Minnesota Quilters May Meetings
Thursday, May 5th, 7 pm
Saturday, May 7th, 10 am
Guest Speaker Rene Iannarelli
“My Journey to Contemporary Quilting”

Rene states that it is wonderful as she ages and finds gardening a little more difficult, she has time to apply techniques in color theory, design processes, embellishments, surface design, sun printing, hand dying, felting, fine piecing, and painting on fabric that she has learned over the last thirty years of quilting. She finds that sharing her approach in designing, color theory, and execution of the idea especially to traditional quilters, provides others the “permission” they often seek to think out of the box.

Most of her inspiration is found around her in nature, particularly plants and trees. She says, “The majority of the time an idea just pops and I go with it. My toolbox contains a selection of natural and synthetic materials and includes hand dyed cottons, silks, commercial fabrics and a variety of embellishments. I am satisfied when the finished product reflects my inspiration and vision. When others appreciate the creation, I feel I have accomplished my goal.”

“I have been fortunate to have taken classes from national and international quilting experts including Karen Combs, Wendy Bilter Berns, Liz Porter, Carol Taylor, Sheila Frampton Cooper, and Gwen Marston. Additionally, I have taught classes on Sunshine and Shadow, Lone Star, Attic Windows, Striped Drunkard’s Patch, Three Dimensional Bow Tie, Permission to Play, and Nine Patch Revised, as well as offering presentations to various quilt and fiber art guilds.

On Friday Rene will be teaching “Nine Patch Revisited - Moving from Traditional to Contemporary”.

Congratulations Ruth Herbst!
Minnesota Quilter’s 2016 Outstanding Volunteer

Ruth Herbst started sewing on her Mom’s treadle sewing machine when she was about 8 years old and has been sewing ever since. She bought her first sewing machine, a Singer sewing machine, when they became available after World War II. Today, she has been married for 60 years, owns 5 sewing machines, and has devoted over one third of her basement for sewing.

When Ruth first joined Minnesota Quilters in 1994 or 1995, she took a class from Carol Wagner who had recently won an award for her quilt of the Statue of Liberty in a sitting pose. One of the first quilts that Ruth made after that was titled “trip around the world”. She would see a picture or pattern that she liked for the quilt and would make her own stencils. Over the years, Ruth has made quilts for others, including each of her three children, six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Ruth estimates that she has 10-15 wall hangings at her home.

Ruth’s current goal is to “use up” her stash of fabric contained in 25 shoe boxes and drawers by making lap quilts.

Soon after joining MQ, Ruth volunteered to help serve Saturday morning coffee with Charlotte Pittman at the Textile center, then she worked with Kara Albrecht and Tina Hollerman. She has been staffing the kitchen ever since. Ruth commented that she has enjoyed doing the job and is so glad that MQ members are bringing in treats for the meetings. Ruth who is in her “top 80s in age” said that other kitchen helpers will soon take over the job, which will allow her to sit and enjoy the quilt meetings. Ruth added that she is “overwhelmed that she was chosen” for the 2016 Outstanding Volunteer award since there are other members that do so much volunteering.
Upcoming Events

May 5th and 7th, MQ Meetings, Renee Iannarelli, Guest Speaker

May 6th, Renee Iannarelli Workshop: "Nine Patch Revisited - Moving from Traditional to Contemporary"

June 9th - 11th, Minnesota Quilters 38th Annual Quilt Show and Conference, River’s Edge Convention Center, St. Cloud, MN. Classes begin June 8th.

July 7th, MQ Meeting, Reverend Paula Sanders

July 9th, MQ Bus Tour to Brainerd!

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

MQ Board of Directors Meetings: Finance Meeting-May 17, Board Meeting-May 24. 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 June Newsletter: Tuesday, May 10. 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 March Board Meeting

The changes and clarifications to the Investment Policy were presented and approved. The Move Committee presented information about another potential office and meeting location. Candidates for Outstanding Volunteer were presented and one was chosen. The next Board Meeting will be on April 26, 2016 at 6:00 pm in Classroom A. Respectfully submitted, Karen Knoll, Secretary

ALL MEMBERS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND.

Minnesota Quilters On The Move

The board has begun negotiating on a shared space located in the Twin Cities. Because we are only in the beginning of the process, we are not saying where it is located. The space is affordable, accessible and has plenty of well-lit parking, which are some of the criteria we are looking for in our new location. We will continue to check out other leads, so please continue to send them to: OPS@MNQuilt.org. We will keep you updated on the progress we make.

Suzanne Fisher, MQ Operations

No Studio Tours in August

There will be no studio tours in August this year, as there were not enough volunteers. We will take a year off, and perhaps there will be more interest in 2017. The plan was to have the tours in the NW section of the Metro this year, and then in the NE section the following year (north of I 94 and east of I 35 E). After the 2016 show Kate Eelkema will ask for volunteers in either of those two areas, and if one of them can provide six volunteers, that is where the studio tours will be in 2017. Thank you to everyone who has supported the studio tours in the past.

Kate Eelkema

Butterfly Challenge Participants

First I want to thank you all for your marvelous response to the Challenge. All quilts will be displayed via a clothesline so no sleeve is required. Be sure to have your own name and address pinned to the back so the winner of the challenge can be contacted. There is also a butterfly tag that I am giving out to anyone who asks for it or gives me their registration form. If you could stitch these on yourself, that would make hanging easier. If you turned in your quilt form later than April 22, you will not be in the show book but I would still like your name and city and whether you are a current MQ member so I can list it on the exhibit sign.

Thanks again, Martha Eaves
Put Yourself in the Way of Beauty

I like to think a lot about creativity when it comes to my quilting life. I read about it, and ponder the ideas of others. I put myself in situations where I can experience the creativity of others (which is one reason my favorite part of any quilt meeting has always been the Show and Tell). And I attend quilt shows or museum exhibits as often as I can, especially the really good shows like that of Minnesota Quilters coming up in St. Cloud!!

Recently, I traveled to Connecticut with my husband and son; they went so they could attend a football coaches’ seminar. I went so I could see the sights in the area, which for me is making up my own “quilt shop hop” of all the quilt stores I can find in the region. What a jackpot I found in Connecticu! First, being timid the first day to drive the freeways, I went to the Bruce Museum which was only a few miles from where we were staying. Discovered, by pure happenstance, that the Museum had a Special Exhibit called, “And Still We Rise”. It was an exhibit curated by African American artist Dr Carolyn Mazloomi and included 40+ quilts displaying a timeline from when slaves were first brought to the US to the present. Each quilter picked an event or experience related to this timeline, which was either one of celebration or of hardship, and re-created that in fabric, beads, paint, buttons, folded and textured fabrics, and quilting stitches of various sizes and kinds.

I followed up that amazing day with my own quilt shop hop of the area, where I met many shop owners, and left MQ bookmarks about our show. We quilters are a friendly “breed”, and I tried to leave the Connecticut quilters I met with a positive view of Minnesota and its creative quilters. In return, they gave me discounts, a free show bag, a neat 6” ruler that this “queen of the rulers” did not have, and a sense of how much quilters like to share their creative work with each other. Talk about a win, win experience.

Adding my traveling experiences with my recent pondering about creativity I have some learnings I would share for you to ponder with me:

Be courageous enough to share your work in public. Put things into shows; participate in Show and Tell; join in group quilt making. All these things help nurture your own self growth and ultimately your own creativity.

Make things that you have fun making! Do you like tiny squares pieced together where the result is hundreds of tiny squares? Others will love that you did that piecing, even if they won’t try it themselves.

Being creative does seem to require a willingness to take risks. But creative risks are different than other risk-taking behaviors in that you learn things regardless and do not really harm anything.

Being creative does not preclude developing basic skills. Learning about thread, how to bind to get square corners, how to add borders so they won’t waffle, controlling big machine quilting stitches…these are all things I need to learn more about but there are people and classes to teach me.

I loved reading that Georgia O’Keefe used to paint in the nude…I am not suggesting you sew in the nude (although I do sew in my pajamas!) but rather that it is okay to be both rebellious and conventional in your creative urges…

Martha A. Eaves, President

Help!!

Need people to help with Judged Quilts before and after the show!

All of the quilts that will be judged arrive at Miki Peine’s office. The shipped ones need to be unpacked and all of the entries need to be sorted into categories and then repacked to send to the show.

After the show, all the quilts that have not been picked up at the show are sent back to the MQ office. Most of these will need to be packed and shipped either back to their owners or on to another show.

We will unpack and sort on Thursday, June 2, 2016, after 5:00 p.m. We will sort, pack and ship on Tuesday, June 14, 2016, starting at 9:00 a.m.

If you can help with either of these activities, it would be great. The more hands we have, the quicker we can be done!

Send an email to judged2016@mnquilt.org to let us know if you can join us.

THANK YOU! Karen Kopitzke & Miki Peine

Important Show Deadline Dates

Advance Registration
Advance Registration - May 1 (mail in), May 15 (on-line).

Donate a Quilt - Quilt and form must arrive in the MQ office by Wednesday, June 1.

Final quilt Drop-off date for Judged Quilts - All quilts either hand delivered or shipped must be received by Thursday, May 26.

Non-Judged Quilts and Youth Quilts – must be delivered to one of the quilt shops listed on page 8 of the show book or delivered to the MQ office between Saturday May 27 to Thursday June 2.

Minnesota Hail to Thee Challenge Quilts - must be received in the MQ office by Friday, May 27.

EACH ONE TEACH ONE, SPREAD THE LOVE OF QUILTING!
April Meetings Highlights

Minnesota Quilters April meetings were delightful, and very busy! Since April is our birthday month we had cake, and four different MQ members talked about their quilting journeys and shared some of their fabulous quilts. In addition, on Saturday morning there was a Volunteer Appreciation Continental Breakfast and the Garage Sale to raise funds to buy door prizes for the show.

Thank you for sharing your quilts! Nancy Bekedam, Tracy Westhoff, Carol Hancuh and Nancy Birger

The sale was a huge success, we made $1,308. We sold 4 sewing machines, a big board, tons of fabric, books, patterns and miscellaneous sewing supplies.

Thank you to all who donated items and to those members who came to shop and support our sale!

Here are just of few of the wonderful quilts that were shown at the April meetings:

Nancy Bekedam

Tracy Westhoff

Carol Hancuh

Nancy Birger
Focus on Minnesota Quilters Business Members - Bev Proulx

After Bev Proulx retired from teaching high school and college English, she hoped to travel, spend time with grandchildren, and do more quilting with her new extra time. Quilt she did! Bev designed and made quilts for herself, family, and others. As she made more personal quilts and increased her antique quilt collection, she decided to have several quilts appraised, including ones she had made, ones her grandmother had made, and ones in her collection with unknown makers. Bev knew a great deal about the fabrics used in the older quilts and about the quilt patterns and styles, including the use of colors in particular periods. It was then the appraiser suggested Bev should consider becoming a professional quilt appraiser.

At that suggestion, Bev then took appraisal courses offered by the American Quilter’s Society in Paducah, KY. She then began gaining experience doing appraisals, as well as making presentations where she could use her quilt collection. Bev officially began her business, “Bev’s Quilt Appraisals”, in 2004. She has expanded her offerings over the years to include designing quilts, designing fabrics for a New York company, making presentations on seven different topics, and doing more appraisals each year. New customers still learn about Bev’s services predominately by word of mouth, just as she receives referrals from past customers and quilt shop owners.

Bev has been studying fabric and quilt history for over 35 years and quilting for over 45 years. In fact, she remembers sitting on the wooden parlor floor about age 3 under a quilt on a frame at her grandmother’s farmhouse. Bev remembers the needles going up and down on the pretty fabric. That was her encouragement to quilt and sew, as grandma was the matriarch all admired.

Over the years, Bev has acquired a reference library of books regarding quilt and fabric history, which includes styles, trends, dyes, fabric types, etc. Bev continues to gather information by participating in study groups, by taking history courses, by touring quilt museums, and by adding the latest books and research to her library. All of this helps her when appraising and discussing those quilts with the clients.

Bev encourages quilters to have their quilts appraised, both ones they will give as gifts and ones they will keep for themselves. Also, family heirlooms provide information about the family. If getting a family quilt appraised, Bev recommends the maker or owner should bring as much information as possible to the appraisal. This information should include the first, middle, maiden, and married name of the quilt maker, and when and where the maker was born and died. Information about where the quilt came from and how it was found is also important. Bev said that “every bit of information is very helpful”, including whether the owner inherited the quilt from a great-aunt or found the quilt in a closet.

One appraisal proved the need for such information. Bev was appraising at a quilt show in Upper Michigan. The woman brought in a quilt with the back showing and folded in quarters. Her 12-year-old son had found the quilt all wrapped in newspaper laying on an attic beam in grandma’s house. When the woman opened the paper, it disintegrated and coal dust covered the quilt. Naturally, the woman washed it clean. They were sure the grandma has made it. After checking the backing and binding, Bev asked for the birth and death dates for Grandma. When Bev turned the corner of the quilt over and saw it had solid red feathered stars on a white background, with 9-patch posts and 3-fabric sashing, she told the woman that grandma could not have made it. The Turkey Red fabric had heavy, close quilting. The large 9 block quilt top pattern would have been made and quilted between 1850-1875, and likely in Indiana or Ohio because of its style. The woman knew the family had settled in Ohio before ever going to the Upper Peninsula in Michigan. A quilt such as that one could not be dated precisely, just within an approximate quarter century.

In addition to conducting appraisals, Bev makes presentations using antique and contemporary quilts from her quilt collection. Topics include quilt history, fabric history, block styles, “quilts for little folks”, and color use. She also teaches a four-hour color workshop for retreat groups and guilds. Students bring fabrics to the workshop and gain confidence using color, including “fabric they thought they didn’t like”. As a former teacher, Bev enjoys making presentations and “sharing her passion, knowledge and collections with others”. She really enjoys it when someone has a quilt and wants to know more about it. The consultation gives her a chance to intertwine her love of fabrics and history with a strong interest in genealogy, as well.

Contact Bev Proulx by phone at 651-674-7142, by email at bevroulx@usfamily.net, or by mail at P.O. Box 451, North Branch, MN 55056.
**Board Applicants for June Election at Annual Meeting**

Next year will be an exciting year to be on the board. We will be in a new meeting site and hopefully doing even more new and exciting quilt activities.

We have upcoming board elections at our Annual Meeting in June for some of the board positions. The following positions are filled by the nature of their current terms:

- **Co-Presidents:** Rose Allen and Pat Curtner
- **Past President:** Martha Eaves
- **Secretary:** Karen Knoll

We will be voting to fill openings for President Elect, Treasurer, Operations, Membership, Education, and Communications. The Nominating Committee has been fortunate to have several members who have indicated their willingness to stand for election for some of these open positions, and you will get a detailed informational sheet about each candidate running before you vote in June at the Annual Meeting. As you will see from the list below, we have some great candidates stepping forward, but we also have some positions with no one running at this time.

- **President- Elect:** Adrianne Lemberg
- **Treasurer:** Vicci Mattsfield (Vicci is our current treasurer, and is willing to continue for 2 more years.)
- **Education:** Merle Pratt
- **Operations:** Kathie Simon Frank
- **Membership:** Open
- **Communications:** Open

(See the bios for Adrianne, Merle and Kathie on the next page.)

After the June election, the new board members assume their responsibilities on October 1, 2016. Please feel free to talk with existing board members, including Bonnie Ellis, past president, and Martha Eaves, President, if you have any questions about the board commitment, or want to throw your hat into the ring! You can self-nominate; but do not nominate another person without making sure they want to be nominated. You may run for any of these positions even if another person has already stepped forward.

Here are descriptions for the board positions for the year beginning October 1, 2016.

**President Elect**— A three year commitment: 1st year as President Elect, 2nd year as President, 3rd year as Past President (these can be shared positions). The President Elect assists the President and oversees the Scholarship and Grant programs. This position is also a member of the finance committee.

**Co-Communications Director**— A two year term. Shared position with Rebecca Finch. The Communications Directors oversee the newsletter, State Fair, website and other means of communication and technology.

**Co-Education Director**— A two year term, shared with continuing director Sharon Peterson. The Education Directors organize monthly meetings and arrange workshops and lectures. They oversee the Holiday Brunch committee, Fall Get-Away committee and in town retreats. They write newsletter articles to keep membership informed of upcoming programs.

**Co-Operations Director**— A two year term, shared position with continuing Director Judy Lewis. The Operations Directors oversee insurance, MQ equipment, volunteers, building/office management. The Operations Director is also a member of the finance committee.

**Co-Membership Director**— A two year term-shared position with Director Barbara Jackson. The Membership Directors oversee all aspects of our membership, including planning activities to recruit new members and working with membership coordinators at the monthly meetings.

If you are interested in any of these Board positions, please contact:
Martha Eaves, President, president@mnquilt.org, or Bonnie Ellis, Past President, pastpres@mnquilt.org.

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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.
**2016 MQ Board Candidate Bios:**

**President Elect:**
Adrienne Lemberg, Hudson WI
The textile bug has had me all of my life. At an early age I begged my mom to let me sew, knit, crochet and even weave on Grandma's rug loom. 4-H became my sewing outlet, then eventually to a degree in textiles and design from UW-Stout.

About 1996 I started sewing quilts. The local quilt guild opened the world of quilting to me, connections to other quilters, programs, projects, serving on its board and show committee and the introduction to my first MQ show.

For about 10 years I have benefitted from my membership in MQ, friendships, inspiring speakers, volunteering at meetings and co-chairing the fat quarter committee for a time. Experience at several MQ shows has included working with judged and non-judged quilts, to co-chairing the non-judged quilts this year. For several years I worked with a vendor from set up to take down at MQ quilt shows. Other related experience of working behind the scenes with large organizations includes our professional reading association, its board, and co-chairing their young authors’ event for several years.

I feel that an organization is really its members. I understand a lot of hard work and coordination happens behind the scenes to have an organization run as smoothly and vibrantly as MQ does. When I belong to a group I feel a responsibility to contribute as best I can to promote that organization. It would be an honor to work with the MQ board to continue the role that it has in this community.

**Treasurer:**
Vicci Mattsfield, Wyoming MN
Vicci is our current Treasurer.

**Education:**
Merle Pratt, Apple Valley MN
I am the mother of 6 and grandmother of 23. I made my first dress when I was in the 6th grade and have been sewing ever since. I made my first quilt when I was in high school. Sewing for a cottage business paid a lot of my college and over the years I have done a lot of garment sewing for my children and for hire. When my children were little, I sewed for a quilt business. For the last couple of years I have had my own business as a longarm quilter.

Education is one of my biggest interests. Introducing people to sewing, and in particular quilting, is probably my favorite thing to do. Four of my daughters and my one son all quilt and I have taught numerous beginning sewing and quilting classes.

Outside of sewing I have been a public librarian, a genealogical librarian, and the business manager for a summer theatre. I am currently serving as co-chair of the Non-Judged exhibits for the 2016 show.

I love to see the beautiful works of art that quilting can be and admire them greatly but I consider myself to be more of a technician than an artist. I love to see my quilts used, loved, and even worn out!

**Operations:**
Katherine (Kathie) Simon Frank, Minneapolis, MN
I have MQ Board experience in several capacities. I served as secretary for two years (2007-2009), and then as co-president-elect, co-president, and co-past-president with Patty Von Arx (2012-2015). In these latter roles I learned much about the essential day-to-day operations of MQ I believe I can contribute to the ongoing smooth operations of the organization.

I have a broad understanding of the Minnesota Quilters organization as a whole. From 2006-2008, I co-chaired the Fat Quarter Drawing. I have been on the show committee since 2007, at various times co-chairing Special Exhibits, Door Prizes, Small Quilt Auction, Information, Special Events, and, this year, Raffle Quilt Ticket Sales. In 2011 MQ awarded me with its Outstanding Volunteer award. I was both very humbled and honored to be recognized in this way. In 2012, I led a group of 40 MQ members who made the 2012 Minnesota Quilters raffle quilt "Shakespeare in the Park" designed by Judy Martin. Jeanne LaMoore and I currently co-chair the Block of the Month activity. I also am a member of the Search Committee and the MQ Library Committee.

I enjoy working together with others to maintain, further, and enhance Minnesota Quilters, Inc. to be the best organization it can be, to meet the needs of its current members, to anticipate the desires and needs of future members, and to carry the tradition of quilting into the future.

**Communications:** Open
**Membership:** Open

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**Minnesota Hail to Thee Challenge Quilts**

If you wanted to enter a quilt but missed the deadline, contact Anne or Shirley, challenge2016@mnquilt.org. We will try to work something out. If we can't get it into the exhibit at the show, we would like to include it in the Swedish Institute Exhibit in September. Don't forget to fill out your Gallery Exhibit Form as well.

The Challenge Entry deadline is May 26. You can drop them off at the May meeting or bring/send them to the MQ office. Be sure to mark your calendars and have your beautiful works included in the St. Cloud Quilt Show!

Anne McCandless and Shirley Arendt
Attention Mystery Quilt Designers!

The MQ Fall Getaway chairs are looking for proposals for a Mystery Quilt design to be presented to the participants at the Fall Getaway at the Green Lake Bible Camp in Spicer, Minnesota, October 13-16, 2016.

Participants have expressed a desire to have smaller projects that can be completed during the retreat, such as a table topper, table runner or a tote/purse.

You must be available to attend the retreat to present the mystery clues and to help participants if they have questions.

Please send your proposals by June 1 to Trish Timms and Char Wenger at fallgetaway@mnquilt.org.

Volunteer Corner

Hello to all our wonderful MQ members. Many thanks to all of you who volunteered this past month. We need and appreciate all of you especially Joyce Ruppert and Nancy Prentice for volunteering to take over the Meeting Hospitality Coordinator Day positions. We also thank Ruth Herbst and Tina Hollerman for all their work. All volunteers need to record their hours on the white slips at the meetings. Since the first quarter of our fiscal year starting Oct. 1 you have turned in 707 hours on the white slips. Keep up the good work. If any of you are interested in the following positions or have questions about them please send us an email 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 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 year. We need you badly! Remember this is a volunteer organization!

Current available positions:

- **Gallery Exhibit Committee:** Rebecca Finch is looking for help on this committee. See her at the meeting or email mqgalleryexibits@mnquilt.org.
- **Meeting Coordinator, Day:** This person helps the other meeting coordinator run meetings and hand out door prizes. For more information talk to Loretta Stone at a meeting.
- **Historian:** This position keeps info, newsletters and important papers in an album or scrapbook for MQ. For more information contact President Martha Eaves.

Fat Quarter Drawing – MAY DOTS AND SPOTS

The April fat quarters were won by Aileen Lively. This was the combined IRISH fabrics from March and the SKY theme from April.

I can see that we MN Quilters are just worker bees. We produced more of the Block of the Month entries (which actually need sewing) than Fat Quarters that just need to be measured and cut! I am hoping that the theme in May might inspire more entries. Our May theme is DOTS & SPOTS - Dotted Swiss, Polka Dots, Big Dots, leopard spots, maybe even a Dalmation print would qualify. And I can just see a wild bubbly quilt that might come of this.

**JUNE - NO DRAWING- SEE YOU AT THE SHOW!**

July 2016 – Theme will be FLAGS or red white and blue prints

Fat quarter drawing rules: You can contribute up to three fat quarters of quilt-shop quality 100% cotton fabric in the theme of the month and we’ll enter your name in the drawing for that month (one entry for each fat quarter, up to a maximum of 3). Please attach your complete name, address and phone number to each fat quarter. Bring your fat quarter(s) 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 your envelope “FQ Drawing.” We draw one name at the Saturday meeting. You need not be present to win.

Molly O'Dea and Becca Brackett co-chairs.

No Block of the Month for June

We’ll draw for winner(s) of our "May Day Basket" blocks of the month on Saturday, May 7th. We look forward to receiving blocks from both Thursday, May 5th attendees, as well as those who attend on Saturday. Limit 3 blocks per person. See instructions in April newsletter.

We had two winners of "Singin' in the Rain" blocks in the April drawing:
12 umbrella blocks went to Elise Frederick and 11 went to Markey Dwyer. Those cheery umbrellas will surely cheer up everyone's rainy days! See the beautiful blocks on page 8.

Instead of making blocks of the month for June, we urge you to submit quilts to: the non-judged section at the MQ show in June in St. Cloud, or one of the challenges, such as the MQ President's butterfly baby quilts or the Cherry-wood Challenge "Minnesota Hail to Thee!" or the MQ paint chip challenge, or one of the fund-raisers like the Small Quilt Auction or the quilt sale at Abbott in November!

Look in the June newsletter for our July Block of the Month.

Kathie and Jeanne
**Reminders from Your Registration Committee**

**Online registration for the 2016 MQ Show closes at midnight on May 15th.**

Right now you have a few weeks left to register online for classes, lectures, and events of the show, but time is running out quickly. Online registration via www.mnquilt.org/mq2016 is in real time so you will know right away if what you register for goes through (some things may have filled by now). Class sessions, lectures, events, and merchandise will calculate automatically as you add items, and the total cost will display before you move on to pay.

Mail-in registrations must be at the Minnesota Quilters office by May 1st.

Even though time is closing in, unforeseen occurrences are still possible. So please consider purchasing registration insurance. If you purchase this insurance ($20) when you register, you will receive a 100 percent refund for classes, lectures, and special events as long as you cancel before May 22, 2016. Please realize that the insurance does not cover your registration fee, ordered lunches and merchandise, or the insurance fee itself.

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

**At the Show**

Bring your confirmation receipt to the registration booth to exchange for your registration packet, containing your name badge and your required tickets. (If you have registered online, you will receive a confirmation receipt via email. If you mailed your registration, you will receive a confirmation receipt through return mail.) Your name badge is required for admission to the show floor and events at the show. You don't need tickets to the classes for which you've registered: simply sign in with the classroom helper when you arrive.

Before the show, be sure to download your class supply lists at www.mnquilt.org/mq2016. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact the registration committee, Jan Wolfgram, Jan Schmidt and Audrey Weinand at registration2016@mnquilt.org.

Audrey Weinand, Jan Wolfgram and Jan Schmidt – 2016 Registration Co-Chairs

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**Small Quilt Auction**

smallquiltauction2016@mnquilt.org

At each Annual Show, Minnesota Quilters offers small quilts and other related quilt items that have been generously donated by our membership, teachers, and other interested quilters in a silent auction. The donations can include small quilts (100 inches circumference or smaller), table runners, purses, wearable art pins, fabric postcards, dolls, bowls, pillow cases, pillows and other small items. These items will illustrate to our show visitors the broad variety of quilting art AND offer our members an opportunity to demonstrate skills, generosity, and support of the Minnesota Quilters organization. In addition some items will be placed on a “Buy It Now” table where items can be purchased.

All donations are now welcome. Please use a safety pin to attach a label with your name, address, telephone number and email (if you have one) and the title (if there is one). Auction proceeds are used to support the mission of Minnesota Quilters, including grants and scholarship programs, the TV shows on quilting aired in Minnesota and our region, and to meet other needs of this volunteer organization.

You may bring your donations to the MQ meetings or mail them to: MN Quilters, 1203 5th Street SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414-2030. ATTN Small Quilt Auction. Donations will be accepted right up to the start of the show. All donations become the property of Minnesota Quilters, although you may buy yours back if you cannot part with it! Your donations are tax deductible. Items not sold will be used for other MQ charitable purposes. We will encourage the bidders to be generous.

Karen Ohlson and Carrie D’Andrea

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**Non-Judged Quilts**

Now that you have entered your quilt into the 2016 MQ Quilt Show, it’s almost SHOW TIME! Time for the final details! Your quilt is quilted and bound. Be certain to attach a hanging sleeve at 90” up from the bottom (directions on MQ website or page 29 of the registration book). It’s very important to have an identifying label attached to the back of the quilt and another to the quilt case/bag.

Soon you will be receiving a letter confirming your entry and detailing final instructions. You will find 2 tags to attach to your quilt and quilt bag. The tags include important information including the drop off and pick up site for your quilt. The carbon receipt will be needed when you drop off your quilt and again during pick up after the show or if you have chosen to mail your quilt, you will need it at that time.

Be sure all the items are identified as “Minnesota Quilters, Non-judged Entry” since many items are transported and this helps to keep the exhibit together.

Volunteers are always needed to hang and take down the show. If you have some time on Tuesday before the show or on Saturday as the show ends, we would love your assistance. Contact us or the show volunteer committee. Thank you. See you there!

Merle Pratt and Adrianne Lemberg, non-judged co-chairs

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**Register and WIN at Minnesota Quilt Show**

Registering for a class at the 2016 Show and Conference can be even more rewarding now!

A-1 Sew Craft in Champlin, MN has generously donated a Janome sewing machine that will be a very special prize to one lucky person who registers for any class at the upcoming show! The drawing will be held after online registration has closed. The last day you can register online for a class is May 15th, and mail-in registrations must be received by May 1st.

Thank you A-1 Sew Craft, for your wonderful support of Minnesota Quilters!
The beautiful umbrella blocks below were the April Block of the Month described in the article on page 8.
JOIN THE 2016 RAFFLE QUILT MOVEMENT!
ARE YOU A PROMOTER?

Please get on board with Raffle Quilt Ticket Sales. Be a raffle quilt Ambassador! Ask for a bundle of raffle tickets (10, 25, 50, 100!) to sell to friends, co-workers, neighbors, fellow club members, and relatives. We'll give you instructions and a pep talk, and we'll loan you the raffle quilt and quilt stand, or give you a stack of beautiful full-color postcards showing the raffle quilt. You sell the tickets, collect the stubs and the money, and return these to the MQ office. It's as simple as that!

We'd love your help in breaking all records for raffle quilt ticket sales! Contact Kathie and Gail at raffletickets2016@mnquilt.org to sign on to promote this beautiful queen-size quilt, Contemporary Amish Sampler, made by the Block Swappers of Blue Earth, Minnesota. Mike Ellingsen designed and made the setting, and Jan Schaffer quilted it.

Kathie Simon Frank and Gail Kieper

Please Donate a Quilt to Minnesota Quilters!

Are you donating a quilt for the Minnesota Quilters Show and Conference sale? These quilts will be sold at the show and at the Abbott Hospital craft sale to benefit Minnesota Quilters in its mission to preserve and promote quilting.

Please bring these quilts to the May MQ meeting.

Quilts not sold at either of the two events will be returned to the donors or given to the Harriet Tubman Shelters.

You will receive a hearty thank you from Minnesota Quilters and an in-kind donation form to use for your tax return. Donation form is on page 19.

Volunteer at the Show!
MQ needs you!
Roll up your sleeves, Join the team, Volunteer with good cheer.

See page 32 of your registration book to enlist today!

Be rewarded with camaraderie, good times, new friends, chances to win great stuff, and the satisfaction of a job well done.

April Show & Tell starts here!

Sue Weiby

Kate Ekkena

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Minnesota Quilt Project

We hope you were able to attend the March MQ meetings with programs sponsored by the Minnesota Quilt Project. Saturday presenter Gail Bakkom described Minnesota quilts and shared antique quilts in her own collection (see picture). Quilts from the collection of Pat Cox were also shown.

If you like vintage quilts, want to learn more about quilt documentation, or want to explore the story of your own family quilts, please join MQP meetings at 8:30 a.m. before the MQ Saturday meeting. Opportunities for participation are coming up at the Quilt Show and at the American Swedish Museum quilt show. Thanks, Carolyn Silflow for MQP

How You Can Participate in the American Swedish Institute
“Dynamic Quilting in the 21st Century” Exhibit
June 18-October 16, 2016

Quilts from Voyage Art Textiles and Minnesota Quilters will be among those being shown at the American Swedish Institute exhibit. Other quilters whose works will be shown are Katriina Flensberg from Sweden (art quilts); Mary Chalmers, Willmar, Minnesota (MQ member); Lola Jenkins, Omaha, Nebraska; Joseph Mallard, Louisville, Kentucky; Janet Hagberg, Minneapolis; Arden Harrison-Bushnell, Minnetonka; Melissa Sobotka, Richardson, Texas and Nancy Crow (unconfirmed as of this article). Minnesota Quilters members will be displaying the “Minnesota Hail to Thee” Challenge, Butterfly Challenge, and quilted garments at the show. We will also be providing quilting and documentation demonstrations, trunk shows and guide/docent services for attendees at the exhibit as well as playing a role in orienting the regular volunteer staff at the museum. Here is a list of the ways you can participate in this very important exhibit:

1. Respond to the Cvent survey that will be sent to all MQ members to let us know what your volunteer interests are and how you will participate in the exhibit.

2. Finish your “Minnesota Hail to Thee” Challenge and/or Butterfly President’s Challenge quilts so that they can be exhibited. The museum staff will select entries to be exhibited from the “Minnesota Hail to Thee” challenge and the Butterfly quilts. They will hang outdoors during the museum’s Midsommer celebration on June 18. Even if your entries are late, we will process them for both our show and the museum exhibit. If you can loan a quilted garment for the exhibit or for a program midway through the exhibit contact mggalleryexhibits@mnquilt.org.

3. Sign up to be a “lead volunteer” during the American Swedish Institute show. Lead volunteers are being asked to work at least six shifts during the June 18-October 16 time period. They will be responsible for guiding exhibit attendees through the show and working with the volunteers.

4. Sign up to participate in quilting and documentation demonstrations and bed turnings. The quilting demonstrations include “Quilting in Action” demonstrations showing how blocks are constructed and quilts are designed, crazy quilting, appliqué techniques, whole cloth hand quilting, portable quilting techniques like English paper piecing, and documentation.

5. Volunteer to provide a quilt trunk show if you have 15-20 quilts you can show. Ideally we would like volunteers to provide three trunk shows in one week (Saturday, Sunday and Wednesday evening).

Special attention is being paid to recruiting volunteers for the Midsommer celebration, which is being held on the day that the quilt exhibit opens, June 18. We want to be present for all of the quilting activities and to promote Minnesota Quilters. If you can participate in any of the above activities, please send email to mggalleryexhibits@mnquilt.org or sign up at the May MQ meeting. Someone will follow up with a telephone call to let you know when you will be needed.

Rebecca Finch
Please Note

When you show a quilt during Show & Tell, please PRINT your name clearly and write a clear description on the sign-in sheet. Just writing, “antique quilt” or “baby quilt” doesn’t help the photographer and editor to match the photos to the names on the list. If people don’t sign the list we will no longer print the photo in the newsletter.
April Show & Tell

Nancy Bekedam

Kathy Faust, both

Anne Tiller, both

Arlene Albrecht

Karen Golden

Anne Tiller

Tracy Westhoff

Pan Placek

Leah Doherty, both

Jan Schmidt, both

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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.

For a printable form from our website go to: http://www.mnquilt.org/documents/PaperMembershipForm.pdf

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