It’s show time! The 39th Annual Quilt Show and Conference is almost here. Quilt exhibitors have been busy piecing, appliquésing, quilting, binding and labeling their creations and delivering them to the MQ office or drop-off locations to be hung for exhibit. Committee workers have been busy organizing the layout of quilts, special exhibits and vendor booths, contacting faculty and judges for last-minute details, arranging bus tours, checking registration, admission and packet pickup procedures, collecting small quilt auction items, door prizes and MQ merchandise, making informational signs, verifying banquet and charming city stroll plans, selling raffle tickets, scheduling volunteers, and updating the MQ website and Facebook.

Quilters taking classes are checking supply lists, gathering fabrics, sewing machines and tools, doing preparatory homework and checking faculty websites for information.

Quilt appreciators are making travel plans, verifying lodging status, estimating budgets, noting new products to find, charging their phones and cameras, packing layers of clothes and the most comfortable shoes. Do you attend to see the quilts, shop at the vendor booths, take classes to learn new techniques, hear lectures, volunteer for MQ, thank the sponsors, or just hang out with quilters? Or all of the above?

Classes begin on Wednesday, followed by Meet the Teachers and Sneak Preview in the evening.

On Thursday admission ticket sales, the exhibit areas and the merchandise mall open; classes and lectures continue through Saturday. Don’t miss the MQ annual meeting and the Grand Banquet on Friday. The show closes at 4:00 pm on Saturday.

Will you have seen it all? The judged quilts, the non-judged quilts, youth quilts, special exhibits, faculty quilts, quilter of the year, charity quilts... Were you inspired? Did you meet friends, shop, eat, enjoy the city, and have a good time? Are you looking forward to doing it all again next year in St. Cloud?

Minnesota’s Quilter’s Diamond level sponsors for the show are At the Heart of Quilting, APQS, Elna 1st Sewing Center, and Janome Kelly J’s Sewing Center. Gold level sponsors are A-1 Sew Craft, Baby Lock—P & D Sewing, Bernina Kelly J’s Sewing Center, Cherrywood Hand-Dyed Fabrics, Country Loft Quilt and Design Innova, Gruber’s Quilt Shop, Millie P’s Quilt Shop, Martelli Enterprises, Primitive Gatherings, and Superior Threads. Silver level sponsors are Granny’s Legacy Pattern Co., Jeri’s Quilt Patch, Liberty Homestead, Nolting Longarm, and Quiltmania.

Many thanks to each of you for making this show great.
Upcoming Events

June 8-10, Minnesota Quilters 39th Annual Quilt Show and Conference, DECC, Duluth, Minnesota, classes begin on Wednesday, June 7th.

June 9, MQ Annual Meeting, noon—1 pm, MQ Quilt Show at the DECC, Duluth

June 19, LRPPI meeting, 5:30-7:30 pm, Recovery Church

June 27, MQ Board of Directors & Finance combined meeting, 6-9 pm, Recovery Church

Please notify Rose Allen or Pat Curtner, president@mnquilt.org if you have an agenda item and/or wish to attend.

July 6, MQ Meeting, First and Last Quilts

July 7, Quilting for Others, 9 am—3 pm, Recovery Church

July 8, MQ Meeting, Off to the Races

July 8, Minnesota Quilt Project meeting, 8:30 am to 10 am

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

DEADLINE for July Newsletter: Tuesday, June 13. Please send newsletter articles to editor@mnquilt.org. Later submissions may be saved for the following month's newsletter.

August 5, Studio Tours, save the date—the 2017 Studio Tours will be from 1:00 to 5:30 pm on Saturday, August 5th. Purchase advance tickets at $20 for MQ members and $25 for non-members. Tickets sold at the studio doors will be $25 for everyone. Tickets will be available at the July and August MQ meetings and may be available at the show in Duluth. Ask at the Merchandise booth.

This year's studios are in the northeast area of the Metro and may be the last group of studios to tour, so don't miss the opportunity to see how quilters arrange their creative spaces. Attend the MQ meeting in the morning on August 5th, have a quick lunch somewhere, and then start your tour.

Volunteer Corner

Hello to all our wonderful MQ members. Many thanks to each of you who volunteered this past month. All volunteers need to record their hours on the white slips at the meetings. If you are interested in the following positions or have questions about them, please email or talk to us at the meetings. If you would like to volunteer for a position that is not listed, please let us know. Our current fiscal year started October 1, 2016, and there are some open positions. Please let us know if you are interested in volunteering for a position this year. We need you badly! Remember, MQ is a volunteer organization. Thanks to Charlotte Pitman for helping at the membership table. We also have a new evening photographer—Cindy Karg. Thank you, Cindy, for volunteering.

Currently available positions

Gallery Exhibit Coordinator – Rebecca Finch wants one more coordinator for this committee and will train anyone interested. Contact her at a meeting or MQgalleryexhibits@mnquilt.org.

Public Relations Coordinator – See Rebecca Finch if interested and she will train you.

Membership Co-Coordinator Day Meetings – Lynette Wass, the Membership Coordinator on the Board, needs one more for this position. Contact membership@mnquilt.org for information.

Library Committee Member Evening Meetings – Martha Eaves would like another person to work with other committee members on goals for our library. Contact her at pastpres@mnquilt.org for information.

Door Prizes – The door prize committee will train volunteers for next year. For more information contact Nancy Broshat at nbroshat@comcast.net or Carla Kilkelly at Carla.kilkelly@gmail.com.

Thank you!
Message From Our Co-Presidents  

Greetings: The biggest event of the Minnesota Quilters year is nearly here – the Show! If you haven’t made plans to attend – do so now. With more than 800 quilts, 75 vendors and a ton of classes, you really don’t want to miss this opportunity to indulge in your favorite activity.

We have been thinking about our favorite aspects of the show.

**Rose:** I really like the classes. We bring national teachers to share new techniques and approaches to quilting. This year I can’t devote my usual 2 to 3 days taking classes, so I appreciate being able to purchase a lecture pass. When my schedule allows, I can pop into a lecture and get a great overview of many of our teachers’ work.

I also like serving on the show committee. In recent years I have served on the special exhibits and signage committees. I know how hard the committee members work. Be sure to thank those members wearing a red apron at the show.

Oh, and of course, I love the quilts, vendors and watching all the quilters gather to enjoy the art of quilting.

**Pat:** My favorite part of the show is seeing the amazing quilts on display. Judged, Non-Judged, Special Exhibits…I love them all!

I've always enjoyed the classes and lectures. Every year the Faculty Committee makes sure we offer a wide variety of topics for any skill level; this year is no exception.

Last, but not least, the vendors! I've been on the show committee for several years so I always do a lot of running around at the show. (Those who know me can vouch for the running). I usually make several dashes through the vendor areas and take notes so I can go back when I have more time. In addition to the vendors, our own MQ merchandise booth always has at least one must-buy item.

We look forward to seeing you at the show!

Rose Allen and Pat Curtner, Co-Presidents

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2017 Minnesota Quilters Show Faculty

- **Barbara Yates Beasley**  
  http://www.barbarayatesbeasley.com

- **Michelle Cartier**  
  http://mdquilts.com

- **Mickey Depre**  
  http://mdquilts.com

- **Kate Eelkema**

- **Gudrun Erla**  
  www.gequiltdesigns.com

- **Pam Goeckle Dindorf**  
  www.aardvarkquilts.com

- **Becky Goldsmith**  
  http://pieceocake.com

- **Laura Heine**  
  http://fiberworks-heine.com

- **Lola Jenkins**  
  http://www.lolasdesignerquilts.net

- **Lori Kennedy**  
  http://theinboxjaunt.com

- **Mary Elizabeth Kinch**  
  http://maryelizabethkinch.com

- **Bonnie Langenfeld**  
  http://www.landscapesinfabric.com

- **Cindy Lohbeck**  
  http://handsonhanddyes.com

- **Karen McTavish**  
  http://mctavishquilting.com

- **Kari Schell**  
  http://onpointquilter.com

- **Annie Unrein**  
  http://www.byannie.com

- **Lecturers**

- **Marilyn Badger**

- **Claudia Clark Myers**  
  http://claudiameyersdesigns.com/quilts-from-my-designs

- **Karla Overland**  
  http://cherrywoodfabrics.bigcartel.com

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Final Non-Judged Quilt Drop-Off Deadline—bring to the DECC June 5 or by noon Tuesday, June 6.

Pictured at left—Rose’s quilt, front and back, from Show & Tell. In May. Look for more Show & Tell quilts throughout the newsletter.—editor
This is just a short reminder that the last stage of our Board elections will take place at the Annual Meeting at the Show in Duluth. If you are unable to attend, you may request an absentee ballot by emailing quilt@mnquilt.org or calling the MQ office at 651-224-3572. The absentee ballot must be mailed back with a postmark of June 9, 2017. You may vote at the Board table during the show if you know you will not be present at the Annual Meeting. To get a ballot, you must be an MQ member. At the Annual Meeting you must show your membership card.

You may write in a candidate’s name, if you have permission from that person. You may self-nominate or nominate someone at the Annual Meeting, if you have that person’s permission. The requirements for accepting a board position are that you will do the job as described on the web page, including attending Board meetings. The names of candidates who have already stepped forward to run are listed below.

2017 candidates for MQ Board:

President-Elect

Elise Frederick  Elise Frederick joined the Minnesota Quilters in 2011. She completed her first quilt at age 18 and postponed starting a second quilt until the arrival of the first grandchild in 2012. She favors pins and needles, with over 50 years of garment sewing and knitting. Elise volunteers at the MQ annual conventions as classroom helper, white glove and tear down. She served as Vice President of the Minnesota Knitters’ Guild in 2004 and President in 2005-2007. Worked for 37 years in the avionics and computer industry as an electrical engineer, with 25 years of engineering management experience at Unisys and Micron.

Secretary

Sharon Lawrence.  Hi. My business career was in a secretarial position. I’ve served on several boards as secretary. I joined MN Quilters to meet new friends and now feel it is time to serve. I feel the previous secretaries have developed a great template to follow. If elected, I will be willing to serve the 2 years term.

Operations

Karen Newman  I started quilting thirty years ago, while living in Lexington, Kentucky. My first child was born and I was on a six month leave from work. I had always wanted to learn to quilt, so this was my chance. I have been hooked ever since! I have worked for IBM for over 35 years in Information Technology. I am currently serving as Operations Director, as I took over the remaining months of a term. This experience has reminded me of the talent and dedication of the MQ Board, volunteers and members. I would be honored to serve in this role for another term.

Education

Diane Rose  I have been quilting since 1994. Before that I did lots of other crafts including knitting, weaving and cross stitch. I love traditional quilts and appliqué but love to see all the different kinds of quilts that are out there! I recently retired from a fulfilling career as a registered nurse, including 17 years as a neonatal nurse. I am enjoying having more free time to quilt and to get involved with MQ!

Membership

Mary Tague. I have been quilting since about 1998. I love color!! And pattern!! And texture!! And...and....and.....Quilts!! Most of the quilts I make are given to family and friends or made for particular purpose such as a specific charity project, a guild project, or a ‘challenge’. I like many techniques and styles of quilts. While working on a project I look for a challenge – either in the pattern itself, the fabric colors chosen, the quilting, or some twist that I add while making the quilt. I piece on an 18 year old Bernina, and quilt on my hand-guided long arm. Between quilting for my long arm customers I quilt for several charity groups – MQ Quilting for Others, Comfort Quilters (western Wisconsin) and American Hero
Candidates, continued from page 4

Quilts. I also love old sewing machines. My husband and I have refurbished a couple of treadle machines and I hope to soon piece and quilt a small table runner on one of them. My current quilting goal is to become more involved with Minnesota Quilters to help promote the goals of MQ and meet more people who share my love of quilts.

Communications

Karen Knoll I made my first quilt at about age 12 but never took a class until many years later.  After attending and volunteering at several MQ shows, I finally joined MQ in 2009. I have been the MQ webmaster since 2010, and have worked on the show registration book since 2012. I am currently finishing my 2nd year as secretary which has been a good introduction to how the board functions.

Door Prize Committee

Nancy Broshat nbroshat@comcast.net
Carla Kilkelly Carla.kilkelly@gmail.com

Last call for door prizes!

We know…you’ve been meaning to…but you keep forgetting…

If you want to donate something as a door prize, it’s not too late. Bring your donations to the show in Duluth. We give door prizes at lectures, classes, the annual meeting, Meet the Teachers and to volunteers. We can always use more. Thanks for your generosity!

Thank you to all who made the garage sale at the May meeting on Saturday morning a huge success! Thank you to those who donated items, thank you to those who BOUGHT all sorts of treasures, and thank you to those who helped set up, oversee, pack up, and haul away the leftovers. We made more than $1,600. Each year it gets bigger and better! We appreciate your support.

70273 Project

Kelly Rose 952.212.7223
kellyerose@comcast.net

I am an MQ member participating in the 70273 project, a worldwide quilt project to commemorate the 70,273 physically and mentally challenged people murdered by the Nazis in 1940 and 1941. Jeanne Hewell-Chambers seeks to gather 70,273 quilt blocks by this fall and asks for donated blocks with a white background and two red X’s on them, made in any fashion.

I am making blocks and piecing tops, which will then need to be layered and quilted, and am seeking quilting volunteers. Each block will be documented with credit to the maker. Some finished quilts are already displayed worldwide.

The website http://thebarefootheart.com/introducing-the-70273-project/ has more information, including requested block sizes and other ways to become involved. Contact Kellye at Kellyerose@comcast.net or 952-212-7223.

Kellye Rose’s quilts from Show & Tell
The quilt Wish I May was designed by Kristin Lawson with blocks made by the Minneapolis Modern Quilt Guild, and was quilted by Nancy Birger.

The raffle quilt is a significant fundraiser for Minnesota Quilters, which supports community outreach, education, and quilt culture. Wish I May expresses the character of Minnesota Quilters as it took practical inspiration to design, many hands to make, and creative expertise to quilt in an exuberant celebration of quilting and quilters.

It is a bright, joyful quilt which has to be seen to be fully appreciated. Raffle tickets will be available at the MQ Quilt Show in Duluth.

MQP at the Show

During your visit to the MQ show in Duluth, please plan to stop by the MQP booth “Yesterday into Today.” The booth will have vintage quilts on display as well as patterns for translating the vintage quilts using contemporary fabrics. A selection of hard-to-find vintage quilt kits and vintage quilts will be offered for sale.

This is a view of the DECC, the Duluth Entertainment and Convention Center as shown from the bay. Duluth sits on the shore of Lake Superior, which contains ten per cent of all the freshwater on earth. Enjoy views of the lake and visit the city while in Duluth for the quilt show.
**Rocky Road to California:** Block of the Month – July 2017

**botm@mnquilt.org**

10 ½” square (unfinished)

Use two shades of the same color that read as solid (for example, pale green plus dark green, or yellow plus gold, or red plus pink, etc.) and white or white-on-white for the background. Mike Ellingson made this smart-looking block for the 2016 raffle quilt.

**Fabrics and cutting:**

Pale shade of a color:
- Cut 2 squares – 3” x 3”
- Cut 2 outer border strips – 1 ¼” x 9”
- Cut 2 outer border strips – 1 ¼” x 10 ½”

Dark shade of the same color:
- Cut 6 squares 1 ¾” x 1 ¾”
- Cut 2 squares 3 ½” x 3 ½” for HSTs (generous HSTs—trim to 3” x 3”)

White or White-on-white:
- Cut 6 squares – 1 ¾” x 1 ¾”
- Cut 2 squares 3 ½” x 3 ½” for HSTs (generous HSTs—trim to 3” x 3”)
- Cut 2 inner border strips 1” x 8”
- Cut 2 inner border strips 1” x 9”

**Instructions:**

Make 4 half-square triangles (HST). For 2, put a dark square and a white square right sides together (RST).
- Draw a line diagonally on the wrong side of the white square. Stitch ¼” on each side of the line. Cut on line. Press seams toward the dark. Repeat for 2 more HST blocks. Trim each HST to 3” x 3”.
- Using 2 dark 1 ¾” x 1 ¾” squares and 2 white 1 ¾” x 1 ¾” squares for each, make one four-patch block. Square it to 3”. Make 2 more four-patch blocks using the remaining 1 ¾” squares.
- Top row: sew together the light 3” square to the white/dark 3” HST, and then sew those to a 4-patch block with the dark fabric in the upper left corner (see diagram for correct color placement).
- Middle row: Sew together a white/dark HST to a four-patch (dark in upper left corner). Add a dark/white HST to the right side. Add this strip to the top row.
- Bottom row: Sew a four-patch to a dark/white HST; then add a light 3” square to the right end. See diagram for correct color placement. Add to top 2 rows.
- Square up to 8” x 8”. Add 1” x 8” white border to top and bottom. Add 1” x 9” strips to sides. Square up to 9” x 9”. Add 1 ¼” x 9” strips to top and bottom of block. Add 1 ¼” x 10 ½” strips to sides. Square block up to 10 ½” x 10 ½”.

**BOM Guidelines:** Each person may enter up to three blocks each month. Please include your name, address, and phone number on your block(s). Make it simple—stick your mailing label on the back of each block and add your phone number. If you have scraps left over, consider including them with your block, pinned to the back or in an attached baggie, for the winner to use in a border or other finishing touches. If you cannot bring the blocks to the July 6 or 8 meetings, you may mail them to the MQ office. Please allow adequate time for them to arrive before the drawings. Address: Block of the Month, Minnesota Quilters, Inc., 253 State Street, St. Paul, MN 55107. If we have enough blocks, we’ll draw at both the Thursday and Saturday meetings. If we get only a few blocks on Thursday, we’ll do one drawing on Saturday. You need not be present to win. We’ll call to notify winners. Blocks may be mailed to the winner or picked up at the MQ office or at the next meeting.
**Faculty Bios and Photos**

**Barbara Yates Beasley**

With her camera always at the ready, Beasley captures images of animals wherever she goes. These later become the basis for her patterns and a road map to the animal's soul. Beasley says, “I try to be sensitive to how my subject is feeling and transform that into a piece that tells a story. I know I have done my job if they can look into the animals eyes and know this is a sentient being.” By capturing and communicating a sense of joy or connection and highlighting the animal world around us, she hopes to foster a deeper understanding and compassion for the animals, and for ourselves. Barbara works in a fabric collage technique heavily incorporating commercial, hand-dyed and hand-printed fabrics. She uses fabrics as a painter would use paint to describe texture and form of her subject.

**Mickey Depre**

While she has been known for years as an award winning art quilter, Mickey Depre is also a dedicated piecer when at home making bed quilts for her family. Her books, *Pieced Hexies, Ring Around the Hexies,* and *Pieced Hexies Deux* have served as door openers to her latest book, *Half Scrap Quilts.* She has appeared on *The Quilt Show,* maintains her own website, a Facebook page, and keeps a busy schedule teaching and designing.

**Pam Dinndorf**

Pam Goecke Dinndorf's career has proceeded through fashion, interior design, and now quilt design. She designs patterns under the name of Aardvark Quilts. Her designs have been featured in *Simply Moderne, Quilt Mania, Magic Patch,* Kaffe Fassett's *Quilt Romance, Quilt Blocks Go Wild* and other publications. She is the author of the book, *Colorific.*

**Kate Eelkema**

Kate Eelkema, one of the judged co-chairs for this year’s show, has been a certified quilt judge for over 10 years, and is a qualified instructor of the Two-Day Introduction to Quilt Judging Seminar. This seminar is a comprehensive introduction to the judging process, and would be useful to anyone wanting more detailed information about quilt judging, organizing or working in a judging room, or interested in finding out how to identify an award winning quilt. A member of the National Association of Certified Quilt Judges, Kate splits her time between Minnetonka, Minnesota, and Big Sky, Montana.

**Gudrun Erla**

Gudrun Erla, the designer and owner of GE Designs was born and raised in Iceland. She started quilting at the age of 23 and became totally addicted to it right away. After owning and running quilt shops in her home country and designing patterns, a career move brought the family to Minnesota in 2003. Since then Gudrun has been designing full time and publishing patterns and books from her home office in Chanhassen, Minnesota, where the family has been living since moving to the US.

**Becky Goldsmith**

Becky Goldsmith is best known as half of the Piece O’ Cake Designs team. She met Linda Jenkins, her business partner in Piece O’ Cake Designs, at a meeting of the Green Country Quilters’ Guild in Tulsa, Oklahoma, in 1986. They started Piece O’ Cake in 1994 and, since then, have published more than 30 books and hundreds of patterns including 7 Blocks of the Month. They continue to work together on books and patterns. Becky is the sole author of *The Quilter’s Practical Guide to Color.*

**Laura Heine**

Laura has written chapters for the Rodale *Successful Quilting Library:* “Fast and Fun Machine Quilting,” “Favorite Techniques from the Experts,” “Choosing Quilting Designs,” and “Creative Embellishments.” In 1994, she decided to take a chance and gave up her full-time nursing position to open a quilt shop, Fiberworks, in Billings, Montana. She teaches locally and nationally, showing students what has worked for her and encouraging them to express their own concepts and creativity in their quilting. Many of her designs are simple, but her use of color and quilting makes them much more interesting!
Lola Jenkins
Lola Jenkins’ art quilts present a unique vision to the quilting world. She has developed her craft with no formal art or sewing training. She has evolved to master quilter status by fearlessly pursuing her art, winning numerous awards and ribbons along the way. She has appeared on “The Quilt Show” with Alex Anderson and Ricky Tims twice and is an instructor on Craftsy.com.

Lori Kennedy
Lori and her husband were raised in Chicago, Illinois, and currently reside in historic Stillwater, Minnesota. She loves quilting—especially free motion quilting—fabric dyeing, photography and flowers. Lori’s blog is The Inbox Jaunt— the daily diversion in your inbox—it’s her attempt to share the many colors of her day. Her Craftsy video class has received all five star reviews. She has also been featured in every issue of American Quilter magazine where she offers free motion quilting tutorials.

Mary Elizabeth Kinch
Mary Elizabeth Kinch completed a degree in fashion design and then went on to making and designing quilts. The work of Gwen Marston and the quilters of Gee’s Bend heavily influenced her even though her main area of interest is antique quilts. She’s written two books with her friend, Biz Storms, and is currently designing interior environments. When she’s not doing that, she’s making quilts, teaching, and encouraging others to tap into their own creative abilities. She enjoys spending time with her most cherished treasures, her three children.

Bonnie Langenfeld
Bonnie Langenfeld is a Minnesota based, multiple award winning art quilter who has been running her “Landscaes in Fabric” business since 2000. She does commission work, teaches classes, and participates in quilt shows. She works in raw edge applique and thread painting. She uses no fabric paints but occasionally uses markers for tiny details like house numbers. She will teach four classes at the 2017 Minnesota Quilt Show.

Cindy Lohbeck
With 30 years of fabric dyeing experience, Cindy Lohbeck from Scottsdale, Arizona, brings humor, wit and valuable lessons to each class. Affectionately known as "The Bucket Lady", her color insight and useful tips and techniques add to the fun and fast paced nature of her classes. With more than 25 years experience as an interior designer, she has a love of textiles and an eye for color that is the foundation for her winning designs. She has worked as a professional faux finisher and muralist, and also owned a tie-dyed clothing business in the early years, all of which helped refine her color mixing skills. With the addition of quilting to her creative repertoire in 2002, all of her passions collided in Hands On Hand Dyes.

Karen McTavish
Karen is an Award Winning longarm quilter, author, instructor, speaker, judge, an APQS dealer, and a representative for APQS. Her work on wholecloth/whitework quilts, shadow and color trapunto, scrollwork and Victorian feathers is legendary. She is best known for developing her signature technique, McTavishing, and other techniques that replicate traditional hand quilting using a machine. As an author, she has written some of the best books available on machine quilting: Whitework Quilting, The Secrets of Elemental Quilting, Quilting for Show, Mastering the Art of McTavishing, and others.

Kari Schell
Award winning long arm quilter, Kari Schell, is a pattern designer, Electric Quilt expert, and certified Art and Stitch instructor. She provides custom and edge-to-edge machine quilting services to others, as well as exclusive patterns and workshops. Kari fills her home with over 100 quilts, mostly from her own designs! Her designs have been featured in Mystery Quilt Retreats, Block of the Months and Shop Hops. A few years ago, Kari took up ice-skating and is now working on her Adult Silver Moves in the field and Pre-Bronze Ice Dances. When she is not quilting, she can often be found at one of the many ice rinks in the area.

Annie Unrein
A creative lifetime quilter, Annie Unrein of Patterns by Annie has been designing patterns and teaching since 2000. With a focus on practical and useful projects, Annie's patterns appeal to sewists of all ages and levels. Annie is the creator of By Annie's Soft and Stable, an innovative product she designed to add body, stability and a professional finish to purses, bags, home decorative items, and more. A popular instructor, Annie teaches online and also travels worldwide to teach. She loves sharing techniques for making sewing bags and purses easier while yielding professional results. Annie is based in St. George, Utah, where she and her energetic team operate the popular website ByAnnie.com.
**Highlights from the April Board Meeting**

Brenda presented the show report. A couple of classes have been cancelled but no teachers. Half booths will be offered to attract new and small vendors who can't afford or don't need a full booth. A new Wholecloth judged category has been added.

An Instagram account has been created for Minnesota Quilters. The nominating committee reported there is a full slate of candidates for the board election, nominations will be accepted at the May member meetings.

The next Board Meeting will be on Tuesday, May 23, 2017, at 6:00 pm at 253 State Street, St. Paul.

Respectfully Submitted, Karen Knoll, Secretary

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**Special Exhibits at the show** include the Red and White Challenge Quilts 2016 from the Block Swappers of Blue Earth Minnesota. This will be inspiring as we plan a Red and White 40th Anniversary Quilt for Minnesota Quilters.

This beautiful book cover gives a taste of the richness of Suzy Webster’s Amazing Appliqué. Her “Adventures in Blogging” is the subject of her special exhibit at the MQ show in Duluth. She discovered more about her Hungarian Heritage than she imagined and traveled to the Budapest Embroidery Market to see it up close with her mother and grandmother.

[http://websterquilt.blogspot.com/](http://websterquilt.blogspot.com/)

Other Special Exhibits include:

- The Lion King Cherrywood Challenge
- Two Friends, Many Quilts: A Collection of the Collaborative Award Winning Work of Marilyn Badger and Claudia Clark Meyers
- BIG and Small, Minnesota Contemporary Quilters
- A is for Appliqué, Students of Pat Cox, Minneapolis
- The Japanese Inspired Quilts of Patricia Cox
- Quilted Quotes Challenge, Shelly Ricci’s Art Quilt Group
- Nine Patch Challenge, Needle Nuts, Prior Lake
- Granite City Rocks, St. Cloud Heritage Quilters
- Navigating Lake Superior with Mariner’s Compass Quilts, Northern Lights Machine Quilting Guild, Duluth
- 2016 MQ Mystery Quilts
- A Take on Modern, Minneapolis Modern Quilt Guild
- Idiom Challenge, Evening Star Quilters, Mahtomedi
- Scavenger Hunt Challenge, Minnesota Quilters Minnesota Wild, Challenge Chicks, Minneapolis-St. Paul

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Above—Laura Sahlberg’s quilts at Show and Tell
Who doesn't have a quilt story? It would seem quilters have Kevin Bacon's "six degrees of separation" beat by at least three, if not four, degrees. Many times I've discovered I am only one person away from a quilter or the quilts she left behind. I believe many of you have made some of the same associations. It's the chance meetings where we share our quilt stories that bring us closer as friends, family, neighbors, co-workers, and sometimes, even strangers.

A few of my more memorable connections took place at Eagan High School during the Women's History Month quilt exhibit. As the quilts were being hung, always a few teachers were struck by a particular quilt that brought back memories of sleeping under a childhood quilt at their grandmother's. These quilts were usually from the 1930s era, or made with fabrics that had a similar appearance. The students were also eager to talk about quilts they had at home, often received as gifts for special occasions, but some of these teenagers were actually making quilts on their own or with the help from a quilting relative. One factor they had in common was the excitement and emotional attachment they had for their quilt.

When traveling, I always bring a quilt magazine, pattern book, or some small handwork to pass the time. Often a female passenger will ask a question regarding quilts and then launch into her own quilt connection, but there have been men, even flight attendants, who have expressed interest and shared their stories. They always appear glad to talk about their quilts with someone who shares a kindred appreciation for their beloved possessions.

One night at JoAnn's, a mother and daughter spied a quilt book in my cart and asked if the fabric and thread they had selected for a school project was appropriate. The mother was not a sewer, and I'm pretty sure her daughter had left this assignment until the last minute. I suggested that the shimmering prom dress material was probably not going to make a very good duffel bag. Together we found sturdier fabric and stronger matching thread. Quilters must be very approachable people in that strangers do not hesitate ask our advice. Of course, we are more than happy to give it. Think of how many times you have been in a quilt shop and total strangers have asked your opinion. I know I've never been shy about seeking assistance, especially when working in a style or color out of my comfort zone.

I wore an MQ logo shirt to the chiropractor's office the other day, and he proceeded to tell me all about his mother who is a very prolific quilter. Interestingly, people always think that you will know the quilter in their family. Another time I was approached in the Target parking lot by a woman who had seen the MQ window cling on my car and asked about our organization and when we had meetings.

There was even a heartbreaking moment a month ago when I was on the phone ordering a new window for my kitchen. Toward the end of the conversation the salesman asked for my address, phone, and email. When I gave him my email, lauraquilts@charter.net, I spelled it out, only to receive silence. I checked to see if I had dropped the call. Finally he responded in a subdued tone that his wife had been a quilter had recently passed away. He had a quilt she had made for him. That took my breath away. I told him that a quilt was a very special legacy, and I was glad that he would always have that to remember her by.

When all is said and done, quilting is about remembering, building and sharing relationships. At one time or another we are all ambassadors in a world of quilters. Through this medium of fiber and thread that we have chosen to embrace, we are able to connect with others regardless of where we meet. It is this mutual understanding of the quilts we love that fosters an even greater understanding of each other.

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**Picking up the Pieces—The Quilt Connection**

Laura Nagel © 2017

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**Bulletin Board**

June 22-24, “We Cleaned Out Our Stash” sale, Minneapolis Modern Quilt Guild, 8 am-8 pm Thursday, 8 am-6 pm Friday, 8 am-noon Saturday—half price day. 13170 Flamingo Court, Apple Valley. Fabrics, notions, patterns, books, yarn and craft items. Rain or shine.

September 16-17, 27th Annual Fall Festival Quilt Show, 9 am-5 pm Saturday, 10 am-3 pm Sunday, St. Joseph’s Catholic Church, Amery, Wisconsin 54001, Apple River Quilt Guild, The Seasons in Quilts. Vendors, challenge, raffle quilts, speakers Bev Getschel and Carol Streif, soup and pie on Saturday. Marketplace sales benefit Northwoods Homeless Shelter. Admission $5.00, children under 16 free. Contact Nancy Drake at draken@amerytel.net.
Remember Me….Stories about MN Quilters by Pat Cox and Martha Eaves

The Minnesota Quilt Project, which is an integral part of MQ’s mission, plans to interview MQ members and share their special stories of quilting with all of you. We will create a notebook including everyone we interview. You can be a new quilter or a more experienced one, a modern, contemporary, traditionalist or all of the above. Contact Pat Cox, Coxxx052@umn.edu, or Martha Eaves, eavesm@visi.com, so we can set a date to interview you and take a picture with you and some of your quilts. We hope you will enjoy knowing more about each other!

Mitzi Wicklund

At age seven I began hounding my mom to teach me to sew. She and my maternal grandmother kept telling me I was too young. After all, they had spent many frustrating hours trying to teach me embroidery which were only tearful for me. The summer after I turned ten, I must have really been a pest because one day my mom took me to the fabric store and had me pick out fabric for a box pleated skirt. When we got home, she gave me verbal instructions how to start measuring and matching. Much to her surprise and horror, I was done with the box pleats, had sewn them down and was ready for a zipper and waist band. I proudly wore that skirt the rest of the summer. It was the first time I was allowed at the sewing machine and I was hooked!

Years later, after sewing many garments, toys, accessory bags and, well, you name it I sewed it, I became friends with two women who quilted. My grandmother made utilitarian tied quilts, and with my love of sewing it never occurred to me to ask her to teach me. The more I marveled at the exquisite machine-piece hand-quilted quilts of my two friends, the more I wanted to try. I felt I would never be able to make such beautiful things.

One day in February, 1998, I expressed my admiration of my local friend’s most recent project as we were having coffee together. I’d recently bought a quilt book and would sit for hours looking at the quilts and brought it along to show her. She asked which quilt I thought I would make if I were to make one. I had an immediate answer. She stood up, went to her quilting room, fetched her rotary cutter, a 6” x 24” ruler and her cutting mat. She told me to grab my purse and we drove to the fabric store where she proceeded to explain the fundamentals of light, medium and dark fabric choices for a quilt and told me to start grabbing fabrics I liked. Fabric in hand, we sped to my house. Upon arriving she said, “I’ll cut and iron, you sew the way I tell you to.” In no time flat I had all the four patches made for my first quilt! She explained a scant ¼” seam, how to chain piece, what to do to join them to the spacing blocks, showed me how to use the rotary cutter and ruler with the mat, and eventually she had to leave to make supper for her family. I kept piecing. I told her I wanted the quilt larger than the pattern for my king sized bed, and she explained adding borders and sashing. Two weeks later I completed my very first quilt, start to finish! She walked me through how to layer and pin-baste and tried teaching me hand quilting. All the embroidery frustration returned and I became so frustrated that I ripped the quilt off the frame and figured out how to roll it up and machine quilted it! I read the directions on how to cut binding, attached it and signed my work! It was two weeks from start to finish! The following week I’d picked out another quilt from the book, had received my own rotary cutter, ruler and mat for my birthday and had started my second quilt which my son still uses today.

The experience changed me. I was refocused finding my therapy, my passion and an expanded creative outlet for my life. My love of quilting has taken me to other states, propelled me to meet wonderful people and provided a sense of fulfillment and joy from the satisfaction of not just one aspect but the entire process of quiltmaking. I have made and given so many quilts as gifts I’ve lost count, but I do have the photos and small bits written to organize someday into a coherent history and, really, a timeline of my life.

My first quilt is semi-retired now but was on my bed for 15 years. That first experience expanded my horizons to the love of appliqué and I even tolerate having to do embroidery to enhance a project.

My husband and I anticipate traveling by motorhome for several years in our retirement. We know the make and model we want. He’s already planned where my sewing machine will be located!
Minnesota Quilters thanks the sponsors whose generosity enables us to produce our annual quilt show and conference. Please tell them their support of quilting and Minnesota Quilters is much appreciated.

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May Show & Tell items

Important Information About Show & Tell Quilts

Many of the quilts shown at the May meetings are shown below and on the following page. Others are pictured throughout the newsletter. Thank you to Carrie D’Andrea and Cindy Karg for taking photos at the meetings.

Some quilts are not shown because:
1-the quilter’s name on the sign-in sheet was illegible,
2-the description on the sign-in sheet could not be reliably matched to its photo, or
3-the quilter did not indicate permission for MQ to print the photo.

If you want a photo of your quilt included in the newsletter, you must print your name legibly, describe what your quilt looks like so it can be matched with a photograph, and indicate permission for MQ to include the photo of your quilt in the newsletter.

Thank you.

Anne Marcellis—above and below

Debbie Evans

Helen Host—above and left

Joan Moore—above

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May Show and Tell (cont.)

Joan Moore

Sunny Kline

Jeannie Spears

Lynne Benson

Sunny Kline

Nancy Bekedam—above and right

Mary Kay Wyckoff-Harcus

Sunny Kline
MINNESOTA QUILTERS, INC.
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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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