Minnesota Quilters, Inc.
2015 Annual Report
October 1, 2014 to September 30, 2015
Board of Directors

- **President** ................................................................. Bonnie Ellis
  - Employees:
    - Administrative Assistant Debra Svedberg
    - Bookkeeper Linda Wines
    - Show Director Linda Wines
  - Show Committee Coordinators Lou Roos & Laura Nagel
  - Employees:
    - Administrative Assistant Debra Svedberg
    - Bookkeeper Linda Wines
    - Show Director Linda Wines
  - Show Committee Coordinators Lou Roos & Laura Nagel
  - Standing Committee:
    - Minnesota Quilt Project Pat Cox & Carolyn Sifflow

- **Past President** ......................................................... Kathie Simon Frank & Patricia Von Arx
  - Standing Committee:
    - Nominating Committee Kathy Brevig, Rita Culshaw & Char Wenger

- **President Elect** ....................................................... Martha Eaves
  - Committee:
    - Donations and Door prizes Nancy Broshat & Carla Kilkelly
    - Grants
    - Scholarship

- **Treasurer** ................................................................. Vicci Mattsfield
  - Standing Committee:
    - Finance Committee

- **Secretary** ............................................................... Jill Schultz

- **Communications Co-Directors** ................................. Pat Curtner & Karen O’Brien
  - Committees:
    - Cvent / Electronic Communications Karen Kopitzke
    - Newsletter Mary Manns
    - Photographer Carrie D’Andrea & Mary Manns
    - State Fair Booth Gail Keiper
    - Social Media Sharon Peterson
    - Website Karen Knoll & June Hoffa

- **Education Co-Directors** ............................................ Sharon Peterson & Charlette Pittman
  - Committees:
    - Block of the Month Jeanne LaMoore & Wynn Martin
    - Meeting Coordinators–Day Loretta Stone & Barbara Jackson
    - Meeting Hospitality-Day Ruth Herbst & Tina Hollerman
    - Meeting Coordinators/Hospitality –Evening Sue Sandagar & Kathryn Carver
    - Meeting Hospitality–Evening Nancy Broshat, Gail Keiper, & Karla Ramy
    - Fall Getaway Ellen Carter & Mary Leuders
    - Historian Martha Eaves & Hannah Kaytonah
    - Holiday Brunch Diana Aysta, June Kolodzieski, Molly O’Dea, Carol Mayala, Carolyn Minor, Mary Pozzini
    - Library Martha Eaves, Barbara Jones, Melissa Nellis
    - Quilting for Others Laura Nagel, Kathie Simon Frank, & Gail Hanson
    - Website Karen Knoll & June Hoffa

- **Membership Co-Directors** .......................................... Anne McCandless & Mary Ann Baraibar
  - Committees:
    - Business Member Coordinator Barbara Jackson
    - Membership Coordinators–Day Kay Genelin & Lynette Wass
    - Membership Coordinators–Evening Cheri Hand & Mary Wiebusch
    - Volunteer Coordinator Nancy Hall

- **Operations Co-Directors** .......................................... Kathleen Winters & Suzanne Fisher

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*Studio Tours*
President's Report
By Bonnie Ellis

Being a charter member of Minnesota Quilters, Inc., I was honored to serve as President again for the year 2014-2015. My how we have grown. Our budget is strong and thanks to Kathie Simon Frank, we have added to our investments. With a great staff of Bookkeeper/Show Director Linda Wines and Administrative Assistant Debra Svedberg, many eager volunteers, and capable board members, our year was a great one.

Our organization has many features enjoyed by members. We have an awesome newsletter thanks to Mary Manns and Debra Svedberg. Strong educational programs with nationally-known speakers were chaired by Sharon Peterson and Charlette Pitman, including bus trip to Willmar and a Spring getaway at Camp Wapo in Amery, Wisconsin. We have many Quilting for Others projects such as quilts for visiting nurses, shelters, pet beds and meals-on-wheels placemats coordinated by Pam Plocak. We have a great Facebook page and group done by Sharon Peterson that keeps us connected to the world-wide public. We have a growing library of current quilting books and magazines. Show and tell is my favorite part because the members highlight quilts they have made and the stories behind them. Every month there is a block of the month block where members have a chance to win all of the quilt blocks. Rebecca Finch has developed a new committee for gallery tours. Next year we will be exhibiting at the Swedish Institute.

This year our Outstanding Volunteer was Mary Pozzini. Our scholarship winner to the show was Kristina Taylor of St. Paul. And our Quilter of the Year was Sue Poser, owner of Gruber's Quilt Shop in St. Cloud.

Our chief fund-raiser is our show which was in Duluth this year. It was chaired by Laura Nagel. Our amazing raffle quilt was designed and made by Sandi Irish. Another fundraiser was the Quilter's Studio Tour coordinated by Kate Eelkema.

President Elect Report
By Martha Eaves

The position of president-elect assumes oversight of grant requests and scholarship applications mid-stream because of the way dates fall for the change in Board positions. This is not ideal because people are told in the newsletter to submit to President-Elect, but the new President has a lot of duties to take on and the applications for these two programs gets somewhat set aside. The Board previously altered the grant application period to September 16, but I would recommend that grants also be amended to October 16 to give more time for grant requests under the new budget. The current adjustment accepts Grant requests period from July 1 - September 16, and changed the scholarship dates from post-show June to November 1.

I used a notebook to keep the applications for the grants, as was recommended by the report of past presidents Kathie Simon Frank and Patty Von Arx. I prepared a chart of what each one was requesting. I did not use a notebook for the scholarship applications although I now think that would be a good idea, for record-keeping if nothing else. Most all of the applications for scholarships were submitted by email, and Deb scanned the paper applications into pdf format, to allow me to send all of the scholarship applications out to board members. Because the Board has to choose a scholarship recipient and get in touch with the winner so they can attend the January meeting and utilize the priority registration that they receive as part of the award, using an email distribution system of the scholarship essays seemed to make sense. The scholarship requirements specifically say that we would like pictures but do not take them into consideration when selecting a candidate.

Grants: Grants are available to nonprofit entities, small quilt groups, or individuals to educate people about quilting, to promote quilting throughout the state, and to construct quilts for social service-oriented organizations (hospitals, women's shelters, etc.). The Board budgeted $7,000 in grants and the larger portion of these were granted to the Educational TV programs that serve quilters in out-state MN and the edges of ND and SD with TV programing featuring quilts programs. The remainder of the grants were awarded to smaller guilds for doing charity quilting work and for the last Women's History Month programing at Eagan High School. We had enough grant money to give each applicant some portion of what they wanted. This list shows the grantees and amounts awarded: Blaine Community Quilters, $300; Bundles of Love, Andover, $300; Lake Area Quilters, Alexandria, $500; Quilt Dreamers, Apple Valley, $300; Lakeland Public TV serving northern and central MN, $2000; Burnsville Senior Quilters, $300; Pioneer Public TV serving NW MN, Eastern SD, NW Iowa, $2000; Comfort Quilters of Chisago, $300; Eagan Women's Day Celebration, $500; and Naomi Family Residence Quilting Project, $500.

Scholarship: We had 8 applicants for the scholarship but two did not meet the basic criteria of living in MN or being a beginner. The applicant selected by the Board was Kristina Taylor, of West St. Paul, and she was able to come to the show along with her spouse. She also created a quilt specifically to enter in the non-judged section of the show.

Fund-raising: President-elect is also in charge of fund-raising. We participated in the Give to the Max day in November 2014 and raised $1785 through the Give MN website. Because people exclusively use credit cards through that site, we pay fees to get that money. However, we could probably do more to make our site more interesting and we did change the text of the site in 2014 with that in mind. It would be worth working with an ad consultant to see if we could make our site more appealing to people other than just our own members. Kate Elkema has continued to organize the Studio
Tours as a fundraising effort, and has continued to have a good number of people interested in those tours. The studio tours raised $635. The Board approved sending one of our staff members, Deb, to a Council for Non-Profits all day seminar on Successful Granting Raising, and I attended at my own cost. The seminar was very informative but it will require long term efforts to point the correct places to try for grants, and the competition is very high for Arts grants. However, this is still a possibility we could consider. We probably want to do some specific and targeted fundraising for the move, once we locate a place.

The Show Committee did a specific quilt challenge where quilters donated scrap quilt for sale and made about $1400 from the show sales. That exhibit is still traveling so could make some additional money.

Members were asked to give ideas about fundraising and we did receive a few thoughts: (1)-Allowing members to act as “vendors” at meeting where there is no set vendor and either pay by the table used or by a % of their profits. (2)-Coordinating with an independent brewery to have a show of quilts that people agree to donate for sale as several of the start-up breweries will donate space. (3)-Approaching some of our wealthy quilters and asking for a specific donation of a set amount $500-$1000 and creating a signature quilt for the lobby of our new space.

Co-Past-President Report
By Kathie Simon Frank and Patricia Von Arx

We worked with the President throughout the year, and served in an advisory position to the Board, paying particular attention to issues relating to Minnesota Quilter’s financial situation. Kathie was designated as the person to communicate with the organization’s financial advisor (Kris Bjorklund) at Morgan Stanley. In that capacity, when the Board wanted her to, she asked Morgan Stanley to find CDs with the best rates for the desired investment and directed them to invest the money. Patty carefully reviewed each month’s financial reports and provided information to MQ’s treasurer and bookkeeper for their reports. We provided historical background and institutional memory to inform responsible decision-making.

Financial Review Oversight: Though in the job description it is specified that the Past President participates in the annual Audit/Financial Review, in fact the treasurer, Vicci Mattsfield, and bookkeeper, Linda Wines, had things in such good shape that the Co-Past Presidents’ assistance was not needed this year except for supplying the accounting of Board members’ volunteer hours. We reviewed all the documents that came before the Board and paid special attention to the accuracy of those documents, asked questions, and followed up to make sure answers were provided and deadlines were met.

General Oversight: We began a review of all standing and special positions/committee chairs’ job descriptions. This is an ongoing project to be continued during Fall 2015. The review will be summarized and presented to the 2015-16 board with recommendations for revisions.

Compliance Officer: We had such conscientious Board members, who conducted their business as required, we didn’t have to do much to oversee. When asked, we made sure that licenses were obtained, policies followed, deadlines of financial report filings made in a timely manner, and contracts drawn up properly. We oversaw the budget carefully, making sure that proposed expenditures that had not been budgeted were examined and considered or rejected so as to maintain a firm healthy financial state for the organization.

Nominating Committee: We are providing a separate report regarding the Nominating Committee. This is a summary of the committee’s activity in 2014-15. We solicited MQ members to serve on the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee consisted of Kathy Brevig, Rita Culshaw, and Char Wenger. They prepared a slate of officers for the 2015-2016 Board. From November through April, we announced Board openings at meetings, wrote newsletter notices, and participated in making calls and sending e-mails to members, all aimed at soliciting candidates for the slate. We distributed job descriptions of the Board openings, and ultimately presented a full slate of officers. We publicized candidates’ biographies in the newsletter before the election that took place at the June annual meeting. Because the Membership Directors and Volunteer Coordinators were so good at their jobs, the Nominating Committee did not need to seek chairs or coordinators of standing committees and special positions.

Assembly of Annual Summaries from Directors: We collected final reports from all the Directors at the September turn-over meeting, and later in the year assembled them in preparation for writing the Annual Report. In some cases, we summarized the reports. We worked with office staff and treasurer to compile statistics for the annual report and oversaw the printing of the annual reports. We made 50 copies, but ran out at the annual meeting, so we recommend printing more copies next year. After presentation of the Annual Report and approval of it at the Annual meeting, we oversaw adding the annual Report to the MQ website.

Annual Meeting Responsibilities: We conducted the Annual Meeting, introduced members of the Board and the slate of officers. We requested nominations from the floor, and as there were none, we supervised the balloting procedure. After the annual meeting, we, along with one member of the nominating committee, tallied the votes and recorded those who were elected. There was only one contested position. At the Annual meeting, an MQ member recommended that
photographs and biographies be provided at the annual meeting, especially if a candidate was unable to attend. It was suggested that our financial report be shown on a screen before the annual meeting by means of a power-point display or slide show.

Other Tasks: We compiled a document of existing MQ policies and procedures for the convenience of future Boards. We proposed that the Executive Committee should take over some of the overload that the Education Directors were handling. As a result, we moved studio tours (fundraiser), the library function, and the historian so that the Executive Committee now has responsibility for overseeing those functions. Kathie is currently serving on the Search Committee for new space, due to the need to move offices and meeting space by September 2016. Kathie also served as liaison to the Textile Center member-groups panel. This was useful as a tie to the Textile Center where we hope to continue our connection.
Treasurer's Report
By Vicci Mattfeld

The financial position for Minnesota Quilters in 2014-2015 was positive. Our income and expenses were up but we still showed a net gain in revenue. We are approaching the auditor’s recommended savings amount to allow us to continue as a quilt group if something happened (such as if we were unable to hold a quilt show some year). We are also in the process of looking for a new location to hold meetings and are anticipating greater expenses. The board feels that we are in a good position to handle this.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Minnesota Quilters, Inc.</th>
<th>Statements of Functional Expenses</th>
<th>Statements of Functional Expenses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A Minnesota Not-for-Profit Organization</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Years Ended Sept. 30</td>
<td>2015</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Programs</td>
<td>Management and General</td>
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<td>Quilt Show Expenses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bad Debt Expense</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cost Of Goods Sold</td>
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<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>114</td>
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<td>Postage</td>
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<td>Professional Fees</td>
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<td>Speakers and Lecturers</td>
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<td>Telephone</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Quilt Show expense</td>
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<td>All Other Expenses</td>
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<td>Bad Debt Expense</td>
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<td>Cost Of Goods Sold</td>
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<td>Depreciation</td>
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<td>Facility Rent</td>
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<td>Postage</td>
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<tr>
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<td>7,925</td>
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<tr>
<td>Speakers and lecturers</td>
<td>3,682</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Special events</td>
<td>15,165</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supplies &amp; equipment</td>
<td>6,690</td>
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<td>Total Other Expenses</td>
<td>58,485</td>
<td>85,770</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Expenses</td>
<td>305,095</td>
<td>85,770</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

June 2016
## Organizational Net Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Show Location</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Net Assets Beginning of Year</th>
<th>Expenses</th>
<th>Income</th>
<th>Increase (Decrease) in Unrestricted Net Assets</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>St Paul</td>
<td>2007</td>
<td>$279,820</td>
<td>$421,877</td>
<td>$387,707</td>
<td>$(34,170)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rochester</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>$245,650</td>
<td>$454,883</td>
<td>$414,559</td>
<td>$(40,324)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Duluth</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>$205,326</td>
<td>$447,625</td>
<td>$476,537</td>
<td>$28,912</td>
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<td>St Cloud</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>$234,238</td>
<td>$400,222</td>
<td>$394,926</td>
<td>$(5,296)</td>
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<td>St Paul</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>$228,942</td>
<td>$425,195</td>
<td>$420,031</td>
<td>$(5,164)</td>
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<td>Rochester</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>$223,778</td>
<td>$432,913</td>
<td>$375,741</td>
<td>$(57,172)</td>
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<td>Duluth</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>$166,606</td>
<td>$369,481</td>
<td>$402,242</td>
<td>$31,416</td>
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<td>St Cloud</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>$198,022</td>
<td>$358,832</td>
<td>$409,003</td>
<td>$51,590</td>
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<td>Duluth</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>$249,612</td>
<td>$390,865</td>
<td>$415,481</td>
<td>$24,616</td>
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<tr>
<td>St Cloud</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>$273,596</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

## Statements of Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unrestricted Net Assets</th>
<th>Years Ended Sept 30</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>REVENUES AND OTHER SUPPORT</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Quilt Show:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Admissions</td>
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<td>Registration and Class Fees</td>
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<td>Sponsor and Vendor Revenues</td>
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<td>Events</td>
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<td>Contributions</td>
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<td>Merchandise Sales</td>
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<td>Miscellaneous Revenue</td>
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<td><strong>Total Quilt Show Revenue</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Other Support:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Membership Dues</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minnesota Quilt Project</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advertising Income</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>7,695</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous Revenue</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Other Support</strong></td>
<td>43,581</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Quilt Show Revenue and Other Support</strong></td>
<td>415,481</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**EXPENSES**

| Program Services | 305,095 | 272,503 |
| Supporting Activities: | | |
| Management and General | 85,770 | 86,329 |
| **Total Expenses** | 390,865 | 358,832 |

**REVENUE OVER (UNDER) EXPENSE FROM OPERATIONS**

| Investment Income (Loss) | -632 | 1,419 |

**INCREASE (DECREASE) IN UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS**

| Net Assets - Beginning of Year | 249,612 | 198,022 |

**NET ASSETS - END OF YEAR**

| 273,596 | 249,612 |

*Please refer to the Minnesota Quilters, Inc website for the full version of the Financial Statements*
Operations Report
By Suzanne Fisher and Kathleen Winters
We met with the church with two years left on our lease. We were concerned that the church may not want to continue with our lease when it ran out. At that meeting, the church said they would not be renewing our lease as they wanted to grow their ministry. They will let us stay in the building until we are able to find a new location even if we need an extra few months. If we were able to find a new location prior to September 2016, they church would let us get out of the lease early.

A committee to find a new space was set up with Suzanne Fisher acting as chair. Her committee has obtained the services of Dale Severson and Russ Bayer of CBC Griffin to assist in this search. A new location has not been secured at this time. We are trying to find a spot that will house the offices and meeting space in the same location. We are open to all options and are welcoming any suggestions from members.

The church decided to eliminate the key system for access to the church and install a new electronic system. MQ was given 4 card keys. Linda Wines, Debra Svedberg (office staff) and Bonnie Ellis (President) and Kathie Simons Frank (Past president) got keys as they live close to the Newman Center and the church. The church will be unlocked prior to our meetings. This affected the front door and two back doors of the church.

There was a break into our office and we decided to have the lock changed. We have 5 keys available. We paid for the lock to be changed.

The church changed all the locks in the church to increase safety and decrease damage to the property. We have 4 keys to the social hall, 4 keys for kitchen/closet in the social hall and 1 key to Classroom A. One set of the keys and the key to Classroom A will remain in the church office. The other 3 sets of keys will be given to President/Past President/President Elect, Operations Director and education director. These keys are to be shared and will need to be registered with the church office with a completed form and picture ID. If there is any damage to the church or break-ins, the police will be notified and the person who is registered for a set of keys will be responsible.

The calendar for the remainder of 2015 and 2016 has been completed. If there is a workshop on a Friday between the Thursday and Saturday regular meetings and there needs to be a new seating set up of any of these days, we need to work with Bob the church custodian to change seating. This will be done at our expense and it will need to be worked out with Bob.

In 2014 it was decided to change the payroll companies. We were using ICOMP (Integrated Compensation Systems Inc) and changed to CBIZ Payroll Services effective for our first payroll for 2015. The new service is a little cheaper and easier to work with.

Education Report
By Sharon Peterson and Charlette Pittman
Monthly Highlights for the 2013-2014 Fiscal Year: Minnesota Education was busy during 2014-2015.

October 2014 - Membership meeting was a trunk show and class was presented by Mike Ellingsen of Blue Earth Minnesota. The technique taught in the class was a Pineapple Block that did not require a special tool and was not paper pieced. The quilts were amazing! There were a number of the quilts that were exhibited as part of the 2015 Scrap Challenge at the Minnesota Quilt Show and the special exhibit that was held at the Textile Center. A quilt made in the class by Cindy Stenson was the quilt that represented Hennepin County at the 2015 Minnesota State Fair.

October was also the first bus trip that Minnesota Quilters had in many years and we went to Blue Earth, Minnesota, taking Minnesota Quilters "On The Road". The program was presented by Minnesota Quilters President Bonnie Ellis with a subject of Memory Quilts. The Blue Earth Quilters created a wonderful display of quilts in the hallways of Blue Earth High School. There were many quilters from the Southwest area of Minnesota who attended this event. The bus trip made 4 stops at Minnesota quilt stores. Thank you Blue Earth Quilters for being wonderful hosts!

The Minnesota Quilters held their 2014 Fall Get Away Retreat at the Cloquet Forestry Center. The retreat as filled quickly and people who attended the retreat had a wonderful time. A thanks goes to the 2014 retreat leaders for a job well done. Minnesota Quilters was notified by the Cloquet Forestry Center that the facility would no longer be available for rental by Minnesota Quilters. The hunt was on for a new facility last fall. A contract for the 2015 Fall Get Away was scheduled and signed at Green Lake Bible Camp in Spicer, Minnesota.

November 2014 - Membership meeting was a Trunk Show and Class was presented by Victoria Findlay Wolfe of New York City New York. The technique taught was creating fabric out of scraps and creating free form quilt blocks.

December 2014 - The annual Holiday Brunch was held at the University of Saint Thomas in Saint Paul, Minnesota. The challenge for 2014 was creating items from the holiday block exchanges from past brunches. The variety of items were amazing! Paulette Marinis holiday block exchange quilt was entered into the 2015 Minnesota State Fair and won a ribbon. Thank you Holiday Brunch committee: Sally Lajon, Arlene Albrecht, Kara Albrecht, Sharon Peterson, Tina Hollerman, Beth Coulombe, Ruth Herbst and Pamela Plocek.
January 2015 - Due to a snowstorm, only one meeting was held in January on Saturday. It was a full house! The program for January was a preview of the upcoming 2015 Minnesota Quilters' quilt show in Duluth, Minnesota.

February 2015 - membership meetings were presented by Minnesota Quilt Project. Thursday evening, February 5th, Gail Bakkom explored the use of letters and words that serve as a design element. On Saturday, February 7th, Patricia Cox presented a program on the various design possibilities and techniques for making Log Cabin quilts. Pat shared many examples of Log Cabin quilts from her extensive collection.

March 2015 - marked the end of an era. For Women's History Month, Laura Nagel for many years has produced a small quilt show and program at Eagan High School. In 2015 Jean Wakely of Northfield, Minnesota presented a talk and displayed her mother's delightful Applique Story quilts. Thank you, Laura, for your hard work on all the Women's History Month programs at Eagan!

March marked a change of location for the popular Spring In Town Retreat. Due to scheduling issues at Saint Lawrence Catholic Church, the retreat was held at Pearl and Myrtles Retreat Center in Anoka, Minnesota. The new venue was well received and a good time was had by the folks who attended the day retreat.

April 2015 - is Minnesota Quilters' birthday month. The program was presented by Diana Callahan, Lynette Wass, Carrie D'Andrea, Susan Manning and Carol Premack, members of Minnesota Quilters. The ladies shared their quilting journeys and quilts that they have made. Thank you all for sharing your stories and quilts.

April marked the first time in many years that there was a Spring Get Away Retreat. The retreat in 2015 was held at Camp Wapo in Amery Wisconsin. The retreat offered an opportunity for people who have not been able to get into the Fall Get Away Retreat due to the retreat being full to go on a retreat. The group was smaller than the Fall Get Away, but there was lots of laughter and quilting.

May 2015 - The Membership meeting and class was presented by Scott Flannagan from Fremont, Nebraska. Scott is 30 years old and started quilting with his grandmother when he was 5 years old.

July 2015 - The Thursday Membership meeting was presented by Faye Hoch of Twin Cities Quilting in Saint Paul, Minnesota. The Saturday July Membership meeting was another Minnesota Quilters Goes On The Road. This time Minnesota Quilters went to Willmar, Minnesota. Award winning Mary Chalmers was the speaker for the event. Mary shared her quilting story and her quilts that have won at national shows. The Minnesota Quilt Project was there to document Mary's quilts for the Quilt Index. Many thanks to the Willmar Quilt Guild for being wonderful hosts for this event! The attendance, program and show and tell were outstanding.

August 2015 - Membership meetings and class featured Lola Jenkins an African American quilter from Omaha, Nebraska. Lola shared her quilting story and large number of portrait quilts. Lola's class filled in less than 6 hours and featured her technique for doing amazing portrait quilts.

September 2015 - Membership meetings were again the Schoolhouse program. Martha Eaves, Paulette Marini, Lisa Stene, Janet Harvey, Anne Marcellis and Sandra Johnson were the presenters for the Schoolhouse program. Thank you all for sharing your techniques and talents, it is greatly appreciated!

The Fall In Town Quilt Retreat again was held at Pearl and Myrtles Retreat Center in Anoka, Minnesota. Thank you to Audrey Weinand, Sharon Johnson, Jean Kline, Jan Osbon, Sue Willoughby for coordinating the retreat! Fun was had by all!

Quilting for Others Outreach for the 2014-2015 Fiscal Year:

Quilting for Others had a busy year. Many thanks to all who have donated fabric, quilt blocks, quilt backs, quilts, pet beds, placemats and Holiday stockings. Your support for those in need is greatly appreciated.

Holiday Stockings given to Saint Joseph in 2014 were 70
Northside Meals On Wheels received 150 placemats.  
The Humane Society received 395 pet beds  
Harriet Tubman Shelter received 27 twin quilts  
Minnesota Visiting Nurses received 117 baby quilts. 
Thanks to Pam Plocek and Merle Pratt for coordinating this effort.

Membership Report
By Anne McCandless and Mary Ann Baraibar

This year we continued to concentrate on making the monthly membership meetings more efficient and friendlier by encouraging members to get to know one another by consistently wearing name tags, noting new members with starred name tags, recognizing volunteers with hearts on their name badges and identifying board members on their name tags and with board member ribbons. We also tried to keep track of attendance to have a better understanding of which of our members regularly attend our monthly meetings. Those efforts were somewhat successful, but are an ongoing process.
We celebrated MQ’s 37th anniversary in April with a cake. We celebrated our volunteers with the presentation of our Outstanding Volunteer Mary Pozzini and a continental breakfast at the Saturday meeting.

We started the year with a Business Member Coordinator, Barb Jackson. That position is now going to be empty again since Barb is taking a board seat in Membership. Working effectively with business members continues to be a goal and we will continue to recruit a coordinator.

We added a committee tentatively called Outreach Special Exhibits to extend our services to members by offering more opportunities to exhibit their quilts outside of the show and perhaps sell their quilts. This is also an opportunity to advertise Minnesota Quilters in a larger community. Rebecca Finch has done a stellar job with this. We currently have exhibits at the Textile Center and the Hennepin County Central Library.

Our committees were:

Membership Coordinators Day: Jean Borrett and Lynette Wass
Membership Coordinators Evening: Nancy Bokedam and Sue Weiby
Volunteer Coordinators: Cathy Gosset and Nancy Hall
Business Member Coordinator: Barbara Jackson
Outreach Special Exhibits: Rebecca Finch
Guild Coordinator: unfilled

Our thanks to all!

At the beginning of the fiscal year we had 735 current members and 40 business members for a total of 775 members. At the end of the fiscal year we had 744 current and 29 business members for a total of 773 members. The drop in Business members was due to an error on the computer when our Show Sponsors signed up. We hope to have that rectified this year.

Communications Report
By Pat Curtner and Karen O’Brien

Facebook: Sharon Peterson continued updating the MQ Facebook pages. As of Sept. 2015, more than 1800 people had joined our Facebook page.

Newsletter: Mary Manns continued as editor of the MQ newsletter, with formatting assistance from MQ Administrative Assistant Debra Svedberg. Carrie D’Andrea and Mary Manns were the photographers. Each month approximately 600 newsletters were emailed to members, with 200 more mailed to members who request printed copies. Volunteers processed and mailed the printed newsletters each month.

State Fair: Gail Kieper and volunteers she recruited at MQ meetings staffed an information booth in the Creative Activities building. The volunteers answered questions and distributed brochures and various handouts.

MQ paid more than $1500 to the State Fair to supplement the premiums given to ribbon winners in the quilting categories in Creative Activities. In addition, MQ awarded a prize in the Textiles category of the Fine Arts exhibit.

Website: Karen Knoll and Debra Svedberg continued as website troubleshooters.

Cvent: MQ has been using Cvent since 2009 for meeting and newsletter notifications, membership management, and online event registration. In August, 2015, our contract was renewed for another year. Karen Kopitzke continued as our Cvent support volunteer.

Minnesota Quilt Project Report

The mission of the Minnesota Quilt Project is to identify and document quilts, both privately and publicly held, that have a Minnesota connection. Our goals are:

Preserve photographs and information the MQP has collected.
Make our collected data available to interested parties through Quilt Index.
Arrange for publication and display of quilts that have been documented.
Promote the importance of identifying, labeling and documenting the history of our quilts to benefit future generations.

Monthly meetings were held in the MQ classroom. The average attendance was six-eight persons.

MQP Leadership for 2014-2015
Co-Chairs: Pat Cox and Carolyn Silflow
Secretary: Kathy Brevig
MQP web smith: June Hoffa
The Quilt Index liaison: Kelly Willis
Block book organizers: Mary Hinz, Pat Cox
Books for MQ library: Kelly Willis, Martha Eaves, Gail Bakkom
Show Booth: Kathy Brevig, Gail Bakkom
MQ Board Liaison: Martha Eaves

Quilt Documentation
Five quilts belonging to MQ were documented (also appraised).
A few quilts were documented at MQ meetings and other times.
Five winning quilts by Minnesota quilt makers were documented at the 2015 MQ Show.
Twelve quilts by Mary Chalmers were documented at the July MQ meeting.
A total of ~4,000 Minnesota quilts are listed on the Quilt Index database; updating continues.
Documentation forms were revised; request for permission to release quilt maker name is now included.

Lectures
MQP sponsored the February MQ meeting programs, featuring Gail Bakkom on “Signature Quilts” and Pat Cox on “Log Cabin Quilts”.

Minnesota Quilters Permanent Quilt Collection
The quilts in the MQ collection, valued at more than $10,000, are properly folded and stored in the MQ storage locker. Notebooks with quilt descriptions and appraisal forms are placed in the MQ office and storage locker. The collection is displayed in the gallery on the MQP website.

2015 show activities: Pat Cox appraised 13 quilts, documented five prize winning quilts made by Minnesota residents, exhibited signature quilts in the MQP booth, sold items at MQP booth as fundraiser ~ $1960 raised from appraisals and sale of antique quilts, books, patterns in MQP booth, displayed quilt block books including two new books and book of interviews with MN quilters.

MQP quilt collection – all quilts were refolded.

Show Coordinator
By Laura Nagel
I thought the 2015 MQ annual Show and Conference in Duluth was an amazing event. Linda and I received many positive comments on the venue, exhibits, classes, and vendors. That’s not to say there weren’t a few snags, but it seems all turned out well in the end.

I have been a show chair several times, and I have to say this year’s committees and volunteers were among the best. Their attention to details and meeting time lines was fantastic, both before the show and at the event. Everyone was so willing to do their job well and assist other committees who were completing their tasks. This dedication is what really makes a successful show, for our attendees as well as behind the scenes.

Because I had to assume the dual role of Show Coordinator and Faculty Chair, some of my assignments overlapped, which was fine, but it didn’t leave me the time to assist Linda Wines, Show Director, as much as I should have. I’m sure she can be more specific as to how this impacted her, but I know she ended up doing tasks and running errands that I could have done. I regretted that she did not have time to visit the sponsors and vendors as early in the show as she would have liked, which is essential to our bottom line.

I fully enjoyed overseeing the entire process, from setup to takedown, seeing it all come together to loading the truck on Saturday night. After Sneak Preview we had a well-attended Kick-Off committee meeting with light refreshments to insure that any last minute issues could be handled before we opened the doors on Thursday morning. I think we have solved the long lines at Admissions as well as the complaints about waiting to get in. Selling tickets in advance was part of the solution as was expanding admission lines from 3 to 5 which made a huge difference!

With the assistance of Kathie Simon Frank, the Banquet was a lovely event. Our honored guests, QOTY Sue Poser, Outstanding Volunteer Mary Pozzini, and our Scholarship recipient Kristina Taylor were recognized and had an opportunity to address the audience. Paula Nadelstern gave an interesting and entertaining account of her quilt life in the Big Apple. Truth be told I had no idea what to expect and was pleasantly surprised by her wit and engaging presentation.

Committees:

- Admissions – Rita & Jean did a great job at reducing lines and long waits to enter the show, adding two additional lines.
- Banquet – Kathie artfully arranged the centerpieces and table favors creating a pleasant dinner atmosphere. There was some concern about the Banquet speaker vending afterwards, but this had been allowed at previous shows, so was granted for Paula Nadelstern. The vending did not disturb any other Banquet activities.
- Bus Tours – Gail & Mary welcomed several busloads of visitors and handled their admissions efficiently. They were not aware that they needed to fill the Show Bags for tours that ordered them and needed to use bags that were for Registration. But both committees worked together to solve the problem in a timely fashion.
- Challenge – Lori selected exciting Kaffe Fassett fabrics that were an inspiration to many participants.
- Charming City Stroll – Wynn secured 9 local businesses in Canal Park to participate. Lots of good comments about the charms and charm pack.
- Door Prizes – Nancy & Carla made every event more exciting with their carefully selected door prizes, and still some left over for our membership meetings.
- Information Desk – Nancy & Loretta were able to keep everyone going in the right direction with their helpful advice.
- Judged Quilts – Miki & Karen did an awesome job, along with our judges, selecting and displaying the beautiful entries into our judged competition.
- Merchandise – Wanda & Kathleen made excellent choices for this year’s MQ & Show merchandise, with many items selling out at the show.
- Non-Judged – Ellen, Lynette and Mary displayed a variety of non-judged entries in an attractive arrangement that kept viewers returning for a second look.
- Power Point – Sue entertained us during Happy Hour with a review of the entire award winning quilts.
- Photography – Peggy provided the photos for the Power Point and Newsletter.
- Printing & Publishing – Karen and Janet hustled us all to the deadline for each publication, first for Registration information, and then for the show booklet.
- Raffle Quilt – Sandi & Rebecca were responsible for a beautiful raffle quilt and sales that exceeded our goal!
- Registration – Jan W, Audrey, Jan S and Sharon worked their magic with adjustments that insured that every registrant received exactly what they signed up for, even last minute changes.
- Secretary – Rebecca kept us all in line and informed with her timely reports from each meeting, updates via email, reminders and current rosters.
- Signage – Vickie, Pat & Rose had everything labeled and their signs directed people to every place they needed to go – classes, vending, exhibits, lunch – better than any GPS. They were especially good at doing last minute requests and changes.
- Small Quilt Auction – Martha and Doris once again spearheaded a successful auction event, with donated items for bidding and a table full of ‘buy it now’ merchandise.
- Special Exhibits – Paulette & Lisa out-did themselves with the array of their Special Exhibits. Wicked was by far the most talked about.
- Vendors – Sue & Doug expertly scheduled the vendors for set-up and takedown and arranged to have student volunteers assist the vendors. Our vendors always comment that we do it the best.
- Volunteers – Virginia & Jean supplied us with an endless stream of willing and able volunteers before, during and after the show. Needless to say, we couldn’t do it without them – the volunteers and Virginia & Jean.
- Website – Pat kept our show website current and informative, updating it within minutes of any changes or additions.
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