Minnesota Quilters May Meetings

Thursday, May 4, 7 pm  
Saturday, May 6, 10 am

Our guest speaker will be Carol Streif from Clear Lake, Wisconsin. Carol will be doing trunk shows of her works at the Thursday evening and Saturday morning meetings, and teaching a Mock Bargello class on Friday.

Carol grew up sewing garments on a Singer treadle. The old treadle machine is still used to sew her husband’s woven rugs and bags.

Carol started quilting about 20 years ago. Her quilting has been featured in Quilters World and Quilter’s Newsletter magazines. She said that the first quilt she submitted for judging was in 2006. She didn’t win a prize, but she did get the teachers’ choice and show chair’s choice awards. She was thrilled. Carol teaches classes and speaks at meetings in Wisconsin and Minnesota.

Mock Bargello Workshop

Join MQ in learning how to make a Mock Bargello wall hanging with Carol Streif. Carol's Bargello uses one jelly roll for the front. The class is all day on Friday May 5th, from 9 to 4. Bring your own bag lunch. The workshop fee is $45 for MQ Members and $55 for non-members. Fee is non-refundable. The class will be at Minnesota Quilters, 253 South State Street, St Paul.

Registration information was sent by email on April 3. Registration deadline is Thursday, May 4.

Outstanding Volunteer ~ Congratulations Laura Nagel

Because MQ relies so heavily on its volunteers, the Board has chosen to honor those who give so much to the organization by sponsoring a Volunteer Breakfast preceding our April birthday party, and by selecting an Outstanding Volunteer from the many who have donated time and energy for special recognition. Laura Nagel is our 2017 honoree.

Laura most recently is assisting the Long Range Planning Committee to select speakers for shows and meetings in the future. She has a long history of taking on challenging projects for MQ. She is assisting the current faculty committee of the Minnesota Quilters Show and writes a monthly column in the newsletter, which many members say is the first thing they read in the newsletter!

Laura served as MQ Board President from 2011-2012, and she has been a dedicated member of one of the hard jobs on the Show Faculty Committee for several years. She has helped get our meeting library up and running, providing her personal expertise as a professional librarian. She organized the special meeting of MQ held in conjunction with Women's History month at Eagan High School for many years. Those meetings included a mini quilt show, speaker, and other activities to introduce the general public to quilting.

Laura shared her history in quilting with the following summary she wrote when she was running for education director on the board in 2010: “I have been quilting since 1982 when I took a quilting class to finish my great-grandmother’s crazy quilt. I was totally hooked, and gave away all my other hobby/craft supplies and have focused on quilting ever since. I was actively involved in my Colorado quilt group, and joined Minnesota Quilters in 1988 before I moved here. It didn’t take long to become involved on show committees and board positions. I have worked on Door Prizes, Facilities Coordinator, and Special Events committees, and Co-Chaired two shows. As a board member I have served several times as Evening Director and lecture series coordinator. When not working on my own projects, I teach classes in quilt history at local shops. I have an ever-growing stash, more ideas than I’ll ever get to, and UFOs to last a lifetime, but that never stops me from getting excited about new fabrics, new patterns, and new techniques.”

Laura graciously received her plaque, plant, and complementary gift card to her favorite quilt store at the MQ birthday party in April, and explained that being a volunteer for MQ was one of her most rewarding activities. It gave her the opportunity to gain new friends, and to share her talents. She recommended that everyone should try it!
Dear MQ members,

Beginning in May, we will no longer be mailing this newsletter. We will offer a paper copy only if you do not have a way to read it on-line. Thanks for your help in saving MQ over $2200 a year by making this change.

Thank you Wanda Shelton for taking over the Newsletter Editor position, and new member Cindy Schmidt for becoming the evening meeting photographer. Putting the newsletter together each month is a big job. It involves organizing and arranging articles, putting them all in a consistent type format, editing and cropping photos, and making the publication look readable and professional overall. I have appreciated learning how to use the Publisher program, and, most importantly, communicating with members and learning about all the different activities and programs that make up Minnesota Quilters. Thank you, Debra, you have helped me immensely, and put the finishing touches on each publication.  

Best Wishes, Mary Manns
Message From Our Co-Presidents president@mnquilt.org

Greetings:

Lots is going on at Minnesota Quilters!

Your board is busy monitoring the show process and working with our new Show Director, Brenda Lyseng, as she gets acquainted with our activities. She has lots of ideas, so look for some fun innovations in 2018.

Do you know what a Form 990 is? It’s a form that 501(c)(3) non-profits need to file annually with the IRS. Minnesota Quilters files this form annually with the help of our accounting firm Cliff, Allen, Larson. Our 990 shows an organization that is managing its funds well, and working to meet our mission to promote the art of quilting.

We introduced our new Bookkeeper, Renae Shields, in January. Now we are bidding her farewell. Renae was offered a position with MAP for Non-Profits that is a perfect fit with her skills in accounting and teaching. We are posting this position immediately. Look for it on our web site.

Our Operations Co-Directors Kathie Simon Frank and Karen Newman have been hard at work getting our limited office space to work for three employees. In addition they have addressed equipment needs and worked to reduce our “stuff” both in the office and in our storage areas. It’s not a glamorous job, but much needed and appreciated.

The President’s Challenge welcomes your Quilts that Inspire a Child’s Senses. Labels have been distributed to many of you and we have lots more to hand out. They will be available at the May meeting, or call the office to have a packet sent to you. Quilts will be accepted beginning May 1. If you are a procrastinator like we are, you can even bring them up to the show. They will be donated to West Side Community Health Services and given to the midwives for the families they serve.

Thanks to all of you who receive this newsletter electronically. Did you know that printing and mailing this newsletter costs MQ about $17 a year for each member who receives it through the mail? As we get a new printing contract, we need to reduce our use of paper and ink. Beginning in May, we will no longer be mailing this newsletter, we will offer a paper copy only if you do not have a way to read it on-line. Thank you for your help in saving MQ over $2200 a year by making this change.

Linda Wines’ farewell quilt blocks: the deadline to turn in your blocks is May 15.

Rose Allen and Pat Curtner, Co-Presidents

2017 Minnesota Quilters Show Faculty

Barbara Yates Beasley
http://www.barbarayatesbeasley.com

Michelle Cartier

Mickey Depre
http://mdquilts.com

Kate Eelkema

Gudrun Erla
http://www.gequiltdesigns.com

Pam Goeckle Dindorf
http://aardvarkquilts.com

Becky Goldsmith
http://pieceofcake.com

Laura Heine
http://fiberworks-heine.com

Lola Jenkins
http://www.lolasdesignerquilts.net

Lori Kennedy
http://theinboxjaunt.com

Mary Elizabeth Kinch
http://maryelizabethkinch.com

Bonnie Langenfeld
http://www.landscapesinfabric.com

Cindy Lohbeck
http://handsongandyes.com

Karen McTavish
http://mctavishquilting.com

Kari Schell
http://onpointquilter.com

Annie Unrein
http://www.byannie.com

Lecturers

Marilyn Badger

Claudia Clark Myers
http://claudiameyersdesigns.com/ quilts-from-my-designs

Lola Jenkins
http://www.lolaquilts.com

Kari Schell
http://onpointquilter.com

Annie Unrein
http://www.byannie.com

Lecturers

Marilyn Badger

Claudia Clark Myers
http://claudiameyersdesigns.com/ quilts-from-my-designs

Karla Overland
http://cherrywoodfabrics.bigcartel.com

It’s Your BIG Chance - Garage Sale - May 6

Is your calendar marked?

Do you have your checkbook or cash?

Are you ready to find bargains galore?

The annual garage sale will be on Saturday, May 6th. It
starts at 9 and runs until 9:55 and will open again during the
break time for our meeting, and will be open half an hour
after the end of the meeting. We have lots of fabric, loads of
books, notions, doodads, patterns…all sorts of things you
simply can not live without!

Proceeds go towards purchasing door prizes! Thank you
for your support!

IMPORTANT SHOW DEADLINE DATES

Advanced Registration - Online registration ends May
15, mail-in May 1.

Final Judged Quilt Drop-Off – May 30

Non-Judged Quilt Drop-Off Options -

By US Mail, UPS or FEDEX ONLY to ARRIVE at MQ
Office by May 30
Drop off at a designated quilt shop between May
22 and May 27.
Deliver to the DECC ON June 6 by 12 Noon.
Coming Soon—Election of Some Board Members

Martha A. Eaves, past president

At the May meetings, our current Co-Presidents, Rose Allen and Pat Curtner, will be calling for additional nominations for the following positions:

- President- Elect (can be a co-position)
- Communication
- Education
- Membership
- Operations
- Secretary

Anyone who wishes to be included on the ballot for the June annual meeting should plan to get your name submitted either by nomination at May meeting, contacting a current board member, or contacting the nominating committee, Martha Eaves, Loretta Stone or Gail Cmiel. Our by-laws allow nomination at the June meeting but it is really helpful to have your name and information submitted in advance so we can prepare the ballot materials. Please step forward now if you wish to be considered;

You may self-nominate, but do not nominate another person without making sure they want to be nominated. You may run for any of these positions even if another person has already stepped forward. We encourage broad participation.

Questions: Martha Eaves, eavesm@visi.com

A Few Words on the Awards at the Minnesota Quilters Show

Visitors often remark about the amazing quilts on display at the Minnesota Quilters show. Why do we have such wonderful quilts every year? Part of the reason is the excellent prize money awarded. Quilters from all across the country enter our show because First Place winners in each category receive $500, three Exemplary Quilting winners (Hand, Stationary Machine, or Track-Mounted Machine) each receive $1000, and two Best of Show Quilts (Large and Wall) each receive $1500.

We are thankful for the sponsors who donate funds so MQ can give these generous awards. A special thank you goes to Linda Wines and Brenda Lyseng for their work in acquiring these award funds.

Some people have asked how the Exemplary Quilting Awards are decided. As the quilt judges examine the quilts in each category to determine the first, second, and third place awards for that category, they ask the judging committee to hold any quilts they see that exhibit excellent quilting. When all of the category awards have been determined, the judges look again at the quilts that were held for each of these three quilting methods.

Some definitions: For Hand Quilting, the quilters use their hands instead of a machine. Stationary Machine Quilting means that the machine used is stationary, such as a domestic sewing machine; it is the fabric that is moved under the machine to create the quilting designs. Track-Mounted Machine Quilting means that the machine itself moves over the fabric to create the quilting design, such as a longarm machine.

The judges select one quilt from each of these ‘held’ groups that they determine exhibits the best example of that quilting method, and those quilts receive the Exemplary Quilting awards.

For more information about the judging process and how awards are determined, sign up for the Judges’ Panel on Thursday, or the two-day Introduction to Quilt Judging Seminar on Thursday and Friday at the 2017 show.

Kate Eelkema

Registration for the 39th Annual Quilt Show and Conference ~ NOW OPEN FOR ALL

Online registration ends May 15, mail in registrations end May 1

Classes will be starting at the 2017 MQ Show on Wednesday, June 7th at 8:30 am

Online registration for the 2017 MQ Show closes at midnight on May 15th.

Register now! There are a few weeks left to register for the June 2017 MQ Show. Online registration closes May 15th and mail-in registration closes May 1st. If you purchased cancelation insurance, the last date to cancel is by May 25, 2017. Show books can be found at many quilt shops and on-line at www.mnquilt.org/mq2017

There are price breaks and opportunities to advance registration. Wednesday night is Meet the Teachers and Sneak Peek. The cost is $15 for both, a savings of $5. The lecture pass is available only with advance registration: $25 (members) versus $10 per lecture. When you pre-register you will receive a bag, show pin and three-day admission to the show (wear your name badge) plus the opportunity to sign up for classes.

Before the show, download your class supply lists at www.mnquilt.org/mq2017 and purchase the requested supplies.

Bring your confirmation receipt with you to the show to the advanced registration table in Duluth.

Any questions, please contact the registration committee at registration2017@mnquilt.org.

See you at the show! Jan Schmidt, Char Wenger, Nancy Hall – 2017 Registration Co-Chairs
Highlights From April Meetings, MQ 39th Birthday Party, and Five Members Showing Quilts

Our April meetings were very special. We celebrated MQ’s 39th birthday with cake, five of our own Minnesota quilters shared some of their fabulous quilts, and there were lots of beautiful Show and Tell quilts. Many volunteers came early Saturday morning for the Volunteer Appreciation Continental Breakfast. Thank you to the quilters who showed and talked about some of their quilts and their quilting journeys.

Kathy Johnson
Wynn Martin
Faye Bodenhamer
Sue Weiby
Adrianne Lemberg
“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 Minnesota Quilters, Minneapolis Modern Quilt Guild and Minneapolis Contemporary Quilters. It will be on view at all MQ 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 Minnesota Quilters 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

Raffle tickets are available at all MQ meetings and at the MQ Quilt Show in Duluth. Members can check out tickets to sell at work, guilds, your bowling league or anywhere. Raffle tickets make great gifts for all occasions.

Small Quilt Auction

A BIG thank you to everyone who has contributed to the Small Quilt Auction. A reminder to everyone who would like to contribute - there is still time.

Bring your item(s) to a May meeting or to the Duluth Quilt Show.

Minnesota Quilters greatly appreciates and needs your contributions. We suggest table toppers, small bags, baby quilts, wall hangings, seasonal items, pot holders, to name just a few suggestions for members to select from.

Please make this a great sale by contributing.
Carrie D’Andrea and Karen Ohlson

President’s Challenge

If you are making a quilt for the 2017 President’s Challenge: Quilts That Inspire a Child’s Senses, labels and submission instructions will be available at the May MQ meetings. If you can’t make the May meeting, request a label at president@mnquilt.org.

Quilts will be accepted at the May meetings, or bring them to the MQ office after May 1. You can also procrastinate and bring your quilt to the show. Thank you.
Classes Still Available at the Minnesota Quilters Show and Conference

The class roster for the 2017 Minnesota Quilters Show and Conference offers rich variety for those looking to improve their skills or widen the repertoire of techniques they use in their quilts. Piecing, paper piecing, applique, improvisational quilt making, bag construction, landscape artistry, portrait collage, fabric dyeing, tie dye and shibori, quilting on domestic and long arm machines, professional quilt judging and digital design (EQ7 and Art and Stitch) – the breadth and depth of the classes being offered is outstanding! At every show we have to cut some teachers and classes that do not fill quickly enough. After that cutting, here is the list of classes still offered:

Wednesday Classes
Sukiyaki- Pam Dinndorf-sewing machine required
Improvisational Quilting-Becky Goldsmith-sewing machine required
Thread Art-Lola Jenkins-Pfaff machine provided
Thread Stitch Sampler-Lori Kennedy-Bernina machine provided
Four Play Fun-Mary Elizabeth Kinch-Janome machine provided
Beginning Landscape-Bonnie Langenfeld-Elna machine provided
How Am I Supposed to Quilt That-Karen McTavish-no sewing machine needed
Backpacks-Annie Unrein-Baby Lock machine provided
Art and Stitch-Kari Schell-laptop with trial version of Art and Stitch required

Thursday Classes
Summer Carnival-Mickey Depre-Pfaff machine provided
Introduction to Quilt Judging-Kate Eelkema, Lorraine Covington-no machine required
Stripology Squared-Gudrun Erla
Fronds-Pam Dinndorf-sewing machine required
Backyard Birds-Becky Goldsmith-sewing machine required
Fantasy Collage-Lola Jenkins-sewing machine required
Letting Go (String Piecing)-Mary Elizabeth Kinch-Janome machine provided
Mini Landscape Stitch Sampler-Bonnie Langenfeld-Elna machine provided
Quilting Modern Mini Class-Karen McTavish-no sewing machine required
Project Bag-Annie Unrein-Baby Lock machine provided
Yoga Bag-Baby Lock machine provided
Introduction to Easy Draw-Kari Schell-laptop with EQ7 required
Mystery Quilt-Kari Schell-sewing machine required

Friday Classes
Strip Your Stash-Gudrun Erla-sewing machine required
Ka-Pow-Pam Dinndorf-sewing machine required
Portrait Collage-Lola Jenkins-no sewing machine required
Sailboat Sampler-Lori Kennedy-Bernina machine provided
Small Pieces, Small Quilts-Mary Elizabeth Kinch-Janome machine provided
Frozen-Advanced Snow and Ice Dyeing-Cindy Lohbeck-no sewing machine required
Travel Essentials-Annie Unrein-Baby Lock machine provided
EQ T-Shirt Quilt-Kari Schell-laptop with EQ7 provided

Saturday Classes
Mastering Quilt as You Go-Gudrun Erla-Pfaff machine provided
Stitch It in Wool: Texas Tulips-Becky Goldsmith-no machine required
Background Fills Sampler-Lori Kennedy-Bernina machine provided
Arashi Shibori-Cindy Lohbeck-no machine required
Itajime Shibori-Cindy Lohbeck-no machine required
Long Arm Victorian Feathers-Karen McTavish-APQS machine provided
Happy Quilt-Mickey Depre-Elna machine provided
Faculty Bios and Photos

Barbara Yates Beasley
With her camera always at the ready, Beasley captures images of animals wherever she goes. These later become the basis for her patterns and a road map to the animal's soul. Beasley says, “I try to be sensitive to how my subject is feeling and transform that into a piece that tells a story. I know I have done my job if they can look into the animals eyes and know this is a sentient being.” By capturing and communicating a sense of joy or connection and highlighting the animal world around us, she hopes to foster a deeper understanding and compassion for the animals, and for ourselves. Barbara works in a fabric collage technique heavily incorporating commercial, hand-dyed and hand-printed fabrics. She uses fabrics as a painter would use paint to describe texture and form of her subject.

Mickey Depre
While she has been known for years as an award winning art quilter, Mickey Depre is also a dedicated piecer when at home making bed quilts for her family. Her books, Pieced Hexies, Ring Around the Hexies, and Pieced Hexies Deux have served as door openers to her latest book, Half Scrap Quilts. She has appeared on The Quilt Show, maintains her own website, a Facebook page, and keeps a busy schedule teaching and designing.

Pam Dinndorf
Pam Goecke Dinndorf’s career has proceeded through fashion, interior design, and now quilt design. She designs patterns under the name of Aardvark Quilts. Her designs have been featured in Simply Moderne, Quilt Mania, Magic Patch, Kaffe Fassett’s Quilt Romance, Quilt Blocks Go Wild and other publications. She is the author of the book, Colorific.

Kate Eelkema
Kate Eelkema, one of the judged co-chairs for this year’s show, has been a certified quilt judge for over 10 years, and is a qualified instructor of the Two-Day Introduction to Quilt Judging Seminar. This seminar is a comprehensive introduction to the judging process, and would be useful to anyone wanting more detailed information about quilt judging, organizing or working in a judging room, or interested in finding out how to identify an award winning quilt. A member of the National Association of Certified Quilt Judges, Kate splits her time between Minnetonka, Minnesota, and Big Sky, Montana.

Gudrun Erla
Gudrun Erla, the designer and owner of GE Designs was born and raised in Iceland. She started quilting at the age of 23 and became totally addicted to it right away. After owning and running quilt shops in her home country and designing patterns, a career move brought the family to Minnesota in 2003. Since then Gudrun has been designing full time and publishing patterns and books from her home office in Chanhassen, Minnesota, where the family has been living since moving to the US.

Becky Goldsmith
Becky Goldsmith is best known as half of the Piece O’ Cake Designs team. She met Linda Jenkins, her business partner in Piece O’ Cake Designs, at a meeting of the Green Country Quilters’ Guild in Tulsa, Oklahoma, in 1986. They started Piece O’ Cake in 1994 and, since then, have published more than 30 books and hundreds of patterns including 7 Blocks of the Month. They continue to work together on books and patterns. Becky is the sole author of The Quilter's Practical Guide to Color.

Laura Heine
Laura has written chapters for the Rodale Successful Quilting Library: “Fast and Fun Machine Quilting,” “Favorite Techniques from the Experts,” “Choosing Quilting Designs,” and “Creative Embellishments.” In 1994, she decided to take a chance and gave up her full-time nursing position to open a quilt shop, Fiberworks, in Billings, Montana. She teaches locally and nationally, showing students what has worked for her and encouraging them to express their own concepts and creativity in their quilting. Many of her designs are simple, but her use of color and quilting makes them much more interesting!
Lola Jenkins
Lola Jenkins' art quilts present a unique vision to the quilting world. She has developed her craft with no formal art or sewing training. She has evolved to master quilter status by fearlessly pursuing her art, winning numerous awards and ribbons along the way. She has appeared on “The Quilt Show” with Alex Anderson and Ricky Tims twice and is an instructor on Craftsy.com.

Lori Kennedy
Lori and her husband were raised in Chicago, Illinois, and currently reside in historic Stillwater, Minnesota. She loves quilting—especially free motion quilting—fabric dyeing, photography and flowers. Lori’s blog is The Inbox Jaunt— the daily diversion in your inbox—it’s her attempt to share the many colors of her day. Her Craftsy video class has received all five star reviews. She has also been featured in every issue of American Quilter magazine where she offers free motion quilting tutorials.

Mary Elizabeth Kinch
Mary Elizabeth Kinch completed a degree in fashion design and then went on to making and designing quilts. The work of Gwen Marston and the quilters of Gee’s Bend heavily influenced her even though her main area of interest is antique quilts. She’s written two books with her friend, Biz Storms, and is currently designing interior environments. When she’s not doing that, she’s making quilts, teaching, and encouraging others to tap into their own creative abilities. She enjoys spending time with her most cherished treasures, her three children.

Bonnie Langenfeld
Bonnie Langenfeld is a Minnesota based, multiple award winning art quilter who has been running her “Landscapes in Fabric” business since 2000. She does commission work, teaches classes, and participates in quilt shows. She works in raw edge applique and thread painting. She uses no fabric paints but occasionally uses markers for tiny details like house numbers. She will teach four classes at the 2017 Minnesota Quilt Show.

Cindy Lohbeck
With 30 years of fabric dyeing experience, Cindy Lohbeck from Scottsdale, Arizona, brings humor, wit and valuable lessons to each class. Affectionately known as "The Bucket Lady", her color insight and useful tips and techniques add to the fun and fast paced nature of her classes. With more than 25 years experience as an interior designer, she has a love of textiles and an eye for color that is the foundation for her winning designs. She has worked as a professional faux finisher and muralist, and also owned a tie-dyed clothing business in the early years, all of which helped refine her color mixing skills. With the addition of quilting to her creative repertoire in 2002, all of her passions collided in Hands On Hand Dyes.

Karen McTavish
Karen is an Award Winning longarm quilter, author, instructor, speaker, judge, an APQS dealer, and a representative for APQS. Her work on wholecloth/whitework quilts, shadow and color trapunto, scrollwork and Victorian feathers is legendary. She is best known for developing her signature technique, McTavishing, and other techniques that replicate traditional hand quilting using a machine. As an author, she has written some of the best books available on machine quilting: Whitework Quilting, The Secrets of Elemental Quilting, Quilting for Show, Mastering the Art of McTavishing, and others.

Kari Schell
Award winning long arm quilter, Kari Schell, is a pattern designer, Electric Quilt expert, and certified Art and Stitch instructor. She provides custom and edge-to-edge machine quilting services to others, as well as exclusive patterns and workshops. Kari fills her home with over 100 quilts, mostly from her own designs! Her designs have been featured in Mystery Quilt Retreats, Block of the Months and Shop Hops. A few years ago, Kari took up ice-skating and is now working on her Adult Silver Moves in the field and Pre-Bronze Ice Dances. When she is not quilting, she can often be found at one of the many ice rinks in the area.

Annie Unrein
A creative lifetime quilter, Annie Unrein of Patterns by Annie has been designing patterns and teaching since 2000. With a focus on practical and useful projects, Annie's patterns appeal to sewists of all ages and levels. Annie is the creator of By Annie's Soft and Stable, an innovative product she designed to add body, stability and a professional finish to purses, bags, home decorative items, and more. A popular instructor, Annie teaches online and also travels worldwide to teach. She loves sharing techniques for making sewing bags and purses easier while yielding professional results. Annie is based in St. George, Utah, where she and her energetic team operate the popular website ByAnnie.com.
Call For Door Prizes!

Thank you to everyone who has donated door prizes!

If you have ever been to the annual MQ show, you know that we need dozens and dozens of door prizes for all of the lectures, classes, volunteers, banquet, and other events. We depend on YOU to help provide these.

If you’ve ever won a door prize, think about contributing something so that another person might have the fun of winning. And if you’ve never won a door prize, it must mean we don’t have enough to go around, so you should consider donating something so that there will be more! You can drop off your donation at a meeting or at the MQ offices. You can even bring them to the show in Duluth and drop them off there!

Thanks to those of you who have been so generous in the past. Thank you for your generosity!

Carla Kilkelly and Nancy Broschat

Quilting For Others

There are several ongoing service opportunities:

**Harriet Tubman Home For Women:** Heart String Quilts, pattern is on our website. Pick up muslin squares and red strip for the middle at an MQ meeting and then add your scraps. It takes 80 blocks to do a quilt. These are very fun and easy to do (and it uses those leftover strips!).

**Visiting Nurses Baby Blankets.** These are in high demand. They go out almost as fast as we donate them! We work on these at some of our quilting days but are happy to have finished donations. About 45” square is the best size.

**Meals on Wheels Placemats.** This June we will be donating placemats to Meals On Wheels in Duluth at the quilt show. They should be patriotic or summer themed, any size or shape. We will be collecting them until the show. Please bring them to the May meeting or drop them off at the board table at the show.

**NEEDED:** Please save the upc label from your Hobbs Batting. Hobbs will give us a huge discount on our purchase of batting with upc labels. Batting donations are also appreciated.

We are no longer accepting DOG BED donations. If you have dog beds to donate, check with your nearest Humane Society to see if they are in need of dog beds.

**St Joseph’s Home for Children.** It’s never too early to start those Christmas Stockings.

Special Exhibits at the Duluth Show

Special Exhibits will include the Red and White Challenge Quilts 2016 from the Block Swappers of Blue Earth Minnesota. This will be inspiring as we plan a Red and White 40th Anniversary Quilt for MN Quilters.

This beautiful book cover just gives a taste of the richness of Suzy Webster’s Amazing Applique. Her “Adventures in Blogging” is the subject of her special exhibit at the MQ show in Duluth. She discovered more about her Hungarian Heritage than she imagined and traveled to the Budapest Embroidery Market to see it up close with her Mother and Grandmother.

http://websterquilt.blogspot.com/

Other Special Exhibits include:

- The Lion King Cherrywood Challenge
- Two Friends, Many Quilts: A Collection of the Collaborative Award Winning Work of Marilyn Badger and Claudia Clark Meyers
- BIG and Small—Contemporary Quilters, Minneapolis
- A is for Appliqué, Students of Pat Cox, Minneapolis
- The Japanese Inspired Quilts of Patricia Cox
- Quilted Quotes Challenge, Shelly Ricci’s Art Quilt Group
- Nine Patch Challenge, Needle Nuts, Prior Lake, MN
- Granite City Rocks, St. Cloud Heritage Quilters
- Navigating Lake Superior with Mariner’s Compass Quilts, Northern Lights Machine Quilting Guild, Duluth
- The Power of Three, Twin Cities Quilting, St. Paul
- 2016 MQ Mystery Quilts
- A Take on Modern, Minneapolis Modern Quilt Guild
- Idiom Challenge, Evening Star Quilters, Mahtomedi, MN
- Scavenger Hunt Challenge, Minnesota Quilters
- Minnesota Wild, Challenge Chicks, Minneapolis-St. Paul

Best “Seat” (Cushion) in the House!

Have you tried one of the MQ seat cushions available for sale at the monthly MQ meetings? It’s so lightweight, portable, and convenient with a mesh sleeve for water bottle, class supplies or other materials. There are so many opportunities to use it—classes, retreats, and even local sports or music events. It’s a reinforced foam that supports, but doesn’t give way. Come by the MQ merchandise table at the next meeting, or look for us in Duluth. Try it! It’s only $12 and so worth it!
Picking up the Pieces ~ Surprise!
The phone rings. I don’t recognize the number, but it is local. I answer. It’s Pat Curtner (so must be MQ business). I’m sure she is going to ask me to do something so I mentally go through my to-do list to decide if I have time to add any new task to my calendar. Instead she informs me that the MQ Board has voted me Outstanding Volunteer. What a surprise! I didn’t know what to say, but managed a “Thank You.” We continued the conversation to determine if I was available for both April meetings (Yes, of course.), was I allergic to any plants or flowers (only gardenias), and what quilt shop would I like a gift certificate to come from (Glad Creations)?

It was an honor to receive the plaque, plant and gift certificate at the April meetings. And I appreciated all of the congratulations and comments made during break. While this was MQ thanking me, I really have to say the privilege is all mine, and the thanks go to the MQ organization and all of the other groups I have volunteered for during my life. Volunteer-ing is somewhat of a way of life for me, beginning in Jr. High helping in the church nursery on Sunday mornings to helping migrant children learn to read in a trailer park on an unused runway at O’Hare Field. No matter what I signed up for, I have always felt I was the one who benefited the most from the experience. I was the one who grew as a person, who learned something new, who came away with new confidence.

There are so many reasons to volunteer, and each one of us has a personal motivation. Maybe it’s giving back to an organization that has helped us, or helping others because of the satisfaction it brings to brighten someone’s day. It could be for personal growth, to develop a new skill, or gain professional experience. Or it might be purely social, meeting new people, joining a small group, having a good time sharing the quilting experience with others. Whatever the reason, you’ll never be bored again!

Just think of the benefits according to people who volunteered in the last year:
- 96% said it enriches their sense of purpose in life
- 94% said it improved their mood
- 81% said it strengthened relationships
- 76% said it has made them feel healthier

If you pay attention, you will always find a place where your time and talents are needed. You may be familiar with Dunkin’ Donuts’ slogan, “America Runs on Dunkin’”, but did you know that Minnesota Quilters “Runs on Volunteers”? At MQ meetings it may seem someone is always recruiting for a variety of volunteer positions. That’s because there is always something to do for MQ. And when you volunteer for MQ, your efforts allow MQ to do more without the cost of hiring, purchasing, or raising costs of our activities and programs.

Volunteering works best when the experience is positive for both the volunteer and the organization. You need to feel that your work has a positive impact and really makes a difference for the organization, and the organization needs to feel that you have successfully contributed to accomplishing their goals and fulfilling their mission. There is a reason MQ asks volunteers to keep track of their hours. Time really is money. The estimated value of volunteer time in Minnesota is $23.56 per hour.* The accounting firm that conducts the annual MQ audit relies on our recorded volunteer hours as nonfi-nancial assets, which as a 501 (c)(3) organization we use to show that there is active involvement from the community we serve. And while our Treasurer and Bookkeeper can put a numerical figure to each line item in the budget, know that your volunteer contribution to Minnesota Quilters is Priceless!

You can make a difference because every person counts – can MQ count on you?


Stripes and Fat Quarters Drawings

Basic Information:
- Fabric should be 100% cotton quilt shop quality, approximately 18” x 22” for fat quarters. Each person may contribute up to three per month.
- Each contribution should have the donor’s name and phone number attached. For each item contributed, the donor’s name is put into the drawing.
- Donations are taken at the Thursday and Saturday meetings, or they may be mailed to the MQ office, 253 State St, St Paul, MN 55107 and must arrive before the Saturday meeting. If there are 29 or fewer entries on Saturday, one name is drawn. If there are 30 or more, two names are drawn. Winners do not need to be present. The winner(s), if not present, are phoned and notified that s/he may pick up the winning items at the MQ office. Or other arrangements may be made with the winner.
- Becca Brackett and Lynn Zuspann

Bulletin Board

Saturday, May 6, 2017, Peaceful Hearts Quilt Club and Hearts and Hands Quilt Guild present Twice As Nice Spring Quilt Show.
Becker Community Center, 11500 Sherburne Avenue, Becker, MN.
Admission $3.. Featuring beautiful quilt displays, local vendors, viewers choice awards, challenge exhibits, raffle quilt drawing, door prizes, community sewing projects.
Remember Me….Stories about MN Quilters

by Pat Cox and Martha Eaves

The Minnesota Quilt Project, which is an integral part of MQ’s mission, is planning on interviewing MQ members and sharing their special stories of quilting with all of you. We will be doing a notebook of everyone we interview. You can be a new quilter or a more experienced one: a modern, contemporary, traditionalist or all of the above. Contact Pat Cox, Coxxx052@umn.edu or Martha Eaves, eavesm@visi.com, so we can make a date to interview you and get a picture with some of your quilts. We hope you will enjoy knowing more about one another!

Tina Hollerman

I became interested in quilting as I am an avid Laura Ingalls Wilder fan and I think her books influenced me. Then, when I was twelve years old, my mother bought a quilt top at an antique store. My grandmother put it together and they put it in a frame from Sears. I quilted on it every day that that whole summer and really enjoyed it.

Later I went on to get a degree in Clothing and Textiles from Oregon State University. My roommate in college was making a quilt for her boyfriend for Christmas. I watched her do it and realized that I could make one too.

I started making more quilts in 1979 by watching Georgia Bonesteel’s TV show, and I have quilted ever since. I started-out loving traditional patchwork. Gradually over time I’ve shifted to traditional designs done in batiks. I love every part of quilting, but choosing the fabric is my favorite part. I love it when the piecing makes a secondary design show up. I try to do that in every quilt I make.

This quilt that I’m pictured with is my favorite of all the quilts I’ve ever made. I just love the way the fabrics interact with each other. I would like to make more quilts with these colors and maybe add white to see how they look with it.

I worked at Marshall Field as an assistant buyer of men’s pajamas. I chose the designs and fabrics for the pajamas. After that I decided to stay home with my children. While I enjoyed that very much I missed my career. Quilting connects me to fabric and design again. It keeps me connected to that part of my personality and makes me feel complete. Quilting has had a huge impact on my life.

MQP at the Show

During your visit to the MQ show in Duluth, please plan to stop by the MQP booth “Yesterday and Today”. The booth will have quilts on display and you may rest your weary feet while perusing quilt block books. Items for sale will include vintage quilts, vintage quilt kits, and patterns for vintage quilts.

MQP Corner

The Minnesota Quilt Project will document quilts following the MQ meeting in May. If you would like to have one to three quilts documented, please email a message to mqp@mnquilt.org.

Important Information for Judged and Non-Judged Quilt Entrants

This year in Duluth all of the judged and non-judged quilts will be taken down and folded by volunteers before entrants will be allowed to pick them up. There is no need to rush to the door at 4 pm. Feel free to go put all of your vendor purchases in your car, get something to drink so you stay well hydrated, and then come back between 5:30 and 6:30 to pick up your quilt.

Remember that you or the person you have designated to pick up your quilt must have the pick-up receipt when coming for your quilt.
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**Important Information About Show and Tell Quilts**

Please PRINT your name and description (colors, obvious indications on your quilt—(just the name of the pattern doesn’t help to match your name to your quilt). If you want your quilt photo published in the newsletter, you must check or put yes in the box after your description.
Show and Tell Quilters
1,2,3. Susan MacLennan 4. Roxanne Meyers 5. Pam Scott
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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.

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