May Meeting Notes

Thursday, May 5, 7:00* p.m.
Saturday, May 7, 10:00* a.m.

Minnesota Quilters is pleased to welcome JoAnn Belling to our May meetings.
JoAnn has been sewing since she was 12 and made her own clothes. Her quilting career began in 1965, and she has since taught classes coast to coast and in Japan. She has won numerous ribbons, a Best of Show, and has had several quilts exhibited at Paducah. When asked for 3 words that best describe her, she responded, “Enthusiastic, educational and entertaining!”

On Thursday evening, May 5, she will lecture on “The Quilting Journey” which will describe her evolution from hobby quilter to professional, along with some of her quilts. On Friday, May 6, she will host an all day workshop at the Textile Center to teach “Waltzing Nine-Patch” (see details on page 6 and registration information at www.mnquilt.org).

Saturday morning’s meeting, May 7, JoAnn will discuss “Art Quilts and Their Embellishments” along with an exciting display of her artistic quilts.

Saturday afternoon, there will be a ½ day class to teach the pattern “Flying Geese in a Brave New World.” The beauty of this quilt is that it lends itself to nearly every fabric style; batiks, brights, pictorial/novelty, or reproduction - you can’t go wrong. Please join us for an entertaining and informative presentation and checkout her website www.joannbelling.com, for a sneak preview.

May Vendor: Country Caboose was unable to attend our April meeting due to a conflict, but is looking forward to meeting us at the May meeting. Come and see what’s new this spring in fabrics, patterns and notions.

*Coffee and treats will be served before each meeting to allow more time for socialization among our members. Coffee will be ready at 9:00 am on Saturday. Wear your name tags/membership cards so we can get to know each other.

Minnesota Quilt Show – June 16 -18

There are less than 50 days until the opening of the Minnesota Quilter’s Inc. 33rd Annual Quilt Show & Conference at the Saint Paul RiverCentre! Have you registered yet? There’s still time to lock in to that class, lecture or special event you’ve been considering. May 1st is the deadline for mail-in registrations and May 15th is the deadline for online registrations. If you need some reasons for coming to the show, there is a list of the Top 10 for you to consider on page 11. If you need a ride to the show, check with your quilt shop to see if they have a bus coming, consider car pooling with quilting friends, or ask your guild to hire a bus! There is lots to see and do at the show, so we recommend you get your new walking shoes now so they are broken in by show time! We want you to be a part of this fabulous quilt exhibit.

Congratulations to our 2011 Outstanding Volunteer: Kathie Simon Frank

In 1982 Kathie joined Minnesota Quilters after sewing most of her life. She did not attend many meetings until she retired in 2002 when she then became more active in the MQ. She served as Board Secretary for 2 years. She has worked on many show committees serving as co-chair for special events, door prizes, small quilt auction, and information booth. This year she took the lead on bringing over 40 people together to make the gorgeous raffle quilt.

In her personal life, Kathie has been married to Richard for 30 years, has 5 children and 7 grandchildren. She has a bachelor’s degree from The New School of Social Research and a Masters from the U of M. She has always volunteered whenever possible. Besides MQ, she volunteers...
Hello Everyone. I, like many of you, have been working on my entries for our upcoming show. This gets me thinking about all the volunteers involved with the show. As President, I get to see much of the work that has been going on behind the scenes by our Show Committee preparing for the show—all volunteers. I am proud and amazed that we put on such a great show all with volunteers.

As we get closer to our show, you will be hearing and seeing requests for more volunteer help. Not only do we need volunteers to help during the show, we also need volunteers to help with set up and take down. To show our appreciation for volunteering you will receive a volunteer pin. For every two hours you work, you will be entered into the daily prize drawings. You will also get your name into the drawing for the sewing machine—again one chance for each two hours worked.

We cannot put on this show without our volunteers. If you would like to find out about volunteering or want to sign up to help, you can contact our Volunteer Committee Co-Chairs, Laurie Larson and Peggy Stockwell, at volunteers@mnquilt.org or find the form online at www.mnquilt.org/mq2011. You can also contact them by calling the MQ Office at 612-439-0449.

Thank you to the Show Committee for all they have done already and Thank you to everyone who is and will help make our show a success.

*Happy Quilting,*

*Yvonne*

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**Introducing Debra Svedberg, MQ Office Assistant**

I’ve been quilting since my Grandmother taught me to hand sew squares together that she drew on fabric using a cardboard template and a ball point pen! Now my quilting mostly leans towards contemporary work…I mean, when I actually get something done. I enjoy blogging about what I work on because it’s evidence that occasionally I finish something.

I live in Minneapolis, working as a secretary at an architect’s office for 10 years. I’ve been involved with the Board of Minnesota Contemporary Quilters, serving in Exhibits and then as Webmaster for 5 years.

I am ecstatic to be working at MQ, it’s a joyful place to work!

www.debrasvedberg.blogspot.com
Calling all former MQ Board Members!  The MQ Board needs you!!!

As of April 1, 2011, we do not have a nominee to fill the position of President-Elect starting October 1, 2011. If you are a former MQ Board member, please search your heart and soul and think about stepping up to fill this important leadership position for Minnesota Quilters. MQ has some exciting things coming up and if you want to be “in the know” again, we would love to have you come back and serve as our President-Elect. If you have someone you think you can work well with, we would even consider having “Co-President-Elects”.

If you have not served on the MQ Board of Directors in the past, but you have similar board experience or leadership experience, we would be happy to talk to you about taking on this position.

Quilting is a passion for many of us and MQ needs your leadership passion to continue all of our programs and dreams to make MQ the best organization it can be!

Please contact me if you are interested in serving as MQ’s President-Elect.

Char Wenger, Past President  Nominating Committee  Pastpres@mnquilt.org  763-757-7888

Note from the Board Secretary

Part of my duties as Secretary to the Board is to send sympathy cards to family of MQ members. I am sad to publish the news of the passing of two former MQ members who were important to us. We will certainly miss them.

Wendy Warfield, who served us well as Treasurer, was instrumental in MQ becoming a non-profit.

Mary Godby, long-time Project Linus co-chair for the region (with her twin sister Martha). We would often see Mary and Martha together at our membership meetings—they seemed inseparable.

Please help Minnesota Quilters stay in the know about our membership. In the case of the passing of any of our members, we would like to send our condolences to family and to acknowledge our loss. Additionally, we’d like to know when our members have reasons to celebrate, especially for quilt-related reasons.

Send any news to Karen O’Brien at secretary@mnquilt.org or call me at 651-489-2285.

Doris Hareland joins MQ Staff as Bookkeeper

Doris took her first quilt class in 2002. She joined MQ in 2005 when she signed up to be a Volunteer Co-Chair for the St. Cloud Show. She has served on five show committees, as Volunteer Co-Chair twice, Secretary twice and Vendor Co-Chair once. She works at Quilted Treasures of Rogers on the sales floor and teaches classes. Doris worked for more than 20 years in various office positions and she has experience with Payables and Receivables, processing Membership fees and conference registrations, as well as many other aspects of accounting procedures.

She has a grown son, Eric, who works just down the road at the Carlson Business School, and lives in Monticello with her husband, John, and their English Cocker Spaniel, Max.

March, 2011 Donations to MQ

Sandra D. Beltran  Betty L. Metz

MQ Office Hours
Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Visitors should call first to ensure staff is present

Linden Hill Retreats
Little Falls, MN
Historic Mansion on Mississippi River
$795 per nite based on 20 occ., 2 nite min.
3rd nite free  (320) 632-2914
www.linden-hill.org
for info: degehant@gmail.com
April Meeting Highlights

Anytime you have a party and go through 4 pounds of jelly beans, you know you’ve had a good time! We had quite a celebration for our 33rd birthday – singing, beautiful show and tell, and fabulous one-woman quilt shows from our 5 MQ member presenters: Jean Carr, Mary Drabik, Julie Idzorek, Marcia Rocheleau, and Terri Krysan. They entertained us with amusing and heart-warming stories about their quilts, shared some tips and tricks to make our quilting life easier, and wowed us with one fabulous quilted gem after another. If they didn’t inspire you, I don’t know who will. After each meeting many members commented on the talent our presenters displayed, and several remarked it was their favorite program all year. Thank you again to Jean, Mary, Julie, Marcia and Terri.

Upcoming MQ Programs

Coming in May to MQ: Mark your calendars for an entertaining weekend with JoAnn Belling, award winning quilter and national teacher from Des Moines, IA (www.joannbelling.com). Thursday evening lecture: “The Quilting Journey,” Saturday lecture features art quilts and embellishments. There will also be an opportunity to participate in 2 classes. A full day on Friday May 6 “Waltzing Nine Patch” and half day on Saturday May 7 “Flying Geese in a Brave New World.” See workshop details and registration information on page 6 and online www.mnquilt.org.

May 5 JoAnn Belling Lecture The Quilting Journey
May 6 JoAnn Belling Workshop “Waltzing Nine Patch” (all day)
May 7 JoAnn Belling Lecture Art Quilts and Their Embellishments
May 7 JoAnn Belling Workshop “Flying Geese in a Brave New World” (half day)

June 16-18 Minnesota Quilters Annual Show and Conference St. Paul RiverCentre

July 7 & 9 Christmas in July Get a head start on your Holiday projects when local quilt shops preview their Holiday fabric lines, patterns, books, and projects

Aug 4 In the Good Old Summertime Ice Cream Social & Old Fashioned Bed Turning with Suzanne Fisher
Aug 6 In the Good Old Summertime Ice Cream Social & GARAGE SALE

Sept 1 & 3 School House Spend time at each of 4-6 stations learning new techniques

Oct 6, 7, 8 Gwen Lundgren Do you EQ? Explore the possibilities of computer designed Quilts as Gwen ‘walks’ us through the features of the most popular quilt software

Oct 13-15 Fall Getaway

Nov 3 Mary Lou Weidman

Nov 5 Gwen Lundgren Trunk Show & Choosing Fabrics Shouldn’t Be a Mystery

Dec 3 Holiday Brunch at St. Thomas

Jan 5 & 7 MQ 2012 Show Preview

Lights, Camera, Action at Stitches.TV

Do you have experience teaching other quilters new techniques and projects? Do you want to share your passion with quilters all over the country? Stitches.TV invites you to share your quilting workshops with us! Logging on to www.stitches.tv grants members an all-access pass to expertly-guided tutorial videos, which are produced in our film studios located near Rochester as well as across the pond in the United Kingdom. Our viewers crave wonderful projects instructed by talented quilters, and you could be our next star! To learn more about this exciting opportunity, please contact Bailey Miller at 507-634-3143 or email bailey@ashdown.co.uk.
Workshop Opportunities in May

Waltzing Nine Patch  44”x44”
Full Day  Friday May 6, 2011  9:30-4:00
MQ Members: $50.00  Non-members: $65.00

Enroll in this class and you will overcome your fear of free-hand rotary cutting. Learn about weaving your fabric strips, fusing, and raw-edge blocks as you experiment with color and design. Color is discussed as well as patterns in fabrics. The border adds a new technique, as well as the piping adjacent to the binding. Lots of fun and a great quilt to enjoy.

Flying Geese in a Brave New World  44”x44”
Half Day  Saturday May 7, 2011  1:00-4:00
MQ Members: $35.00  Non-members: $50.00

Learn fast and no-waste methods on two patterns: Flying Geese and Brave New World.
This workshop will help you see patterns within patterns, play with color contrast placement, and using a design wall to discover aesthetically pleasing block arrangements for this and future quilts. Scrap quilt possibilities will also be explored. This quilt lends itself to many styles of fabrics from reproduction prints to batiks to holiday and novelty prints – you choose!

To obtain supply lists for each class, go to mnquilt.org and Cvent.
To learn more about Joann Belling, visit her website at www.joannbelling.com.

Registration is through Cvent at www.mnquilt.org. Participants may also call the MQ office and reserve class space and arrange payment with an office staffperson.

MQP Corner

Numerous newspaper and magazine articles are reminding us that 2011 is the sesquicentennial of the beginning of the Civil War. The Washington County Library is commemorating the anniversary with a series of programs described on their website: http://www.co.washington.mn.us/info_for_residents/library/

Of particular interest to quilters is the story of John George Bauer, a Minnesotan who enlisted in the U.S. Cavalry and was injured in Tennessee. According to an article in the Winter 1990 issue of the Minnesota History magazine, Mr. Bauer was cared for by a woman who sent him home with a quilt that has been in his family since that time. A reproduction of the quilt was made by local textile artists Nancy Miller and Lynne Michaels and is on display at various Washington County libraries this year. During April it is at the Wildwood Library in Mahtomedi.

At the Minnesota Quilters show in St. Paul this year, the MQP booth will feature a display of Civil War era quilts. Please plan to stop by to see them.
Afternoon With Pat Cox
By Lori Allison

Last month I learned from Pat about the rise of the Mary Brown quilts in Minnesota. This month I learned another extraordinary story about quilting and camaraderie -- this time across continents.

“I used to promote a charity event, The Christmas House, on the WCCO noon show and became acquainted with the producer, Nami Shino. Nami had an interest in quilting and then a young Japanese woman came to town and wanted to learn about quilting so Nami called me and we began the Wednesday afternoon quilt group. I’ve been teaching them for over 35 years. Often their husbands are taking University courses, on business or doing medical residencies at the University of Minnesota. One, in particular, was learning to do heart transplants.”

“I get them for 1-2 years. They learn about it from others when their children all go to Japanese school in Minneapolis on Saturday to keep up their Japanese language and math – they think we don’t teach math adequately. The hostess, Tumoko, is married to an American. We meet at her house. Classes range from 6-12 women. And they get things done! They FINISH everything. They only want to make small things because they live in small houses or apartments. If they are interested, they are VERY good. Many come for companionship and could care less about sewing while others are top notch seamstresses. They want to make American things – particularly things that represent Minnesota like the four seasons with the mallard, loons and Lady Slipper. Tumoku, our hostess, has her stained glass quilted wallhanging in her house, so they like to do stained glass. The Wednesday group all speaks Japanese; few are bilingual. They get out their little computers and translate things. A lot of communication is showing and pointing to colors. Tumoku is bilingual. Many understand more than they can speak and their husbands are bi or multilingual.”

“It is interesting that the characters in Japanese and Chinese are often the same, but they mean different things. When I have Asian characters on fabric, I will ask their meaning, but they will say, ‘oh, that’s Chinese.’ We have a Christmas dinner and everyone brings a dish but the same dish is made differently from one place to another. Nothing in Japanese cooking is sweet, and they make many things with red beans. It’s really quite bland with a lot of raw fish.”

“Have you learned to like it?”

“Well…” Pat replied, “abolone – I can live without, but the tuna was very good. “

“I’m so glad I went to the Japanese quilt show in January with Tumoku, the local hostess and friend. She is the best bilingual speaker I have met.” Pat indicated how fortuitous that the trip occurred before the earthquake devastation. She said the quilts were just fantastic. She saw a lot of the fashionable taupe quilts and remarked on the winning quilt’s tiny circles, “I thought they were French knots, but no, they were appliquéd circles!” The prizewinning quilt was the 12 days of Christmas. Pat says it has been a wonderful experience to get to know these Japanese people. They are very generous. She returned with copies of the show quilt magazine with their extraordinary photography and quilts. Pat said, “They do crazy quilts and appliqué. They’ve had a taupe period with all this beautiful work; if you stood five feet back, you could not see it! Then they might do something very simple, striking and geometric. They don’t have room for big quilts and yet the quilts in the show are all big.”

I remarked to Pat about one Japanese woman’s exhibit in Houston where she had made several large quilts with what appeared to be 3/8 inch hexagons. “How do they do that?” I asked. Pat says, “Well, they have very tiny fingers and are able to manipulate very tiny pieces.” She also remarked that Japanese women will just focus and concentrate and persevere to get that one thing done.

In Japan, a quilt teacher must be highly trained and certified. The teacher dictates what the students do and they all do the same thing which is why we might see several similar quilts in American quilt shows. One example is the Mandala quilt. There is also a Japanese teacher who specializes in stiletto points.

Pat holds open the showbook with a photograph of one of the famously taupe quilts in the Japanese quilt show that she attended in January, 2011.
NON-JUDGED QUILT EXHIBIT 2011

“WANTED”
YOUR WONDERFUL QUILTS TO DISPLAY
Stand up and be recognized for your beautiful quilts!
It’s not too late to enter!
We are reaching out to all who have quilts that have
been completed after January 2009 to enter them
into the non-judged quilt exhibit at the 33rd Annual
Minnesota Quilters Quilt Show and Conference at
the St. Paul RiverCentre in St. Paul, MN June 16-18,
2011.
The non-judged quilts are displayed in their own
gallery area and are eligible for the Viewer’s Choice
Awards valued at $250. The awards are given for
both a large and a small quilt. You may submit up to
two entries in the non-judged exhibit, entry deadline
is April 30, 2011.
To enter your quilt send a completed non-judged
entry form for EACH quilt that you wish to enter
plus a photo of the quilt, entry fee (if required) and a
stamped, self-addressed return envelope to:
Jane Shattuck
1526 Sheldon St., St. Paul, MN 55108
More information and entry forms may be found
under the 2011 Show site link on the Minnesota
Quilters website www.mnquilt.org

Door Prizes
We would like to express our appreciation to
everyone who has already contributed door
prizes. Additional door prizes are still needed for
upcoming MQ events. We are hoping that quilters
and businesses will bring door prizes to the 2011
Show. The May MQ meetings are the last time
to bring door prizes to monthly MQ meetings.
However, door prizes may be dropped off at the
volunteer table at the Show. Door prizes collected
are used throughout the year for meeting and
events. Items need to be new or nearly new quilting
related items. Consider donating items that you
would like to receive as a prize. Chocolate is quilt
related!
Please label each donation with your name,
address, dollar value of items and 2011 door
prizes. Contributions are tax deductible to the
extent allowed by the law. Every donation will be
acknowledged. Door Prizes may be mailed to
Mary Pozzini,
305 Darrell Ct.,
Stillwater MN 55082.
If you have questions or suggestions, please
contact us at doorprize11@mnquilt.org. - Mary
Pozzini and Linda Taylor, Door Prize Co-Chairs

Win a May Day Basket by Donating Door Prizes
Spring is quickly approaching with flowers blooming, green grass, and red robins making their appearance to
brighten our day. To celebrate spring, the door prize committee is enticing members to donate a door prize(s) at
the May MQ monthly meetings to be eligible to win a May Day basket. Your donation helps support upcoming
MQ events (Quilt Show, Fall Retreat, monthly meeting, Holiday Brunch etc.) The “May Basket” contains some
of quilt lovers’ favorite items (sensational batiks, some useful quilt tools/supplies, and delectable chocolates).
Eligible donations include:

- 1 yard total quilt fabric  (one piece or series of fat quarters)
- Quilt book or patterns < 10 years old
- Quilt tools or gadgets
- Quilt basic supplies

Look for the donation table at the May MQ meeting.
Please make sure each donation is clearly labeled with your name and address, dollar
value of the item and 2011 Show Door Prizes.  Your donations are greatly appreciated
and will be acknowledged when received. Recipients are asked to send a note of thanks. If you have questions,
please contact either Mary Pozzini or Linda Taylor at: doorprize11@mnquilt.org. Mary & Linda, 2011 Door
Prize Co-chairs
The Small Quilt Auction Needs You!!
By Martha Eaves

There are certain traditions that add to a group like MQ and contribute to the sense of who we are. The Small Quilt Auction fundraiser at our State show is an example of one of those traditions. No one has to contribute. You can contribute by bidding as well as by making a contribution. But we hope you will join in on the fun of this “home grown” aspect of our group. Doris and I have been the Small Quilt Auction volunteers before. Frankly, I think it is the most fun “volunteer” job of the show! Our first time around, we got a box in the mail quite early in the process from Colorado… That sort of surprised me because I was thinking the donors for our Small Quilt Auction would be mostly our local members and state guild members. The box was from Sylvia Korsmo, but had quilts in it from Gloria Kugler, Diann Pierce, and Karrol Baribari. This group of sisters/friends donate beautiful appliqué flower small quilts every year. I know because I bid high to get them!! I called Gloria earlier in the year to ask her what got them started in sending in the small quilts. Gloria told me she has been a member of MQ for 10-15 years even though she lives in Colorado. Diane lives in Coon Rapids, Sylvia in Colorado, and Karrol in California. Their donations started when they were visiting their mom, who was in a nursing home in Duluth, and they read about the State MQ show being held that year in Duluth. They ended up taking an appliqué class at that show and decided for future shows, they would donate small appliqué pieces. They now come to the show every year, and since they also have a brother who lives in MN, they use the MQ show as a base point for an annual family reunion! I didn’t get to open their box yet this year as it went directly to the Textile Center. I can hardly wait to see their inspiring work [and hopefully bid high enough to get a piece this year to add to my “collection”], as it is now my tradition to look for their work every year!

This brings me to you: We need your contributions to the small quilt auction. Not only do you get the pleasure of doing something for the group, but you might be the lucky winner of the monthly prize [a $25 gift certificate to your favorite quilt store] or better yet, you might win the wonderful GRAND PRIZE quilting table [with scissors in the drawer] that will be given away at the show. We accept small quilts, even tiny quilts like postcard quilts, purses, pincushions, and quilt related items that you think someone else might like to bid on. The money raised from the Small Quilt Auction is used for paying for TV programs on quilting throughout the state, and other educational activities that further the art of quilting. Bring your donations to the meetings or mail them directly to the Textile Center, attn. MQ Small Quilt Auction, 3000 University Ave. SE, Suite 120, Minneapolis, MN 55414.

Minnesota Quilters, Inc. 2011 Charter Members Scholarship Winner

The MQ Board of Directors is proud to announce that Audrey Weinand of Blaine, Minnesota is the winner of the 2011 Charter Members Scholarship Award. In August 2009 she decided it was time to find a new activity and she thought it would be fun to create a memory quilt for her daughter. She joined a group of quilters at her church and found new friends and lots of guidance as she began making her first t-shirt quilt. As she said in her essay, “Quilting is an amazing hobby. I’m learning so much and I want to know how to pick out matching fabrics, use the correct tools, make points point and blocks match up. I want to know it all! Then, when I finish the quilt, it is the feeling of accomplishment and knowledge that I’m providing warmth and joy to the recipient.”

We are delighted to provide Audrey with the opportunity to attend a class and hope that others will consider applying for a scholarship in next year’s program. The application deadline date is December 1, 2011 as we would like to give the winner Priority Registration. Also watch the newsletter and the MQ website www.mnquilt.org for more information.
Volunteer to Help at the 2011 Show!

The MQ Show in St. Paul is almost here and we’ve had many wonderful people sign up to volunteer at the show already, but we need many more to help us make this show a success! Please consider setting aside some time to volunteer for some of the fun jobs that help make the MQ Show such a success! If you haven’t volunteered before, you’re missing some of the best parts of the show! If you’ve volunteered in the past, we hope that you’ll join us again. For volunteering even two hours, you will receive a lovely volunteer pin for your collection. You will also be eligible for daily door prizes and a drawing for a Pfaff sewing machine when you volunteer! The show needs your help! Signing up is easy on the MQ website. Just go to www.mnquilt.org and click on 2011 Show Site under Latest News. Then click on At The Show and Becoming Involved. Finally, please click on Volunteer Form under the Volunteering section. You can either email or print and send your form by regular mail. Again, we want to thank you for your time and generosity. We are very grateful to all of our wonderful volunteers.

Trish Timms & Char Wenger, Special Events

2011 Special Events News

Thursday Night, June 16, 2011

Home of the Brave Project Honoring Jean Loken

The Home of the Brave Project honors families of fallen Minnesota Soldiers who served in the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan with a hand-made Civil War reproduction quilt. Join your quilting friends for an evening of sewing quilt blocks to create a quilt for donation to this important service group. Fabric kits and a limited number of sewing machines will be provided. Tickets are limited for this fun event, so register early to guarantee your spot.

Friday Night, June 17, 2011

Quilts Around the World with Katie Pasquini Masopust

Enjoy a fabulous dessert and the company of your quilting friends while traveling with Katie Pasquini Masopust around the world. See the beautiful quilts and unusual things she has found on her quilting trips and enjoy a humorous look at the world from a quilter’s point of view.

We would like to remind all you who have reservations for the Friday Night Dessert Event to stop by the information table on Thursday or before noon Friday to reserve a table seat. There are still tickets available for the Dessert Event. Last year many people were disappointed as they looked for tickets once they arrived at the Show. We need to confirm the food order in advance, so don’t delay – sign up TODAY!!

We will have fabulous door prizes at each of these events, including a sewing machine!! We look forward to seeing you in June!

Trish Timms & Char Wenger, Special Events

Opposites Attract Challenge Entry Forms Due April 30, 2011

It has been brought to our attention that there were two different dates published for the Challenge entry deadline. We apologize for any confusion this may have caused. As a result of this error, we have decided to extend the deadline to the later of the two dates. All entry forms for the Opposites Attract Challenge must be received by April 30, 2011. If you have not yet sent your entry forms, please do so in the next few days. Thank you.
2011 RAFFLE QUILT:  
“Shakespeare In The Park”

Designed by Judy Martin, adapted and pieced by MQ members, and quilted by Jan Schmidt. Now is the time to check out the 2011 raffle quilt. Take it to your small guild meeting or any other place you get permission to show it and sell tickets. Please contact Cathy Goset at raffle11@mnquilt.org to schedule the dates you will need it.

The raffle tickets sell for $1.00 each and the proceeds help support MQ’s mission to celebrate the art of quilting. To request tickets contact the MQ office by mail at 3000 University Ave SE, #120, Minneapolis, MN 55414, email at quilter@mnquilt.org or phone at 612-436-0449. The person who sells and turns in the largest number of ticket stubs and money by June 1 will be awarded a $100.00 gift certificate to the quilt shop of his/her choice.

The winner of the quilt will be drawn on Saturday, June 18, 2011 at 4:00 PM at the Saint Paul River Centre. You need not be present to win.

Pictured below is “Shakespeare In The Park,” the 2011 MQ Raffle Quilt

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Top 10

Reasons to Attend the Minnesota Quilters, Inc. 33rd Quilt Show in June
by Kathy Brevig and Lou Roos, 2011 MQ Show Chairs

10. To have a chance to be the top bidder on your favorite item in the Small Quilt Auction.

9. To see new quilting tools, notions and fabrics at the vendors -- that we absolutely must have!

8. To attend the interesting lectures which are also perfect places to sit down and rest your feet while you gather information, get ideas for future projects and maybe win a door prize.

7. To volunteer for a couple of hours and have a chance to win a door prize, or maybe a sewing machine!

6. To go to the wonderful Special Events and have more chances to win door prizes or a sewing machine!

5. To see your quilt or garment hanging with the other entries and think to yourself that it really does look good! And to do a happy dance if it has a ribbon on it!

4. To support the vendors, who work very hard to put up good looking displays with wonderful merchandise, and to say a resounding Thank You! to our sponsors.

3. To take a class or two from excellent teachers to broaden our quilting horizons.

2. To admire all of the amazing quilts and think how lucky we are to be part of such a creative, artistic community.

1. To enjoy the company of friends and make new friends as we wander through the displays of quilts and vendors, and attend the classes, lectures and Special Events. It’s fun!!
Parking Update for Minnesota Quilters at the Textile Center

We have just learned that the gated secure parking lot behind the Teamsters Building on 30th Avenue and north of University Avenue is now available for Textile Center users at no charge on weekends and weekday evenings.

You will need codes to enter the car gate and to get back into the lot through the people gate. Write these down or print this notice so you have the codes when you need them.

**Car Gate: 7755**
**People Gate: 77755**

**Other Parking Options at the Textile Center**
1. There is a very small parking lot in back of the Textile Center.
2. Street parking on University Ave. is available for an hour or two during the day.
3. The Osvold business lot, 2828 University Ave. The entrance is 1 block west of the Textile Center on University Ave. Parking is available in any of these 34 spaces (even though they appear to be assigned) in the evenings after 5:00 p.m. and during weekends EXCEPT when there are events at the TCF Bank Stadium on the UofM campus.
4. There is a pay lot at 29th Avenue SE and 4th Street SE. This is on the north side of University Avenue.

**Places Where You Absolutely Should Not Park (they will tow you)**
1. Parking in the business lots across University Avenue from the Textile Center unless you are visiting one of the businesses. After you complete your business, you must move your car.
2. Do not park in the Nano Computer lot located behind the Textile Center and adjacent to the small Textile Center lot.

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**New Members**

*by Carol Fisher*

Jette Ditmarson
Lives in New London with her husband and they have 5 grown daughters. Jette has always loved fabric since she was little and would create Barbie clothes without sewing. She graduated to making garments and finally started quilting around 1998, after a friend introduced her to paper piecing. Jette currently enjoys making traditional quilts. MQ is the first quilting group she has been associated with and is looking forward to meeting people and making new friends.

Nancy Wacker
I was introduced to quilting almost 20 years ago by a teacher at a school where I worked. Most of my quilts to date involve traditional piecing techniques. I am comfortable with paper piecing techniques. I am very interested in the quilt with rules approach and would like to pursue it further in the future. Actually, I would be extremely pleased if I could just finish something every once in a while. I get a lot of encouragement and support from the Evergreen Quilters at Unity Church.

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**Outstanding Volunteer - Con’t from page 1**

in the library of The Friends School. She sews charity quilts with the Evergreen Quilters and she volunteers as a crisis counselor. Kathie loves creating art. Besides sewing and quilting she has worked in clay. She loves dying fabrics. She weaves, knits and makes baskets. To take her quilting to the next level, she applied and has been accepted into the Textile Center’s Mentor and Prodigy program where she will work with Karen Searle. Her focus will be how to add dimension to her quilts to make them interactive with the viewer.

When asked why she volunteers, Kathie responded that everyone is important and doing things with people feeds her soul.

Thank you, Kathie, for all you have done for Minnesota Quilters!
Volunteer Corner

Hello to all our wonderful MQ members. Many thanks to all of you who volunteered this past month. We need and appreciate all of you. Be sure to record your hours on the white slips at the meetings. A special thank you to Sue Sandegar for becoming an Evening Meeting co-Coordinator. 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:

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.

CO-MEETING COORDINATOR EVENING
This is a very important position as they make the meetings run smoothly. We are still looking for one more person.

2012 AND 2013 SHOW COMMITTIES
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 Yvonne to see what is available.

MEMBERSHIP CO-COORDINATOR DAYS
We need one more person to sit at the front table on Saturday mornings with Deborah to check memberships and give out tickets.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR
Beginning with the October 2011 newsletter. Build your computer skills and make a contribution to Minnesota Quilters in this important way.

MQ Sponsors Awards at the Minnesota State Fair
Did you know that MQ sponsors several awards at the Minnesota State Fair? Here is an explanation of the awards:
MQ will award a Rosette and a $100 cash prize to the winner of the Sweepstakes award (Best of Show). MQ will award a Rosette and $50 cash prize to the winners in the following categories: Best Hand Quilting, Best Machine Quilting and Best Use of Color.
MQ also awards a new or continuing membership to winners in the categories for First Pieced Quilt and First Appliqued Quilt (this means first ever made, not first ever entered in the State Fair).
In addition, MQ offers $20 to each first place winner in several categories and has matched the State Fair premiums for second and third placings in these categories.

Did you know that you do not have to win at the County level in order to enter your quilts in the State Fair? There is a specific category for county fair winners, but it is only one category of many.

Pre-registration for the Creative Activities starts May 1. You do not have to pre-register for the Creative Activities, but it speeds up the intake process.

New this year: MQ is sponsoring a $100 award in the Fine Arts category for fiber art.
The Fine Arts exhibit is a juried exhibit and you must register your entries by July 1, 2011.
Check out www.mnstatefair.org and click on Competitions to see more information and all the rules regarding these two competitions. You can also call the Competition Office at 651-288-4417 and request a Rules and Premiums booklet to be mailed to you.

March New & Renewed Members

Mary Lou Murray
Pamela Scott
Jill Schultz
Patricia Murray
Arlene Drier
Lucille Johnson
Ann Helbling
Sharon Dudziak
Clara Oleson
Susan Hilferty
Gail Jones
Kara Albrecht
Florence Vogt
Page Johnson
Charlette Pittman
Kim Petroske
Betty L. Merz
Judy Lewis
Colleen Heier
Janice Brown
Cynthia Thury Smith
Pamela Streed
Virginia Cronin
Joyce Kvaas
Member Show & Tell

The April 9th member Show and Tell included the following quilts:

Arlene Albrecht from Monticello showed her green and black diamond quilt based on a pattern by Sandi Irish.

Holly Kane from Inver Grove Heights showed her feathered star quilt.

Jan Schmidt, whoquilts with the ELCA women, showed a quilt made from fabric from Nigeria.

MQ Boardmember, Mary Pozzini, showed her Twisted Sister quilt.

MQ News

Red & White Quilt Exhibit

This is the best article I've read about the Red & White quilt exhibit in New York. I love that it was written by a man in the Financial Times! I've seen:

And this is the best bunch of pictures of it I've seen:

Enjoy, Char Wenger
Block of the Month

by Jeanne LaMoore and Kathie Simon Frank

In June there will be no Block of the Month. Instead, we encourage you to make up a small quilt or two for the small quilt auction for the June show. Use blocks that you’ve learned this year to make a stunning potholder, a small wall hanging, a dramatic table runner, or a comforting lap quilt. The small quilt auction co-chairs, Martha Eaves and Doris Kraemer, will gratefully accept your donations. Bring them to the May meetings and/or to the MQ office by June 10th. We’ll return next month with a new block for you to sew and enter for the July drawing. Watch for us!

The winner of 12 each tulip blocks at the April meetings was Dianne Conner and Virginia Mercil.

Pictured is the May block.

The Fabric of Life

by Kelly M. Smith

For years, we in the United States have enjoyed very low prices on cotton quilting fabrics—somewhere in the range of $8 to $10 per yard for local quilt shop quality fabrics. However other regions, including Canada and Europe, routinely pay much higher prices. A meter of fabric in Canada is closer to $20 than $10. I have Canadian friends who use every excuse to cross the border just to shop at a U.S. quilt shop. To them it’s like a half-price sale!

If you’ve gone shopping for fabric lately though, you have probably noticed that prices are going up. There are several reasons for this—all of them completely beyond your shop owner’s control.

- Natural disasters and extreme weather in regions where cotton is grown—including Texas, Pakistan, and China—have lead to a shortage of cotton worldwide. As with any commodity, the rules of supply and demand apply. As the supply goes down, the cost goes up.
- The U.S. dollar is weaker than it was. In countries where fabric is manufactured, our dollar is worth less and so it costs more to buy the finished product.
- There are fewer cotton mills that can produce quilting cotton in the quantity and quality that quilters demand.
- Duties on imported goods have increased.
- Shipping costs have increased.

What does this mean for you and your quilting? Well, you may want to dip into your stash more than you have in the past. You may want to be more frugal with your precious fabric, keeping smaller scraps than before. You may want to buy cheaper fabrics (including the dreaded polyester blends) for practice projects, tote bags and other accessories, and other non-heirloom quilt projects. Keep in mind though that polyester is made from petroleum and the price of oil is not going to come down. So that “cheap” poly cotton is not as cheap as it used to be.

For people in cotton-growing regions of the world, the rising price of cotton is good news. It means that cotton farmers will make more money providing this now-scarce commodity. As this chart shows, the price of cotton has tripled since the beginning of last year. Only a small fraction of that goes to the farmers, of course, but as this article discusses, they are happy for even a small increase in their very small income.

Cotton price chart from Benzinga

How will you deal with the rising price of cotton quilting fabric?

From: Quilters Newsletter Blog 2/18/11
Minnesota Quilters Announcement

Minnesota Quilters, Inc., a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, was initially formed in 1978 with the intention to foster, promote and celebrate knowledge of and participation in all forms and aspects of quilt making. As part of that mission we provide an annual show and other quilting classes and activities.

Our name, Minnesota Quilters, Inc., implies a role that extends across the entire state. Historically we have done much to serve quilters by offering the annual show in many locations throughout the state, through funding for TV-broadcast quilting programs in out-state locations and by providing funding to other guilds for educational and charitable efforts. Even so, there has been some concern that MQ is primarily a local Twin Cities-based guild with a large annual show. We propose changes that are intended to help us become a more inclusive and truly state-wide organization. In attempting to have a state-wide focus, we are seeking to find out if other quilters and quilting-related organizations share our interest in creating a state-wide forum about quilting.

At this time we want to announce our interest in creating a new committee, which we propose will be known as the Minnesota Quilters Forum (MQF).

Our intention in creating the Minnesota Quilters Forum (MQF) is to create a subcommittee within Minnesota Quilters, Inc. which will actively provide broader outreach services to our members and establish strong relationships with other guilds. We are inviting other guilds to select delegates to attend an exploratory discussion at this year’s show in June. As participants in MQF, the delegates will set the agenda and schedule for providing educational and charitable resources to guilds and communities throughout the state.

The nature and scope of the Minnesota Quilters Forum will be determined by the Forum delegates in the coming year. If you are interested in learning more about the Minnesota Quilters Forum, we ask you to provide contact information in the space shown below. We promise to get back to you with more information in the coming weeks.

Any questions? Please contact us at preselect@MNquilt.org or attend the April meeting.

************

Name ____________________________________

Guild Name ____________________________________

Address ____________________________________

Phone ____________________________________

Email ____________________________________

If you are a quilting-related business and would like to learn more about the new MQ Forum, please use this form but indicate you are a business.

Quilting Around Minnesota 2010-2011

Introducing the Quilting and Crafting Group from St. Peter Claver Church, St. Paul. The group has met weekly for many years and focuses on teaching quilting basics, sponsoring an annual boutique to support the school, and providing baby quilts to those in need, including police departments to keep in squad cars for domestic disturbance calls.

Photo provided by Annie Biebl
Bulletin Board

April 29 - 30, 2011 Maple Grove Quilters present “Land of 10,000 Fabrics” at the Maple Grove Community Center. Please join us for demos, raffle quilt, blackjack, vendors, lunch, and tours of the audit room and museum. Admission is $5.00. Visit www.maplegrovequilters.org for more info!

June 10-11, 2011 Sewing and Quilting Expo, held at UW - Platteville (WI). Workshops, vendors, banquet, fabric resaleroom, and more! Registration is now open. Website: http://www.uwplatt.edu/cont_ed/sewing_expo/index.html

August 5, 2011 Braham, MN Hands All Around Quilters present their annual small quilt show at Braham City Hall. Hours are 10a.m.-7p.m. August 5 as part of Pie Day. Free admission. Raffle quilt. Viewers’ choice awards with cash prizes. Contact Nancy Neumann, 818 Shady Ridge Lane, Braham, MN 55006 for show registration information or e-mail ichsdirector@izoom.net.

September 8-10, 2011 Quilt Expo, Alliant Energy Center, Madison, WI. Presented by Wisconsin Public Television and Nancy Zieman Productions. Quilt contest and exhibits, workshops, lectures, vendors, special events. Website: http://wiqquiltexpo.com/

Sept. 9 & 10, 2011 Prairie Star Quilters will present a Quilt Show, September 9th ((10-7) and Sept. 10th (10-4) at the Bethel Evangelical Free Church, South door entrance, 1125 South State Street, Fairmont, MN 56031. Prairie Star Quilting Guild Member, Kathy Luther, is the featured quilter. 150 quilts, vendors, gift boutique, quilt drawing, and refreshments available. Admission $5.00 (includes raffle ticket). Questions call Dorothy 507-375-4192. (dorothyhedberg@hotmail.com)

September 24 & 25, 2011 New Richmond, WI. Saturday 9 4 Sunday 11 - 4 Willow River Piecemakers Wisconsin Indianhead Technical College, Cashman Conference Center, New Richmond, WI, $3 Admission

October 7 &8, 2011 Rochester, MN Quilters’ Sewciety quilt show.

October 8 & 9, 2011. Mixed Sampler Quilt Guild’s 23rd Annual Quilt Show: “Quilts of the Northwoods”. Located at the Siren High School, 24022 4th Avenue North, Siren WI 54872 from 10a to 4p both days. Admission is $4.00, kids under 12 are FREE. Special Exhibits, Silent Auction, Quilt raffle, Hourly bed turning of antique quilts, and over 200 quilts on display. For more information, Jean M. Judd at sistersinstitches@mail.com or 715-566-0212

Fat Quarter Drawing

Mary Pozzini won the April Fat Quarter drawing. Lucky Mary! May’s drawing will be blue & white. We hope you will check your stash and participate in the fun. So you can better plan to join in the upcoming month’s themes are: July- Christmas in July, August-warm batiks (golds, browns, oranges, reds). Contribute up to three fat quarters (approximately 18” x 22”) of quilt-shop quality 100% cotton fabric in the theme of the month and we’ll enter your name in the drawing for that month (one entry for each fat quarter, up to a maximum of 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 meetings. You need not be present to win. Questions or theme suggestions, please contact Cathie Cartwright (lincoln123@sbcglobal.net), or Lorna Wainwright (imgrama@mindspring.com). Join the fun, we would love to draw your name!


MQ News May 2011
Hazle’s Hot Dish
by Hazle DeBerg

We quilters are always buzzing about the latest/greatest pattern, gotta-have gadget or timesaving tip. So for all of you “in-the-know” quilter types, I’m gonna give you a few more insider trivia pointers over the next few months to make you the envy of your quilting buddies…..but I’ve gotta ask that we keep your source, “on the down-low and just between us!”

I am amazed at how often I’m in need of a little extra, “helping hand.” There are oodles of “stilettos” on the market….and I’m not talking about my Royal Blue Jimmy Choos (super cute shoes!). No, I’m talking about that extra long pointed tool that allows you to get into the tightest of spaces and get the job done.

The ABSOLUTE best “stiletto” that I have discovered for my quilt studio/oasis is found in nature, are you ready….wait for it……a Porcupine Quill! They are all natural, discarded without any harm to the Fierce Little Archer of the South, quite reasonable (in $$) plus they come in a variety of lengths and it’s VERY flexible!

So, why all the hype? It’s a universal tool, with the pointy end….it works like a stiletto close to your needle, it can also remove unwanted “fiber puff” from inside your machine between your feed dogs and around the bobbin case (it won’t scratch…it’s not metal) and the larger end (the part that was attached to the Fierce Little Archer) is ideal for turning pillowcase corners or unclogging your fav basting glue nozzle.

Ok, so you’re not gonna find one along the North Shore or under the tallest MN pine tree….but we’re a resourceful group, we have connections! My favorite haunt is Frontier Village at the Minnesota State Fair at the booth in the center that sells scary animal decorations. Put your blinders on and head inside. They have a plethora of options. And you really need to “test drive” your Quill…..imagine you’re Harry Potter choosing your wand. There are hundreds of porcupines and no 2 quills are the same. When you find it, you’ll know. And I recommend snatching a couple (in case of tragedy….the fair only comes but once a year, after all!) If you’re a “need it now” type, there’s always the mighty Internet!

Until next time….mum’s the word!

MQ GARAGE SALE SATURDAY
AUGUST 6TH 11:00 AM

Start weeding your stash, patterns, notions, and UFOs for our one-day only sale of the year. Purchase a table for $20.00 and bring in whatever you’re not using for your quilting projects. What no longer inspires you will be a great find for one of our many shoppers. Please, quilt-related items only. Contact Laura Nagel at ed@mnquilt.org to reserve your table. More information to follow in the next newsletter.
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 RiverCentre

**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. Overlooking 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.
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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Thank you for becoming a Minnesota Quilter member!

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