Minnesota Quilters Meetings
Thursday March 1, 7 pm
Saturday, March 3, 10 am

The Minnesota Quilt Project is sponsoring programs at the March 2018 Minnesota Quilter meetings. Lori Lee Triplett will show and describe quilts from the Poos Collection, one of the largest privately held quilt collections in the world. See https://www.quiltandtexitilecollections.com.

The collection, based in Overland Park, Kansas, is named after Martha Poos and is curated by her granddaughter Kay Triplett, sister of Lori. The collection includes antique quilts with an emphasis on pre-1860 quilts as well as folk art textiles and award-winning contemporary quilts. At Thursday’s program “Exploring the Poos Collection” Lori will describe the origins of the collection and show a variety of antique and contemporary quilts as well as textiles from around the world. On Saturday in her program “Chintz Columns and Calico Cloth” she will discuss the history of chintz while showing rare and beautifully crafted quilts circa 1800 – 1850.

Lori Lee Triplet will lead two workshops.

Adire: African Indigo Resist Techniques Adire is a type of indigo resist dyed cloth made by the Yoruba people of Nigeria and Benin. In this class Lori will demonstrate four resist techniques: wrap, bean wrap, stitch resist and hand painted resist. Each student will prepare one yard of fabric that they may dye at home after the class. Fabric and dye are included in a kit supplied by the instructor.
Friday, March 3, 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., beginner and above, cost $50 for MQ members, $60 for nonmembers. Shown below are two quilts made with indigo dyed fabric resulting from methods taught in the class.

See page 2 for information on Lori’s table-turning of Chintz Up Close and Personal being offered on Saturday.
Upcoming Events

March 1—3, MQ Member Meetings and classes
March 4-7, MQ Retreat at Camp Wapo
March 22-24, MQ Retreat at Millie P’s
March 27, MQ Board and Finance Meeting, 5 pm
April 16, deadline for Judged, Non-Judged and Youth Quilt Entries, 2 pm
June 14-16, 2018, MQ Quilt Show & Conference, St. Cloud, Minnesota

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 April Newsletter: Tuesday, March 6. Please send newsletter articles to editor@mnquilt.org. Later submissions may be saved for the following month’s newsletter. The newsletter deadline is Tuesday after the Saturday meeting.

March Table-turning, Lori Lee Triplett (continued from page 1)

“Chintz Up Close and Personal” Hand-printed in India, polished cotton chintz fabric imported to Europe in the 17th and 18th centuries featured colorful floral and tree-of-life designs. European manufacturers mastered the complex printing and dyeing methods and exported the fabrics to America where they were incorporated into pieced and applique quilts.

Lori will discuss details about column prints and calico. This table-turning will allow close inspection of the fabric in these rare and wonderful 19th century quilts.

Time: Saturday, March 3, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.
Level: Beginner and above
Cost: $40 for MQ members, $50 for nonmembers

President’s Greeting

Adrianne Lemberg, president@mnquilt.org

I’m writing this after returning from the February MQ membership meeting full of inspiration to use up my fabric scraps! I couldn’t help but be impressed with Amanda Jean Nyberg’s use of the tiniest scraps to create beautiful quilts and useful items. I pulled out a UFO to finish as a bed sized quilt for the President’s Invitational exhibit. I’ll be sending a little love and good luck with the quilt as it finds a home with a young adult at Prior Crossing after the show.

Minnesota Quilt Project (MQP) arranged for Lori Lee Triplett as our March lectures and workshops. MQP, a standing committee of Minnesota Quilters, meets before our Saturday morning membership meeting at Recovery Church. Among their many projects is the creation of a red and white signature quilt to celebrate MQ’s 40th anniversary. MQP’s purpose is to document quilts and quiltmaking and share knowledge of historical quilts. See our website for more about MQP. Please feel welcome to join this group anytime.

The board is beginning its search for candidates to serve on our Board of Directors. Several positions will be open. If you or someone you know are interested in serving on the board, please share that information with a present board member.
February Meeting Highlights
Diane Rose, ed@mnquilt.org

Despite the cold and snow and the Super Bowl, the February member meetings had a good turnout to hear Amanda Jean Nyberg speak about using scraps. She presented two inspiring trunk shows and led a workshop with the focus of putting one's own spin on scrap projects.

Board Meeting Highlights
Sharon Lawrence, Secretary, secretary@mnquilt.org

The MQ Board during the last few months has dealt with finalizing details for the MQ show in June. Many volunteer hours have gone into setting up the show, and Brenda Lyseng has been busy taking care of all the details as the 2018 Show Director with Laura Nagel, as Show Coordinator.

Month end audits and financial details have been prepared by Renae Shields. She has done an outstanding job at completing all the financial details for closing the books for 2017. The January board meeting ended with the Auditors who gave MQ a “well done” in keeping the records for the year.

MQ’s mission is to assist in the preservation of quilting, to educate, to document the art and craft of quilting in Minnesota. MQ is pleased to contribute to the following groups in their efforts to provide programs for their members. MQ donated funds to Lakeland Public TV – $2000, Heart in the Country Quilters – $250, Burnsville Senior Quilters – $200, Pioneer Public TV – $2000 and Minnesota Contemporary Quilters – $1000. MQ appreciates the efforts of these organizations.

Classroom Door Prize Winners

2018 Mystery Quilt—Not Too Late to Join the Fun

The annual Mystery Quilt has been a successful MQ fundraiser and a tremendous amount of fun for the participants. In the private Facebook group they posted pictures of fabric selections, finished blocks and their final quilts. In the meantime there was lots of advice and encouragement.

The 2018 MQ mystery quilt was designed just for us by Kari Schell. It’s a traditional quilt with no applique or curved piecing. The cost is $30 for MQ members and $40 for non-members. Click here to see more about it: http://www.cvent.com/d/8tq270. Join the fun of MQ while sitting at your sewing machine.
A big thank you goes out to all our members who purchased more than 220 of the Roll-Back memberships for their friends and fellow quilters. We hope the recipients will be introduced to or reacquainted with our statewide organization and all it has to offer.

Thanks again for your generous participation. To facilitate our new members getting to know us and our welcoming them, we ask that everyone remember to wear a name tag. It is a big help when you meet someone new!

Below is an introduction from a faraway new MQ member who received a gift membership.

New Member Welcome

Hello Minnesotans,

My name is Maria Wilson, and I am from Cromwell, Central Otago, New Zealand. I have been fortunate enough to meet Mary Kay Wyckoff-Harcus and her husband Gregg Harcus. I enjoy family history so I did the DNA saliva test and came upon this couple and met them in Queenstown, New Zealand. My connection is to Gregg, but you know how the bonds of quilting are, and I have been corresponding with Mary Kay. If all goes well, we may meet again in Houston for quilting in November, 2018.

I thought I would like to share with you all about where I come from and my town’s quilting group. Our group has 35 members, and we either meet every second Tuesday night for people who work or on a Thursday morning, sometimes rolling into a bit of lunch by Lake Dunstan. We have a purpose-built building in Old Cromwell that is shared with four other groups, Art, Wool Crafters, Embroidery and Pottery. We have had a resurgence of members lately, and our rooms are getting well used.

In 2015 Cromwell’s population was 4,500 which will far exceed that now. Its main sources of employment are building and associated trades, civil construction, viticulture, farming, horticulture and tourism. Cromwell is well renowned for its wine, just in case you like a drop.

Cromwell was originally a gold town being formed in 1863. The last dredge disappeared in 1952. It has also had been a dam town, and it grew to 500 in the 1980’s with workers constructing the Clyde Dam. It declined again soon after when the work force moved away to find other work. It has had a steady increase in the last 14 years since I moved here with people realising what a great area for outdoor pursuits, which include biking, skiing, water sports, motorsports, the list is endless. It’s a fantastic place to holiday. The temperatures can exceed over 30 F to -8 F in the winter. It is a dry climate with little rain. Irrigation is a necessity, otherwise your lawn browns off quite quickly.

My husband and I own an earthmoving company and won the contract to build a motorsport park in Cromwell for a Scotsman, Tony Quinn. It’s called Highlands Motorsport Park. It has definitely brought a lot of money to our community. It is only 40 minutes from Queenstown airport. We also have a speedway right next door that holds national events.

If you would like more information about Cromwell go to www.cromwell.org.nz. If you ever think you may visit New Zealand, you should put the Central Otago area on your list to visit. I would be happy to show you around.

Volunteer Corner

Our volunteers are wonderful, and they have a good time. Please join us if you can! Thanks to all of you who volunteered this past month. We ask that all volunteers continue to record their hours on the white slips at the meetings. Not only do you get a chance at a door prize, but we need your hours to give to the bookkeeper for our audit at the end of the fiscal year. Thanks so much to all of you who turn in hours on the slips each month. You turned in 511 hours for the first quarter of this fiscal year. Congratulations!

If you are interested in the following position or have questions about it, please e-mail volunteer@mnquilt.org or talk to us at the meetings. Our new fiscal year started on October 1, 2017, and there is one position open at the current time. Please let us know if you would be interested in volunteering for a position this year. Do you like to visit new quilt shops when they open? If so, this might be the position for you. Let us know. This is a volunteer organization and we need all our wonderful volunteers!

Currently available position:

Business Member Coordinator: This person contacts quilting businesses to become members of our club. I am sure many of you like to go to quilt shops. For more information contact Barbara Jackson at meyer98@comcast.net.

If you are interested in any other positions, please let us know. We would love to be able to find something for you to help with at meetings.
Remember Me... Stories about Minnesota Quilters

Ruth Herbst

During the depression my dad’s half-sister (80 years old) wanted something to do, so my mother gathered up old clothes we had outgrown. Aunt Ellen made four quilt tops—one of which I have and was featured in the Minnesota quilt book. Mom would set up the quilt frames in the dining room, and then have several ladies come and sit around it and hand quilt. I would sit under it and watch.

Later, in a magazine I saw a pattern I liked, so I drew up the templates and hand-sewed the pieces together to make a blue and mauve wall hanging. I then took a class from Carol Wagner making nine different patterns, and I was hooked on quilting. I would see a picture of a quilt I liked and then designed it from that. Some blocks were up to 16” square.

What I like most about quilting is planning for whom I am making the quilt. I have made quilts for my husband and myself, three children, six grandchildren, and now on my second-learning quilt for two great-grandchildren. I am also making twin-size quilts for the other two great-grandchildren. I have also made many wall hangings and two crazy quilt jackets, which I wear all spring and fall.

I have continued to have no special technique that I emphasize. I just do whatever inspires me at the time, and I try to consider the people or person for whom I am making the quilt when I choose a technique.

This quilt in the picture is one that I made for our son and his bride for their wedding. He selected the pattern and fabric as he has a great eye for color. It took me another year to hand-quilt it on a quilt hoop built on a platform that sits on my lap and then put my left hand under the hoop to guide the needle. After that I have had all of my quilts quilted longarm by Jane Fisk of North Branch, Minnesota. I have enjoyed making all these quilts and wall hangings, but I also have many other hobbies to keep me busy.

Bulletin Board

March 17, Quilt Dreamers 25th annual quilt show, Burnhaven Library, 1101 County Road 42 West, Burnsville, Minnesota. Noon to 4 pm. Free admission. A silent auction open to all attendees raises funds for batting and fabric for Children-in-Crisis quilts. Successful bidders have been thrilled to purchase one-of-a-kind items for their homes or for gifts. Quilt Dreamers are south metro area quilters who make quilts and related items for people in crisis situations in our communities. The supported organizations include 360 Communities, Lewis House, Dakota Woodlands, CAP Agency, Dakota County Foster Care and area hospitals. The show is traditionally held on the third Saturday in March, National Quilting Day.

March 25—April 29, Gail Hanson Quilt Exhibit, First Universalist Church, 3400 Dupont Avenue South, Minneapolis, in the social hall. In celebration of her 80th birthday and almost 25 years of quilting, Gail Hanson will have a selective exhibit of her quilts. Church hours are 8:00 am to 8:00 pm, Monday through Thursday.

April 12—14, Textile Center Garage Sale, U of M Reuse Warehouse, 883 29th Ave SE, Minneapolis. Donate Thursday 10 am—7 pm. Preview sale Friday 6—8 pm (advance tickets $30/$25 members, $35 at the door) Saturday 9 am—4 pm $3 admission, bag sale 3—4 pm.
Carol has been quilting since 1980 when she took her first class in Zionsville, Indiana, where she learned hand- and machine-piecing and hand-quilting techniques. Since then she has put these skills to use in making miniature through full-sized quilts. Carol has always been drawn to antique quilts for their classic designs and soft, faded colors. In her early years of quilting, before "reproduction fabrics," she relished the challenge of finding fabrics that looked old. Later Carol used these fabrics and the wide selection of reproduction fabrics to create old-looking, doll-sized quilts that she displays throughout her house in wall groupings, on table tops, and on a growing collection of doll beds.

A program in the summer of 1999 led to her pattern business. She told the audience that a few days before Christmas her youngest sister had asked if she would make 18” by 23” quilts for the doll beds that Santa was bringing her three daughters for their American Girl dolls. Carol showed these simple "Little Nieces" quilts made from different colorways of 1930s fabrics and shared the pattern with guild members. A nearby shop, asked if she would teach a summer class on her little quilts. By profession Carol is a full-time college professor of Literacy and Language Education at Purdue University, and thoroughly enjoys teaching, so she gladly agreed. However, because she had to return the quilts to her nieces, she made one for herself, using her favorite pink and brown reproduction fabrics. When this class sample quilt hung in the shop, other customers asked to purchase the pattern, and thus, her pattern business, Carol Hopkins Designs, began.

Carol will be teaching the following classes at the MN Quilt Show in June.

**Patriotic Logs**—Based on an antique quilt made from flag bunting, this 32” x 32” quilt uses 12 different red fabrics and easy construction techniques to create a wall hanging or table topper that's perfect for patriotic celebrations.

**Anthology Mini Sampler**—This 28” by 33” quilt is created using thirteen 4” by 5” pieced blocks and pieced setting blocks. Requires book purchase of $29.99.

**Sunflower Medallion**—Create a 21” by 21” medallion quilt. The sunflower center is a preprinted fabric; you make the surrounding blocks. This has not previously been offered as a pattern.

**Meadow Garden Table Runner**—Showcase a beautiful flower border fabric surrounding three pieced center blocks in this 18” x 36” table runner.

**Beauregard’s Best**—Make a 24” medallion-like table topper or wall quilt consisting of a 12” block surrounded by three borders, one of which is pieced.
Youth Exhibit

Part of the Minnesota Quilters mission statement is "to honor the past, celebrate the present, and nurture the future." Sew with this in mind our Quilt Show is expanding our Youth Exhibit.

We are spending countless hours every Quilt Show—any excuse to go to another Quilt Show. We to Quilt shops to talk with owners. Oh my, must I really go to another Quilt Shop? Looking for those hidden that our youth have With this in mind, we are asking every grandmother, aunt, and neighbor to help us. report any of possible entries. Thanks.

Small Quilt Auction

Have you made too many large quilts lately, or do you have UFOs that require long-term commitment to be finished? How about a bit of short-term gratification with a smaller quilt project that only requires days, not months, to finish? We suggest that you get out some of those scraps Amanda Nyberg was speaking of and put together a little quilt for the auction.

Include a touch of red if you can, and remember that there are prizes awarded for great workmanship. Quilts can be brought to the meetings, or if that is not possible, mail them to the office to arrive after May 15. The address is Minnesota Quilters, Inc., 253 State Street, St. Paul, Minnesota 55107. Happy stitching!

President’s Invitational

Quilts for Prior Crossing

One of the exhibits at the MQ quilt show in June is the President’s Invitational. Quilts made for this exhibit will be donated to Prior Crossing, a residence for young adults in need of a place to live. Of items they choose for their efficiency apartments, the homemade items, such as quilts and blankets, are treasured most by the residents. Quilts should be twin-bed size with maybe a touch of ruby to honor our 40th year. No hanging sleeve is needed. Labels are being made and will be available at future MQ meetings for you to sew on your quilt.

Faculty Updates

Class registration is going well. One of the most popular classes is Paint the Town With Creativity with Maday Delgato. In this class participants each paint a 24” by 24” wooden barn quilt. Two sessions are filled, and we have added a third session on Saturday afternoon from 1 pm to 4 pm. The longarm classes with Jodi Robinson are also filling quickly. She has many half-day classes to pick from – so don’t wait too long to get a spot.

One of the big bargains of the show is the lecture pass. We have 11 lectures, and you can attend as many as you wish with a lecture pass. The cost is $30 for MQ members and $36 for non-members. You must purchase it in advance with your show registration. At the show the individual lectures are $10 for members and $12 for non-members at the door.

Did you know that Carol Hopkins has a brand new book? It is Civil War Legacies IV. Two of her classes at the MQ Show feature quilts from the book – Patriotic Logs and Beauregard’s Best.
Why Enter a Judged Quilt Show

Kate Eelkema and Melissa Griggs
2018 Judged Co-Chairs, judged@mnquilt.org

You may be asking yourself this question as the deadline for entering a quilt in this year’s 40th Anniversary Quilt Show is fast approaching: Monday, April 16, at 2:00 pm. Consider entering your quilt for any of the following reasons.

We all love quilts and quilt shows. This is an opportunity to share our quilts with the public. A completion deadline is often the impetus we need to complete a quilt. Quilters spend hours selecting fabrics, choosing a pattern or creating a design, constructing and finishing a quilt. Our quilts deserve much more attention than five minutes of show and tell at our guild meetings. It’s fun to see one’s own quilt hanging in a show.

Feedback from the judges is invaluable. The MQ show is judged by two NACQJ certified judges. This feedback is objective and professional. Each judged entry receives a written critique which acknowledges what aspects of the quilt were successful and what areas could benefit from improvement.

Did you ever want to ask a judge questions? Here’s your opportunity to do just that at two events.

1—MQ is celebrating all those who entered quilts as well as the award winners. Join us Wednesday, June 13, at 7 pm during Sneak Preview at the Learning Stage for a presentation “Unveiling the Mystery of the Judging Room.”

2—All entrants receive a pass to the lecture “What Were the Judges Thinking?” Kathie Kerler, one of our NACQJ judges, will share how judges evaluate quilts using the judging pathway: general appearance, design, and workmanship. The lecture is Thursday, June 14 at 9:00 am.

We hope to see your quilts in the Judged Competition. 2018 is MQ’s Ruby Anniversary. Be part of the celebration by sharing your quilts and love of quilting with everyone who attends the show!

Correction: In the last newsletter in the Judged Committee’s article about packing and shipping quilts, this photo was misidentified. The shipping box was crushed because it was too large for the quilt, not too small. The extra space in the box made it vulnerable to being compressed during shipping. -Editor

Non-Judged Quilt Entries

Wanda Shelton and Kathleen Winters
nonjudged@mnquilt.org

Quilt entries must be completed online for this year’s show, and a photo is required. Photos are used to plan the layout of the exhibits, and they are not used for judging.

Do not let your lack of a photo keep you from entering your quilt. If your quilt has been in Show and Tell and had its photo printed in the newsletter, you may contact the editor for a jpg photo of your quilt. You can use that photo in your online quilt registration. E-mail editor@mnquilt.org and state the month in which your quilt’s photo was in the newsletter.

The deadlines for quilt entry for Judged, Non-Judged and Youth quilts is Monday, April 16th at 2 pm. Please do not wait until the last day or the last week.

Vendors at the Show

Brenda Lyseng, showdirector@mnquilt.org

Who are the vendors coming to the show? Are you planning to do some shopping at the Quilt Show? Our vendors are hoping so! As of February 7, there were 71 vendors signed up, and we are well on our way to surpassing the number of vendors that we had last year. The full list of vendors and sponsors on the show website is updated weekly. Here are some more vendors that are new to our show.

Crafts Direct
Handiquilter - St. Cloud Sewing Center
HeartSong Quilts
Off the Wall Quilt
Overbrook Quilt Connection
Pins & Pieces
Rainbows & Calico Things Quilt Shop
Shades of the Past Quilting
Stipples Etc.
Stitchin’ Tree Quilts
Sweetwater Cotton Shoppe
The Whole Country Caboodle
The Woolen Needle
Help! My name is Virginia, and I am half of the two-person committee in charge of volunteers for the MQ show in June. The problem is that I don't have a second person assisting me at the present time. You may say "volunteer", and cringe. No worry. I have done this committee work in the past, and I will again take care of soliciting volunteers for the different areas, make assignments, and convey the assignment to the volunteers so they know where they need to be.

What I need is someone to come alongside and be in the volunteer booth during setup and the show. So, from Monday to Saturday assistance is needed in the booth. I will furnish you with a spreadsheet of all the volunteers assigned and also where people are needed. Some people like to volunteer when they get to the show, not in advance..

Is there anyone who would like to team up with a friend to be in the volunteer booth? Please let me know. You will be greatly blessed by your volunteer service. Thank you.

Hi, fellow quilters, as you know our annual show is 99% volunteer-run. In saying that, I am encouraging everyone to sign up for at least a two-hour timeframe. We have all sorts of areas of need, everything from set-up to take-down, white glove (yes, you get to touch the quilts with your gloves on), to classroom assistants and ticket takers at special events. We have lots of areas where you are able to sit if you can't stand for long periods of time.

For each two-hour timeframe, your name is put in a drawing for daily door prizes and also in the final drawing for a sewing machine. In addition, you receive a volunteer pin for your service. Volunteer pins cannot be purchased. If you have a specific area in which you would like to assist, that's great. Just let me know.

I will make assignments and then get back to you two to three weeks before the show to let you know where you need to be and at what time. It's a great experience. You can let me know your desires by sending me an e-mail to showvolunteers@mnquilt.org. I look forward to hearing from many of you.

For members in any organization there are times to be a Chairperson and times to be a Person in a Chair. In between are the committee member opportunities.

Is this the time for you to join a committee or to chair one? Please consider what you can do for Minnesota Quilters at the meetings and at the show.

You will meet wonderful people and get to know the members of MQ and the larger quilting community. They will also get to know you and will appreciate your volunteer efforts. Thank you.

Thank you to everyone for donating pins. The wall hanging in the office is looking quite full. We have a pin for the very first show, but we don’t know if a pin was made for every show. We seek show pins for 1980 through 1986 and also 1988. We are unsure when MQ began issuing volunteer pins, but we have none for 1979 through 1995.

Please check whether you have a pin to donate. Contact Wynn Martin at wynnerquilts@gmail.com or call her at 612-360-5308. Thank you.

Signature quilts have sometimes been made to commemorate special anniversaries of Minnesota Quilters. In honor of the 40th anniversary, members of the Minnesota Quilt Project group are making a red and white signature quilt.

The blocks are white, 2-1/2 x 5-1/2 inches unfinished, each with an MQ member’s name signed in black Pigma pen. In addition to the signature, we ask members to indicate the year in which they joined MQ. The blocks will be available for signing at MQ meetings and at the 2018 show where we will have the top on display. You may also send blocks to Pat Cox at 6601 Normandale Road, Edina, Minnesota 55435. Thank you.
January Show & Tell Quilts

Many of the quilts shown at the January meetings are here and on the following page. Thank you to Peggy Stockwell and Carrie D’Andrea for taking these photos.

Quilts may not be shown if no photo was taken or if:
1-the quilter’s name on the sign-in sheet was illegible, 2-the description could not be reliably matched to its photo, 3-the quilter did not indicate permission for MQ to print the photo, or 4-the quilter did not sign in on the sheet.

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.

We like seeing your quilts in Show and Tell, and we’d also like to see them in the MQ show in June—enter in Judged or Non-Judged.

Arlene Albrecht
Becky Lindgren
Char Wenger
← Carrie D’Andrea
Char Wenger →

Left to right—Jude Edling, Lynnette Wass, Mary Wiebusch
Twenty-two hero quilters showed up at our February Quilting For Others work sessions. Many quilt tops, baby quilts, and placemats were made to be given to others that we don’t know but care about. The willingness of these quilters to give up personal time to use their personal gift of the love of quilting to help others is heartwarming, to say the least. The sound of sewing machines, laughter, and “Ta Da’s”, along with getting to know each other, seeing scraps made into things of beauty, and just being with other quilters, doing what we love to do made for a wonderful three days. Note: We put together six Heart String quilts consisting of 80 blocks each – and that scrap bin is just as full as when we started! How can that be?

Our thanks to Karen Newman, Faye Bodenhamer, Carol Hancuh, Mary Lueders, Janet Jacobsen, Denise Mike, Gayle Cmiel, Aileen Lively, Mary Woida, Virginia Mercil, Karen Wallach, Lynette Disrud, Mona Allen, Sharon Johnson, Gwen Amdahl, Sue Hiftely, Kathy Nelson, Kathy Morse, (and if I forgot to include you, I apologize). We also thank Diane Rose, Merle Pratt, Sharon Peterson and Pam Plocek for their time spent planning, preparing and hauling stuff to make this all happen. We thank Millie P’s Quilt Shop for letting us use their Pearl and Myrtle’s Retreat center for this event – please thank them personally the next time you are in their quilt shop.

If you couldn’t make it to the February event, remember that you can participate all through the year, right from your own sewing room. We have quilt tops complete with batting and backing all ready to be taken home to be quilted, we have kits to be sewn into tops, we have muslin squares with a red strip ready for you to use your scraps to make heart string blocks. Just stop by our table at MQ meetings and pick up one or more, and return them on your own schedule. Or you can make any of these things from your own stash. Heart String twin-size quilts go to the Harriet Tubman Center, baby quilts go to the Minnesota Visiting Nurses, holiday stockings go to St. Joseph’s Home for Children. We hope to deliver many placemats to the Meals on Wheels organizations in the Saint Cloud area at the time of the 2018 quilt show. Help make the day a little brighter for those who depend on home delivered meals.
10 ½" square (unfinished)

Karen Hamilton made this block using “sky” colors for the 2016 MQ raffle quilt. You may use whatever dark and light color family you want.

**Fabrics:**
Background: white-on-white
Cross, corners, and border: two shades of the same color, one dark and one medium-light.

**Cutting directions:**
Dark shade of your chosen color:
A: 1 square 3” x 3”
   B: 4 rectangles 1 ¾” x 3”
   H: 2 strips 1 ¼” x 9”
   I: 2 strips 1 ¼” x 10 ½”

White-on-white (background):
C: 4 rectangles 1 ¾” x 3”
   D: 2 squares 3 ½” x 3 ½”
   F: 2 strips 1” x 8”
   G: 2 strips 1” x 9”

Medium-light shade of your chosen color:
E: 2 squares 3 ½” x 3 ½”

**Assembly directions:**
Make 4 HSTs using one white-on-white 3 ½” square (D) and one of the light shade 3 ½” square (E) for each set. (If you haven’t made Half Square Triangles before, Google it.) Cut apart on the diagonal line. Press open toward the darker side. Trim to 3” square. Set aside.
Pair each white-on-white C rectangle with a dark shade B rectangle. Sew together each pair to make a 3” x 3” square. Press. You should have (4) 3” squares. If they are a little too big, trim them. Set aside.
Make a nine-patch block, referring to the diagram for proper placement of colors. Row 1: E/D+ C/B + D/E. Row 2: C/B + A + B/C. Row 3: E/D + B/C + D/E. Sew the 3 rows together into a nine-patch block. Again, pay attention to the correct placement of the colors. The light color HST’s should be in each corner, and the white-on-white rectangles should be on the outside of the block. Pieces A + 4B’s should form a cross. Press. Trim to 8” square. Attach an F strip (white-on-white) to 2 opposite sides of the center square. Press. Then add G strips to the top and bottom of the center square. Press. Block should be 9” square. Add dark strips H to sides of the block. Press. Add dark strips I to top and bottom of block. Press. Block should measure 10 ½” square.

Arlene Lively won five February blocks of Country Charm Variation.

**BOM GUIDELINES:** Each person may enter up to three blocks each month. Please include your name, address and phone number on your block(s). (You can stick your mailing label on each block’s back and add your phone number.) Consider including leftover scraps with your block (pinned to the back or in an attached baggie) for the winner to use in a border or for other finishing touches. If you cannot bring the blocks to the meetings, mail them to the MQ office. Please allow adequate time for them to arrive. Address: Block of the Month, Minnesota Quilters, Inc. 253 State Street, St. Paul, MN 55107. If we have enough blocks, we’ll have a drawing 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. Winning blocks may be mailed, picked up during the month at the MQ office or claimed at the next meeting.
I grew up with an uncle who was an amateur photographer, or so I thought, until a closer look at his personal effects revealed several awards and medals he had won for architectural photos of Chicago. No one in the family was ever aware of his accomplishments, especially as we stood stock-still, waiting for him to measure the distance from us to his camera, setting his light meter, screwing in the flashbulb, and reminding us not to blink. This operation could go on for more than a half-hour as we lingered in our Easter finery or Christmas best, the colors of which we would never see because he only used black and white film.

All that has changed. We endlessly snap photos with our smart phones and enjoy the instant gratification of seeing if the photos accurately captured the moment. As quilters, we need to be more concerned with the quality of the photo, not just making sure we didn't cut off somebody's head in the picture. When you decide to enter a quilt into a show, whether for competition or exhibition, one of the requirements is always a photo of your project. Consider this photo your quilt's "first impression." How to make the best "first impression" is up to you.

Let's start with your camera. Whether you use a smart phone, digital, or point and shoot camera, know how to use all of its features. If you have lost the instruction manual, chances are you can look it up on the internet using the name and model of the camera. If not online, a knowledgeable clerk at your local camera shop should be able to help you. Using your phone also requires some know-how. Be sure to check out the camera features as listed under your latest operating software update. New features are always added, and you will want to take full advantage of them.

Where will you shoot the quilt, inside or outside? If you are headed outdoors, a cloudy or overcast day will actually give you the best color results. But shooting indoors will give you the most control over lighting. While you can use your table lamps with the shades removed and 150 watt bulbs, a daylight-balanced compact fluorescent bulb is recommended. Why not just use your camera's built-in flash? Its distribution of light just isn't big enough. You will end up with a bright spot in the middle and dissipating lighting toward the edges. While this effect may not be very noticeable to you (because you already know how the project looks in real life), to the viewer, the picture looks flat, and all of the textural detail is compromised.

Hanging the quilt for its glamour shot is important. Remember, you want just the quilt. Not the unmade bed, the messy cutting table, or your best friend's hands and feet. Since you are optimistic and plan to have your work accepted, you probably already attached a hanging sleeve to the back. Use a dowel rod with an eye-hook at each end and hang it on two Command strips positioned at the proper height for your quilt. Use a level to insure that it is straight. If you have a design wall large enough for your quilt, even better.

Regardless of the setting, you will want to use a tripod. Even the slightest movement will cause enough of a blur to diminish the quality of your quilting designs and embellished details. And yes, there are tripods for smart phones. Now, where to position everything? Center the camera both vertically and horizontally on the quilt. The quilt image should fill your viewfinder when it is midway between zoomed and wide angle. Once you have determined this position, place the lights at the same distance and height, one on each side of the camera, about an arm's length away. You're almost ready to take the shot. Turn the camera/phone flash off, set it to the 'sun' icon and set the self-timer. For the same reason you are using a tripod, setting the self-timer will eliminate any last-minute jiggle.

Finally, you're ready to shoot that quilt. Stand back while you anxiously await the click of your camera. Take more than one picture, and be sure to view them on your desktop computer, as the brightness and color may look different from what you see on your device's small screen. You want to see what the judges will see. And good luck with your entry.

I can't imagine what my Uncle Vic would think of today's digital images and photo-shopped enhancements. But that's the world we live in, and if we want to capture our best quilting efforts, we need to know how to use this technology to our advantage. We owe it to our quilts!

For more detailed information, check out hollyknott.com.
PADUCAH QUILT WEEK  BUS TRIP, April 17-22, 2018 "UFFDAH PADUCAH" on luxury coach, many meals, quilt shops, events and prizes. You won't want to come home! Details at http://rhensnest.weebly.com

Did You Know...?  Minnesota Quilters receives cash back when members shop Amazon Smile and have designated MQ as their non-profit.

KELWOOD RETREAT
$35.00 a nite per person, min 2 nites 4-8 persons
SPECIAL Buy 2 nites – get 1 FREE
LOIS & DAVE KELLEY 651-437-4414
Website: WWW.KELWOOD.NET
Email: kelwood4@embarqmail.com
23560 Lileh ei (Hwy 61) S of Hastings, MN

Did You Know...?

Click on any web address to be taken directly to the sponsor website from this online newsletter.

---Diamond Sponsors---

JANOME
http://janome.com/

ELNA

APQS
www.apqs.com
23398 Hwy 30 E
Carroll, IA 50325-8500
800.426.7233
www.apqs.com
—Gold Sponsors—

Cherrywood Hand-Dyed Fabrics
7882 College Rd
Baxter, MN 56425
888-298-0967
www.cherrywoodfabrics.com

Quilt Haven on Main
Hutchinson, MN
www.quilthavenonmain.com

Superior Threads
87 E 2580 S
St. George, UT 84790
800.499.1777

—Silver Sponsors—

St Cloud Sewing Center
St Cloud MN 55803 630-258-0543
www.kellyjssewingcenter.com

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

Jeri’s Quilt Patch
703 Brown St, Norway, MI 49870

Hannah’s Quilts & Crafts
402 Saint Peters Road, Choudrant, LA 71227, 318-251-0314
www.hannahsquilt.com

—Handi Quilter—

Designed by a Quilter, for Quilters:
St. Cloud Sewing Center
3603 W. Division Street, St. Cloud, MN 56301
320-251-6540
www.stcloudsewingcenter.com

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

Old Creamery Quilt Shop
Randall MN 56475
320-749-2420
www.oldcreameryquiltshop.com

J & M Designs
~
Nolting Longarm

Nolting Longarm
8189 Cloman Ave E
Inver Grove Heights, MN 55076

© 2018 Minnesota Quilters, Inc.
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.

The views expressed herein are not necessarily those of Minnesota Quilters, Inc. Although every effort has been made to provide timely and accurate information, Minnesota Quilters, Inc. shall have no liability to any person or entity with respect to liability, loss, or damage caused or alleged to be caused directly or indirectly by the information contained in this newsletter. This publication is intended to provide generalized information only and not to render professional advice. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise without prior written permission of Minnesota Quilters, Inc. © 2017 All rights reserved. Deadline for submissions is the 1st of the month for the following month. Ads and articles may be sent to: Minnesota Quilters, Inc. Editor, 253 State Street, St Paul, MN 55107-1612, or email editor@mnquilt.org

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

---

**Minnesota Quilters, Inc. Membership Form**

**Member Information:**

Member name, or gift recipient’s name (please print):

Address:

City: State: Zip:

Home and/or cell phone:

Email: (needed to send you your newsletter and other MQ announcements)

**Payment Information:**

This membership is: New Renewing Gift

I would like to make an additional donation of $________

Check Cash Visa Mastercard Discover

Credit Card No:

Expire date: CVV2 3 digit code on back:

**Membership Levels:** Circle one. (all levels include free entry into general membership)


$20 Newsletter Postal Mailed Add to your dues price. Dues are not refundable.

I would like my newsletter: (check one) ______Emailed to me in full color (Free!) or ______Mailed to me in black and white for an additional $20 per year.

Please mail your completed form and payment to: Minnesota Quilters, Inc. 253 State Street, St Paul MN 55107

For questions call 651-224-3572

© 2018 Minnesota Quilters, Inc.