

# APPLESEEDS

January, 2026 Volume 35, Issue 4



**HAPPY**  
*New Year*



## JANUARY MEETING

The next meeting is  
**TUESDAY, January 6, 2026**  
**Mizpah Shrine Center**  
**1015 Memorial Way,**  
**Fort Wayne, IN 46805**  
**DEMONSTRATION 6:00pm**  
**SOCIAL TIME 6:30pm**  
**MEETING 7:00pm**

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## BOARD MEETING

**Tuesday, January 13, 2026**  
**Alan McMahan Room, ACPL**  
**Downtown**  
**6:00pm**

## QUICK DATES

**Jan. 6, 2026:** Vera Bradley Foundation speaker

**Jan. 18, 2026:** First One Block Wonder Class

**Feb. 3, 2025:** Garage Sale

**March 27-29, 2026:** Sweet Stitches Retreat



# FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings, Appleseed Quilters!

As 2025 draws to a close, I am already looking ahead with excitement to what 2026 has in store for our guild. We have some big plans on the horizon, important business to attend to, and—of course—plenty of QUILT-related inspiration to enjoy!

First, I would like to share a preview of our 2026 programs. The Programs Committee has been hard at work and has assembled an impressive lineup that includes national speakers, engaging workshops, and inspiring trunk shows. Be sure to attend our January meeting to hear all the details.

Thanks to the success of our recent Quilt Show, the Board of Directors has approved a \$2,000 increase to the Programs budget to help support these exciting opportunities in 2026. This proposed budget adjustment will be presented to you, the general membership, for approval at the January meeting.

Because our Quilt Show is held every other year, we also have time in the “off year” to explore additional fundraising opportunities. One idea that has been suggested is a Quilters Bingo event. As a first-time event in 2026, this would be planned as a smaller-scale gathering to work out the details and assess its viability. An outline for how the event could work is already in place, but we will need a team of approximately five volunteers willing to organize and move this project forward. If this is something you would enjoy being involved in, please contact me or any member of the Board.

We are also exploring additional Bee opportunities where members can gather to sew and socialize together. If you have ideas for a centrally located space that could host a Sunday, once-a-month Bee—or know of a suitable location in the southwest area—please let me know. Your suggestions are welcome as we work to expand these opportunities.

As we begin the new guild year, there are also several ways you may wish to contribute. We are currently seeking a Board of Directors Chair for the position now titled Quilt Show Chairperson. This role does not require overseeing the next quilt show; rather, it involves serving as a liaison and reporting quilt show matters to the Board of Directors.

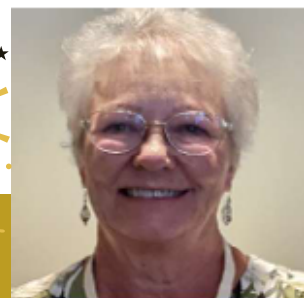
If you feel called to help guide and support the management of Appleseed Quilters Guild, this is a meaningful and rewarding way to serve. Please reach out to me personally by phone, email, or in person at the January guild meeting if you are interested or would like more information. The Board meets monthly on Tuesday evenings, one week following our guild meeting.

As we welcome the New Year, I wish each of you a happy, healthy, and creative 2026. May it be filled with beautiful fabrics, inspired stitching, and the joy of sharing our love of quilting together.

Warmest wishes,

Laura Jackson

[President@appleseedquiltersguild.com](mailto:President@appleseedquiltersguild.com)







## EDUCATION / OUTREACH

### TECHNIQUE DEMONSTRATION January 2026

#### "LABELS LABELS LABELS"

Vickie Sitz will share how she constructs and attaches her embroidered quilt labels into the edge of the binding on the back of her family quilts. She gets her labels ready at the beginning of each year, so they are easy to add when she sews her binding.

Technique Demos are at 6pm and usually end by the time social time begins at 6:30. It's a great chance to learn something new while getting to know fellow members!

## RETREAT NEWS

Only one spot left for the Sweet Stitches retreat! If you haven't registered, - make sure to do so soon. Join us in Shipshewana, March 27-29. See the November Newsletter for details.



# PROGRAMS

## January 6, 2026

Join us for an exciting kick off for the new year! Here is our lineup:  
The Bee's Buzz - get the buzz on all the Guild's Quilting Bees.  
The Program Committee will announce the upcoming programs for 2026.  
Announcing the 2026 Ombré Challenge (January - June 2026)  
Celebrate the New Year with Fabric Fortune Cookies (instructions in the December Newsletter)  
Sign-ups for the garage sale start January 6. Tables cost \$10.

Appleseed Quilters Guild will welcome representative, Stephanie Scheele, from the Vera Bradley Foundation. She will share information about the Foundation's mission and introduce a joint project with our guild. Vera Bradley Foundation, Our Mission: "Raising funds for research to find a cure and to improve the lives of the many affected by breast cancer."

## February 3, 2026

Our annual garage sale! See our article on the next page for more details.

## Upcoming Programs

March 2026 – Patchwork Playground, Present and Vend  
March 2026 – Possible zoom workshop on fabric painting  
April 2026 – Robert Lovell  
June 2026 – Guild Challenge Show and Tell  
July 2026 – Quilt Maven Dave, workshop and lecture  
August 2026 – Rob Appell, workshop and presentation  
September 2026 – Alice Ridge, workshop and presentation



# GARAGE SALE & NEW YEAR CHALLENGE

A new year brings the opportunity for organization and getting rid of things we don't need. What a perfect time too- the annual Appleseed garage sale is coming in February. There is no meeting in February, but we fill our Shriners meeting room with tables and our fellow quilters will sell their treasures. It's the perfect time to get affordable fabric, notions, quilting essentials, and more. So bring your cash! The guild also has a garage sale table of items donated and all proceeds support the guild.

## Looking to donate?

- Look for the guild table - Marked with a balloon so it's easy to find and take your items there.
- You can donate anything sewing related as long as it is in nice condition
- Prepare your items:
  - Fold or present them nicely, they should be clean/new
  - Have a price tag and price on each item or package
  - Any fabric cuts - please provide measurements
  - Fabric can be any size, with size indicated, or panels, bundles, precuts, etc.
  - Anything donated that does not sell can be picked up at 9:00pm or they will be repurposed for fundraising or donated to the Dove's Nest Thrift Store

You can also sell your items! You can rent a table at the garage sale for \$10. You keep all the proceeds of the items you sell. You also leave with any items that are not sold.



## Want to get a clean start for the New Year?

You could join Tammy Miller for the 2026 Declutter Challenge hosted by Just Get It Done Quilts! This will be a personal challenge, not a "guild challenge", but it will be a wonderful opportunity to get ready for the Guild Garage Sale.

The Sewing Room Declutter Challenge starts January 1, 2026. Sign-ups are open at [www.justgetitdonequilts.com](http://www.justgetitdonequilts.com). For those of you that will be participating for the first time, together we are clearing out the unwelcome, unwanted and no longer necessary and make room for a 2026 full of creativity. For 21 days we will work on one task. There will be both a blog post and a video on the Just Get it Done YouTube channel to help you on your way.

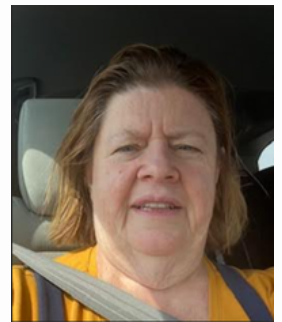
# MEMBERSHIP

We are blessed to have over 150 creative members! If you haven't already, be sure to pick up your new directory, 2025-2026 membership card, and a nametag if you ordered one. Let me know if you still need one. I've made over 70 nametags! We had over 60 members attend our holiday party. Thanks to the committee for a very fun evening.

Let's make January our best month yet. It's a great month to bring a friend. Did you know the membership form is found on our website at [www.appleseedquiltersguild.com](http://www.appleseedquiltersguild.com) instead of in this newsletter? Once on our website, hover over "ABOUT" in the header, then click on "Become a Member." On that page, you can click on "Download the New Member Form," and there it is! Membership forms are also available at the check-in table at our regular Guild meetings.



Best regards,  
Vanessa Spencer  
[Membership@appleseedquiltersguild.com](mailto:Membership@appleseedquiltersguild.com)



## COMMUNICATIONS CORNER

We have a fun new resource on our website! Right next to our Longarmers, we now have a Machine Embroidery section. These are embroidery resources for custom quilt labels or detailed embroidery work on quilt blocks or other embroidery needs. Check out <https://www.appleseedquiltersguild.com/embroidery> to view the addition. We have one person listed so far, we are glad to add additional embroiderers. Are you a Guild Member and provide machine embroidery for others and want to be featured on the Embroidery section of our guild website? Please contact [webmaster@appleseedquiltersguild.com](mailto:webmaster@appleseedquiltersguild.com) to be added.

Don't forget to follow our facebook pages for the most up to date guild information. Please interact with our posts so more people can see them!

**MEETINGS WILL BE CANCELLED IF SEVERE WEATHER DICTATES**  
PLEASE FOLLOW US ON  **FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION**

 **LIKE US!**

**EVERY TIME YOU READ A POST ON OUR GUILDS' FB PAGES!**

### APPLESEED QUILTERS GUILD (MEMBERS ONLY)

Private Page for Guild Members Only. Members can post to ask questions, make announcements, and ask for advice.



### APPLESEED QUILTERS GUILD OF FORT WAYNE

Public page where we make announcements. If you know someone that it is interested in the guild, send them to this page.

### FW QUILT FEST

Page focused on Fort Wayne Quilt Fest.



### Caring Cards

Linda Mulpagano sends cards on behalf of the Guild for both difficult and joyful life events. If you know someone who should receive a card, please contact Linda directly, her number is in the Guild Directory. Or send an email to [communications@appleseedquiltersguild.com](mailto:communications@appleseedquiltersguild.com)





## IN OTHER NEWS ...



### Indiana Heritage Quilt Show

3d · 🌐

Our long arm quilters are back again this year to remind you of the February 9, 2026, deadline for entering your quilt in our annual show. Quilts completed in the last 5 years are eligible if they haven't been entered in the IHQS show before. More information at [IHQS.org](https://www.ihqs.org). The show is March 5-7, 2026, Monroe Convention Center, Bloomington, IN.



### Churro Snack Mix (from Sarah Krafty)

2 sticks butter      1 c. packed brown sugar  
1 tsp. vanilla      1 tsp. cinnamon  
1 pkg. oyster crackers

#### Topping:

$\frac{3}{4}$  c. sugar       $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp. cinnamon  
 $\frac{1}{4}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp salt

**Staci Overbeck wanted to share her Churro snack mix recipe she brought to the Holiday party. Many people asked ... So here you go!**

Melt butter in skillet, add brown sugar, vanilla, and cinnamon. Cook over med/high heat until bubbly. Add crackers and stir to coat. Line baking sheet (with sides) with aluminum foil. Pour cracker mixture into pan and spread evenly. Bake at 350 for 10-15 minutes. (I would stir part way through.) In a small bowl, mix topping. Remove crackers from oven. While they are still warm, sprinkle with sugar mixture and toss to coat. Store in air tight container.



# 2025 - 2026 BOARD MEMBERS

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

PRESIDENT  
LAURA JACKSON  
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**VACANT**  
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**BOX COLORS  
CORRESPOND WITH  
STANDING COMMITTEE  
CHAIRS ABOVE**

## **NON BOARD MEMBERS HOLDING POSITIONS**

NEWSLETTER EDITOR  
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GREETER  
VACANT

PROGRAMS COMMITTEE  
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Tammy Miller, Sybil Macgrill, Jean Kaste  
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APPLE ORCHARD  
NANCY GEILING

FALL FESTIVAL  
Nancy Geiling

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SPRING RETREAT  
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TOUCH QUILTS  
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DOG BEDS  
ANNE TINKEL

KIDS QUILTS  
SUSAN GIBBS, GLORIA HOEVEL

RAISE RIGHT SCRIP  
SUSAN BENESH  
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QUILT SHOW  
VACANT  
*fwqfchairperson@appleseedquiltersguild.com*

WEBMASTER  
BILL SCHNEIDER  
*webmaster@appleseedquiltersguild.com*

# GENERAL GUILD INFORMATION

- Appleseed Quilters Guild Meetings are held at the Mizpah Shrine Center, 1015 Memorial Way, Fort Wayne, IN, 46805 on the first Tuesday of every month, except holidays. Technique demonstrations start at 6pm. Social time starts at 6:30pm. Meetings start promptly at 7:00pm. There is usually a speaker or presentation. The meetings conclude with Show and Tell.
- The regular monthly guild meetings are free to non-members, with a limit of three free visits. A fee may be charged to non-members attending special meetings featuring a nationally acclaimed speaker.
- Our membership year is October 1st through September 31st. Dues are \$35 per year, due October 1st. There is a midyear dues discount, starting April 1st. Checks for dues can be paid at any meeting or mailed to the PO Box.
- A variety of the Appleseed Quilt Guild workshops and retreats are available to non-members. There are fees for these extra events for members and non-members.
- Appleseed Quilters Guild offers education, inspiration, and community. The Quilt Bees, block of the month, challenges, and philanthropic projects are very popular. Appleseed Quilters Guild also hosts the biennial Fort Wayne Quilt Fest.
- Located in Fort Wayne, IN, Appleseed Quilters Guild began in 1993 as a small, quilting group, and has grown to 150+ members. Appleseed Quilters Guild includes all ages. In 1996, Appleseed Quilters Guild was recognized as a 501(c) (3) organization.
- Appleseed Quilters Guild strives to create an interest in the making, collecting, and preserving of quilts. Appleseed Quilters Guild also seeks to establish and promote educational and philanthropic endeavors through quilting.
- Meetings will be canceled if severe weather dictates. Cancellations will be posted on our Facebook page. Follow our Facebook page for the latest information on all our events.
- Information published in the Appleseed Guild Newsletter will comply with the latest guidelines offered by the HIPAA Privacy Rule. Primarily information published will be based on the individual's written authorization of information published.
- Newsletter ADVERTISEMENTS are to be sent to the Newsletter Editor at [newsletter@appleseedquiltersguild.com](mailto:newsletter@appleseedquiltersguild.com) or mailed to the PO Box. The cost is waived for members. The non-member fee is \$10 for a one-month listing. Checks should be made payable to AQG and mailed to the PO Box, before the third Tuesday of the month, to appear in the next month's newsletter. The size of all ads is at the discretion of the newsletter editor.

## CONTACT US

Mail us:

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Fort Wayne, IN, 46852-0484

Visit our website:

[www.appleseedquiltersguild.com](http://www.appleseedquiltersguild.com)

Email us:

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Visit our Facebook page:

Appleseed Quilters Guild of Fort Wayne.