AUGUST MEETINGS

Thursday August 4, 7 pm, Saturday, August 6, 10 am
Featuring Vanessa Lynch of Punkin Patterns
Friday, August 5, 9-4, Workshop with Vanessa Lynch
http://punkinpatterns.com

Vanessa, a sewing pattern designer, photographer, sewer, crafter, blogger, wife and mother of two wonderful kids, lives in Minnesota. She loves classic design, color, architecture, photography, style, fashion and of course, fabric. She is constantly inspired by life around her to create and contribute her own modern style.

Vanessa received her PhD in Computational Chemistry shortly before her son was born and she became a mother for the first time. During those first years with small children, she revisited sewing, knitting and crafting, skills passed on to her from her mother and grandmothers. Creating sewing patterns combines so many aspects she loves: design, sewing, photography, illustrating, technical writing and teaching.

On her blog there is a chronicle of her sewing, crafting (and occasionally knitting) adventures. She enjoys creating and designing her own projects (in the patterns and tutorials sections), teaching techniques so readers can learn something new or just a new way to do it, and she also loves to sew projects and tutorials from other designers and bloggers. She finds the online sewing community inspiring, welcoming and inviting.

Vanessa will speak at the Thursday evening and Saturday morning meetings, and teach the Friday, August 5th class. The class will be from her quilt pattern “Infatuation”. Cost for the workshop for members is $45, non-members $55. Not included is the $9 cost for the pattern that you must purchase from Vanessa’s online store, download on your computer and print. Registration deadline is Thursday, August 4. To find more information about it or to register find the link on our homepage on the calendar in the left column or click this link: http://www.cvent.com/d/gfqx43
This is our last meeting and workshop at the Social Hall at St Lawrence.

MQ Board Welcomes New and Returning Officers for 2016-17

Congratulations and welcome to the following people who were elected to the Board at the Annual Meeting on June 10th in St. Cloud. Board members’ terms of office will begin on October 1, 2016.
Co-Presidents– Rose Allen and Pat Curtner
President-Elect– Adrianne Lemberg
The following will each serve a two year term as director:
Communications Co-Director– Kay Genelin (with Rebecca Finch)
Education Co-Director– Merle Pratt (with Sharon Peterson)
Operations Co-Director- Kathie Simon Frank (with Judy Lewis)
Membership Co-Director- Lynette Wass (with Barbara Jackson)
The following Board member continues her position for one more year:
Treasurer--Vikki Mattsfield
Martha Eaves will move to Past President.

THANK YOU to the following Board Members who will leave the Board at the end of September:
Operations- Suzanne Fisher
Education- Anne McCandless
Membership- Maryanne Baraibar
Past President- Bonnie Ellis

We look forward to a great year in 2016-2017 under the Board’s leadership. Martha Eaves

SPECIAL!
Learn the secrets of Blue Ribbon winners at the State Fair on Wed Aug 3, 6:30 to 8 pm at the Swedish Institute. Susi McCune, Kate Eelkema and David Shattuck share their secrets!
See page 2.
Upcoming Events

June 18 - October 23, Quilting Art Today at the American Swedish Institute
August 4th and 6th, MQ meetings, Speaker will be Vanessa Lynch of Punkin Patterns.
August 5th, Workshop with Vanessa Lynch for her pattern “Infatuation”
August 20th, MQ offices move to new building
September 8th and 10th, School House is back! This meeting will be at our new location at The Recovery Church, 253 State Street, St Paul MN 55107.
October 13-16, Fall Get-Away at Green Lake Bible Camp in Spicer, MN

MQ Board of Directors Meetings: Finance Meeting - August 16. Board Meeting– August 23. All board and finance meetings are at 6 pm. Please notify Martha, president@mnquilt.org if you have an agenda item and/or wish to attend.

DEADLINE for September Newsletter: Tuesday, August 9. 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 May Board Meeting

A new “Workmanship” judged category was approved to be added for the 2017 show. The lease for the new MQ location will be signed June 29th, we expect to make the move in August with the member meetings to be held there beginning in September.

Volunteers will be needed to help with the move. The next Board Meeting will be on July 26, 2016 at 6:00 pm in Classroom A.

Respectfully Submitted, Karen Knoll, Secretary
ALL MEMBERS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND.

MQ 2016 Fall Getaway Registration is Coming Soon!

October 13-16, (check in at noon, Thursday, Oct. 13; check-out at noon on Sunday, Oct. 16) Green Lake Bible Camp, 9916 Lake Avenue South, Spicer, Minnesota

Watch for the e-mail invitation for members at noon on Tuesday, August 9.
Non-members- registration opens one week later, an e-mail will be sent.
$245 for members; $300 for non-members.
If you need help registering for the retreat, please call Debra at the MQ Office at 612-436-0449.
Any questions, please contact Char Wenger and Trish Timms at fallgetaway@mnquilt.org.

President’s Block

As is the custom for MN Quilters, a block made by members may be contributed for the outgoing President. Martha Eaves would like to have a friendship block that is either lime green or pink (any shades) with a muslin background and the contributor’s name printed on the front along one of the star tips on the muslin.
You may make the block finish 3”, 4 ¼”, 7 ½”, or 9”.

Watch the e-mail invitation for members at noon on Tuesday, August 9.
Non-members- registration opens one week later, an e-mail will be sent.
$245 for members; $300 for non-members.
If you need help registering for the retreat, please call Debra at the MQ Office at 612-436-0449.
Any questions, please contact Char Wenger and Trish Timms at fallgetaway@mnquilt.org.

President’s Block

As is the custom for MN Quilters, a block made by members may be contributed for the outgoing President. Martha Eaves would like to have a friendship block that is either lime green or pink (any shades) with a muslin background and the contributor’s name printed on the front along one of the star tips on the muslin.
You may make the block finish 3”, 4 ¼”, 7 ½”, or 9”.

One source for directions may be found at http://www.generations-quilt-patterns.com/friendship-star-quilt-block.html which gives the cutting sizes along with piecing pictures for the different sizes.

Blue Ribbon Stitches: Quilts and Needlecraft

Wednesday, August 3, 6:30 pm to 8 pm at the American Swedish Institute, 2600 Park Avenue, Minneapolis
Learn the secrets of the Blue Ribbon winners in needlecraft at the Minnesota State Fair. Join veteran quilt and stitching judges Kate Eelkema, David Shattuck and Susi McCune as they share their experience and tips of the trade. Free with museum admission of $10; free for museum members. Registration is recommended. Click here to register.
The August Move is Upon Us

Martha A. Eaves, President
president@mnquilt.org

Most of us have had to move at some point in our lives; some probably have more experience in moving locations than others and some saw a move as a positive for their life or a setback, depending on the circumstances. Regardless of past experience you may have had personally, the move of MQ to our new offices and meeting site in Recovery Church will hopefully be chalked up on your experience list in the positive column.

We have a very good lease: we actually are paying less for our new quarters than our old ones, and we do not have any “bonus” features like a basketball game above our heads or the need to guard against Gopher football parking on cold November mornings. What we do have are lots of good things: our parking not only includes the Recovery Church lot and the unrestricted parking on the street, but RC already has an agreement with the government office next door that we can utilize their parking lot for overflow on the north side of our new building.

We also have use of several smaller meeting rooms on meeting days so that MQP or other committees who want to meet before the main meeting just need to tell us so we can request use of those rooms on the church calendar. We can also use these rooms for the Finance Committee and the Executive Committee meetings on non-meeting nights.

The RC has also made available to us a locked space where we have 20’x4.5’ of storage for things that we might want for the meetings: the library cart and book rack; quilt frames; book signup sheets and other things needed for meeting logistics, and for Sewing for Others equipment. Like any move, it may take us a little while to figure out how to arrange things conveniently in our storage, but everything is only a trip down the hall- not outside- to gain access when we need it. Plus, we can store our coffee pots and some kitchen supplies in our own cupboard in the kitchen, meaning less to lug out of a closet.

Finally, the space itself already has a group of fabric lovers whose hangings decorate various walls in their offices and the main hallway, so you will know you are in the right place from the moment you walk in! Plus, hopefully we will welcome their group as new members to our guild.

But any move brings change: some will find their time to get to a meeting longer; some will find their time to a meeting shorter. As always, hopefully our meetings will be of enough interest to you that any extra drive will be worth it to you. We may have to develop a specific plan for accepting fabric donations at a different site; there is a storage rental space about 2 blocks away, or we may have to develop different donation rules. We need your input in thinking about these issues and others that may come up. We want to focus on our mission in every decision we make. So expect some surveys for a while and some requests that you come give your feedback personally.

Our new space does give us some options for expansion. We have access to a large sanctuary (seats 300 on cushioned chairs) if we have a special speaker come in. We also have the Friday between our meetings that we can sponsor sew ins, invite others to sew with us, offer classes to local people in the community, watch some of our videos or DVDs in the library collection (and even pop popcorn!) for these get-togethers. With some creative thinking, we can offer other quilting experiences that members may want, like quilt documentation days- the sky is the limit to come up with new ideas or old ones you have always wanted us to do.

So let’s get this move done as painlessly as possible; let’s view it as a new adventure and not a chore; let’s meet our new neighbors and encourage them to join us in the fun. And let’s work together and use our positive energy to make all things happen!

Enthusiasm is the mother of effort, and without it, nothing great was ever achieved. Ralph Waldo Emerson.

Apology to Margaret Solomon Gunn ~ and ~ Announcing 2016 Stationary Machine Quilting Award.

Minnesota Quilters extends a sincere apology to Margaret Solomon Gunn and to all quilters who entered stationary and track mounted quilts at the 2016 Minnesota Quilt Show and Conference. Due to a mistake made when files were downloaded from the electronic registration system, the quilting method designations of these quilts were switched, which led to errors in the quilting awards.

As a result of this mistake, Springtime in the Geisha’s Garden was originally given the Stationary Machine Quilting award. The quilt, ribbon, and sign had already been hung before the mistake was noticed, so the judging committee decided to give quilting awards to two track-mounted quilts this year: Springtime in the Geisha’s Garden, entered by Margaret, and Cache of Carats, entered by Gail Stepanek. Margaret’s award title was changed to Machine Quilting, and she was asked to keep the monetary award.

Show committees sometimes make mistakes, even with the assistance of computers. The judging committee will strive to prevent this from happening again at future Minnesota Quilters shows, but the Minnesota Quilters organization wants the quilting public to know that Margaret Solomon Gunn did not make a mistake when entering her quilt this year. It was entered correctly; the fault for this error lies solely with Minnesota Quilters.

Minnesota Quilters recognizes that as a result of these decisions, no stationary machine quilter received the best quilting award during the show. To rectify this omission, the show judges were asked by MQ to review all of the stationary machine quilted entries and select a winner. Minnesota Quilters is pleased to announce that Kaboom!, by Suzy Webster is the 2016 Stationary Machine Quilting award winner. Congratulations, Suzy!

Large pictures of all 3 winning quilts are on page 16.
**Minnesota Quilters…On The Move**

We’ve done it! We have signed a lease with Recovery Church in St Paul MN.

Since we don’t take possession until after August 1st, we will be moving our offices August 20th. To help avoid extra packing, please hold off bringing in donations until the September meetings or later. We are getting some muscle help from the Central High School football team members on that day but there is much more planning and packing that needs to be done before we move. If you want to be one of our members that will get a chance to see the new location earlier than the rest and you are able to volunteer to help out with some of the tasks that a need to be done before the move please contact Operations Co-director Suzanne Fisher at ops@mnquilt.org.

We are very excited to hold our first monthly meetings at Recovery Church (253 State Street St Paul, MN 55017) September 8th and 10th. The church is located 1-2 blocks west of Highway 52 off the Plato Boulevard exit. Plato Boulevard is the first exit south of 94 off Highway 52. We encourage carpooling if possible.

You won’t see many changes to our currently monthly meetings. We will still hold our meetings the first Thursday/Saturday combo as now, allowing for holiday adjustments. The meetings will still be held at the same time as they are now, Thursday’s at 7 and Saturdays at 10 with an hour before for social hour. It is handicap accessible. There is a kitchenette for us to use so there will still be coffee & treats. We will still have our library and free table. We still have room for Quilting for Others, Merchandise, Show & Tell tables, Raffle Quilts and any other monthly activities that take place.

Some things are changing for the better. There are more parking spaces at Recovery Church than our current location, as well as street parking. There is a common area that we will use for check in that is on the way in but separate from the fellowship hall where we will hold the meetings. There are 7 stalls in the women’s bathroom…no waiting! The fellowship hall is big and well lit. Best of all…there won’t be people playing basketball over our heads.

Be sure to put the September meetings on your calendar now so you won’t miss the first of many great meetings at Recovery Church.

Suzanne Fisher
Quilting in the Castle—Summer MQ Activities at the American Swedish Institute

Blue Ribbon Stitches: Quilts and Needlecraft
Wednesday, August 3, 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm
Learn the secrets of the Blue Ribbon winners in needlecraft at the Minnesota State Fair. Join veteran quilt and stitching judges Kate Eelkema, David Shattuck and Susi McCune as they share their experience and tips of the trade. Free with ASI museum admission. See the bottom of page 2.

Minnesota Quilters Demos in the Museum Library
If you like attending retreats, consider participating in the quilting demos that Minnesota Quilters is doing on Saturdays, Sundays and Wednesday evenings at the American Swedish Institute as part of the museum’s “Quilting Arts Today” exhibit. The purpose of the demos is to show museum visitors different quilting techniques and to have available during the exhibit experts on quilting who can answer questions about how some of the quilts were made. But believe me, we have a lot of fun doing these. If you would like to participate please contact mqgalleryexhibits@mnquilt.org. The schedule for the demos is as follows:

- Saturdays – 10- 5
- Sundays – 1- 5
- Wednesdays – 4- 8

Minnesota Quilters Trunk Shows
We are also sponsoring a series of trunk shows at the museum this summer to show the work of local quilters. Three trunk shows have been held as of the date this article was written and all had at least a dozen people attending. Trunk shows on Saturdays are at 11 and 2 and trunk shows on Sundays are at 2. The schedule for the remaining shows is as follows:

- July 17 – Nancy Brown Bekedam
- July 23 & 24 – Nancy Birger (7/23) and Truly Unruly (7/24)
- July 30 & 31 – Peggy Wright
- August 7 – Pat Cox
- August 13 – Tina Hughes
- August 21 – Miki Peine
- August 24 – Jan Schmidt (Wednesday, 4-8)
- August 27 – Kathy Simon Frank/Carole Premack
- September 10 & 11 – Ann Tiller/Joan Neudecker
- October 9 – Susan Stein

Minnesota Quilters Went On The Road to Brainerd, Minnesota on July 9
Forty-one Minnesota quilters had a wonderful day on the bus trip. The meeting was with the Pinetree Patchwork Quilt Guild at the Northland Arboretum in Brainerd. Emily Hardwig of the Red Button Quilt Company was the featured speaker. Stops along the way and back home were at Old Creamery Quilt Shop in Randall, MN, Colorz for Quilts in Baxter, MN and Country Caboose Quilts in Wahkon, MN.
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. All volunteers need to record their hours on the white slips at the meetings. Since the first quarter of our fiscal year starting Oct 1 you have turned in 1488 hours on the white slips. 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 us 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 next fiscal year will start on Oct 1, 2016 and there will be some positions open. Please let us know if you would be interested in volunteering for a position this year. We need you! Remember this is a volunteer organization!

Current available positions:

**Gallery Exhibit Committee:** Rebecca Finch is looking for help on this committee. See her at the meeting or email MQgalleryexibits@mnquilt.org.

**Meeting Coordinator, Day:** This person helps the other meeting coordinator run meetings and hand out door prizes. For more information talk to Loretta Stone at the meeting.

**Historian:** This position keeps info, newsletters and important papers in an album or scrapbook for MQ. For more information contact President Martha Eaves.

**Two Coordinators- In Town Retreat:** This is to plan the fall retreat at Millie P’s in September. If interested talk to Sharon Peterson or us at a meeting.

2016 Holiday Brunch Scavenger Hunt Challenge

Here is this year’s challenge! We hope you have fun with it. The challenge is to incorporate as many of the items listed below into your quilt as possible. How you accomplish that is open to: block choices, appliqué, quilting, embellishment, your imagination.

Please include a label on that back of your quilt telling how many of the items you incorporated into your project (no need to list them).

Prizes will be awarded to the quilt that incorporates the most items and the quilt with the most creative and cohesive presentation of the items.

Questions? Contact: Rita Culshaw – trnrculshaw@comcast.net, or Jean Carr – jeanocarr@gmail.com

1. Element from article of clothing 12. Flower or plant 23. Zig Zag
5. Cat 16. Fish 27. Spoon or Fork
11. Rabbit 22. Spade

Quilter of the Year Nominations

Time is running short...deadline is September 9th! We are now taking nominations for consideration for our 2017 Quilter of the Year. Each year the MQ Board of Directors chooses a Quilter of the Year who is invited to greet visitors and exhibit quilts at the annual show and conference. The Board now seeks suggestions from our MQ membership for the 2017 Quilter of the Year.

The Quilter of the Year must meet the following criteria:

- have lived and worked in Minnesota within the past five years,
- have a significant body of work,
- be known nationally, and
- be dedicated to the promotion of quilting.

If you would like to nominate a quilter who fits these criteria, please send a short letter of nomination by September 10, 2016 via e-mail to preselect@mnquilt.org or by US mail to President Elect, c/o Minnesota Quilters, 1203 Fifth Street SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414-2030 postmarked by September 9, 2016.

We look forward to your suggestions!

Rose Allen and Pat Curtner
Attic Cats - Block of the Month - September 2016

Jeanne LaMoore and Kathie Simon Frank

9 1/2" unfinished
This is a simple-to-make attic windows block. It's so fast and easy, you might want to make 3 for the drawing and 3 for yourself! Directions are for 2 blocks.

Fabric requirements
Cat feature fabric (any cat, domesticated or wild)
 Medium dark fabric for window frame (side)
 Lighter fabric in same color family for windowsill (bottom)

To make 2 blocks cut:
(2) 7-1/2" × 7-1/2" squares fussy-cut with the cat(s) centered in the square. Each may be from the same fabric or from different parts of the same fabric, or from completely different fabrics.
(2) 2-1/2" × 7-1/2" rectangles of medium-dark window fabric
(2) 2-1/2" × 7-1/2" rectangles of lighter sill fabric
(2) 3" ×3" squares, one each of the dark and light window-frame fabrics

Sewing Instructions:

On the light-colored 3" squares, draw a line diagonally. Place dark and light 3" squares right sides together, and sew 1/4" each side of the line. Cut on your drawn line, press open and you'll have 2 half-square triangle blocks. Trim each to 2-1/2" × 2 -1/2" centering your ruler on the diagonal. Set these 2 blocks aside.

Sew the dark frame fabric to the left side of your fussy-cut cat square. Press seam to the left.

Sew one half-square triangle to the light frame fabric with the dark triangle next to the dark frame and the light triangle next to the light frame. Press seam to the right.

Sew the strip with the lighter frame fabric to the bottom of the cat+dark frame section, matching seams. Press.

You can add a narrow sashing on the top and right-hand side of each of these blocks. The result looks like many windows side-by-side, through which you’re looking at different scenes of cats.

*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 August 4th or 6th 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, 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.

Markey Dwyer of Duluth won the nine super simple squares for July.

Fat Quarter Drawing

The theme for August is beaches, baseballs, vacations. Any color, any size pattern, so have fun. We all must have some fabric relevant to those themes so will be eager to see your choices.

It can't be the middle of July already!!!! So many fun summer activities and we have to cram it into such a short amount of time. Make the clock stop!!!!!

I want to thank those who planned the trip to Brainerd last week. I was already up in Brainerd at our lake home, but there was a large contingent who came from the Cities and it was nice to see so many come to enjoy the Brainerd Lakes area.

If you have patriotic fabric with flags or red, white and blue that you brought for July , we will have a separate drawing for them at the meeting in August. There was no collection in Brainerd on Saturday.

Molly and Becca
Facebook 101- **How You Can Help Minnesota Quilters Maximize the Effectiveness of our Facebook Page**

Minnesota Quilters has two Facebook pages that are used to establish our presence in social media. One of our pages has over 9,000 subscribers (people who have “liked” our page) and the other just over 1400. Both pages are used to disseminate information about the quilting movement and community and information about Minnesota Quilters activities. The smaller page is also used for discussion purposes for anyone with questions or comments about quilting or Minnesota Quilters or for anyone who wants to post pictures of projects.

These two pages are managed by Sharon Peterson, who has built up the subscriber base from almost nothing in the last three years. They establish a highly visible presence in social media for our organization and offer us an important opportunity for publicizing our meetings, our educational activities, our show to a broader audience outside our membership. **If each and every member of our organization has a Facebook account and follows a few simple steps our “reach” as an organization will grow exponentially.** This is very important in a day and age where free publicity and press coverage for arts and crafts events is almost nonexistent. What we are asking you to do is kind of like passing out brochures for MQ at the state fair but its a lot easier and requires a lot less time.

Facebook does not transmit every announcement or post to every subscriber. The number of subscribers who get a post is determined by algorithms that calculate how many people “engage” with our page by liking, sharing and commenting on our posts. The more people “engage”, the more subscribers we reach with each post. If you have a Facebook account and you have “liked” the Minnesota Quilters page you will receive some, but not all, of the posts that are done on the page. Here are things you can do to make sure you get the maximum number of posts from us and to help us spread the word about our activities:

1) **Don’t have a Facebook account? Go to facebook.com and open one.**

2) **Search for and go to the Minnesota Quilters page on Facebook (the one that has the Minnesota Quilters logo associated with it).** You should see four buttons just to the right of the logo. One of the buttons says “like”. Click that button to **like the page. To make sure you receive the maximum number of posts from Minnesota Quilters click the button to the right of the “like” button and choose “follow this page” and “see first”**. This will increase the number of posts you will receive from Minnesota Quilters.

3) **At least once a day open your Facebook feed and like, comment on or share any post from MQ.** This will increase the number of posts you will receive from Minnesota Quilters and it will increase the number of posts that are sent out to our total Facebook subscriber list.

4) **If you want to make sure you see all Facebook posts from Minnesota Quilters, go directly to the MQ Facebook page and read the posts there.** You can like, comment on or share posts there as well. This is a good way to follow the work of our organization and to keep yourself informed about what we are doing.

The more members who are active on Facebook the more visible we will be in the quilting community and the more effective our efforts to use Facebook as a means of transmitting information about our activity will be. Thanks in advance for your help.

---

**Minnesota State Fair- August 25- September 5**

It’s always fun to see your quilt displayed in the Creative Activities Building at the Fair!

The Premium Book is on line at: [http://www.mnstatefair.org](http://www.mnstatefair.org)

Entry dates for Needlecraft, Garment Making, Work of Senior Citizens, Handcrafts, Collections:

- **Saturday, Aug. 13, 10 to 5.**
- **Sunday, Aug. 14 11 to 5.**
- **Monday, Aug. 15, 10 to 7.**

**Gail Kieper will need volunteers to be at our booth on September 2 & 3. You get into the Fair for free! Please contact her. kiepfly@hotmail.com**

---

**Quilts of Valor**

Minnesota QOV is looking for any quilted or un-quilted quilts that were distributed at the MQ meetings over the past few years. The quilts can be returned to The Quilting Page.

Thank you,

Page Johnson [www.thequiltingpage.com](http://www.thequiltingpage.com)

---

**We’re looking for a few good people!!**

The 2017 Show, June 8-10, in Duluth is in need of some committee members! Think about how you and your wonderful quilting buddies might be able to help us out. Here is a list of the spots that are still open and need you. If you have any questions about what any of these positions involve, don’t hesitate to contact Linda Wines, Show Director, [showdirector@mnquilt.org](mailto:showdirector@mnquilt.org) or 612.910.7127.

- Show Coordinators
- Show Secretary
- Admissions
- Banquet
- Challenge 2018
- Faculty (a committee is working on this until we get our volunteers!)
- MQ Merchandise
- Raffle Ticket Managers
- Signage
- Vendor Move In/Out
- Volunteers

There are some nice benefits that serve as our way of thanking those who work on our show committee.

Be a part of the FUN and help make the MQ Show Happen!!
Quilting is Just Another Word for Playing

I hate to think that summer is winding down, but schools in some parts of the country are starting mid-August, and in just a few weeks it will be time to make the annual trek to St. Paul for the Great Minnesota Get-Together. So let's not squander what time we have left to play. After spending three and a half weeks with my five grandchildren, I have had a quick refresher course in all the games that 2-8 year-olds love to play. Though some of the names have changed and equipment updated, they are still pretty much as I remember them.

Trucks and cars still go whizzing across the floor with all of the appropriate sound effects, sand is loaded into buckets and transported to various parts of the yard to be repurposed as the imagination sees fit, dolls still need to be dressed, fed, and in the case of my youngest granddaughter, bandaged for a sundry of maladies. Board games are played with as many players as there are kids, and rules are adapted as needed. Puzzles are sorted by straight edges and colors and patiently put together in spurts of concentration, and there is no limit to playing War, Crazy Eights, Old Maid or Spoons.

Sunny days call for lemonade stands, running through the sprinkler, turning the hose on Grandpa, jumping rope, riding bikes, swinging on swings and drawing on the driveway. Swimming at the lake, picnicking in the park, and cannonballing into the deep end of the pool are still memorable diversions. And the best days end with a fire, some sparklers, and s'mores. Who doesn't remember going to bed with itchy mosquito bites and sand in the sheets, while listening to a bedtime story?

Needless to say I haven't spent much time in my quilt room. Oh, I've thought about it, and even managed a quick trip into a fabric shop that was enroute to some kiddie destination, but no real time for my favorite play. I have to be honest, when I descend the stairs into my studio, I may as well be a kid entering a toy store. Shelves, bins and drawers of fabrics in every color beckon to be 'chosen' for starring roles in a new project, but first they will need to be sorted and shuffled into a pleasing palette. Think of it as puzzle pieces that need to 'fit together' to form an interlocking unit. Now you know this can take hours as you try first this one, then another, but that's what playing is all about. It doesn't have to have a prescribed outcome; the fun is in the doing.

Maybe it's a stack of blocks in need of a setting that requires multiple trial-and-error arrangements on a design wall or open floor space - much like arranging dollhouse furniture in each little room- until you achieve the desired look. Or think of designing as laying out your ideas on the beach, and each time the waves roll in, you have another opportunity to recreate on a clean slate. But don't forget to take a few pictures of the ones you like.

Just in the mood for daydreaming? Then I turn to my quilt books and thumb through the pages, stopping to dream about an exquisite antique beauty or marvel at the improvisational piecing from QuiltCon. When I find an irresistible quilt, I'll peel off a post-it and write down my version of what it would look like if I made it. Or I might take down my pattern bins and 'pretend' that I am finally going to make one of them. Don't ask me how old some of them are, you only need to look at the range of price tags starting at $6.00 to determine their vintage. My photos are just as stimulating. Fortunately they are sorted by style, pattern, or show, so it's easy to find what I'm looking for. It's also fun to see what impressed me then (may I say 'a little bit country'), and what I probably could discard now, but it is part of my evolution as a quilter, so probably won't. In the end, it all qualifies as 'eye-candy', and how sweet it is that it comes with zero calories!

But I can't stay indoors and be a 'hot-house tomato' like my mother used to call me on summer break when I holed-up in my room with a stack of books recently retrieved from the public library. It's time to go outside and play! I need only check the MQ website for local quilt exhibits, and the county fairs are just around the corner. Gathering a few like-minded quilting friends for the Minnesota Shop Hop is also on my to-do list before summer's end. This year's fabrics are some of my favorite and Cherrywood has a fantastic bundle of dyed coordinates. Maybe this time I'll actually make something with them. And while I'm out and about I'm going to collect those free Row patterns with a 'Home Sweet Home' theme ('collect' being the operative word).

The thermometer just keeps climbing and the only way to cool off is to jump into the deep end - in quiltspeak that translates to opening a previously acquired kit or actually using one of my new specialty rulers. If I have to choose I'll pick one of each: a Primitive Gatherings nautical mini-quilt and the Quick Curve Ruler from Sew Kind of Wonderful. The package says, " the possibilities for using it in your own quilts are endless with curvy, circular, wavy, or leaf shapes." I bought the ruler a few shows ago and my friend bought some patterns so we'll see.

Honestly, it's been a great summer. I'll admit to a few moments of depleted patience and occasionally enjoying an adult beverage after everyone was soundly asleep, but it gave me the opportunity to once again view the world through the eyes of a child, and experience the delight and wonder of discovery - from the fun of pronouncing new words like 'delicious' after biting into a juicy peach, to learning about the Chancay dolls that were buried with Peruvian child mummies.

So you see, quilting is just like playing - discovering new fabrics, patterns, techniques, and fellow enthusiasts. Connect with the 'child' side of yourself and see how much fun you can have. If we derived no pleasure from play, we probably wouldn't be quilters.  

Laura Nagel
Dianne Pidde is a Business Member of Minnesota Quilters and owner of Dianne Pidde’s Custom Quilting. She grew up in a large family of 12 children in Mankato, MN and moved to Bloomington when she was about 10. As a preteen, Dianne learned to sew from her mother. Dianne said that she especially enjoyed the precise sewing of fashion and baby doll clothing. “I liked the tiny details”.

In the mid-1990s, Dianne learned to quilt by taking classes at local quilt shops. Her first quilt class was really two separate classes that she took concurrently: machine piecing and hand quilting. She gravitated toward machine piecing, realizing that hand quilting was just too slow for her. Dianne said that she has not yet completed the hand quilted table runner that she was making in that class. On the other hand, she has completed about 100 bed quilts and other projects by machine.

Dianne started long arm quilting in 2012. She explained that because her house is small, she decided to build a quilting studio on her property. The studio is 22x24’ and has really good parking. Dianne added, “That's where I do my long arm quilting business”. The studio was featured in a February 2013 Star Tribune newspaper article.

The same year the studio was built, she purchased an Innova long arm machine, totally hand guided. Dianne said “I couldn't afford the computer part of it at the time. But I really enjoy the hand guided element of it. And I think because of my background in pastry and cake decorating, it feels more natural to do hand guided quilting.” Dianne retired from her job as Master Pastry Chef at Lund's and Byerly's in 2013.

Dianne offers a range of quilting services, including edge-to-edge, pantographs and heirloom quilting. Dianne enjoys working on all types of quilts from traditional to modern. She recently had a customer who was thrilled to win a 3rd place ribbon at the Dakota County Fair.

In addition to long arm quilting, Dianne has done quite a few custom quilts, from start-to-finish. Many times customers will bring her ideas for projects that they want her to do. She has made memory quilts and memory pillows made of garments from a loved one. She has an embroidery machine that she uses to add embroidery to some projects.

Dianne commented that she likes a challenge. She once had a woman who wanted a graduation quilt for her daughter who had a lot of activities and T-shirts. The customer had cut out the logos from the T-shirts and had purchased the top and backing fabric. The customer had chosen a very slippery fabric that was soft and silky in texture, similar to fabric that you would might wear for a robe. She wanted someone to make the quilt for her but had difficulty finding a long arm quilter due to fabric she had chosen. Dianne took the job because she enjoys a challenge, and wanted to see whether she could do it and do it well. Dianne said that the quilt “turned out” and the customer was delighted.

Dianne takes care to listen to her customers and understand what they want. She believes all her many years in customer service as a pastry chef have helped her to be a good listener and engage the customer as a partner in the quilting process. If there is a question that arises while Dianne is quilting, many times Dianne will invite the customer to the studio to discuss and decide on the best approach.

About 18 months ago, Dianne started quilting for Project Linus, a nonprofit organization that gives blankets and quilts to children in hospitals and clinics. She has made 10-20 quilts from fabric that has been donated and gives the quilts back to Project Linus.

Dianne has started to introduce her nieces to quilting since she thinks it's important to develop an appreciation of quilting. In her family, they've always done a joint high school graduation quilt for each of their 12 nieces and nephews. Each of Dianne's 11 siblings (5 sisters and 6 brothers) do their own block. For example, one of the brothers will paint the quilt block and another brother has always embroidered his block. Two of her sisters will do some type of pieced or embroidered block. Dianne will gather the blocks and assemble them into a quilt. Over the last 15 years, each of the children has been so appreciative and looks forward to receiving their graduation quilt.

When Dianne is not busy quilting for others or herself, she enjoys gardening and has a one year old yellow labrador. Of course, she still enjoys cooking and baking, including bringing treats to Minnesota quilt meetings.

Most people hear about Dianne Pidde’s long arm quilting business by word-of-mouth. Dianne Pidde’s Custom Quilts is located at 1619 Lake Johanna Blvd, Arden Hills, MN 55112. Dianne has a website at www.diannepiddescustomquilting.com and can be contacted at dianne@diannepidde.com or by phone at 651-636-1096.
Lexi – A Girl Scout Who is Making a Difference for Girls in Africa and Haiti

In the July newsletter there was a photo and very small article about a girl named Lexi, 15 years old, who is on a Girl Scout mission to make 1,000 dresses for girls in Africa and other parts of the world. Lexi is a Wayzata High School student working on her Girl Scout Gold Award Project, Dress for a Change. It involves making and donating 1,000 T-shirt dresses to girls in very unfortunate situations in orphanages in Kenya, Haiti, Uganda and Senegal. Missionaries from sponsoring churches take the dresses when they go on their mission trips.

Lexi wrote to Minnesota Quilters on June 16th asking for help in sewing the dresses. She will provide everything that is needed including dress kits, postage and transportation to your location. Blue Bamboo offers group sessions during their open sewing times on Mondays from 12-4. Lexi wrote that she has all the T-shirts and supplies needed to meet the 1,000 dress goal, but she is short on fabric for the ruffles. She needs 1 yard cuts of colorful cotton.

Here are excerpts for Lexi’s latest letter dated July 16:

Thank you for helping me with my Gold Award project! Minnesota Quilters and all those who work in this wonderful quilting community are heartfelt and I am forever grateful :)

The Women of the West Quilt Guild has helped me sew 400 dresses so far. I am in the process of delivering these completed dresses to the Kenya and Haiti missionaries. Starting August 1st, I need to sew the remaining 500 to 600 T-shirt Dress kits that I am making now. They are ready to go to any quilter or small groups who would like to help me sew. I also am taking donations of one-yard cuts of colorful fabric (I cut the one yard on the lengthwise grain to make 2 dresses. So every one yard cut makes 2 dresses. I just purchased some fabric on sale with the cookie money I have left (my primary fundraising for this project was my recent sale of 2,300 boxes of Girl Scout cookies) but I am now running out of fabric and money. I now need about 150 yards to finish this project up so I can donate over 1000 T-shirt dresses.

The Kenya and Haiti projects are already complete! I am now working on Uganda and Senegal in August. It would be so wonderful if quilters all over MN can help me sew the rest of my dress kits, so I can ship the dresses and finish my project this summer before school starts.

I am willing to travel to any small group or quilt guild or shop around the Twin Cities that indicate an interest to help me sew. I can share actual completed dresses with them to show them how they are done and I can explain the T-shirt kits. But my T-shirt kits are fully complete and self-explanatory, and it comes with a full color instruction booklet. I also have an instructional video on my website www.dressforachange.com. If you have quilters outside the Twin Cities, I am willing to ship and pay for return postage so others can also help me. I realize this is a huge undertaking, and I don’t want the Women of the West Quilt Guild to feel like they are the only ones I am reaching out to for help.

Below are photos of my first delivery to the missionary of Kenya Light of Hope School with Sandy Karanja who is traveling to Kenya this week. I will be delivering another 300 dresses next week to the missionaries for Helping Haiti Organization. In Haiti, the villages and orphans of Grace Village, La Loo, La Phare, and Montfort will directly benefit by receiving my dresses.

I would like to share this last thing with you. The WOW quilters have been enthusiastically sewing, because they love the project, and they have said the dresses are so much fun to make. They turn out so cute! And they say it takes about 45 minutes to make one, but some of the ladies who have taken 25 to 50 dress kits to sew have told me they have a system to make the sewing go faster. The T-shirts already have the white ruffle on the bottom, so quilters only need to add cotton fabric to it.

Also, every Monday from 12-4 I am at Blue Bamboo Quilt Shop in Plymouth during open sew sessions making the dresses. Quilters can come and meet me, bring their sewing machines and sew with me, deliver finished dresses, or pick up additional kits. I also have a Drop Off Bin on my front porch. In my instruction book I provide my home address. Just trying to make this convenient for everyone :)

Thank you so much for taking an interest in this project, helping me spread the word to find quilters willing to sew dresses, and maybe even donate fabric. Through this project I have met the most wonderful people, and I have learned that quilters have the biggest hearts. Thank you so much.

Lexi Fresh
More Ways to Help Girls

Days for Girls International is a grassroots 501(c)3 non-profit. Women, and girls are given opportunities to thrive, grow and contribute to their community's betterment when they have sustainable feminine hygiene. There are a lot of things in the world that are hard to change. This doesn't have to be one of them.

What if not having sanitary supplies meant DAYS without school? Days of isolation? Girls use leaves, mattress stuffing, newspaper, corn husks, rocks, anything they can find...but still miss up to 2 months of education and opportunity every year.

Girls in poor parts of Africa and other poor countries do not have disposable feminine hygiene products. When they have their periods they have to stay home from school.

Many people in the Twin Cities are making Days for Girls kits which consist of:

- Drawstring bag so she can carry her bag to school. Comfort, style and durability matter because this will be an accessory of hers for up to 3 years.
- Moisture barrier shields These hold liners comfortably in place while stopping leaks. Pre-loaded with one liner in one shield and two in the other to show she can adjust to her flow needs. Shields are leak-proof because of a moisture-proof lining called PUL.
- 8 absorbent tri-fold pads made from soft flannel liners that are super absorbent when folded in three and can be layered for extra coverage. Unfolded they are square so they dry fast and wash with very little water, AND girls can dry them without risking taboos.
- 2 one-gallon size Ziploc freezer bags effective for transporting soiled items and soaking and laundering items with very little water. Ziploc brand freezer bags are most durable. (Non-zipper/slider please)
- 1 washcloth
- 2 pairs of panties (girls' size 10 - 14)
- Travel-sized soap
- 1 visual instruction sheet

All information, videos, patterns and instruction sheets are on daysforgirls.org.

Classified Ad: For Sale

HORN QUILTERS DREAM SEWING TABLE
W: 60” Depth: 19.5” (55 open) H: 29.74”
ONE DRAWER $650.00 firm ROSS: 612-247-0075

Bulletin Board

August 5, Hands All Around Quilt Guild presents the 26th Annual Show of Small Quilts, Braham City Hall, Braham, MN, 10-6.

APPLE VALLEY
Quilting Service
Merle Pratt - Owner
952-423-6379 or 952-465-8695
applevalleyquilting@gmail.com
14663 Embry Path, Apple Valley MN 55124
http://applevalleyquilting.blogspot.com/

Dianne Pidde’s Custom Quilting
hand-guided longarm quilting to complement your creation
diannepidde.com

JJ Stitches
221 E. Main
Sun Prairie, WI 53590
9:30 – 5:30 MONDAY-FRIDAY
10 – 5 SATURDAY
(608) 837-2266
WWW.JJSTITCHES.COM

Bev’s Quilt Appraisal
Appraisals
Presentations, Classes
Fabric and Quilt designs
Bev Proulx
P.O.Box 451 North Branch MN 55056
bevproulx@usfamily.net (651) 674-7142

Jubilee Quilting Services
Longarm Machine Quilting
Randi Helling
Shoreview, Minnesota
651-340-8305
randi@jubileequilting.com
www.jubileequilting.com

Just Sew Studio
Authorized PFAFF Dealer
3 Locations to Serve You
St. Cloud
4124 W Division
320-654-1580
Roseville
1789 Lexington Ave
651-644-0010
St Louis
6312 Minnetonka Blvd
952-285-9927

Diane Podgornik
Farmer, Quilter, Crafter
Visit our online store featuring quilt kits, patterns, fabrics, and notions.
www.whoopsadaisyfarm.com

Little Mother Quilting Co.
Nancy Birger
Custom Longarm Quilting
1664 Millwood Ave.
Roseville, MN 55113
(651) 769-5953
Quilts.nancy@gmail.com
www.littlemotherquilting.com
Show & Tell at the July 7th meeting

Anne Marcellis

Rose Allen

Sue Weiby
2016 Diamond Level Sponsors:

Country Loft Quilt & Design
1581 Feller St NE Forest Lake, MN 55025
651-464-6260  www.countryloftquilt.com

At The Heart of Quilting
304 4th Ave NE, #2
Waite Park MN 56387
320-259-7774
www.heartofquilting.com

St Cloud Area Convention and Visitors Bureau
525 Hwy 10 S, St 1
St Cloud MN 56304
www.granitecountry.com

2016 Gold Level Sponsors!

APQS
American Professional Quilting Systems
23398 Hwy 30 E, Carroll, IA 50325
800-426-7233  www.apqs.com

Cherrywood Fabrics, Inc.
7881 College Rd
Baxter MN 56401
888-298-0967
www.cherrywoodfabrics.com

Granny’s Legacy Patterns
2351 Hi Tec Ave, Albert Lea MN 56007
507-377-0771  grannyslegacypatterns.com

Gruber’s Quilt Shop
310 4th Ave NE
Waite Park MN 56387
320-259-4360
www.grubersquiltshop.com

2016 Silver Level Sponsors:

A1 Sew Craft
12454 Champlin Dr
Champlin MN 55316
763-421-5100
www.a1sewcraft.com

J & M Designs
8189 Cloman Ave E
Inver Grove Heights, MN 55067
651-455-1923

JJ Stitches
221 E Main St
Sun Prairie WI 53590-2224
608-837-2266
www.jjstitches.com

Hannah Johnson Fabrics
4511 E Superior St, Duluth MN 55904
218-525-7800  www.hannahjohnsonfabrics.com

Kerry’s Kollectibles
1218 Industrial Dr, New Braunfels TX 78130
830-629-3922  www.quiltcurio.com

2016 Diamond Level Sponsors:

BJ Sewing
216 Central Ave S
Faribault MN 55021
507-334-4738
www.elnausa.com

Prairie Gathering Quilt Shop
850 Racine St #104, Menasha WI 54952
920-722-7233  primitivegatherings.us

Quilt Haven on Main
7 N Main St, Hutchinson MN 55350
320-587-8341  www.quilthavenonmain.com

Superior Threads
PO Box 1672
St. George UT 84771
435-652-1867
www.superiorthreads.com

Sew Cherished
1088 Tablerock Cir
Branson MO 65616-7192
352-459-3925  www.sewcherished.com

© 2016 Minnesota Quilters, Inc.
“Springtime in the Geisha’s Garden”
By Margaret Solomon Gunn
2016 Machine Quilting Track Mounted Award

“Cache of Carats”
By Gail Stepanek
2016 Machine Quilting Track Mounted Award

“Kaboom!”
by Suzy Webster.
2016 Machine Quilting Stationary Machine Award
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.

The views expressed herein are not necessarily those of Minnesota Quilters, Inc. Although every effort has been made to provide timely and accurate information, Minnesota Quilters, Inc. shall have no liability to any person or entity with respect to liability, loss, or damage caused or alleged to be caused directly or indirectly by the information contained in this newsletter. This publication is intended to provide generalized information only and not to render professional advice. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise without prior written permission of Minnesota Quilters, Inc. © 2016 All rights reserved. Deadline for submissions is the 1st of the month for the following month. Ads and articles may be sent to: Minnesota Quilters, Inc. Editor, 1203 Fifth Street SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414-2030, or email editor@mnquilt.org

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.

For a printable form from our website go to: http://www.mnquilt.org/documents/PaperMembershipForm.pdf

Minnesota Quilters, Inc. Membership Form

Member Information:

Member name, or gift recipients’ name (please print):
Address:
City: State: Zip:
Home and/or cell phone:
Email:

Membership Levels: (all include free entry into general membership meetings)

Payment Information:

This membership is: New Renewing Gift (circle one)
I would like to make an additional donation of $
Check Cash Visa Mastercard Discover (circle one)
Credit Card No:
Expire date: CVV2 3 digit code on back:

Name on credit card (please print): Phone:
Signature:

I would like my newsletter: (check one)____Emailed to me in full color or _____Mailed to me in black and white

Please mail your completed form and payment to: Minnesota Quilters, Inc. 1203 5th St SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414-2030 For questions call 612-436-0449

Please mail your completed form and payment to: Minnesota Quilters, Inc. 1203 5th St SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414-2030 For questions call 612-436-0449

August 2016 © 2016 Minnesota Quilters, Inc.