Minnesota Quilters March Meetings

Thursday, March 3, 7 pm

Saturday, March 5, 10 am

Presented by Minnesota Quilt Project

Minnesota has a rich quilt history! We know this largely because of the dedicated work of numerous volunteers in the Minnesota Quilt Project (MQP) who began in the 1980s to document Minnesota quilts around the state. Over 4000 quilts have been documented.

The book *Minnesota Quilts: Creating Connections with Our Past*, published in 2005, was a group effort to highlight some of these special quilts.

The MQP group exists today as a standing committee of Minnesota Quilters and is sponsoring the March programs.

**Thursday ~**

Telling the Stories, Linda McShannock, Curator at the Minnesota Historical Society, will speak about quilts in that collection. History and imagination overlap as we examine the stories behind a selection of historic quilts in the permanent collection of the Minnesota Historical Society. Linda has picked out her favorite quilts and their stories that span three centuries of quilt making.

**Saturday ~**

*Minnesota’s Quilts: The Quilt Book.* Gail Bakkom of the Minnesota Quilt Project will cover a brief history of documentations, the making of the Minnesota book, and visuals of some of the more unusual quilts that couldn’t be included in the book. Gail will bring Minnesota made vintage and antique quilts for showing at the end of the presentation.

All are welcome at MQP meetings on Saturday mornings at 8:30 am prior to the MQ meetings.

Please plan to stop by the MQP booth at the MQ show in June!

From the Historical Society Quilt Collection:

Motherwort by MQ member Clare Degerness of Moorhead, Minnesota, 2006.

Statue of Liberty Commemorative Quilt by former MQ member Carol Wagner, 1986.

2016 Minnesota Quilters Show Faculty

Lori Allison
www.the-sampler.com

Mary Alsop
www.prairie-quiltingmn.com

Sue Cortese
www.selcfabrics.com

Doris Deutmeyer
www.fabricationsbydoris.com

Nancy Eha
www.beadcreative.com

Catherine Erickson
www.quiltworx.com/instructors/catherine-erickson

Mary Fons
www.maryfons.com

Cathy Geier
www.cathygeier.com

Laura Heine
www.fiberworks-heine.com

Lola Jenkins
www.lolasdesignerquilts.net

Mary Kerr
www.marywkerr.com

Joyce Keske, BabyLock Educator
Doug Leko
www.antlerquiltdesign.com
Laura Maki
www.sewwithme.org
Andy Perejda
www.andiperejda.com
Kari Schell
www.onpointquilter.com
Joyce Teng
www.teacherstamp.com
Sally Terry
www.sallyterryquilting.blogspot.com
Lorraine Torrence
www.lorrainetorrence.com
Carole Wilder
Lecturers:
Mary Chalmers
Rose Werner
www.quiltkitid.com
Upcoming Events

March 3rd and 5th, MQ Meetings, Programs presented by Minnesota Quilt Project.
March 17-19, In Town Retreat at Pearl and Myrtle’s in Anoka, MN.
April 7th and 9th, MQ Meetings, Minnesota Quilters Birthday, Volunteer Appreciation, and Five Members Showing Their Quilts and MQ Garage Sale!
April 10-13, Spring Get Away, Camp Wapogasset, Amery, WI.

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

MQ Board of Directors meetings: Finance Meeting – March 15, Board Meeting-March 22. 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 March Newsletter: Tuesday, March 8. 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 November Board Meeting

Anne McCandless has been appointed to replace Charlette Pittman as Co-Education director for the remainder of her term.

The Auditors from CliftonLarsonAllen presented their report.
A grant to Pioneer Public TV was awarded.
The search for the new MQ location continues.
The next Board Meeting will be on February 23, 2016 at 6 pm in Classroom A.

MQ Event Cancellation Notification Policy

In the case of inclement weather or other situation that may cause a cancellation of an MQ monthly membership 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 phone
• 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

WANTED!

QUITERS WILLING TO SHARE THEIR CREATIVE SPACES ON THE 2016 STUDIO TOURS

In order to have our annual Quilt Studio Tours, we need quilters to volunteer to share their spaces.

Now is the time to contact Kate Eelkema. If she does not get six volunteers by March 31, there will be no studio tours this year.

If you live in the northwest area of the Metro (West of I 35 West and North of 394), and would be willing to have your studio on the tour Saturday, August 6, 2016, please contact Kate at keelkema@comcast.net.

Minnesota Quilters On The Move

We are continuing the search to find a suitable location for MQ. We will be looking at a couple of new possible locations in the next few weeks and we are in the process of gathering more information on a couple of other locations that we have previously looked at. We are looking for a place that is centrally located, has plenty of parking and fits our office and meeting needs. Please send any site possibilities to ops@mnquilt.org and we will get them checked out.

Attention Book Lovers

The Accessible Library is reorganizing its committee membership and we need some additional volunteers to help. We will hold an informational meeting about what is in our work plan and where we are. If you like our having a library on site, PLEASE PUT THIS DATE ON YOUR CALENDAR: Accessible Library Committee Meeting, Wednesday March 16, 2016 from 6:30 - 8 pm at the condo room/home of Melissa Nellis, 3090 Lexington Ave North, Roseville MN 55113. Questions? Contact Martha Eaves at president@mnquilt.org.
"Sunny Days Ahead"

Many of you already know that January was a hard month for me. My dear grandson Joe, who was almost 18 years old, died after being hospitalized for a long time respiratory ailment he had lived with since birth. When Joe was hospitalized, my son grabbed his favorite bed quilt which was the baby quilt that I had made for him (one each for Joe, Jon and Sam his triplet brothers, of the same pattern but different colors) so many years ago. When I saw that quilt in the hospital, I was at first embarrassed as you can imagine what it looked like after so much wear and tear, but my son liked the tag I had put on it so many years ago, “Sunny Days Ahead” and I knew Joe still liked to sleep under it every night- even though I had since made him newer quilts and bigger quilts with brighter colors and foxes!

Like the other many gifts that Joe bestowed on me, one was his unconditional love of the world. As with the many times that I have given a quilt, whether to a family member, friend, or an anonymous child, I hope to convey that same feeling in the gift. Sometimes you work really hard on something and become so attached to it that you hesitate to use it for its original intention. Sometimes, you had a vision of the quilt you wanted to make, but the outcome of your hard work does not totally live up to your vision. These feelings may make it hard for you to give away the quilt, or want to give it away only under certain conditions or restraints.  

I, too, have experienced those hesitations and doubts. Here is how I have come to reconcile those thoughts. If I have lots of doubts, and I cannot reconcile those feelings, then I just keep it and make a substitute. But I truly believe that quilts bring with them more than just warmth, but your own inner spirit and loving thoughts. It is truly a gift, even when you give that gift to a total stranger. And there are many total strangers who can benefit from that love in this world. So while Joe was very sick, one night I came home from the hospital and cut 2 ½ inch strips of every butterfly fabric that I had and sewed them together. And now, I too have a contribution for the President’s Butterfly Challenge. It is not as fancy as I wished but it is soft and colorful and I know a child will like it, as Joe would. I hope you are considering doing a quilt for the Challenge also.

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**President’s Challenge**

The President's 2016 Challenge is to make a baby size quilt (45 x45 or smaller to 36 x 36) that must include the concept of a butterfly, based on the following anonymous quotation, "Just when the caterpillar thought the world was over, it became a butterfly".

When you enter this challenge, you are agreeing that your quilt can be given to Neighborhood House/East Side Family Center in St. Paul to greet new babies in families who are getting community services through the Center. Because it will be given to a baby, remember not to use any dangerous embellishments like buttons or sequins, but besides making it baby safe, the design, colors, etc. are yours to play with. Use the non-judged entry form to enter into the 2016 show. A ribbon and special gift will be given based upon the President’s selection.

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**Minnesota Quilters Needs You!**

Here are the Board positions that need to be filled and will begin on October 1, 2016:

- **President Elect**– A three year commitment: 1st year as President Elect, 2nd year as President, 3rd year as Past President (this can be a shared position). The President Elect assists the President and oversees the Scholarship and Grant programs. This position is also a member of the finance committee.
- **Co-Communications Director**– A two year term. Shared position with Rebecca Finch. The Communications Directors oversee the newsletter, State Fair, website and other means of communication and technology.
- **Co-Education Director**– A two year term, shared with continuing director Sharon Peterson. The Education Directors organize monthly meetings and arrange workshops and lectures. They oversee the Holiday Brunch committee, Fall Get-Away committee and in town retreats. They write newsletter articles to keep membership informed of upcoming programs.
- **Co-Operations Director**– A two year term, shared position with continuing Director Judy Lewis. The Operations Directors oversee insurance, MQ equipment, volunteers, building/office management. The Operations Director is also a member of the finance committee.
- **Co-Membership Director**– A two year term-shared position with Director Barbara Jackson. The Membership Directors oversee all aspects of our membership, including planning activities to recruit new members and working with membership coordinators at the monthly meetings.

If you are interested in any of these Board positions, please contact:
Martha Eaves, President, president@mnquilt.org, or Bonnie Ellis, Past President, pastpres@mnquilt.org.
**February Meeting Highlights**

Guest speaker Bonnie Lundorff of Willow Wood Market in Bemidji, MN delighted us with her lecture about playing with wool, different types of wool, how to prepare wool for quilting, and the tools to use. Bonnie had many wonderful quilts in her trunk show for us, plus she brought patterns and wool kits for sale.

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**Friday Class Projects**
It's A Mystery is going strong!

Minnesota Quilters is offering an online Mystery Quilt which started in January 2016. You can still join the fun at any time. After signing up all the clues that have been sent out will be emailed to you. The Mystery Quilt is designed by Kristin Lawson of Minneapolis, Minnesota. Kristin is a member of Minneapolis Modern Quilt Guild and Minnesota Quilters. Kristin was one of the presenters at the September 2014 Schoolhouse Program at Minnesota Quilters and is one of the upcoming very talented quilt designers. Over 150 quilters have already signed up. The Mystery Quilt was started in January and the last clue will be given in October 2016. The Mystery Quilt will provide an opportunity for Minnesota Quilters statewide to participate in a program offered by Minnesota Quilters.

The cost of the Mystery Quilt is $30 for Minnesota Quilters members and $40 for non-members. Find the link to signup on our website under Upcoming Events or on the Meetings Schedule page. Each month a clue will be sent to the people who have elected to join the fun of a Mystery Quilt. There is a private group on Facebook for the Mystery Quilt where we are having a lot of fun posting pictures and talking about our fabrics and blocks.

Unsure about choosing fabric for a Mystery Quilt? Crafty Planet (one of Minnesota Quilter’s Business Members) will have Mystery Quilt Kits available. The purchase and transaction of the Quilt Kits are between the Quilter and Crafty Planet.

Plans are in the works to have a Special Exhibit of the Mystery Quilts at the 2017 MQ Show & Conference the following year. Have questions? Talk with Sharon Peterson or send an email to ed@mnquilt.org.

Volunteer Corner

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 267 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 to 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 started on Oct 1, 2015, and there are 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:

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

April 10 - 13, Spring Get Away at Camp Wapogasset in Amery, WI

This is a low key retreat with lots of time to get projects done. Watch your email for the registration information coming out any day now.
March 17-19, In Town Retreat at Pearl and Myrtle’s Retreat Center in Anoka, Minnesota.

Sign up for 1 day, 2 days or 3 days. These are days to work on your own projects. The cost for the retreat will be $15.00 for 1 day, $30.00 for 2 days and $45.00 for 3 days for MQ members. Cost for non-members will be $20.00 for 1 day, $40.00 for 2 days and $60.00 for 3 days. Click on the link in the calendar of www.mnquilt.org

You are cordially invited to share your work (without being judged!) at the 2016 Quilt Show and Convention.

You may enter up to two
Large Quilts and/or wall Quilts in the Non-Judged Exhibit.
In addition you can exhibit your donation to the President’s Butterfly Challenge.
*Don’t forget to have the kids register to show their work in the Youth Exhibit.
Entries can be done online, and you can add more
if you already registered a non-judged quilt.
Or fill out the Non-Judged Entry form
in your show book or from the show website.
You will need to include a photo of your quilt(s)
but they do not need to be completed in the photo.
Cash prizes and ribbons will be awarded.
Merle Pratt and Adrianne Lemberg

They add a little extra touch to the Annual MQ Show.

Please consider making a donation of new or gently used quilting items.

You can bring them to a meeting
or leave them at the MQ office.
Carla and Nancy
Door Prize Committee
Minnesota Quilters 2016 Show ~ St. Cloud, MN ~ June 9-11

It happens because of these dedicated volunteers!

Show Coordinators: Jean Carr and Rita Culshaw, mq2016@mnquilt.org
Show Secretary: Rebecca Finch, secretary2016@mnquilt.org
Admissions: Virginia Gleason and Jeanne Hoff, admissions2016@mnquilt.org
Banquet: Mary Jane Heng and Kathy Reisinger, banquet2016@mnquilt.org
Bus Tours: Nancy Hall and Loretta Stone, bustours2016@mnquilt.org
Challenge: Anne McCandless and Shirley Arendt, challenge2016@mnquilt.org
Charming City Stroll: Judy Okerstrom and Kathy Kolvig, charming-stroll2016@mnquilt.org
Door Prizes: Nancy Broshat and Karla Kilkeely, doorprizes2016@mnquilt.org
Faculty: Laura Nagel and Patty Von Arx, faculty2016@mnquilt.org
Judged Exhibit: Miki Peine and Karen Kopitzke, judged2016@mnquilt.org
Merchandise: Linda Kosfeld and Kay Genelin, merchandise2016@mnquilt.org
Non-Judged Exhibit: Merle Pratt and Adrianne Lernberg, nonjudged2016@mnquilt.org
Photography: Peggy Stockwell, photography2016@mnquilt.org
PowerPoint: Debra Svedberg, quilter@mnquilt.org
Printing & Publishing: Karen Knoll and Janet Watt, printing2016@mnquilt.org
Raffle Quilt Ticket Managers: Gail Kieper and Kathie Simon Frank, raffletickets2016@mnquilt.org
Raffle Quilt Design/Creation: Blue Earth Block Swappers, rafflequilt2016@mnquilt.org
Registration: Jan Schmidt, Audrey Weinand and Jan Wolfgram, registration2016@mnquilt.org
Signage: Lou Roos and Yvonne Curran, signage2016@mnquilt.org
Small Quilt Auction: Karen Olhson and Carrie D’Andrea, smallquiltauction2016@mnquilt.org
Special Exhibits: Rebecca Finch and Mary Ann Baraibar, specialexhibits2016@mnquilt.org
Vendors: Char Wenger and Bob Wenger, vendors2016@mnquilt.org
Website: Pat Curtner and Karen Kopitzke, website2016@mnquilt.org
Youth Exhibit: Paulette Marini and Lisa Stene, youth2016@mnquilt.org
Show Director: Linda Wines, showdirector@mnquilt.org

2016 Challenge Quilts (See page 6 for more information)
Advance Registration (See pages 33-35 for more information)
   Members Only: Began January 15, 2016
   General: Began February 1, 2016
   Deadline: May 1, 2016 (mail in) May 15, 2016 (on-line)
Judged Competition (See pages 11-15 for more information)
   Entry Form Submission Deadline: Saturday, April 16, 2016
Non-Judged Exhibit, Youth Exhibit, President’s Challenge (See pages 6, 8-10 for more information)
   Entry Form Submission Deadline: Saturday, April 16, 2016

Volunteer! MQ needs you!
Roll up your sleeves, Join the team, Volunteer with good cheer.
See page 32 of your registration book to enlist today!
Be rewarded with camaraderie, good times, new friends, chances to win great stuff, and the satisfaction of a job well done.
Contemporary Amish Sampler

Please Donate a Quilt to Minnesota Quilters!

Minnesota Quilters would like to sell donated quilts from the merchandise tables at the 2016 Minnesota Quilter Show. Why do we need to do this?

Our financial auditors met with the MQ Board at its January 26 meeting. They told us that our finances are in good shape and are well managed. From 2013 to 2014 our assets increased by $24,000. And we have saved eight months of operating expenses to tide us over in case we run into financial problems.

But the picture is not entirely rosy. Our savings policy says that we must have twelve months of operating expenses to tide us over (that is four months more than we currently have). And we are facing increased expenses because of our upcoming move. So we need to tighten our belts a little bit and ask the membership for some help.

That is why we are asking for donations of quilts that we can sell at the next MQ Show. We sold quilts at the 2015 show and made $1500- that is a significant contribution to MQ's finances. We would like to do the same thing at this year's show. If you can make a new quilt, or finish a UFO, or donate a gently used quilt, MQ volunteers at the 2016 show will work to sell it with the proceeds going to the MQ treasury.

Quilts not sold at the 2016 Show will be used to populate our Christmas Craft Show table at Abbott Northwestern Hospital in November 2016 (a new outreach project that you can read about elsewhere in this newsletter).

You will receive a hearty thank you from Minnesota Quilters and an in-kind donation form that you can use for your tax returns. Quilts will be collected at the April and May Minnesota Quilters meetings. If you have questions please contact mqqgalleryexhibits@mnquilt.org, Rebecca Finch.
Registration for the 38th Annual Quilt Show and Conference

Can you guess what 100 Days or 2,400 Hours or 144,000 minutes have in common?

???? ANSWER ????

Classes will be starting at the 2016 MQ Show on Wednesday, June 8th at 8:30am

On February 1st registration opened to the general public. With that, competition heats up for a seat in your wished-for classes and lectures. So register now! Register early! Even though June may seem a long way off, some classes are already beginning to fill.

Online registration (www.mnquilt.org/mq2016) is in real time so you will know immediately whether or not you are registered for your selected classes. Class sessions, lectures, events, and merchandise will calculate automatically as you add items. You will see your total and be able to make changes before you finalize and pay.

You can make online changes to your registration any time before May 22, 2016. After that you will need to email your changes to registration2016@mnquilt.org or mail them to the MQ office. We are unable to accept verbal changes or phone messages simply because it is too easy to mishear the instructions. When it is written out, we will know what to do.

Remember, MQ offers cancellation insurance to protect you from life's surprises. If you purchase this insurance ($20.00) when you register, you will receive a 100 percent refund for classes, lectures, and special events as long as you cancel before May 22, 2016. Cancellation insurance does not cover the registration fee, box lunches, merchandise, or the insurance fee itself.

If you don't have access to the internet, don't worry. You can still register by sending your completed form and payment to the MQ office. With this method, it's a good idea to select a second choice for your classes in case your first choice is filled. Mail-in registrations must be received by May 1, 2016, and are confirmed by mail to you.

Registration Committee: Audrey Weinand, Jan Wolfgram, Jan Schmidt

Non-Judged Quilts

Do you realize we have only about 3 months before the 2016 MQ quilt show? Just enough time to finish and enter your quilt. It's easy to do. Fill out the entry form, attach a photo and enter before April 16th. Don't forget “must” for all quilts is a hanging sleeve, either a removable sleeve or permanent sleeve is acceptable. Good directions for both versions can be found on page 29 of our show book or on the MQ 2016 Quilt Show web site. If your quilt is longer than 90”, you will need to measure up 90” from the bottom and add a sleeve across your quilt at that location.

Enjoy and best wishes with it all. Looking forward to viewing your entry in St. Cloud!

Show Merchandise!

We hope you are pleased with the 2016 items that have been revealed so far. There will be more goodies available at the show, and maybe at MQ meetings prior to the show.

If you have any cashiering experience, and you plan to volunteer at the show, please specify “Merchandise” when you're filling out your volunteer forms. That will allow us some time to view the quilts, take a class, shop, and eat!

FOR SALE
SINGER FEATHERWEIGHT 221
JUKI TL-98E
Carol - midarm@q.com

Paid Advertisement

I'd rather be ripping than shoveling!
2016 Special Exhibits Preview, Prizewinning Quilts by Mary Chalmers

Mary Chalmers of Willmar MN estimates that she has won 90-100 ribbons in quilt competitions during her quilting career. Many of her quilts have won multiple prizes. She will show 21 quilts at the 2016 Minnesota Quilters Show and Conference Special Exhibits in St. Cloud, and she will present a breakfast lecture on Friday, June 10 at 8:30 am in the exhibit hall. Following the 2016 show, her quilts will be exhibited at the American Swedish Institute in Minneapolis from June 22-September 30 at a show that has been organized by Minnesota Quilters.

Getting to know her has been a privilege. She has become my friend while I have worked with her these last months. She is warm, funny, down to earth and humble—all marks of a great human being. She says that she quilts in white satin pajamas and wears them all day (and she told me that I could tell you this). Why? For one thing, they are comfortable. The waist is not too tight around the middle. For another, all the threads from her handwork show against the white color. And third, the threads don’t stick to the satin!

Chalmers, who is 79 years old and was a nurse before retiring, has been quilting for more than 40 years. She completes one or two quilts per year, most of them featuring hand embroidery and embellishments or hand appliqué. Vestments, her quilt that won 1st place in the Bed Quilts: Home Machine Quilted category at last year’s AQS show in Paducah, took her over a year to finish. “I’m picky about what I make,” she says, “and I have to let my ideas percolate between quilts.”

She also says that she makes a lot of mistakes on her quilts that she has to tear out and do over. Most recently she had to tear out a large area of stipple quilting from a baby quilt because she had not attached a ruffle before doing the stitching. And on one occasion she sewed a quilt to the leg of those white satin pajamas! “I am infinitely patient,” she says of correcting errors. “And I am always learning and always experimenting.”

Her quilts are magnificent; her speaking style educational and friendly. Please join us in St. Cloud for her special exhibit and breakfast lecture.

Rebecca Finch

Bulletin Board of other Quilt Shows

Feb 27 in Bemidji, MN. The Creative Fiber Festival at Calvary Lutheran Church, 2508 Washington Ave SE, Bemidji MN - $7.
March 6 to 8 in Sun Prairie, WI. Prairie Heritage Quilters Quilt Show at St Alberts Center, 2420 St Albert the Great Drive, Sun Prairie WI - $6.
Mar 18 to 19 in New Ulm, MN. Prairie Piecemakers Quilt Show at New Ulm Event Center, 301 20th St S, New Ulm MN. - $6.
Mar 19 to 20 in Medford, WI. Twisted Threads Quilt Group Quilt Show at Medford Senior High School, 1015 Broadway Ave, Medford WI - $?
Small Quilt Auction

At each Annual Show, Minnesota Quilters offers small quilts and other related quilt items that have been generously donated by our membership, teachers, and other interested quilters in a silent auction. The donations can include small quilts (100 inches circumference or smaller), table runners, purses, wearable art pins, fabric postcards, dolls, bowls, pillow cases, pillows and other small items. These items will illustrate to our show visitors the broad variety of quilting art AND offer our members an opportunity to demonstrate skills, generosity, and support of the Minnesota Quilters organization. In addition some items will be placed on a “Buy It Now” table where items can be purchased.

All donations are now welcome. Please use a safety pin to attach a label with your name, address, telephone number and email (if you have one) and the title (if there is one).

Auction proceeds are used to support the mission of Minnesota Quilters, including grants and scholarship programs, the TV shows on quilting aired in Minnesota and our region, and to meet other needs of this volunteer organization.

You may bring your donations to the MQ meetings or mail them to: MN Quilters, 1203 5th Street SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414-2030. ATTN Small Quilt Auction. Donations will be accepted right up to the start of the show. All donations become the property of Minnesota Quilters, although you may buy yours back if you cannot part with it! Your donations are tax deductible. Items not sold will be used for other MQ charitable purposes. We will encourage the bidders to be generous.

Karen Ohlson and Carrie D’Andrea

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!

2016 Gold Level Sponsors!

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

Primitive Gatherings 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

Want to know how to greatly reduce the finger, wrist, elbow, shoulder, and neck pain from rotary cutting with a simple gadget that costs only $2 to $6? Buy a new rotary cutter BLADE! Seriously! Why are you hurting your body by pushing hard to cut through fabric, risking your fingers when a new blade will cut like a hot knife through butter? Relieves stress on your joints and muscles! Find a good deal on a pack of blades and save the dull ones for cutting wrapping paper. You’re worth it!
2016 FACULTY BIOS

Cathy Geier  www.cathygeier.com
Cathy Geier is an award winning quilter, author, teacher and lecturer who specializes in landscape quilts. Her background in art history enables her to see her landscape subjects with the eye of a painter—using fabrics for her palette. As a result of exploring this textile art form, she invented and patented a new piecing technique using tear-away foundation which allows quilters to sew multiple squares and half-square triangles easily, quickly, and accurately. This method was then adapted to sewing strip-pieced and string-pieced landscapes, and both techniques are being offered in her classes Strip Appliqué Landscape and Strip Pieced Landscape in St. Cloud, along with her Aspen and Maple Tree class where she will teach you how to make your landscapes ‘come alive’ with dye marker and pastels. Want to see a collection of her quilts, then attend her lecture "From Alaska to Wisconsin" and learn a few tips and tricks for designing landscape quilts along the way. Can’t wait for her class? Check out her Lovely Landscape Quilts book at the MQ library.

Lola Jenkins  www.loladesignerquilts.net
Lola Jenkins is a self-trained textile portrait artist. Through trial and error, and asking 'why not?' she has evolved to master-quilter status. She is an award-winning quilter who has been featured in several magazine articles and appeared on “The Quilt Show” with Alex Anderson and Ricky Tims. She is currently teaching across the country, internationally, and aboard cruise ships. We are fortunate to have her teach a 2-day Silhouette Art Quilts class, a one day Portrait class, and her unique Thread Art class, where she will teach students techniques that will allow them to create beautiful art quilts, even if they don’t think they are artistic or creative. Any one of her classes will open the door to a new realm of quilting.

Mary Kerr  www.marykerr.com
Mary Kerr is definitely a quilt aficionado, whether they are old, new or recycled. She is a quilt teacher, historian, certified appraiser, and author of several quilt books, including her latest, Recycled Hexie Quilts, in which she demonstrates how to incorporate vintage blocks into contemporary quilts. Mary will be sharing all of her interests with us as she teaches a variety of classes. Marketing and Development for Professional Quilters, one of our Business Seminar Workshops, will benefit anyone in a quilt-related business or contemplating entering the field. Searching for Clues and Saving Our Treasures allows her to share her expertise on vintage textiles and help you save your heirlooms for the next generation. Learn English paper piecing as described in her new book when you take Lazy River Hexies, and Block Party demonstrates innovative ways to set antique blocks. Her lecture, "Anonymous and Me," focuses on her collection of quilts that were started by one generation and finished by another.

Kari Schell  www.onpointquilter.com
Kari Schell is an award-winning longarm quilter, pattern designer, Electric Quilt expert, and certified Art and Stitch instructor. Kari’s classes are in such demand that she has ventured into the realm of online teaching. Whether you just purchased EQ7 and need the Intro to EQ7 or the EQ7 Refresher, or are working through the manual, there is an EQ7 class geared to your level. There are seven classes in all, plus two lectures. Make the most of your EQ7 investment by learning how to operate Easy Draw, Patch Draw, design Appliqué Blocks and Pictorial Foundations, or finish your quilt with Settings and Borders. Not sure if EQ is for you, attend her lecture on "EQ Overview." Just need a break from technology, attend Kari’s "Using Specialty Rulers" lecture and see the stunning quilts she has made with them.
Picking Up the Pieces
© Laura Nagel

Time for a Break

Hopefully your holiday chaos is packed up and put away for another year. We had a bit of delay in getting the tree down because the box broke while we were bringing it into the house at Thanksgiving. I strongly suggested that my husband buy one or two tree bags so we could put it away after New Year's. Needless to say this did not happen, and when it was time to take the tree down, no one had any tree bags, just Valentine treat bags. So instead of 2 or 3 choices at Menards, we are now shopping online with dozens of options. I really try to delegate responsibility, but it became apparent that I would need to make the final decision.

In the meantime I was not about to have a naked tree standing in the living room, so there it was in all its decorated majesty, a testament to Christmas past. We did stop turning the lights on after MLK weekend because the neighbors were teasing my husband when they went out for coffee. Finally the tree bag arrived, I undressed the tree and thought I was done, but the 10 foot tree doesn't fit in one bag, so I'm back on Amazon ordering another one. Hopefully, by the time I get home the tree will be zipped into its bags and stored inconspicuously in the garage.

Where am I? On retreat! I needed a break. Now usually a retreat amounts to withdrawing to a quiet place where one can rest and relax, but I tend to need a bit more stimulation than that. So off I went to a 4-day quilt retreat in southern Minnesota. Some of my quilting friends had been going for years, but I could never take the time off, but this is my break-away year, and I signed up for all four days. Just imagine a room with 35 quilters working on their own projects. You couldn't hear the hum of the machines for all of the chatting and laughing. And what a collection of women: doctors, ministers, teachers, business owners, mothers, new grandmothers - a diverse group who came together for one reason, to share their passion for quilting.

Now I've been on quilting weekends before at friends' cabins and homes, but this was different - a weekend of no dishes, cooking, or cleaning. Meals were served dormitory-style, and dessert was only included with lunch. But not to worry, there was a snack table in the sewing room laden with more treats from sweet to salt than anyone needed. And may I say when 'happy hour' started, voices got a little louder, laughter a little longer, and quilting a little merrier. What a delight to walk around the room and see everyone's projects and hear about their patterns, fabric choices, and favorite sewing tips. No need to fret if you forgot something, chances are someone else brought it and was more than happy to share. What an amazing group of women!

On Sunday we had Show & Tell, and there was everything from potholders and charity receiving blankets to commissioned church banners and Judy Niemeyer blazing Lone Stars. I, of course, pattered around making blocks; finishing just doesn't seem to occur very often for me. I caught up on my 365 Challenge (365challenge.com.au), started the new Barbara Brackman BOM called Westering Women (civilwarquilts.blogspot.com), made a few more blocks from Lori Holt's Farm Girl Vintage, and continued machine quilting on my youngest grandson's 'Walk in the Woods' baby quilt. What is it about machine quilting - the more you quilt, the more detail you want to add, so it's still not done.

Sadly, the time came to pack up, exchange email addresses with new friends, drop our bedding off at the laundry, and head back to the Cities. We donated all our leftover goodies to the staff, who are college-aged students working on year-long internships. The one assigned to our group was taught to quilt by her grandmother, who still oversees long internships. The board is accepting nominations from any MQ members until our March 22 board meeting, when the nominations will be reviewed. An Outstanding Volunteer is someone who has contributed in a significant way by being available as a volunteer to MQ regularly in any capacity, from kitchen duty to Holiday Brunch committee to door prize collector, etc. The person need not have held any offices on the board. Please send your nominations with a short reason for your nomination to president@mnquilt.org or give them to an existing board member by the March meetings. You do NOT have to ask the person if you can nominate them!!

OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER!

April is our birthday! It is one of our traditions to honor an Outstanding Volunteer for 2016 at our meetings during that month. The board is accepting nominations from any MQ members until our March 22 board meeting, when the nominations will be reviewed. An Outstanding Volunteer is someone who has contributed in a significant way by being available as a volunteer to MQ regularly in any capacity, from kitchen duty to Holiday Brunch committee to door prize collector, etc. The person need not have held any offices on the board. Please send your nominations with a short reason for your nomination to president@mnquilt.org or give them to an existing board member by the March meetings. You do NOT have to ask the person if you can nominate them!!

Be a 365-er! The 365 Challenge—Supporting and Acknowledging the Joy Quilting Brings You One Day at a Time

Thirty days hath September, April, June, and November.….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 March, the check would be $31. For April, $30 etc. At the end of 12 months, you will have donated $365! Be sure to note in the message line that this donation is for the 365 Challenge so that we can recognize those who take the challenge [unless you wish to be anonymous].

The MQ Board will use this money wisely to support our move and extraneous costs and while you may not get a "brick on the wall", you will have made your support of our Mission clear and you will get recognized for stretching your financial support for MQ. So please, Be a 365er!!

Thank you for your support; it’s not an exaggeration that MQ wouldn’t exist without you.
Block of the Month ~ April 2016 ~ Singin' in the Rain

Jeanne LaMoore and Kathie Simon Frank

12" x 12" finished block (12 ½" x 12 ½" unfinished)

Fabric: Pale grey or blue-grey for background; something bright for the umbrella. Rickrack or ribbon for the handle.

Cut Strips (These are for precise measurements. You may want to make longer strips and cut them to size after piecing.):

Umbrella fabric only:
A - (1) 1 ¾" x 10 ½"

One of each - background and umbrella:
B - (2) 1 ¾" x 9 ¼"
C - (2) 1 ¾" x 8"
D - (2) 1 ¾" x 6 ¾"
E - (2) 1 ¾" x 5 ¼"
F - (2) 1 ¾" x 4 ¼"
G - (2) 1 ¾" x 3"
H - (2) 1 ¾" x 1 ¾"

Background only:
J - (2) 1 ½" x 10 ½" (or 1 ¾" x 10 ¾" if you want fudge room)
K - (2) 1 ½" x 12 ½" (or 1 ¾" x 12 ¾" if you want fudge room)

Rickrack handle – approx. 9" long

Directions

Sew the umbrella strips together as shown in diagram. Background H+ Umbrella B, G+C, F+D, E+D, E+F, C+G, B+H.

Press seams and then sew the rows together. Each strip should be 10 ½" in length.

(Jeanne used precise measurements on the umbrella fabric and longer strips on the background, then trimmed to size after they were sewn together.)

Add the J pieces to the sides of the umbrella to help stabilize the rows.

Sew the K pieces to the top and bottom.

If you've used larger strips, square it down to 12 ½".

You may sew the handle on using applique or other techniques that appeal to you. Start it on the E pieces and curve the handle whichever way appeals to you.

* * * *

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 March 5th or 7th 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 sent to the winner or picked up at the MQ office or at the next meeting.

Karen Golden is a winner!

It's not just luck that made it possible for Karen Golden to win in February! She won 19 Chain of Hearts blocks because she made 3 Blocks of the Month and brought them to the meeting. It's fun! You, too, could be a winner. Make 1, 2, or 3 blocks using the directions you'll find each month in the MQ newsletter. Bring them to the meeting. Many of these blocks are designed or adapted by the Block of the Month coordinators. If you make blocks, you're entered in the drawing-once for each block contributed. One or more names are drawn, typically at the Saturday meeting, depending on how many blocks are contributed.

Jeanne LaMoore and Kathie Simon Frank

Correction for In Like a Lion (March BOM)

We're very sorry! A couple of the measurements for the appealing "In Like a Lion" March Block of the Month need to be corrected. Please check on the MQ website at mnquilt.org for the corrected directions under the newsletter heading. Or send an e-mail to Kathie at kathie@umn.edu or to mnquilt.org and we'll e-mail you the corrected directions. So many people liked this block, we'd like you to be able to make it without any trouble.
Quilting for Others

Quilting For Others is looking for donations for the following projects.

Harriet 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?)
- Longarmers 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.

The 36 quilters who attended the Snow Days Quilting for Others event on Friday, January 15, logged about 800 volunteer hours! They made heartstring quilts for Harriet Tubman Women’s Shelter and baby quilts for the Visiting Nurses.

Thank you, thank you quilters!

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!
February Show and Tell
February Show and Tell (cont.)


Please Note: When you show a quilt, you need to PRINT YOUR NAME CLEARLY and write a clear description on the sign in sheet. As you can see from the listing above that two people who showed quilts did not sign the sheet.
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.

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

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


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