September Meeting Notes
Thursday, September 2, 7:00 pm
Saturday, September 4, 10:00 am

Join us at our September 2nd and 4th meetings for another fun and informative Schoolhouse session. We'll have interesting and useful demonstrations from beautiful bindings to duct tape dress forms to quick and easy strip cutting, and so much more! Take a little time out before Labor Day comes and the summer ends to get some great ideas for future projects. We’ll also have Show and Tell of course--what have you been working on all summer?

August Meeting Recap

We had a great time in August with Robbi Joy Eklow. She shared her “Queen of the Last Minute” lecture on Thursday night, to great laughter and fun, followed by a new lecture on “Transcendtools,” in which she shared some useful quilting finds in unusual places--like the hardware store, Bass Pro Shops, and other non-quilty stores! There was lots of laughter and sharing at these meetings. At the Friday full-day class, we learned the secrets of her fabulous fused quilts and at the half day machine quilting class on Saturday afternoon, we were inspired by her free motion styles. It was a busy weekend!  

Sue Rutford

Fall Getaway - October 7-10

Online registration began August 8th. The MQ 2010 Fall Getaway will be held at the University of Minnesota Forestry Center in Cloquet, MN. The Forestry Center is set in tranquil pine forests and offers beautiful hiking trails, fabulous professionally catered meals, large sewing rooms with comfortable ergonomic chairs, good lighting, ample sewing space and modern accommodations, each with a private bathroom. Spend a long weekend, Thursday through Sunday, quilting and having fun. Cost is $225 for members. Join hosts Rita Culshaw and Jean Carr for the fall getaway.

October Program & Workshops

The October program meetings feature MQ’s own Annemarie Yohnk. Thursday evening Annemarie will present her history and collection of doll quilts. Saturday morning, she will feature a lecture and showing of Redwork. A workshop opportunity to make the Carolina Lily Doll Quilt will be held on Friday, October 9 from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. and a workshop “Redwork 101” will be held at the Textile Center from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. following the Saturday program. Workshop registration details and form can be found on page 14.

New MQ Employee Hours:

Linda Lysdahl, show coordinator, will work Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Linda Wines, interim office manager, will work Tuesday and Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Linda Wines will also listen to voice mail messages on Mondays and Fridays. Hours will change when employees need to attend the Finance Committee Meeting, one of the MQ meetings or the Board Meeting.
Hours will be posted on the door of the office but people should call ahead to make sure someone is in the office.
At the July special board meeting it was discussed that when reducing employee hours we would need more volunteer hours. It was also discussed that we would not need to have the office open every day. When Becky first started, the office was open 2½ days. We discussed allowing our employees to have a quiet work day when we’d hang a quilt over the office door. They could work in the office without the office being open. We decided against that at this point.
Our employees work part-time. We need to allow them time to supplement their income.
We have one volunteer already who said she can work in the office, answer the phone and help with other things if needed.
Thank you to everyone for your patience and understanding during this time of transition.
Charlotte Wenger, President
Minnesota Quilters, Inc.
651-481-2828 (W)
763-757-7888 (H)
Notes from the President

If you asked me, what has it been like to be the President of MQ? I would answer by saying that it has been more work than I had thought it would be, that I have learned a lot about myself and MQ and that it has been a privilege to serve as your President.

If you asked me, what does one do as President of MQ? I would answer by saying that I spend several hours per month answering e-mail, attending & organizing meetings, corralling the Board of Directors and keeping track of lots of paper. It is like having a small part time job. My husband can’t understand what we can possibly talk about for three hours at our Board meetings every month. He asks me if I am done with my “homework”. I have not been able to do much quilting for the past year, and although I have missed sewing, it has been a worthwhile sacrifice to be in this position.

If you asked me what have I learned about MQ and myself? I would answer that I have learned that there are many dedicated people that truly care about MQ. Learning about the inner workings of the organization has given me a greater appreciation of all that gets accomplished – from the coffee that gets made for our member meetings all the way up to our show each year and everything in between. I learned that I am capable of leading a large organization, but it takes a great deal of organization and tact. I am expected to know and remember everything and to solve any problems that come up. One person e-mailed me to ask about a pattern that was given out during a Shop Hop. I don’t remember if she was missing a part of it or what, but I had to answer her and explain that MQ has nothing to do with any shop hops and that she should contact one of the shops. Being President suddenly gives you this magical historical memory of everything MQ has done over the past 30 plus years. I have heard several comments that are prefaced with “I thought MQ used to do such and such” or “I remember when MQ did this or that – how come we don’t do that any longer?” I have to be tactful and diplomatic in my answers.

If you asked me why did I become involved in volunteering for MQ? I would answer that when I first started quilting back in the early 90s, I became very passionate about this art form, as I am sure many of you are passionate about quilting. I love everything about it – the fabrics, the patterns, the creativity, the shops, shows and even the sewing machines. I never thought I would own four sewing machines, covet the latest and greatest and know people that have 10 or more machines! I have been thinking about how to quilt a drunkard’s path quilt that I recently finished and I found the answer on some upholstery fabric on a chair at McDonalds! This passion led me to start volunteering so that others of all ages could learn about quilting and MQ. We still have a long way to go to get the message across that quilting is for all ages. Even my own son made a comment recently about quilters being a “bunch of little old ladies”, even though I started quilting when I was in my 30s. So, you can see that we still have our work cut out for us to carry on the message and the passion.

It has been a humbling privilege to be your President. I have taken the job very seriously, but I also had fun and have made some wonderful new friends. When Sue Sandager coaxed me into being an Operations Director, we did not know each other and now we are good friends.

If any of you has ever asked yourself what is it like to be on the Board of Directors, what does one do on the Board of Directors or how can I become involved on the Board of Directors, please come and talk to me or any of the other Board Members. We are always looking for people who are dedicated and passionate about quilting to serve on the Board.

A President does not operate alone. I could not have done this job without the fantastic people who serve on the Board of Directors. I want to publicly thank all of the current Board members for your great counsel and service to MQ.

Thank you for allowing me the privilege to serve as your President this past year.

Charlotte Wenger
President
Welcome to the following who joined Minnesota Quilters during July 2010.
Mary Ackerman, Cokato
Jan Falk, Mora
Judy Pfannenstein, Brooklyn Park

Thank you to the following Minnesota Quilters who renewed memberships during July 2010.
Anne Almli, Chaska
Jan Baethke, Ottertail
Janis Benell, Hastings
Diane Beran, Maplewood
Pam Botten, Prior Lake
Debbie Bowles, Burnsville
Clare Degerness, Moorhead
Mike Ellingsen, Blue Earth
Leslie Fischer Nicholson, Deephaven

Carol Graves, Eagan
Sandra Grazzini, Northfield
Barb Hanson, Red Wing
Sylvia Herzan, Minnetonka
Mary Hogan, Austin
Carol Hulsing, Ham Lake
Darla Keller, St. Paul
Gail Kieper, Eagan
Karen Koehler, Burnsville
Peggy Kragnes, Felton
Margaret A. Lundberg, Little Falls
Gwen Lundgren, Rosemount
Anne Manly, Deerwood
Karen Melville, Apple Valley
Joann Nordin, Minneapolis
Helen Olson, South St Paul
Peggy Olson, New Prague
Barb Sawdy, Burnsville
Susan Stickney, St Paul
Dorothy Stish, Minneapolis
Bonnie Weinandt, St Paul
Mitzi Wicklund, Edina
Karen Zalewski, Roseville
Diane Zimmerman, Elk River

July 2010
Donations total $533

$100-$260
Sandy Beltran
through Truist
Darla Keller

$10-$50
Janis Benell
Debbie Bowles
Judy Dawson
Mary Hogan
Ruth Smith

Celebrating Minnesota Quilts
While the American Quilt Study Group Seminar is at the Bloomington Sheraton this October 14-17, 2010, the local committee is showcasing Minnesota Quilts. There will be 5 quilt exhibits. Two are at the Sheraton (quilts from the Hennepin History Center and reproduction of/inspiration from 19th century star quilts made by AQSG members), the James Jay Hill House (contemporary quilts), Stans House and Museum, the Eagle Creek Quilt show (Pat Cox collection) and the Minnetonka Art Center (Star Power.) Dates and times of the exhibit will be listed in the September newsletter.

Please help us welcome national and international AQSG members to Minnesota by volunteering to help with the Seminar. Your reward is being able to attend the reading of research papers about quilt history, free entrance to the two quilts shows at the Sheraton, access to the silent auction and the antique quilt vendors. Contact Linda Wines at lindawines@comcast.net or 763-516-0865 to arrange a time. Grab a friend, volunteer, and learn more about this great organization and its contributions to our quilting heritage. - Gail Bakkom for MQP

Quilt Mystery - Does this quilt belong to you?
We have a quilt mystery on our hands. Someone dropped off a quilt at the St. Cloud Civic Center on either Monday or Tuesday of Show week. There is no name on it and there were no instructions attached to it. None of the Show Committee members said it belonged with their exhibits. We put the quilt in the Board room at the Show and it ended up back at the MQ office. The quilt is in a green and white-striped pillow case. The quilt is basted for quilting and is an older quilt. All I will say is that it is a two-color quilt. If you own this quilt or know who owns it, please contact me. Identify the quilt that is in the pillow case and it is yours. If no one claims it by the Holiday Brunch, we will have a live auction for it and the money will go to Minnesota Quilters. Char Wenger, president@mnquilt.org – 763-757-7888.

Fat Quarter Drawing
Patty Von Arx won the 18 black & white fat quarters from the July drawing and Jean Black won 22 red background fat quarters from the August drawing. Congrats ladies! The theme for September is purple fabrics and for October it is non-red/non-green Christmas fabrics.

Contribute up to 3 fat quarters (approximately 18” x 22”) of quilt-shop quality 100% cotton fabric in the theme of the month and enter your name in the drawing for that month (one entry per fat quarter, max. 3). Attach your name, address, and phone number to each fat quarter. Bring fat quarters to meetings or mail them to the MQ office, 3000 University Avenue SE #120, Mpls, MN 55414. Fat quarters should arrive before the Saturday meeting. Label the envelope “FQ Drawing.” We draw one name at the start of the Saturday meeting. You need not be present to win. Questions or theme suggestions, please contact Cathie Cartwright at lincolnc123@sbcglobal.net, Adrianne Lemberg at adriannes310@gmail.com and/or Lorna Wainwright at imgrama@mindspring.com. Join the fun, we would love to draw your name!
Minnesota Quilters, Inc.
33rd Annual Quilt Show & Conference Hotel List
June 16 – 18, 2011 (Classes start June 15)      Saint Paul, MN

Minnesota Quilters, Inc. has blocked hotel rooms with special room rates for the 2011 Annual Quilt Show & Conference participants. Please mention “Minnesota Quilters” when making your reservation to receive the special room rates. Rooms are blocked during the week of the show. Make your reservations early! Remaining rooms will be released on May 10, 2011.

Holiday Inn St. Paul Downtown
175 West 7th Street
Saint Paul, MN  55102
(651) 225 - 1515
http://www.holiday-inn.com/stpaulmn
$134.00 Single or double
$144.00 Triple
$154.00 Quad
Parking additional per day per vehicle
Rooms blocked from Tues – Sat
The Holiday Inn St Paul Downtown is the closest hotel to RiverCentre located across the street from the main entrance.

Crowne Plaza St. Paul Riverfront
11 East Kellogg Boulevard
Saint Paul, MN 55101
(651) 292 - 1900
www.ichotelsgroup.com
$139.00
Garage parking additional per day
Rooms blocked Tues - Sat
The place to meet! Located 4 blocks from River Centre

The St. Paul Hotel
350 Market Street
Saint Paul, MN 55102
Phone: (651) 292-9292
www.stpaulhotel.com
$169.00
651-292-9292
Parking additional per 24-hour period
Rooms blocked from Wed, Thurs, Fri
The Saint Paul Hotel combines turn-of-the-century beauty with modern grace & convenience. Looking over Rice Park just a few blocks from RiverCentre.

Holiday Inn St. Paul East
2201 Burns Ave
Saint Paul, MN  55119
(651) 731 - 2220
1 - 800 – HOLIDAY
www.holiday-inn.com/msp-i94east
$119.00
Discounted rate excludes breakfast.

Embassy Suites
175 10th Street East
Saint Paul, MN  55101
(651) 224 - 5400
www.embassysuiteshotels.com
$139.00   Single or double
Rate based on availability during the week of the show
Limited guest parking additional per day
10 blocks from River Centre

Best Western Kelly Inn St. Paul
161 St. Anthony Avenue
Saint Paul, MN  55103
(651) 227 - 8711
www.bestwesternstpaul.com
$109.00
The Best Western Kelly Inn is 7 blocks from RiverCentre. The only hotel in downtown Saint Paul with free parking.

Jubilee Quilting Services
Longarm Machine Quilting
Randi Helling
651-340-8305
randi@jubileequilting.com
More information and photos of work at www.jupiterquilter.com
American Quilt Study Group Seminar 2010

The Seminar, being held at the Sheraton Hotel in Bloomington, MN October 14 - October 17, is a wonderful opportunity for anyone interested in quilts and their history to become familiar with the research and activities of the American Quilt Study Group. Volunteer for at least four hours and you are eligible to the attend paper sessions, vendors, and the silent and live auction as a guest of AQSG. Contact Linda Wines by e-mail (lindawines@comcast.net) or by telephone, 763-553-9368, to reserve your volunteer time slot. If you would like more information about Seminar activities, the brochure is available online at american quilt studygroup.org

In conjunction with the Seminar, the local committee is sponsoring five quilt exhibitions that are available to the public. Our thanks to local quilt stores for their support for this project.

At the Sheraton Hotel (2 exhibits)
Hours: Friday, Saturday, Sunday (Oct. 15-17, 2010) 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
$5.00 admission fee.

• Hennepin History Museum Quilt Exhibit: Over 25 antique quilts from the Museum collection. A rare opportunity to see these pieces.

• AQSG Star Study Exhibit: Created by AQSG members, these wall size Star quilts are reproductions of, or inspired by, 19th century star quilts. Expect 50 examples.

Stans House and Museum, Eagle Creek Quilt Shop
Hours: Thursday, Friday, (Oct 14 - Oct 15) 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Saturday (Oct 16) 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
$4.00 admission fee includes both the Stans House and Museum.

• Patricia Cox’s Collection: Patricia will choose over 25 quilts from her fabulous collection to be featured in these three locations.

Minnetonka Center for the Arts
Hours: 9:00 to 5:00 Monday, Friday, Saturday.; 9:00 to 9:00 Tuesday and Thursday, October 14 to November 4.
Free.

• Star Power: Approximately 28 visually exciting star themed quilts, antique to modern, will light up this spacious gallery.

James J Hill House
Hours: Wednesday through Saturday 10:00 to 4:00 , Sunday 1:00 to 4:00). October 2, 2010, to January 22, 2011.
$2.00 admission fee to the exhibit, does not include house tour.

• Art Quilts: Approximately 10 modern art quilts from the Minnesota Historical Society’s collection, curated by Linda McShannock.
Jean Loken, a long time member of Minnesota Quilters, died in Apple Valley, MN, on July 17, 2010. Born February 8, 1945 to Ingrid and John Henry Christ, she grew up on Long Island, NY, and graduated from Columbia University. She worked as a reference librarian for Dakota County Libraries in the 1980s and 1990s.

In 1995, Jean was kept alive with a Left Ventricular Assist Device (LVAD) for three months until she received a heart transplant. Always thankful for her new lease on life, she and Steve volunteered continuously for Second Chance for Life, helping other transplant patients and their families deal with the situations she had also encountered.

Since 1976 when she made her first quilt, Jean Loken made dozens of beautiful quilts for family and friends, some of which won prizes at the county and state fairs, as well as Minnesota Quilters. She shared her enjoyment of quilting with several quilt groups, including the Dakota County Star Quilters. Jean was a charter member of the Minnesota Quilt Project and the only member to be continuously on the committee. She loved documenting quilts and was always the first to volunteer for Documentation Days. Her particular expertise was pattern names. She wrote the Introduction to Minnesota Quilts, the book celebrating Minnesota quilts, based on these documentations. Pictures of Jean’s quilts, as well as her commentary about them and their destinations can be found at www.SJLoken.com.

Until her death, Jean devotedly served as the Minnesota coordinator for The Home of the Brave Quilt Project. This national organization with chapters in each state honors the victims of the war in Iraq and Afghanistan with a hand-made quilt; Jean and her devotion to this work will be missed by both the state and national organization. Her work with them can be viewed online at www.homeofthebraveMN.org.

All of the Minnesota quilt world will miss Jean’s sense of humor, her willingness to do whatever needed to be done, her cheerful friendly demeanor, talents and tenacity. Even though she was not well at the St. Cloud show, she insisted on helping to take down the MQP special exhibit. Jean never gave up on living!

Jean is survived by her husband Steven, daughter Diana (Bob) Mulcahy and two grandchildren of Richfield, MN, and son Robert (Kimberly) Loken of Brooklyn, NY, her mother and 4 sisters and brothers. A Celebration of Jean’s Life is planned for Sunday, August 29, 2010 from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at Dakota Lodge, Thompson Park, West St. Paul.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a memorial donation to Second Chance for Life Foundation, P.O. Box 131462, Roseville, MN 55113 or Minnesota Quilt Project, 3000 University Ave. S.E. #120, Minneapolis MN 55414-3360.

Jean with friends Dorothy Stith and Janet Schuetze at Quilting in the Quarry, St. Cloud, 2010

A quilt, sponsored by Home of the Brave, is being made to honor Jean Loken. Anyone wishing to participate may make a block. The block should be 12” finished, any pattern, any colors. No writing should appear on ther front, but the maker’s name, hometown, and state should be on the back. Mail to Donald Bend, 2417 Riverside Place, Los Angeles, CA 90039. Deadline end of September. The quilt will either be given to Steve Loken or raffled to benefit Second Chance for Life, a transplant support group. Gail Bakkom
2010 Small Quilt Auction Report

By the end of the August meetings, we will have returned all the silent auction items to their new owners. The final accounting of our earnings and the list of small quilt donors and "winners" will be published in the October 2010 newsletter. Again, we sincerely thank you all of you who donated such beautiful items to the Small Quilt Auction. And thank you to all those who made bids for these small quilts at the show. We are deeply grateful to all who participated in this silent auction at our annual show.

Kathie Simon Frank and Rita Culshaw
Co-chairs of the 2010 Small Quilt Auction
The 2011 raffle quilt makers are busy and productive. We've got all the blocks made for the 2011 raffle quilt and we've arranged the blocks. Now we're hand-stitching down the edges of the dimensional flying geese blocks to make the peaks of the stars slightly rounded. This gives the quilt an overall soft look, which we find very pleasing. We've just begun to assemble the quilt top.

We're considering quilters, and hope to announce our selection very soon. Generous donors have given us backing fabric and, after consultation with the quilter, we'll select one of the batts that donors have offered. The next step is to finish assembling the top and to layer it with batting and backing. We've got people lined up to make the binding, the label is underway, and someone is ready to make the quilt sleeve. So we're in really good shape.

We'll be calling our quilt "Shakespeare in the Park." This is the name Judy Martin, designer of the quilt, chose for this pattern. We've made very minor adjustments to the design, but it is still basically the same quilt as the original design.

We are on target for finishing up the quilt before the January 2011 day and evening meetings, the official, and first, showing. If you haven't had a chance to participate in this fun project, please let Kathie Simon Frank, coordinator of this quilt-making project, and let her add you to her mailing list. She can be reached at 612-379-4253 or kathie@umn.edu. We'll be needing people to help assemble the top, stitch on the binding, add the sleeve and the label. We also need people to look for venues where we can show the quilt January through May 2011 (shops, Block of the Month workshops, local guilds, etc.). Pass your ideas on to Kathie Simon Frank, who is happy to get them and put them into practice.

"Here's one star block showing the softer-looking star made by rolling the edges of the dimensional flying geese."

"This is a view of the quilt blocks laid out, but not yet sewn."

**Chaska Area Quilt Club**

**presents:**

**Fall Splendor of Quilts**

Friday, October 1, 2010 ♦ 10:00 a. – 7:00 p.
Saturday, October 2, 2010 ♦ 9:00 a. – 5:00 p.

**Chaska Community Center**

1661 Park Ridge Drive, Chaska, MN ♦ So of MN Hwy 5 and just east of CR 41 on Engler Blvd., Chaska

**Admission $5.00**

**Featured Quilter & Speaker:**

Kaye England

**Raffle Quilt:**

“Minnesota Summer”

Quilt Show made possible in part by the City of Chaska.

For more information, see [www.caqc.net](http://www.caqc.net)

**Workshop – George Siciliano**

Full day Bird of Paradise on **Tuesday Sept. 28** from 9-5p is $75 + kit ($20) and will be held at the Medina Entertainment Center on Hwy 55 just west of I494. Send your check payable to Women of the West Guild – to Mary Gunness, 915 Windemere Drive, Plymouth 55441. For more information, contact Mary at monkswood@comcast.net, 763-593-3862 or [www.georgesiciliano.com](http://www.georgesiciliano.com).
Volunteering - should it be part of our membership commitment?

In July, several members gathered at the Thursday night meeting to take part in a round table discussion about the future of Minnesota Quilters. As you may know, membership has dropped by nearly 40% over the past 5 to 10 years and the faltering economy has also made it difficult to offer the annual show and make the revenues we need to offer future programs. As a result, the Minnesota Quilters are asking the membership to think about who we are, why we exist and what we need to do right now to assure our future. This article is just one of several that will be offered in the September and October newsletters. The full set of articles will also be published at the Minnesota Quilters website. Just look for "MQ Planning Discussions for 2011-2015."

After reading the article, we ask each member to respond with your best recommendations on our future path. Comments should be directed to Wynn Martin at actionplan@mnquilt.org.

The idea presented at the Volunteerism Round Table would be for every member to pay for membership plus provide a minimum number of volunteer hours as part of being a member in Minnesota Quilters.

One participant said, Yes, volunteering should be part of membership and usually is a requirement in just about all community organizations. Rotary, for example, requires volunteering in charitable activity. One member said she is a master gardener and is required to give 200 hours of annual service during her first year and then 100 hours annually thereafter. Other non-profits just ask for volunteers and then prioritize needs based on the number of volunteers and hours available. Minnesota Quilters is unique in that we are historically a volunteer-driven organization. Unlike other quilt shows, we manage all aspects of the show with volunteer staff. The quilts are hung, the show is set-up, the teachers are scheduled, all planning is managed and coordinated by volunteers.

One respondent suggested that if we have 800 members, would there really be even 800 hours of work to do in a year? For the record, more than 150 volunteers recorded several thousand hours of volunteer time in 2009-2010. And yes, we’ve enjoyed having two employees to manage the office and provide continuity for show planning. Sadly, we recently made the decision to sharply curtail staff hours so that we can live within current budget constraints. So, yes, there is lots of work to do when it comes to preparing the annual show and planning for the monthly meetings. We never have enough volunteers. Volunteer hours are tracked for every activity, every meeting, every contribution of any kind because it’s a required part of our record-keeping as a 501.3C non-profit agency. When volunteers attend a meeting, they are continually asked to record what they did and how long it took.

In addition, membership in MQ has dropped almost 40% over the past 4-5 years. With fewer members, the remaining work still needs to be accomplished by even fewer volunteers. We are caught in a perpetual crunch between younger members who are also managing full-time work and families, and the retirement-age members who may be traveling or unable to contribute long hours for other reasons.

There were lots of reasons given as to why a member can’t volunteer: I’m too busy; I live too far away; I’m too shy; No one ever called to ask; I have a physical disability; I just can’t spare the time; I travel all winter long. We also heard that non-metro members can’t volunteer because the Textile Center is too far away. For those who may hold any of those thoughts, please know that we have a list of activities we would like to offer both locally and in non-Twin Cities locations. We just need a volunteer who’s willing to work for a few hours or act as liaison in your city or county.

Others said, “No, this is my social group. I do this (go to the show or attend a class) for pure enjoyment, not to work while I’m there.”

Suggestions for finding new members or new volunteers
• We received suggestion for finding volunteers, such as posting the opening to the website, creating a database of volunteer activities and maybe handing out forms at the meeting. For the record, we also hear criticism that we spend too much time asking for volunteers at every meeting.
• Oddly enough, several of the suggestions received are on MQ’s “wish list” – that would be the list of things we want to do…but just need someone to step forward and say, “I can do that.” For example, it takes time and expertise to build a database or add a posting to the website. And it takes time to create forms to pass out or announce volunteer requests as the monthly meeting.
• One participant suggested that we pass around a collection plate and ask for “spare change.” It’s often said that all ideas are worth considering but I can’t help but think that the spare change would have to be substantial if we are thinking that we could hire sufficient staff to take over the work of all our volunteers.

If you are willing to volunteer, please contact Nancy Hall at volunteer@mnquilt.org. If you have another idea, or wish to offer another perspective on volunteering, please send your response to Wynn Martin at actionplan@mnquilt.org.
Block of the Month – October
Kathie Simon Frank (kathie@umn.edu) and Jeanne LaMoore (jlamoore@gmail.com)

Each person may enter up to three blocks each month. If 24+ blocks are entered, the drawing will be split in two. If 36+ are entered, we will draw three winning names!

For 2010-2011, all BOM patterns will sew up as 12” blocks (12 ½” unfinished).

We suggest that you make an extra block in your favorite colors to keep. At the end of the year, you’ll have enough blocks for your own sampler quilt.

Maple Leaf

This block has a cream background; brown, orange, and deep red or rust for the leaf; and black for the stem. Please use pre-washed fabrics. You may enter up to 3 blocks for the drawing on October 9th.

For each block, cut pieces as follows:

Cream: 3 rectangles 4½” x 2½”;
3 squares 2½” x 2½”;
1 square 4½” x 4½”;
4 squares for half-squares triangles 2-7/8” x 2-7/8” (or 3” x 3”) —
we’ll trim these to 2½” before sewing them into the block

Brown: 4 rectangles 4½” x 2½”

Deep red or rust: 1 square 4½” x 4½”

Orange: 3 squares 2½” x 2½”;
4 squares for half-square triangles 2-7/8” x 2-7/8” (or 3” x 3”) —
we’ll trim these before sewing them into the block.

Black: 1 piece ¾” x 6¼”

For the leaf points: Make eight half-square triangles: Layer each 2-7/8” or 3” cream square with a 2-7/8” or 3” orange square, right sides together. Draw a line diagonally on the lighter fabric from one corner of the square to its opposite. Stitch ¼” on each side of the center line. Cut on the center line. Open each piece. The 8 resulting squares will be half orange and half cream. Press half the seams toward the cream, half toward the orange. Trim each of these squares to measure 2 ½” x 2 ½”. Now sew two squares together, matching seams (pressed opposite one another), so that the cream forms a V (the points will become the edges of the leaf) — see diagram. Set these 4 Flying Geese blocks aside for later.

Press the black strip in half. Open and fold the long edges into the center, making a ¼” wide x 6¼” strip. Applique this diagonally to the cream 4½” square by machine or by hand using an invisible hemstitch. This is the leaf stem. Set aside for later.

Make strips:
Step 1: Join pieces as shown in rows 1, 2, and 3 as shown in diagram to the right. In each row, make sure the point of the cream V of the Flying Geese touches the brown rectangle to which it’s sewn.

Step 2: Row 4 is assembled in three pieces.
(a) Sew orange and cream 2½” sqs together. Join them to a cream rectangle (see lower right corner in diagram)
(b) Join the last Flying Geese to a brown rectangle (bottom row middle)
(c) Join these two pieces together as shown. Then sew the 4½” square with the appliqued stem onto the left side.
Step 3: Join all the rows together. Press.
Voila! Your finished block should measure 12½” square. When joined with other blocks, it will finish at 12” x 12”.

Quick Tip: Pressing seams one direction or another will make a difference when you attach pieces!
To avoid stitching over a big pile of seams, pay attention. Press seams in opposite directions so they’ll lie flat and fit snugly in your block.

Winners Circle:
Many thanks to Joanne Holtzknecht for her wonderful patterns for Block of the Month over these many years.
Apple River Quilt Guild 20th Annual Fall Festival Show, September 18-19, Amery Wisconsin

That was then . . . This is Now! St. Joseph Catholic Church, just north of Amery on Highway 46. Saturday 9-5, Sunday 11-4. Admission $3, age 15 and under free. Vendors, Bed Quilt Turning, Raffle Quilt, Guild Challenge, small quilt sale to benefit Northwoods Homeless Shelter. Lunch available on Saturday. Nancy Drake at draken@amerytel.net

30s for 30 Quilt Block Challenge The American Quilt Study Group (AQSG), a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving the history of quilts and quiltmaking, is turning 30! We invite you to join the celebration by participating in a nationwide block challenge called “30s for 30.” For every 30 blocks received, one person’s name will be drawn to win those blocks. To learn more about AQSG and our annual Seminar, please visit the website at www.americanquiltstudygroup.org. Deadline for submitting blocks is Oct. 1, 2010. Questions? Contact Paula at the address above or email: paulapahl@q.com; phone: 303-204-2821.

Rice County Piecemakers, Fall Splendor quilt show, Oct 1-2.
Friday, October 1, 9:30am-7pm, & Saturday, October 2, 9:30am-4pm. Held at the historic Cathedral of Our Merciful Savior Church & Guild House. There will be a lunch stand by The Church Ladies. The event includes a small quilt auction, quilt raffle, boutique, vendors, bed turning & door prizes. Admission is $3. Over 200 quilted items on display. For more information contact Twyla Sporre at sporre59@gmail.com or 507-332-2180.

Chaska Area Quilt Club, Fall Splendor of Quilts quilt show, Oct. 1-2. Friday, October 1, 10 am - 7 pm and Saturday, October 2, 9 am - 5 pm, Chaska Community Center. There will be hundreds of quilts on display that have been made by members as well as a small quilt auction open for anyone to bid on the small quilts. There will be 8 vendors of quilt fabrics and quilting products. A bed turning of “quilts that have a story” will run every couple hours for quilt enthusiasts. The raffle quilt, “Minnesota Summer” will be on display and tickets available for anyone to win for $1. The raffle quilt was designed by award-winning artist, quilter and lifetime resident of Carver County, Audree Sells. It was appliquéd by members and assembled by Audree Sells. It is a distinctly Minnesota work of art featuring the flora and fauna found in Minnesota yards and gardens. Nationally known quilt artist, Kaye England, will be the featured speaker and workshop teacher. Show admission is $5. For more information, see www.caqc.net

Des Moines Area Quilters Guild, annual quilt show “A World of Quilts”, October 6-9. Iowa Events Center, (Hy-Vee Hall), 730 Third Street, Des Moines. 500+ quilts made by DMAQG members, raffle quilt designed by Angela Lawrence and made by guild members, silent auction of little quilts donated by guild members, kids corner featuring quilt-related crafts for kids and quilts made during the guild’s Kids Klasses and at the Quilt Sew-in for Kids during the Iowa State Fair, and a special “touching” display featuring quilts with a wide variety of textures. For more information about our guild and the upcoming DMAQG show, please visit our website www.DMAQG.org.

Mixed Sampler Quilt Guild’s 22nd Annual Quilt Show “Harvest of Dreams,” October 9-10, Siren, WI. Hours are 10 am - 4 pm both days, Siren High School, 24022 4th Ave. North, Siren WI 54872. Admission $4, under 12 years, FREE. Special Exhibits including Granola Girl quilts, Silent Auction to benefit CRA of Milltown and Breast Cancer Fund of Burnett County, quilt raffle featuring a queen size quilt and 2 other quilted items, quilt store vendors, demonstrations, hourly bed turning of antique quilts, and over 200 quilts on display with Viewer’s Choice Awards voted on by attendees on Saturday. Quilt appraisal service by Bev Proulx of North Branch, MN will also be available. Café located on site. For more information, contact Jean M. Judd at sistersinstitches@mail.com or 715-566-0212.
Bindings Challenge

Before you continue, heed this warning: This is not an article on how to install bindings, and it is not a typical quilt challenge. It is about how we are bound together as quilters, and the challenge is to explore those bindings.

In our quilting lives, binding is typically one of the last thing you do to finish a quilt. It sandwiches the front, batting and backing to help hold the quilt together and give it a completed look. It can be plain or decorative, narrow or wide, straight or scalloped, but it always functions the same, binding the parts together.

There are many things in life that bind us—we quilters—together. It can be the love of a particular quilting style, an obsession with a genre of fabric, a fascination with manipulating or embellishing fabric. It can be a devotion to things that inspire our quilting, such gardening, animals, people, faith, health, sunrises and sunsets. It can be age, family or neighborhood. This thing we call quilting binds us together, yet somehow, we often sit next to strangers at an MQ meeting, month after month, year after year. Why is that?

Well dear quilting friends, let’s do something about that! Let’s really get to know each other—all 800 or so of us! I’m confident every one of us has some interesting story or aspect to our character that many others will find binds us together in ways that are worth knowing about.

Starting in September, each month we want to feature one of our MQ members in a new profile series simply called, Bindings. There is only one requirement, and that is to be an MQ member. You can be a brand new quilter who hasn’t finished a single quilt yet, to a seasoned veteran. You can be an appliquéer, traditional or contemporary quilter. You can live in Minneapolis or Montreal or Moscow. Let’s use this opportunity to break down any real or perceived barriers among our membership. We have so much to be proud of in our membership, our organization and our dedication to the art of quilting, so let’s talk about it. Let’s really get to know each other.

Four easy, painless steps to participate:
1. Get the Bindings profile form. A Microsoft® Word version is available on the MQ website, but you can also print the one from this newsletter or pick up a paper copy at an MQ meeting.
2. Answer the few required questions.
3. Then from the “conversation starters” on the Bindings profile form choose what you want to tell us about your life as a quilter. You can write your own article start to finish or provide the information and I’ll polish it for you.
4. We’ll need a digital photo of you so we can put a face to your profile. If you don’t have one, we’ll help you get one. You can submit one or two clear photos of your own quilts to publish with the profile, too!

With 800 members, we have a lot of profiles to write and read, so please help us get started by writing and submitting your profile soon. We’ll find a home for all of them on the MQ website in case we can’t fit them all in future editions of the newsletter! I can hardly wait to get to know many, many more of you!

Submit to: Bindings Editor, Sally Neckvatal
email: sneckvatal@gmail.com

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**Jinny Beyer is coming to Gruber’s!!!**

Join us Sunday October 3rd at the Holiday Inn in St. Cloud for an opportunity to meet this incredible quilter.

Social hour begins at 5pm with dinner to be served at 6pm. Then enjoy this wonderful color confidence lecture. $40.00

Reserve your seats now by calling 1-877-778-7793

Get your girlfriends together for a fun day of shopping Friday October 15th on our 1-Day Bus Trip

You will visit Bay Window Quilt Shop in Perham, Emily’s Country Cottage in Bemidji and of course - Gruber’s in Waite Park $45.00
Volunteer Corner
by Nancy Hall, Volunteer Coordinator
(volunteer@mnquilt.org)

Hello to all our wonderful MQ members. Many thanks to all of you who volunteered this past month. We need and appreciate all of you. Thank you to Kathie Simon Frank and Jeanne LaMoore for taking over the Block of the Month Committee and to Catherine Cartwright, Adrienne Lemberg, and Lorna Wainwright for taking over the Fat Quarter Coordinator Position. If any of you are interested in the following positions or have questions about them please send me an email volunteer@mnquilt.org or talk to me at the meetings.

Current available positions:

Business Membership Coordinator
MQ launched a new Business Membership initiative that needs a leader. Business Members offer special discounts to MQ members who show their MQ membership cards. We need someone willing to check in with our current business members, and encourage new business members. Contact Cindy Wilson at prairiemn@yahoo.com for background information.

MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR DAYS
Term: 1 year, as appointed by MQ Board, off board position to start in October
Report to Membership Director
Prerequisites: Computer skills and email access.
Inventory: By-laws and operating procedures.

PRINCIPAL FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES:
- Attend MQ Board meetings when possible and as requested.
- Attend all MQ regular monthly membership meeting. Arrange for alternate if unable to attend. Split between day and evening chairs.
- Set up Membership table. Check membership card for valid expiration date and if expired, suggest that they renew. Be prepared to give information and answer any membership questions.
- Accept new and renewal membership applications.
- Hand out door prize tickets.

Photographers
We need one or two photographers to take pictures at both meetings for the newsletter.

Door Greeters
We need one or two at each meeting to greet people as they come in the door.

MEETING COORDINATORS DAY AND EVENING
These are very important positions as they make the meetings run smoothly. We will need a meeting coordinator or two for both days and evenings starting October 1.

MEETING HOSPITALITY COORDINATOR EVENING
This person is responsible for making the coffee and setting up the treat table.

2012 AND 2013 SHOW COMMITTEES
We have started signing up to be on the 2012 show committee in Rochester and the 2013 show committee in Duluth. The sign up posters will be at the meetings. Contact President Char to see what is available. WE ESPECIALLY NEED SHOW CHAIRS!

TEXTILE CENTER SITE COMMITTEE
The Textile Center is looking for a small group of committed, energized, smart and talented individuals to work with them on a Site Committee. The Committee will create options for some of the challenges that we see ahead of us around transportation, parking and storage. They will develop those options into a plan for review and approval by the Textile Center Board of Directors. They would like to have input from their tenants and member groups. Wynn Martin has already volunteered to be on this Site Committee, but MQ would like to recruit at least one more member who would be willing to serve on this Committee. Please contact Char Wenger, President at president@mnquilt.org or 763-757-7888.

BIG NEWS FLASH!!
A ONE TIME CLEAN OUT!!!
AT DRASTICALLY REDUCED PRICES!!!
...of the Minnesota Quilters merchandise closet will be held at the September 2 & 4 program meetings.
October Classes with Annemarie Yohnk

Carolina Lily Doll Quilt
Friday, October 8, 2010  ♦  10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  Location: TBD
Class Fee: $20.00 pattern included  (bring a bag lunch & beverage)

Too cute for words…this 12” x 16” doll quilt will begin a new fascination with making these sweet little wonders. There are several different techniques including your favorite form of appliqué, a quick and easy way to make bias stems, flying geese and paper triangles. A lot of punch for such a small little lovely wouldn’t you say? You should have a good grasp of your quarter inch seam allowance.

Level of quilter: Early intermediate and beyond
The pattern is provided. Some precutting is advised.
Requires rotary cutting supplies and a sewing machine.
* A requirement list will be sent after you complete registration.

Redwork 101
Saturday, October 9, 2010  ♦  1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.  ♦  Location: Textile Center
Cost:  $20.00 patterns included  (bring a bag lunch & beverage)

Redwork was a popular form of stitching from the late 1800s to the mid-1930s in America. Today Redwork is exhibiting a strong resurgence. Come and join Annemarie for a relaxing time of fun and stitching. The 3-H’s will be covered – Hints, History and How-to’s. We will begin a simple “Lily Of The Valley” Project to be completed at home. 2 different lily pattern sizes will be provided.

*A small requirement list will be sent after you complete registration.
*Kits are available.

Sign me up for:  □ Doll Quilts  □ Redwork 101  □ Both!

Name:______________________________________________
Address: _____________________________________________________________________________
Phone: _______________________________________________________________________________
Email: _______________________________________________________________________________

Payment:  □ Check Encl    □ Credit Card#_________________________ Exp Date: _______

The registration fee is non-refundable unless the class is cancelled. Registrations are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis and a waiting list will be created once a class is filled. Send this form and payment by check or credit card to
Minnesota Quilters, Inc.
3000 University Ave. SE, Ste. 120
Minneapolis, MN  55414
Questions:  ed@mnquilt.org
**MQ News** is the monthly newsletter for members of Minnesota Quilters, Inc., a nonprofit organization formed to find and unite quilters and quilt enthusiasts throughout the state of Minnesota and elsewhere. MQ News is published twelve times a year by Minnesota Quilters, Inc.

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**Deadline for submissions is the 1st of the month for the following month.** Ads and articles may be sent to: MQ Editor, 3000 University Ave SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414.

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### MINNESOTA QUILTERS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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**Membership Level**

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

*Thank you for becoming a Minnesota Quilter member!*

Mail application to: Minnesota Quilters, 3000 University Ave. SE, #120, Minneapolis, MN 55414.