

MINNESOTA QUILTERS ANNUAL MEETING
MINUTES
Friday, June 27, 2008
Meeting held at Rochester Civic Center, Rochester, MN

Attending: Board of Directors: Linda Wines, President; Mary Brandt, President Elect; Debbie Craig and Patty Von Arx, Co-Directors of Education; Kathie Simon Frank, Secretary; Paula Gaboury, Past President; Miki Peine, Treasurer; Cindy Wilson and Pam Ronan, Co-Directors of Communications, and Yvonne Curran, Co-Director of Communications elect; Sue Sandager and Char Wenger, Co-Directors of Operations and Kathleen Winters, 2008 Show Co-chair and Operations Co-director Elect; and members of Minnesota Quilters, Inc.

Linda Wines called the meeting to order at 12:10 pm.

A door prize ticket was drawn for the annual meeting door prize, a sewing machine.

Linda Wines introduced the current Board of Directors, the incoming new co-director of Communications, Yvonne Curran, and the incoming new co-director of Operations, Kathleen Winters, who were all sitting on the auditorium stage. She also introduced Linda Lysdahl, Show Coordinator; and Becky McPeek, Business Manager. Finally, she introduced Paula Gaboury.

Paula Gaboury introduced the ballot for election of 2008-2009 officers for Minnesota Quilters, Inc.

The slate offered for election of 2008-2009 Board of Directors included the following:

President: Mary Brandt (who was President Elect in 2007-2008)

President Elect: Char Wenger

Treasurer: Miki Peine

Education Director: Sue Rutford

Operations Co-Director (with ongoing Sue Sandager): Kathleen Winters

Communications Co-Director (with ongoing Cindy Wilson): Yvonne Curran

Linda Wines will become Past President

Kathie Simon Frank will continue as Secretary

Linda Wines asked the members present if there were any questions, suggestions, or comments.

First Speaker said that the challenge packet amnesty was a great idea and wondered if it could continue — every year? or every five years? She explained that it was difficult to enter this year because the rules required the original entry form/directions. Linda Wines said that the Show Committees in the future would consider continuing the challenge amnesty program and would discuss alternate ways to handle missing original entry forms. An audience member suggested that the challenge packet forms could be archived on the MQ web site and made available to future entrants.

Second Speaker stated that one question on this year's MQ survey asked whether she would like to have occasional meetings in communities outside the metro area. She asked whether this was being considered. Linda Wines answered that yes, the Board of Directors was considering this, thinking that this would help make programs more available to members outside the Twin Cities and might be a way to increase membership. She reminded everyone to fill out a survey form and return it to the Board of Directors table.

A member requested that speakers be given a microphone or that Linda Wines repeat questions as they were asked.

Third Speaker asked whether a solution had been found to mark a crosswalk on University Avenue for safe passage across this busy street or whether there was a proposal for additional parking near the Textile Center. Answer: there is more parking available in the Oswald lot about ½ block from the Textile Center. The entrance to this off-street lot is marked with a “sandwich board” or tent marker on Arthur Avenue just south of University Avenue on the west side of the street. A map in the upcoming Minnesota Quilters newsletter and on the MQ web site show this parking location.

Fourth Speaker complimented the show and conference and extended compliments and thanks from her friend who won this year’s Doreen Speckman scholarship. This scholarship came for her friend at an important time in her life and that was wonderful. The speaker also suggested that MQ use its available technology to register quilts for the judged section, challenge section, and nonjudged section of the show.

Carol Jech, in charge of Merchandise for the 2008 show, reminded those present that special fabric was available for purchase at the merchandise booth. This fabric was specially designed by Sandy Irish, an MQ member, and made available initially only to this show. Remaining fabric may be sold in quilt shops.

Fifth Speaker thanked the Show Committee for the making refrigerator magnets available showing the dates and locations for upcoming annual shows.

Sixth Speaker asked about upcoming annual shows. Answer: in 2010 the show/conference will return to Saint Cloud. There is concern that MQ is outgrowing the small St. Cloud venue. Even as we speak, announced Linda Wines, St. Cloud is expanding its convention center, so we should be able to accommodate attendees more comfortably in the future. The current expansion and renovation is expected to be completed before our show and convention in 2010. La Familia, a St. Cloud restaurant, has been chosen for the 2010 banquet. The 2006 Fat Quarter Stroll in St. Cloud was a big hit. MQ does well financially at the St. Cloud annual show and conference.

Seventh Speaker asked whether each person’s nametag, at the 2009 show in Duluth, could show their MQ membership number or indicate that a person is a current member. She thought there should be more benefits of membership at the show. One example might be that members could buy a lecture ticket for \$5, a \$5 discount over the current lecture ticket price.

Eighth Speaker commented that she received conflicting information about lodging rates for the Duluth 2009 show. She was told one rate when she recently phoned the hotel and saw another (less expensive) rate on the MQ web site. Answer: Linda Wines said she would check on the rates that were promised and would look into making the information on the web site and at the hotel compatible.

When there were no more questions, Linda Wines thanked those present for their participation in the annual meeting and encouraged people to send their questions and concerns to her for consideration by the Board of Directors.

At this point, the business portion of the annual meeting was terminated.

The speaker for the annual meeting, Bob Purcell from Superior Threads, was introduced and presented an interesting talk. He was assisted by his son, Todd Purcell, who sang a song he’d written called “Where Did I Hide My Stash?” Mr. Purcell lives in St. George Utah. He speaks Japanese. He was in

agricultural and moved into his position as a petro-chemical engineer. He talked about problems caused by thread or its tension. If sewers experience problems with their machines, it is a good idea to check the needle. Needles come in various sizes. If thread is breaking, the needle may be too small. Top tension problems sometimes also arise.

Mr. Purcell informed the group that thread with less twist per meter is more difficult to use and may break more often. Eleven hundred twists per meter is a very high quality thread that should have long-term wearability. At the end of his talk, Mr. Purcell pointed out some thread that was going to be discontinued. Then he talked about an intriguing new thread that is water soluble and another wondrous thread that, when sewn to a fiber surface looks invisible, but when exposed to daylight it takes on a color.

Minnesota Quilters thanks Bob Purcell for his entertaining and informative talk.

At the conclusion of the talk, door prizes were awarded and the sewing machine was awarded. Jan Wolfgram won the machine.

Respectfully submitted,
Katherine Simon Frank
14 July 2008
Revised 16 July 2008 and 2 August 2008