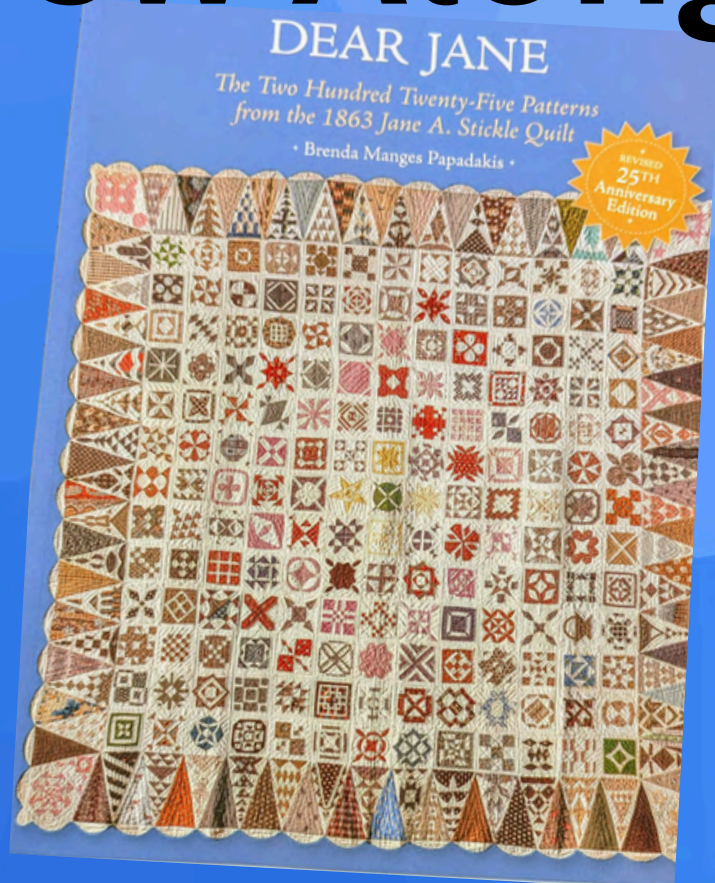


Virtual Sew Along

In August, a virtual “Dear Jane Stitch Along” is happening in collaboration with The Applique Society. Click [here for more details](#).

You can join The Applique Society with a \$25 annual [membership fee](#).

Contact [Diane Poulin](#) to join the Yakima Chapter of The Applique Society!



Latto
Block



“Saltwater Taffy”

Find the pattern on [Patchwork Square](#)

See you at



The Next Retreat?

Coming: October 2026



JUNE 19TH



**JUNE
TEENTH**

Quilt Trivia:



What did the “Log Cabin” block pattern quilt represent on the “Underground Railroad”?

Find the answer [here](#).



YAKIMA VALLEY QUILT SHOW 2026 PRESENTS



GUEST FEATURED QUILT ARTIST

yakimavalleyquiltersguild.org

YVGQ2026@GMAIL.COM



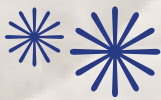
Yes, I have buried rulers in my backyard! Hasn't everyone? That dang "*bi-rangle*" is a good example. Who thought that was a good one? And yes, a rotary cutter will cut your foot when you are holding the ruler down with said foot. Maybe I've improved my skills in quilting, but not without a bunch of cuts and bruises along the way (ego included)!

I LOVE quilting. My grandmother instilled that love in me from an early age. She made her quilts with squares from our dresses and shirts and anything she could sew with her treadle machine. I still have the quilts she made for me, and they are treasured. She lived 104 years, so I'm guessing quilting is a good hobby to land for longevity. That and gardening.

So, my quilting story....I started sewing as a young teen but the quilts didn't take over all the rest of my sewing until about 1984. I've been happily adding to my fabric and quilt stash since then.

What I love the most may be the comradery of my fellow quilters. Our "retreats" are just like Grandma's quilting bees, where quilters solved all the ills of the world over beautiful pieces of fabric lovingly stitched together. Now, we have all the modern accoutrements of machines with TONS of fancy stitches (most of which I never use, but can still drool over), a "spare" machine for those awesome retreats, and now, a new longarm *Innova* machine! OOH, and lest I forget, an equally awesome amount of FABRIC (aka stash) to work into the quilts still to be created.

So, with a only a "stash" and some amazing machines, I plan to continue another 40 years making quilts. Cuz' seriously, I have **that** much fabric and **that** many quilts to get started! 🍷



YAKIMA VALLEY QUILT SHOW 2026

PRESENTS

NANCY

RAYNER



FEATURED QUILT MEMBER ARTIST

yakimavalleyquiltersguild.org

YVGQ2026@GMAIL.COM



I started quilting seriously in 1992. Prior to that I did a lot of craft and clothing construction.

In my early years, my Dad was very encouraging in any craft project I wanted to tackle. He also allowed me to use his shop and tools. This helped me develop my creative spirit. I like doing a variety of quilting techniques. Many times, I stray from the traditional rules to achieve the effect of what is in my mind. I look at patterns and ask how I can change it to be different.

To me, quilting is an art form. What else can you do and gain so much pleasure for the price of a little fabric! I see it as a learning curve. Having said this, I also make more than my share of mistakes. However, sometimes that leads to another experiment and experience gained.

I love playing with fabric manipulation and doing thread painting; it feeds my soul. Combining all of this with traditional quilting gives my pieces an entirely new look.

Quilting allows me to share my gift by giving back to my community. I enjoy doing several projects each year which are donated to local organizations and others in need. I believe if God gave me this gift, I should share it!



Quilter's ACADEMY

THE NEXT CLASS IS COMING UP IN

JUNE 2026

at the West Valley Library
223 S 72nd Ave

QUILTER'S ACADEMY CHAIR SUE LAIB
AND INSTRUCTORS WILL TEACH
WOULD-BE QUILTERS INSIDE AN
INTERMEDIATE CLASS.

VOLUNTEER TEACHING ASSISTANTS ARE
NEEDED.!

REACH OUT TO SUE AT
SLAIB103@AOL.COM

What's Your Quilty Horoscope?

April-June 2026

ARIES | You'll tackle that complex paper-piecing project with the fiery confidence of a warrior, only to realize you've accidentally sewn your sleeve into the block. Whoops! ●●●

TAURUS | Your stubborn refusal to buy a new blade means you'll spend the afternoon cutting fabric with a rotary cutter that has the structural integrity of a butter knife. ●●●

GEMINI | You will successfully start three new patterns this morning and convince yourself by lunch that you are "technically triplets", and therefore, not behind at all. ●●●

CANCER | You'll spend 10 minutes lovingly stroking your favorite batik fat quarters and whispering, 'You're too beautiful for the blade!' before tucking them back into your stash. ●●●

LEO | You don't just make quilts; you create 'textile legacies' that require a full theatrical reveal and at least 20 minutes of uninterrupted applause, even if it's from just you. ●●●

VIRGO | Your seams are so perfectly aligned and your bobbin so precisely wound that the 'Quilt Police' will eventually just hand you a badge and a (glue) gun. ●●●

LIBRA | You will spend the next sewing retreat comparing two shades of batik fabrics for a couple of hours, unable to choose--until Connie Bowman finally turns the lights out and says, 'Go to bed, dear.' ●●●

SCORPIO | You keep your sewing scissors hidden in a locked box because you know that 'sharing' is just a gateway to someone losing your best fabric shears! The audacity! ●●●

SAGITTARIUS | You'll impulsively sign up for a retreat in another state, forget your power cord, and spend the weekend 'spiritually' planning the layout instead. ●●●

CAPRICORN | You are the CEOs of the zodiac. If there is a sign most likely to have a color-coded spreadsheet for fabrics, it's you (and probably your Earth sign Virgo, too). ●●●

AQUARIUS | You ignore patterns to create 'post-modern improv' quilts that look suspiciously like that pile of scraps you accidentally dropped. ●●●

PISCES | You will find yourself sobbing into a yard of 'vintage' floral because it 'just understands you,' eventually deciding the fabric is too pretty to be cut, so you'll just frame it. ●●●

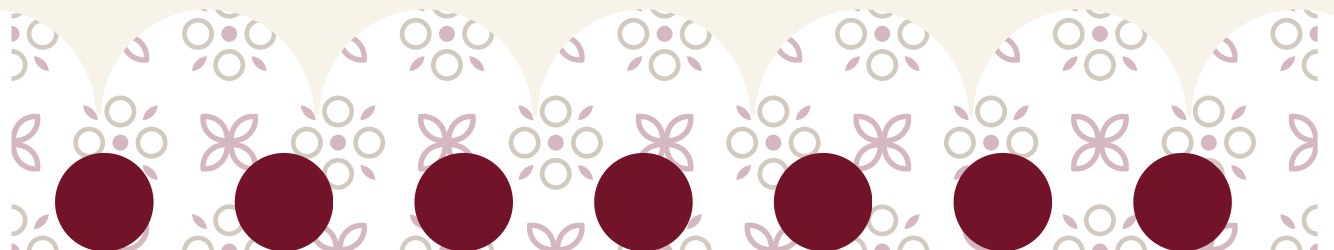


Quilt Word Scramble!

April Newsletter 2026

1. TFA ETAURRQ _____
2. EVEESGDL _____
3. GOARMLN _____
4. USIFBLE _____
5. SAGNSIH _____
6. GINBIND _____
7. SMAE PPRIRE _____
8. IQTUL SPHO _____
9. AHSST _____
10. ULQIT ICLOEP _____

Answer Key on Page 17



SHOW & TELL!





EDUCATION!

ART!



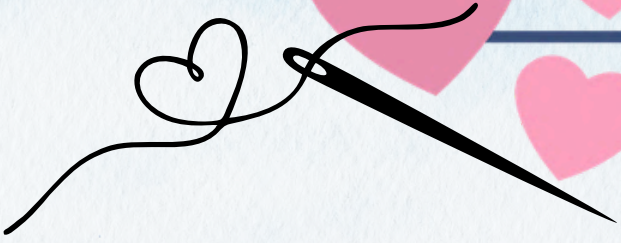
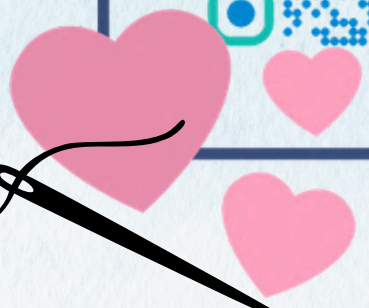
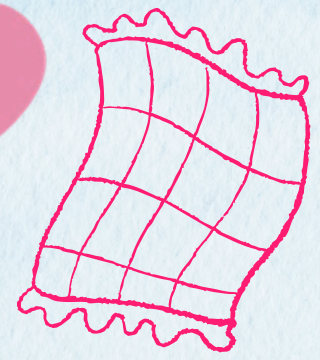
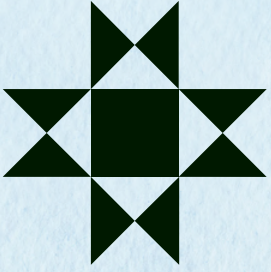
SHOW &
TELL!



SHOW & TELL!



Friendship Groups

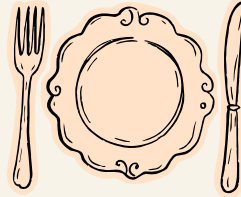


Use your phone to scan the QR code for a list of our Guild's Friendship Groups!

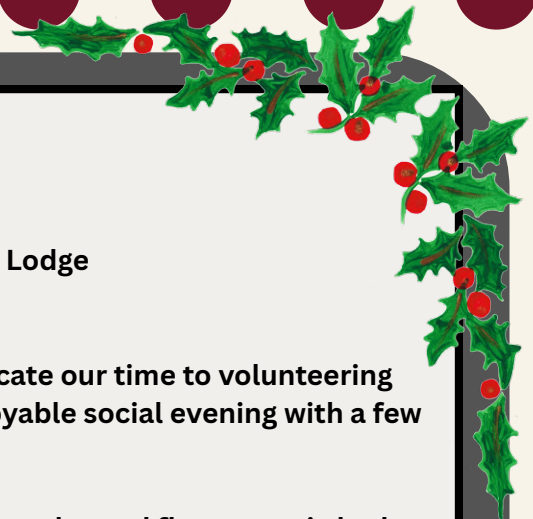


Word Scramble Answer Key:

1. Fat Quarter
2. Selvedge
3. Longarm
4. Fusible
5. Sashing
6. Binding
7. Seam Ripper
8. Quilt Shop
9. Stash
10. Quilt Police



December Dinner Party Info!



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. The Dinner Party sign-ups and prepayment of \$30 will start in September. Members pre-pay for dinner by the second meeting in November!

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



Upcoming PROGRAM NIGHTS

CHARITY NIGHT
APRIL 15TH | 7:00 PM

A handful of local nonprofits will tell us how we
can help donate quilts to their charities

QUILT SHOW WRAP-UP PARTY
MAY 20TH | 7:00 PM



In Case You Missed It, Here's a Calendar of Events Reminder



APRIL 2026:

General Membership Program Night: Wednesday, April 15th at 7pm at the Harman Center

Sew Day: Saturday, April 25th from 9am-3pm at Christ Lutheran Church (5606 W Lincoln Ave)



MAY 2026:

Board Meeting: Wednesday, May 6th at 7pm at the Harman Center

General Membership Meeting: Wednesday, May 6th at 7pm at the Harman Center

"Inner Reflections" 2026 Quilt Show: Friday, May 1st from 10am-6pm; Saturday, May 2nd from 10am-5pm. Yakima Convention Center (10 N 8th St)

General Membership Program Night: Wednesday, May 20th at 7pm at the Harman Center



JUNE 2026:

Board Meeting: Wednesday, June 3rd at 5:30 pm, Harman Center

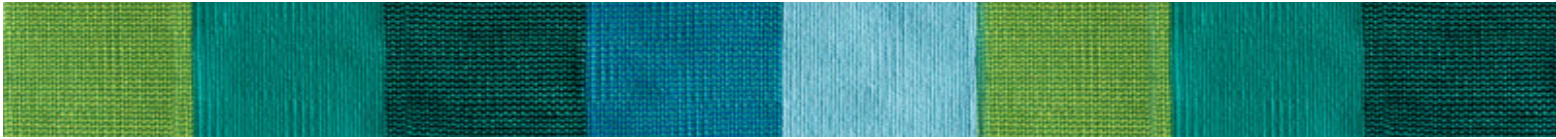
General Membership Meeting: Wednesday, June 3rd at 7pm, Harman Center

General Membership Program Night: Wednesday, June 17th at 7pm, Harman Center

Quilter's Academy Class 2: Mondays at the West Valley Library from 3:30-6:30 pm (223 S 72nd Ave) Dates Coming Soon.



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.

