March Meeting Saturday, March 7, 10 am

Women’s History Month

Quilt Exhibit

Eagan High School, 4185 Braddock Trail, Eagan, MN

Once again it’s time to head to Eagan High School for the 20th Women’s History Month Quilt Exhibit entitled *The Last Stitch*. The doors will open at 10 am with light refreshments to enjoy while you view the quilts and shop our vendors. This year enjoy the offerings of Gruber’s from St. Cloud, Millie P’s from Anoka, and Reproduction Fabrics from Northfield. Raffle Quilt tickets will be available, as well as MQ merchandise.

Jean Wakely of Northfield is our featured quilter. You may have seen her mother’s quilts at the St. Cloud show or heard her speak at the breakfast lecture where she gave an overview of her mother’s ambitious efforts to record women’s history through her appliquéd quilts. Several of these treasures will be on display, and Jean’s lecture will focus on the Purple Sandwich quilt, which depicts the era of the one-room schoolhouse. Her lecture will begin at 11 am in the Auditorium. Following the lecture, exhibits and vendors will again be open for your viewing and shopping enjoyment.

March is our annual membership month and you are encouraged to bring a guest to this meeting. Admission is free for all guests and their names will be entered into a drawing for a free MQ membership.

We look forward to seeing you. The *Last Stitch* exhibit will run from March 2 through March 19, 9-3 Monday through Friday. Closed March 13th and weekends. Eagan High School, 4185 Braddock Trail, Eagan MN 651.683.6933


Remember, there will be NO Thursday evening meeting this month.

Minnesota Quilters 2015 Show Faculty

Paula Nadelstern
Wendy Butler Berns
Susan Cleveland *
Mary Elizabeth Kinch
Karen McTavish
Amanda Jean Nyberg *
Laura Heine
Nina McVeigh
Sue Heinz *
Laura Murray *
Lori Allison *
Mike Ellingsen *
Carol Butzke
Lorraine Covington
Kate Eelkema *
Sue Pelland
Shelly Burge

* denotes Minnesota faculty
Upcoming Events

March 7, Women’s History Month Meeting at Eagan High School, *The Last Stitch*

No Thursday Meeting in March

March 12-14, MQ Day Retreat in Anoka, sign-up began January 27

April 9 & 11, MQ Meetings, Volunteer Appreciation Month

April 12-15, Overnight Retreat at Camp Wapo in Amery, WI, sign-up begins Feb 25

May 7 & 9, MQ Meetings

June 11-13, Annual Minnesota Quilt Show and Conference in Duluth

Classes begin on June 10.

MQ Board of Directors meetings: Finance Committee Meeting– March 17, Board Meeting– March 24. All meetings are at 6 pm. Please notify Bonnie at president@mnquilt.org if you have an agenda item and/or wish to attend.

Deadline for February Newsletter: Tuesday, March 10, 2015. Please send newsletter articles to editor@mnquilt.org.

Facebook!

Join the fun with over 2,100 others on our Facebook page (that’s more than twice our membership). www.facebook.com/MinnesotaQuilters

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!

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

Highlights from the November MQ Board Meeting

The Treasurer presented the financials and reported that our assets are ahead of last year.

The Show Director reported on her trip to “The Road to California” quilt show. The co-chairs of the Raffle Ticket Committee resigned and we are looking for replacements, and are looking for Faculty co-chairs.

We need a 2016 Show Coordinator and would like 2016 Faculty co-chairs to start working on retaining teachers now.

The Board discussed the cancellation procedure after the January Thursday night meeting was cancelled. The cancellation will be put into the newsletter and put on the website. The March In-Town Retreat will be held at Pearl & Myrtle’s in Anoka.

The next Board Meeting will be February 24. ALL MEMBERS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Schultz, Secretary
February Meeting Highlights

February meetings were presented by Minnesota Quilt Project.

The Thursday evening meeting featured a presentation by Gail Bakkom on the history and use of letters and words as design elements in quilts. Gail talked about the importance of the names, places and dates for research of quilts. Styles of quilts are more often than not linked to a region, ethnic group and period.

This was a good reminder for us to take the time to put a label with identifying information about the quilts we each spend hours making. Many of us have antique quilts that are not labeled and we wonder what the story is about the quilt and its maker. Seventy-five people were at the meeting.

The Saturday meeting featured Pat Cox, one of the founding members of Minnesota Quilters. Pat presented a program on the history of log cabin quilts with a selection of slides and a large group of log cabin quilts. Log cabin designs date back to Egypt and have been found encasing cats, as mummies. Naming the quilt style as log cabin dates back to Abraham Lincoln. The variety of settings for log cabin quilts was amazing. A group of quilts shown were from the first Minnesota Quilt Show in 1979. Pat showed an early book that she self published about log cabin quilts. Her book, Log Cabin Quilts Unlimited: The Ultimate Creative Guide to the Most Popular and Versatile Pattern, by Patricia Cox and Maggi McCormick Gordon has been re-published.

Attendees at both meetings were given a sneak peak of a style of art quilts made by Kelly Hendrickson from Minnesota and Wil Opio Oguta from the Netherlands. They belong to an international internet group. Wow, what a creative group! It's hard for many of us to imagine a quilter spending vacation time in Minnesota in January or February so that she can do snow dyeing. Most of us at this time of year are booking vacation to points south! Here is a link to the group’s website: http://voyagearttextiles.blogspot.nl/2014/10/mother-earth-speaks-to-us.html

If you did not complete your February Block Of The Month, there is still time. The directions for the block are in the January 2015 newsletter; the drawing will be in April.

The monthly volunteer drawing winner was Carla Ramy, Sharon Johnson won the quarterly volunteer drawing and Molly O’Dea won the fat quarter drawing.

April will be Minnesota Quilters birthday month, MQ is 37 years old and still going strong!

Minnesota Quilters is looking for nominations for Outstanding Volunteer. Who do you think should be honored? Send a nomination for that special person with a short description of how they have impacted Minnesota Quilters. The email can be sent to membership@mnquilt.org

Show and Tell is always a special part of every Minnesota Quilters meeting. The variety of quilts and the talents of our membership are amazing. Bring a quilt to share to our April meeting, maybe it is a quilt from one of the classes from a Minnesota Quilt Show, or one from a Minnesota Quilters class. Many members have won Blocks of the Month. Help inspire us to get those UFO's completed. Maybe it is a birthday quilt, graduation quilt, wedding quilt or its a quilt made just for you. Share the quilt and the story.

Charlette Pittman

Spring 2015 Retreat and a New Spring Getaway!

The Spring Quilting in the City Day Retreat will be on March 12-14 at Pearl & Myrtle’s Retreat Center in Anoka MN. The change in venue is due to services during Lenten season at Saint Lawrence. We will offer the options of a 1, 2, or 3 day retreat.

Register from the link on our website’s calendar, or if you do not want to sign up online, simply call the MQ office, 612-436-0449 and staff will get you signed up! You can pay by check or credit card. One day for members is $15, non members $20, two days is $30 for members and $35 for non members, three days $40 for members and $50 for non members.

We are looking for volunteers to help coordinate this retreat. If you are interested please send an email to ed@mnquilt.org or talk with Charlette Pittman, coordinator for this event.

The new Spring Get-Away Quilt Retreat will be held at Camp Wapo in Amery WI, Sunday April 12 - Wednesday April 15. Registration for the Spring Get-Away will be coming in an email on February 25th. The cost for the retreat is $165 for members and $175 for non members.

We are looking for volunteers to help coordinate this easy-breezy retreat. If you are interested send an email to ed@mnquilt.org or talk with Sharon Peterson, coordinator for this event.
February Show and Tell

1. [Image of a picture of two children]
2. [Image of a colorful quilt]
3. [Image of a quilt with various patterns]
4. [Image of a quilt with multiple squares]
5. [Image of a quilt with a star design]
6. [Image of a quilt with animal designs]
7. [Image of a quilt with a landscape painting]
8. [Image of a quilt with a bear and a school bus]
9. [Image of a quilt with a grid design]
10. [Image of a quilt with various houses]
11. [Image of a quilt with patches of different designs]
12. [Image of a quilt with a teddy bear and a panda]
13. [Image of a quilt with diamond shapes]
14. [Image of a quilt with a grid pattern]
15. [Image of a quilt with embroidered patterns]
16. [Image of a quilt with a simple design]
February Show and Tell (cont.)

**Message From Our President**

When MQ was just in its beginnings I took a class from Jay Reeves on the double Irish Chain. Well, it’s 37 years later and I still have that partially done quilt in my pile of to-dos. I was adopted and my dad was Irish, so I got married 53 years ago on St. Patrick’s Day to this wonderful guy. Found out I’m not Irish and I think that’s why I didn’t finish that quilt top. Besides, I love appliqué, not patchwork. Do you think it’s time to get rid of that unfinished project? Let me know.

**President’s Blocks**

It has been customary to make a favorite quilt block for the president of MQ. Patty Van Arxs chose 6” finished blocks in purple. Kathie Simon Frank wants finished 12” blocks with a nature theme, and I would like finished 12” blocks with a chickens. Let’s hope we can keep up the tradition.

**Speaker’s Bureau**

The office gets requests occasionally for speakers willing to do programs on quilting. If you have a program and are willing to present it, please let the president know. I would like to keep a list for the office so they can direct the requests.

**Charity Quilting**

MQ members make many quilts for others. If you quilt for charity, let us know. We would like to keep a list of all the quilting projects (dog beds, baby quilts, etc.) being done by members. We hope to get a good list to put in the newsletter. Send this information to president@mnquilt.org

**April ~ Happy Birthday Minnesota Quilters and Thank You Volunteers!**

Minnesota Quilters will celebrate its birthday and say "Thank You" to all our fantastic volunteers during the month of April.

Each year we recognize one Outstanding Volunteer. It is a daunting challenge and we need your help. Please send any nominations you have to membership@mnquilt.org as soon as possible. Without our volunteers we could not exist.

We will have a birthday party with cake at the Thursday evening and Saturday morning meetings. Five of our volunteer members will be featured and show their favorite quilts.

There will be a continental breakfast before the Saturday morning meeting to honor volunteers. All members are welcome.

**Minnesota Quilters Needs You!**

Here are the Board positions that need to be filled and will begin on October 1, 2015:

**President-Elect** – three-year commitment - 1st year president-elect, 2nd year president, 3rd year past president (this can be a shared position). The President-Elect assists the President and oversees the Scholarship and Grant programs. This position is also a member of the finance committee.

**Secretary** – 2-year term. The Secretary takes the minutes at the Board meetings and supplies a newsletter article summarizing the board meetings.

**Co-Education Director** – 2-year term – shared position with continuing director Charlette Pittman. The Education Directors organize monthly meetings and arranges for lectures/workshops. They oversee the Holiday Brunch committee, Fall Getaway committee, and in-town retreats. They write newsletter articles to keep membership informed of upcoming programs.

**Co-Communications Director** – 2-year term - shared position with continuing director Karen O’Brien. The Communications Directors oversee the newsletter, State fair, website and other means of communication and technology.

**Co-Operations Director** – 2-year term – shared position with continuing director Suzanne Fisher. The Operations Directors oversee insurance, MQ equipment, volunteers and building/office management. The Operations Director is also a member of the Finance Committee.

**Co-Membership Director** – 2-year term – shared position with continuing director Mary Ann Baraibar. The Membership Directors oversee all aspects of our membership, including planning activities to recruit new members and working with the Membership Coordinators at the monthly meetings.

For the complete job description please click the following link. http://www.mnquilt.org/mqboard/index.html

If you are interested in any of these Board positions please send your name, phone number and email to nomcom@mnquilt.org and a member of the nominating committee will call you.
**2015 RAFFLE QUILT ~ STARS ON THE WATER**

Thank you to Sandi Irish of the Irish Chain who donated her skills and time to design, piece and quilt “Stars on the Water”. She did a phenomenal job. The fabric is by Cherrywood.

Raffle tickets are $2.00. We can only take checks or cash. Tickets will be available for purchase at the MQ monthly meetings and during the 2015 MQ Quilt Show and Conference in Duluth. You may also request tickets by calling the MQ office at 612-436-0449 or by e-mail at quilter@mnquilt.org. Tickets can be picked up at the office or mailed to you.

We encourage you to contact the office to check out the quilt and take it to your local guild. This helps promote the June show and sell raffle tickets. Mary Pozzini says, “My personal plan is to buy tickets every month and then win the quilt. I really want it!”

Minnesota Quilters, Inc. uses the proceeds from the raffle quilt to support its mission to celebrate the art of quilting. The raffle drawing will be held on Saturday, June 13th, 2015 at 4 pm at the DECC in Duluth. YOU NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN.

If you have any questions, please contact rafflequilt2015@mnquilt.org. Thank you for your generosity in making this fundraiser a success.

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**WISH LIST**

Here are some ways you can support Minnesota Quilters with items you no longer need, items you want to purchase for MQ, and/or your services. We will be so grateful for your donations!

1) **A PODIUM, a LECTERN, or a sturdy MUSIC STAND**
   We are searching for a donation of a podium, lectern, or sturdy music stand to use for announcements and speakers at MQ meetings. For questions and more information, please contact Sharon Peterson and Charlette Pittman in care of the MQ office at: 1203 Fifth Street SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414-2030 or phone (612) 436-0449.

2) **SPONSOR A MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTION:**
   If you’d like to support our library, please consider sponsoring a subscription of a quilt magazine to the MQ library. Send an e-mail expressing your interest to kathie@umn.edu and we can tell you which magazines we want to subscribe to and how much that subscription will cost.

3) **SHARE YOUR FINANCIAL KNOWLEDGE WITH MQ for 3-4 HOURS PER YEAR**
   We are looking for a few people with knowledge of finances and investments who can advise MQ for about 4 hours on its investment policy. Friends of MQ members, husbands, wives, sisters, brothers, daughters, sons, etc. are eligible to share their talents with us in this way! Contact Kathie Simon Frank at pastpres@mnquilt.org if you can help us out.

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**MQP Corner**

Many people who go to the Minnesota Quilters Show and Conference start planning their visit well in advance. Classes are chosen, hotel rooms are booked, and we look forward in anticipation to the many exhibits and booths. Please add the Minnesota Quilt Project (MQP) booth to your not-to-be-missed list of things to see at the 2015 MQ Show in Duluth.

“Signature Quilts,” also known as “Album Quilts” from the past to the present will be the featured display. Among them will be the old Lavinia Fedderly quilt that MQP is replicating, along with the replicated quilt top. Thank you, everyone who made a block for the quilt. If anyone has a Signature/Album quilt, whether it’s old or new, that you’d be willing to loan just for the duration of the show, June 10 (preview), 11, 12 and 13, please contact mqp@mnquilt.org. Signature Blocks and Star Blocks in solid fabrics will be the themes for our newest Block Books.

The MQP booth also will have collectable quilts and miscellaneous items for sale, as well as used books, patterns and magazines. If you have any items you would like to donate, MQP would be happy to accept them, and they would be considered a charitable donation.

Pat Cox will be doing quilt appraisals by appointment on June 12. Please check the MQ Show Registration Book for more information, or the Show website, www.mnquilt.org/mq2015 and click the Activities tab, then the Becoming Involved tab.

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Kathy Brevig
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, especially Rebecca Finch for taking the Gallery Exhibit Coordinator position. Thanks Rebecca!

All volunteers need to record their hours on the white slips at the meetings. Since our fiscal year started on October 1, 2014 you have turned in 322 volunteer hours on the white slips for the first quarter of this year. This does not include the Board or Show Committee. Keep up the good work!

If any of you are interested in the following positions or have questions about them, please send an email to 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 started on Oct. 1 and there are still some positions open. Please let us know if you would be interested in volunteering for a position this year.

Current available positions:

**Historian:** The historian keeps a scrapbook of newsletters and any interesting articles or information about our organization. If you like to scrapbook this might be the position for you. For more information see Martha Eaves, President Elect, at our next meeting.

**Membership Co-Coordinator, Evening:** We need two people for this. The membership coordinators work with the board membership directors to set up the membership table on Thursday night and help check in people. For more information see Anne McCandless at the membership table at our next meeting.

**Meeting Co-Coordinator, Evening:** This person helps the other meeting coordinator run meetings and hand out door prizes. For more information talk to Sue Sandager at the meeting.

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**Needed: Studios for the 2015 Minnesota Quilters Studio Tours Event on August 8, 2015**

The first year the studios on the tour were in the center of Minneapolis and St. Paul. Last year we toured studios in the southeast section of the metro area: Apple Valley, Eagan, Lakeville, etc. This year it is time to take the studio tours to the southwest metro region, which is the area west of 35 W and south (or close to) 394/12.

If you live in the area around south Minneapolis, Richfield, Bloomington, St. Louis Park, Hopkins, Minnetonka, Wayzata, Eden Prairie, etc., and would be willing to let us tour your personal quilting space for our annual fund-raiser, please contact Kate Eelkema at keelkema@comcast.net, or call the MQ office. Tours take place from 1 to 5:30 pm Saturday afternoon, after the morning MQ meeting on August 8. If your studio is on the tour, you still get to see all of the other studios, as we have a private tour for studio owners and assistants before the public tour on Saturday.

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**Fat Quarter Drawing**

Molly ODea won the red fat quarters in February. Reminder - there will be no fat quarter drawing in March when we meet in Eagan. For April please bring up to 3 fat quarters that are sky blue with clouds, stars, moons, or rain drops.

Contribute up to three fat quarters (approximately 18”x22”) of quilt shop quality 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 three). Attach your complete name, address and phone number to each fat quarter. Bring fat quarters to meetings or mail them to Minnesota Quilters, 1203 5th St. SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414-2030. Fat quarters should arrive before the Saturday meeting. Label the envelope “FQ Drawing”. We draw one name at the start of the Saturday meetings. You need not be present to win.

Becca Brakett

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**Volunteer Corner**

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**Library Report**

If you don't win a door prize and the free table disappoints you, you can still get all sorts of free fun and inspiration at a MQ meeting from the library.

The library committee is now in Stage Two of its revitalization and has cataloged and organized dozens of books that are available for members to check out at meetings. Look for the cart at the back of the meeting room. Don’t be surprised though if you are offered the opportunity to staff the library some Thursday night or Saturday morning. If you are interested in joining the library committee, please drop me a line at barbarajones14@comcast.net with your contact information. You would be most welcome.

Two more things—We appreciate your donations. If you would like to clear out your books and magazines so you have space to store new ones, please donate to the library. You can bring books and magazines to any meeting and drop them with the volunteer at the library cart.

And, we have the opportunity to build the library through purchases. Laura Nagel has purchased for the committee many books by the quilters who will be teaching at the show in Duluth. If you have a book to recommend, please send an email to librarian@mnquilt.org and we will look at it. Thank you and happy reading!

Barbara Jones

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Fatquarter@mnquilt.org

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Becca Brakett
Minnesota Quilters 2015 Show ~ Duluth ~ June 11-13

2015 Show Committee
Show Coordinator ~ Laura Nagel (Apple Valley)
Admissions ~ Jean Carr (Hugo), Rita Culshaw (Ham Lake)
Banquet ~ Kathie Simon Frank (Minneapolis)
Bus Tours ~ Gail Kieper (Eagan), Mary Tague (Mahtomedi)
Challenge ~ Lori Allison (Prior Lake)
Charming City Stroll ~ Wynn Martin (Marine on St. Croix)
Door Prizes ~ Nancy Broshat (Minneapolis), Carla Kilkelley (Richfield)
Information Desk ~ Nancy Hall (Nisswa), Loretta Stone (St. Paul Park)
Judged Quilts ~ Miki Peine (St. Paul), Karen Kopitzke (Afton)
Merchandise ~ Wanda Shelton (Roseville)
Non-Judged Quilts ~ Ellen Carter (Eden Prairie), Lynette Disrud (Eden Prairie), Mary Lueders (Wayzata)
Powerpoint ~ Sue Rutford (White Bear Lake)
Photography ~ Peggy Stockwell (Taylors Falls)
Printing & Publishing ~ Janet Watt (Maplewood), Karen Knoll (Lino Lakes)
Raffle Quilt ~ Sandi Irish (Inver Grove Heights)
Raffle Quilt Tickets ~ Open!
Registration ~ Jan Wolfram (Denver, CO), Audrey Weinand (Blaine), Jan Schmidt (Coon Rapids), Sharon Johnson (Blaine)
Secretary ~ Rebecca Finch (Minneapolis)
Signage ~ Vickie Perschbacher (Coon Rapids), Pat Solfest (Lino Lakes), Rose Allen (St. Paul)
Small Quilt Auction ~ Martha Eaves (St. Paul), Doris Kraemer (Eagan)
Special Exhibits ~ Paulette Marini (Minnetonka), Lisa Stene (Eden Prairie)
Vendors ~ Sue Rutford (White Bear Lake), Doug Rutford (White Bear Lake)
Volunteers ~ Virginia Gleason (St. Cloud), Jean Hoff (St. Cloud)
Website ~ Pat Curtner (St. Paul), Karen Kopitzke (Afton)
Show Director ~ Linda Wines, showdirector@mnquilt.org

IMPORTANT DATES FROM THE 2015 SHOW REGISTRATION BOOK
Advance Registration (See pages 33-35 for more information *)
  Members Only: Began January 16, 2015
  General: Began February 1, 2015
  Deadline: May 1, 2015 (mail-in) ;May 15, 2015 (online)
Non-Judged/Youth Exhibit/President’s Challenge (see pages 7, 11-12 for more information *)
  Entry Form Submission Deadline: April 18, 2015
Judged Exhibit (See pages 13-17 for more information *)
  Entry Form Submission Deadline: April 18, 2015
2015 Challenge Quilt (See page 7 for more information *)
  Entry Form Submission Deadline: April 25, 2015
Scrap Quilt Challenge (See page 7 for more information *)
  Entry Form Submission Deadline: April 15, 2015

* Page numbers listed refer to the 2015 Show Registration Book
**Registration for the 37th Annual Quilt Show and Conference**

**NOW OPEN TO ALL**

**Tick Tock … The Clock is Running Toward Duluth**

On February 1st registration opened to the general public. With that, competition heats up for a seat in your wished-for classes and lectures. So register now! Register early! Even though June may seem a long way off, some classes are already beginning to fill.

Online registration (www.mnquilt.org/mq2015) is in real time so you will know immediately whether or not you are registered for your selected classes. Class sessions, lectures, events, and merchandise will calculate automatically as you add items. You will see your total and be able to make changes before you finalize and pay.

You can make online changes to your registration any time before May 25, 2015. After that you will need to email your changes to registration2015@mnquilt.org or mail them to the MQ office. We are unable to accept verbal changes or phone messages simply because it is too easy to mishear the instructions. When it is written out, we will know what to do.

Remember, MQ offers cancellation insurance to protect you from life's surprises. If you purchase this insurance ($20.00) when you register, you will receive a 100 percent refund for classes, lectures, and special events as long as you cancel before May 25, 2015. Cancellation insurance does not cover the registration fee, box lunches, merchandise, or the insurance fee itself.

If you don't have access to the internet, don't worry. You can still register by sending your completed form and payment to the MQ office. With this method, it's a good idea to select a second choice for your classes in case your first choice is filled. Mail-in registrations must be received by May 1, 2015, and are confirmed by mail to you.

Registration details are on pages 33-35 of your registration booklet.

Registration Committee: Audrey Weinand, Jan Wolfgram, Jan Schmidt, and Sharon Johnson

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**Small Quilt Auction**

sqa2015@mnquilt.org

**Unslumping**

[with apologies to Dr. Suess]

On a cold, wintry day with few flakes on the ground,
I sit at my window—no inspiration found.
I want to unslump…if you know what I mean…
I want to make a quilt that is fit for a queen.
But what should I do, just to get grooving?
A small quilt donation…my mood is improving:

- A pincushion or purse,
- A hat or a bowl,
- A postcard, a pin,
- Quilt or tablemat.

The bells are now ringing and colors are flowing
I am now unslumped and my ideas are growing.

So join me in giving the best you can do
And you will find yourself unslumped too!

The Small Quilt Auction Committee is accepting donations down to the opening of the show, but if you want your name in the drawing for a $50 certificate to the store of your choice, you must submit it by May 1!! Just a little incentive to get moving on this!

Bring your donation to Show and Tell at the meetings to turn in or mail to the MQ office. And thanks!

Doris Kraemer and Martha Eaves

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**Some lucky person may win a doorprize because of your generous donation!**

Doorprize donations can be dropped off at a meeting or sent to the MQ office.

*Thank you from the Doorprize Committee*

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**Thank You Quilting For Others!**

One of the nine heartstrings quilts delivered to the Harriet Tubman Women’s Shelter in February.
Judged Exhibit Entries  
judged2015@mnquilt.org

Judged Exhibit entry at the Minnesota Quilters, Inc. 37th Annual Quilt Show and Conference in Duluth, Minnesota, June 11-13, 2015, is now open!

We can only accept 200 entries in the Judged exhibit so if you are considering entering, do it early. The entries will be judged on Monday, June 8, 2015, at the DECC by certified National Quilt Association judges. Entrants receive a comment sheet from the judges indicating what you do well and where you may need to work on your skills.

Entries are due by midnight on April 18, 2015, and do require a photograph. A photo of the completed top is enough. We want each and every quilt to show to its best advantage and use the photos to help us place quilts for hanging.

If you have never entered a quilt in the Judged exhibit, you are in for a serious thrill. Seeing your quilt hanging with all the other fabulous quilts is the experience of a lifetime. Even quilters who enter their quilts in many shows never get over the pleasure of seeing it exhibited.

Your quilt can be entered either online or on paper. To enter on line, click here to open the entry form. Paper forms can be found in the 2015 Minnesota Quilters Show Registration Book (available at your local quilt shop) or click on this link, 2015 Show Website, to go to the complete show website.

Karen Kopitzke and Miki Peine

Did You Purchase a 2015 “Dueling Dahlias” Challenge Packet?  

In addition to having your quilted item exhibited in the 2015 MQ Show & Conference, you have the opportunity to also exhibit it at Eagan Community Center and/or the Minneapolis Public Library’s Cargill Room!

When we receive your 2015 Challenge entry form at the MQ office by April 24th, we will send you a form for these two additional exhibits.

Please consider letting us show your work at these gallery exhibits.

(Reminder: Your challenge quilt or item for the show in Duluth is due at the MQ office by May 29th.)

Are You Making a Quilt for the Minnesota Quilter 2015 ScrapMania Challenge?  

Your donated scrap quilt can be sold to benefit MQ “Quilting for Others” and be exhibited at the Textile Center after the MQ Show and Conference.

Follow the instructions on the 2-page entry forms available at http://mnquilt.org/forms/ScrapQuiltChallengeExhibitionEntryForms.pdf or you can call the MQ Office at 612-436-0449.

(Reminder: The due dates for your entry form and ScrapMania Quilts are noted on the entry form)

SPECIAL EXHIBIT - 2015 DULUTH QUILT SHOW

Northern Lights Machine Quilters Guild of Duluth, MN

When you enter the front doors of the Duluth Convention Center please take a minute to look up. There you will see an array of quilts hanging from the railings of the second floor. These wonderful quilts are the work of the Northern Lights Machine Quilters Guild of Duluth, MN. Yes the “home town ladies” are welcoming all to their city, and showing off with a display of their current work. This is a collection of quilts made by members who participated in a Judy Niemeyer “Desert Sky” workshop in 2014. It is sure to be an amazing site for all to behold and what a wonderful way to wet our appetites for all the marvels that lay beyond.
Special Exhibit Preview for the 2015 Duluth Show ~ Cover to Cover Book

Club Quilters

In December 2000, a book club for quilters organized in the Portland area. In an effort to make more interesting quilts and be motivated to get them finished, this unique group of artists decided to challenge itself to make artwork inspired by literature.

All members read the same book and each member then creates a quilt using the book as inspiration. Their time line is 6 months for each book/quilt. Minnesota Quilts is honored to have two of their book-to-quilt collections in the Duluth Show; Peter Pan and Alice's Adventures in Wonderland. Each quilt is in the range of 40 x 50 inches and there are at least 15 quilts for each book. The group’s goal is to "work for personal growth as artists with the common desire to develop new skills, put them to use and then celebrate the outcome". I am very excited about this exhibit and cannot wait to see their actual work.

Paulette Marini

New Class Offering (not listed in show book, but information is on show website)

SET YOURSELF FREE: Free form cutting and piecing two day workshop by Shelly Burge
Wednesday and Thursday

Add spontaneity to your quilting with this workshop; loosen up and expand your creativity. Shelly will demonstrate a variety of free hand rotary cut and piecing techniques which will inspire students to create unique block designs. They will use these blocks in their own original quilts. Shelly will demonstrate a few embellishing techniques and a variety of faced quilt edge finishes.

Basic Supplies: Sharp pencil, neutral color thread for piecing, rotary cutter with new SHARP blade (28 and/or 45mm), rotary cutting mat (17” x 23”), rotary cutting rulers (6” or 12” square and a straight ruler such as 3” x 18”), scissors that cut right to the tip for clipping curves, two 1-gallon ziplock bags (for storing pieces) and a 20” x 10” piece of Lightweight Tear-Away Stabilizer (Sulky for example). Sewing machine in good working order with foot pedal and power cord, (bring ¼” piecing foot, cording foot and zigzag foot if you have them), extension cord, power strip, iron and small ironing pad.

Fabrics: Select an “inspiration fabric” that you are excited about using; this will be the focus that will help you pick the rest of your fabrics. It should have at least 4 to 5 colors in it to help establish the color scheme for your quilt. Bring 1 to 1 ½ yards of this fabric.

Bring a variety of coordinating fabrics in each of the colors found in your “inspiration fabric”, at least two of each color. You can select more colors to add sparkle and contrast. Some students bring as many fabrics as they can carry but a minimum of 20 fabrics that you like together is suggested. Bring fat quarters to half yard pieces. You can also bring scrap pieces if they are at least 6” squares or 2” wide strips.

Optional Fabric Suggestions (remember that a minimum of 20 fabrics is recommended):

- Assortment of black and white prints with a variety of clear bright prints or solids.
- Assortment of solid color fabrics.
- Assortment of hand dyed fabrics.

2015 © Shelly Burge www.shellyburge.com
April Block of the Month: Check It Out

Jeanne LaMoore and Wynn Martin

This month’s block is quick and promises colorful results. It begins with two fat quarters in the same monochromatic color, one light and one dark. For example, dark blue and light blue, or dark green and light green. Just pick a favorite color but not too light, not too bold and not too dark. As you select your fabrics, think about choosing tone on tone, rather than multi-color prints. Aim for subtle blending rather than sharp contrast.

The block is a simple 7x7 grid in a checkerboard pattern. As shown in the illustration, each block will have dark fabric at each corner. To break up the pattern, you will randomly add one snow white square to the block. This random square should be on the inside of the block, not on the outer edge.

Cutting instructions:
Cut 4 strips of dark fabric at 2 ¼” x 18”
Cut 4 strips of light fabric at 2 ¼” x 18”
Cut one square of snow white at 2 ¼” x 2 ¼”

Assembly:
Sew the dark strips to the light strips in alternating sequence using a scant ¼” seam. Press all seams toward the darker fabric. After pressing, cut 7 strip sections of 2 ¼” each. At this point, remove one dark square from the end of 3 strips. Then remove one light square from the end of the remaining four strips. Arrange the strips in checkerboard fashion.

At this point, decide where you want to place the 2 ¼” square. Unstitch the strip and substitute the white square in the desired position.

Stitch all seven strips into the checkerboard grid. Make sure the outer corners show dark fabric.
Your block will measure 12 ¾” square (12 ¼” when sewn to adjacent blocks.)

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 for the winner’s use (a border or other finishing touches).
If you cannot bring the blocks to the quilt meeting, you may mail them to the MQ office.
Please allow adequate time for the blocks to arrive before the meeting.

Block of the Month, Minnesota Quilters, Inc., 1203 Fifth St. SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414
To help us celebrate more winners, we will draw two names if we have over 20 blocks (3 if we have 30+, 4 if we have 40+).
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.
The drawing for the February “From the Heart” blocks will be in March at Eagan High School.

For Sale: Gammill Classic Plus. Used less than 50 hours. Overhead lighting, hydraulics, many accessories. Contact Jonda at 612-803-4312 or jndelozier@hotmail.com

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 Quilters Future Show Dates & Locations - Save the Dates!
2015 Duluth - June 11-13
2016 St Cloud - June 9-11
2017 Duluth - June 8-10
2018 St Cloud - June 14-16
2019 Rochester - June 13-15*
2020 St Cloud - June 11-13
2021 Rochester - June 10-12*

* Tentative
Why would I need a class?

If you haven’t already registered for the 2015 MQ Quilt Show & Conference, it’s time to make a serious decision about what class or classes to take now that registration is open to all – members and non-members alike. Hopefully you were inspired by the class samples and slide show. If you weren’t at the January meeting, then take the time to check out the classes and photos of the projects on the show website http://www.cvent.com/events/2015-mq-quilt-show-and-conference/event-summary-83740f2682ba49c4927aea03f1fca1fd.aspx

If you have been quilting as long as I have, you might wonder why you would need a class at all, haven’t you already mastered matching seams, mitering corners, sashing blocks and measuring accurately for borders? But what about a new technique like Laura Heine’s collage with large floral prints or Mary Elizabeth Kinch’s English paper piecing or Mike Ellingsen’s advice for stacking, slashing and shuffling your fabrics so each of your Crazy Cats is unique? There are new tools to discover with Sue Pelland’s curved templates to rotary cut appliqué designs and Susan Cleveland’s piped binding and double-pointed Dresden tools.

Maybe you already have one of Lori Allison’s patterns, but haven’t set aside the time to actually make the quilt or table runner. Or do you have Amanda Jean Nyberg’s Sunday Morning Quilts and need some encouragement to explore the new style of contemporary quilts. She has so many options for you.

Looking for an excuse to purchase some really fabulous fabrics? Enroll in any of Paula Nadelstern’s classes and she will demonstrate how to look at your fabric in a whole new way, and then teach you how to cut it into simple shapes that will yield spectacular blocks. Selecting fabrics will never be the same!

What about maximizing the resources you already have? How many of you have feet (for your machine) that you have never tried? Wendy Butler Berns has several embellishing techniques that will put them to good use. If you have an embroidery machine or are thinking of purchasing one, see what Nina McVeigh offers with her Quilting in the Hoop class. As a Bernina instructor, she will be able to answer all of your questions.

Does your right brain lay dormant, waiting for a creative opportunity to produce something totally original? Try Shelly Burge’s Set Yourself Free – no pattern, no rules, just follow your intuition. And if you want to be really artistic, follow Laura Murray’s lead as she welcomes you into her colorful world of Paintstiks.

But maybe you are a quilter on a mission, in need of that special one-of-a-kind personal quilt. What could be more perfect than a quilted likeness of a favorite photograph? It’s a Big World Kitty will make that an achievable goal. If your intention is to make a reproduction quilt, learning Kinch’s chaos theory of scrap piecing is a must. And if you just want to know how old your antique quilts are, Carol Butzke can shed some light on the dates of the fabrics that were used in your vintage collectibles.

Then again you might be thinking about those projects that are waiting to be finished. Never fear, finishing touches are what Karen McTavish and Sue Heinz are all about. Whether you are adept at long-arming or use your domestic machine, these ladies have all the answers for selecting and designing the appropriate quilting motif for your quilts – from heirloom feathers to background fillers – you will go home ready to put your pedal to the metal.

And don’t forget the added benefits of taking a class: being influenced by a teacher whose work you admire, spending time with a friend who is taking the class with you, meeting new quilters with similar interests, and don’t forget – having a good time while pursuing your favorite passion. Remember, taking a class is an investment in yourself, and we all know you are worth it.

Then when you are all done, take Covington and Eelkema’s advice and enter your quilts in a judged competition. You’re better than you think you are.
Business Member Focus
Introducing Anne Hurlburt and Scandia Quilt Studio

Anne Hurlburt, a longtime Business Member of Minnesota Quilters, has been sewing since she was a child, when she made her first quilt from dressmaking scraps on her mother’s Singer Featherweight. She sewed mostly clothing until the mid-1980’s, when she purchased Georgia Bonesteel’s Lap Quilting. She cut out templates from the sides of cereal boxes and made a small lap quilt. “Soon I discovered the new rotary cutter and rulers and it was transforming.” She quilted queen size quilts on her domestic Bernina until she bought a home that had room for a large studio. She purchased her Gammill Optimum with Statler Stitcher in 2008.

Anne’s professional background is in city planning and management. She got her BS in Urban Planning from Iowa State, moved to Minnesota and got a job with the city of Cottage Grove for 9 ½ years as a planner and then planning director. She spent five years at the Metropolitan Council as a planning manager before becoming Community Development Director for the City of Plymouth, where she worked for thirteen years. Her last job was as the first City Administrator for the newly-incorporated City of Scandia.

“When I bought the longarm, it was with an eye toward quilting becoming my career after retirement. By the time the machine was paid for, I’d be eligible for my pension. When my husband experienced some health issues and took his retirement from 3M about three years ago, I was ready. I was able to retire in October of 2012, and since then I’ve been a ‘full-time’ quilter.”

Most of her quilting uses the computer, but she uses whatever method is necessary to achieve the desired results, so she does a little bit of hand-guiding too. “I buy patterns from many designers, and also use some of my own. (I have over 11,000 patterns, and counting.) I do sell a few to other computerized quilters as downloads from my website.” She has also done some patterns for raw edge applique, some custom digitizing and work with interior and clothing designers to translate their drawings into custom quilted fabrics, and some digitized names and logos to be sewn into quilts by other quilters.

She started using Art and Stitch (digitizing software) as soon as it came out, and one of the first things she did after retiring was to become a certified instructor. Since then she has taught here in Minnesota (for Country Loft Quilt & Design in Forest Lake) and in Colorado, Iowa and Virginia. “I teach beginners as well as more advanced students.” She offers two-day workshops and two hour sessions on specific topics such as designing applique or pantograph quilting patterns. One-on-one sessions are also available. She has also helped new Statler users learn the Creative Studio and Pattern Viewer and Manager programs.

In addition to quilting of all types, she offers a wide variety of batting and thread options to her customers. “I will also handle all or part of the binding if they desire. I offer free delivery and/or pickup within fifty miles, and free return shipping. I offer a new customer discount as well as referral bonuses for my customers who refer their friends. Most quilts are completed in 2 or 3 weeks. They say that if you do what you love, you’ll never work a day in your life. I think I’m living that dream! While I enjoyed most aspects of my city government career, the fun, creativity and flexibility that my quilting career offers me is the best.”


Bulletin Board

April 14-May 8, Dakota County Star Quilters 20th Annual Quilt Show, Dakota County Historical Society Museum, 130 3rd Avenue North, South St. Paul, MN. www.dakotahistory.org, April 14, Lecture, “Capering with Creativity and Our Quilts” by Wendy Butler Berns, 1 pm and 7 pm. Tickets are $10 and includes entry to the museum. Class with Wendy Butler Burns, April 15, $35. Contact Trisha at trisha2041@yahoo.com about tickets to the lecture or the class.


April 24-25, “Quilting Through the Seasons”, Quilt Show Presented by Maple Grove Quilters at Maple Grove Community Center, 12951 Weaver Lake Road, Maple Grove, MN, 763-494-6500. Member quilt exhibit, guild challenge exhibit, raffle quilt, demonstrations, boutique, vendors, prizes. Friday 10 – 7 & Saturday, 9 – 4, $4 admission. www.maplegrovequilts.org

JUNE 19-20, Pinetree Patchworkers Quilt Show, Brainerd High School, 702 So. 5th St., Brainerd, MN

Over 200 quilts, plus vendors, boutique, silent auction, raffle quilt, refreshments, challenge quilts. Cherrywood “Wicked” Challenge Quilt exhibit. Pam Dinndorf of Aardvark Quilts will be teaching a half day class Friday and Trunk show Friday night featuring “Adventures in Color.” find us on Facebook - Pinetree Patchworkers Quilt Guild
Featuring Five Minnesota Quilters Members in April

Diana Callahan
I’ve always loved handwork -- embroidery, knitting, sewing, needlepoint, crewel -- just put a needle in my hand and I’ll be happy.

I first tried quilt making because my mother bought herself a quilt kit. She said she was looking forward to retiring from teaching because then she would have time to make a quilt. Well time passed, she retired and instead of going to work on the quilt, she brought the kit to me explaining that she was just too busy to find time and asked that I take on that project. So I made the quilt and the rest is history. I loved the whole process from picking out the colors to putting the last stitch in the binding. I’m proud of the tiny stitches that I have learned to make and really enjoy appliquing the designs. There’s always a new skill to challenge me. I do my own quilting by hand and particularly enjoy working with traditional patterns and colors.

I think I’ve been a member of MQ for over 15 years. I really enjoy the programs and the diversity of the membership.

Lynette Wass
Sometime during the bicentennial Woman’s Day magazine offered a kit to make a log cabin “Quilt as you go” in rainbow pin dots. Though the blocks sat in a box for 25 years before being passed on, I was hooked.

I come from a long line of sewers but no one quilted. So, I took my first class in 1982 and joined MQ soon afterward. Having taught/mentored many women since, I still enjoy taking classes. It’s never too late to learn something new.

With a background in interior design and a love for color and fabric, dreaming up new ideas for quilts never gets old…..guess I will have to live to 147.

Carrie D’Andrea
I was asked the other day “How many quilts have you made?” So I got to thinking-beginning when and what counts as a quilt? So here is what I came up with-in 20 years I made over 60, including queen size bed quilts, lap quilts, wall hangings, table runners, purses, bags, tea cozies and book covers not to mention the five waiting to be completed. There are at least 10 on my design/build list.

My first 2 quilts were hand appliquéd and hand quilted queen size wedding quilts made for our daughters, before I took my first quilt class. Since then I have tried new techniques, new styles, and new colors and taken many classes. I love bright and saturated colors, jewel tones and Asian fabrics. And I quilt them all on my Janome domestic machine.

Susan Manning
I started sewing in 1963 shortly after my first daughter was born. In the mid 70’s I was working at the Cotton Shoppe in Anoka and I took a quilting class from Nancy just before she opened Glad Creations.

I joined Minnesota Quilters in the mid 90’s, we met at the union hall at that time. I sat next to Kris Campbell. She was president of Forest Lake Memorial Quilters, I joined. Quilters make great friends.

I like traditional quilts but also enjoy the new modern techniques. Picking the fabrics and piecing are my favorite parts of quilting. I love that quilting has endless possibilities.

Carol Premack
I have been quilting since 1990 when I took a beginner’s quilt-as-you-go six block sampler class at Eydie’s quilt shop. I had no idea then how many wonderful and creative people I would meet, how many new friends I would make, how much fun it would be, or how much time, energy, effort (and money) I would spend on this new “hobby.”

Like many quilters at that time, I started collecting small floral prints, peach, green, and mauve fabrics. Bright colors seemed to only be available in children’s prints. I soon discovered Jinny Beyer and Asian designs, Hoffman floral fabrics, and eventually batiks.

Most of the quilts I have made in the last twenty years have been from bright fabrics, hand quilted, using size eight pearl cotton. Embroidery, buttons, beads and other embellishments are also part of many of the quilts which I have completed in the last ten years. I enjoy adding the personal and small details that are a “reward” for those who choose to look more closely. I have made several large quilts, including bed quilts for my sons, but now do mostly wall and baby quilts.

In 1999 I learned about Gwen Marston’s Liberated Quilting, bought the book, and following the directions (but no pattern or templates!) made a few house blocks. It was so much fun that I created my first house quilt, which included thirty-one unique blocks. I have made many “house quilts” since then, often using fabric that I’ve painted or sun-printed for the sky. I especially enjoy using fun fabrics for the “windows”.

I joined Minnesota Quilters in 1997 when I heard that Jinny Beyer was going to be a guest speaker at one of their meetings, and thought that membership was required to attend a meeting. I soon learned that it wasn’t necessary to be a member in order to go to a meeting, but it was one of the best mistakes I’ve ever made!

As a child, my favorite toys were Crayola crayons, coloring books, construction paper, paint, glitter and beads. Although there were no quilters in my family, my grandmother taught me cross stitch and other embroidery stitching when I was eight years old. I learned to knit in order to earn a Girl Scout badge, and as an adult learned needlepoint, crochet and hardanger. With that background, I knew that it was just a matter of time until I learned to quilt. It’s been a quarter century since and I am still going strong!
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Or print the form from this web location: http://www.mnquilt.org/documents/PaperMembershipForm.pdf