Minnesota Quilters Meetings
Thursday, January 9, 7 pm
Saturday, January 11, 10 am

You are invited to join us at the January Kick-Off Meetings for the 42nd Annual Minnesota Quilter’s Inc. Quilt Show and Conference

Minnesota Quilter’s annual show is less than six months away. Join us at the January meetings to learn all about it – what’s new, what’s different, and what’s the same. No registration booklets will be printed. All registration for classes, lectures and quilt entry will be done online. Bring paper and pen if you wish to take notes. Learn how to register for classes and lectures online and how to enter your quilts into the Judged, Non-Judged and Challenge exhibits. See examples of class projects and become informed about the faculty and lecturers.

Faculty and lecturers are:
Laurie Ceesay www.laurieceesay.com
Sue Cortese www.suecortesequilt.com www.selcfabrics.com
Lorraine Covington
Anne Dawson www.lopezislandquiltersstudio.com
Maday Delgado www.sustainabletextiledesign.com
Kate Eelkema
Gyleen Fitzgerald www.colourfulstitches.com
Sue Heinz www.sueheinz.com
Heather Mulder Peterson www.ankastreasures.com
Laura Murray lauramurraydesigns.com
Laura Nagel
Sue Nickels www.sue-nickels.com
Celine Perkins www.perkinsdrygoods.com
Becka Rahn www.beckarahn.com
Kari Schell www.onpointquilter.com
David Taylor www.davidtaylorquilts.com
Christa Watson www.christaquilts.com

Start making a quilt now or complete an unfinished one to enter in the show. Plan to take some classes or relax during a lecture or two.

Car pool or take a bus to the show. While you are there, study the winning quilts and admire the expertise and designing talents of all the quilters. Notice how magnificent your own quilt looks as it hangs in a bay. Volunteer at the show. Shop, rest, eat. Keep up your enthusiasm for sewing at the Quilting for Others area. Buy a raffle ticket. Shop at the small quilt auction and the merchandise booth, rest, eat.

Attend the banquet, laugh, enjoy the speaker, and get to know the other quilters at your table.

Shop for last-minute must-haves, rest your weary feet and your credit card, and have a bite to eat while waiting to collect your quilts for the trip home.

It will be a great show – don’t miss it. River’s Edge Convention Center, 10 4th Avenue South, St. Cloud. Classes begin Wednesday, June 10, and Sneak Preview of vendors and exhibits is Wednesday evening. The show floor is open Thursday, Friday and Saturday, June 11 through 13.

Volunteer for Show Committees

The committees for Door Prizes, Merchandise, Marketing, and Challenge 2021 need co-chairs. Please use SignupGenius to volunteer
https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b044aacf28a4fc1-mqs.
Upcoming Events

January 3, Quilting for Others, 9 am to 3 pm, Community of Grace Church, White Bear Lake (new location)

January 9 and 11, Member Meetings

January 15, Online Quilt Show Registration for Members opens, 10 am

January 20, Faculty, Lectures and Programs Meeting, Recovery Church, St. Paul

January 27, Quilting for Others, 9 am to 3 pm, Recovery Church, St. Paul

January 28, Finance and Board Meeting, Recovery Church, St. Paul

February 3, Online Quilt Show Registration for Non-members opens, 10 am

February 6 and 8, Member Meetings

February 14, Quilting for Others, 9 am to 3 pm, Community of Grace Church, WBL

February 24, Quilting for Others, 9 am to 3 pm, Recovery Church, St. Paul

March 13, Quilting for Others, 9 am to 3 pm, Community of Grace Church, WBL

March 23, Quilting for Others, 9 am to 3 pm, Recovery Church, St. Paul

June 11 to 13, 2020, MQ Quilt Show and Conference, St. Cloud

See more calendar information on the MQ website: http://www.mnquilt.org/meetings.html

Directions and a map to meetings are shown at http://www.mnquilt.org/location.html

MQ Grants Awarded in 2019

Charlette Pittman, preselect@mnquilt.org

Minnesota Quilters Board of Directors awarded a total of $7,000 of grants to the following recipients and their service projects.

- Quilt Dreamers Guild of Apple Valley – service project making comfort quilts and quilts for children in crisis
- Loon Country Quilters, Grand Rapids – assist in defraying member costs for an educational two-day workshop
- Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County, Moorhead – to host the Quilt National Exhibition July through September 2020
- Lakeland PBS, Bemidji and Brainerd education area serves more than 60 Minnesota counties
- Pioneer PBS, Granite Falls – education brings quilting shows to southwestern Minnesota
- Burnsville Senior Quilters, Burnsville – to purchase supplies for service projects. They donated 813 quilts to CAP agency, Beyond Yellow Ribbon, Gillette Hospital, Armful of Love and nursing homes.
- Denne Joy and Elise Sopella, Twin Cities – series of quilts to honor veterans of the last 100 years
- Dakota County Star Quilters – Dakota County Educational Speaker for 19th Amendment program during show at Dakota County Historical Society
- Lake Area Quilters, Alexandria - educational speaker and workshop for the guild members

SignUp Genius lists MQ volunteer opportunities and sends reminders. Save the link shown and refer to it often for additional ways to participate in MQ activities https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b044aacaaf28aaf1-mqs

Minnesota Quilters depends on its volunteers, and everyone’s help is appreciated. Please volunteer as often as you can and in any capacity that suits your schedule and abilities.

Minnesota Quilters Vision Statement

Minnesota Quilters will be a state-wide leader in providing creative quilting education, activities, and mentoring through a welcoming multi-generational community of quilters with various skills and abilities.

Adopted by Minnesota Quilters at the February 2018 board meeting.
Happy New Year to all of you from your Co-Presidents  
Linda Wines, Karen Kopitzke  
president@mnquilt.org

We have had a weekend of nasty weather, but as I look out my window, everything looks as if it was created just for a greeting card. I guess that means you have to have some pain before the gain. Just like quilting—you get to the point where you can’t stand to look at this fabric for one more minute but you go ahead and do the next seam. All of a sudden your quilt is beautiful again! When you clip that thread and put a hole in the top—well, it’s time to find your butterfly fabric and do a bit of appliqué.

Minnesota Quilters had a fair share of pain last year. First, our bookkeeper resigned and then our new show director fell ill and had to go on medical leave. We were able to find a wonderful person, Dana Hoeschen, to be our bookkeeper. She came on board just six weeks before the show and just stepped in. Later she shared that there were a lot of times during that week when she wondered just what had she been thinking? She made it through and has already found places for MQ to be more efficient and save money.

Our show director came back to work and you could hear the sigh of relief all over the state. A few weeks later she told us she had an offer for a full-time job with benefits like medical insurance. We wished her well and went back to interviewing people. We now have a new show director, Lisa Johnson. She has a lot of experience running running conferences but a quilt show is a new venue to her. She is quickly catching on to things; she asks questions (because quilt shows are different from corporate conferences) and listens to the answers. It has been really great to have someone looking at what we do and asking why.

Now to the good stuff coming up. Our January member meetings are the kickoff to the show! You will get a chance to learn about the awesome faculty and the classes and techniques they will be teaching. As usual, it will be hard to decide if you want to take classes all day for four days or if you want to limit yourself and do some shopping instead. FYI—in addition to helping Education secure meeting programs, the Faculty, Lecture and Programs Committee is already signing up faculty for 2021 and 2022. If you have ideas, contact them at flap@mnquilt.org.

Then there is our Quilter of the Year, Mike Ellingsen. Many people have been in his classes over the years and know him from all his work in Blue Earth, Minnesota. I have never been in his classes and met him for the first time at the Holiday Brunch. He and his wife Sue are very excited about what he will have on display at the show. If you see him at a meeting, say hello. If you don’t see him before the show, be sure to stop by his exhibit to meet him.

One last show thing: We don’t have a scholarship winner. If you know quilters who have just started quilting and would enjoy being at the show with free Advance Registration and some other goodies, including classes, be sure to let them know and have them apply. The Board of Directors has extended the entry due date to January 21, 2020, and will select the winner at the January 28, 2020, Board of Directors meeting. All the information about applying and the application form in on the MQ website, or you can call the office to learn more.

Quilter of the Year—Mike Ellingsen

Mike is a retired music and drama teacher who has been quilting since the late 1980s. He is known for his excellent quilting on his domestic machine and his love of color. He teaches and presents trunk shows for guilds in Minnesota, Iowa and Wisconsin and has given presentations at the Minnesota Quilters Quilt Show and Conference and also in Alexandria, Virginia. Mike was a founder of the Blue Earth Valley Quilters and served as manager of the Upper Midwest Woodcarvers and Quilt EXPO held in Blue Earth each August. He was a Textile Superintendent for the Faribault County Fair. Mike has his own series of published quilt patterns and has been the pattern writer and principle designer for the Calico Hutch Block-of-the-Month in Hayward, Minnesota, since 2012. He was the creator of the Minnesota Quilters 2017 Mystery Quilt Go with the FLW.

In addition to being an award winning quilter, Mike also remains active in music and drama in his church and community. He is in demand as both vocal and piano soloist and was active in community theater in Blue Earth for 43 years. Many of Mike’s quilts can be seen on the Facebook pages for the Blue Earth Valley Quilters, the Prairie Star Quilt Guild and the Upper Midwest Woodcarvers & Quilt EXPO.

After 45 years of living in Blue Earth, Minnesota, Mike and his wife Sue moved to Decorah, Iowa in late August where he is a member of the North East Iowa Quilt Guild. He is happy to chat about what is involved in moving your fabric stash — a painful experience at best!
Youth Exhibit 2020

Kathie Simon Frank, Deb Kjelland, Co-chairs, youth@mnquilt.org

Just under six months and counting until people of all ages gather together June 11 through 13 for the next MQ annual show and conference. What child are you going to encourage to make a quilt to exhibit in St. Cloud? We’re always thrilled to see what your special children) create.

Anyone 18 years or younger is eligible to make a quilt to enter in the Youth Exhibit at the show. The quilt can be nearly any size—as small as they like, but no bigger than 110” on a side. This creation must have 3 layers—top, batting in the middle and backing—connected by hand or machine stitching plus a sleeve on the back for hanging. The youth entrant must complete at least ¾ (75%) of the construction without adult help. The surface quilting may be done by the entrant or another person of any age.

Do you work with children who want to learn to quilt, or do you know of someone who does? Would you like some ideas to help you inspire and encourage these children to learn to piece and quilt? We invite you to talk with us. We might be able to contribute some ideas and demonstrate techniques suitable to help young people begin sewing. If you’re interested in knowing more, please contact us soon at youth@mnquilt.org.

Best wishes and happy quilting with your young quilters.

Quilting for Others

Diane Rose, qfo@mnquilt.org

Sew Day News

Thanks to the efforts of RoxAnn Strand and Rodell Benjamin, we have the use of a room at Community of Grace Lutheran Church in White Bear Lake for the following Fridays:

January 3  February 14  March 13  April 10

The quilting times will be from 9 am to 3 pm. There is a refrigerator and a microwave at Community of Grace church so bring a lunch and come to sew with friends.

The address is 4000 Linden Street, White Bear Lake. Visit communityofgrace.church for directions. To give a general location, the church is just east of Highway 61 and is between Cedar Avenue and County Road F.

We also have Sew Days at Recovery Church on these Mondays:

January 27  February 24  March 23  April 27

The quilting times are from 9 am to 3 pm. There is a microwave but no refrigerator at Recovery Church. Bring a lunch and come to sew with friends.

February Preview

The February 6 and 8 meetings feature Jean Wakely presenting her program The Women of War.
2021 MQ Fabric Challenge  Becca Brackett, challenge@mnquilt.org

Are you registering for the 2020 show? Think ahead to order the fabric challenge for 2021.

Here are the two colorways for the 2021 Fabric challenge—“Seen on Superior’s Shores” for the show that will be held in Duluth from June 10 through 12, 2021.

Minnesota Quilters return to the Superior Lakeshore of northern Minnesota in 2021 with its sparkling waters, stony beaches with agates, forests with hidden paths and creatures. The 2021 challenge theme celebrates the riches of the Duluth area. Create your challenge quilt based on things you might see on Superior’s shores.

There are two colorway bundles. Superior Tones is cool, as in lake waters, streams, worn pebbles and sky. The other bundle is Volcanic Swirls, a packet of warm colors like agates, iron-rich soil and fall foliage.

Each packet includes four fat quarters of the Challenge fabrics. All four Challenge fabrics must be used and visible on the front of a flat quilt or on the outside of a 3-dimensional quilted object. You may add a background, and if further colors are desired, the first added fabric must be a complementary color to one of the challenge fabrics in your packet. Two other fabrics are allowed. The outside edges (perimeter) must add up to no more than 180 inches and the width must not exceed 30 inches.

Volcanic Colors

Superior Tones

Outstanding Volunteer Nominations  Donna Rockette, membership@mnquilt.org

We are requesting nominations for this year’s Outstanding Volunteer award. Nomination forms can be found on the home page of mnquilt.org under links. Please submit the completed form to quilter@mnquilt.org. All nominations received prior to the March board meeting will be considered. If an outstanding volunteer is selected by the Board, the recipient will be announced at the April meetings.

December Holiday Brunch Review  Diane Rose, qfo@mnquilt.org

What a wonderful Holiday Brunch we had at Keller Golf Course. All the amazing decorations and fun videos lifted my spirits and made me even more excited for Christmas.

I am amazed and overwhelmed by the continuing generosity of the quilters of Minnesota Quilters. A total of 278 Christmas stockings were received as well as many bags of toys and toiletries, 14 knit caps and $300 cash. They have all been delivered to St. Joseph’s Home for Children where they were received with many thanks.

We also received 577 placemats, including the Joyful Challenge placemats. It was a blast looking through and counting them as well as oohing and aahing over the creativity of our quilters. They are in the process of being delivered to various Meals on Wheels programs.

After our last meeting in November, we collected 20 baby quilts, 12 twin-sized quilts and four lap quilts.

Many thanks to all who have contributed time, materials and cash to Quilting for Others. You are amazing!
Small Quilt Auction
Laurie Klinkhammer, Liz Murray
smallquiltauction@mnquilt.org

Do your New Year’s resolutions include making a small quilt for the auction at the quilt show? Imagine the things that would entice you to bid and make one like that! Small is the operative word in small quilt auction. Small quilts have a perimeter of less than 100”. Small quilt donations are not limited to quilts. Donations can also be bags, purses, wearable art, bowls, etc. What would you bid on?

The Small Quilt Auction is a silent auction held during our annual show, and it features small quilts that have been donated by our members. Auction proceeds are used to support the mission of Minnesota Quilters Inc. including grants and scholarship programs, quilting television shows aired in our area and to meet other needs of our volunteer organization.

Donations will be welcome beginning January 1 at membership meetings or by mailing to MQ. Please label your quilt – a slip of paper pinned to it is fine – with your name and address. If you mail items to the MQ office, please also provide your contact information.

If you have questions, contact the committee at smallquiltauction@mnquilt.org.

2020 Special Exhibits at the Show

In addition to our Judged entries, Non-Judged quilts and Children’s creations, we have a fantastic lineup of Special Exhibits for you to enjoy. Here is a partial list to whet your visual appetite.

2020 Quilter of the Year display of Mike Ellingsen’s quilts
1876 Centennial Quilt interpreted in 14 full-sized masterpieces of piecing
Bob Ross Cherrywood Challenge 2019
Dakota County Star Quilters Women’s Suffrage Small Quilt Challenge
Hen House Chicks’ Pineapple Punch, a baker’s dozen of pineapple log cabin quilts
HERstory Quilts: A Celebration of Strong Women, curated by Susanna Jones
Minnesota Contemporary Quilters 2020 challenge Graphic Interpretations
Minnesota Quilters’ 2019 Mystery Quilts designed by Suzy Webster
Pat Cox’s Homage to Traditional Appliqué

2020 Raffle Quilts and Basket
Laura Nagel, Annemarie Yohnk

1st Prize: Village of Quilters 80” x 90”
2nd Prize: Quilters Assortment Basket
3rd Prize: Quilters’ Cottage 45” x 55”

At the 2019 October membership meetings quilters in attendance were asked to make two or more village house blocks from fabric packets provided. They were instructed to return the completed blocks at the November meetings. What a success, 99% of the packs were returned with finished houses, affirming the saying “It takes a village.” This year’s raffle quilts are definitely a product of a village by the name of Minnesota Quilters. Approximately 115 members worked on these cheery quilts, and there were enough houses to make two colorful quilts for the Raffle.

Raffle tickets are available for $1 each. It is hoped you will purchase many tickets, but remember, it takes only one ticket to win. Good luck!

Quilt designed by Jumble / Miss Rosie’s Quilt Co. Pattern name Village
Quilt fabric supported by Gruber’s Quilt Shop, Waite Park, Minnesota
Village of Quilters quilted by Joe Muehlbauer
Quilters’ Cottage quilted by Quilting Page, Eagan, Minnesota
Assembled by Laura Nagel and Annemarie Yohnk

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Assembled by Laura Nagel and Annemarie Yohnk

Village of Quilters in progress
Picking up the Pieces
Here’s to 2020 – A Year of Spontaneous Quilting

Laura Nagel, lauraquilts@charter.net

Watching the winter birds awaiting their turn at the deck feeder, I wondered, “What could I possibly imagine to expand my dreams of a perfect quilting life?” Then it came to me, I would like to embrace a more spontaneous approach to my quilting. In order to decide how that transformation might evolve, I Googled the term. Fortunately, I discovered that I already have a few of the attributes: impulsive, unconstrained, and intense. What is lacking is my ability to approach a project without premeditation, without a plan and without inhibition. Now those are some real goals for the coming year.

I don’t want to confuse spontaneous quilting with the current improvisational style. While I like many of the creative results I’ve seen, I wouldn’t know where to begin. Once at a retreat I sat next to a quilter who was enthusiastically cutting (no ruler), piecing (not always a ⅛” seam), joining sections (few matching corners, points, etc.) and deciding what to do next based on what she had accomplished so far. Oh my goodness! No pattern, no plan, just raw intuition. As I envied her wild abandon approach, I knew it wasn’t something I could do – drunk or sober. I’ll have to leave that approach to the more artistic members of our craft.

For me, being more spontaneous would mean I could pick up the latest edition of a favorite quilting magazine or see a great idea on Pinterest and go right to my sewing room and start pulling fabrics. Assuming I didn’t have to order the pattern or the design was one that I was able to figure out the math for, I would start cutting that very night. Then day after day I would make the time to work on the project, making changes along the way if I so desired, and finally spend some time perusing my free motion quilt books for just the right design to complement the piecing.

What would it take to make this scenario a reality?
♥  First, I’d have to organize my current UFOs in order of their state of completion. I have no intention of abandoning any projects, and just like paying off debt - when you start with the smallest bill first and work your way up to the biggest balance - I’d start with the project that was closest to being finished and work on that in tandem with the impulsive quilt idea I couldn’t resist.
♥  Second, I’d have to nurture more self-confidence in my own decisions, especially when it comes to doggedly following a pattern and not feeling honor-bound to make it in exactly the same colors and fabrics as the sample. Usually I don’t hesitate to change a size or add or subtract an element, but I really second-guess my color choices. This is where I would prefer to be less inhibited.
♥  Third, I’d have to work outside my comfort zone of styles and colors and be open to the influences of external stimuli: nature, books, or art.

This could result in a bit of a roller coaster existence, with spurts of adrenaline-filled moments followed by hyper-focused periods of productivity, interspersed with unique opportunities to explore innovative quilt exhibits, savor the latest designer fabrics and enjoy the camaraderie of like-minded quilters. If I could sustain this level of spontaneity over the course of the year I believe it would foster perseverance for sticking with projects to their completion, inspire confidence to engage in new textile arts and increase energy to share my enthusiasm for all things quilting. That’s my plan for 2020. I hope it’s more doable than my losing weight resolutions from previous years.

All the best to you in the New Year!

December Holiday Brunch Review

Laurie Klinkhammer, ed@mnquilt.org

The Holiday Brunch at Keller Golf Course in Maplewood was fabulous thanks to a few elves - Rhende Hagemeister, Carolyn Davidson, Bonnie Ellis, Susan Hathoway, Aileen Lively and the event day elves Marsha Aukland Rocheleau and Tracy Spargur Eller. The elf team contributions to the agenda, table settings and ornaments were wonderful. During the event we donated placemats, Christmas stockings, stocking stuffers, had a block exchange and wore tree skirts as clothing.

We were introduced to 2019 Quilter of the Year Mike Ellingsen. Congratulations to Mike Ellingsen. Congratulations also to the main door prize and Joyful placemat challenge winners. Happy shopping at the quilt shops of your choosing. There were many door prize winners and tree skirt winners.

Look for the photos taken at the photo booth to be on the Minnesota Quilters website soon.
### Business Members

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<td>1911 Fischer Dr</td>
<td>Waconia MN 55387</td>
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<td>11682 Mount Curve Rd</td>
<td>Eden Prairie MN 55347-2924</td>
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<td>Quilt Appraisal</td>
<td>19403 Eagle Pointe Trl</td>
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### Classified Ad

**Handi Quilter Sweet 16, sit-down longarm with table and slider. Low stitch count. Call Marsha – 651-438-2257**

### Bulletin Board

**January 20, Northern Material Girls Quilt Guild, 7 pm. Cindy Staub from Quilt Doodle Designs speaks. North Church, 2675 E. Highway 36, North St. Paul, Minnesota. Guest fee $5 or become a member $30.**
Bernina B740
Fabulous machine
A quilter’s and seamstresses's dream.
Gently used for 2 years; like new.
First person to offer $2000 gets a great deal (about half price).
Call Mary at 651-484-0940 (corrected phone number)
or send a message to mbquamster@comcast.net.

Quilt Show Sponsors are vitally important to the success of MQ shows. Below are current sponsors. Thank them when you shop there.

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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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### Minnesota Quilters, Inc. Membership Form

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

- **$40 Regular** Access to all website features. Receive newsletter via email. Early registration for annual show. Textile Center Library privileges.
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