September Meetings  

Thursday September 4th, 7 pm, Saturday September 6th, 10 am  

Schoolhouse with MQ  

**Presenters are Kristin Lawson, Sue Rutford, Laura Nagel, Wanda Shelton and Deb Tonkins**

Is it September already? Where did the summer go? That means it is time for our back-to-school demos at the Minnesota Quilters meetings. We have some great demonstrations lined up for 2014.

If you are new to MQ, in September we rotate around the room in small groups so everyone gets to learn some new techniques, skills, or see some new tools that will help us grow as quilters. Kristin Lawson, a prolific Modern Quilter will show us the benefits of using solids. Sue Rutford will show us different options for putting letters on your quilts. Laura Nagel will tell you about our new library cart, the take out procedure, and you can borrow books at the meetings! Wanda will teach you how to make an easy, quick, draw string gift bag that will be finished inside and out and has many variations. And Deb Tonkins will talk about machine embroidery in quilts.

There will also be the usual Show and Tell, door prizes, block of the month, fat quarter drawing and treats, so don’t miss going back to school with Minnesota Quilters in September!

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**August Studio Tours ~ A Great Success ~ Thank You, Thank You!**

The second MQ Quilt Studio Tour was a big success. It could not have happened without the generosity of the six quilters who were willing to open their studios for us to see. About eighty people toured the six studios on this year’s tour in South Minneapolis, Eagan, Apple Valley, Burnsville, and Lakeville. What a great way to get new ideas for arranging our own workspaces, as well as to support future educational programs for Minnesota Quilters! Thank you to Cecile Lewis, Carol Schwankl, Laura Murray, Page Johnson, Laura Nagel, and Patty Von Arx.

Thank you also to all the volunteers who assisted at each of the studios. Thank you to all of you who purchased tickets to tour the studios and support future MQ programs.

Read more about it on page 5.

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*MQ News © 2014*
Message from our Co-Presidents

Where did this summer go? Vacations remembered, schooldays for our children and grandchildren anticipated. We’ll begin to get more time in our studios again! It’s also time for the Changing of the Guard here at MQ. Our term as Co-Presidents is winding down. We’re ready to move into Phase III of our commitment- becoming past-co-presidents at the end of September.

Please accept our huge thank you to our active Board of Directors for their ideas, time, and attention throughout the year; and to the 2014 show coordinators, show committee members, and hundreds of MQ volunteers for your hard work in MQ and at the show. It’s been a real pleasure to get to know you better and to meet those of you who’ve recently joined us.

When we discussed volunteering to lead Minnesota Quilters, we decided the adage “many hands make light work” could be our motto. Volunteering is lots of work, but it’s certainly more fun when you have a partner to work with. When considering a Board or show position, know that two or more make the load more enjoyable and easier.

We’ve been thinking back on the year and what we accomplished…

We completed by-law changes to improve our nominations and voting procedures. We were attentive to keeping within our budget and to understanding our expenditures and investments. We strategized so we’d have money available when we need it for general operations, the show, and meeting programs. Members and others increased their donations during the GiveMN campaign, and further supported our fund-raising with their recent participation in the August studio tours. We’re ready to roll out a new library cart so members can borrow from a selection of books at meetings.

We challenged our membership to make baby quilts resulting in an amazing display of 27 quilts at the show; they’ll soon spread warmth to babies in the community through our donations to Children’s Hospital ICU and Minnesota Visiting Nurses Association.

We’ve been reaching out to share MQ with others. In July we brought Amanda Jean Nyberg here to speak about modern quilting. We invited the Modern Quilt Guild members to join us. They and other local quilters attended, resulting in an audience of almost 150 people on Thursday evening. The following Saturday nearly 100 people heard Bonnie Ellis talk about Crazy Quilting. We’ve made plans to take MQ on the road to Blue Earth, MN this coming October. We had several Saturday afternoon sewing sessions to assemble twin-size strip quilts for battered women’s shelters. Each month many members donate dog and cat beds for the Humane Society. We’ve sold donated fabric to raise money for supplies for more community sewing projects. Throughout the year, many members contributed quilt blocks for fun (Block of the Month and Holiday Brunch), for comfort quilts, and to help Minnesota Quilt Project reproduce a treasured antique quilt.

We could have done none of this without YOU! We hope you’ve enjoyed this past year as much as we have. We hope you’ve made new friends to sew and quilt with. We thank you, again, for supporting your organization, and making quilting and quilts more available to others. We look forward to seeing you in many ways into the future! We’ve enjoyed walking this road with all of you!

Sincerely, in friendship,
Kathie and Patty

Highlights from the July MQ Board Meeting

The board discussed the Blue Diamond award category at the 2014 quilt show, its pros and cons. A decision has not been made whether MQ will have the category for the next show. There are a few committee positions open for the 2015 quilt show. We already have many special exhibits committed for the show.

The board is making good progress toward a budget for 2015. The Treasurer suggested the raffle quilt’s appraised value be promoted when tickets are being sold.

The board is looking for someone to volunteer for the open Treasurer position.

Kathy Brevig has 12 volunteers to help accept quilts into the Minnesota State Fair.

Laura Nagel talked about the work accomplished by the Library Committee. The book cart will make its appearance at the September meetings as part of School House.

The next Board Meeting will be August 26, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. in Classroom A.

ALL MEMBERS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jill Schultz, Secretary
**Upcoming Events**

**September 4 & 6, Schoolhouse with MQ.** Presenters will be Kristin Lawson, Sue Rutford, Laura Nagel, Wanda Shelton and Deb Tonkins.

**September 6, Quilting for Others Workshop,** following the Saturday meeting. Please bring your machine, supplies and a bag lunch.

**September 18-20, In-Town Retreat,** St Lawrence, registration online.

**October 2, Mike Ellingsen** will be the guest speaker.

**October 3, Pineapple Colada Class by Mike Ellingsen,** St. Lawrence, registration online.

**October 4, Coach bus to Blue Earth, MN** for Saturday meeting, registration online.

**October 9-12, Annual Fall Getaway,** Forest History Center in Cloquet, registration online.

**November 12, Virginia Findlay Wolfe.** Class at St. Lawrence, 9-4, $35 for members, $55 for nonmembers registration online.

(See page 4 for information about the October and November events.)

**MQ Board of Directors meetings:** Finance Meeting- September 16. Board Meeting- September 23. All meetings are at 6 pm. The all-day Turnover Meeting is September 27. Please notify Kathie or Patty, president@mnquilt.org if you have an agenda item and/or wish to attend.

**Deadline for October Newsletter:** Tuesday, September 9, 2014.

**Bring Guests!**

Each time you bring a guest to a monthly meeting, your name will be entered in the annual March drawing for a free membership renewal. Spread the word!

For the past few years Minnesota Quilters has participated in the statewide Minnesota GIVE TO THE MAX DAY. That day is fast approaching, so please mark your calendars and consider making a tax deductible donation to MQ on **November 13, 2014.** Go to the Minnesota Quilters home page (www.mnquilt.org) and click on the **Donate Now** button on that day. Last year, even with the site being down for part of the day, MN Quilters received $2500! Donations are tax deductible and may qualify for a match by your employer. Please start thinking about donating now!!
Special Events ~ Watch for Emails, Registrations are Online, or Call the Office

If you are an MQ Member who has given MQ your email address and you have not received these email invitations please call Debra at the office 612-436-0449

Fall is going to be a very busy time for Minnesota Quilters! There are a number of classes, two retreats, community service, bus trip and the Holiday Brunch opportunities. Registration for these events is online through your email. If you do not wish to register online, please call the Minnesota Quilters Office and register on the phone on the opening date. Email notification will be sent to members when registration opens, so please check your email. Members will be able to register one week before non-members. There will be a waitlist if an event fills.

September 18-20 ~ In Town Quilt Retreat, at our Meeting Hall at St. Lawrence.
The quilting space will be available from 9:00 am to 9:00 pm. Come and join the fun and work on new projects or those UFO's that are languishing in your quilt studio. Invitation was sent to MQ Members via email on August 21. If you do not have email you can call the MQ Office to register. Invitation will go out to NON members on Aug 28.

Friday October 3 ~ Pineapple Colada Workshop taught by Mike Ellingsen
Mike is a quilt designer and teacher from Blue Earth, Minnesota who teaches at many of the quilt shops in southern Minnesota and northern Iowa. The Pineapple Colada pattern and easy techniques are by Mike. His six hour class will be Friday October 3. Registration will be online through an email you will receive during the mailing of this newsletter.

Mike will be the speaker at the Thursday October 2nd meeting.
Mike is active with the Blue Earth Valley Quilters and has created many of the challenges that have been seen as Special Exhibits at the Minnesota Quilters Quilt Shows. He has published a number of quilt patterns.

Saturday October 4 ~ Coach Bus Trip to Blue Earth Minnesota for our Saturday meeting.
We will be presenting our program in Blue Earth MN! Everyone is asked to bring a quilt for Show and Tell. Let’s share our creativity with the Blue Earth Valley Quilters! A coach bus will be leaving Saturday morning, registration link for the bus tour will be sent to MQ members via email on Thursday August 28. If you don’t have email you can call the office to register over the phone that morning after 10:15 am. In addition arrangements have been made for a special Shop Hop for Minnesota Quilters. We will stop at four shops: Firefly Quilt Shop and River City Quilts in Mankato, Bittersweet Mercantile in Winnebago, and Calico Hutch in Hayward.

Don’t want to ride on the bus? Drive your own car with us! Those from the Twin Cities with the most riders in their car win a prize!

October 9-12 ~ Fall Getaway in Cloquet
The Fall Getaway is now full. If you would like to be on the waiting list go to the email invitation that was sent August 12. Click on the ‘yes’ button and it will open to a page that says registration is closed but there will be an option to sign up for the waitlist.

Wednesday, November 12 ~ Victoria Findlay Wolfe
All day class with Victoria Findlay Wolfe, author of 15 Minutes of Play
Class will be at St. Lawrence from 9-4, $35.00 for MQ members.
Email invitation will be sent to members September 3rd.
http://bumblebeansinc.com/
August Meeting Highlights

In keeping with our Quilt Studio theme for August, on Thursday August 7th, 90 members and guests heard Lois Hallock of www.clearviewdesigns.com give her “Grab and Go” lecture. We learned how we can pre-plan to have all the necessary items ready when it is time for a quilt class or a retreat. This information will be very helpful as we pack for the Quilting in the City Fall Retreat in September and the Fall Getaway in October. Be sure to watch the newsletter and website for more information about registering for either or both of those events.

Wynn Martin was Thursday’s Volunteer Drawing winner, and Karen Knoll was the Volunteer Drawing winner on Saturday. Bonnie Ellis won the Farm themed fat quarter drawing (and if you toured her studio last year, you know how happy she was to win those fabrics!). Markey Dwyer won the cute Dog Days of August blocks. A member of the Northern Lights Machine Quilters in Duluth sold tickets for their raffle quilt at both meetings.

Nineteen quilters met with Lois Hallock, the author of Creating Your Perfect Quilting Space, on Friday for an all day workshop on quilt studio planning. We were each measured to find our perfect sewing height and cutting and ironing height. After learning important information about ergonomics and ways to store all of our supplies, we each worked on possible layouts for our creative spaces.

At our Saturday meeting, Lois Hallock spoke to a group of 95 members and guests about “Creating Your Perfect Quilting Space”, taking into consideration our crafts and activities, ergonomics, storage options, and even the best studio location within our houses to meet our needs. We were able to see many before and after photos of studios she has designed for other quilters and crafters, which gave us good ideas to use in our own studios.

Lois is a mechanical engineer who works as an ergonomics specialist for Boeing, in the offices and in the manufacturing divisions. She uses that experience to help quilters with their special needs. She told us how poor sewing and ironing positions and techniques can contribute to fatigue, contact stress, eye strain, and repetitive motion injuries. She had a number of suggestions for easy changes and products to help us, as well as emphasizing the importance of taking micro breaks and stretching.

Saturday afternoon the second MQ Quilt Studio Tours event was held. About 80 people toured the six studios on this year’s tour in South Minneapolis, Eagan, Apple Valley, Burnsville, and Lakeville. What a great way to get new ideas for arranging our own workspaces, as well as to support future educational programs for Minnesota Quilters!

Quilt Blocks for the Presidents

Our current presidents’ terms of office are up at the end of September. Please consider making a block for each of them. Patty Von Arx would like 6” finished purple blocks and Kathie Simon Frank would like any size block with a nature theme.

Minnesota Quilt Project

Be sure to mark your calendars for the opening reception of EYE CANDY: CRAZY QUILTS, September 25th, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Minnetonka Center for the Arts.

Minnesota Quilt Project is the producer of this exhibition which runs through October 24th during the Center’s open hours (Mon., Wed., Fri., Sat.: 9:00-4:00, Tues-Thursday, 9:00-9:00, closed on Sundays). Expect to see wonderful crazy quilts from the 1880’s until today as well as associated goods and contextual information. Feast your eyes on these unique quilts, a fad that swept through the country during the last two decades of the 19th century and has left a lasting impression, serving as a precursor to the art quilts of today.

Minnesota Quilters Future Show Dates & Locations – Save the Dates!

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* Tentative
August Show and Tell (quilters listed on page 7)
**Holiday Brunch Challenge**

Mark your calendars for the Annual Holiday Brunch at the University Of Saint Thomas on December 6. Minnesota Quilters will again be collecting handmade Christmas stockings for the Saint Joseph Home in Minneapolis. Stocking stuffers are needed for the stockings, especially for teenagers. The pattern for the Christmas stocking is available on the Minnesota Quilters website, [http://www.mnquilt.org/documents/HolidayStockingPattern.pdf](http://www.mnquilt.org/documents/HolidayStockingPattern.pdf).

The Holiday Brunch Challenge this year is "Get Those Holiday Brunch Quilt Blocks" out of your stash and into a completed holiday item. There are plans to have this challenge displayed at the 2015 Minnesota Quilters Quilt Show in Duluth. So get your creative juices going and have a completed project at the holiday brunch. Don't have Minnesota Quilters holiday brunch quilt blocks? Dig out a holiday UFO and join the challenge.

There will again be the quilt block exchange. The blocks are 12 1/2 x 12 1/2 with a white or off-white background. Each quilter may contribute three blocks for the exchange.

Registration for the Holiday Brunch will be on CVent. If you cannot register on CVent, please call Debra in the office to register. There will not be paper registrations for this event.

2014 Holiday Brunch Committee

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**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. All volunteers need to record their hours on the white slips at the meetings. Since our fiscal year started on October 1, you have turned in 732 volunteer hours on the white slips. This does not include the board or show committee. Keep up the good work! If any of you are interested in the following position or have questions about it please send us an email at [volunteer@mnquilt.org](mailto: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. Our fiscal year starts on Oct 1 and there may be some positions open. Please let us know if you would be interested in volunteering for a position next year if one becomes available.

Current available position:

**Exhibit Coordinator(s):** MQ would like to expand its ability to exhibit member works (and publicize our organization) beyond what we do at our annual show. We would like to explore having small exhibits at such places as the Textile Center, government buildings, office complexes, etc. If you are interested please contact [membership@mnquilt.org](mailto:membership@mnquilt.org) or call or email the MQ office. You can also talk to us or Gail Hanson at meetings.

Nancy Hall and Cathy Goset

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**Librarians Seek Your Advice**

The Minnesota Quilters library committee is organizing ways to expand your access to MQ's library. Look for more information on “Check it Out” at the September meetings. But in order to buy more books (!!!) we need your wish lists. We're so inspired we wrote a poem:

Your devoted committee of librarians,  
Out of concern for your quilting educations,  
Is on a campaign for volume acquisitions,  
And would appreciate your book suggestions!

Please send your wish lists to Barb Jones at [Barbarajones14@comcast.net](mailto:Barbarajones14@comcast.net). Thanks!

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**Show and Tell Quilters**

1. Lois Anderson
2. Mary Tague
3 & 4. Shirley Jeng
5. Anne Marcellis
6 & 7. Janet Malinowski
8. Cathy Goset
9. & 10. Suzanne Fisher
11. Candy Kehle
12. & 13. Anne Marcellis
14. Mary Pozzini
15. Janet Harvey
16. Rose Allen

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**Fat Quarter Drawing**

FatQuarterDrawing

Congratulations to Bonnie Ellis for winning the farm theme fat quarters in July! Our theme for September is **Angels**, because we need a lot of time to get ready for the holidays!

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 5 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. Molly O’Dea and Becca Brackett
Quilting For Others

Projects for Quilting For Others during 2014 - 2015 will be for the Harriet Tubman Shelter, Minnesota Visiting Nurses, Meals On Wheels and Pet Beds for the Humane Society.

Quilting For Others is looking for donations for the following projects:

Tubman Shelter Project on-going needs:
* Quilt backs 80 x 100 inches (backs can be pieced backs, or a donation of 6 yards of fabric)
* Red fat quarters (9 strips for the Heart String Blocks can be cut from a fat quarter)
* 3 Yards of red fabric (will make enough strips for a twin quilt)
* Muslin - 3 1/2 yards are needed for each twin quilt. 25 yards @ $1.99 a yard (a bolt) with a Joann's 40% off coupon would cost $33.
* Twin quilt tops (do you have an extra quilt top in your studio?)
* Longarmers willing to quilt the quilts.
* Batting for the twin quilts (in a size that will equal 80 x 100 inches)

Minnesota Visiting Nurses Project on-going needs:
* Baby quilts in the size of 45 x 45 inches. A quilt this size can be used a play mat or used by parents to cover a child in a stroller during Minnesota's long winters. The quilt will cover the child and not drag under the wheels of the stroller when using public transportation.
* Donations of batting for baby quilts

Meals On Wheels Project:
* Winter themed or winter holiday placemats (placemats will be delivered in December).

Thanks to all who gave a donation of money at the August meetings for the purchase of batting. Quilting For Others received enough donations to be able purchase 2 rolls of batting, enough batting to finish 16 quilts for the Tubman Shelter.

Supplies for Heart String Quilt Blocks will be available at the In Town Quilt Retreat in September and The Fall Get Away in October. Thanks to all who have been making the heart string blocks, you are all amazing!

Upcoming Quilting For Others Workshops:
* Saturday September 6 following the MQ meeting. Bring a bag lunch and your sewing supplies. We will be planning on working on the heart string blocks.
* Sewing For Others Workshop at Millie P's in Anoka, date to be determined. Plans are to have a potluck lunch and to work on twin and baby quilts. Details to follow.

Thanks for your support for Minnesota Quilters Quilting For Others Project.

Pamela Plocek and Merle Pratt
**Join the MQ Scrap Challenge to Benefit MQ Quilting for Others**

Quilts for the MQ Scrap Challenge need to be completed and turned into the MQ office in April 2015. The quilts will be exhibited at the 2015 Minnesota Quilters Show and Conference. After the show a curated group of the quilts will be shown at the Textile Center. We are asking quilt makers to donate their quilts so that they can be either sold with the proceeds going to Quilting for Others or donated to the Harriet Tubman Women's Shelters. If you are not willing to donate your quilt, it should be marked as “Not For Sale” when you turn them into the office in April.

80% of the quilt should be made from twenty or more fabrics used in previous projects; the quilts should measure no smaller than 60” x 60” and can go up to double bed size 84” x 89”.

Here are four useful Internet links to help you get started with your project:

   Bonnie Hunter has more experience with scrap quilts than almost any other contemporary quilter I can think of. She has written at least five books on the subject (maybe more). The link to the scrap users system will be useful if you are trying to figure out how to get your scraps organized so that they are accessible when you are ready to start sewing. She discusses storage and how to cut the scraps into useable strips and triangles. She was the originator of the idea that scraps should be cut up, ironed and stored.

2) Free Scrap Patterns from Bonnie Hunter's Quiltville.com website – go to [http://quiltville.blogspot.com/p/free-patterns.html](http://quiltville.blogspot.com/p/free-patterns.html). These are the patterns that did not make it into her books; they can be a starting point.

3) Ideas for scrappy quilts from Victoria Findlay Wolfe (who will be visiting MQ in November to do a class) are available on her blog: [http://bumblebeansinc.com/pages/scrappy-quilts](http://bumblebeansinc.com/pages/scrappy-quilts) and [http://bumblebeansinc.com/pages/quilts-freeform](http://bumblebeansinc.com/pages/quilts-freeform)

4) Contemporary scrap quilts in modern fabrics are shown extensively on Red Pepper Quilts: [http://www.redpepperquilts.com/search?q=scrap+quilt](http://www.redpepperquilts.com/search?q=scrap+quilt)

Please keep us informed about your progress so that we have some idea of how many quilts we will be organizing for display at the 2015 conference. Forms can be obtained and filled out at the membership table at MQ meetings. Thank you in advance for participating in this project.

Gail Hanson and Rebecca Finch

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**2016 Minnesota Quilters Raffle Quilt**

Minnesota Quilters is now accepting proposals for the 2016 Raffle Quilt. If you are interested in any aspect of the creation of this quilt, please let us know.

A proposal would include the design of the quilt, the method for obtaining the materials to make the quilt and the proposed method of getting it quilted. All costs should be estimated.

Proposals should be submitted to the Show Director who will then present them to the MQ Board.

Many options are possible. You can be an individual or small group that selects the design which can be an original design, a published pattern (permission of the designer would be needed), or an adaptation of a pattern. The quilt can be made by a small or large group of quilters. Materials can be provided or donations can be solicited. The quilting can be done by hand by a group or often a machine quilter will be happy to donate their quilting talents.

We know that Minnesota Quilters are a talented bunch, so we look forward to receiving several proposals.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact our Show Director. [showdirector@mnquilt.org](mailto:showdirector@mnquilt.org)

Office: 612.436.0449, Direct: 612.910.7127

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**Classified Ads**

**Gammill Machines**

2013 18-8 Vision Machines w/ 12’ table, zippered leaders, and casters, $8,900 + tax and shipping.
Call At the Heart of Quilting St. Cloud, MN at 877-633-3537

**For Sale**

1998 Classic Gammill 26-10 with 14’ table. $4000.
This is a non-stitch regulated machine.
If interested call Patty (612) 865-4471

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**KELWOOD RETREAT HOUSE**

$30.00 PER NITE
SPECIAL FOR 2014
Buy 2 nites - get one FREE
Website: [www.kelwood.com](http://www.kelwood.com)
Lois & Dave Kelley 651-437-4414
Don’t Forget to Say “Thank You”

It’s that time of year again when teachers across the country are heading back to school. If they are not already facing a classroom of new students, they are attending back-to-school workshops. Fortunately most of our Minnesota schools don’t begin until after Labor Day, allowing everyone ample time to get to the State Fair, "The Great Minnesota Get-Together." Based on average daily attendance, it is the largest state fair in the United States.

As a quilter, I look forward to making the pilgrimage to St. Paul each year to see the quilts. Since moving here, our family has only missed one year at the fair. We have a regular routine of buildings to explore and foods to indulge. But when we approach the Creative Activities Building, everyone goes their separate ways while I venture in to view the thousands of new items that have been lovingly and painstakingly crafted. I can’t wait to view the award winning quilts and see which ones received the ribbons sponsored by Minnesota Quilters. MQ also awards a ribbon for textile art that has been juried into the Fine Arts Center, so don’t forget to visit that gallery, too. And be sure to see the quilts at the 4H Building and the Ramberg Senior Center, fine examples from beginning quilters to seasoned experts.

Thinking about this reminded me about my beginning in quilting. Those of you who attended the studio tours saw my great grandmother’s crazy quilt which was my incentive to take a quilt class to learn how to finish the completed blocks that I had inherited. I was living in a rural part of southern Colorado at the time. The only fabric store was Ben Franklin, and the nearest quilt shop was an hour away. With young children and a limited budget, I turned to PBS for my first lessons. Each Saturday morning would find me intently watching Georgia Bonesteel or Eleanor Burns as they guided me through the process of constructing blocks to completing the top. There were no VCRs or TiVo or YouTube, so I had to pay close attention and take notes! Even though I never ‘lap quilted’ or made a ‘Quilt in a Day’ I owe a lot to those ladies and their patient presentation style that encouraged me to keep trying.

By the time I arrived in the Twin Cities my kids were older, I had a job, and quilt shops were numerous and near. I was fortunate to discover Glad Creations and began taking classes with their expert teaching staff. My skills improved and my confidence grew. Eventually I felt courageous enough to take a class with a national teacher, Kaye England, at Country Peddler. Her lecture and trunk show about Civil War quilts and the women who made them ignited a desire in me to pursue not only this style of quilting, but also to learn more women’s history as it was revealed through the quilts they made.

Finally, it was Jean Humenansky, owner of the Country Peddler, who suggested I start teaching quilt classes related to the Civil War and women’s history. And that’s just what I have been doing for the last 15 years. Jean was also the show chair in 1995 for Quilts for All Seasons which was held at Eagan High School. We scheduled Meet the Teachers in the library and hung the teachers’ quilts over the railing. It was that event that inspired the Women’s History Month Quilt Exhibit at the school, which will be celebrating its 20th year next March. Call it serendipity or call it fate, life has a way of pointing you in the right direction, you just have to be adventurous enough to embrace the challenge.

As for writing this column, the credit goes to Helen Kelley. Her "Loose Threads" column in Quilters Newsletter Magazine was the first thing I would read when each month’s issue arrived in my mailbox. Her wisdom, humor and common sense-approach to life was inspiring and comforting. She gave us all permission to make mistakes and not take ourselves too seriously. If you had the good fortune to have known her, you no doubt experienced her generous spirit and ability to make you feel that you had her undivided attention. It was her gift of sharing her personal and professional quilt life with us that I hope to carry on.

As you are reading this, I’m probably sitting in a workshop learning about some new operating system on our network or change in district policy, all the while anticipating the students who will soon be streaming into the library to get their new textbooks and hopefully something fun to read. One of the first-week-of-school activities I have my home room students do is think about a teacher they have had in elementary or middle school who has influenced them or made a difference in their life, and then write a Thank You note to that person. As a quilter, I think I need to express my appreciation to those women who nurtured me with their talents and passion for quilting. Maybe you will feel inclined to do the same.

Laura Nagel
**Block of the Month, October 2014 ~ Strippy Pumpkin**

**Wynn Martin & Jeanne LaMoore**

**Theme:** Holiday

**Fabric:** Choose black-on-black or Halloween print for the background; green or brown (contrast with background) for the stem; and at least 5 pieces of 3 or more different orange fabrics for the pumpkin. Please use pre-washed cotton.

**Cutting:**
A – cut strips of orange that are at least 10” long. You can vary the widths from 1-3” each. Your final pumpkin dimensions will be 10 ½” wide x 9 ½” high.
B – (1) 1½” x 2 ½” green stem
C – (2) 1¾” x 1 ¾” black – bottom corners of pumpkin
D – (2) 2 ¾” x 2 ¾” black – top corners of pumpkin
E – (2) 1 ½” x 4 ½” black – attach to stem
F – (2) 1 ½” x 10 ½” black – side edges
G – (2) 1 ½” x 12 ½” black – top and bottom edges

**Assembly:**
Sew your orange strips together. Have fun with the widths and placement of pieces! Think of the vertical “ribs” of a real pumpkin. When you have a large enough A piece, trim to 10 ½” wide by 9 ½” high.
Place a C piece right sides together (RST) on a bottom corner of the pumpkin. Draw a chalk line from point to point if you aren't comfortable eyeing it. Sew on the diagonal and trim to leave a ¼” seam. Press open. Repeat on the other bottom corner.
Do the same thing with the D pieces on the top of the pumpkin. (See pic for corners in stages of attachment.)
Sew an E piece to each side of the B piece to make a long strip.
Attach EBE to the top of the pumpkin. Press seam. Trim block to 10 ½” x 10 ½”.
Sew the F pieces to each side and the G pieces to top and bottom.
Optional: add a vine or leaves to the stem, applique a jack-o-lantern face on, or embellish with ribbon.

**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 to use in a border or other finishing touches. If you cannot bring the blocks to the quilt meeting, you can mail them to the MQ office. Please allow adequate time for them to arrive before the Saturday drawing.

Address to: Block of the Month, Minnesota Quilters, Inc., 1203 Fifth St. SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414
We will hold two drawings each month; the first on Thursday night and the second at Saturday’s meeting. 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+). 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.

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2015 Quilt Show Updates
Laura Nagel, 2015 Show Co-Coordinator
mq2015@mnquilt.org

We’ve barely closed the books on the fabulous 2014 Show in St. Cloud and we are already underway with plans for 2015 in Duluth, June 10-13. If you had a good time in St. Cloud, here’s your chance to have an even better time in Duluth as part of the Show Committee. Here are a few opportunities:

Secretary Haven’t volunteered for a position on the quilt show committee before? Then this is the place to start. Take minutes at our monthly meetings, send out email messages to the group when needed, and keep track of the volunteer reports that each committee sends you. That’s it. No work at the show. Think about it.

Banquet You know how to plan a dinner party, so just add a few more people to the guest list and you’d be the perfect person to organize our banquet. Select the menu, plan the theme, arrange table decorations and make sure everything is ready to go by the dinner bell. Guest speaker is already taken care of. What could be easier or more fun?

Bus Tours We need one more person to make arrangements with groups who are attending the show. Help them with pre-admission and greet them upon arrival.

Door Prizes What a great job for two people who love to shop and acquire quilt-related goodies from vendors, shops and ‘good as new donations’ from members. These door prizes are used throughout the year at all of our events.

Faculty Want to make sure your favorite teacher is on the roster or a particular skill is taught? Then this is the committee for you. Select teachers, choose classes, and set up classrooms at the show. What a great way to meet our quilting celebrities.

Merchandise Have a new idea for the ideal show bag, want to design the 2015 show pin or choose the colors for the T-shirt? You know you do. We want you to, too.

Non-Judged Are you a member of a small group or guild that would like to join in the fun of setting up the non-judged exhibit? You and your group will have a great time – just ask the Maple Grove Quilters who did it in St. Cloud. There are lots of volunteers who will make the job go quickly.

Special Exhibits Didn’t you just love Special Exhibits this year? We were the first to see the Red and White Small Quilt display! Many of the groups who share their quilts with us participate annually, so several of the exhibits have already been booked. Bring your unique style to the gallery. A great job for two quilting friends.

2015 Raffle Quilt Tickets Sandy Irish has already designed the quilt and selected the fabrics, so you won’t have any trouble selling tickets. You will need to make arrangements for the quilt to get out of the office and circulate to quilt shops and other guilds to make this a profitable venture.

Signage Which way do I go? That’s the question you will need to answer with your signs for the DECC. MQ has all the software and templates ready to go for each show. You just need to fill in the blanks with the current information.

QUILTER OF THE YEAR
Minnesota Quilters enjoyed featuring our Quilter of the Year, Audree Sells, and her beautiful art quilts in the spacious airy Special Exhibits area of our show in June.

Now YOU may nominate someone for consideration for our 2015 Quilter of the Year!

Each year the MQ Board of Directors chooses a Quilter of the Year who is invited to greet visitors and exhibit quilts at the annual show and conference. The Board now seeks suggestions from our MQ membership for the 2015 Quilter of the Year.

The Quilter of the Year must meet the following criteria:

- have lived and worked in Minnesota within the past five years,
- have a significant body of work,
- be known nationally, and
- be dedicated to the promotion of quilting.

If you would like to nominate a quilter who fits these criteria, please send a short letter of nomination by September 15, 2014 via e-mail to: preselect@mnquilt.org or by US mail to: President Elect, c/o Minnesota Quilters, 1203 Fifth Street SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414-2030 postmarked by September 13, 2014. We look forward to your suggestions!

Scandia QUILT STUDIO
Anne Hurlburt, Owner
14160 236th St. North Scandia, Minnesota 55073
Phone: 612-202-8325
anne@scandiaquiltstudio.com www.scandiaquiltstudio.com

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MQ Members Ribbon Winning Quilts at the 2014 Show
Photos by Peggy Stockwell, more to follow next month.

Peggy Kragnes
Jennifer Rose
Bonnie Carlson
Peggy Tanier
Gail Vohnoutka
Carol Schwankl
Shelly Stokes
Julie Idzorek
Melissa Griggs
Mary Heng
Betty Pare Santa
Colleen Jensen Carlson
MINNESOTA QUILTERS
SEPTEMBER 2014

WISH LIST

- Three people to serve on the Nominating Committee! Contact <president@mnquilt.org>

- Finished Chimney Sweep blocks for the Minnesota Quilt Project reproduction quilt (see [http://mnquilt.org/mqp/ MQPReproProject.html](http://mnquilt.org/mqp/MQPReproProject.html)). Please contact MQP representative ([mqp@mnquilt.org](mailto:mqp@mnquilt.org)) to receive a kit of fabric and instructions. Blocks due to be returned by Oct. 15.

- Blocks of the Month, due at Thursday and Saturday meetings for the drawing. Make 1-3 blocks to enter your name in a drawing. You might win enough blocks to make a quilt in the blink of an eye! Check out the Block of the Month page in each month’s newsletter (Jan, Feb, Apr, May, July, Aug, Sept, Oct, Nov)

- See separate Quilting for Others wish list for fabric, blocks, quilting, binding, etc. on page 8.

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**Minnesota Quilters, Inc. Membership Form**

**Member Information:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Member name, or gift recipient's name (please print):</th>
<th>This membership is:</th>
<th>New</th>
<th>Renewing</th>
<th>Gift</th>
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<tr>
<th>Address:</th>
<th>I would like to make an additional donation of $</th>
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| City: | State: | Zip: |

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<th>Home and/or cell phone:</th>
<th>Check</th>
<th>Cash</th>
<th>Visa</th>
<th>Mastercard</th>
<th>Discover</th>
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| Email: | Credit Card No: |

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<tr>
<th>Membership Levels:</th>
<th>Name on credit card (please print):</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$65 Business</td>
<td>Quilt-related business. Access to all website features. Link to your website. Receive newsletter. Textile Center Library Privileges. (<em>Fee is not refundable.</em>)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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<th>Phone:</th>
<th>Signature:</th>
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<th>I would like my newsletter:</th>
<th>(check one)</th>
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Please mail your completed form and payment to: Minnesota Quilters, Inc. 1203 5th St SE, Minneapolis, MN 55114-2030. For questions call 612-636-0440.
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Bulletin Board

**August 14-September 28, Quilt National**, Hjemkomst Center, Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County, Moorhead, Minnesota.

**September 13-14, Down on the Farm presented by Apple River Quilt Guild**, F- 9-5, S- 11-4, St. Joseph Catholic Church, north of Amery WI on Hwy. 46. Raffle quilts, vendors, guild challenge, small quilt sale, bed turning, demos, lunch on Saturday. Admission $3.

**September 19-20, Fall Splendor, presented by Rice County Piecemakers**, F- 9-8, S- 9-4, Historic Cathedral of Our Merciful Savior Church and Guild Hall, Fairbault, MN. Over 200 quilts, auction, bazaar, demos, vendors, bed turning, door prizes, lunch. Admission $3.

**September 25-October 24, Eye Candy: Crazy Quilts** Minnetonka Center for the Arts, Reception Sept 25th 6-8 pm. See website for more details: [www.minnetonkaarts.org](http://www.minnetonkaarts.org)

**September 26-27, Fall Splendor of Quilts presented by Chaska Area Quilt Club**, Chaska Community Center, F– 10-7, S– 9-5.

**Until September 30, Anne Tiller’s Pieceful Quilt Exhibit**, Minnehaha United Methodist Church, 3701 E. 50th, Minneapolis. Discussion on the creative process on September 10. amsunflower984@hotmail.com

**October 1-4, Des Moines Area Quilt Show**, Iowa Events Center, Des Moines, Iowa

**October 14, Quilt Facts, Folklore and FABRICATION**, 1 pm, Anoka Co. Historical Society talks about real stories behind the history of quilting. Covenant Village of Golden Valley, 5800 St Croix Ave N, Golden Valley MN. Free

**October 17-18, Quilt Treasures Quilt Show by River Valley Quilters**, Lake Middle School, 3133 Pioneer Drive, Woodbury, MN, F– 9-6, S– 9-3, admission $5.00. Vendors, raffle baskets, quilts for sale, quilter’s store, quilt challenge, quilt boutique, refreshments.
MQ 2015 Quilt Show Scholarship
Deadline: November 1, 2014.

Are you a new or beginning quilter? Would you like a chance to attend the Minnesota Quilters’ 2015 Quilt Show and Conference in Duluth, Minnesota? If so, Minnesota Quilters, Inc. offers a scholarship for beginning quilters.

The mission of Minnesota Quilters, Inc. is to further the preservation of quilting, to educate, and to document the art and craft of quilting in Minnesota. We believe that one way to encourage and inspire new quilters is to give them a chance to participate in a great quilt show and conference by offering a scholarship. We offer this scholarship in honor of our Charter Members who, years ago, saw the importance of celebrating and promoting quilting.

The scholarship recipient will receive the following awards:
Priority registration;
Registration fee (multi-day pass, show bag and pin);
Registration and tuition for two 3-hour classes or one 6-hour class;
Registration and tuition for three lectures;
Banquet and Award Ceremony ticket;
Single hotel room for two nights;
One year membership to Minnesota Quilters, Inc.

To be considered for this scholarship you must have been making quilts for less than two years, and started fewer than 3 large quilts or 4 wall hangings. To apply for the scholarship, follow instructions below:

ENTRY FORM FOR 2015 CHARTER MEMBERS SCHOLARSHIP FOR BEGINNING QUILTERS

Name:_______________________________________________ Home Phone:______________________
Address:_______________________________________________________________________________
City:__________________________________________ State:___________  Zip: __________ -__________
Email address:___________________________________________________________________________

Scholarship application deadline is November 1, 2014.
Instructions:
1) Complete scholarship entry form (above).
2) On a separate piece of paper, write a 300-500 word essay telling us what quilting means to you and what you would like to learn at the quilt show and conference. Write your name and address on the essay.
3) If you've made any quilts, include photos of two of your quilts and/or wall hangings with a short description of each. The quilts do not need to be finished. Write your name and address on each photograph.
4) Mail (postmark) or hand-deliver these items by November 1, 2014:
Minnesota Quilters, Inc. Scholarship Committee
1203 Fifth Street SE
Minneapolis, MN 55414.
Or - E-mail your scholarship entry form, essay, and photographs (.jpg or .tiff files) to preselect@mnquilt.org by November 1, 2014. Please contact Bonnie Ellis, President elect, at preselect@mnquilt.org if you have questions.

Please NOTE: All scholarship applications are reviewed and selection is based on the applicant’s essay, not on the quality of the applicant’s quilts.
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: Minnesota Quilters, Inc. Editor, 1203 Fifth Street SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414-2030, or email editor@mnquilt.org

The mission of Minnesota Quilters, Inc. is to further the preservation of quilting, to educate and to document the art and craft of quilting in Minnesota. Established April 1978.

SEPTEMBER MEETINGS
SEPTEMBER 4 & 6
SCHOOL HOUSE WITH MQ

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