OCTOBER MEETINGS
Thursday October 1, 7 pm and Saturday October 3, 10 am

Debbie Bowles of Maple Island Quilts, Guest Speaker Thursday and Saturday Meetings, and Friday Workshop

Thursday evening: “It Doesn't Always Have to Match”
It’s easy to get stuck in a personal rut in quilt making. This lecture and trunk show will provide you with ideas and examples about teaching yourself to take small (or larger) risks in your quilt making from fabric to design.

Saturday morning: “Life is not a Straight Piece”
We’ll look at some easy curves and get excited about what can happen when the lines aren't all straight. Informative fun for all quilters who "don't do curves!"

October 2, 9:00–4:00, Workshop: Cutting Curves Techniques Workshop
In this technique workshop you will try out 3 different Cutting Curves techniques that are inventive rotary cut and machine stitched: the Pagodas/Eureka Curve, the Bent Pieces Curve and the Carnival Curves. With each technique you will create a blocks or segments. After trying out the techniques each student will receive one pattern of their choice that features their favorite technique and have fun becoming a quilter with curves! There will also be demos of additional curve techniques.

About Maple Island Quilts:
"I began my pattern company in the spring of 1998 and have had great fun designing my slightly unusual and achievable patterns for all of you. I began teaching across the United States and Canada at about the same time. In 2001, my first book, Cutting Curves from Straight Pieces was published by American Quilter’s Society, and then in 2003, my second book, Dancing Quilts from Straight Pieces was published again by AQS. Each year has brought new adventures and allowed me the opportunity to meet so many of you.

Welcome Incoming Board Members
October is the time when the new people who were elected at the annual meeting in June join the Board. There is a turnover meeting at the end of September when the outgoing members pass along their duties to their successors. Thank you to all who have served, we appreciate all you have done.

Best wishes and good luck to our new Board:
President: Martha Eaves
Co-Presidents-Elect: Rose Allen and Pat Curtner
Past President: Bonnie Ellis
Secretary: Karen Knoll
Treasurer: Vicci Matsfield
Communications Directors: Rebecca Finch and Karen Kopitzke
Education Directors: Charlette Pittman and Sharon Peterson
Membership Directors: Mary Ann Baraibar and Barbara Jackson
Operations Directors: Suzanne Fisher and Judy Lewis

Board member contact information is on page two of this newsletter.

Receiving your newsletter via email?
All the members who receive the newsletter electronically collectively save MQ $10,000 a year!
Thank you!
Upcoming Events

October 1 and 3 meetings and October 2 Workshop, Minnesota’s own Debbie Bowles. Details on page 1.

October 15 to 18, Fall Getaway, Green Lake Bible Camp, Spicer, MN.
Check email sent September 10 or calendar on MQ website for information and registration link. And a little info on page 4.

November 5 and 7 meetings and November 6 workshop, Margo Krager of reproductionfabrics.com. Email invitation to workshop will be sent to members on September 30th at noon.

December 5, Holiday Brunch, email invitation will be sent to members on November 3 at noon. Questions? Email ed@mnquilt.org.

January 7th and 9th meetings 2016 Annual Quilt Show & Conference KICK OFF!
More calendar information available on the MQ website: http://www.mnquilt.org/meetings.html
Directions and map to our meetings on the MQ website: http://www.mnquilt.org/location.html

MQ Board of Directors meetings: Finance Meeting—October 20. Board Meeting—October 27. All board and finance meetings are at 6 pm. Please notify Martha at president@mnquilt.org if you have an agenda item and/or wish to attend.

DEADLINE for November Newsletter: Tuesday, October 6, 2015. Please send newsletter articles to editor@mnquilt.org. Any submissions received after the due date will be saved for the following month’s newsletter.

Highlights from the August 25 Board Meeting

Rebecca Finch reported on the quilt sale at the 2015 quilt show and she and the Board discussed options for the 2016 show. It was decided that we do want to have a sale at the 2016 quilt show. The Treasurer presented the Financials. The Board is working on the budget and that should be finalized by the next meeting. Laura Nagel presented a “wrap-up” report to the Board from the 2015 quilt show. The Board voted to add a Children’s Committee to the 2016 quilt show. Linda Wines presented a proposed 2016 Show Price List to the Board and after discussion and a few amendments to the Show Price List, it was accepted. The Education Directors expressed concerns about need more help in meeting and class set up and clean up. Board members will help out for the short term. The next Board Meeting will be September 22, 2015 at 6:00 pm.

ALL MEMBERS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND.

Respectfully Submitted, Jill Schultz, Secretary

For the past few years Minnesota Quilters has participated in the statewide Minnesota Give to the Max Day. That day is fast approaching so please mark your calendars and consider making a tax deductible donation to MQ on November 12, 2015.

Donations are tax deductible and may qualify for a match by your employer. Start thinking about donating now!! More than ever this year MQ needs member support as we will move in 2016 and there will be extra expenses in doing so. Thank you for your past donations, and please consider highlighting MQ to your family and friends on Give to the MAX day, or to donate any day, just send in to the MQ office!!

Here’s the GiveMN.org page for Minnesota Quilters:
https://givemn.org/organization/Minnesota-Quilters

October 2015
Thoughts From Your New President

I love the fall season in Minnesota. It has often been a time of new beginnings for me in my life. School starts each fall, and I loved school. College starts each fall, and I loved college. My career as a teacher started fall of 1967, and I loved teaching. My law education started in the fall of 1973, and while I cannot say that I loved law school, it was certainly a time of new beginnings for me. My career at Legal Services started in the fall of 1976, and my discovery of quilting came to fruition in fall, 1978. Fall is both a time of reflection of what has happened so far in the year, and a time of re-energy for doing the things for the year that you pledged to do in January and still have not gotten done! Thus, starting out my term as your President fits a pattern for me that helps me focus my energy and look forward to the new challenges.

We do have some challenges in the upcoming year.

When I joined MQ in 1978, I was membership #913. Our membership grew a lot in the following decades, but has since diminished so that now our individual members number about 764. There are MANY reasons for this, but to survive and thrive and carry out our mission as an organization, we need to be working toward attracting and keeping members. Do you have some ideas about how we could do that? Could you look around your own smaller quilting groups and invite them to come to MQ meetings with you? And by the way, could you look for those younger than you or those of a different cultural heritage so that all of us can benefit by broadening our own connections, skills and interests? Do you have some friends (co-workers, grandkids, in-laws, and men!) you could bring for meetings, or better yet, “gift” an MQ membership to them? I cannot think of a better gift! Re-growing MQ membership is one of our big challenges.

We are making a move to new quarters by fall, 2016. The Newman Center wants to grow its use of their building, and we want to grow ours so the cooperative adventure we began 4 years ago just cannot continue. We have a very active search committee, headed up by Suzanne Fisher of Operations, and we are looking at all options that members send to us. The Board has both the anxiety and the joy of looking for and finding “the right place” for us to carry out our Mission. Many of you have already helped by keeping your eyes open for possible new spaces, and we have at least one that really looks like a good possibility. But the Board will need your help and support in making this move as painless as we can. So think practically but think broadly… we will be asking for help from all of you during this moving transition of 2016.

Just because we are a large group, there are some natural communication problems that occur. It is easy to think that you need not volunteer or do not have time to do anything when you are in a large group where it “appears” like there is someone else who has more time, resources, or energy to do so. But just like the small groups that we belong to, MQ needs its membership to volunteer in ways big and small. It is fun to help out; we all know that based on our life experience, and statistics show that people who volunteer are a happier and longer-living group overall. And most importantly, you need not worry that you will have to “do it all”! Just like our quilting bees of old, where someone made the coffee and someone brought the quilt top, working on tasks together helps to get things done for the whole group. Sometimes we ask in a way that you do not hear, but making our meetings interesting and fun is not the responsibility of just the education directors. I met my now long-time friend Doris Kraemer by making the Saturday morning coffee for MQ meetings. We were proud we always brought real half and half for the coffee because at that time, it was not being done. And who wants powdered cream?!! So that has remained my mantra with respect to my MQ work, “who wants powdered cream?” when we can have something better. This is a great time for you to volunteer to do a task, big or small. And we actually do need someone to make the coffee right now for the Saturday morning meeting!!

Finally, one additional challenge we face is just maintaining our vitality as an organization. This week the National Quilting Association (which has not been around as long as we have), announced they were ceasing operations because of fiscal reasons. They just could not sustain the financial support for their mission. There might be many reasons for that of which I am not privy, but non-profits generally rely on the willingness of their members to look for ways to sustain their mission. A part of being able to sustain ourselves is to have secure revenue sources. We put on a Big SHOW for an all-volunteer organization, which I honestly believe could not happen anywhere else but Minnesota! But we will need to be undeterred in our efforts to spread the love of quilting to our younger generation for this to continue. And we will need the generosity and the ingenuity of existing members to continue as a vital non-profit.

So in this my first message as your new president, I promise that I will do my best to work diligently on behalf of MQ and I ask that you join me in this effort. After all, it IS fall and a time for getting those resolutions accomplished!

Sincerely, Martha A. Eaves

Librarians Needed

The library committee would like to invite you to staff the library cart on Thursday evenings or Saturday mornings. The cart is ready for your use with a box of cards from checked-out books and all you need to do is file the cards from books that are checked out and put the cards back into books that are returned. If you can help, please contact Barb Jones at barbarajones14@comcast.net, and thank you so much!

Barbara Jones
September Meeting Highlights

Thank you Martha Eaves, Janet Harvey, Sandy Johnson, Anne Marcellis, Paulette Marini and Lisa Stene for your excellent presentations and demonstrations at our Schoolhouse meetings in September. This has always been an interesting and educational meeting for our members. Our Minnesota Quilters members have great expertise and many talents. We appreciate your willingness to share!

Martha Eaves demonstrated “cheater appliqué”

Sandy Johnson taught English paper piecing

Janet Harvey showed us how she makes her fabric portraits

Anne Marcellis showed many things to do with 9 degree rulers.

Lisa Stene and Paulette Marini demonstrated “garbage can quilts” and their possibilities.

Fall Retreat ~ October 15-18 ~
Green Lake Bible Camp, Spicer, MN

This year’s out-of-town retreat will be held at Green Lake Bible Camp in Spicer, MN. The dates are Oct 15th-18th. This is a new location for us, but we think everyone will enjoy this space. We will be sewing, eating and sleeping in the same building. There will be three ladies to each room, the rooms all have their own bathroom and all linens are provided.

We have a Mystery Tote Bag planned, along with Sewing for Others, a demo or two, and more. Don’t worry, you’ll have loads of time to work on your own projects as well. Cost is $240 for members and $265 for non-members. Grab a friend or two and sign up. Better hurry because registration is limited. Thirty of the forty two slots are already filled. Information is on the MQ website or contact Anne McCandless at anne4514@comcast.net or Shirley Arendt at sarendt29@gmail.com.

Quilt Coaching ~ Sue Stein

Do you need an experienced teacher for your group, or a one-on-one coach to help you explore surface design or art quilting?

Go to www.susan-stein.com or call 651-303-6858

The Quilting Page

- Edge 2 Edge Longarm Quilting
- Rapid Turn Around Time
- Large “Wideback” Fabric Selection
- Nine Batting Varieties

Call today for an appointment
651 - 214 - 4545
Minnesota State Fair
Thank you to Gail Kieper and all the members who volunteered in the MQ booth at the State Fair. There is always great interest from fair visitors, and it's a lot of fun!

Congratulations MQ Members Who Won Ribbons At The State Fair!

Nancy Birger won five ribbons on her wall quilt at the 2015 Minnesota State Fair.
Lot 220 — Wall, pieced; machine quilted by entrant, Wall Quilt, Blue Ribbon.
Lot 229 — Sweepstakes, quilting. Sweepstakes
Lot 234 — Minnesota Quilters (winner lot 229)
Lot 247 — Bear Patch Quilting Co. (winner lot 220)
Lot 232 — Rosebud's Cottage (judge's choice, holiday quilt, lots 205-228 combined)

Other MQ Member Ribbon Winners!

Congratulations to the following members who also won ribbons:

- Kellye Rose
- Nancy Bekedam
- Mary Chalmers
- Mary Drabik
- Pamela Erickson
- Paulette Marini
- Janice Schmidt
- Beverly Hunnicutt
- Pat DuBois
- Karen Golden
- Elizabeth Lanzatella
- Randi Helling
- Kathy Julkowski
- Mary Alsop
- Karla Dahms
- Kathleen Winters
- Julie Ekholm
- Jane Willie
- Patricia Henseler
- Phyllis Stimler

QUILT SALE
LECTURE AND DEMOS
THURSDAY OCTOBER 8, 6:00 PM
LOG CABIN LECTURE AND
EARLY BIRD QUILT SALE
$5.00 DONATION TO
BREAST CANCER RESEARCH
FRIDAY OCTOBER 9  10-5
SATURDAY OCTOBER 10  10-3
QUILTS FOR SALE FROM THE PRIVATE COLLECTION OF
JEAN HUMENANSKY-
COUNTRY PEDDLER QUILTS
MIMI SHIMP –
HEARTSIDE QUILTERS NOOK
TOOL AND TECHNIQUE DEMOS ONGOING
SPECIAL DISCOUNT COUPONS FROM
PEARL & MYRTLE'S RETREAT CENTER
2012 ½ FIRST AVE  ANOKA, MN
1 BLOCK FROM MILLIE P'S
Hello to all our wonderful MQ members. Many thanks to all of you who volunteered this past month. We need and appreciate all of you especially Loretta Stone who has agreed to work with us in the Volunteer Coordinator position, and Sue Weiby and Nancy Bekedam who filled the Thursday evening membership positions. Thanks to all of you! All volunteers need to record their hours on the white slips at the meetings. Since our fiscal year started on October 1, 2014 you have turned in 1779 volunteer hours on the white slips for this year. This does not include the board or show committee. Keep up the good work! If any of you are interested in the following positions or have questions about them please send us an email volunteer@mnquilt.org or talk to us at the meetings. If you would like to volunteer for any position that is not listed, please let us know. Our new fiscal year starts on Oct 1, 2015 and there will be some positions open. Please let us know if you would be interested in volunteering for a position this coming year. We need you badly!! Remember this is a volunteer organization!

Current available positions:

Meeting Hospitality Coordinator, Day: This person will work with Tina Hollerman to make coffee and set up the treats on Saturday morning. Many thanks to Ruth Herbst for all the time she has given us!
Nancy Hall, Cathy Goset and Loretta Stone, Volunteer Coordinators

Volunteer Corner

volunteer@mnquilt.org
Ongoing Minnesota Quilters Exhibit Activity

Minnesota Quilters 2015 Challenge Exhibit: Dueling Dahlias

Minneapolis Central Library
Cargill Room, Second Floor
300 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis MN 55401
Public Library Phone: 612-543-8000; Minnesota Quilters Phone 612-436-0449

Quilters purchased a packet of three half yards of fabrics from the Kaffe Fassett Collective's “Dahlias” collection. They could add other fabrics and then create a quilt, article of clothing or accessory of any size. The only requirement was that the articles had to have a top, back and batting and fabrics from the challenge packet had to be recognizably present in the quilted item. The diversity of the objects created will blow you away!

This show runs through October 30

Quilts loaned to MQ for this exhibit will be taken down from the library on October 30 and returned to the MQ office. They will be available for pickup at the office or at the November MQ meetings.

“Scrap Quilts: Traditional and Radical” Exhibit

Textile Center
3000 University Avenue, Minneapolis MN 55414
Textile Center Phone: 612-436-0464; Minnesota Quilters Phone 612-436-0449

Quilters were asked to make a scrap quilt composed of 80% scraps left from previous projects. Most of the quilts were donated to MQ to raise funds for its charity quilting projects or to local shelters. The results run the gamut from traditional scrap quilt patterns like Pineapples, Irish Chain and Spider Web to radical quilts composed primarily of improvisational piecing.

This show runs through October 23

Quilts loaned to MQ for this exhibit will be taken down from the gallery on October 23 and returned to the MQ office. They will be available for pickup at the office or at the November MQ meetings.

Minnesota Hail to Thee Challenge Quilts Will Be Shown at the American Swedish Institute

You can enter this challenge by purchasing one or both packs of Cherrywood Fabric in either reds/oranges or blue/green colorways and making a quilted object that says what you love about Minnesota. The fabric packs are $18.00 each and are still available for purchase at the MQ office or at MQ meetings. The quilts entered and shown in St. Cloud will also be shown at The American Swedish Institute.

Fat Quarter Drawing

September is half over as I write this and I can't believe it that summer is over. Did you know we had an extra week of summer this year? Memorial Day was the earliest day it can be on May 25 and Labor Day was on Sept. 7. Did you make the most of that extra week? I hope so. I did, I enjoyed three very long days at the Minnesota State Fair and I understand I still missed several areas, and I couldn't possible eat all of the new fair foods. Beers were interesting with marshmallows, mini donuts, bacon and frozen ice cream added to craft beers. What will be up for next year? What can I say, the QUILTS at the fair did not disappoint. We are so creative with a bolt or two of fabric. I was in awe of the variety of quilts entered and inspired by many of them.

In October please bring orange and black fat quarters of any variety. They do not have to be related to Halloween, even though Halloween is my favorite holiday, after Christmas, St. Pat's Day, Memorial Day, Easter, Thanksgiving, etc. etc.

Contribute up to three fat quarters (18 x 22) of quilt shop quality 100% cotton fabric in the theme of the month. We'll enter your name in the drawing for that month (one entry for each fat quarter, up to a maximum of three). Attach your name, address and phone number to each fat quarter. Bring them to meetings or mail them to Minnesota Quilters, Fat Quarter Drawing, 1203 5th Street SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414-2030. Fat quarters should arrive before the Saturday meeting. We draw at the start of the Saturday meetings, you need not be present to win.

Molly O'Dea
**Lola Jenkins Class Coupon on Craftsy**

Lola Jenkins, the Trunk Show and Portrait Class Teacher for Minnesota Quilters in August has provided the code for a discount to take a Portrait Class on Craftsy. The code for Lola’s class can be used anytime at www.craftsy.com/ext/LolaJenkins_105_H

**MQ Tradition: Make a Block for MQ's Outgoing President(s)**

Minnesota Quilters has a tradition of honoring the outgoing president(s) with a quilt block. Patty Von Arx would like any 6 1/2” (unfinished) block of your choice made in purple/lavender/violet fabrics. Kathie Simon Frank would like any block (any size, but no larger than 12 1/2” [unfinished]) with a nature theme (trees and other vegetation (e.g. flowers); animals of the sea, land, or air; stars-sun-moon; wind; etc.). Bonnie Ellis would like 12 1/2” (unfinished) blocks showing chickens.

**WISH LIST**

The MQ office would like a small but decent vacuum cleaner to use in the office. If you’ve recently bought a new vacuum, please consider loaning or giving us your old one. If you have one for us, please consult with Linda or Debra in the MQ office to make arrangements. The phone number there is: 612-436-0449. Many thanks.

**Thank You!**

We would like to thank the MQ membership for the opportunity to serve you for the past three years. We broke the ground for capable, but busy, people to share the presidency of the organization. Thanks to all the Board members who served with us. And many thanks to all the hard-working volunteers who make our organization vital.

Finally, we can’t thank enough our two loyal and very hard-working employees, Linda and Debra, for all the work they do.

We thank you all. Sincerely, Kathie Simon Frank and Patty Von Arx

**Nancy Condon Awarded MQ’s Fine Arts Award**

This year’s choice for the Minnesota Quilters Fine Arts Award was Nancy Condon’s wall quilt: “Signs of Aging.” This piece was one of 15 juried into the State Fair Fine Arts exhibit out of 83 items submitted for Class 7 (Textiles/Fiber). It also won honorable mention in its class.

Nancy Condon is a contemporary quilter. She has been playing and designing with fabric since she was a child. She remembers sitting under her Grandmother’s quilting frame, helping by pushing the needle back up. Her mother taught her to sew on a sewing machine when she was seven. As a child she drew, then began painting, and finally earned a Bachelor of Arts degree at the University of Minnesota in Studio Arts in painting. She currently works with fabric that she's dyed and stitched, but she incorporates found objects and recycling into her pieces when she can. While she worked and raised her family, she continued to do fiber artwork. She says in her Artist’s Statement: “Being bombarded by so many images for so long…” (in her professional life as a graphic designer and creative director), fueled her desire to pull visual images together and “…to see how far I can take the ideas and visions I have carried in my head for many years”.

Nancy’s award-winning quilt differs from bed quilts and other functional quilted pieces. She started with scraps from a “failed experiment” in hand-dying. She rejected them from a previous project, but found they worked well in this one. Instead of constructing traditional layers (top, batting, backing), Nancy layered many sets of two to four small squares (a favorite shape that she often chooses as an element in her quilt-making) of this fine gauzy hand-dyed cotton (pimafabric) with Wonder-Under. Then she joined these layered squares into a grid using as small a seam as possible to attach them together. Nancy embellished the surface with decorative stitches, and, finally, “bound” the quilt with a finely spaced button-hole stitch.

This dynamic piece is rich in shades of burgundy and purple interspersed with bits of olive, gray, and khaki. Her hand-stitched embellishment adds interest and texture to the surface. Nancy uses her favorite thread ordered on-line from Valdani. It’s a hand-dyed colorfast perle cotton. Her inspiration for “Signs of Aging” came from the discarded fabric, her love of Vadani thread, and her strong painting background.

Nancy is very pleased to be the recipient of the Minnesota Quilters Fine Arts Award in the Textile/Fiber category. She thanks Minnesota Quilters for choosing her quilt. With the award money, she plans to purchase a treasure for herself from a fine textile museum in Prato, Italy or in Paris, where she will travel in the next few weeks.
3 Paint Chips Quilt Challenge for the December 2015 Holiday Brunch

This is a great way to work outside the box and try out different colors. Anything is possible with color! How does it work? At MQ meetings, find Charlette Pittman and get an envelope that contains 3 random paint chips and challenge yourself to make a table runner or a quilt (from baby size to throw size quilt).

The RULES Are Simple!

1. Use the three colors you were given and add one more color of your choice.
2. Black and white may also be used.
3. You must use all three paint chip colors so they are identifiable and clearly seen as one of the colors. The paint chips must be pinned to the bottom of the quilt when brought to the brunch.
4. You may piece the quilt, use machine or hand appliqué, or combinations of all. It may be traditional or art, it is totally your choice. This is your quilt after the challenge.
5. The quilt must be completely finished with quilting and binding.
6. Viewer’s choice judging will take place at the Holiday Brunch. Prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places.

Quilting for Others

Quilting For Others is looking for donations for the following projects:
All donations are tax deductible! Please fill out the in-kind donation form when you drop off your donation.

Tubman Shelter Project on-going needs:
- Quilt backs 80 x 100 inches (backs can be pieced backs, or a donation of 6 yards of fabric).
- Red fat quarters (9 strips for the Heart String Blocks can be cut from a fat quarter). 3 Yards of red fabric (will make enough strips for a twin quilt).
- Muslin - 3 1/2 yards are needed for each twin quilt. 25 yards @ $1.99 a yard (a bolt) with a Joann’s 40% off coupon would cost $33.
- Twin quilt tops (do you have an extra quilt top in your studio?)
- Long-armers willing to quilt the quilts.
- Batting for the twin quilts (in a size that will equal 80 x 100 inches).

Minnesota Visiting Nurses Project on-going needs:
- Baby quilts size 45 x 45 inches. A quilt this size can be used as a play mat or used by parents to cover a child in a stroller during Minnesota’s long winters. The quilt will cover the child and not drag under the wheels of the stroller when using public transportation.
- Donations of batting for baby quilts.

Meals On Wheels Project:
- Winter themed or winter holiday placemats (placemats will be delivered in December).
Focus on Minnesota Quilters Business Members ~ Mary Alsop, Prairie Quilting, LLC

Mary Alsop, a Business Member of Minnesota Quilters (MQ), started her long-arm quilting business, Prairie Quilting, LLC in December 2012. About half of her business is doing edge-to-edge quilting using a computer. The other half is custom work and free-hand quilting. Many of the custom quilts she works on are wool appliqué quilts which Mary said are becoming more popular. These quilts usually have a cotton background with wool appliqué, and many are embroidered or embellished with decorative stitches. The wool appliqué is “very forgiving” and has a clean edge that does not fray since the wool is felted. Mary commented that many of the wool appliqué designs are “more primitive” and include familiar motifs such as birds, baskets, flowers and trees.

When Mary quilts a wool appliqué quilt for herself, she usually uses two layers of batting - one layer of 80/20 (80% cotton and 20% poly) and one layer of wool so that the appliqué “pops more”. Mary noted that after the quilt is appliquéd and embellished “the machine can’t run over” the appliqué. Mary said that she will usually do free-hand quilting “behind the appliqué”. Additionally her quilting tends to be denser “so that the applique comes forward”. It’s important that the quilting “doesn’t take over”. Mary explained that the purpose of quilting is to enhance the quilt. Unless the quilt was created with a lot of negative space, you should see the appliqué or piecing first.

Mary commented that she has the ability to show customers how an edge-to-edge or custom quilting design will look on their quilt. For the most part, customers will ask Mary to use her discretion when choosing a quilting design. Sometimes customers have a specific idea about the quilting they want. Mary said that she tries to accommodate the customer’s wishes but that sometimes a particular design can’t be done or should not be done. Mary noted that she recently had a client who planned to enter a quilt in a quilt show but did not want any curved quilting lines. Mary looked at the quilt and realized that curves were exactly what the quilt needed. She said that she worked really hard and presented a quilting design the way the customer wanted it. Mary presented another quilting design with curves. The customer said “you’re right, it should have circles”. The quilt looked very nice when done and received a ribbon at the quilt show.

Mary Alsop started her own business. (cont. on page 11)
Business Member Focus ~ Mary Alsop (cont.)

Mary worked as a secondary school teacher while her kids were growing up. She spent a fair amount of time volunteering at school and was involved with sports. But it was not until her boys started to graduate from school that she had more time for quilting. She had no prior background in business, but received good advice from others. In particular, she received one bit of advice from Tracy Trevethan, who is a quilt designer and wool dyer: “If you are going to be in business, then you need to enter something in the Minnesota Quilters Quilt show. Hundreds of people will see your name next to your quilt.” Mary said “I’ve been entering quilts every year since then, in both the judged and non judged categories”. What is Mary’s advice to others? “It’s important to keep learning new things” - - advice that Mary routinely puts into practice.

Prairie Quilting, LLC is located at 11682 Mount Curve Road, Eden Prairie, MN 55347. For more information about Mary Alsop’s edge-to-edge and custom quilting services go to www.prairie-quiltingmn.com. Mary can be contacted by phone at 952/212-6800 or by email at malsop@comcast.net

Submitted by Barbara Jackson

Block of the Month – November 2015 – Prairie Flower

Jeanne LaMoore and Kathie Simon Frank

Wynn Martin decided to step down and pursue other projects for a while. Kathie Simon Frank looks forward to being part of this project again. Given this recent reorganization, Jeanne LaMoore and Kathie Simon Frank had no time to design and write up a new Block of the Month for you. So we thought we’d try something a little different. Instead we’re referring you to Quilter’s Cache/Marcia Hohn’s website where we’ve chosen the 9” finished traditional block “Prairie Flower.” We hope you’ll continue to participate in MQ’s Block of the Month project with us. We know you’ll enjoy making this pretty block. And it’s easy!

Go to the following link: http://www.quilterscache.com/P/PrairieFlowerBlock.html. There you’ll find the beginning of the directions, a photograph of the block, and diagrams for the block’s construction. When you’ve read page 1, click on the words “on to page 2!” near the bottom center of the page or go to: http://www.quilterscache.com/P/PrairieFlowerBlock_Page2.html. The second page shows the final layout of the block, a possible setting, and the fabric requirements. Note: We are only allowed to print text links for this pattern, you need to go to the site for the pattern.

**FABRIC COLORS:** Choose a pale neutral background like very pale green, very pale yellow, soft beige, or off-white. The other two colors should contrast—one might be a mid-to dark green and the other: orange, gold, apricot, red, brown or rust. Think autumn and Thanksgiving colors!

The pictures on the website are clear and the directions are easy to follow. Come to an October meeting to see at least one of these Prairie Flower blocks finished. We’ll draw a winner for these blocks at the November meetings on November 5 and 7.

**BOM GUIDELINES:** Each person may enter up to three blocks each month. Please include your name on your block(s). Make it simple: stick your mailing label on the back of each block. If you have any scraps left over, consider including them with your block (pinned to the block or in an attached baggie) for the winner to use in a border or for other finishing touches. If you cannot bring the blocks to the November 5 or 7 meetings, you may mail them to the MQ office. Please allow adequate time for them to arrive before the drawings. Address: Block of the Month, Minnesota Quilters, Inc., 1203 Fifth Street SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414.

We’ll have a drawing at both the Thursday night and Saturday meeting if we have enough blocks. If we get only a few on Thursday night, we’ll do one drawing on Saturday. You need not be present to win. We’ll call to notify winners. Blocks can be mailed to the winner or picked up at the MQ office or at the next meeting.

**Note regarding copyright on this pattern:** Marcia Hohn writes on her website Quilter’s Cache: “‘Real Live’ Guilds…may use my patterns…for Block of the Month programs…You may post Traditional block patterns in your guild newsletter…in their entirety, including the site and copyright info. You may post only TEXT links to my patterns on your guild website to have...members come here to Quilter’s Cache and get specific patterns.” Quoted from Quilter’s Cache/Marcia Hohn website under Terms.

Kate Eelkema won the September Bookshelf blocks at the drawing on Saturday. It’ll be fun to see how she sets them!
September Show & Tell (cont.)

Open House

A-1 Sew Craft

October 16th & 17th

Attend Janome Edge classes, watch Handi Quilter demos, register for drawings! Don’t miss the fun.

10am - 6pm Fri & Sat

Janome Artistic Edge

We invited Susan Clark-Enderson from Janome to teach classes on the Artistic Edge, the ultimate addition to a crafter’s workspace! The Artistic Edge Digital Cutter opens up a new world of cutwork designs for paper crafting, quilting, and embellishing. Hands-on class, $10.00 class fee. (seating is limited) Please call A-1 Sew Craft for information and to register (763-421-5100).

Handi Quilter Debut Party

Join us for the debut party and see why HQ owners are dancing with happy feet! Handi Quilter National Educator Steffani Burton is coming to do demos on all of the new products and gadgets. She will be doing hourly demos with Q & A time in between. If you’re already an HQ owner or you’re thinking about buying a longarm, now would be a great time to bring your questions to an expert. No charge, just come in and see what the buzz is about! http://www.a1sewcraft.com/

A-1 Sew Craft, 12454 Champlin Drive, Champlin, MN 55316, 763-421-5100
Sponsor Recognition

Sponsors are critical partners with Minnesota Quilters, enabling us to provide judged quilts prize money and special show features. Please pass on your appreciation and please patronize them whenever possible. Thank you for supporting Minnesota Quilters!

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612-483-0367
www.firstsewingcenter.com

Kelly J's Sewing Center & Quilt Shop
6140 Jean Duluth Road
218-724-8781 www.kellyjssewingcenter.com

Bulletin Board

September 3 to October 26, Two MQ Exhibits  At the Textile Center and the Hennepin County Library Minneapolis Cargill Room. See MQ’s Special Exhibit notice on page 7. Free.

September 20 to October 3, AQS Quilt Week  Des Moines, www.dmaqw.org

September 25 - 27, Country Quilters Guild Quilt Show in Willmar MN. Willmar Civic Center, 2707 Arena Dr NE.

October 3, Women of the West Guild’s “Minnesota Memories” Quilt Show, Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, Plymouth, MN, 9 am-5 pm. Raffle quilt, 100+ quilts, boutique, speakers, vendors. Admission $6.

October 9-10, Quilt Sale at Pearl & Myrtles, 2012 1/2 First Ave, Anoka MN. See ad on page 5.


October 10-11, Mixed Sampler Quilt Show at Webster High School, 7564 W Alder St, Webster WI.


October 16-17, Ladies of the Lake Quilt Show, Redeemer Lutheran Church 3770 Bellaire Ave, White Bear Lake, MN. Many lovely quilts, presentations by Susan Stein, vendors, Boutique and Garage Sale.

October 16 & 17, Evening Star Quilters of Mahtomedi present a Quilters' Country Fair, a country fair-themed quilt show including more than one hundred quilts on display, a crafters’ garage sale, country market boutique, country fair refreshments, and quilt vendors. Learn about the Washington County Barn Quilt Trail Project from 12-year-old creator Olivia Nienaber. A Quilters’ Country Fair, located at the Mahtomedi District Education Center, 1520 Mahtomedi Avenue, opens Fri. 9-6, Sat. 9-4. Admission $4.

October 16-17, A-1 Sew Craft Open House, 12454 Champlin Drive, Champlin, MN. See ad on page 14.

October 24, Windom Cotton Quilters Quilt Show. Windom Area High School, Windom, MN. Admission $5, 9-4.

October 30-31, 2015 Treasures of Tomorrow Quilt Show, Marshfield, WI. www.piecemakers.org

November 7-8, Hudson Heritage Quilters presents Patchwork XII Quilt Show, River Crest Elementary School, 535 County Road F, Hudson, WI. Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4, Admission $6. Guest Lecturers: Sherri Falls and Ingrid Barlow

For more information: www.hudsonheritagequilters.weebly.com
Sponsor Recognition

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2015 Silver Level Sponsors:

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613 Michigan Ave NW
Walker MN 56484
218-547-1122
www.frontporchquilts.com

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612-724-1079 www.gladcreationsquilts.com

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Designed by a Quilter, for Quilters
A1 Sew Craft
12454 Champlin Dr
Champlin MN 55316
763-421-5100
www.a1sewcraft.com

Jeri’s Quilt Patch
Jeni’s Quilt Patch
703 Brown St, Norway MI 49870
906-563-9620 www.jerisquiltpatch.com

JJ Stitches
221 E Main St, Sun Prairie WI 53590
608-837-2266 www.jjstitches.com

Kerry’s Kollectibles
1218 Industrial Dr, New Braunfels TX 78131
830.629.3922 www.quiltcurio.com

Liberty Homestead
115 SW 1991 Rd, Kingsville MO 64061
816-597-9402 www.libertyhomestead.com

The Noble Quilter
19570 Holt St NW, Elk River MN 55330
763-340-8263 www.thenoblequilter.com

Square in a Square
1613 Lost Lake Dr, Keller TX 76248
888-624-6260 www.squareinasquare.com

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4230 Spring Valley Rd, Dallas TX 75244
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Twin Cities Quilting
1085 Dionne St, Roseville MN 55113
651-340-8263 www.twincitiesquilting.com

Martelli Enterprises
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850-433-2771

Little Quilt Company
5315 Road 2A, West Bend WI 53095
262-353-9373 www.littlequiltcompany.com

SAVE THE DATES!

2016 Saint Cloud June 9 - 11
2017 Duluth June 8 - 10
2018 Saint Cloud June 14 - 16
2019 Rochester June 13 - 15
2020 Saint Cloud June 11 - 13
2021 Rochester June 10 - 12

MINNESOTA
QUILTERS, INC.
QUILT SHOW &
CONFERENCE
JUNE 9-11, 2016
ST CLOUD
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FOR MORE INFORMATION SEE:
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IN JUDGED OR
NON-JUDGED

For a Registration Book to be mailed to you please send a $3 check with your name, address and email to:
MINNESOTA QUILTERS, INC.
1203 5TH ST SE
MINNEAPOLIS MN
55414-2030
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QUILT DESIGN BY
SHELLEY STOKES
ENTRY FORM
2016 CHARTER MEMBERS SCHOLARSHIP FOR BEGINNING QUILTERS
For complete description of scholarship rules and printable form go to

Name:________________________________________________________________________

Address:________________________________________________________________________

City:__________________________________ State:________________ Zip:____

Home Phone #:_________________________

Email address:___________________________

Scholarship application deadline is November 2, 2015.

Instructions:
☐ 1) Complete scholarship entry form (above).
☐ 2) On a separate piece of paper, write a 300-500 word essay telling us what quilting means to you and what you would like to learn at the quilt show and conference. Write your name and address on the essay.
☐ 3) Include photos of one or two of your quilts and/or wall hangings with a short description of each. The quilts do not need to be finished. Write your name and address on each photograph.
☐ 4) Mail (postmark) or hand-deliver these items by November 2, 2015: Minnesota Quilters, Inc. Scholarship Committee 1203 Fifth Street SE Minneapolis, MN 55414.
or
☐ E-mail your scholarship entry form, essay, and photographs (.jpg or .tiff files) to preselect@mnquilt.org by November 2, 2015.

Please contact Rose Allen or Pat Curtner, Presidents Elect, at preselect@mnquilt.org if you have questions.

Please NOTE: All scholarship applications are reviewed and selection is based on the applicant’s essay, not on the quality of the applicant’s quilts.

*New or beginning quilter for this award is defined as a MN resident, who is working on or has created at least one quilt of any size, but not including a garment, purse, or bag. A quilt may be made of any fabric type but must have three layers: a top, a batt, and a backing. The quilt need not be of your own design but can include a kit, or a quilt made by a pattern. To be considered for this scholarship you must have been making quilts for less than two years and started fewer than 3 large quilts or 4 wall hangings. Please apply only if you are able to attend the 2016 Minnesota Quilters, Inc. Annual Quilt Show and Conference June 9-11, 2016.
MQ News is the monthly newsletter for members of Minnesota Quilters, Inc., a nonprofit organization formed to find and unite quilters and quilt enthusiasts throughout the state of Minnesota and elsewhere. MQ News is published twelve times a year by Minnesota Quilters, Inc.

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The mission of Minnesota Quilters, Inc. is to further the preservation of quilting, to educate and to document the art and craft of quilting in Minnesota.

Established April 1978.