

Minnesota Quilters Meetings
Thursday, August 3, on Zoom, 7 p.m.
Saturday, August 5, in-person and on Zoom, 10 a.m.

August Meetings—Helen Kelley Retrospective

Liz McHenry, Laura Nagel, ed@mnquilt.org

Helen Kelley was a founding member of Minnesota Quilters in 1978, and she was the 1998 MQ Quilter of the Year. In 2008 she was inducted into the Quilters Hall of Fame. This month we continue to commemorate her contribution to quilters everywhere. She was an innovative quilter ahead of her time, as she used fiber and thread to interpret her world and the people in it. The delight of her quilts comes from looking closely enough to discover her sense of humor and her artist's eye for detail. And don't be fooled by only taking in the front of the quilt, as she often couldn't resist continuing the story on the back or adding a surprise element.



Join us Thursday, August 3, at 7 p.m. on Zoom for a closer look at the Helen Kelley Retrospective collection. You may have seen some of these quilts displayed in Special Exhibits at this year's show, but maybe you didn't have time to read all the gallery cards. Helen's quilts contained many layers of fabric and meaning. As her daughters combed through her letters and Loose Threads columns in Quilter's Newsletter Magazine, they were able to describe in Helen's own words the story each quilt told. With the help of Helen's notes and information from her induction into the Quilter's Hall of Fame, Laura Nagel will explore several of her artistic and charming works. This program will be recorded for future viewing.

On Saturday, August 5, at 10 a.m., Jo Lee, one of Helen's daughters, will present a trunk show featuring several of Helen's quilts, including some that were not on view in Special Exhibits. She will take you behind the scenes of how her mother worked and where she got her inspiration. She will share some of the family stories that each quilt tells. This is a wonderful opportunity to see these delightful quilts in person before they are returned to their current homes.

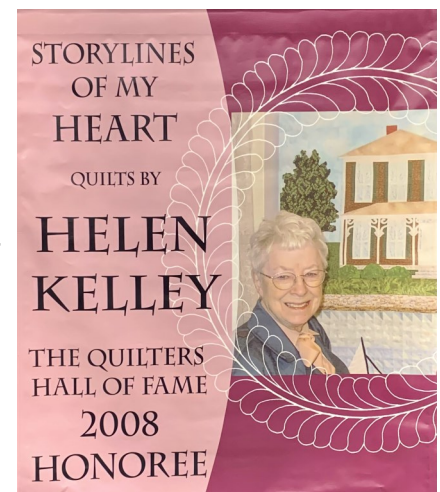
Register for the Thursday program:

Register for the Thursday program:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlvc-qrrD8tHdFOmpRGJiwlCQiztq2MqED>

Register for the Saturday program:

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAuceugrjgrHNZcgstJ_7qlXwW6KkP_M_b



September Schoolhouse Requests your Skills

Liz McHenry, Laura Nagel, ed@mnquilt.org

Schoolhouse is the meeting where members get to share their tips and tricks with the group. Do you have a time-saving technique? A slick way of performing a repetitive task that makes the task simple? A new technique that others would benefit from learning?

Share your knowledge with Minnesota Quilters members. E-mail ed@mnquilt.com and we will add you to the schedule of presenters.

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MQ 2024 Quilt Show

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showdirector@mnquilt.org

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quilter@mnquilt.org

Hard copies of the newsletter will be available for an additional \$20 at the time of membership renewal. This charge is to cover the cost of printing and postage. Cash and checks welcome.

Upcoming Events

Wednesdays, Quilting for Others, 11 am to 1 pm, pick up supplies and drop off finished work at Recovery Church. No QFO work day in August.

August 3 and 5, Member meetings

August 14, 21, and 28, Zoom Bee Quilting, 10 am to 4 pm, see link on page 3

August 15, FLAP meeting, 1 pm

August 17, Finance Meeting, 2 pm on Zoom

August 22, Board Meeting, 6 pm on Zoom

August 28 and 29, Quilting at the Fair

September 7 and 9, Member meetings, Schoolhouse programs

October 5 and 7, Member meetings, Tracy Trevethan, My Quilting Journey and Digging Deep into Wool Appliqué with wool, kits and patterns for sale

October 11-15, Fall Getaway, Riverside Inn, Cold Spring

November 2 and 4, Member meetings, Diane Harris, Extraordinary Scrap Quilts and Jingle Bells trunk show

November 9—11, Day Retreat at MQ

December 7, Member meeting, Lori Lee Triplet, Red & Green Quilt for Christmas—NOT!

December 8, Finish Up Frenzy at MQ

June 13-15, 2024, The Minnesota Quilt Show, DECC, Duluth

More calendar information on the MQ website <http://www.mnquilt.org/.html>

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

DEADLINE for September Newsletter: Tuesday, August 8. Send newsletter articles and photos to editor@mnquilt.org. *Later submissions may be saved for the following month's newsletter.* The newsletter deadline is normally the Tuesday after the Saturday meeting. Send Show and Tell photos to showandtell@mnquilt.org. Include descriptions if you wish.

Show and Tell for the Meetings

Jude Edling, showandtell@mnquilt.org

Please share photos and stories of your show projects. Have you made something in a class, something inspired by a vendor or lecture, something at the Sewcial, QFO or Sew and Take? Whether it's complete or not, we want to see your projects. E-mail your photos and their stories to showandtell@mnquilt.org.

MQ Board Meetings

Board@mnquilt.org

Any member can attend the monthly board meeting. Board meetings are scheduled for the fourth Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. Please send a request to the office or a board member and we'll provide a link to the Zoom meeting.

Mission Statement (Our Purpose)

The mission of Minnesota Quilters, Inc. is to nurture the art and craft of quilting through inspiration and education, to support our communities through our craft, and to honor our quilting heritage.

[Vision and Value Statements](https://mnquilt.org/aboutmq.html) <https://mnquilt.org/aboutmq.html>

SignUpGenius: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/minnesotaquiltersinc>

MQ needs your help. Please click on this link to see what help we need. Please take a look at the Show Volunteer needs to see if you are able to help.

The site lists volunteer opportunities. Save the link for additional ways to participate in MQ activities and volunteer often and in any capacity that you can.

Quilting at the Fair

Sue Rutford, statefair@mnquilt.org

The State Fair is coming sooner than we think, and that means we are planning for MQ folks to demo in the Creative Activities building. Our dates this year are Monday, August 28, and Tuesday, August 29. We have four-hour shifts, and all volunteers get an admission ticket for the Fair.

You can sign up (one shift per person to start) using Sign Up Genius. The link is:

<https://m.signupgenius.com/#/showSignUp/60b044aacaf28a4fc1-20224>

If you have questions, or if you need help signing up, please text or call Sue Rutford at 612-759-0660 or e-mail her at suerutford@gmail.com.

Looking forward to seeing you at the Fair!

MQ Fall Getaway—Save the Date

The Minnesota Quilters Fall Getaway will be held at Riverside Inn, Cold Spring, Minnesota, from Wednesday, October 11, through Sunday, October 15.

Watch your e-mail for detailed information and the opening of registration. You deserve the time with other quilters and dedicated sewing time.

Coordinators are **Linda Wines** and **Mary Ann Baraibar**.



Quilting Together with the Zoom Bee

Linda Wines, lindawines@comcast.net

This month's Zoom Sew Days are Mondays, August 14, 21 and 28 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Click to join:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82747265102?pwd=eUQvakhJUDNLSTdYV3JMR2JHbDhLUT09>

The Meeting ID is 827 4726 5102 and the passcode is 986969; these are the same for all Zoom Bee quilting days of 2023.

Treat yourself to a full day or a few hours of sewing with other quilters—enjoy an at-home retreat, meet other quilters, get advice, give advice and see everyone else's projects.

Zoom Bee Quilting

Karen Kopitzke, comm@mnquilt.org

During the show, I talked to several people who had questions about the Monday sewing via Zoom. Here are a few of the questions with answers.

Do I have to be online all the time for the entire time?

Absolutely not. Those involved come and go as their schedules permit.

Do I have to arrive on time?

Nope. Just log in whenever you like.

Is this group focused on something specific such as a Block of the Month or a technique?

No. This is a time for everyone to have the companionship of other stitchers while working on their own projects. (Spoiler: Some people have been known to tidy up their sewing space rather than sew.)

Is this an online retreat?

It is not an 'official' retreat because you don't have to pay for it or register for it, but there are all the best elements: friends sewing and sharing ideas, thoughts, and lots of laughter.

Can anyone join in?

Definitely. We would love to have you join us. Just use the Zoom link from either the Thursday Thimbleful or the MQ newsletter.

Mondays aren't good for me. Is there Zoom sewing on other days?

Not yet. However, anyone interested in starting a group should contact the office to learn more.

Hope to see you Zooming soon.

Quilting for Others

Merle Pratt, Diane Rose, showqfo@mnquilt.org

Quilting for Others receives many beautiful placemats throughout the year. We donate them to centers which provide meals to the homebound twice a year. Around Christmas time, we donate the placemats we have been given to centers around the Twin Cities. During the MQ Show each year in June, we donate some to a center in the host city as a way of helping their community. This year we had some communication problems, and the placemats were not donated. Sometime after the show, we connected with Saint Cloud Catholic Charities, and we donated 278 placemats to them after the quilt show. The picture doesn't do justice to how interesting and colorful they are, and I am sure they will brighten the day for many lucky recipients. Thanks to all who donated placemats. Directions are available here: <https://www.mnquilt.org/documents/Placemats.pdf>. Many people start with leftover blocks and add sashing to make it the needed size. Get creative and see what you can do.

Also in the last month, we donated to Minnesota Visiting Nurses Association five kid's quilts and 29 baby quilts. Vinland Center received six twin quilts for their male residents, and Tubman was glad to get 26 twin quilts. It is so interesting to watch the trends in what is donated each week. Until about six to nine months ago, baby quilts outnumbered twin quilts about ten to one. Lately, I am seeing many more twin quilts than baby quilts come in. I don't know why that is, but we are grateful for all the quilts we get.

Summertime is a slow time at QFO, and we have fewer helpers due to vacations, etc., so we will not have an August Workday. We will resume them again in September. We will continue with our weekly Wednesday pick up and drop off events, and we always welcome anyone who wants to come and sew or cut or do whatever needs doing. Keep on sewing!



July Meetings Review

Liz McHenry, Laura Nagel
ed@mnquilt.org

Meg Cox wowed us with her dynamic and engaging presentations on very different aspects of quilting. On Thursday she shared what inspires her as a quilt journalist and took us behind the scenes of the industry.

Saturday was a deep dive into the history and day to day workings of the International Quilt Museum in Lincoln, Nebraska. Attendance was nearly 100 on Thursday. Saturday we had a combined audience of about 80 roomers and Zoomers. Hopefully, if you couldn't attend, you were able to catch the replay that was available for the next week.

A potluck picnic followed the Saturday meeting. Who made the quilt-cookies pictured at right?



Was the Show a Success?

Wynn Martin, president@mnquilt.org

It's that time of year. Four weeks after the show and everyone asks, "How was the show?" It felt like a very successful show. Attendance was comparable to past years; the vendors had positive comments, and the class offerings were well received. Following the show, we ask each show committee for a report to help us learn what went well and where we need to make changes. We also send survey requests to everyone who participated in or attended the show. If we have your e-mail address, please respond to our survey request.

In the meantime, we will rest on our laurels for a job well done. I must give heartfelt thanks to Brenda, Rose, Yvonne, the show committee, our staff, our board members and everyone who volunteered at the show. Every year we work hard to showcase great quilts, great classes, and great vendors. Special thanks as well to our sponsors, vendors, teachers and to everyone who entered a quilt for the exhibits. Well done.

Was the show a financial success? I can give you a short answer: We don't know—not yet. That may seem strange, but it takes about two months to close out the books. We pay the instructors and lecturers, settle with sponsors and vendors and add up any on-site revenues for our own activities, like merchandise, the silent auction, the MQP sales, etc. We also close out the bills with the convention center, on-site security and hotel. It just takes time.

When all is said and done, we are happy to get a 2 to 3% return. This year's results? Time will tell. Next month we will issue the annual report for 2022, and we will schedule a meeting for those who want to understand the inner workings of all we do at Minnesota Quilters, Inc.

Until then, enjoy your summer days and thanks as always for your support.

Quilt Show Follow-Up Surveys

Provide feedback on the 2023 quilt show to help Minnesota Quilters plan future shows; take the surveys linked below. Did you attend? Did you take classes, view all the quilts, enjoy the lectures, shop as much as you could? Please record your comments to tell MQ what worked best and what could be improved for future shows.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2023QuiltShow>

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Didnotattend2023Show>

Join the Show Committee

Brenda Lyseng, Show Director, showdirector@mnquilt.org

You've seen those super heroes in the red aprons at the quilt show, right? Have you always envied how much fun they were having and the sense of pride they take in their tasks? Have you been amazed at how the quilt show comes together with just three part-time staff and lots of volunteers?

Now is your chance to become one of those superheroes. The 2024 show committee will be launching in September. We need people to serve on a wide variety of subcommittees. Some are more intense than others, some happen primarily at the show and others have work to do throughout the months before the show. We have job descriptions for the committees plus reports from past volunteers, so you won't start from scratch. In most cases, two people work together. See the positions and descriptions and the signup at SignUpGenius. If you want to serve but are not sure the best area, there is a slot for that as well.

If you have served on the Show Committee and are ready to share your leadership skills, please consider the Show Coordinator role. This can be easily shared with another person, and we actually encourage it. You'll work closely with the Show Director, Brenda Lyseng, to shape the show as a whole, fill in when work needs to be done, and guide certain subcommittees.

The Show Committee will meet via Zoom on the fourth Saturday of the month from 9 to 10:30 a.m. Meetings are recorded so timing is not a hindrance.



Faye Bodenhamer stands by her quilt *Road to Bellingham* which won the Viewer's Choice award for large quilts in the Non-Judged exhibit.



Quilt Auction winner **Lynn Ricker** is delighted with her auction item. She thought the pins all over it were so fun that she's going to add her own pins.

The Minnesota Quilt Show: How did it go?

Brenda Lyseng, showdirector@mnquilt.org

To sum it up in one word: GREAT.

Our planning and work paid off as set up and take down went smoothly, the show flowed well without major hiccups, and everyone seemed to be having a fun time. Behind the scenes can always be a different story, but this year it truly was smooth. No drapes fell, no one was injured, the vendors were easy to work with, and other than all the credit cards forgotten at vendor booths, it was success. We have several goals for the show.

Offer educational experiences for quilters of all types.

We offered 38 workshops and 12 lectures, and we had seven presentations on the Learning Stage. The fill rate for classes was 74%. Student ratings of the workshops were shared with faculty. Overall, participants rated their workshop as above average or excellent. They gave feedback on the supply list, the pacing, getting questions answered, the value of the workshop and ideas for improvement. Comments included:

Inspiring and mind-blowing ~ Teacher was entertaining, but even better, a great instructor ~ It was a happy class ~ Very thought provoking ~ Loved this workshop with many actual antique quilts ~ She was charming and attentive and spent time with each of us individually ~ Very personable. It is quite gracious of her to share how she creates her art quilts rather than keeping it a secret ~ Best class, teacher well prepared and knowledgeable.

Invite and build relationships with quilters.

Several guilds participated in our Guild Table—enough so that we expanded from last year. We offered the See and Sew activity on Saturday and invited beginners to make a microwave cozy using handcrank sewing machines. The Scavenger Hunt included questions for adults as well as for youth. The overall rating for the quilt show among advanced registrants was 4.51 out of 5. We asked our advance registrants what brought them to the show and if they met new people.

I attend almost every year, with a few friends from my small quilt group ~ We met a few new folks at the banquet, so that was fun. ~ The show is something I look forward to each year. I go to be inspired, to learn about new tools and techniques and to connect. It's a good chance to connect as I usually make arrangements to go with friends and often run into other people I know. ~ Getting to know people through volunteering. It's such a great opportunity! ~ My sister and I have been attending for decades. We drive down from Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada, and always have a wonderful time. Just keep up the excellent work! ~ What got the ball rolling to get me to the show was winning a three-day registration pass as a door prize at one of the MQ Zoom meetings, and I was so glad to be there, from viewing quilts, vendor purchases, donated to the small quilt auction, great daylong class, and volunteering in the QFO booth – such a fun way to interact with other quilters! And being an MQ Zoomer, I did meet some MQ members I have only see on Zoom. I am so appreciative of the efforts made to keep the Zoom option for those of us a distance away.

Expose the general public to the art of quilting.

We don't know how many attendees were not quilters, but we did advertise beyond the quilting world in newspapers, on radio, and on a billboard.

Celebrate the quilt entrants and ribbon awardees.

During Preview Night we again announced the winners of the Judged Competition. New this year was broadcasting the announcements live on Facebook. Quilt entrants rated the process of entering their quilts at 4.5, dropping off or shipping their entries at 4.5, and picking up quilts 4.58 out of 5.

My first time entering judged was a good experience! ~ Thank you for giving me the pleasure of entering! ~ I think the quilts are displayed very well ~ This show committee really has made your show procedures into a well-oiled machine. Thank you for all the extra attention to details...Such as the inclusiveness of seeing the award presentation on FB, the e-mail letting me know when my quilt shipped etc. Thank you! ~ I loved seeing my quilt hanging at the show! It was treated wonderfully, and looked great. Thank you!

Generate revenue for Minnesota Quilters.

Attendance this year was about 3,500 different people. Of those 546 had multi-day admissions. These numbers are similar to last year's. Thursday had the highest daily ticket sales of 1,200. More on this after we finish paying bills.

Support the vendors so they have a successful show.

We had fewer vendors due to a competing biennial show in Kansas City. For vendors that had signed up early, we offered an additional ½ booth at low cost to fill the space and allow them to bring more products. The Pattern Designer Showcase was offered for the first time to give pattern designers a less costly option of participating by sharing booth space in our MQ Merchandise booth. They paid a lower fee, we handled sales, and MQ kept a 25% commission. Six designers participated and were so pleased with the exposure and the sales. We added snacks to the vendor lounge and many of them commented favorably on that. Vendors rated the show 3.96 out of 5 for meeting their financial goals, 4.48 for receiving the information they needed, and 4.61 for organization. We know that Preview Night is not of value to them, and we continue to consider new options. What did vendors like about the show?

Volunteers were amazing! ~ New experience for me, I liked everything. ~ The venue, the mix of quilt-related vendors, all of the volunteers and staff. ~ It was a great place for connections and networking. ~ Jean and Charlotte were so very helpful! ~ Truly enjoyed the show and the attendance was great. ~ Great experience, and I am planning on being there next year!

Provide a satisfying experience for committee members.

Volunteers are crucial for the success of our show! If you haven't already done so, make sure you say thanks to a committee member! Many committee members and others had a fun stroll through downtown St. Cloud on our Quilt Walk Tuesday evening. Pizza dinner on Wednesday was fun, and we enjoyed inviting the faculty to join us.

Youth Entries—Here are more youth entry photos from the show.



Isabel Gauman entered three quilts in the Youth Exhibit.



Addie Forsberg, granddaughter of Dianne Connor, with her quilt.

Judged Committee Show Report **judged@mnquilt.org**

Kate Eelkema, Sarah Parker

As mentioned in a previous newsletter, The Minnesota Quilt Show was a partner show with the National Association of Certified Quilt Judges (NACQJ) this year. This means that judges certified by the NACQJ judged the quilts in St. Cloud, and individuals who are in the process of becoming certified quilt judges came to Minnesota to observe and volunteer with the judging procedure.

Why did the NACQJ return to partner with The Minnesota Quilt Show a second time? Because the Minnesota Quilt Show has the reputation of being an excellent show!

There were more than 20 certified judge candidates who came to St. Cloud, some from as close as Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa and North Dakota, but others came from as far away as Tennessee, North Carolina, Texas, Arizona and California.

They were very glad to have the opportunity to observe the judging process before the show opened, and those who stayed for the show made many favorable comments about the show. They were impressed with the quality of the quilts in both the judged exhibit and all the special exhibits, the great variety of vendors, and all the classes, lectures, and activities offered. Many mentioned taking ideas they learned here back to their own guilds to improve their shows. Some of the judging candidates were able to help decide the special Minnesota Awards, and those who did were very grateful to have that experience.

Do you like to BEE together?

Wynn Martin, president@mnquilt.org

I was talking with Mea Cliff, Membership Co-Director, about the delight we get when we meet another quilter. I've been quilting for about 15 years. This hobby has rippled through my life to include working at a quilt shop, going on retreats and working with the MQ board. I belong to three guilds, and I meet for sewing time with at least five different groups of friends. It should be no surprise that my vacations have included visits to other quilt shows and quilt museums. During COVID I planned and participated in different Zoom N Stitch days. My passion for quilting just grows and grows.

I've also worried about the perception that Minnesota Quilters is too big and has too many cliques. The perception is that we aren't a welcoming space. I hate to think that is true, but I also know that feeling. I hate walking into a room with 100 people where nobody says hello. It's not a good feeling.

So, what should we do? I've started to think of those cliques as an opportunity to BEE together. I want to meet quilters who share my quilting interests. That's why I like to BEE together with modern quilters, art quilters and those who see benefit in quilting for others. I also have deep admiration for applique and English paper piecing (EPP), so I want to spend time with people who practice this craft in that way. I think if we started to turn those cliques into small groups or quilting BEES, we could all get to know each other just a little bit better.

Please tell me what you think. How many quilting BEES do you visit, in one way or another? Does your small group welcome new participants? How do they find you? What do you do when you get together? Would you like to find the right small group so you can BEE together? What's the buzz? Should this be the year when we form or find those small groups?

Please send me a note at president@mnquilt.org or contact Mea Cliff at membership@mnquilt.org.

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Bulletin Board

August 24, **Heart of the Woods Quilt Guild**, 6:30 pm, Judy Niemeyer Certified Instructor **Donna Viau** of New Hampshire (www.themasquerade.net) presents a trunk show and PowerPoint demonstration. Free. Learn to paper piece the **Judy Niemeyer way** (www.Quiltworx.com) at weekend workshops. Friday, Maple Leaf Flurries pattern, 8:30 am-12:30 pm, \$45; Stepping Stones pattern, 1-4:30 pm, \$45. Saturday 8:30 am-4:30 pm Poinsettia pattern, \$65. If there is interest, Donna will add Watermelon Placemats pattern, or she would be available for sit and sew on the projects started, \$20. Workshop prices do not include pattern and fabric. Ledgerrock Community Church, 515 E. Camp Street, Ely, Minn. Contact Dorothy L. Sand, sanddl.elymn@gmail.com for further information, including housing options.

August 28-29, **State Fair Quilting** in the Creative Activities Building, Use SignUpGenius to participate.

September 15-16, **32nd Annual Fall Festival Quilt Show**, St. Joseph's Catholic Church, 1050 Keller Ave. N., Amery, Wisc. 9 am-4 pm. Vendors, raffles, challenge, lunch. Marketplace benefits Northwoods Homeless Shelter. \$5, under 16 free. Handicap accessible. Facebook at Apple River Quilt Guild Fall Festival Show.

September 22-23, **Windmill Piecemakers Quilt Guild Show**, Gethsemane Lutheran Church. 1350 Florence St., Baldwin, Wisc. Friday 9 am-5 pm, Saturday 9 am-3 pm. Vendors, challenge, boutique, mystery quilts. Freewill offering.

September 23-24, **Willmar Country Quilters Guild Quilt Show**, 2707 Arena Drive NE, Willmar, Minn., Saturday, 11 am-5 pm, Sunday, 11 am-4 pm. Featured quilter Helen Behrends, 300 plus quilts, door prizes, demonstrations, trunk shows, raffle quilt, shopping, community service quilts. \$5 admission. Visit www.countryquiltersmn.com.

October 6-8, **Cedar Creek Quilt Retreat**, Use link below for registration and details:

<https://learning.umn.edu/search/publicCourseSearchDetails.do?method=load&courseld=16578217§ionId=40061429>

If you know of a quilt show or other quilting event scheduled in the next six months, e-mail details to editor@mnquilt.org. Include the event name, the organization producing it, dates, address, admission, contact and other details.



MINNESOTA QUILTERS, INC.™

253 State Street
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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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editor@mnquilt.org

The mission of Minnesota Quilters, Inc. is to nurture the art and craft of quilting through inspiration and education, to support our communities through our craft, and to honor our quilting heritage.

Established April, 1978.

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



Minnesota Quilters, Inc.™ Membership Form

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Email: (needed to send you your newsletter and other MQ announcements)	Expire date: CVV2 3 digit code on back:
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