2016 Holiday Brunch
Saturday December 3, 2016, 10:00 am

We hope you will join us at this year’s Minnesota Quilters Holiday Brunch. It will be held at Edinburgh USA Golf Course, 8700 Edinbrook Crossing, Brooklyn Park, MN 55433. The brunch will be in the Grand Ballroom on 1st floor, doors will open at 10:00, brunch will be served at 10:45.

Valet parking for the day of our function was requested but we are not sure if it will be available. If the Valet sign is visible close to the front door beginning at 9:45, it means he is working and will gladly take your car to the lot. A tip of $3 - $5 would be appropriate, as they work for tips.

The tradition of Christmas Stockings for St Joseph’s Home for Children in Minneapolis will continue this year with a little different twist. The stockings will not be judged. Instead, because so many stockings are needed, your name will go into a drawing for each stocking donated. So, sew up a storm! The more you make the more chances you have to win. The pattern can be found on the MQ website: www.mnquilt.org/documents_HolidayStockingPattern.pdf. If you are not inclined to make a stocking, stocking stuffers (especially for teens) are badly needed. Monetary gifts are also very appreciated. Make out the check to St Joseph’s. Please make a list of your donations along with your name and address so St Joseph’s can acknowledge your contribution.

For those of you who are collecting blocks for that special Holiday Quilt, we are again having the Holiday Quilt Block Exchange. The blocks are to be 12 ½ x 12 ½ unfinished, with a white or off-white background. You may contribute up to 3 blocks. Use only quality cotton pre-washed fabrics. Submit only a block you would like to keep yourself.

Don’t forget to bring your Scavenger Hunt Challenge quilts. The quilt with the most creative and cohesive presentation of items will win a $35 gift card to a Quilt Shop of his/her choice. The winner will be chosen by our MQ Co-Presidents. Make sure to put a label on the back with your name along with the number of items you incorporated into your quilt. If there is a tie for the most items in a quilt, there will be a drawing between them for $35 gift card to Quilt shop of winner’s choice. The listing of items for the scavenger hunt quilt was in the September and October MQ newsletters.

You must pre-register by Tuesday November 22nd. A registration link is on the website. You may pay by check or credit card when registering online. Tickets are $25 for members and $30 for non-members. If you prefer not to register online, call the MQ office at 651-224-3572.

What else is going to happen? Well, you’ll have to come to find out!

See you at the Holiday Brunch,
Rita Culshaw, Jean Carr
and associates, Terri Krysan, Kathie Simon Frank, Yvonne Curran, and Mary Ann Baraibar.
**Upcoming Events**

December 3, Holiday Brunch, Edinburgh, Brooklyn Park, MN.

January 5 and 7, Annual Quilt Show and Conference KICK OFF!

January 6, Quilting For Others at the MQ location.

January 16, Workshop with Suzy Webster! Details coming to your email in December.

February 2 and 4, lectures by Suzy Webster.

More calendar information available on the MQ website: [http://www.mnquilt.org/meetings.html](http://www.mnquilt.org/meetings.html)

Directions and map to our meetings on the MQ website: [http://www.mnquilt.org/location.html](http://www.mnquilt.org/location.html)

**MQ Board of Directors Meetings:** Combined Finance and Board Meeting—Tuesday, December 20. All board and finance meetings are at 6 pm. Please notify Rose or Pat, president@mnquilt.org if you have an agenda item and/or wish to attend.

**DEADLINE for January Newsletter:** Tuesday, December 6. 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 October Board Meeting**

Fabric choices for the 2018 challenge were presented. The Audit is scheduled for the week after Thanksgiving. The 2016-2017 budget was approved. The 2017 Quilter of the Year was selected.

The next Board Meeting will be on Tuesday November 15, 2016 at 6 pm at 253 State Street, St. Paul.

Respectfully Submitted, Karen Knoll, Secretary

**MQ Event Cancellation Policy**

In case of inclement weather or another situation that may cause cancellation of an MQ monthly meeting or sponsored event, the following will occur:

- A posting will be made on the MQ website and on Facebook.
- A recorded message will be on the MQ office telephone.
- An email blast will be sent to all members.
- Time-permitting, KSTP TV and WCCO TV and radio stations will be contacted.

If a cancellation is pending, the MQ website will indicate at what time a decision will be made/posted.

**Volunteer Corner**

Hello to all our wonderful MQ members. Many thanks to all of you who volunteered this past month: especially Lindsay Leguillon - Evening Hospitality co-Coordinator. Thanks to all of you! We need and appreciate all of our volunteers! All volunteers need to record their hours on the white slips at the meetings. Since the first quarter of our last fiscal year starting Oct 1 you have turned in 2152 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 at 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 current fiscal year started on Oct 1, 2016 and there are 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 Coordinator** - Rebecca Finch is looking for a new coordinator for this committee as she is our new show coordinator. She will train anyone interested. See her at the meeting or email mngalleryexhibits@mnquilt.org

- **Library Committee Member:** Check out books at meetings and work with other committee members on goals for our library. Talk to past president Martha Eaves.

- **Membership Co-Coordinator Day:** Talk to Lynette Wass who is the Membership Coordinator on the Board.

- **Newsletter Editor:** This person compiles the articles that are written by members and creates the monthly newsletter. Contact Mary at editor@mnquilt.com or Debra in the office.

**Photographer Thursday Meeting**

Nancy Hall, Loretta Stone and Mary Tague  Volunteer Coordinators

December 2016
Message From Our Co-Presidents

Quilting for Others

Coasters for Meals on Wheels

Minnesota Quilters is pleased to announce our 2017 Quilter of the Year, Karen McTavish. Karen McTavish is an internationally known quilter, teacher, lecturer, and author who has been teaching professionally since 2000. She has been quilting on a longarm since 1997 fulfilling her two passions: creativity and inspiration. Karen specializes in crafting award-winning quilts using techniques which allow any machine quilter to replicate traditional "hand-quilted" effects as well as quilting today's modern quilts. She has been featured on television shows, such as Simply Quilts on PBS and writes articles for national quilting magazines and journals. Karen has lectured and has judged quilt shows across the country. She is the author of seven books: Quilting for Show 1 & 2, Whitework Quilting, Mastering the Art of McTavishing 1 & 2, Secrets of Elemental Quilting and Custom Curves. She has been a full-time professional quilter since 1997 – supporting her family through her craft.

In addition to displaying her quilts, Karen will be on the faculty at our 2017 show and conference. We look forward to seeing more of her and her work next June! http://mctavishquilting.com/

New Quilter Scholarship Extension

Minnesota Quilters, Inc. is offering a scholarship to the MQ Quilt Show and Conference 2017. Applications are accepted until December 10, 2016. The lucky recipient of this award has been a quilter for less than 2 years, has made at least one quilt but less than 3 large quilts or 4 wall hangings. Applicants need to be able to attend our quilt show June 8-10, 2017 in Duluth and will be awarded multi day registration, tuition for classes and lectures, 2 banquet tickets, a single hotel room for 2 nights and membership to Minnesota Quilters, Inc. for one year. Detailed information and entry form available at www.mnquilt.org

Quilting for Others

Coasters for Meals on Wheels

Minnesota Quilters Quilting For Others Project for Meals On Wheels in 2016 will be these easy and quick coasters.

Pull out one of those charm packs to make the coasters. Coasters will be collected at December 2016 Holiday Brunch. Here is an online tutorial: http://poppysseedfabrics.blogspot.com/2011/12/holiday-coaster-tutorial-updated-last.html

Stocking Stuffer Ideas

Please remember the older kids when you are looking for stocking stuffers. Here are some suggestions, and monetary donation are always appreciated.

Axe deodorant, toothpaste and toothbrushes, nail polish, African American hair products, new games and sports equipment, books, puzzles, crafts, non spiraled journals or notebooks, pencils, crayons, duffle bags, new socks, coats, gloves, hats, new stuffed animals, children's videos and video games, art supplies, adult coloring books and colored pencils.
Highlights from November Meetings

Pat St. Germaine, an enrolled member of the Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Ojibwe spoke at the Thursday and Saturday MQ meetings on Star Quilts and the Meaning of Quilts in Native American Cultures. On Friday she taught a class on how to make the All Nations Star Quilt. Pat’s business is called Native Threads & Trends, she does upholstery, leather work, canvas, regalia outfits, jingle dresses, repairs and alterations. She is currently working on teepees to take out to Standing Rock in North Dakota.

Friday Class photos
Minnesota Quilters Open House ~ Thank You!

Planning for a Minnesota Quilters Open House takes time and lots of various ideas, but none of that would have amounted to much without the efforts of the many volunteers who stepped forward to assume an array of roles before, during and after the event. From the perspective of those who attended the event, it was an enjoyable afternoon both for the Open House visitors AND the volunteers. A big THANK YOU to all the MQ members and volunteers for making the Open House a success. It would not have been possible without you!

We had a wide range of activities at the Open House: “Bed turning” of large quilts, hand quilting on an old fashioned frame, making coasters by machine and many hand quilting demonstrations by members. No MQ event would be complete, of course, without the wonderful quilts displayed in the lobby and meeting room. A big thank you to the many members who brought quilts to the event including Page Johnson and Mary Reinhardt who showed their award winning quilt titled Take 3 Fabrics, Just Add Thread. Quilts made by Jan Schmitt, Anne Tiller, Lynnette Wass and many other MQ members were also part of the display. The Minnesota Quilt Project documented several antique quilts. Quilting for Others demonstrated quilting, offered visitors a chance to try hand or machine quilting and displayed quilts that will be donated to other organizations. There were opportunities to buy MQ merchandise and tickets for both the MQ raffle quilt and the “Bridge to Hope Quilt Tour”. We held 3 drawings in which 6 people were awarded door prizes of free/extended memberships or baskets of quilt notions. We also can’t forget the food truck and sweet treats for everyone. Thank you again to all those who helped make Saturday such a wonderful afternoon.

Barbara Jackson and Lynnette Wass, Membership Coordinators
“Wish I May” designed by Kristin Lawson, blocks made by the Minneapolis Modern Quilt Group and quilted by Nancy Birger made a brilliant debut in October at meetings of the MN Quilters, Minneapolis Modern Quilt Guild and Minneapolis Contemporary Quilters.

“Wish I May” was the belle of the last Saturday of the American Swedish Institute’s Quilting Arts Today Exhibit. It wowed the guests at the Nov. 5th MQ Open House. It will be on view at all MN Quilters’ regular meetings.

The raffle quilt is a significant fundraiser for Minnesota Quilters, supporting community outreach, education, and quilt culture.

“Wish I May” expresses the character of MQ as it took many hands to make, practical inspiration to design, creative expertise to quilt in an exuberant celebration of quilting and quilters.

“Wish I May” is a bright joyful quilt which has to be seen to be fully appreciated. It is our mission to get this beautiful quilt out and about as much as possible. If you’d like “Wish I May” to make an appearance at your quilt event, guild meeting, quilt shop event or community event, please email Jude Edling and Martha Eaves at raffletickets2017@mnquilter.org

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**Show Committee Volunteers**

Show Coordinator-Rebecca Finch  
Show Secretary-Linda Kosfeld  
Admissions-Dee Legvold, Mary Tague  
Banquet-Brenda Lyseng, Kristina McCauntry  
Bus Tours-Loretta Stone, Marg Lundberg  
Challenge 2017-Miki Peine, Karen Kopitzke  
Challenge 2018-Linda Kosfeld, Betsy Shannon  
Charming Stroll—Gayle Cmiel, Faye Bodenhamer  
Door Prizes—Carla Kilkelly, Nancy Broschat  
Facebook—Sharon Peterson  
Faculty-Mimi Goodwin  
Judged-Kate Eelkema, Melissa Griggs  
Merchandise-Wynn Martin, Lynette Disrud  
Non-judged-Merle Pratt, Adrianne Lemburg  
Photography-Peggy Stockwell  
Power Point-Debra Svedberg  
Printing-Karen Knoll, Janet Watt  
Raffle Quilt Maker-Kristin Lawson  
Raffle Ticket Managers-Jude Edling, Martha Eaves  
Registration-Jan Schmidt, Char Wenger, Nancy Jean Hall  
Signage-Betsy Shannon, Jill Schultz  
Small Quilt Auction-Carrie d’Andrea, Karen Ohlson  
Special Exhibits-Mary Ann Baraibar, Becca Bracelett  
Vendor Move-In/Move Out-Barb Jackson, Mary Tague  
Volunteers—Virginia Gleason, Jean Hoff  
Website-Pat Curtner, Karen Kopitzke  
Youth Exhibit-Paulette Marini, Kathy Simon Frank

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**Minnesota Quilters 2017 President’s Challenge Quilts that Inspire a Child’s Senses**

Create a baby or toddler quilt that helps a child explore their senses. Incorporate elements they can:

- **FEEL**
- **CHEW**
- **GRAB**
- **MAKE NOISE**
- **SEE**
- **IDENTIFY** (shapes, animals, faces, etc.)

These elements need to be firmly attached to the quilt so the child cannot remove them. Use high quality fabrics. Any objects you attach must meet child safety standards.

Quilts can range in size from 30” to 45” on a side and should be square or rectangular.

We will be donating these baby quilts to families participating in local parent support programs.

To enter a quilt, bring it to an MQ meeting or to the show. You may label it with your name if you wish — or it can be anonymous. All quilts will receive MN Quilters identification labels before they are donated.

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**Call for Submissions for 2018 Raffle Quilt**

Minnesota Quilters is welcoming design ideas for their 2018 Raffle Quilt! 2018 will be our Ruby Anniversary, we’ll be 40 years old. So we want this quilt to be special. If you have some good ideas, please go the MQ website – on the home page, on the left hand side, there is a link titled “Call for RAFFLE QUILT proposals!” You’ll find more details about this opportunity there. The deadline for submitting your design is December 31, 2016. Contact Pat Curtner at: president@mnquilter.org if you have any questions not answered in the detail sheet.
Minnesota Quilters 2017 Show Faculty

Appliqué
  Becky Goldsmith - Backyard Birds, Blowin’ in the Wind, Stitch it in Wool: Texas Tulips

Design
  Becky Goldsmith - Practical Color for Quilters-Minneapolis
  Kari Schell - Introduction to EQ7, Introduction to Easy Draw, T-Shirt Quilt Design

Piecing
  Becky Goldsmith - Improvisational Piecing
  Pam Goecke Dinndorf - Sukiyaki
  Gudrun Erla - Stripology, Stripology Squared, Strip Your Stash
  Kari Schell - Mystery Quilt
  Mary Elizabeth Kinch - Four Play Fun, String Piecing, Small Quilts
  Small Pieces, Pumpkin Peel
  Mickey Depre - Half Scrap Quilts, Pieced Hexies Buffet, Happy Quilt

Improvisational Piecing
  Becky Goldsmith - Improvisational Piecing
  Pam Goecke Dinndorf - Ka-Pow

Paper Piecing
  Pam Goecke Dinndorf - Frond

Professional and Practical Useful Sewing
  Annie Unrein - Make a Backpack, Yoga Bag, Sewing Project Bag, Travel Essentials, Tote and Project Bag

Digitizing
  Kari Schell - Introduction to Art and Stitch

Portraits and Collage
  Barbara Yates Beasley - Animal Portraits
  Laura Heine - Fabric Collage
  Lola Jenkins - Portraits, Portrait Collage, Thread Art

Landscape Artistry
  Bonnie Langenfeld - Landscape Stitch Sampler, Beginning Landscape, Olde World Window

Fabric Dyeing
  Cindy Lohbeck - Snow and Ice Dyeing, 24 Step Color Gradation, Arashi Shibori, Itajime Shibori

Quilting on a Domestic Machine
  Lori Kennedy - Sailboat Sampler, Border Sampler, Background Fills Sampler, Thread Sampler
  Gudrun Erla - Mastering Quilt as You Go

Quilting on a Longarm
  Karen McTavish

Professional Academy
  Kate Eelkema - Introduction to Quilt Judging Seminar

Quilters Mind/Body Connection
  Michelle Cartier - Yoga

There will also be lectures and book signings.

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Minnesota Quilters is seeking applications for Show Director

This flexible, part time position (20 to 40 plus hours a week) oversees all aspects of the annual MQ quilt show that occurs every year in June. A position description and application instructions are in the left column on the MQ web site home page - www.mnquilt.org
NEW CATEGORY FOR JUDGED QUILTS NEXT YEAR

Most quilt shops offer Block of the Month, Row by Row, Mystery, or Kit quilts which provide the pattern and often all the fabric needed to make the quilt. Many quilt shows do not allow these quilts in their judged competitions. In 2017, Minnesota Quilters will have a brand new category in the judged competition of our annual show especially for these kinds of quilts.

Quilts entered into this new WORKMANSHIP category may be constructed by hand or machine. They may include piecing and/or appliqué. They may be completely constructed and quilted by one person, or the quilting may be done by a second person. Since many of the design and/or fabric decisions will have been made by someone other than the entrant, the judges will focus on WORKMANSHIP - how well the entrant has used the given elements to create the finished quilt.

This is a single, 1 or 2 person category. Please note that if you have won Block of the Month blocks at a monthly guild meeting and combine those blocks into a quilt, that must be entered into the GROUP category, as it is the work of more than two people. If, however, you have signed up for a Block of the Month quilt at a quilt shop and are receiving a pattern and/or a kit each month which you are assembling yourself, that quilt should be entered into the new Workmanship category.

There were photos of several Row by Row quilts on Facebook last summer. Did you know that there was a special prize for Row by Row quilts at the Minnesota State Fair, but none were entered this year? How about entering those quilts into the MQ show next June? How about the online Mystery quilt offered by MQ this year? How about that kit you just had to buy at the show in St. Cloud? Get those quilts finished and enter them into our new category in 2017!

If you have any questions, please contact judged2017@mnquilt.org. Kate Eelkema

Small Quilt Auction

Last year at the MQ Show in St Cloud the Small Quilt Auction raised a generous amount to support Minnesota Quilters thanks to your wonderful donations. We are doing it again at the 2017 MQ Show in Duluth. This is one of the many opportunities offered to you by the Show to share your skills and contribute to our ongoing success as an organization. The money raised by this auction goes into the general MQ budget and funds our grants program, our scholarship program and other charitable activities of our organization. When you make and donate a small quilt or other quilted item for the Small Quilt Auction, you show your support for the art of quilting as a whole and for MQ as an organization. Plus, the happy bid winner gets to take home an authentic quilter made item! Thank you in advance for sharing your skills and don’t forget to put this on your “to do” list.

Carrie D’Andrea and Karen Ohlson, Co-chairs.

National Association of Certified Quilt Judges

The NACQJ (National Association of Certified Quilt Judges) is looking forward to partnering with the Minnesota Quilters Show in 2017. Our interaction will focus on two types of activities. First, Certified Judge candidates will gain experience as aides and observers on the judging floor at the MQ Show in Duluth. Secondly, the MQ Show will provide a venue for the evaluation of quilts for the NACQJ’s Masterpiece Quilt Program.

We invite you to visit our website, www.nacqj.com, for more information.

Thank you to Minnesota Quilters for its support of the NACQJ Certification program.

Non-Judged Quilts for the 2017 Show

Will someone special be surprised with a quilted gift from you this holiday season? Have you thought about “borrowing it back” for the upcoming June 2017 MQ show? Two entries per person are allowed in the non-judged category at the show. Non-judged quilts are quilts that are loved, quilts that are used and quilts that are gifted. This is a perfect time of the year to think about entering those quilts into our quilt show! We’d love to see them!

Questions contact Adrianne Lemberg and Merle Pratt, nonjudged2017@mnquilt.org

Needed: Quilters to Volunteer for a 2017 Minnesota Quilters Studio Tour Event.

There were not enough volunteers last year to offer Studio Tours in 2016. Will there be enough in 2017 so we can hold this fun fund-raiser again?

Last year’s tours were supposed to be in the Northwest quadrant of the Metro area - those living north of 394 and west of I35, and the following year we were going to try for the Northeast region - those living north of 94/394 and east of I35. For 2017, let’s see which region has six willing volunteers, and we will go there. (And these division lines are suggestions, not rules - we will definitely allow some variance if you live in Plymouth or Woodbury and are just south of 94/394; we just want the studios to be in the same general area so we can get to all of them in one afternoon.)

So…if you live in either the northwest OR the northeast region of the Metro and are willing to let MQ members tour your personal quilting space from 1:00 to 5:30 pm on Saturday, August 5, 2017, please contact Kate Eelkema at keelkema@comcast.net.
News from the Meeting Library Committee
Now that we are relocated to our new home, the Meeting Library Committee will be better able to make our books more accessible. As you know, we have a rolling display rack and rolling library cart, and we often rely upon you to follow the directions for checking out and/or returning things. Our long range goals include having a list of books that we have available on the web site so you can look in advance to see what we have. It will be a “passive” list at first meaning you will not be able to tell if it is checked out. This is, in part, because we need more volunteers to work on Library goals. If you are interested and have not already talked to me, please email me at eavesm@visi.com and tell me your level of interest: be on oversight committee, be chair of oversight committee, be a meeting helping day or evening, help record books into our running list, write a “book report” of a book that we already have, or other ideas (run a book donation day; book discussion group, etc). The sky is the limit for any energy you have to put into our Meeting Library Committee!!

Book Report: A World of Quilts by Beth Ann Williams
Ms. Williams approaches the using of ethnic fabrics as a special skill and joy. She has an excellent preambler portion of her book that talks about many different types of fabric that are now available: various African fabrics, Australian aboriginal fabrics, Kimono and other Japanese fabrics, and Indonesian batiks. She then provides 10 quite simple patterns with good directions for using such fabric, and even a few tips if you find the fabric too beautiful to cut! Finally, she includes tips for finishing, which include both hand quilting and machine quilting patterns. This is a nice simple book to get you to buy and use these beautiful fabrics from around the world that you may have been collecting but not using. And she encourages using fat quarters for some patterns.

Check it out as it is in our Meeting Library!!
Martha Eaves

A Holiday Gift for a Child in Your Life
The Textile Center is introducing a Youth Fiber Art Guild, a once-a-month educational activity club for children ages 9 and up.
Here’s how it works: for 8 months each guild member receives an exciting new project kit packed with tools and quality materials to make a unique wearable item or gift using fiber art techniques from around the world. By following the simple instructions or online videos at home, your child will be amazed at their own talent and confidence!
A membership includes 8 monthly kits, an illustrated guidebook, materials, instructions, online demos and more, all for $80 per membership. What fun you can have helping a child in your life learn a new textile skill every month!
Visit youthfiberart.org for more information or register now

Fall Get Away Photos - October 13-16
Quilters at the Fall Get-Away had a fabulous time! Here are a few photos from the weekend. They include the demonstrators: Rebecca Anderson, place mat, and Carol Jacobson, baby blanket; MQ mystery quilts by sisters Rita Culshaw (blue and green) and Mary Ann Baraibar (gray and gold); the attendees who made the mystery bag, the lottery blocks made by Char Wenger; and the 3 sets of sisters: Rita and Mary Ann, Beth Wagner, Nancy Jackson, Paulette Marini and Joanne Cunningham.
January 2017 Block of the Month - Churn Dasher

Churn Dasher is a very old traditional block. We chose it for January because it made us think of a giant snowflake seen through a window. Why we’d have a thought like that on a 69 degree day in mid-November is a mystery!

If you’re replicating our 2016 raffle quilt “Contemporary Amish Sampler,” this block appears twice: one each in periwinkle and lavender, made by Mara Olson and Julie Post. We’ve chosen icy-blue and white for our block this month.

You may think the blocks are challenging since the pieces are narrow and the blocks are not large. Try them anyway! Block by block you’ll perfect your piecing skills. Think how good you’ll feel!

FABRIC: Choose white or white-on-white for the background (A) and icy blue (B). The directions below are straightforward and simple. This can be made with squares and half-square triangles, if you’d rather. See those directions on-line.

CUTTING INSTRUCTIONS:

White (A):  4  2” x 2” squares, 2  2” x 11” strips, 1  2” x 5” strip
2  1” x 8” strips, 2  1” x 9” strips, 2  1” x 10½ ” strips
2  1” x 11½” strips

Ice-Blue (B):  8  2” x 2” squares, 2  2” x 5” strips, 1  2” x 11” strip

ASSEMBLY:

Make two strips sets.
Sew together the 11” strips (A+B+A). Sew together the 5” strips (B+A+B). Press seams toward the blue.

Cut each into sections: the 5” strip into 2 pieces 2” x 5”; the 11” strip into 5 pieces 2” x 5”. Set aside.

Make snowflake points: on each blue 2” square, draw one diagonal line. Take one ABA section. Place a blue 2” square RST on the right side of ABA piece (diagonal line will point up and to the right). Sew on the diagonal line. Turn the upper loose corner down to the lower corner, press, and trim the bottom layers ¼” from your stitching line.

NOTE: Be careful to cut only the back layers! Repeat three more times. You’ll have four sections that look like flying geese with a flat front. \_/\  Press seams toward the blue.

Make a nine-patch from the remaining sections cut from your strip sets. Make sure there’s a blue square in each corner of your nine-patch. Press seams toward the blue.

Sew one snowflake + point piece \_/\ to each side of the nine-patch making sure that the points are oriented toward the outside of the block.

Sew one A (white) square to each end of the remaining two B/A B A/B point sections.
Sew one section to the top and one to the bottom of the center section.
Add border 1 (white), using the 2 shortest 1” white strips to top and bottom of block; then add the next 1” white strips to the sides. Follow this with the two ½” blue borders (shorter to the top and bottom, longer ones added to the sides). And, finally, add the remaining 1” white strips to the top and bottom, then the sides of the block. Press well. Voila! Congratulate yourself on successfully finishing this lovely block!

BOM GUIDELINES: Each person may enter up to 3 blocks each month. Please include your name and phone number on your block(s) and (stick your mailing label on the back). If you have any scraps left over, please include them with your block for the winner to use in a border or for other finishing touches. If you cannot bring the blocks to the January 5th and 7th meetings, you may mail them to the MQ office.


We’ll have a drawing at both the Thursday night and Saturday meetings 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. Winning blocks can be mailed to the winner or picked up at the next meeting or the MQ office during the month.

Welcome to year two of the $365 club:

In October of 2015, the MQ Board launched the $365 club. It is an effort to give our organization money to grow with... above and beyond the cost of basic rent, lights, etc. that we get from our dues and our proceeds of our state show. The idea is that since we all love to quilt, and would do it every day if we could [or maybe do!] that we would devote $1 per day to MQ to acknowledge our love of quilting with others.

To meet the 365 Challenge, you send a check to MQ for the number of days of that month, in recognition for how much you love quilting every day. For October, the check would be $31. For November, $30 etc. At the end of 12 months, you will have donated $365! We hope you will consider starting with October,2016, as that is our new fiscal year. We will not dun you...this is just a personal commitment you make to the group for all the good things that MQ does now and intends to do in the future. We ask that you write a check or give in cash on a monthly basis, as this saves us credit card costs. But if credit card is what works best for you, that is fine!! If you write a check, be sure to designate it as a "$365 donation" so we can send to you our little gift of recognition! Obviously, you can pay all at once or quarterly, etc., and of course, you can give more than $1 per day if you wish. Thank you to all of our current $365ers! Questions? Ask Martha Eaves, postpres@mnquilt.org
Looking for a Few Good Men – Who Quilt

The biggest story out of this year’s International Quilt Festival was the theft of a trailer packed with quilting equipment and a number of quilts that Jamie Wallen was returning to his clients in Houston. One quilt was for a family whose mother started on it but died before she was able to finish. The trailer and quilts were recovered, but the equipment had been trashed. Wallen, quilter .. artist .. teacher, is the owner of Quilters Apothecary in Michigan City, IN. During our eight years in the Hoosier State, Heidi and I never made it to his shop, but we did get to meet Jamie at MQS in Cedar Rapids last year.

Jamie is just one of several renowned male quilters in the world today. Many quilters are familiar with “musician and quilter” Ricky Tims. That’s how he bills himself on his website. “Ricky Tims has successfully blended two diverse passions into one very unique and interesting career. He is known in the international world of quilting as a best-selling author, enthusiastic and encouraging teacher, an award-winning quilter, fabric designer, and a talented and spellbinding speaker. He was named as one of The Thirty Most Distinguished Quilters in the World, and in 2009 he was selected (in a three-way tie) by the readers of Quilter's Newsletter Magazine as The Most Influential Person in the Quilting Industry. Wow!

There are others, of course. Guy quilters are nothing new. Far from it. According to worldquilts.quiltstudy.org, men in Europe have been quilting since at least the 13th-century. “Male professional makers of quilts (whole cloth), mattresses, pourpoints, and other padded garments founded the culstickers guild in the Flemish port city, Bruges, in 1293.” And this from vcreporter.com: “More than 200 years ago, men who quilted were a common occurrence in places such as England. Quilts constructed by English soldiers were prominently displayed during the 19th and early 20th centuries.” Hmm. Suppose Aunt Dinah’s quilting party had a guy or two sitting around the circle?

Shows and exhibits featuring quilts by the unfair sex are becoming more frequent. “Men Quilting! Quilts Made by Men,” was the theme for the 13th Annual Heritage Valley Festival of Quilts in Santa Paula, CA. Last year, the Asheville, NC Art Museum hosted a six-month exhibit entitled “Man-Made: Contemporary Male Quilters,” which featured works by Joe Cunningham, Luke Haynes, Jimmy McBride, Aaron McIntosh, Joel Otterson, Dan Olfe, Shawn Quinlan and Ben Venom. Other well-known male quilters include, among others, Mark Lipinski of Quilter’s Home, Rob Appell of Man Sewing, and AccuQuilt CFO Tim Hoffman. Check out “Tim the Harley Quilter’s top 10 reasons why men should quilt and own a GO fabric cutter” on YouTube.

But I’m looking for a few good men in Minnesota who quilt. Only three males, including me, attended the November Saturday morning meeting. It’s lonely out here in the Land of Sky Blue Waters. Oh, I could join ManQuilters, An Online Community for Man Quilters, or blog on That Man Quilts? I could look for new Facebook friends at Men Who Quilt. But I’d rather get together with Men Who Quilt in Minnesota over a cup of coffee or maybe a beer or two. Who knows? We might (not?) even talk about quilting. I know you’re out there. Drop me a line.

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November Show & Tell

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Correction:
This quilt shown in the October issue was made by Lynn Zuspann.

Show & Tell Quilters

Please remember - PRINT your name and clear descriptions on the Show and Tell sign in.
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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