Message from our Co-Presidents
Kathie Simon Frank and Patty Von Arx, president@mnquilt.org

Hmmm. 2014. The number grows bigger every year! I like to think of each new year as a new beginning. I’ve had lots of new beginnings in the past several years— they are still sitting on my shelf needing to be quilted or to be bound or to have just the right border added. So in 2014, I’m thinking of new endings to my new beginnings. I’m going to try to finish off some of my UFO’s!

We look forward to the January MQ meetings when the Show Committee will highlight the classes and lectures for our annual show in St. Cloud! We’ll learn who’s teaching what, and we’ll see their samples. Then we can dream about which classes we’ll take and which vendors we’ll visit. Before you know it, it will be time to register! That makes the show seem real! Please bring your registration booklet to the meeting so you can follow along and make notes about your favorite options. We’ll also view our beautiful 2014 raffle quilt designed by Deb Burk and made by Scrapbaggers, a small group of MQ members and their friends who have quilted together for many years. Bring your checkbook too. We know you’ll be tempted by our new show-related merchandise and raffle quilt tickets, as well.

Thanks to all the people who are involved in making the 2014 show come alive! If you want to participate in the show, there’s room for you too. Please let the show chairs know of your interest. Sign up at a meeting, or contact the show director at the MQ office.

Thank you so much to those of you who donated to MQ on Give to the Max day. With the GiveMN site crashing for several hours, we appreciate those who persevered and were finally able to make their donation to Minnesota Quilters. We received gifts totaling $2500 through GiveMN, and a few checks and cash donated outside the formal campaign. We’ll serve our membership better because of these donations. Thank you!

( cont. on page 3)
Upcoming Events

January 2 & 4, 2014 Quilt Show Preview

January 4, 2014 Quilting for Others Sew-In after meeting.  12 to 4 pm

February 6 & 8, Program presented by Minnesota Quilt Project

March 1, Quilt Connections, Women’s History Month Quilt Exhibit at Eagan High School, with special presentation by Pat Speth, the “Nickel Quilt Lady”, 10 am.

No Thursday meeting in March

March 6-8, Quilting in the City - Spring Retreat (See article on page 3 and registration form on page 17.)

April 3 & 5, MQ 36th Birthday Party featuring several of the most recent past presidents of the guild. (Are you working on your quilts?)

May 1, Here Comes the Judge, a presentation by a certified quilt judge about what judges look for when judging quilt competitions and what it takes to make an award-winning quilt.

May 3, How to Prepare Your Quilt for a Longarm Quilter, a presentation by Sue Kleinschmidt from At the Heart of Quilting.

June 12 - 14, 36th Annual Quilt Show and Conference in St. Cloud

MQ Board of Directors meetings: Finance Meetings—January 21, February 18. Board Meetings—January 28, February 25. All meetings are at 6 pm. Please notify Kathie or Patty, president@mnquilt.org if you have an agenda item and/or wish to attend.

Deadline for February Newsletter:  Tuesday, January 7, 2014

Employees:
Show Director
Linda Wines
showdirector@mnquilt.org

Bookkeeper
Linda Wines
bookkeeper@mnquilt.org

Administrative Assistant
Debra Svedberg
quilter@mnquilt.org

Editor
Mary Manns
editor@mnquilt.org

MN Quilt Project Co-Chairs
Pat Cox and Carolyn Silflow
mqp@mnquilt.org

MQ 2014 Quilt Show Coordinators
Lou Roos and Laura Nagel
MQ2014@mnquilt.org

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Lois & Dave Kelley 651-437-4414

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Quilt Shop
www.littlepieceofmind.com
Alicia Rangel Cypher
Owner
alicia@littlepieceofmind.com 715.222.4860
The Treasurer reported that Clifton Larson Allen has been hired for this year's financial review.

Minnesota Quilters, Inc. received $2,500 in donations through GiveMN, net $2,383.63 after paying the website company.

The Show Director reported that the Registration Book is in progress. She also presented a faculty spreadsheet showing costs of teachers and classes.

Membership reported that the business directory is online.

The Board approved the following grants:

- Naomi Family Quilting Project: $2,000
- Barn Quilts of Dakota: $500
- Comfort Quilts in Forest Lake: $500
- Historical Society of Clay County: $2,000
- Bundles of Love: $500
- Eagan High School for Women's History Month Quilt Show: $350
- Lake Area Quilters of Alexandria: $500

The next combined Finance/Board Meeting (due to the holidays) will be December 17, 2013. The Finance portion of the meeting will begin at 6 pm. The Board meeting will begin at 6:30 pm. ALL MEMBERS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND.

Respectfully Submitted, Jill Schultz, Secretary
**Holiday Brunch Highlights**

The temperature on Saturday, December 7, 2013 was below zero, but Binz Refectory on the University of St. Thomas campus was filled with warmth, friendship and laughter as 120 Minnesota Quilters and guests gathered for a delicious brunch. It was a busy morning full of fun activities. It started with a wonderful spread of fruit, pastries and hot entries prepared by the Binz staff. Following the brunch, Co-President Kathy Simon-Frank introduced Audree Sells as the 2014 Quilter of the Year. We look forward to seeing her beautiful quilts at the MQ show in St. Cloud in June.

Kathy Brevig was the winner of the annual Volunteer drawing. Congrats, Kathy. We love our volunteers.

Beautiful Christmas blocks were exchanged. As in the past we collected stockings, stocking stuffers and donations of money for St. Joseph Childrens Home. Minnesota quilters are very generous as we collected 97 beautiful stockings, boxes of stuffers and $604 in cash. Thank you to all who contributed! Sandy Von Arx was the winner of the Viewer's Choice $50 gift certificate.

This year’s Challenge was to make a Christmas article using at least 5 fabrics from our stash. There were 16 beautiful entries. These quilters are all winners because now they have a new “finished” article for display this Christmas. Congrats to Suzanne Fisher winner of the Viewer's Choice $50 gift certificate.

As always, beautiful articles were shared during “Show and Tell”. A great big “thank you” to all who donated door prizes. Our Brunch elves were very busy handing out these wonderful items.

The 2013 Brunch is now over, and thanks to the new volunteers, the planning can begin for 2014. You will have as much fun as we had in planning for this year’s event.

*The 2013 Brunch Committee*
December Show and Tell

Gail Hanson

Kathryn Carver

Karen Kopitzke

Faye Bodenhamer

Audree Sells

Faye Bodenhamer

Wanda Shelton

Suzanne Fisher

Ruth Herbst

Wanda Shelton

Ruth Herbst
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. We especially appreciate Becca Brackett and Molly O’Dea for volunteering as fat quarter coordinators. Thank you so much! They will start again in January. Also, thank you very much to Wynn Martin for taking over for Kathie Simon Frank on the Block of the Month Committee. All volunteers need to record their hours on the white slips at the meetings. We had 1,424 volunteer hours recorded for our fiscal year ending 9/30/13. Keep up the good work! If any of you are interested in the following positions or have questions about them please send us an email volunteer@mnquilt.org, or talk to us at the meetings. If you would like to volunteer for any position that is not listed, please let us know.

Current available positions:

Greeters
We need one or two at each meeting to greet visitors and new members to make them feel welcome. See Gail Hanson or Anne McCandless at the Membership desk.

Quilting for Others co-coordinator – Pamela would like someone to help her.

Business Membership Coordinator – This position reports to the Membership Directors. This person is to keep track of business members, get information to them about meetings and to contact quilt related businesses about becoming business members.

Public Relations Coordinator – This position reports to the Communications Directors, and works with them to promote MQ. It would help to have some public relations and computer experience. This person will prepare and have available packets of information about MQ for members to take to local guild meetings. They will put notices of meetings in newspapers when a program is of interest to general public, at the direction of the board.

Fat Quarter Drawing

The holidays will soon be over, we will be back at the gym, or at least thinking about it to burn off those few pounds we gained. The decorations will be in boxes ready to be stored until next year, and we will be exhausted! We’ll be finishing up those unfinished, but promised holiday gifts, cleaning up our sewing rooms, or napping. Let us introduce ourselves. I am Molly O’Dea and my cohort is Becca Brackett. We are the new fat quarter coordinators. Let us know of any fabric ideas you would like to see shared. For January we would like you to share your snowflake or star fabrics. Any color combination will do, but be sure to gather them together before you head off to your long winter’s nap.

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 complete name, address, and phone number to each fat quarter. Bring fat quarters to meetings or mail them to Minnesota Quilters, 1203 5th St. SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414-2030. 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.

Fatquarter@mnquilt.org

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Eight deluxe guest rooms sleeping three in individual full size beds
En-suite bathrooms with whirlpool tubs and separate showers featuring hand made tiles
Light, bright workrooms - Room for 24 guests
Individual adjustable height tables - Hiking trails
ADA accessible - Individual rates - Weekend meals

Winter Special:
Book a two night weekend package in January, February or March 2014 and receive a free weeknight.

Located on the former Creamery property one hour east of the Twin Cities
E4620 County Road C, Downsville, WI
Contact Chris Daly at 715.664.8220 or visit our website for more details.

MINNESOTA QUILTERS
Volunteer Corner
volunteer@mnquilt.org

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. We especially appreciate Becca Brackett and Molly O’Dea for volunteering as fat quarter coordinators. Thank you so much! They will start again in January. Also, thank you very much to Wynn Martin for taking over for Kathie Simon Frank on the Block of the Month Committee. All volunteers need to record their hours on the white slips at the meetings. We had 1,424 volunteer hours recorded for our fiscal year ending 9/30/13. Keep up the good work! If any of you are interested in the following positions or have questions about them please send us an email volunteer@mnquilt.org, or talk to us at the meetings. If you would like to volunteer for any position that is not listed, please let us know.

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Contact Chris Daly at 715.664.8220 or visit our website for more details.
2014 Show Committee

- Show Coordinators: Lou Roos (Elk River), Laura Nagel (Apple Valley)  mq2014@mnquilt.org
- Admissions: Jean Carr (Hugo), Rita Culshaw (Ham Lake)
- Bus Tours: Carol Fisher (Minneapolis), Sharon Peterson (Minneapolis)
- Challenge: Yvonne Curran (Ramsey)
- Charming City Stroll: Sandi Irish (Inver Grove Heights)
- Door Prizes: Nancy Broshat (Minneapolis), Carla Kilkelly (Richfield)
- Faculty: Annemarie Yohnk (Burnsville), Mary Pozzini (Stillwater)
- Information Desk: Vicci Mattsfield (Wyoming), Karen O’Brien (Roseville)
- Judged Quilts: Carol Schwankl (Lakeville), Miki Peine (St. Paul)
- Merchandise: Louise Somers (Jordan), Marcy Huggins (Plymouth), Lia Peterson (Minneapolis)
- Non-Judged Quilts: Opportunity!!
- PowerPoint: Sue Rutford (White Bear Lake)
- Photography: Peggy Stockwell (Taylors Falls)
- Printing & Publishing: Janet Watt (Maplewood), Karen Knoll (Lino Lakes)
- Raffle Quilt: Deb Burk (Eagan)
- Raffle Quilt Tickets: Nancy Hall (Nisswa), Loretta Stone (St. Paul Park)
- Registration: Jan Wolfgram (Fairmont), Audrey Weinand (Blaine), Mary Drabik (Shoreview)
- Secretary: Char Wenger (Coon Rapids)
- Signage: Rose Allen (St. Paul)
- Small Quilt Auction: Anne McCandless (Minneapolis), Shirley Arendt (Minneapolis)
- Special Events: Opportunity
- Special Exhibits: Patty Von Arx (Burnsville), Suzanne Fisher (Hastings)
- Vendors: Sue Rutford (White Bear Lake)
- Volunteers: Virginia Gleason (St. Cloud), Jean Hoff (St. Cloud)
- Website: Pat Curtner (St. Paul)
- Show Director: Linda Wines, showdirector@mnquilt.org

***Important Dates***

- Advance Registration:
  - Members Only: Begins January 16, 2014
  - General: Begins February 1, 2014
- Deadlines:
  - May 1, 2014 (mail in)
  - May 15, 2014 (online)
- Non-Judged Children’s Exhibit:
  - Entry Form Submission Deadline: April 19, 2014
- Judged Exhibit:
  - Entry Form Submission Deadline: Apr 18, 2014
- 2014 Challenge:
  - Entry Form Submission Deadline: April 30, 2014

Look for hotel listings on the MQ website and in the show book.
This is a teaser! In this newsletter and the two newsletters to follow we will spotlight several of our quilt show teachers. We want to entice you with bits and pieces of our 2014 Faculty for the Minnesota Quilters 36th Annual Quilt Show and Conference in June. Please visit the Minnesota Quilters website, http://www.mnquilt.org/mq2014/ to view all the teachers, their projects and class supply list requirements.

NEVER TAKEN A CLASS BEFORE? Add “Take a Quilt Class” to your New Years’ resolution list, right above the one about diet and exercise. Make this year the beginning of a learning adventure. The 2014 faculty includes teachers from coast to coast across the United States. So many classes and techniques, there is something offered for every quilter.

At the January member meetings there will be a slide presentation about the classes. Hopefully, a few of our local teachers will be on hand to talk, too. Of course we will have samples from our 2014 faculty for you to admire.

As the faculty committee co-chairs, we have chosen a wide range of class styles. We hope that you will register for a lot of classes, lectures and events!

STEP OUT OF THE BOX---SIGN UP AND GO FOR IT!!!
Annemarie S. Yohnk  Mary Pozzini
faculty2014@mnquilt.org
http://www.mnquilt.org/mq2014/

Charlotte Angotti
Charlotte Angotti is a national and internationally recognized quilting instructor. She lives in Myrtle Beach SC where she hosts quilting retreats that she calls the Escape. Quilt Maker's Studio is her on-line connection to quilters. She offers kits, her books and patterns.

Charlotte is vivacious and a talented quilter who has a love affair with fabric and color. She has a wonderful way of telling stories and entertaining you while you learn her quilting process. Let go and trust her magical way of teaching. Charlotte’s class projects are a bit of a mystery. Her classes are about making friends, laughing, sharing ideas and learning new things. Everything you want in a class!

She is also going to be our Friday night banquet speaker, which promises to be full of laughter and fun for all. You won’t want to miss it!

She believes her hobby is quilt making and her job is teaching others to enjoy it as much as she does. Charlotte says, “May all the points match and all the fabric you desire be yours.”

Gwen Marston
Gwen is a professional fiber artist from Beaver Island, MI who has taught nationally and internationally. She has written 26 books. Her book “37 Sketches” has won the 2012 New York Book Show Award. A special exhibit of her work from “37 Sketches” was shown at the Taupo Art Museum in Taupo, New Zealand during their 2012 symposium. She will be teaching from this book at our June quilt show…a fantastic opportunity.

Gwen’s teaching schedule for 2014 is full and we are very fortunate to have her coming to our Minnesota Quilters, Inc. Show and Conference. You will be able to meet her at Meet the Teachers on Wednesday evening of the June show. She will be teaching four all day classes starting on Wednesday June 11th. Her class projects tend to be abstract and free form in design. These are NOT TO MISS classes! Her classes will fill quickly!!

Teri Lucas
Teri is a featured author in Quilt Arts, The Quilt Life, and has been published in Fons and Porter’s Love of Quilting. She has been quilting for 19 years and dreams about quilts. Sometimes, she will wake up with a quilt design floating through her thoughts waiting to be drawn.

Teri invites you to join the machine Quilting Club with her, because all of us have quilt tops to finish. She will be teaching domestic machine quilting at the quilt show in June. All levels of quilters will benefit from her classes. Her designs are fascinating! She will give you the opportunity to see what magic you can create on your sewing machine. Let Teri teach you her tricks and tips.

Teri considers quilting a journey of learning… “Each quilt I piece and quilt gives me the opportunity to try a new technique or practice and perfect an older one.”
**Norah McMeeking**

You could say Norah’s education brought her to quilting. As a young girl she fell in love with stitching when she met her first sewing machine in Mrs. Regan’s Home Economics class. Then one day she wandered into the Art Institute of Chicago where she saw her first quilt. There was no turning back, she was hooked and had to learn to make them.

Norah’s first quilting teacher taught her to do everything by hand. Later she discovered that “some” people made quilts with a sewing machine. Then came the rotary cutter and life was wonderful. The planets aligned and a perfect marriage of her graphics education and sewing came together making her a happy woman.

We are delighted to have Norah at the 2014 quilt show. Her classes showcase the beauty of nature, wildlife and the stars above. You can view her stunning quilt projects on the MQ website.

So THIS IS IT….Time to learn “needle-turn appliqué” using a sewing machine, for nature to come alive in your quilts. Norah says, “Let the bias work for you to achieve a beautiful seam”.

Norah will be teaching 3 all day classes at the 2014 June Show. Please check out Norah’s books, “Bella Bella Quilts: Stunning Designs from Italian Mosaics” and her new book “Bella Bella Sampler Quilts”. Her quilts are WOW!

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**Susan Brubaker Knapp**

Susan is a fiber artist, quilt pattern designer and teacher. She has been featured in several national magazines and in the Quilting Arts Calendar for four years. She is the author of 2 books and has produced 3 quilting DVDs.

Susan embraces innovative machine techniques. In 2005 she started making art quilts and discovered a whole new world of quilting and creating. Her quilts have won local and national awards and have been exhibited at national and international venues.

She is mad about surface design. Her classes will be the adventure of a lifetime! Susan will be teaching four all day classes at the June show where you will learn about so many different processes of design there isn’t room to list them here. You will just have to check the classes out on the MQ website.

Susan says, “You do not have to be a painter, just a willing learner in old clothes.

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**Marti Michell**

Marti lives in Atlanta, GA but was born and raised in Iowa where she received a B.S. in Textiles, Clothing and Home Ec. and Journalism from Iowa State University. It is also where she met her husband Richard and together they started Yours Truly, Inc. This was a patchwork quilt kit company in 1972 when there was no quilt industry. It is no wonder that Marti Michell, the 2004 Silver Star Honoree at the Houston International Quilt Festival, is often introduced as a pioneer in the current quilt revival.

Marti is an international teacher, quilter, author, publisher, manufacturer, designer, judge and quilt collector. She shares her enthusiasm and love of quilting wherever she goes. Minnesota Quilters is very fortunate Marti is coming to our show. Her ingenuity and attention to detail in her quilts makes her the perfect teacher for traditional quilts.

Since 1995, the Michells have manufactured the “From Marti Michell” line of acrylic templates and special rulers for rotary cutting. The newest member of the template family is Tessellating Windmill which will be featured in one of Marti’s classes at the 2014 quilt show in June. She has renamed the quilt just for us…Minnesota Windmills!!!

Do you hate lugging your special rulers to quilt classes? With Marti’s classes you won’t have to worry, she will bring rulers for every student to use in her classes. Now that’s pretty special!

---

**Linden Hill Historical Event Center**

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**Raffle Quilt**

“Blooming Northern Star”


The 2014 raffle quilt incorporates piecing, appliqué, and embroidery. The quilt was designed to represent our “North Star State”. The flowers surrounding the center lone star are flowers that are grown in our northern gardens.

Minnesota Quilters, Inc. uses the proceeds from the raffle quilt to support its mission to celebrate the art of quilting. Raffle tickets are $1 each and are available from the MQ office, at MQ meetings, and during the MQ Quilt Show and Conference in St. Cloud. Please pay for the raffle tickets with cash and checks; we are unable to accept credit card payment for them. To request raffle tickets, please contact the MQ Office at 1203 5th Street SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414, by phone 612-436-0449 or email quilter@mnquilt.org. If you are unable pick up raffle tickets in person, you may have tickets mailed to you. Call the office or specify quantity on your registration form.

You may check out the raffle quilt to take to your guild or quilt show. This provides extra opportunities to share the quilt and sell raffle tickets. Please contact Loretta Stone at raffletickets2014@mnquilt.org to let her know when you would like to reserve the quilt.

The raffle drawing will be held on Saturday, June 14 at 4 pm at the River's Edge Convention Center in St. Cloud, MN. You need not be present to win. Thank you for your help in making this fundraiser a success! Good luck!!

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**Please help distribute Show Registration Books!**

We are counting on Volunteers to distribute show registration books to quilt shops around the state. The books will be available at the January MQ meeting or call the Show Director, Linda, at 612-910-7127 showdirector@mnquilt.org.

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**Small Quilt Auction 2014**

We are seeking donations for the Small Quilt Auction for the Quilt Show in St Cloud. In the past, members have donated wall hangings, pillows, purses, pin cushions, table runners and many more items. We will have a monthly drawing for a $25 gift certificate to the shop of your choice. You will earn one drawing entry for each item you donate.

If you have any questions please contact Anne McCandless or Shirley Arendt at smallquiltauction2014@mnquilt.org.

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**Volunteers Wanted!**

As you look over your Minnesota Quilters 2014 Show booklet, along with thinking about classes and events, please think about volunteering to help at the Show! One of the special features of our nationally known show is that it is volunteer run. That means YOU are one of the most important parts of the show. There are many different types of volunteer roles - from the fun of Set-up, to roving as a White Glove or staffing the Small Quilt Auction table in the display area, to acting as Classroom Helper for the teacher in a class you are taking. So many jobs to choose from!

Volunteer shifts are available in 1 to 4 hour blocks and can start on the hour or half hour. After two hours as a volunteer you will receive the Show Volunteer pin in appreciation. Also for every two hours of service, you get your name entered into the daily drawings and a chance to win the sewing machine that is our volunteer Grand Prize! You will find the Volunteer Form on page 32 of the show booklet. You can also find the form online at www.mnquilt.org/mq/2014 or email us at volunteers2014@mnquilt.org.

So, register for your classes, make your plans, and fit some time as a volunteer into your 2014 Minnesota Quilt Show experience!
**Block of the Month ~ Simple Heart**, Jeanne LaMoore and Wynn Martin, botm@mnquilt.org

**Fabric:** Choose one fabric that reads as white or white-on-white and choose one that reads pink (any shade!). Please use pre-washed cotton.

**Cutting:**
- A – (1) 6 ½” x 6 ½” pink square
- B – (2) 3 ½” x 3 ½” pink squares
- C – (1) 4” x 4” pink square (for half-square triangles)
- D – (1) 4” x 4” white square (for half-square triangles)
- E – (1) 3 ½” x 3 ½” white square
- F – (2) 1 ½” x 1 ½” white squares

**Assembly:**
Put C+D right sides together. Draw a light line on one diagonal. Sew ¼” on each side of the line. Cut on the line. Press toward the pink. You will have two half-square triangle pieces. Trim them to 3 ½” square.

Put an F piece on a corner of a B piece. Sew on the diagonal of the white piece. Cut off the excess ¼” away from the sewing line. Press open.

Sew a DC + a BF + E to make the top “row” of the heart, following the diagram.

Sew the other BF + CD according to the diagram.

Sew step 4 pieces to the large square.

Sew the top row to the rest!

*The odd edges in the picture will disappear when the hearts are sewn together and/or sashing is added.*

**BOM basics:**
Each person may enter up to three blocks each month.
Please include your name on your block(s)! Many of us just use a mailing label.
If you have nice scraps left over, consider including them with your block (pinned on or in a baggie) for the winner (a border or other finishing touches).
If you cannot bring the blocks to the quilt meeting, you may mail them to the MQ office. Please allow adequate time for them to arrive before the Saturday drawing.

Block of the Month, Minnesota Quilters, Inc., 1203 Fifth St. SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414

To help us celebrate more winners, we will draw two names if we have over 24 blocks (3 if we have 36+, 4 if we have 48+).

Drawings are held at the Saturday meeting. If the winner(s) are not present, the blocks will either be mailed or left at the MQ office for the winner to pick up. We will call to notify winners.

**Tie Quilts** by Gail Hanson

Gail Hanson sent these tips for making tie quilts (see the quilt she made and showed at Show and Tell on December 7).

Sort ties by material: silk, polyester, cotton, linen, wool. Most will be silk.
Take out the interfacing and stitching (leave lining on at the end tips) and, if desired, save the labels.
Place in zippered pillow case and wash with mild soap and gentle cycle, dry gently.
Remove and iron. If desired, cut off each tip at about 3 inches to be used separately.
Choose a light weight iron on interfacing and cut to desired pattern sizes.
Place and iron interfacing on tie materials and cut out carefully. If you use interfacing, you really do not have to worry about cutting on the bias.

Some resources:
"Daddy's Ties," by Shirley Botsford, Chilton Book Company ***
"Love to Quilt. . . Necktie Sampler Blocks," by Janet Elwin, AQS
"Ties, Ties, Ties: Traditional Quilts from Neckties," by Janet Elwin, AQS
Quilts from Neckties by Sharon Newman, 1995 American School of Needlework ***

*** These books available for members to borrow from the Textile Center Library!
**Picking Up The Pieces**  
Laura Nagel, pastpres@mnquilt.org © 2013

I was trying to finish my Christmas shopping at the local bookstore, where all librarians shop for family and friends, and decided to stop at the magazine section and look over the latest quilt publications. I couldn’t help hearing the sarcastic voice in my head that seemed to be commenting on each issue I picked up. The first in my hands was one on studios and creative spaces. The covers promised that even the smallest areas could be turned into an inspiring place to create the most fantastic quilts. The only thing my creative space would inspire is an intervention from the experts on Hoarders.

Next came Volume 8 of the 100 Blocks series. Seriously? 800 blocks and they are still asking readers to contribute more for their next issue. I’m still trying to complete my 12-block sampler from Eleanor Burns ‘Quilt in a Day’ (don’t you believe it) series on TV. In an effort to keep up with the latest in quilt trends, I thought I should glance at some of the modern quilting titles, just to see if they could convince me to buy some new bold and bright fabrics. While the projects look clean and fresh, somehow six circles or sixteen rectangles do not a quilt make. Either I’m too traditional or entrenched in my quilt-rut to make the transition into this next phase.

Now here’s one I can really use, ‘Last Minute Gift Ideas.’ Don’t they know I’m still trying to finish the last minute gift ideas from last year’s issue? Maybe what I really need is ‘Quilting Quickly’ or ‘Quick Quilts.’ Who knew I was always making the slow, tedious quilts? Where have these ‘quick’ quilts been hiding all these years? It would seem that my projects have the characteristics of radioactive isotopes when it comes to completion. First the quilt is half done, then three-quarters done, then nine-tenths done, ever inching closer to the finish line – but, alas, never quite making it. (My friends who have received IOUs for my well-intentioned UFOs can attest to this.)

Then I spy one of my favorite styles – Scrap Quilts. While they are beautiful and compelling to behold, do you remember what your studio looked like the last time you pulled fabrics for a scrap quilt, or spent hours cutting 2” squares from a hundred pieces of different fabrics? Aren’t you glad you bought 3 yards of that red print? At this rate you might use it up by the next millennium. And taking it out and cutting it is only the beginning. It’s the putting it all away that really gets to me.

What about the ‘Quiltlife?’ When I look around my house it certainly looks like I’m living the quilt-life. Maybe if I stayed home and quit browsing magazines my family would get their quilted gifts on time. Finally I notice a cover highlighting an article on a Trip to the Poor Farm. Well, here’s something I can relate to. I’m thinking, “Buy a little less fabric before I go broke.” But when I turn to the page and begin reading it turns out to be a fieldtrip to an historic farm museum homesteaded by the Poor family in 1825. I give up!

I’m moving over to the financial section to study ‘Money,’ ‘Forbes,’ and ‘Fortune.’ If there’s no cure for Quilt pox, then I better find a way to afford myself in the New Year. See you in 2014.

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**Winner of the 2014 Charter Members Scholarship for Beginning Quilters**

The Minnesota Quilters Board of Directors is delighted to announce our 2014 winner, Nesseriani Katherine Larson. Nese is a newlywed, a recent transplant from LaSalle, Illinois to Minneapolis, and a new enthusiastic quilter.

Grandma Letha was the quilter in Nese’s family and made beautiful quilts for baby showers, weddings, and anniversaries. Nese’s first quilt was started with Grandma, but it was too late as Grandma Letha had started developing dementia. This quilt was never finished.

Recently, a church friend and artful quilter named Jan started teaching Nese the beginning lessons of quilting. They are making a Christmas table runner which will get completed. Jan also told Nese about the MQ scholarship opportunity and encouraged her to apply.

It was very difficult to choose a winner this year as we had eleven applicants. The stories were all compelling and very interesting reading.

The scholarship recipient will receive a one year membership to Minnesota Quilters, priority registration to the June show, registration fee for a multi day pass, tuition for two 3-hour classes or one 6-hour class, tuition for 3 lectures, a ticket to the Banquet and awards ceremony and a single hotel room for 2 nights.

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**Spelling Correction**

In the article about At The Heart of Quilting in the December newsletter, we apologize for spelling Linda McCuean’s name incorrectly.
Mission Statement:

A Little Piece of Mind
464 Park Ave
New Richmond WI 54017

Apple Valley Quilting Service
14663 Embry Path
Apple Valley MN 55124-6850

Apricot Moon Designs
6901 W 84th St Apt 240
Bloomington MN 55438

At the Heart of Quilting
304 4th Ave NE Suite 2 and 4
Waite Park MN 56387

Bay Window Quilt Shop
116 2nd Sve SW
Perham MN 56573

Bernina
973 St Paul Ave
St Paul MN 55116

Bev’s Quilt Appraisals
PO Box 451
North Branch MN 55056

Cedar Canyon Textiles
1411 Melvina Ln SW
Alexandria MN 56308

Chickadee Hollow Designs
24980 5th St NW
New London MN 56273

Country Caboose Quilts
PO Box 10 / 108 S Main St
Wahkon MN 56386

Jubilee Quilting Services
470 Suzanne Ave
Shoreview MN 55126

Kelwood Retreat
23560 Lillehei Ave
Hampton MN 55031-8733

Linden Hill Historical Event Center
608 Highland Ave
Little Falls MN 56345

Little Mother Quilting Co.
1664 Millwood Ave
Roseville MN 55113

Marie’s Memory Quilts
4201 W 102nd St
Bloomington MN 55437

Millie P’s Quilt Shop
219 East Main St
Anoka MN 55303

Nan Sorensen Designs
2259 Overlook Cir
Bloomington MN 55431-3958

Prairie Point Quilting
17516 Frondell Ctr
Eden Prairie MN 55347

Prairie Quilting, LLC
11682 Mount Curve Road
Eden Prairie MN 55347-2924

Quilt Sticks
8321 Dupont Ave So
Bloomington MN 55420

Quilted In Clay
22924 450th Avenue NW
Alvarado MN 56710

Scandia Quilt Studio
14160 - 236th St N
Scandia MN 55073-9546

Sew with me and Janome
5620 Memorial Ave N
Oak Park Heights MN 55082

The Irish Chain
8141 Courthouse Blvd Ct
Inver Grove Heights MN 55077

Volunteer Thank You

Mary Manns is taking on her third year as editor of the Minnesota Quilters, Inc. monthly newsletter. What would we do without the newsletter? We find out what happened at the past meetings and what is going to happen in the future. We get ideas from the show and tell pictures to inspire our future quilts, and inspiration to finish those half done projects. There are tips about quilting, stories about other quilters and more....

Mary grew up in the Duluth area and now lives in Roseville. She is retired from the St Paul School District where she worked with special education children. She has daughters and several grandchildren who have quilts done by Mary. She is “a super grandmother”.

Mary and her husband Paul have a house up north on Lake Careibou which is referred to as a cabin but is much more. Mary has held quilt retreats there for her Roseville Quilter Cats quilt guild and they have been described as fantastic. Mary often creates the MQ newsletter while she is in Duluth.

It has been said that she is “extremely generous”, “saintly”, and “there are not enough nice words to describe Mary”. She does have the quilters problem of fabric multiplying in her closet. She mostly does pieced quilts and is presently working on a Red Work project.

The MQ Board of Directors thanks you, Mary!
Our Members Write

Hello, Quilters,

What are your quilting goals for 2014? Here are some ideas to get yourself sewing and to finish projects, and plan more of them.

Whether I name my list “Goals” or “Quilting Resolutions” or call it a “To-do List”, I think it’s helpful to write plans for the New Year. Even better is if the plans are more specific than “finish something”. I have a Word document with categories of Gift Quilts, My Quilts, Charity Quilts, Challenge Quilts, and Miscellaneous. Each category is subdivided into Projects Begun and Ideas.

The project categories include unfinished projects and current ones in progress. The idea categories provide space to list things I’d eventually like to do. An idea (using a particular pattern, for example) might move to becoming a Challenge Project (such as Minnesota Quilters fabric challenge) and then be donated to a charity or auction to end up listed in the Charity Quilts category.

When I finish a quilt, I move its entry to the bottom of the document. At the end of the year I like being reminded of the items that were made, especially if it seems that nothing new stayed in the house. I am unconcerned about the number of items still on the list. It’s good to have plentiful ideas and to know people or causes for whom you’d like to create more quilts.

Many entries carry from year to year – certain challenges that I always intend to do, quilts I’d like to eventually make for specific people, ideas for my own projects, and quilts for whichever charities the guilds are supporting.

In addition to the list, I make specific goals for each year. For the last few years I’ve attempted to make twelve charity projects a year. The first year I was on target, the next year quite short, so far this year I have ten items done. If I decide that pet beds count as partial charity projects, my short year is full. You can set your own rules.

Every five years- 2000, 2005 and 2010- I have made a small block a week and put it into a quilt diary of the year. Each block represents something significant from the week. Make small, simple blocks, 3” by 5” or 4” by 6”. My diary quilts are still tops, but I intend to make another in 2015.

Some years I’ve tried to make one or two specific blocks a month, and those goals were less successful for me. Maybe the month-end deadlines were too far away and then passed too quickly? Nor have I ever completed a quilt shop’s Block of the Month blocks, but I’ve tried that twice- in appliqué.

Another idea is to list techniques you like to do. I like to sew scraps together. If I am stuck or between projects, I may sew scraps until I know how to continue with another project. Often I sew scraps for the joy of sewing them.

For 2014 I have a different approach- to finish an old project before beginning a new one. This should make a small dent in the unfinished list as I have commitments for new challenge projects. I also have some small unfinished projects that I could zip together quickly to get onto the fun new stuff! The old projects might become charity or gift items so it’s a win-win situation.

Perhaps these goal-setting ideas for quilting will help you make time to sew. After all, how long does it take to make a small weekly block? Why not stay in the sewing room and do more? Years ago Nancy Zeiman suggested stopping at a place that was easy to begin at later. For example, pin a binding and stitch a few inches before ending for the day. A friend commits to twenty minutes of sewing each day, no matter what. That commitment can bring big results.

So, what are your quilting goals or resolutions for 2014? Will some of these ideas inspire you find more time to sew?

Best wishes, Wanda

American Girl Doll Quilts on Display

The quilts arrived at the Arlington Public Library in October. Here is the letter I received:

Laura,

We received the quilts this week and they are GORGEOUS!!!!! I really just can't believe how beautiful they are and the kindness that your group has shown in making them for us. Everybody is just speechless by how well they really match each of the dolls. We are hoping to display the quilts in our main library before having them circulate so that the whole community can see them. I saw in your letter that you mentioned that you have more quilters who are interested in making quilts...that would be awesome! I will send you the other dolls in a separate e-mail. Thank you so much and we will be in touch with pictures and stories!

Julia

Several members have offered to make a few more of these period doll quilts. I have received two already. If you are interested please contact me at lauraquilts@charter.net and put American Girl in the subject line. I will be happy to tell you which dolls still need a quilt.

In the meantime, you are welcome to go to flicker and view the display.

http://www.flickr.com/photos/arlib/sets/72157638281668035/
Subject: Winter Temperatures

This was read to us at the Holiday Brunch. It was adapted from documents floating on the internet. The first two sentences for each temp are by anonymous authors, the last sentence for each temp added by Kathy Faust, 2009.

*60 above zero: Floridians turn on the heat. People in Minnesota plant gardens. Quilters put their work on the fence or clothesline to take pictures of them.

*50 above zero: Californians shiver uncontrollably. People in Duluth sunbathe. Quilters do their paper piecing on the deck.

*40 above zero: Italian & English cars won't start. People in Minnesota drive with the windows down. Quilters take their fabric out to the sun porch to audition for the next project.

*32 above zero: Distilled water freezes. The water in Bemidji gets thicker. Quilters switch from iced tea to hot tea while they work.

*20 above zero: Floridians don coats, thermal underwear, gloves, wool hats. People in Minnesota throw on a flannel shirt. Quilters start strip-piecing scraps for a scarf.

*15 above zero: New York landlords finally turn up the heat. People in Minnesota have the last cookout before it gets cold. Quilters shop for a book of patterns to try if a cold snap comes along.

*Zero: People in Miami all die. Minnesotans close the windows. Quilters never get SADD (Seasonal Affective Depression Disorder) because they spend so much time in front of their Ott lights.

*10 below zero: Californians fly away to Mexico. People in Minnesota get out their winter coats. Quilters look forward to wearing their quilted jackets.

*25 below zero: Hollywood disintegrates. The Girl Scouts in Minnesota are selling cookies door to door. Quilters buy them.

*40 below zero: Washington DC runs out of hot air. People in Minnesota let the dogs sleep indoors. Quilters keep cozy in the sewing room, ironing the fabric.

*100 below zero: Santa Claus abandons the North Pole. Minnesotans get upset because they can't start the mini-van. Quilters still get to their quilt guild meeting on time.

*200 below zero: Polar bears hibernate. Minnesotans abandon fashion and wear hats. Quilters lubricate their sewing machines with winter-weight oil and put chains on the feed dogs.

*460 below zero (absolute zero on the Kelvin scale): ALL atomic motion stops. People in Minnesota start saying "Cold 'nuff fer ya?" Quilters spread the quilt over their laps while sewing on the binding.

*500 below zero: Hell freezes over. Minnesota public schools will open two hours late. MN Quilters sleep under the quilt with the warmer batting, and dream of the stockings they will make for the MQ Holiday Brunch.

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**Minnesota Quilters, Inc. Membership Form**

**Member Information:**

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<th>Member name, or gift recipient's name (please print)</th>
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**Payment Information:**

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**Membership Levels:** [all include free entry into general membership meetings]

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**Please mail your completed form and payment to: Minnesota Quilters, Inc. 1203 5th St SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414-2030. For questions call 612-436-0449**

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15 January 2014  MQ News © 2014
Bulletin Board

January 30, 6-9 pm, Variations on a Theme: Arashi Shibori at the Textile Center
An introduction to Shibori, the Japanese tradition of resist dyeing fabric. Learn a variety of twisted, braided, and wrapped techniques to create patterns in your fabric before you dye. Then add layers of dye colors to your fat quarters of fabric and discover that the folds and creases create variations in colors and patterns. Then use your material for a special project, like a quilt or art wear. Materials fee $25, payable to the instructor. Supply list provided.
Instructor: Sandra Brick, $38/$33 Textile Center Members

February 1-2, Red Wing Quilt Guild Show, Sargent’s Nursery, 9-4, 200 quilts hang in the greenhouse.

February 15, 10 am-1 pm, Variations on a Theme: Ita-jime Shibori at the Textile Center
A continuation of our introduction to Shibori, the Japanese tradition of resist dyeing fabric. In this class, learn a variety of ita-jime techniques to clamp folded fabrics to create complex patterns before you dye. Then add layers of colors and the folds in the fabric and clamped shapes will resist the dye to create the design. Make custom fat quarters of cotton fabric for your special projects, like a quilt or art wear. Materials fee $25, payable to the instructor. Supply list provided.
Instructor: Sandra Brick, $38/$33 Textile Center Members

March 1, Quilt Connections, the 19th annual Women’s History Quilt Exhibit at Eagan High School, March 1-20, 9 am-3 pm. No weekends except for MQ membership meeting on March 1, 10 am-1 pm. Free lecture on March 1 featuring quilts by Pat Speth, designer and author of *Nickel Quilts* books and techniques. Call Laura Nagel at 651-683-6933, or visit http://www.eagan.k12.mn.us/librarynew/quilts/index.html for more information.

March 21-22, Prairie Piecemakers Quilt Guild Quilt Show, New Ulm Event Center, 301 20th Street South. Judy Martin Book signing and lecture each day. Friday 9-6 and Saturday 9-4.
Quilting in the City - Spring Retreat Registration Form

Dates: March 6 - 8, 2014 (Thursday - Saturday)

Times: Thursday and Friday - 9:00 am to 9:00 pm
       Saturday - 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Location: St. Lawrence Church/Newman Center
          1203 Fifth St SE
          Minneapolis MN 55414-2030

Name:___________________________________________________________________
Street Address:____________________________________________________________
City:_________________________________ State:_______ Zip:____________________
Email:___________________________________________________________________

Phone Numbers:
  1st Choice ________________ (circle one) Home  Work  Cell
  2nd Choice ________________ (circle one) Home   Work  Cell

I plan to come the following 2 or 3 days (circle all that apply):

Thursday March 6  Friday March 7  Saturday March 8

MQ Members:  MQ Members may sign up starting January 2.

_____ I am enclosing a check for $45 for all three days.
_____ I am enclosing a check for $35 for the 2 days I have circled.

Non Members:  Non-members may sign up after January 16..

_____ I am enclosing a check for $55 for all 3 days.
_____ I am enclosing a check for $45 for the 2 days I have circled.

(Please make check out to Minnesota Quilters, and put QIC-S retreat on the memo line.)

If paying by credit card instead fill out:

Please charge $_________ to my credit card.  Type of credit card: ________________
Name on card: __________________________________________ 3 digit code on back: __________
Card number: __________________________________________ Expiration: __________

Signature:________________________________________________________________

Make a copy of this form for you to keep and then mail the original to:
     Minnesota Quilters, Inc.
     1203 5th St SE
     Minneapolis MN 55414-2030
January 2 & 4
Quilt Show Preview!
Come see what’s happening
in June!
February 6 & 8
Minnesota Quilt Project

MINNESOTA QUILTERS, INC.
is on FACEBOOK!
Come join the fun with over 1,300 other
quilters who joined our FB page!
www.facebook.com/MinnesotaQuilters

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Every Quilt has a story, what’s yours?

612.275.1405
mariesmemoryquilts.com
m.memoryquilts@gmail.com

Marie Becker
Owner

President Kathie Simon Frank and Patty Von Arx