NOVEMBER MEETINGS

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 7 pm and SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 10 am

WORKSHOP FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 9-4

PAT ST. GERMAINE ~ STAR QUILTS, THEIR MEANINGS IN NATIVE AMERICAN CULTURES

Pat St Germaine, an enrolled member of the Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Ojibwe, will be our speaker for the Thursday and Saturday meetings, and teacher for the Friday class.

Pat will discuss a personal history of the star quilt. Pat learned how to make and design regalia and quilts. She will discuss the history of the star quilt and quilts within the Native community.

Pat is a highly regarded elder to whom many turn to for her knowledge for creating not only quilts, but traditional regalia and teepees as well. Her gentle teaching has made her beloved not only within her home community of Lac Courte Oreilles band, but to members from many nations who also reside in Duluth.

Pat will be teaching us the All Nations Star Quilt in a one day class on Friday November 4th, 9-4. In the class you will make a child to lap size quilt. The fee for the class for MQ Members is $45, nonmembers $55. There is also a $12 fee for the pattern, paid directly to Pat St Germaine at the class. There will be no refunds. Email invitations were sent on October 12. Click here to read more about it and/or to register. See last pages of the newsletter for a fun picture of Pat and a picture of the Dignity Statue in Chamberlain, South Dakota.

OPEN HOUSE AT OUR NEW LOCATION, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5th, 1-4

Minnesota Quilters is hosting our Open House on November 5, 1-4 pm to celebrate our move to our new location at The Recovery Church, 253 State Street in St. Paul. We are also celebrating the 2016 successful Quilt Show and Conference in St. Cloud last June, and our collaboration with the American Swedish Institute’s “Quilting Arts Today” exhibit. There will be quilts on display, quilting demonstrations, drawings and door prizes, and refreshments.

Please invite your quilting friends and members of the community to celebrate our new home!

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

Minnesota Quilters
253 State Street
St. Paul, MN 55107
651-224-3572

Office Hours -Tuesday - Friday, 10 am - 4:30 pm

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**Upcoming Events**

**November 3rd and 5th**, Pat St. Germaine, an enrolled member of Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Ojibwe, will speak on the meaning of star quilts in Native American culture and ceremonies.

**November 4**, Pat St. Germaine will teach the Native American techniques for making star quilts. [Click here for more information or to register.]

**November 5**, Open House in our new location, Recovery Church, 1-4 pm

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

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**MQ Board of Directors Meetings**: Combined Finance and Board Meeting—Tuesday, November 15. All board and finance meetings are at 6 pm. Please notify Rose or Pat, president@mnquilt.org if you have an agenda item and/or wish to attend.

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

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**Highlights from the September Board Meeting**

Rebecca Finch will step off the board to assume the 2017 show chair position. Karen Kopitzke will continue as communication director in her place. The board has agreed it is time for a full audit. We will be looking to hire a bookkeeper after the audit is complete. Planning for the Open House is continuing. The next Board Meeting will be on Tuesday October 25, 2016 at 6:00 pm at our new location - 253 State Street, St. Paul.

Respectfully Submitted, Karen Knoll, Secretary

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**MQ Event Cancellation Policy**

In case of inclement weather or another situation that may cause cancellation of an MQ monthly 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 telephone.

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.

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Spring Retreat - Camp Wapo
Message From Our Co-Presidents

Greetings:

We are looking forward to an exciting year ahead. The move is done (yea!) and our new home is getting good reviews. Thanks to all of you (both volunteers and board members) who made this a smooth and successful transition.

Now we are looking ahead to the next year. Here are some of the goals and projects the board is working on:

- Adjusting to our new location - office and storage space is compact, how do we want the meeting room to be arranged, how do we fit with Recovery Church and how can we partner.
- Hosting an open house – November 5 from 1 to 4 pm. Let’s get lots of quilters, friends of quilters and neighbors to join us and learn about what MQ does.
- Staffing changes – we are starting the search for a bookkeeper. This has been part of Linda Wines’ job, but at her suggestion, we are creating a separate position. If you or someone you know is looking for a very flexible part time job, please take a look at the application on our web site.
- Long Range Program Planning – the board has formed a committee to look at programming – both for MQ monthly meetings and classes as well as the show. Many teachers are booked out several years in advance, and we need to reserve a place on their schedule. This committee has been essential in working with faculty for the 2017 show – look for some exciting teachers and classes.
- The web site – work is progressing on a much improved web site – thanks to the technical wizards we have as members.
- Building community through quilting. We would love to see more opportunities for quilters to gather and sew. Our Quilting For Others work is a great opportunity to create comfort, beauty and friendships. We have the meeting room on Fridays and plan to open it for sewing days when there isn’t a class.

If you have suggestions or ideas or just want to get involved – contact us at president@mnquilt.org

Rose Allen and Pat Curtner – MQ Co-Presidents

Minnesota Quilters is Looking for a Bookkeeper

We are seeking an experienced bookkeeper for this flexible, part time position (10 hours a week with flexibility to work up to 30 hours a week at some times of the fiscal year). A full position description and how to apply is available on the Minnesota Quilters web site at http://www.mnquilt.org/mqboard/documents/BookkeeperRequirements2016.pdf

Attention New Quilters!
Opportunity Knocks - Scholarship

Here’s a great opportunity for a beginning quilter who would like to attend MQ’s Quilt Show in Duluth, June 8-10, 2017.

Minnesota Quilters is looking for applicants for the MQ Charter Members’ Scholarship. The deadline is approaching: Applications are due November 15, 2016. The lucky recipient will win a trip to our quilt show. Perks include priority registration, show admission, a class, a lecture, banquet tickets and a hotel room for two nights. For continued inspiration and support as a quilter the winner also receives a one-year membership to Minnesota Quilters.

Applicants must be a beginning quilter of less than two years who is a regional resident and has completed at least one quilt, but less than 3 large quilts or 4 wall hangings. They must submit a 300-500-word essay telling us what quilting means to them and what they would like to learn at the quilt show, and include a photo of their quilts. More details and the application form is available on our website: http://www.mnquilt.org/mqboard/documents/2017ScholarshipForm.pdf

Hurry, as the application is due November 15, 2016. This MQ Charter Members’ Scholarship is offered in honor of our Charter Members who, years ago, saw the importance of celebrating and promoting quilting.
Highlights from October Meetings

Kandace Kelderman and Kim Schissel, owners of Cotton Fans Quilting of Wadena, MN were our guest speakers and teachers for the October meetings. Kandace and Kim presented interesting and entertaining programs on Thursday evening and Saturday morning, and taught a dyeing class along with improvisational piecing techniques at the class on Friday. They have authored the book, *Hot Flashes of Inspiration*.

Fat Quarter Drawing

The two winners of the Leaf theme October fat quarters and orphan blocks were Arloine Fuhr, and Molly O'Dea. Lynn Zuspann has joined Becca in putting on the fat quarters drawing. Welcome Lynn!

For November the color theme is Gray. The winds will have blown the leaves away, and the white snow may not have arrived. Daylight Savings will end on November 6th and we'll have more gray in Minnesota. But gray can be sophisticated and elegant, hope we'll get some like that

Fat Quarters should be 100% cotton quilt-shop quality, approximately 18" x 22". Each person may contribute as many as, but not more than, three FQs per month. Each FQ contributed should have the donor's name. For each FQ contributed, the donor's name is put into the drawing (three entries for 3 FQs donated, two entries for 2 donated).

Donors may bring their choice of FQs to the Thursday or Saturday meeting. Or they may mail their FQs to the MQ office, 253 State Street, St. Paul, MN 55107 so they arrive before the Saturday meeting. Drawings are monthly except June and December. The drawing can now also include any Orphan Blocks that you would like to donate. Winners do not need to be present.

Volunteer Corner

Hello to all our wonderful MQ members. Many thanks to all of you who volunteered this past month: especially Mimi Goodwin - Evening Hospitality Co-Coordinator, and Kathy Morse - Historian. Thanks to all of you! We need and appreciate all of our volunteers! 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 2152 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 at 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 current fiscal year started on Oct 1, 2016 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 Coordinator** - Rebecca Finch is looking for a new coordinator for this committee as she is our new show coordinator. She will train anyone interested. See her at the meeting or email MQgalleryexibits@mnquilt.org
- **Public Relations Coordinator** - See Rebecca Finch about this position if you are interested. She will train the new person.
- **One more Meeting Hospitality Co-coordinators evening** - These people make the coffee and set out the treats for the Thursday evening meetings. Talk to Mimi Goodwin if interested.

Nancy Hall, Loretta Stone and Mary Tague, Volunteer Coordinators

**Membership Co- Coordinator Day:** Talk to Lynette Wass who is the Membership Co-Director.
2016 Holiday Brunch

Saturday December 3, 2016, 10:00 am

We hope you will join us at this year’s Minnesota Quilters Holiday Brunch. It will be held at Edinburgh USA Golf Course, 8700 Edinbrook Crossing, Brooklyn Park, MN 55433. The brunch will be in the Grand Ballroom on 1st floor, the doors will open at 10:00, brunch will be served at 10:45. Click here to register.

Valet parking for the day of our function was requested but we are not sure if it will be available. If the Valet sign is visible close to the front door beginning at 9:45, it means he is working and will gladly take your car to the lot. A tip of $3 - $5 would be appropriate, as they work for tips.

The tradition of Christmas Stockings for St Joseph’s Home for Children in Minneapolis will continue this year with a little different twist. The stockings will not be judged. Instead, because so many stockings are needed, your name will go into a drawing for each stocking donated. So, sew up a storm! The more you make the more chances you have to win. The pattern can be found on the MQ website: www.mnquilt.org/documents/HolidayStockingPattern.pdf. If you are not inclined to make a stocking, stocking stuffers (especially for teens) are badly needed. Monetary gifts are also very appreciated. Make out the check to St Joseph’s. Please make a list of your donations along with your name and address so St Joseph’s can acknowledge your contribution.

For those of you who are collecting blocks for that special Holiday Quilt, we are again having the Holiday Quilt Block Exchange. The blocks are to be 12 ½ x 12 ½ unfinished, with a white or off-white background. You may contribute up to 3 blocks. Use only quality cotton prewashed fabrics. Submit only a block you would like to keep yourself.

Don’t forget to bring your Scavenger Hunt Challenge quilts. The quilt with the most creative and cohesive presentation of items will win a $35 gift card to a Quilt Shop of his/her choice. The winner will be chosen by our MQ Co-Presidents. Make sure to put a label on the back with your name along with the number of items you incorporated into your quilt. If there is a tie for the most items in a quilt, there will be a drawing for $35 gift card to Quilt shop of winner’s choice. The listing of items for the scavenger hunt quilt was in the September and October MQ newsletters.

Registration information was sent to members on October 14 at noon. You may pay by check or credit card when registering online. Tickets are $25 for members and $30 for non-members. If you prefer not to register online, call the MQ office at 651-224-3572.

What else is going to happen? Well, you’ll have to come to find out!

See you at the Holiday Brunch,
Rita Culshaw, Jean Carr and associates, Terri Krysan, Kathie Simon Frank, Yvonne Curran, Mary Ann Baraibar
**Quilting for Others**

**Holiday Stockings for St. Joseph’s Children’s Home**

Making holiday stockings for Saint Josephs Children’s Home is an annual service project for Minnesota Quilters. The stockings are made so that kids who have very little will have a brighter holiday. Stockings made for Saint Josephs can be brought to the Membership meetings (September - November) and to the Holiday Brunch in December. Click on the following link for the stocking pattern. [http://www.mnquilt.org/documents/HolidayStockingPattern.pdf](http://www.mnquilt.org/documents/HolidayStockingPattern.pdf)

**Coasters for Meals on Wheels**

Minnesota Quilters Quilting For Others Project for Meals On Wheels in 2016 will be these easy and quick coasters. Pull out one of those charm packs to make the coasters. Coasters will be collected at the September - December 2016 membership meetings.


**2017 Raffle Quilt ~ “Wish I May”**

“Wish I May”
Designed and assembled by Kristin Lawson of a [little crispy patterns](http://www.minneapolismodernquiltguild.com).  
Pieced by members of the Minneapolis Modern Quilt Guild  
Quilted by Nancy Birger of Little Mother Quilting Company  
Size is 90” x 90, Ticket price is $2.00

**Fall Getaway 2016 – October 13-16**

Twenty-nine quilters enjoyed a beautiful fall weekend retreat at the Green Lake Bible Camp near Spicer, Minnesota. We had great food, lots of sewing time and plenty of laughter. On Friday afternoon several of us took a road trip to the Fabric and Textile Warehouse in Willmar. They gave us a generous 20% discount.

On Thursday night the group had a meet and greet and played a fun trivia game. Friday night we had two demonstrations – Carol Jacobson led us through the instructions for making a simple mitered receiving blanket and Rebecca Anderson showed us how to make fun placemats using striped fabric and a 60 degree ruler. Saturday night was our Show and Tell portion of the retreat. Of course, we had lots of door prizes, too!

Trish Timms presented a mystery tote pattern that was completed by several of the retreaters.

We collected 33 blocks that will be turned into three baby quilts for Quilting for Others.

Thank you to Minnesota Quilters, DeAnn’s Country Village Shoppe in Litchfield, Kathy Yano, Gerri Crane and Char Wenger for Door Prize donations. Thank you to Trish Timms for the adorable notions bags she made for everyone! Thank you to Char Wenger for the knitted dishcloths she made for everyone!

Please plan to join us in October, 2017. Dates will be announced soon in the MQ Newsletter and on the MQ website. Char Wenger and Trish Timms. Fall Getaway Co-Chairs

**President’s Block**

As is the custom for MN Quilters, a block made by members may be contributed for the outgoing President. Martha Eaves would like to have a friendship block that is either lime green or pink (any shades) with a muslin background, and the contributor’s name printed on the front along one of the star tips on the muslin. You may make the block finish 3”, 4½”, 7½, or 9”.
Join the Minnesota Quilters 2017 Show Committee - We Need You!

Why do we put on a Show and Conference every year? First, its a service to the quilting community and to the quilting industry. Second, its our most important outreach activity (7,000 people attended the show in Duluth). Third, its our most important fund raising activity each year.

Our show exists to celebrate quilting arts as practiced by crafts persons at every level. While we draw quilts from professional and semi-professional quilters who compete for the prize money we make available, our show is primarily organized to display and celebrate the quilts made by nonprofessional participants. This does not mean that we put on a second class show. On the contrary, from the comments we get back from attendees and the organizers of other shows we know that we are innovators and leaders in the field and that our shows are first class all around.

We are able to do this because of the volunteers who come forward each year to co-chair our show subcommittees and to work shifts either before the show or at the show site. Each person who co-chairs a committee receives free registration for the show, a banquet ticket at cost and a free one year membership in Minnesota Quilters.

Five Vacancies Remain on Minnesota Quilters 2017 Show Committee

We have made good progress in the last month on filing the open vacancies on the Show Committee. Faculty is half full, with Mimi Goodwin, a new Minnesota Quilter member, stepping forward to take on responsibility for that position. While Rebecca Finch, Show Coordinator, is working with her on this, we still need one more co-chair for that committee. Two other committees, Volunteers and Charming City Stroll, remain to fill. Markey Dwyer of Duluth is helping by finding ten merchants who are willing to take participate. We are looking for two people to work on this very fun project. Volunteers is a big job so we are looking for two more experienced people to take on this responsibility. A three night hotel benefit is available to the co-chairs of that committee. Please, if you can serve in any of these capacities, contact Rebecca Finch, show coordinator at mq2017@mnquilt.org.

Show Committee Volunteers

Show Coordinator-Rebecca Finch
Show Secretary-Linda Kosfeld
Admissions-Dee Legvold, Mary Tague
Banquet-Brenda Lyseng, Kristina McCaughtry
Bus Tours-Loretta Stone, Marg Lundberg
Challenge 2017-Miki Peine, Karen Kopitzke
Challenge 2018-Linda Kosfeld, Betsy Shannon
Charming Stroll-
Door Prizes-Carla Kilkelly, Nancy Broshat
Facebook-Sharon Peterson
Faculty-Mimi Goodwin
Judged-Kate Eelkema, Melissa Griggs
Merchandise-Wynn Martin, Lynette Disrud
Non-judged-Merle Pratt, Adrienne Lemburg
Photography-Peggy Stockwell
Power Point-Debra Svedberg
Printing-Karen Knoll, Janet Watt
Raffle Quilt Maker-Kristin Lawson
Raffle Ticket Managers-Jude Edling, Martha Eaves
Registration-Jan Schmidt, Char Wenger, Nancy Jean Hall
Signage-Betsy Shannon, Jill Schultz
Small Quilt Auction-Carrie d’Andrea, Karen Ohlson
Special Exhibits-Mary Ann Baraibar, Becca Braclett
Vendor Move-In/Move Out-Barb Jackson, Mary Tague
Volunteers
Website-Pat Curtner, Karen Kopitzke
Youth Exhibit-Paulette Marini, Kathy Simon Frank

Meanwhile, at the MQ office…
Do you restore quilts? Or do you know someone that does? I get calls from people that want to hire someone to restore their family quilts. I’d like to know who does this work. ~ Debra, your MQ Admin. guilter@mnquilt.org

November 2016
NEW CATEGORY FOR JUDGED QUILTS NEXT YEAR

Most quilt shops offer Block of the Month, Row by Row, Mystery, or Kit quilts which provide the pattern and often all the fabric needed to make the quilt. Many quilt shows do not allow these quilts in their judged competitions. In 2017, Minnesota Quilters will have a brand new category in the judged competition of our annual show especially for these kinds of quilts.

Quilts entered into this new WORKMANSHIP category may be constructed by hand or machine. They may include piecing and/or appliqué. They may be completely constructed and quilted by one person, or the quilting may be done by a second person. Since many of the design and/or fabric decisions will have been made by someone other than the entrant, the judges will focus on WORKMANSHIP - how well the entrant has used the given elements to create the finished quilt. This is a single, 1 or 2 person category. Please note that if you have won Block of the Month blocks at a monthly guild meeting and combine those blocks into a quilt, that must be entered into the GROUP category, as it is the work of more than two people. If, however, you have signed up for a Block of the Month quilt at a quilt shop and are receiving a pattern and/or a kit each month which you are assembling yourself, that quilt should be entered into the new Workmanship category.

There were photos of several Row by Row quilts on Facebook last summer. Did you know that there was a special prize for Row by Row quilts at the Minnesota State Fair, but none were entered this year? How about entering those quilts into the MQ show next June? How about the online Mystery quilt offered by MQ this year? How about that kit you just had to buy at the show in St. Cloud? Get those quilts finished and enter them into our new category in 2017!

If you have any questions, please contact judged2017@mnquilt.org. Kate Eelkema

Small Quilt Auction

Last year at the MQ Show in St Cloud the Small Quilt Auction raised a generous amount to support Minnesota Quilters thanks to your wonderful donations. We are doing it again at the 2017 MQ Show in Duluth. This is one of the many opportunities offered to you by the Show to share your skills and contribute to our ongoing success as an organization. The money raised by this auction goes into the general MQ budget and funds our grants program, our scholarship program and other charitable activities of our organization. When you make and donate a small quilt or other quilted item for the Small Quilt Auction, you show your support for the art of quilting as a whole and for MQ as an organization. Plus, the happy bid winner gets to take home an authentic quilter made item!

Thank you in advance for sharing your skills and don’t forget to put this on your “to do” list.

Carrie D’Andrea and Karen Ohlson, Co-chairs.

National Association of Certified Quilt Judges

The NACQJ (National Association of Certified Quilt Judges) is looking forward to partnering with the Minnesota Quilters Show in 2017. Our interaction will focus on two types of activities. First, Certified Judge candidates will gain experience as aides and observers on the judging floor at the MQ Show in Duluth. Secondly, the MQ Show will provide a venue for the evaluation of quilts for the NACQJ’s Masterpiece Quilt Program.

We invite you to visit our website, www.nacqj.com, for more information. Thank you to Minnesota Quilters for its support of the NACQJ Certification program.

Needed: Quilters to Volunteer for a 2017 Minnesota Quilters Studio Tour Event.

There were not enough volunteers last year to offer Studio Tours in 2016. Will there be enough in 2017 so we can hold this fun fundraiser again?

Last year’s tours were supposed to be in the Northwest quadrant of the Metro area - those living north of I394 and west of I35, and the following year we were going to try for the Northeast region - those living north of I94/394 and east of I35. For 2017, let’s see which region has six willing volunteers, and we will go there. (And these division lines are suggestions, not rules - we will definitely allow some variance if you live in Plymouth or Woodbury and are just south of 94/394; we just want the studios to be in the same general area so we can get to all of them in one afternoon.)

So…if you live in either the northwest OR the northeast region of the Metro and are willing to let MQ members tour your personal quilting space from 1:00 to 5:30 pm on Saturday, August 5, 2017, please contact Kate Eelkema at keelkema@comcast.net.

MQP Corner

Do you have special quilt, made by you or someone in your family, that should be documented? The Minnesota Quilt Project will be documenting quilts following the Saturday MQ meeting in November. The process takes about 20 min. and involves making a physical description of the quilt as well as photographing the quilt. Please send an e-mail to mqp@mnquilt.org to make an appointment. The documentation information will be sent to the Quilt Index http://www.quiltindex.org and your quilt will become part of that on-line database. If you would like to be part of the MQP group, please join us at our monthly meeting at 9 before the Saturday MQ meeting.
Picking Up The Pieces -
Sad Rags into Glad Rags

Why is it we can’t say ‘No’ to our children? A year ago my daughter approached me about a friend of hers whose husband’s quilt was slightly worse for wear and wondered if I could take a look at it and possibly ‘fix’ it. Not wanting to tarnish the image of Mom Can Fix Anything that we want our children to have of us, I said I’d take a look. The next time she came for a visit she brought the quilt – I use the term loosely – and it was more than slightly worse for wear. The term Loved to Death quickly came to mind.

Picture if you can an approximately 70” x 80” one-patch corduroy quilt. The squares were roughly 5-6” and cascaded diagonally in color rows down the quilt. There were several holes where the fabrics had ceased to exist. In fact, when laid out on the carpet, there were several large patches of carpet showing through the quilt. The binding was trailing like a sad tale hanging from two sides of the quilt. As for batting, there was none, which I think accounts for the excessive wear and tear on the fabrics. What was holding it together you might wonder – lots of royal blue yarn ties at every corner and in the middle of each square. Oh, my.

I took the quilt and told my daughter to tell her friend I’d see what I could do. The first thing was to take it to my quilt group and get their opinion. If you have ever seen the Cary Grant movie “Mr. Blandings Builds His Dream House” you may remember the scene where he has several contractors look at a piece of dilapidated property he has just purchased to find out how to save it. One after another says, “Tear it down.” That’s pretty much the response I got from everyone in the group. “Let it go.” “You can’t fix that.” “Are you kidding?” Some even went so far as to say it wasn’t even salvageable for a dog bed.

Having empathy for less-than-perfect textiles, I contemplated the possibilities of quilt triage. At first I didn’t think it was as bad as it looked (I do have delusional moments). I thought I could just lay it out on the cutting table, put my 4.5” square ruler on top of each good square of fabric left, cut out ‘new’ patches and stitch them back together. I knew I would have to add some new corduroy fabric to complete some of the color rows, but what’s so hard about sewing together a one-patch quilt? I was about to find out.

I know a little about restoration and realize now that a little knowledge truly is a dangerous thing. It gives you confidence to forge ahead into totally unknown territory. I started by taking before pictures, measuring the quilt, searching for a backing fabric that had similar coloration and paisley pattern, and locating corduroy fabrics to replace the ones that had disintegrated. I made a color grid of the layout and counted how many of each colored square could be re-used.

My initial idea of cutting out patches from the quilt did not work. Corduroy is very wobbly, and I couldn’t always get my ruler to sit perfectly square in the patch so it became necessary to take the rows apart. But first I had to un-tie the quilt. If you have ever taken apart an old quilt, you are in for a few surprises. In the seam allowances, which were not consistent by any means, I could see the original color of most of the fabrics. It was amazing how much they had faded, not to mention that the nap of most of the corduroy had been rubbed completely smooth on the surface. I have no idea what type of sewing machine the maker used, but it made the tightest, smallest stitches I have ever seen. I do believe that some of the fabrics had been either leftover from clothing construction or recycled from existing clothes, as one of the pink fabrics had the hem tape and hand hemming stitches still attached, hidden in the seam allowance, so you can visualize how large some of these seam allowances were.

Finding corduroy fabric in this day and age was not easy, especially the colors and small wale that were used in this quilt. I proceeded to wash and dry the new fabric on hot cycles so it would be consistent with the original fabrics. Have I mentioned how much corduroy sheds? It never stops. The dryer lint screen was packed and there are thousands of little nubs all over my quilt room, which alerted me to the fact that I better clean my machine throughout the process.

Finally I was ready to put the quilt back together. This was the part I was looking forward to, until I actually began stitching on the corduroy. It slides vertically on itself as you begin stitching, but won’t budge an eyelash horizontally because it locks into the groves of the nap. Trying to get each piece to line up, and then match seams when rows came together was a bit of a nightmare. Pinning became mandatory, and a slightly longer stitch aided the process.

As I pieced the rows together, I started to see the top come back to life. When the 4 Seasons sang, “I’d change her sad rags into glad rags if I could,” I don’t think they ever envisioned this sad quilt returning to such a glad quilt. And no one was gladder than me to finish the top, piece the backing, and take it to a quilter who is going to lovingly quilt a flowing design across the top that will hold the fabrics and memories together for as long as possible.

In looking back, sometimes it’s better not to know what you’re getting yourself into. It’s better to just believe in what you are doing and why you are doing it. Because I am a grandmother who makes quilts for my grandchildren, I know the love that this grandmother originally stitched into these squares for her grandson. She wanted him to be warm, find comfort and most of all remember how much she loved him. That is what I saved for her and am giving back to him. It is one of the best reasons why we quilt.

Laura Nagel

November 2016
Thank you all for printing your names and descriptions!
October Show and Tell (cont.)


November 2016
2016 Diamond Level Sponsors:

Country Loft Quilt & Design
1581 Feller St NE Forest Lake, MN 55025
651-464-6260 www.countryloftquilt.com

At The Heart of Quilting
304 4th Ave NE, #2
Waite Park MN 56387
320-259-7774
www.heartofquilting.com

St Cloud Area Convention
and Visitors Bureau
525 Hwy 10 S, St 1
St Cloud MN 56304
www.granitecountry.com

2016 Gold Level Sponsors!

American Professional Quilting Systems
23398 Hwy 30 E, Carroll, IA 50325
800-426-7233 www.apqs.com

Cherrywood Fabrics, Inc.
7881 College Rd
Baxter MN 56401
888-298-0967
www.cherrywoodfabrics.com

Granny’s Legacy Patterns
2351 Hi Tec Ave, Albert Lea MN 56007
507-377-0771 grannyslegacypatterns.com

Gruber’s Quilt Shop
310 4th Ave NE
Waite Park MN 56387
320-259-4360
www.grubersquiltshop.com

Quilt Haven on Main
7 N Main St, Hutchinson MN 55350
320-587-8341 www.quilthavenonmain.com

2016 Silver Level Sponsors:

A1 Sew Craft
12454 Champlin Dr
Champlin MN 55316
763-421-5100
www.a1sewcraft.com

J & M Designs
8189 Cloman Ave E
Inver Grove Heights, MN 55067
651-455-1923

J.J. Stitches
221 E Main St, Sun Prairie WI 53590-2224
608-837-2266
www.jjstitches.com

Liberty Homestead
115 SW 1991 Rd, Kingsville MO 64061
816-597-9402
www.libertyhomestead.com

Martelli Enterprises
5450 N W St
Pensacola FL 32505
850-433-2771
www.martellinotions.com

Sew Cherished
1068 Tablerock Cir
Branson MO 65616-7192
352-459-3925
www.sewcherished.com
Bulletin Board

November 10, 11, 12, Quilt Festival and Tour, Menomie, WI
November 10 – Classes, Pinewood Golf Course, 9-3. November 11 – Classes, Speakers, Mabel Tainter Theater tour, lunch, Barn Quilt Tour in pm. November 12, Hope, Hugs & Healing Quilt Tour. The events of the festival support The Bridge to Hope.

Pat St Germaine
She does more than quilting!

Dignity Statue
Chamberlain
South Dakota

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MQ News is the monthly newsletter for members of Minnesota Quilters, Inc., a nonprofit organization formed to find and unite quilters and quilt enthusiasts throughout the state of Minnesota and elsewhere. MQ News is published twelve times a year by Minnesota Quilters, Inc.

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

Established April 1978.

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

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November 2016