2015 HOLIDAY BRUNCH
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5 at 10 AM

Delicious Food, Beautiful Decorations, Good Friends, Good Cheer, Holiday Stockings for St. Joseph’s Home for Children, Holiday Block Exchange, & Paint Chip Challenge!

NEW LOCATION: Edinburgh USA, 8700 Edinbrook Crossing, Brooklyn Park, MN 55443

We hope to see you at the annual Minnesota Quilters winter holiday tradition – our Holiday Brunch. The new Quilter of the Year for 2016 will be introduced. We will again be collecting handmade Christmas Stockings for St. Joseph’s Home for Children in Minneapolis. Stocking stuffers are needed for the stockings, especially for teenagers. When you make your stocking donations, please make a list of the items along with your name and address so St. Joseph’s can acknowledge your contribution.

The pattern for the Christmas stocking is available on the Minnesota Quilters website http://www.mnquilt.org/documents/HolidayStockingPattern.pdf

The Holiday Brunch Challenge this year is “Paint Chip Challenge.” There are plans to have the projects from this challenge displayed at the 2016 MQ show in St. Cloud.

There will again be a Holiday Quilt Block Exchange. The blocks are 12 ½” x 12 ½” unfinished, with a white or off-white background. Contribute up to three blocks for the exchange. Use good quality cottons and submit only a block you would like to keep yourself. Appliqué blocks are welcome, but please know if you spend precious time on an appliqué block, you may not receive an appliqué block in return. Prewash all fabrics.

Valet parking is available this year, a small tip of $3.00 to $5.00 is requested. What a great treat this year to not have to walk through the cold, snow and ice to the party. Parking is available for free in the parking lot to the west of the building. We will be on the second floor and an elevator is available.

Tickets are $25.00. You can pay by check or credit card. Members not online can call the MQ office to register over the phone at 612-436-0449. Non-member tickets are $30.00. Reservations are due November 25.

Charlette Pittman - MaryAnn Baraibar - Doris Kraemer – Sharon Peterson
Upcoming Events

December 5, Holiday Brunch, Edinburgh, Brooklyn Park, MN. 10 am.
January 2016, Online Mystery Begins
January 7th and 9th meetings
2016 Annual Quilt Show & Conference KICK OFF!
January 15, Quilting for Others Workshop, Pearl and Myrtles in Anoka, MN
February 4th and 6th, MQ Meetings, Workshop on Friday, Bonnie Lundorff of Bemidji, MN will be our speaker on wool, playing with wool, the different types of wool, how to prepare them and tools to use.

More calendar information available on the MQ website: http://www.mnquilt.org/meetings.html
Directions and map to our meetings on the MQ website: http://www.mnquilt.org/location.html

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Oct 1 2015 - Sep 30 2016

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MQ Board of Directors meetings: Combined Board and Finance Meeting – December 15. All board and finance meetings are at 6 pm. Please notify Martha at president@mnquilt.org if you have an agenda item and/or wish to attend.

DEADLINE for December Newsletter: Tuesday, December 8, 2015. Please send newsletter articles to editor@mnquilt.org. Any submissions received after the due date will be saved for the following month’s newsletter.

Highlights from the October 27 Board Meeting

Rebecca Finch reported on the gallery exhibits at the Textile Center and the Minneapolis Central Library. Planning will be made for future exhibits.

Education Directors reported the Fall getaway was a success and the date has been booked for next year.

Operations reported on the move and that they have 6 locations to view.

Changes to the membership meeting order will be made to try improve the flow and shorten announcement time.

The next Board Meeting will be combined with the Finance Committee meeting November 17, 2015 at 6 pm.

Respectfully Submitted, Karen Knoll, Secretary

ALL MEMBERS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND.

MQ Event Cancellation Notification Policy

In the case of inclement weather or other situation that may cause a cancellation of an MQ monthly membership meeting or sponsored event, the following will occur:

• A posting will be made on the MQ website and on Facebook
• A recorded message will be on the MQ office phone
• An email blast will be sent to all members
• Time-permitting, KSTP TV and WCCO TV and radio stations will be contacted
• If a cancellation is pending; the MQ website will indicate at what time a decision will be made/ posted
Thoughts From Your President

One of the things I like most about quilting is making a quilt for someone else! I know that sounds a little counter-intuitive because we are often told as busy quilters that we need to remember to make quilts for our own use instead of giving them all away….or worse yet, being told not to give your work away because the recipient may not like it or appreciate it, or treat it as it should be treated.

When I first started quilting, I was timid about giving away my work because I was self-critical about whether it was “good enough” or in other words, PERFECT. Once I began to realize that nothing in this world is perfect, then there were a few other “shoulds” that would hover around in my head, is it the right colors, are my bindings straight enough, is the recipient going to appreciate all the work I put into this, etc. The “shoulds” have a way of freezing out your faith in yourself and your creativity, and do not really add to the joy of this art/craft.

I took my big plunge in giving things away very early though. My best friend from law school was getting married to a man from West Virginia, so how could he possibly not like a quilt! Because this was in the late 1970’s, I gathered up my calicos and did a simple four patch design, with pink roses on black as one square, solid pink and green as the others. All the pieces were traced using a cardboard [not plastic] template, and cut with the scissors. It was just straight machine sewing and matching of corners, so I did pretty well at that.

But then came a new decision I had not made before: batting and backing. I originally was just going to use a sheet, but since I read in a book these were hard to hand quilt through, I bought and pieced the back (with no back art as I had never even thought or heard of that then). Now books did not say much about batts, so I bought one and went home to lay out my masterpiece. As I looked at it, it looked too thin, so I thought,”… that cannot be right” so back to the store I went and bought two more batts. Piling up those three batts looked just about right to me, so I thread basted it all together and began to hand quilt.

As you can imagine, hand quilting through three batts plus a front and back layer of cloth turned into quite a challenge! I did stab stitching even though I knew how to do regular hand quilting (sort of), but I could not get my quilting needle through all those layers and still have a decent length of stitch. Finally, I added as binding a silk binding like those on blankets (pink of course), which ended up a bit odd looking at the corners but was square. That quilt was HEAVY. It looked nice and was received graciously, but later I felt that heavy quilt may have contributed to the breakup of that marriage—they did not need each other to stay warm!! My friend and I have laughed about that quilt for years, and it has disappeared somehow….I am not putting it on the missing quilt list either!

But the point is that I loved making it and giving it because it was a representation of how much my friend meant to me. I gave it with love and it was received with love, so that is about all we can ask for in sharing our work. Since that time, I have made lots of quilts, mostly for family and friends, but often for fund-raisers, charitable giveaways, and once in a while, just for myself! I have developed my own little personal rules for quilting: I like to use a hoop; I like to sit in the sun, even if there is a window between me and the light; and I think about positive things so as to infuse the quilt with positive energy or healing thoughts. I do not quilt when I am exhausted or angry, but I will quilt if sad because it is a very healing process for me too. And if I am making the quilt for another person, I like to think of memories or dreams of hope especially about them or for them. As I tell my friends, quilting is my own sort of “Zen” thing. May it also be yours!

Stocking Stuffer Ideas for St Joseph’s
Please remember the older kids when you are looking for Stocking Stuffers.
Axe Deodorant
Tooth Paste and Tooth Brushes
Nail Polish
African American Hair Products
New games and sports equipment
Books, puzzles and crafts
Non-spiraled journals or notebooks, pencils and crayons
Duffle bags
New socks, coats, gloves and hats
New stuffed animals
Children’s videos and video games
Art supplies, non-spiraled sketch pads and art pens

Gift Certificates for Winners!

The viewer’s choice winners of the stockings and the paint chip challenge each win a $35 gift certificate to the quilt shop of their choice.


HAPPY HOLIDAYS
Quilting for Others

Quilting for Others Workshop—January 15

Mark your calendars for January 15, 2016 for a Snow Day Quilting For Others Workshop at Pearl and Myrtles Retreat Center in Anoka Minnesota. Start time will be 9 am and we will plan to end at 4 pm. An email will be sent out with an invite, so that Quilting For Others can plan on materials. Come and join us for a few hours, or for the whole day. There is no charge for this event.

Quilting for Others

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

Harriet 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 size 45 x 45 inches. A quilt this size can be used as 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).

All donations are tax deductible! Please fill out the in-kind donation form when you drop off your donation.

Quilting for Others Efforts Appreciated

From a Facebook post to Sharon Peterson:

“As a woman who has been a survivor of domestic violence, I thank the quilt maker for her kindness. When I moved to my local shelter, I had very little. And no job. I appreciate any one who donates clothing or money to victims. I want to say Thank You to the many quilters in Minnesota Quilters who donate quilts, stockings, placemats, quilt blocks, fabric to help others as part of the Minnesota Quilters Quilting For Others. You all are a blessing to many!”

A Quilter on December 23rd at 9 pm?

Donations are greatly appreciated!

Paid Advertisement

Featherweight For Sale 221 Featherweight centennial AH series1947/48 Very good condition. Sews beautifully. $375 Jean Cline at 763-755-2176

Quilt Coaching ~ Sue Stein Do you need an experienced teacher for your group, or a one-on-one coach to help you explore surface design or art quilting? Go to www.susan-stein.com or call 651-303-6858
**Minnesota Quilt Project ~ For Every Silver Lining There is a Cloud**

An organization to which I belong (Friends for a Nonviolent World) was recently gifted with four antique quilts—hand pieced and hand quilted, in double wedding ring, floating star and appliquéd butterfly patterns, made during the 1920’s and 30’s. I was assigned the task of determining approximate value as they were gifted to us to help with fund-raising. As the MQP members viewed them this past Saturday we marveled at the work done by quilters of yesteryear.

The silver lining is, of course, the gift of the quilts to FNVW. And the cloud you ask? Quilters were so prolific in the upper Midwest that quilts, even those with remarkable workmanship, are found in storage lockers by distant relatives who have little idea of the stories behind the quilts. And they are so plentiful that hours and days of work are certainly not reflected in the price. For example, the best of the double wedding ring quilts may, and only may, bring as much as $150.

There is little MQP can do to influence market forces. But we can encourage you to document your quilts! MQP will document for the national register. You can tell the story of your quilt on its label. Why did you make it? For someone? For what occasion?

I have two double wedding ring quilts made by a daughter for a mother and a mother-in-law. That is all I know. When were they made? Were they made for a significant anniversary – 25? 50? Stories and memories are precious – please help to pass them on. All are welcome to join the Minnesota Quilt Project meetings at 8:30 a.m. prior to the MQ Saturday meetings.

Mary Hinz

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**Ongoing Minnesota Quilters Exhibit Activity**

**Ramping Up for the American Swedish Institute (ASI) Gallery Exhibit**

Did you purchase one or both of the Cherrywood Fabric packets for the 2016 “Hail to Thee Minnesota” challenge? Are you working on your entry? American Swedish Institute is requesting that we provide them with high quality images of some of the quilts that will be shown at the 2016 ASI exhibit. If you finish your “Minnesota Hail to Thee” challenge quilt and can take a high resolution photo of the quilt, we will submit it to ASI for use in the museum’s publicity for the show. The due date for these images is December 1, 2015. If multiple images are received we will submit all of them to ASI and let them choose which image they will use. You can still buy challenge packets from the MQ Office.

For the 2015 show at the Minneapolis Public Library, Janet Harvey’s quilt image of “Swirling Fairy Frost” was used on an 11 x 17 poster, a postcard and on a large banner that adorned the entrance to the Cargill Room at the Minneapolis Public Library. While we do not yet know what kind of publicity ASI will put out, we do know that they would like to use an image from the challenge for some of this. If you finish your “Minnesota Hail to Thee” challenge quilt by December 1 and can take an image, please submit your image along with the name of the quilt and its dimensions to Rebecca Finch at mqgalleryexhibits@mnquilt.org no later than December 1, 2015.

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**The Gallery Exhibits Committee Needs New Members!**

If you would like to help plan, publicize and implement quilt exhibits in the Twin Cities for Minnesota Quilters, the Gallery Exhibits Committee needs you! In 2016, MQ will have exhibits at the American Swedish Institute (ASI) and Hennepin Gallery (located in the Hennepin County Government Center). The “Minnesota Hail to Thee” challenge quilts will be shown at ASI and the Paint Chip Challenge will be shown at the Hennepin Gallery. Two exhibits will be planned for 2017; one of them will draw quilts from the 2017 MQ challenge and the content of the other exhibit has yet to be determined. The Gallery Exhibits Committee is looking for people who can help select and contact venues for exhibits, work with quilters to make the quilts that will be shown, hang and take down the quilts and market the exhibits to the public. If interested in helping, please contact Rebecca Finch at mqgalleryexhibits@mnquilt.org.

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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. If any of you are interested in the following position or have questions about it 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. Our new fiscal year started on Oct 1, 2015 and there are some positions open. Please let us know if you would be interested in volunteering for a position this coming year. We need you badly!! Remember this is a volunteer organization!

**Current available position:**

**Meeting Hospitality Coordinator, Day:** This person will work with Tina Hollerman to make coffee and set up the treats on Saturday morning. Many thanks to Ruth Herbst for all the time she has given us!

Nancy Hall and Loretta Stone
From the Library Committee ~ New Books

MQ member Gail Hanson gifted the MQ library with books from her spectacular collection, and we wanted to share some impressions with you. Thank you, Gail!

From Martha: “There are so many books to choose from but these Japanese books caught my eye to review: Japanese Magazine 2000, Ms. March’s Collection. I was first introduced to the marvelous Japanese Quilting Magazines by MQ’s former library collection at the Machinists Hall. While they are written in Japanese and only rarely use English, they do indeed demonstrate that a picture is worth 1000 words!”

“In the Japanese Magazine #2000, you will find a beautiful quilt where background is ‘The Blooming 9-Patch’ designed by Blanche Young, but overlaid with the classic wedding ring pattern in white lace and rickrack trim, topped off with a beautiful, gauze basket in the middle section with folded white flowers. I hope you can envision it from this description. Then there is the tiny spiked mariner’s compass pattern in blues and white, with various ships embroidered in the connecting blocks. The spikes are so thin that it is hard to imagine they could even be paper-pieced.”

Another of Gail’s books is The History of Emiko Toda Loeb and her work message. “This book features the work of one quilter over a period of years. It is based on an exhibit from 1983! The quilter herself provides English language descriptions of her thinking and design process of each of the quilts, which range from unique uses of small log cabin blocks to herringbone crazy quilt blocks with small pieces whose ‘visible portion’ on the quilt top is less than 1/8”!! I cannot describe all the variety of techniques and visions her quilts convey. You just have to check it out of our accessible library.”

From Barb:

We have also received beautiful books by Kumiko Sudo. “It’s hard to know where to begin, but I love flowers and floral fabric, and so the book Fabled Flowers enchanted me. It teaches how use two traditional Japanese arts, sashiko quilting for the background of the block, and origami for folding fabulous flower shapes to appliqué. There are 30 block designs and six quilt designs and the blocks are gorgeous on their own for a wall or table.”

“Kake-Jiku are hanging scrolls found in Japanese homes, and this book is about quilt blocks based on those scrolls, again using the techniques of origami, sashiko and appliqué. Templates are provided for the blocks, and you may arrange them as your heart desires.”

“Circles of the East is a book of quilt designs based on ancient Japanese family crests. It includes directions for both blocks and quilts. Sudo says that flowers are her mentors and best friends and this book does feature many flowers and leaves but also other designs.”

Even if you never tackle one of these patterns, the fabric is so beautiful the books are well worth a look.

Drop the library committee a line if there are any books you would like to read about in the newsletter, and don’t forget to visit us at the meetings.

We are adding new books to our collection all the time.

It’s A Mystery!

Minnesota Quilters will be offering an online Mystery Quilt starting in January 2016. The Mystery Quilt is designed by Kristin Lawson of Minneapolis, Minnesota. Kristin is a member of Minneapolis Modern Quilt Guild and Minnesota Quilters. Kristin was one of the presenters at the September 2014 Schoolhouse Program at Minnesota Quilters and is one of the upcoming very talented quilt designers.

The Mystery Quilt will start in January 2016 and the last clue will be given in October 2016. The Mystery Quilt will provide an opportunity for Minnesota Quilters statewide to participate in a program offered by Minnesota Quilters.

The cost of the Mystery Quilt will be $30 for Minnesota Quilters members and $40 for non members. An invitation will be sent by email for folks to sign up for the Mystery Quilt online or go to our website to find the link on the home page. Each month a clue will be sent to the people who have elected to join the fun of a Mystery Quilt. There will also be a Minnesota Quilters Mystery Facebook Group, if you choose to join.

Unsure about choosing fabric for a Mystery Quilt? Crafty Planet (one of Minnesota Quilter's Business Members) will have Mystery Quilt Kits available. The purchase and transaction of the Quilt Kits will be one between the Quilter and Crafty Planet.

Plans are in the works to have a Special Exhibit of the Mystery Quilts at the 2017 MQ Show & Conference the following year. Have questions? Talk with Sharon Peterson or send an email to ed@mnquilt.org
To Be Judged, Or Not To Be Judged?

Have you ever thought about entering your quilt into a judged category, but decided against it? Or perhaps a friend recommended it, and you felt an immediate clench in your stomach, or maybe your jaw tightened in discomfort. If either of those reactions describes you, hopefully reading this will help you relax and reconsider.

Who are the judges? For the past several shows, Minnesota Quilters has hired judges certified by the National Quilting Association (NQA). These are professionals who have undergone rigorous training and have spent numerous hours either judging or actively involved in the judging process in several shows and/or venues. They are familiar with all aspects of the quilt making process; have studied color theory and quilt history; are able to identify traditional patterns, styles, and motifs, as well as current trends and modern styles. They are also familiar with the principles and elements of design as they relate to a particular composition. Judges understand the decisions and choices made by the quilter as well as the overall creative effort.

Are you now thinking, “That is all well and good, but what about the feedback they give?”

Please be assured that the judges seek to provide feedback as to how the quilt maker’s choices have impacted the success of the overall design and composition. They offer informed opinions, not personal preferences.

Perhaps your hesitation to enter a quilt into judged competition has been because you cannot be sure your entry will be judged fairly. All quilts are looked at objectively. Judges and all volunteers who staff the judging room are required to keep everything that is said and done confidential. All quilt labels are covered so no names are visible to judges or quilt handlers. Each entry is assigned a number, which is the only identifier throughout the judging process. Judges are obligated to evaluate all aspects of every quilt, from color and composition to construction, quilting and finishing. They use consistent criteria and respectfully phrase all comments that are designed to aid the quilt maker to identify those areas that are well done as well as those that may benefit from more attention or practice.

Now, that doesn’t sound so bad, does it? Hopefully this article has given you some facts that will assist you to take the leap and enter your latest creation into the 2016 Minnesota Quilters Show. If you have any questions regarding the judging process, please send them to judged2016@mnquilt.org. Michele Peine

Non-judged Quilts

Non-judged quilts are quilts that you love, quilts that are used, quilts that are given as gifts and quilts that are entered in the show!! The holidays are here! Don’t forget about the upcoming June 2016 MQ Quilt Show as you gift your quilts, maybe a message is included that says you want to borrow it back for the show! The label could note that the quilt was displayed in the 2016 MQ Show. Be proud of it—share it! Adrianne Lemberg and Merle Pratt

Donate a Quilt ~ Help Minnesota Quilters Raise Funds to Celebrate and Promote Quilting

Now more than ever, Minnesota Quilters (MQ) needs your help to secure its finances and continue its mission. As you know, MQ will be moving by October 2016. While we don’t know yet how much the rent will be, we do know that our expenses will significantly increase.

There are many ways that you can contribute to helping with the expenses of our move. One of them is to donate a quilt that is at least 60” x 60” that can be sold at the Minnesota Quilters Merchandise Booth during the 2016 St. Cloud show. If you finish a UFO and donate it to sell, we get double the value. (Quilts not sold will be donated to Minnesota Quilters Quilting for Others.) Fill out a form available at meetings or on the MQ website and follow the instructions at the bottom of the form for delivering your quilt to us.

No quilt sleeve is needed. No tied quilts or afghans will be accepted.

You will receive a warm thank you from Minnesota Quilters along with an in kind donation form that you can use to claim the value of your donation from the IRS.

Please deliver your form along with your quilt to either the April or May Minnesota Quilters meetings, or send the quilt and the form so that it arrives by June 1, 2016 to: Minnesota Quilters, 1203 5th Street SE, Minneapolis MN 55414-2030. Thank you so much in advance for your help.

President’s Challenge

The President’s 2016 Challenge is to make a baby size quilt (45 x45 or smaller to 36 x 36) that must include the concept of a butterfly, based on the following anonymous quotation, “Just when the caterpillar thought the world was over, it became a butterfly”. When you enter this challenge, you are agreeing that your quilt can be given to Neighborhood House/East Side Family Center in St. Paul to greet new babies in families who are getting community services through the Center. Because it will be given to a baby, remember not to use any dangerous embellishments like buttons or sequins, but besides making it baby safe, the design, colors, etc. are yours to play with. Use the non-judged entry form to enter into the 2016 show. A ribbon and special gift will be given based upon the President’s selection.
Focus on Minnesota Quilters Business Members ~ Page Johnson, The Quilting Page

Page Johnson has 15 years experience as a professional long-arm quilter; owns her own shop, The Quilting Page, and is a Business Member of Minnesota Quilters, Inc. Her quilting and designs have won numerous awards. In addition to full-time quilting for customers, Page creates digitized quilting patterns and is a certified trainer for Gammill - Statler Stitcher and Creative Studio. She travels around the country providing long-arm instruction to both professional and amateur quilters and has made dozens of instructional videos.

Page remembers growing up with handmade quilts in her Mom’s and all her relatives’ homes. Page comes from a long line of quilters. Her great-great grandmother was a seamstress who made quilts for others in lieu of doctor and other bills. Her grandmother had a quilting frame that was suspended by pulleys from the ceiling. The frame would be lowered when her grandmother’s circle of friends came over to hand-quilt. As a kid, Page remembers lying underneath the quilting frame, listening as the friends chatted and pretending to see stars through the holes made by the quilting needles.

It was Page’s Aunt Alice who bought Page her first long arm machine in 2001. At that time Page was a stay-at-home Mom with four children. Her husband suddenly lost his job in the aftermath of the 9/11 World Trade Center tragedy. Page unexpectedly found herself needing to return to full-time work outside the home. Her Aunt told her, “I know what you are going to do...you are going to be a long-arm quilter,” and The Quilting Page was born.

Page first started her long-arm quilting business in her basement, and all her quilting was free-motion without a computer. She gained experience, in part, by taking classes from long-arm instructors such as Karen McTavish, Pam Clarke and Linda Taylor. Page said that Karen McTavish “really inspired me.” Karen advised Page to “do the hardest thing” and “don’t be intimidated.” Page says that she follows this advice to this day, and constantly challenges herself. Page began using computerized long-arm machines in 2006. She now has three Gammill-Statler computerized machines with Creative Studio software. The purpose of the software is to tell the computer how to sew digitized quilting patterns.

Page won her first award for quilting at the 2006 Minnesota Quilters Quilt Show in St. Cloud and was “ecstatic when quilts that she had quilted for others received four ribbons!” She commented that “things have just gotten better ever since.” Page recently won a first place award for her quilting on a group quilt at the International Quilt Festival in Houston and at the American Quilter’s Society (AQS) show in Paducah, Kentucky. The award-winning quilt is featured in the 2016 AQS quilt calendar.

When consulting with her customers, Page notes that she will make suggestions about quilting designs that enhance the top. Since Page also designs and digitizes her own quilting patterns, she has the ability to adjust each pattern to suit the quilt top. Page explained that her quilting designs “nest into each other.” As a result, you won’t notice rows in her quilting of the type that pantographs can produce.

Page said that she has no particular style when quilting for others; instead she does what “the quilt needs.” Page offers customers a range of quilting services. The majority of her customers make quilts that are intended to be used and therefore often request overall designs. Overall quilting is the most affordable and can be completed in 30 days or less. Page also offers a variety of custom services and offers suggestions to enhance each quilt. With the aid of computerized design, she can offer unique patterns that fit the piecing of the quilt. Although show quilts are not the focus of Page’s business, some of her customers consistently receive awards for their quilts.

Page said that in addition to quilting for hire, she teaches both computerized and free-motion long-arm quilting classes. She travels the country appearing at dealerships, national shows and small guilds offering workshops, training and lectures. Page also offers an intensive, hands-on, three-day seminar at her shop in Eagan. The seminar is intended for up to four people at a time.

Page shared that her travels give her the opportunity to see quilts from around the country. She said that Minnesota is great for a long-arm quilter: “There are so many talented people in Minnesota and workmanship is fantastic!”

In addition to Page’s quilt-for-hire services, her store front, The Quilting Page, has a full stock of long-arm quilting supplies including nine different kinds of batting, over 60 bolts of wide-back quilting fabric, Glide thread for embroidery and quilting, along with pre-wound bobbins for domestic and long-arm machines.

Page would like everyone to know that she is always accepting new customers. Stop by the shop to talk with her and see examples of her work. Due to her schedule, call ahead.

The Quilting Page is located at 1964 Rahnciff Court, #600 off of Cliff Road between I-35E and Cedar Road in Eagan, Minnesota. Information about quilting services, digital quilting patterns, workshops, fabric and instructional videos is available at www.thequiltingpage.com. Page Johnson may be contacted by email at pagej@thequiltingpage.com and by phone at 651/214-4545.
November Meeting Highlights

Margo Krager, owner of ReproductionsFabrics.com, an online source of cotton reproduction fabric for costuming and quilting was our guest speaker for the November meetings and Friday workshop. Margo is an expert on the history of fabrics. She has fabrics of time periods 1775 to 1950, including the Civil War and Depression Eras. She also does consulting for costumers, historic homes and movies. Thursday evening’s meeting featured the history and uses of Chintz. Margo spoke about the importance of fabric sample books in the 19th century and traced the development of a reproduction line of fabric on Saturday. Twelve quilters enjoyed Margo’s Friday class on Medallion Quilts on Friday.

Fall Get Away Report and Photos

Thirty three quilters had a fabulous time at Green Lake Bible Camp in Spicer, MN on October 15-18. The setting was beautiful, food delicious, accommodations great, staff at the camp was very helpful, and they all got a lot of work done and had great fun with a lot of laughter.

Receiving your newsletter via email? All the members who receive the newsletter electronically collectively save MQ $10,000 a year! Thank you!
Announcing the MQ 2016 Conference Faculty

Patty Von Arx and I are excited to present the list of teachers for the 38th Annual MQ Quilt Show and Conference. Later this month you will be receiving the official Registration Booklet. The Preview of classes will be the first order of business at the January membership meetings, January 7th and 9th, 2016. Class samples will be displayed.

We are offering a variety of classes for novice to professional quilters and shop owners. The faculty comes from around the country to offer you the best possible instruction and classroom experience. We’re sure you will find a class to further your quilting endeavors.

**Appliqué**
- Mary Alsop: Introduction to Wool Appliqué
- Cathy Geier: Strip Appliqué Landscape
- Andi Perejda: Whigged Out Rose

**Design**
- Sue Cortese: Cut ‘n’ Switch
- Mary Kerr: Block Party
- Kari Schell: EQ7 (8 classes, from Introduction to EQ7 to Pictorial Foundations)

**Embellishments**
- Mary Alsop: Embellishing Wool
- Nancy Eha: Seed Bead Botany, Crazy Beading, Beaded Kaleidoscopes
- Lola Jenkins: Thread Art
- Joyce Teng: Fabric Inking

**Fabric Manipulation**
- Sue Cortese: Fabric Dyeing
- Doris Deutmeyer: Canyon View Landscape
- Laura Heine: Fabric Collage
- Lola Jenkins: Silhouette Art Quilt

**Garments**
- Lorraine Torrence: Building Fabric for Unique Wearables, Needle in a Haystack Vest

**Heirloom Quilts**
- Mary Kerr: Searching for Clues, Saving Our Treasures

**Piecing**
- Lori Allison: Millefiori
- Catherine Erickson, Judy Niemeyer certified Instructor: (4 classes)
  - Mary Fons: Elegant String Piecing, A Quilt Called Whisper
  - Cathy Geier: Strip-pieced Landscape, Aspen and Maple Tree Trunks
  - Mary Kerr: Lazy River Hexies
  - Doug Leko: Mystery Quilt, Home for the Holidays, Sunday Drive
  - Laura Maki: Kids Can Quilt
  - Andi Perejda: Circle of Illusion
  - Lorraine Torrence: Collage Curves Mini Quilt

**Professional Academy**
- Mary Kerr: Marketing & Development for Professional Quilters
- Sally Terry: Building Your Professional Machine Quilting Business, Marketing to Women

**Machine Techniques**
- Baby Lock Educator: Serger Techniques for Quilters
- Carole Wilder: Know Your Featherweight Part 1 & 2

**Quilting the Quilt**
- Andi Perejda: Beginning Hand Quilting
- Sally Terry: Domestic and Longarm quilting techniques (6 classes with Berninas and Innova Longarm)

In addition to classes there will be Lectures, Book Signings, and Trunk Shows.
**Contemporary Amish Sampler**

Feast your eyes on our 2016 queen-sized raffle quilt: “Contemporary Amish Sampler”. Twelve Blue Earth Block Swappers made the 24 blocks. Mike Ellingson designed the setting and border for the blocks, assembled them, and bound the quilt. Jan Shaffer of Pine Grove Quilting in Blue Earth, Minnesota quilted it. This elegant quilt is made from Kona Cotton solids in peaceful hues on a grey background.

We’re selling raffle tickets now at $2 each. What a wonderful stocking stuffer for your favorite people! Tickets are available at all MQ meetings and from the MQ office. With the proceeds from the ticket sales, Minnesota Quilters supports its mission: to celebrate the art of quilting. The drawing for the quilt will be Saturday, June 11, 2016 at the close of the show at the Convention Center in St. Cloud, MN. The winner need not be present to win.

You may buy raffle tickets with cash and checks; we are unable to accept credit card payment for them. To request raffle tickets, email Gail Kieper and Kathie Simon Frank at raffletickets2016@mnquilt.org or phone the MQ office at 612-436-0449. If you are unable pick up raffle tickets in person, we can mail tickets to you.

You can help make this our most successful raffle quilt fund-raising project yet! Take a batch of tickets and sell them to relatives, friends, co-workers, and neighbors wherever you go. You give our raffle quilt wonderful exposure when you share it with other guilds you belong to! Gail can schedule you, and she and Kathie can provide information about showing the quilt and selling tickets. They’ll loan you the quilt and quilt stand to make displaying the quilt easy, and instruct you how to sell raffle tickets.

Please e-mail raffletickets2016@mnquilt.org to arrange a time to share the quilt with others. Gail and Kathie are also available to show the quilt at your meeting.

Thank you for your help in making this fundraiser a success!

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**Wanted**

Wanted: people to show the MQ raffle quilt at their guild meetings--and to sell raffle tickets! Contact Gail Kieper at raffletickets2016@mnquilt.org to get on the calendar. Contact Kathie Frank at raffletickets2016@mnquilt.org if you want batches of tickets to sell to others. Don’t have internet? Call the MQ office at 612-436-0449.

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**MQ Quilt Show & Conference**

**SAVE THE DATES!**

- 2016 Saint Cloud June 9 - 11
- 2017 Duluth June 8 - 10
- 2018 Saint Cloud June 14 - 16
- 2019 Rochester June 13 - 15
- 2020 Saint Cloud June 11 - 13
- 2021 Rochester June 10 - 12

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**What are you waiting for?**

The Door Prize committee needs your donations! Please consider donating fabric, kits, books, notions, quilt-related items, and or even things that aren’t quilting related but quilters love (chocolate, gift cards…) Maybe you have something that isn’t quite nice enough for a door prize. Donate that too! We will be having a “garage sale” at a spring meeting and we use the proceeds to go out and shop for door prizes!

So clean out some room for your future projects. You can drop off your donations at the MQ office or at a monthly meeting.

*Thank you SO VERY much!* Nancy Broshat & Carla Kilkelley
The best things come in dozens! Make this little snowman and give him an attitude in 12 easy steps.

Fabrics: Medium blue (sky); light blue or grey (background); white (snowman); black (hat, arms, buttons); scrap of orange (nose).

Cutting Directions:

Medium Blue
- A (2) 4½" x 8½"
- B (4) 1½" x 2½"
- C (2) 1" x 1" shoulders
- D (2) ¾" x ¾" chin

Ground (pale blue or grey)
- E (2) 3 ½" x 4 ½"
- F (2) 1" x 1" base of body

Orange
NOSE: Scrap

White, One each of:
- G 4½" x 6½" lower body
- H 4½" x 4½" mid-torso
- I 2½" x 2½" head
- J (2) 1" x 1" waist

Black or very dark color
- K (2) 2½" x 2½" hat
- BRIM (1) ¾" x 4½" hat brim
- ARMS (2) 1" x 6" arms
- EYES, BUTTONS, Scraps

1. Sew F squares on to inside lower corners of G to make colored corners. This forms base of snowman. (See drawing.) Trim and press triangles out to make G back into a square. Sew one E to each side of G. Set this piece aside.
2. Sew J squares on diagonal to lower inside corners of A pieces to form hips. (See drawing.) Trim and press triangles out to make A a rectangle again. Set these pieces aside.
3. Sew C squares on diagonally to upper inside corners of H to form shoulders. Trim and press H back into a square. Set this piece aside.
4. Sew D squares onto lower corners of I (head) to form chin. Trim and press I back into a square. Sew one B to each side of I. Set these pieces aside.
5. Fold brim piece in half lengthwise. Press. Place raw edge of brim on raw edge of top of I-B rectangles you’ve just constructed. Baste slightly inside seamline to hold in place. This will form a little flange across the forehead and across the sky (B) on each side.
6. Sew remaining B rectangles to each side of K (hat). Sew K-B to I-B on ¼" seamline. This seamline should cover the basting line so it doesn’t show. You want that little flange to remain so it looks like a hat-brim.
7. Sew I-B/K-B to H to connect head to body.
8. Press each 1" x 6" arm piece in half lengthwise. Open. Fold each edge into center making a long narrow piece with finished edges. Place each arm about where it will look like it is coming out from just below the snowman’s shoulders. Baste in place. Pin out of the way, so only one narrow edge gets sewn into the next seam.
9. Sew one A to each side of the snowman’s head/torso block (B/H/I/K).
10. Sew this newly constructed piece (top of snowman) to lower body E/G (the first piece you constructed).
11. You may form the arms in any way you wish because these pieces are somewhat like bias tape. Hand sew arms to the background to give your snowman an attitude!
12. To add more personality, cut out little chunks of “coal” from black or very very dark fabric for eyes and buttons. Cut out a carrot-shaped piece for the nose. Attach them with a tiny dot of water-based paste (like Elmer’s school glue). They’ll be machine appliqued on when you quilt your snowman quilt. You may also want to add specks of “coal” for the mouth, or draw spots on with a permanent ink pen.

You’re done! Now, does your snowman have a name? Make a couple more and enter the Block of the Month drawing in January. You never know...maybe you’ll end up with a whole village of snow people!

Block of the Month Guidelines

Each person may enter up to three blocks each month. Please include your name on your block(s). (Hint: stick your mailing label on the back of each block.) Consider donating any leftover scraps with your block (pinned to the block or in an attached baggie) for the winner to use for finishing touches. If you cannot bring the blocks to the January meetings, you may mail them to the MQ office. Please allow adequate time for them to arrive before the drawings. Address: Block of the Month, Minnesota Quilters, Inc., 1203 Fifth Street SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414.
November Show and Tell (cont.) (quilters listed on page 15)
**Show and Tell Quilters:**

**Travel Notes**

My husband and I took a road trip in October to Northern Georgia, North Carolina, and Tennessee. While in the North Carolina side of Great Smokey National Park we met fiber artist, Jill Kerttula, an Artist in Residence for a month at the park. Jill had a basket of fabrics, scissors and glue, and her artistic ability to illustrate with fabric and thread some of the old buildings and scenes in the park. Jill said that being an Artist In Residence was "Like a Dream". Jill told us she lived in Wisconsin but they moved south to avoid the long winters. She had four pieces of art at the Houston show. Her website is www.Jill2day.com.

We also visited the quilting class at the John C. Campbell Folk School. The quilters were working on scrap quilts, strip quilts and heartstring blocks.

If you visit an interesting quilting place on your travels, please send information to editor@mnquilt.org.
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Kelly J’s Sewing Center & Quilt Shop
6140 Jean Duluth Road
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Picking Up The Pieces

Grab your girdles - there’s a new temptation coming to town. Just when I thought I could seriously start a low-carb diet, along comes the announcement of 34 Dunkin’ Donuts stores right here in the Metro area. Who knew? Growing up in Chicago, the pink and orange moniker was an expected pleasure to be found in any busy neighborhood. I think you could gain a few pounds just by inhaling the aroma as you opened the door and walked in. Waiting in line (there was always a line) gave you the opportunity to survey the assortment of goodies and make your decision by the time you reached the counter. While I always thought I would try something new or seasonal, it was hard not to fall back on my old favorites: Boston Cream or a jelly-filled Bismarck.

For the most part, I felt I had conquered my cravings for the donut memories of my childhood, but had a minor relapse when Krispy Kreme brought their donut delirium to Minnesota in 2002. If you ever knew anyone who’d ‘walk a mile for a Camel’ you could certainly sympathize with those of us who would drive 20+ miles from south-of-the-river suburbs to Maple Grove to get a taste of that warm gooey sweetness. In fact we planned Krispy Kreme runs on our way to quilt retreats at the cabin, and when I was on the St. Cloud show committee I bought two dozen and figured out just the right time and power level needed to warm them up perfectly in the hotel microwave. We quilters can be most resourceful when necessary. But alas, those moments became a thing of the past when the last store closed in 2008, taking with it my biggest incentive for getting out of bed and dressed on a Saturday morning.

However, Minnesota was not the only place I couldn’t enjoy a Dunkin’ Donuts, Colorado was barren of the brand, too. In fact good bakeries in Colorado are a rarity at that altitude. And to my knowledge there were none here in Minnesota either until my daughter announced the opening of one last summer in Duluth. Duluth?! Seriously? Not that I begrudge Duluth quilters their access to sinful pastry, but isn’t there a larger (no pun intended) audience in the Twin Cities? “How come they get a Dunkin’ Donuts store and we don’t?” Then I read the headline in Thursday’s Business section: “More Dunkin’ Donuts to hit metro.” Is there a coincidence that Thursday is also the day they insert the Food section? I was really excited until I read the rest of the article and discovered that the first of these stores won’t open until 2017.

But that’s okay, as I have a few things to do while I anticipate the arrival of these delicious treats. First, I need to request that Dunkin’ Donuts not post Nutritional Information signs on its menu or display cases. For one thing there is no nutritional benefit to eating donuts. For another, I am a grownup and know donuts aren’t the healthiest food choice I could make. So please don’t remind me that this is one of the reasons my pants are too tight. Second, I’m going to move my ironing board a little further away from the sewing machine so I can get in a few more steps while quilting. Hopefully this will offset the extra pounds I may gain if one of the new locations is too close to home. Third, I will make sure that my next visit to Duluth includes a quick trip to donut heaven. In the meantime I will patiently wait for Dunkin’ Donuts to fulfill the promise of their slogan, “making people happy since 1950.”
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608-837-2266 www.jjstitches.com

Remembering

Pam Roman
Past MQ member, Pamela Ronan passed away in New Jersey at age 64 after a battle with brain cancer. MQ members may remember Pam for her many contributions to our organization. Pam was MQ newsletter editor for 2 ½ years until September 2005, then served on the MQ Board as Communications Director (2006-7), and, finally, during her transition to New Jersey, she served as Co-Chair of the 2008 MQ Show with Kathleen Winters. Fellow MQ members remember her smiling face, her amazing organization skills, and her kind words to all she interacted with. If you wish to send condolence messages to Pam's family, please visit www.hjasslerfuneralhome.com

Deloris (Dee) O'Brien
Mother of MQ member Karen O'Brien and long-time quilter and MQ member, Dee O'Brien died peacefully at the age of 83 on October 18, 2015. Dee liked to make storybook quilts and was generous in sharing and giving her quilts and her quilting expertise. Dee also supported Karen’s love of quilting and the two were a wonderful model of the mother-daughter quilters often found in MQ. We will miss Dee and our thoughts of sympathy go out to Karen and her extended family.

Bulletin Board

Feb 6 to 7, 2016 in Red Wing, MN. Evening Star Quilt Guild Quilt show at Sargent's Nursery, 3352 N Service Dr, Red Wing MN. - $4.

Mar 18 to 19 in New Ulm, MN. Prairie Piecemakers Quilt show at New Ulm Event Center, 301 20th St S, New Ulm MN. - $6.
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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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.

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December 2015