Minnesota Quilters July Meetings
Thursday, August 3, 7 pm
Saturday, August 5, 10 am
Saturday, August 5, 1 pm Studio Tours

August Meetings

Education Co-Directors, Merle Pratt and Diane Rose
ed@mnquilt.org

Thursday evening, August 3, 7 pm
Cherrywood Color Theory

Learn how Karla Overland uses the color wheel and basic color theory to come up with the gradations of hand-dyed fabric. Many inspirational quilts will be shown.

Saturday morning, August 5, 10 am
The Story of Cherrywood Fabrics

Come listen to the history of the beautiful hand dyed fabrics. There will be stories of witches and lions. This will include a trunk show of quilts made with the rich and vibrant colors of Cherrywood Fabric.

Cherrywood fabrics will be available for purchase.
Check out the website for Cherrywood at http://cherrywoodfabrics.bigcartel.com/

Quilting for Others

Friday, August 4th, is a Quilting For Others Day at Recovery Church. Join friends and make new friends while we work on various projects in air conditioned comfort. Bring your sewing machine or just help cut and iron. Come for an hour or come for the day. We will sew from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm.

Studio Tours

Kate E Elkema keelkema@comcast.net

Minnesota Quilters Studio Tours IV will be held from 1:00 - 5:30 pm on Saturday, August 5th. This fundraiser helps MQ provide educational programs for our meetings and classes for our membership. Advance tickets are $20 for MQ members and $25 for non-members. Tickets at the studio doors on August 5th are $25 for everyone. Tickets will be available at the August MQ meetings, or you may order them by calling the MQ office at 651-224-3572.

This year the studios are located in the northeast metro area. If you have any questions, or would like to volunteer to check tickets at one of the studios, please contact Kate Eelkema at keelkema@comcast.net or 612-816-0365.
Upcoming Events

August 3 and 5, MQ Meetings, Karla Overland, Cherrywood Fabrics
August 4, Quilting for Others, 9 am - 3 pm
August 5, MQP Meeting, 8:30-10 am
August 5, MQ Studio Tours, 1-5:30 pm
August 8, Deadline for Creative Activities entries in the State Fair, 4:30 pm
August 15, MQ Finance meeting, 6-9 pm
August 17, Quilt National Exhibit Bus Trip to Moorhead
August 22, MQ Board of Directors Meeting, 6-9 pm
September 3 and 4, MQ at the State Fair
September 7 and 9, MQ Meetings, Schoolhouse demonstrations
October 19-22, MQ Fall Retreat, Green Lake
October 21, MQ Bus Trip to Rochester Quilters Sew-siety Show
December 2, MQ Holiday Brunch
June 14-16, 2018, MQ Quilt Show & Conference, St. Cloud, Minnesota

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

DEADLINE for August Newsletter: Tuesday, August 8. Please send newsletter articles to editor@mnquilt.org. Later submissions may be saved for the following month’s newsletter.

The newsletter deadline is Tuesday after the Saturday meeting.

Volunteer Corner

Hello to all our wonderful MQ members. Many thanks to all of you who volunteered this past month. All volunteers need to record their hours on the white slips at the meetings. If any of you are interested in the following positions or have questions about them, please email us at volunteer@mnquilt.org or talk to us at the meetings. Our next fiscal year starts on October 1, 2017, and there are some positions open. Please let us know if you would be interested in volunteering for a position this next year. This is a volunteer organization, and we need you badly.

Currently available positions:

Door Prizes Coordinators: The door prize Coordinators are looking for some help for next year. They will train you. For more information talk to Nancy Broshat and Carla Kilkelly. Carla talked to us at the meeting and said if no one takes over this position in the fall we will no longer have door prizes. For more information contact Carla at carla_kilkelly@gmail.com or Nancy at nbroshat@comcast.net.

Gallery Exhibit Coordinator: Rebecca Finch is looking for one more coordinator for this committee. She will train anyone interested. See her at the meeting or email MQgalleryexhibits@mnquilt.org

Public Relations Coordinator: See Rebecca Finch about this position also if you are interested. She will train the new person. Contact her at lukimono@yahoo.com.

If you are interested in any other positions starting this fall, please let us know.

We no longer mail the newsletter. We offer a paper copy only if you do not have a way to read it online. Thank you for helping save MQ more than $2200 yearly with this change.
Message From Our Co-Presidents

It's hard to believe that we've been in our new location for almost a year. It's taken a while to get accustomed to less office space, but our Operations co-directors and office staff have arranged the furniture and equipment to make it work. The meeting space, however, didn't take long to get used to. It's bigger, brighter, and quieter. Does anyone miss the squeaky shoes and bouncing basketballs?

We've also taken the opportunity to use the sanctuary for Dr. Carolyn Mazloomi's lecture, held earlier this year in partnership with The Textile Center. The Long Range Program Planning committee has been gathering the names of local, national, and international quilting and textile-related lecturers. Our goal is to have more events that will appeal to MQ members as well as those outside the quilting community.

We say this all the time (and you may be tired of hearing it again), but much of the work at MQ is done by volunteers. In a typical year members contribute more than 2,000 volunteer hours, not including time at the annual show. Some people chip in a little, others a lot. Even an hour or two helps. If you'd like to volunteer, but don't know how, contact the Volunteer Coordinators or any board or committee member to see how you can help.

Note from Pat: As you read this, I will be enjoying a trip to Iceland. I plan to take pictures, meet Icelandic quilters, see some wildlife, eat shark and seal (maybe), and try to stay warm. Sjáumst þegar ég kem aftur! That's "See you when I return!" (I think) in Icelandic.

MQ Co-Presidents Judge Quilt Challenge

Rose Allen and Pat Curtner, as co-presidents of Minnesota Quilters, were honored to judge the black & white + one quilt challenge which was part of the Tenth Triennial Gathering of the Women of the ELCA. The theme was All Anew, and the gathering was held in July at the Minneapolis Convention Center.
Fat Quarter Drawing

So August Approaches. Our August theme is Fat Quarters of small florals, any color. Surely you still have some of those classic calicos.

At September's meeting the Strip drawing will be for 2–1/2 inch strips with geometric designs. Tricky, huh? First florals in August and then School book geometry for September when we do the Schoolhouse program.

The Fat Quarters and Strip Drawing for July was not held. The crowd was so into the Jelly Roll Race that no one brought Pastel strips. On Friday, July 7, at Quilting for Others there were some 35-inch wide calicos. I just had to piece them for backs for baby quilts. If you cut a Fat Quarter from one of these, great—so what if it's smaller than the average Jane Doe Quarter. That will just impress us with the depth and vintage of your stash.

MQ Fall Retreat or Bus Trip to Rochester

Save the date for Fall Retreat at Green Lake, October 19th - 22nd. Registration begins August 28th on CVENT. For those who aren't lucky enough to go to the retreat, there will be a bus trip to the Quilters Sew-ciety Quilt Show in Rochester on October 21. The bus leaves Saturday morning at 8:00 from Recovery Church and returns about 4:30. No driving—just friends and quilts! View the quilt show details at qsrochester.org.

More information will follow for both events.
MQ at the State Fair

Sue Rutford
statefair@mnquilt.org

It's time to plan for Minnesota Quilters at the Fair! Every year for two days MQ staffs a booth in the Creative Activities building to demonstrate and talk about quilting with a wide variety of Fairgoers. It's a lot of fun and a great way to finish the summer. This year our days at the Fair are the final two: Sunday, September 3, and Monday, September 4. We will have three shifts a day with four volunteers in each shift. Times will be 9:00-12:30, 12:30-4:00, and 4:00-7:30.

Please contact our new State Fair coordinator, Sue Rutford, by email at statefair@mnquilt.org or call 612-759-0660 to volunteer. If you prefer a particular day or time, please include that information. Sue will respond with your scheduled time and an admission ticket to the Fair.

The nine Block of the Month Rocky Road to California blocks from July were won by Pam Scott. Congratulations, Pam.

MQ Holiday Brunch

Holiday Brunch Committee
Suzanne Fisher
sfisher@repriteburk.com

It will be here before you know it. Save December 2, 2017, for the Holiday Brunch. This year we will be at Edinburgh in Brooklyn Park, Minnesota, and it is not too early to start planning for the event. Our challenge this year is Holiday Quilt On A Stick. Design and make an 8" wide by 9" high quilt with a holiday theme, such as New Year, 4th of July, Halloween, etc. The quilt backing must include a centered, vertical sleeve in which a paint stick has been inserted. This is your time to be creative. You can use any construction method, add any embellishments and hand or machine quilt it.

We are continuing the traditions of having a 12-1/2" unfinished block exchange as well as collecting stockings for St Joseph’s Home for Children. We will also have show & tell at this get together.

Make plans with current friends or come and meet new friends. Look for registration information in upcoming newsletters.

Highlights from the June Board Meeting
Karen Knoll, secretary@mnquilt.org

The finance statement was reviewed and approved. Brenda presented the preliminary show report. Laura Nagel was approved as the 2018 Show Coordinator. The 2019 show challenge concept was approved. The election results were reported. Diane Rose has agreed to start her term as education co-director early.

The next Board Meeting will be Tuesday July 25, 2017, at 6:00 pm at 253 State Street, St. Paul.

Respectfully Submitted, Karen Knoll, Secretary

Bulletin Board

September 8-11, Dakota County Star Quilters Retreat, Altoona, Wisconsin, http://www.dcsq.org/quilt-retreat.html

September 16-17, 27th Annual Fall Festival Quilt Show, 9 am-5 pm Saturday, 10 am-3 pm Sunday, St. Joseph’s Catholic Church, Amery, Wisconsin 54001, Apple River Quilt Guild, The Seasons in Quilts. Vendors, challenge, raffle quilts, speakers Bev Getschel and Carol Streif, soup and pie on Saturday. Marketplace sales benefit Northwoods Homeless Shelter. Admission $5.00, children under 16 free. Contact Nancy Drake at draken@amerytel.net.

September 23-24, Country Quilters 2017 Quilt Show, “Every Quilt has a Story,” Saturday, 9 am to 5 pm, Sunday, 11 am to 4 pm, Willmar Civic Center, 2707 Arena Drive NE, Willmar, Minnesota 56201. More than 300 traditional, contemporary, art, and modern quilts. Quilts for sale, vendors, door prizes, demos, trunk shows. $5 admission, ages 12 and under free, www.countryquilters.com
Happy 40th Anniversary, Minnesota Quilters

Laura Nagel mq2018@mnquilt.org

In June 2018, in St. Cloud, Minnesota Quilters will celebrate our 40th Anniversary as an organization, and we need your help to make it the gala event of your quilting year. Thank you to everyone who has already signed up for the 2018 show; we are looking forward to working with you. We are still looking for volunteers for several committees and hope that you will consider joining us as we plan next year’s show. Find a friend and sign up for a committee or sign up on your own and meet someone new to share the duties.

Contact Show Director Brenda Lyseng at showdirector@mnquilt.org or Laura Nagel, Show Coordinator at mq2018@mnquilt.org to tell us how you would like to be involved in the show. The committee signup board will also be available at the August meetings.

The first Show committee meeting will be Saturday, September 9th following the Schoolhouse membership meeting (about 12:00 pm). Light snacks will be provided.

Show dates—June 14-16  Classes begin June 13.

River’s Edge, Convention Center, St. Cloud, Minnesota
**Block of the Month – September 2017**

**Primary Four Square**

10 ½“ square (unfinished)

**Fabric:** Use bold yellow, red, and/or blue along with white or white-on-white. Back to school and primary colors to start!

**Cut (for one block):**

Primary 1:
- (2) A = 4 ¼“ x 1 ¾“
- (4) B = 1 ¾“ x 1 ¾“

Primary 2:
- (2) C = 4 ¼“ x 1 ¾“
- (4) D = 1 ¾“ x 1 ¾“

White:
- (1) E = 3“ x 3“
- (4) F = 3“ x 1 ¾“
- (4) G = 1 ¾“ x 1 ¾“
- (2) H = 1“ x 8“
- (2) I = 1“ x 9“

Either Primary Color (for outer border):
- (2) J = 1 ¼“ x 9“
- (2) K = 1 ¼“ x 10 ½“

**Instructions:**

Sew every seam a scant ¼“.
Sew two B+D, B+G and D+G. Press toward darker color.
Make the five “rows” shown in the diagram.
Sew the rows to one another. Trim block to 8“ square.
Add the white borders H to the sides, then top and bottom borders I.
Add the primary color borders J to the sides, then K to top and bottom.
(Borders not shown on diagram.)

This block was inspired by the 2016 Raffle Quilt “Four Square” block by Linda Bakken, done in coral and white.

**BOM GUIDELINES:** Each person may enter up to three blocks each month. Please include your name, address, and phone number on your block(s). (Make it simple: stick your mailing label on each block’s back and add your phone number.) Consider including leftover scraps with your block (pinned to the back 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 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. 253 State Street, St. Paul, MN 55107. If we have enough blocks, we’ll have a drawing at both the Thursday and Saturday meetings. If we get only a few blocks on Thursday, we’ll do one drawing on Saturday. You need not be present to win. We’ll call to notify winners. Winning blocks may be mailed, picked up during the month at the MQ office, or claimed at the next meeting.
**Picking up the Pieces**

Laura Nagel © 2017

**When is Little Big Enough?**

Everywhere a quilter looks, you are bound to see little quilts - in displays, as wall hangings or table toppers, lying on doll beds, and, of course, as samples in quilt shops. And they are so cute! Have you ever made a 12” block, then downsized it to 6” and then reduced it once more to a 4” or 3” block? If you have, you know the smaller the scale the more charming the block became. Why is this?

Some behaviorists state that as life becomes more hectic, miniatures give us a sense of control over our world. Neuroscientists know that the brain tends to be attracted to objects that do not fit a normal pattern or size, so items that are either too big or too small pique our curiosity and demand our attention. David Scotese, a writer of code, remarked, “What we can hold but has enough size to contain interesting features is far more fascinating than stuff that's too large to hold or too small to examine easily. I suppose a miniature that has a lot of intricate detail would fascinate me just because to see so much human effort put into something like that is amazing.”

Since I have always been attracted to small or miniaturized items, from dollhouse furnishings to vintage child-sized cooking utensils, it is no surprise that I would also be drawn to small quilts. When I started quilting in the 80s, bed quilts seemed to be the standard size project everyone was making. In the 90s, *Miniature Quilts Magazine* was published, but they were very focused on a 1:12 scale representation of traditional patterns. I recall making a dozen 1” house blocks, and then called it a day for miniature quilts.

Fortunately today’s ‘small quilt’ style does not adhere to a strict reduction in scale. They are just smaller versions of larger quilt patterns, sometimes combining multiple design elements into one quilt. I believe Jo Morton was one of the first designers to concentrate entirely on small quilt patterns. Introduced through her Jo’s Little Women clubs, she enticed many of us to buy lots of fat quarters from which we cut one 2” square of fabric in order to achieve the scrappy look of her examples. Today we have several small quilt designers, both in reproduction and modern styles; some even have their own fabric lines to coordinate with their patterns. So there is no excuse not to try one of these wonderful projects. They are especially satisfying after the completion of a larger project, as a break from a repetitive sewing task, or a quick handmade gift.

I did mention that these smaller quilts are cute, but that doesn’t always mean they are any easier. Many a small quilt maker will tell you that they probably could have made a full size quilt in about the same time. Not really, but sometimes it does feel that way because the attention to detail is very precise, and there are a lot of stops and starts at the sewing machine because the pieces are so small. There are other considerations when tackling a small quilt project that I have found helpful. Using smaller scale prints is more consistent with the size of pieces in a small block. Accurate ¼” seams are even more important because there is less ‘fudge’ factor in a small block. Pressing seams open will reduce the bulk at intersections. Having the proper size tools is also a benefit. Smaller rulers at 6”, 4” and 2 ½” are much easier to use when manipulating fabrics and blocks. A smaller blade rotary cutter and turntable cutting mat also come in handy.

Mary Elizabeth Kinch, author of *Small Pieces, Spectacular Quilts* and *Small Blocks, Stunning Quilts*, lectured and taught at our Duluth show. She jokingly said, “Sewing with small pieces is addictive. As you admire each finished little block, you will be tempted to make just one more, until you realize you have an appointment and go flying out the door.” She advises setting a timer or you’ll never get anything else done. The other night at my quilt group, someone brought a spectacular quilt composed of 1½” finished 9-patches – and it was a full size quilt! It was fabulous and made the rest of us want to go home and start cutting 1” strips. Secretly I’ve already been cutting 1” squares from my leftover scraps, but they wouldn’t even get a corner of that quilt done.

But there is another benefit to small quilts. At a recent Chaska Area Quilt Club meeting, Sharyn Resvick shared her delightful collection of small quilts. Realizing she would never have the time to make all the quilts she craved, she decided to make smaller versions of the patterns and styles she enjoyed. Over several years she made more than 75 quilts, all measuring 24” x 24”. Beginning with reproductions from the Civil War era to today’s modern quilts, she satisfied her need to try new fabrics, styles and techniques. Truly a great method for indulging our desire to make as many of the quilts that inspire us. As the saying goes, ‘so many quilts, so little time.’

Now, think of the small things that brighten your day, a good cup of coffee, hearing from an old friend, or having your dog greet you at the door. Whatever comes to mind, I bet one of them might be a small quilt.
July Meeting—Jelly Roll Race

Diane Rose

After Saturday’s business meeting concluded, the Jelly Roll Race began. At the sound of the air horn, ten diligent teams began sewing strips of fabric to make a loop of 50 feet. Their progress was interrupted by directions such as inserting a white square in the strip or changing drivers. The long ends of the loop were sewn together and the loop was cut to ultimately end in a very scrappy baby quilt measuring 45” by 45” with a little fudging. The end result was a whole lot of fun and ten cute quilts for the Visiting Nurses Association. Thanks to all who participated!

Peggy Stockwell, Karen Kopitzky, Rose Allen, Pat Curtner were the winners.
July First & Last Quilts, Show & Tell Quilts

Many of the quilts shown at the July meetings are below and on the following pages. Thank you to Lisa Stene and Martha Eaves for taking photos at these meetings. Quilts may not be shown if:
1-the quilter’s name on the sign-in sheet was illegible,
2-the description on the sign-in sheet could not be reliably matched to its photo, or
3-the quilter did not indicate permission for MQ to print the photo.

If you want a photo of your quilt included in the newsletter, you must print your name legibly, describe what your quilt looks like so it can be matched with a photograph, and indicate permission for MQ to include the photo of your quilt in the newsletter.

Thank you.

Anne Tiller

Laura Nagel

Candy Kehle

Arlene Albrecht

Candy Kehle

Audrey Weinand

Carol Premack

Anne Tiller
Please accept our apologies for any photos which were incorrectly attributed. Some of the Thursday evening first and last quilt photos were unavailable.

Here are some descriptions which could not be matched with photos: 2016 mystery, mystery quilt, batik with blanket on back, baby quilt, sampler, wool & denim, unfinished patchwork, 9-patch, calico wall hanging, row by row, Christmas squares, Christmas wall hanging, Civil War stars, Civil War sampler. In some cases two quilts fit the same description, and for others, no photo seems right.

Let this help you decide how to describe your quilt on the sign-in sheet. Yours could be the only log cabin on Thursday evening, but others could be shown at Saturday’s meeting. Which is whose?
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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](http://www.mnquilt.org/documents/PaperMembershipForm.pdf)

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- **$40 Regular** Access to all website features. Receive newsletter via email. Early registration for annual show. Textile Center Library privileges.

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