

Minnesota Quilters February meetings.
Thursday, February 1, 7 p.m. on zoom
And Saturday, February 3, 10 a.m. on zoom and in-person

Coming up in February

by Sarah Parker ed@mnquilt.org

On Thursday, Feb 1 – ZOOM:

→ Brita Nelson - [The Questioning Quilter](#) will present “Now you see it; now you don't.” The magic of the disappearing nine patch and other common blocks. Brita questions a lot of common thoughts and ideas to the point where her experiments result in a lot of interesting quilt concepts.

It will be an exciting meeting. Register for this zoom-only meeting at [this link](#).

↓ On Saturday, Feb 3, in a HYBRID meeting, we will have Bess Casey Wilke, owner of [Side Lake Stitch](#), and she will show us Natural Dye Basics. She has developed a number of fabric dyeing packages and techniques and incorpo-



rates her dyed fabrics into beautiful modern patterns.

Come to the meeting in person or attend on zoom by clicking [this link](#).

More information about both of these meetings on pages 2 and 3.

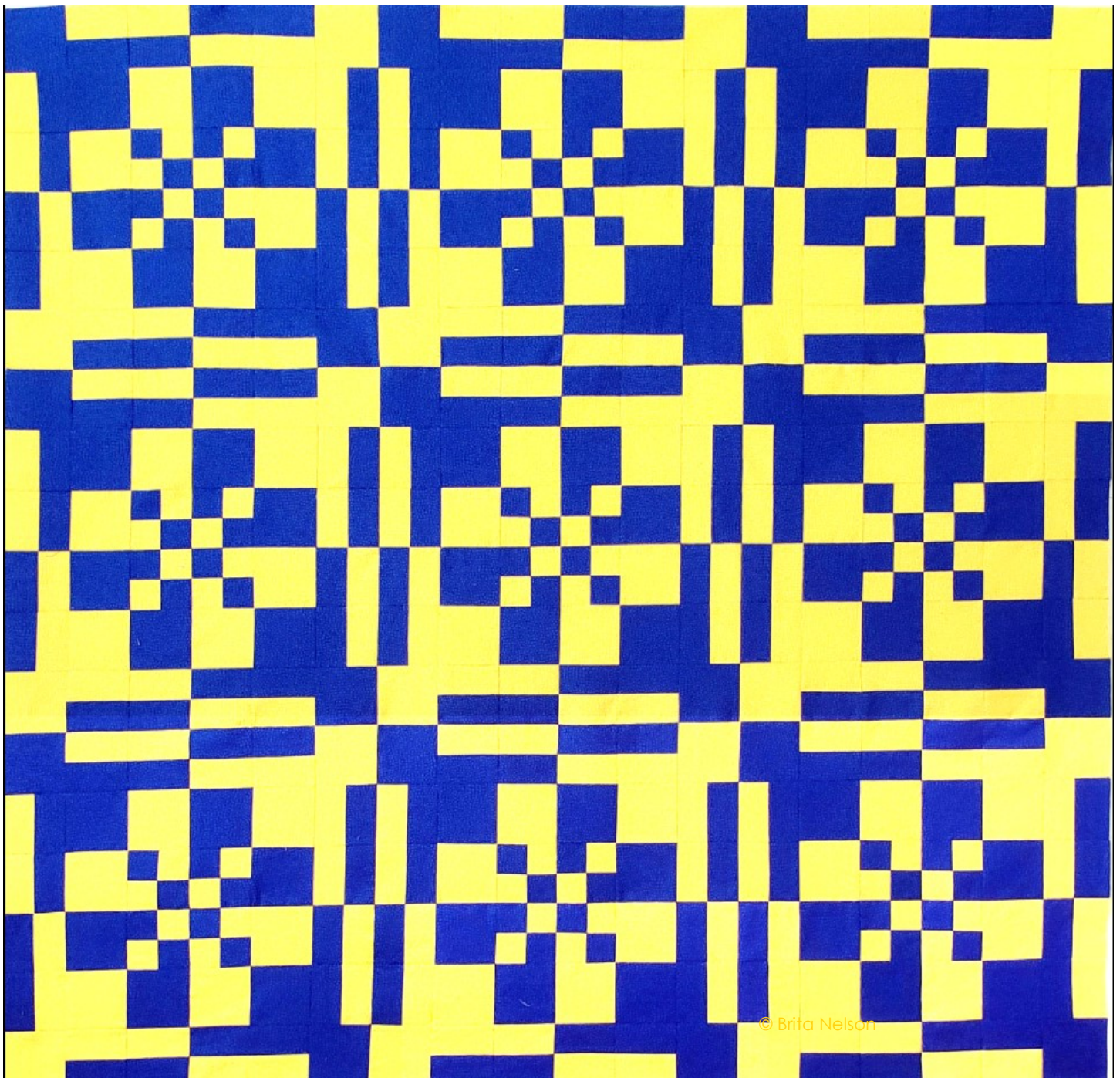
Read about our new 'Sew-In Saturday on page 32. Saturday in-person is going to be a fantastic day!



Whew! That January show meeting was quite the event. There are a lot of classes, lectures, and quilt challenges to look forward to at the quilt show this year. Keep an eye on the quilt show website as it is getting lots of updates. [The 2024 Minnesota Quilt Show](#)

We apologize to the zoomers for the technical difficulties. While we did have a newbie on the Owl (me) the biggest problem was that the internet connection was very unstable and crashed completely for a while. The recording made on Thursday night was good and contained the same information. It can be seen at this link [here](#).

For Thursday, February 1st's meeting below is another example of Brita Nelson's Disappearing 4 patch, "Stay Strong for Ukraine". Can you believe simple 4-patches make this pattern?



© Brita Nelson



Bess Casey Wilke (who will speak at the Saturday February 3rd meeting) is left, and below shows her [Pine Sky quilt pattern](#).



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Ongoing Events:

Wednesdays, Quilting for Others, 11 am to 1 pm, pick up supplies and drop off finished work at Recovery Church. Keep an eye out for email and FB announcements that the 4th **Wednesday** of the month is a workday at MQ to get quilts and kits made.

Mondays, Zoom Bee Sewing Days, February 5, 12, 19 and 26; 10 am to 4 pm, Click to join:

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

Meeting ID 827 4726 5102 with passcode 986969 is valid for all 2024 Zoom Bee quilting days.

MQ's 2024 Online Mystery Quilt! From January 1 to August 1, click for [more details and/or to register](#). See more info on page 8.

Calendar of Events:

February 1 and 3, Member meetings, Brita Nelson and Bess Casey Wilke (see pages 1, 2 and 3) **NEW: On Saturday stay after the meeting for Sew-In Saturday. See more info on page 32.**

March 7 and 9, Member meetings, Minnesota Quilt Project

March 9, Class with Tracy Trevethan Details and registration coming to your inbox VERY soon. (Note, this was dated wrong in Jan newsletter.)

March 18—21, Spring Getaway, See info and registration: <https://cvent.me/000kmD>

April 4 and 6, Member meetings, Saturday, Wendy Richardson

April 18—20, 2024, April Day Retreat at MQ. <https://cvent.me/Ke1xRI?locale=en> See more info on page 33 and 34.

May 2 and 4, Member meetings, Kristie Naranjo and Lori Adamietz

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

July 11 and 13, Member meetings

The MQ website has the complete calendar of events.

<https://mnquilt.org/eventschedule/>

DEADLINE for February Newsletter: Tuesday, February 6. Send newsletter articles and photos to editor@mnquilt.org. *Later submissions may be saved for the following month's newsletter.* The newsletter deadline is the Tuesday after the Saturday meeting. Send Show and Tell photos to showandtell@mnquilt.org. Include descriptions if you wish.

Tracy Trevethan coming to MQ

Liz McHenry & Sarah Parker, ed@mnquilt.org

Mark your calendar for March 9th if you're interested in learning wool applique. Tracy Trevethan has designed a new pattern just for MQ, to teach us all about 'Getting Started with Wool Applique'. Join Tracy to learn the fundamentals of wool applique; fusing, gluing, and stitching. Learn how to get from pattern to applique and where and when to add embellishment stitching. Embroidery stitching and beading will also be covered.

Saturday March 9, 1-4PM CST, in-person. Email invitation coming soon to your inbox.



This pattern is so new, her sample isn't even finished!

President's Letter

Wynn Martin president@mnquilt.org

This past month has turned quite cold so it's no surprise that I'm wrapped in a quilt, thinking about Minnesota Quilters. MQ is 45 years old. If you are of that age, you will recognize the desire to re-engineer, change direction, and think about what you were meant to do going forward, and the Board is doing just that. We're retaining the best of our early years, integrating the changes of recent years, and re-directing our energy toward being the best MQ can be.

MQ is an organization with two parts: The Show and the Community. We have these three goals: 1) quilters teaching quilters; 2) celebrating our creativity through the show and 3) giving back to our communities. As quilters, we thrive when we make connections, practice our craft, and use those talents to give back to our communities.

As a new member in 2008, I felt a bit lost. It took a long time to feel welcome. I volunteered to help on a project where I knew I could contribute. Then I found a friend, who introduced me to other friends. It's those friendships that connect me to MQ.

Here's my view of our past, present and possible future:

Past: We began in 1978 as a group of 30+ women who decided to share their quilting passion and talents with each other. This quickly expanded to include a vision for a state-wide organization and an annual show. Our membership expanded to reach our current 823 members. As a large organization, we also created a large bureaucracy with many volunteer job descriptions, bylaws, board manuals, policies, etc. It's both amazing and overwhelming.

Present: MQ is very big and it's hard to feel welcomed in such a large organization, so that's an ongoing concern. We envision using Zoom to work with other guilds to deliver state-wide programs, and we need to connect across the state to make this happen. Zoom is terrific but it will be better if we have a better network of helpers to make it happen.

Future: Here's our key issue- we need to make our community stronger. With day retreats, weekend retreats, monthly meetings and workshops consistently selling out, we see a craving for engagement, learning and growth. There are lots of opportunities through Minnesota Quilters and your "closer to home" guild(s) for sew-ins, demonstrations, beginning to quilt days, and even just sharing a meal and some projects together. Our membership team and our President-Elect (interim director of communities) have lots of grand ideas for sharing the wonderful art of quilting at MQ and throughout greater Minnesota. But we need your help. We want you to be excited and compelled to participate in this community of crafters. Community is standing with each other, helping within and without, to elevate what we do. We want you to be part of the fun.

The Minnesota Quilt Show can be one of the best in the country, and we might be the biggest guild in the state, but we cannot survive without your help, your skills, your joy, and passion for quilting. Please consider contributing some time and skills to these wonderful volunteer opportunities, attending outside events, and more. Contact a board member, the show director—Brenda Lyseng, Linda Wines, our volunteer coordinator (volunteer@mnquilt.org), or any other volunteers with how you want to be part of the fun and share your talents.

We are so glad you're part of Minnesota Quilters and thank you for your membership, your participation, and for reading.

Wynn Martin
President

Quilting for Others

Diane Rose afo@mnquilt.org

Happy New Year everyone! As 2023 fades into memory, I would like to show you what your generosity means to the many charities that we donate to on a regular basis in our community.

We donated:

- 216 twin quilts to Tubman, Vinland, and Luther Seminary.
- 289 lap quilts to Hennepin County Hospice, Gifts 4 Seniors, and CEAP (Community Emergency Assistance Program).
- 78 kids quilts to MVNA (Minnesota Visiting Nurses Association), and CEAP.
- 412 baby quilts to MVNA, and CEAP.
- 81 tote bags to MVNA
- 478 placemats to CEAP, and St. Cloud Catholic Charities.

That's a grand total of 995 quilts! That is thousands of hours of time spent cutting, sewing, quilting, and binding. Big thanks to the amazing quilting community of Minnesota Quilters!

If you want to join us please come by on Wednesdays between 11 am and 1 pm at MQ's location. And we have a 'workday' on the 4th Wednesday of the month where we all sew together.

The note below was sent to us with this picture:

I just received a quilt with my dad's personal effects following his death in 2022.

It has a tag from your organization. Did you directly donate it or is it done through a third party organization?

It's beautiful, I just want to thank the incredibly talented person who made it.



2024 Mystery Quilt—Venetian Piazza

JOIN US!

It's not too late to sign up for MQ's 2024 online Mystery Quilt! Come join the fun! You'd only be one clue behind and it's easy to catch up.

Suzy Webster designed the mystery quilt for MQ once again. Her patterns are so popular and look bold and modern. Register at the link below.

\$36 for members and \$46 for nonmembers.

If you register for the Mystery be sure to join the MQ Mystery Quilt Facebook page to interact and make new friends with other quilters who are making the same quilt. The info to join the FB group comes in your confirmation email along with the links to the description of the fabrics you would want to use and the cutting instructions.

To register and join the fun:

<https://cvent.me/XR5DQe>.



Donna Stebbins finished January's clue.

You can join now and catch up, easy-peasy-lemonsqueazy!

Bulletin Board

March 27—April 19, Dakota County Star Quilters Quilt Show, at the Dakota County Historical Society Museum, 130 3rd Ave N, South St Paul, MN. Wednesday and Friday 9 am to 5 pm, Thursday 9 am to 8 pm, and Saturday 10 am to 3 pm. On April 9 at 1 pm and 7 pm there is a presentation by Carol Hancuh. Donation of \$5 to Museum. www.dcsq.org

April 5-6, Prairie Piecemakers Quilt Guild, at the Royal Oak Event Center, 301 20th St S, New Ulm, MN. Friday 9 am—5 pm, Saturday 9 am—4 pm. Quilts, Vendors, Raffle Basket, Door Prizes, Food, Basket/Project Raffle. Admission \$10.

April 26-27, Northfield Quilters Quilt Show, at the Little Prairie Methodist Church, 2980 130th Street E, Dundas MN. Friday 9 am to 5 pm and Saturday 10 am to 5 pm. Quilts, vendors, silent auction, bed turning, quilters thrift store and raffle quilt tickets (\$1). \$5 admission.

May 3-4, Maple Grove Quilters Spring Fling Quilt Show, Maple Grove Community Center, 12951 Weaver Lake Road, Maple Grove, Minnesota. Friday 10 am to 7 pm, Saturday 9 am to 4 pm. Quilts, award-winning raffle quilt, challenge, boutique, vendors, demonstrations. \$7 admission.

Important facts:

Show and Tell for the Meetings

Jude Edling showandtell@mnquilt.org

Share your quilts and your stories! Sharing quilt stories is one way we build our community and connections. You can share your stories of quilt triumphs and disasters, quilts old and new, or lessons learned and re-learned.

You can also share your quilt-adjacent projects such as knitting, felting, dyeing, or any fiber technique. All the better if you blend other fiber techniques with quilting.

Zoomers and Roomers can be in the slideshow and tell their stories. Zoomers unmute and Roomers grab that microphone while someone holds your quilt. Email a project photo (small to medium size kb) and your name and a brief description/story to the email above.

SignUpGenius:

Linda Wines and Laurie Klinkhammer volunteer@mnquilt.org

MQ needs your help. Please click on this link to take a look at the 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.

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

MQ Board Meetings

Board@mnquilt.org

Any member can attend the monthly board meetings. Meetings are scheduled for the fourth Tuesday each month at 6:30 p.m. Zoom links are on the MQ events calendar at <https://mnquilt.org/eventschedule/> or request it from a board member.

Wanted: A Newsletter Editor

Minnesota Quilters, Inc. has an interesting opportunity for someone with the following skills—

- You enjoy playing with and arranging items into a pleasing format.
- You have good spelling, grammar, and punctuation skills.
- You are ready for a new experience.
- You are an excellent self-starter.
- You may have had experience creating and editing newsletters in the past.

Our MQ newsletter editor, Wanda Shelton, has found it necessary to simplify her schedule. She would love to continue as the Newsletter Editor but life happens. She is very willing to work with the new editor to make a smooth transition.

Does this person need to come into the MQ office? Only if they want to. Everything can be done using the internet and Zoom from anywhere there is a connection.

Is there a job description? Yes and No. The job description for this position is so old it could be in elementary school. As our new newsletter editor learns the process, the Communications Co-Directors will develop a more current job description.

If this seems interesting to you, send an email to comm@mnquilt.org or call the MQ office at 615-224-3572. Debra Svedberg, our Office Manager, is the backup support for the Newsletter Editor and can answer your questions.

Minnesota Quilt Project

By Sharyn Resvick

Laura Nagel has been attracted to fabric for as long as she can remember and has always been sewing something. Her journey into quilting began in the 1980s when she inherited an unfinished Crazy Quilt from her great grandmother. At the time, Laura was restoring a home with a parlor and knew the quilt would be the perfect accessory. She also knew that it would need to be finished if it was going to survive, so she soon found herself signed up for a class on borders at the local fabric/craft store in Colorado. She loved the class and, as they say, “The rest is history – she had become a quilter.”

Laura went on to inherit several more antique quilts from her family – Dresden Plate blocks and a velvet Flying Geese quilt. Laura’s grandmother even remembered her own mother sitting on the porch working on the velvet quilt using leftover tailors’ scraps bought from a traveling merchant. Laura has continued to purchase and collect many antique quilts over the years, each with stories of their own.

Laura has a particular interest in the history of quilts. That love was inspired by a class she took from Kaye England at the Country Peddler on Civil War Quilts. For Laura, it is the history of the fabrics combined with the untold history of the maker. As a Librarian, Laura knows that there was not a lot of history written about women but that often they told their stories through their crafts, including quilting.

Laura finds traditional quilts most appealing. She loves the choosing of fabric and has quite a stash of fabrics. She also loves every aspect of the construction process from the piecing to the joining of the blocks to squaring up the top to applying the binding. She says that seeing the blocks come together is like bringing a puzzle together to completion. The only aspect Laura no longer does is the actual quilting. Laura says she now “quilts by check.” Laura prefers machine piecing vs handwork. She is still working on her first hand-quilted piece from the 80s. She is a gadget person – she likes the right tool for the job. “A good tool makes for a good outcome.”



Laura Nagel

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When asked what impact quilting has had on Laura's life, she responded, "It keeps me broke! I have more fabric in my stash than furniture updates in my home." But the greatest impact to her has been the connections she has made within the community of quilters. Laura has made friendships she feels will endure long after she has given up the hobby of quilting. Laura is a life-long learner. She enjoys taking classes and even likes the technology aspect such as learning things about a new sewing machine. She feels learning expands her horizons in every way.

Laura was a Librarian at Eagan High School for many years. In 1995, the MQ Show was held at the Eagan School. Laura decided the library would be the perfect place to display several quilts as the backdrop for the Meet the Teachers event. It was so well-received that it became the impetus for Laura to continue to hang quilts again. She chose March, Women's History Month, and featured a different MN quilter each year. She started with just a few quilts and, as the years went by, the show grew to a display of 60-80 quilts and continued for 20 years.

In conjunction with the library show each year, the Women's Literature class started a prevailing theme of women's needlework and students made a quilt block representing their life. Students earned extra credit for quilting the blocks together which took place in the library. This act of students coming together to quilt impacted their lives. Laura says she saw girls from various cliques come together at the quilting frame and talk with each other. A true testament that quilting brings us together. The library quilt shows also brought the community at large together as they anticipated each year's show.

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Laura purchased this antique quilt

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In closing, Laura states that it is important that we pass the wonderful art of quilting on to the next generations. Laura taught her daughter to sew and is now teaching her grandchildren to sew. One of Laura's granddaughters even won a sewing machine for entering her unique design in the youth exhibit at an MQ show. Quilting has given Laura a life of fulfillment. "That is the part of the legacy that needs to be passed on generation to generation."



Laura made this Cori Dantini quilt.



Laura made this scrap quilt



**Minnesota
Quilters inc**

The Minnesota Quilt Show

June 13 - 15, 2024

Duluth Entertainment Convention Center, Duluth



Wouldn't a road trip be a wonderful idea?

Or a couple stops on the way to see your cousin or grandkids?

At the Saturday, February 3, MQ meeting (a hybrid meeting – both Zoom & in-person) we will have packets of information that need to be delivered to quilt shops in the 5 state area (MN, WI, IA, ND, SD).

So if you're planning on being near any of these shops in February, we'd very much appreciate you stopping to deliver the packets. In case you're not at the meeting in person, but can stop in at the MQ office to pick up some packets for delivery that would work too. Any questions: contact registration@mnquilt.org or call the MQ office at 651-224-3572 (T – F, 11am – 4 pm).



The Minnesota Quilt Show: Your February Checklist

Let the show committee worry about all the planning and details! Here's **your** short list for the month of February:

- ◇ Important dates!
 - ◇ February 1: Registration starts for non-members. Click this link if you're having issues registering: [Video on how to register](#), and password is QuiltShow24!
 - ◇ April 16: Quilt Entry deadline
 - ◇ June 1: Advanced Registration deadline
 - ◇ June 13 – 15: Show Time at the Duluth Entertainment Convention Center
- ◇ Pick up marketing packets for quilt shops and retreat centers – road trip!
- ◇ Print a copy of the Registration Guide (available on show website)
- ◇ Finalize the general framework of your attendance.
 - ◇ If you are taking workshops and want to attend the Friday banquet, then you will do Advanced Registration. This also gives you admission to the show floor all 3 days.

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- ◇ If you want to see the quilts, vendors, and attend a lecture but no workshops, you can purchase a Daily Admission Ticket or a Multiday Ticket. Daily Tickets are available now at the Minnesota Quilters online store (www.mnquilt.org/mq_store) and can be used for any day of the show. If you purchase tickets now they are \$2 off! Daily and Multiday tickets can be bought at the show.
- ◇ Decide which workshops and lectures you want to attend using the Registration Guide and the show website. For each workshop you will find information about the faculty, a description and photo, whether or not a sewing machine is needed, the supply list, and the fees. Note that members get a reduced fee for workshops. Not a member? You can join when you register! [Watch this video](#) for tips on using the website. The password is QuiltShow24!
- ◇ Watch for dates for Meet the Teachers in February. These zoom sessions will be led by our faculty and YOU get to ask them questions.
- ◇ Decide if you will participate in the MQ Challenge and the MQ Logo Exhibit (I'm MQ, Are You?). Start planning and purchase your Challenge packet, MQ fabric, logo patterns.
- ◇ Make your hotel reservation. MQ has discounted blocks at seven hotels. See "Staying Overnight" at this [link](#).

January's Big Reveal Membership Meeting

Were you a part of the excitement at our January membership meetings? Chances are good as we had 500 attending either in person or by zoom! Both meetings were hybrid and the weather cooperated. The Show Committee shared highlights of the show and what is new in store. After a break, we were treated to an overview of the workshops and lectures and were able to see samples the faculty had sent. Photos just don't do justice to their creative work!

Saturday was extra fun when we lost internet at MQ, not once, but twice! Thanks to our tech team for troubleshooting and not losing their cool: Sarah Parker, Liz and Jen McHenry, Amy Fennewald, and Debra Svedberg. Thanks also to the Show Committee plus Regina Zedell and Jude Edling for helping with the power point.

THANK YOU to the following for donating door prizes: Gwen Hanvy, David Owen Hastings, Claudia Myers, Laura Nagel, Kyra Reys, Helen Smith Stone. It was fun to give away daily tickets, MQ logo fabric, 2024 Challenge Packets/Entry Fees, Judged Quilt Entry Fees, and Advanced Registration Entry Fees.

- Watch videos of the faculty samples on The Minnesota Quilt Show page on Facebook
- Watch the recording of the Thursday video [here](#).
- Download the Registration Guide and Schedule [here](#).



Thanks to all these fantastic volunteers!

The Show Committee showing off Maria Shell's "Riffing on Tradition" class sample. Noses from left to right: Tina Rohde, Karen Kopitzke, Paulette Marini, Kathie Simon Frank, Lisa Stene, Jude Edling, Carolyn Davidson, Dianne Conner, Louise Somers, Laurie Klinkhammer, Sarah Parker, Aileen Lively, Brenda Lyseng, Colleen Shaskin, and Adrienne Lemberg.



Workshops at the Show: Art, Collage, and Design

Did you know that we choose workshops so that we have a variety of techniques and styles covered? Each month we will highlight a different style.

If you are interested in art quilts, collage, or the design elements that go into a quilt, check out these workshops:

Art:

Tape, Texture, and Textile Paint with Kathie Kerler

Inksations Table Runner with Brandy Maslowski

Chiffon Scarf Collage with Kathie Kerler

Seams out Pillow with David Owen Hastings

Collage:

Intro to Fiber Collage with Maday Delgado

Design:

Design from Photo to Imagination by Vicki Conley

How to Build a Quilt by Maria Shell



In-

Who's who? Look at www.mnquilt.org/mq2024



It's Time to Meet the Teachers!

You went to the Big Reveal meetings, you've printed the registration guide, you studied the show website, and still have questions! That's why we host Meet the Teachers in February so you can get to know them a bit, hear their perspective about their workshops, and most importantly, ask questions. There are 4 sessions so mark your calendars now. All meetings are by Zoom and will be recorded for our YouTube channel. We will update you with the final schedule. You do need to register for each of the meetings.

- Monday, 2/12, 7 p.m. [REGISTER](#) See Maday Delgado, Gwen Hanvy, David Owen Hastings, and Karlee Porter
- Friday, 2/16, 7 p.m. [REGISTER](#) See Claudia Myer and Maria Shell
- Tuesday, 2/20, 7 p.m. [REGISTER](#)
- Wednesday, 2/28, 7 p.m. [REGISTER](#) See Vicki Conley

Quilt Show Task Force: What were the recommendations?

Brenda Lyseng showdirector@mnquilt.org

This past fall, I convened a task force for the purpose of making recommendations regarding the future of The Minnesota Quilt Show. The goals were to make recommendations concerning the location and venue, the frequency and dates, and the scope of the show. We had rich conversations and deep dives into data. I hope these highlights get you thinking and dreaming as well!

Why do we have a quilt show?

Quilts: the show boosts people's confidence by giving them a chance to show their quilts; allows us to see quilts made in Minnesota and beyond; opens up our world as to what is possible. *Education:* the show helps us gain proficiency and gain access to nationally known faculty. *Vendors:* quilters see new products that their local store may not have, vendors gain new customers and income. *Exposure:* opportunity to interest the general public in quilting arts. *Social:* the show gives a sense of community and chance to socialize, local quilt guilds connect with potential new members. *Financial:* profit from the show supports other MQ activities.

What trends do we see nationally?

The demographic of attendees, faculty, and vendors continues to age and some have 'stepped out.' Outside factors, especially COVID, had a large impact. Younger quilters are very engaged in the industry but not necessarily attending shows. We need to strive to attract younger quilters, ethnically diverse populations, and other fiber artists.

Are we fulfilling our mission?

We should continue focusing on inclusivity, creativity, accessibility, and collaboration. We want to keep the show affordable, our venue accessible, and collaborate with other fiber arts organizations.

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Quilt Show Task Force article continued from previous page.

What does the data tell us?

We found our trends are similar to other shows (when data was public).

Attendance: has decreased from 4800-6000 to 3800 after COVID

Workshop fill rate: fill rate has steadily improved to around 76%

Net Revenue: difficult to see trends by location but the net revenue has decreased since COVID (i.e. \$117,000 in 2014 and \$30,000 in 2023)

Vendors: number of vendors has decreased (112 in 2018, 50 in 2023 when schedule conflict occurred with Kansas City Regional Quilt Festival)

The number of national quilt shows has decreased; QuiltCon, however is growing.

What are the options for venues?

Given the amount of space we need, there are only 5 options: DECC in Duluth, River's Edge in St. Cloud, Mayo Civic Center in Rochester, RiverCentre in St. Paul, and Minneapolis Convention Center. Net revenue was similar for the first 3 sites. Admission sales in 2007 in St. Paul were similar to other years. Recommend Request for Proposals to all 5 sites for future years.

What do we recommend for future show dates?

The task force recommended, and the Board approved, that we change the **2025** show to **June 19 – 21** in order to avoid a conflict with the Kansas City Regional Quilt Festival. We recommend continuing with an annual show in mid to late June.

What other recommendations were made?

We recommended that we broaden the appeal of the show to other fiber artists via the vendors chosen, workshops offered, and ways to connect with other fiber art organizations. Those recommendations are being implemented this year. Complimentary tickets will be added to each quilt shop/retreat center marketing packet. We will be offering quilters the opportunity to sell their exhibited quilts. We are unveiling The Connection, an area for fiber art organizations and affinity groups to meet.

THANK YOU to our task force members: Colleen Carlson, Jude Edling, Virginia Gleason, Carol Hancuh, Dee Legvold, Brenda Lyseng, Claudia Myers, Sharyn Resvick, and Jenny Wilder.

BANQUET

By Tina Rohde and Colleen Shaskin banquet@mnquilt.org

Have you ever wanted to be the captain of your own ship and to be supportive of The Minnesota Quilt Show?

We have that opportunity for you to become captain of your own ship (table) at the annual banquet. There are ten tables that seat eight sailors (tablets) for the purchase price of \$50 each. This is a tax-deductible donation. As captain you will be able to select your crew to occupy your table. This is the only reserved seating areas. Each person attending your ship will need to purchase their own banquet ticket.

Not sure who you would invite to join you as crew members? Friends are always great sailing mates. Try bringing new friends on board that you meet at the quilt show. Open your sailing adventure by inviting some first-time attendees to join your table.

You will be able to locate your ship (table) with a "nautical" quilt block. Storm at Sea, Snail Trail, Compass Star, Blockade, Drunkard's Path, Goose in a Pond, Leap Frog, Ocean Waves, Storm Signal, Watered Ribbon.

On Friday evening, June 14, we will host our annual banquet. Hoist the Sails social hour will start at 5 p.m. A cash bar will be available. No ticket is required. Please bring one or more of your orphan quilt blocks. Find a new home for your block on Treasure Island, Fantasy Island or Castaway Island.



At 6:30 p.m. we will board the ship and be seated for the banquet and program by Maria Shell.

Tickets are still available at \$45 for members and \$50 for non-members. You need to register for the show through advanced registration to purchase banquet tickets and choose your meal. There will be vegetarian as well as gluten free options available. You may purchase tickets for friends that aren't registering for the Show.

Sail away on your quilter's dreams to a Great Lake Superior Adventure!

Are you working on your BQ5 Challenge?

By Liz McHenry & Sarah Parker ed@mnquilt.org

In case you missed the announcements of the Maple Island BQ Nation Challenge, here's a recap of the details:

Debbie Bowles, the owner of Maple Island Quilts, generously offered to donate 20 of her patterns to MQ. We thought it would be fun to get 20 copies of the same pattern, and offer them to members who would be interested in making them as part of an exhibit at the show. Thus, the idea of a challenge was born.

We chose BQ5 because it had, in our opinion, the most opportunity for original interpretation. It features an 18.5" block, comprised of a 12.5" focus square with a pinwheel or accent splash. Perfect for showcasing large scale prints, or small panel squares. Won't it be fun to see how each member takes the pattern and makes it their own. The pattern also has a smaller block option, if that better fits your style.

There really will be no specific rules to the challenge, other than participants must use a BQ pattern from Maple Island Quilts, **preferably** BQ5 or BQ5 Encore. And of course, that the quilts be completed in time for them to be entered in the 2024 MQ Show in Duluth. We have set up a category for you to enter them in quilt entry registration.

During our Saturday September School House meeting last year we pulled names out of the hat for the 20 Free BQ5 Patterns.



Wynn Martin's almost completed top.

If you would like to purchase a pattern they are available at the Maple Island website for \$10 +S+H mapleislandquilts.com Check out the gallery of BQ5 quilts at <https://mapleislandquilts.com/gallery/bq-nation/#bq5>

Judged Quilts Q&A

Sarah Parker and Susan Kiester, Judged Quilt Co-chairs,
judged@mnquilt.org

Q: Can I enter a quilt made from someone else's pattern, or does every quilt have to be an original design?

A: Yes. You can enter quilts made from someone's pattern. Find the category that best fits the size and technique of your quilt (contact judged@mnquilt.org if you need help deciding). The judges will look at how well you put the elements of your quilt together, whether you designed it or not.

Q: Can I enter a quilt that I made from a kit?

A: Yes. There is a special category for kit quilts, Block of the Month quilts, etc. It is the **Workmanship** category. Here is the definition:

Any Row by Row, Mystery, Kit, or Quilt Shop Block of the Month quilts. It may include piecing or appliqué, and the work may be done by hand or machine. It may be completely constructed and quilted by one person, or the quilting may be done by a second person. Since many of the design and/or fabric decisions will have been made by someone other than the entrant, the judges will focus on workmanship or how well the entrant has used the given elements to create the finished quilt. This is a single category for one or two persons.

Q: How do I know what size each category is?

A: Here are our sizes:

All quilts have a maximum size of 110" x 110" or a perimeter of 440".

For the categories with large and small options, the perimeter determines the switchover. 280" is the minimum perimeter for a large quilt and it is the maximum perimeter for a small quilt. Traditionally, miniature quilts have a maximum perimeter of 96".

Continued on next page.



Anne-Lu Hovis, What a Hoot, closeup

Judged Quilts Q&A continued...

Q: Are there any new categories?

A: Yes. It is Upcycled quilts. Here is the definition:

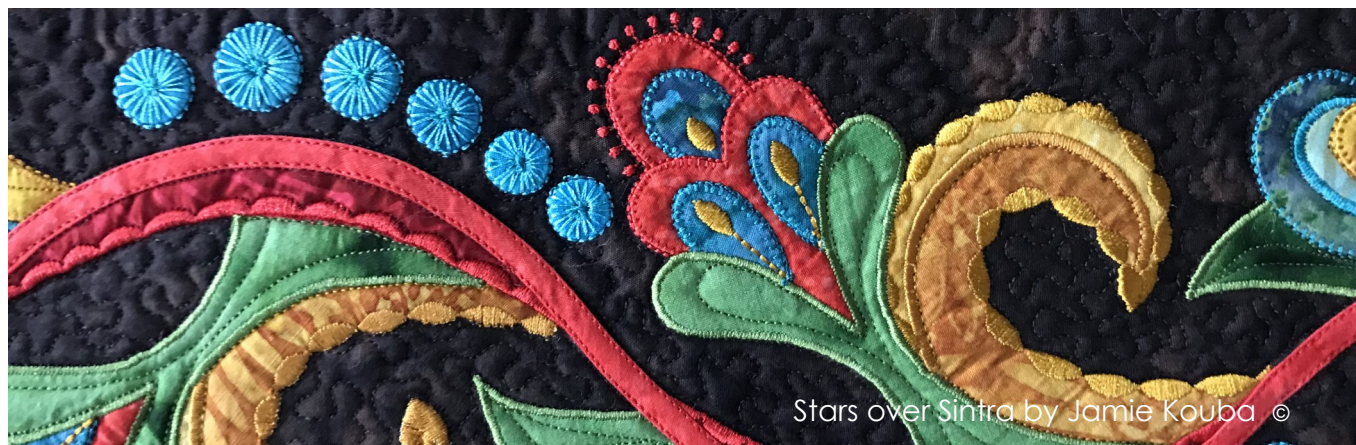
Upcycled: This can be any quilt made with materials that were previously used for something else. This may include fabric used for clothing, upholstery, bags, napkins, placemats, tablecloths, or other cloth objects. It may also include old quilts that are re-imagined into a new configuration. The quilt can be of any style (pieced, applique, mixed, modern, art, pictorial) but must include at least 50% upcycled materials on the front of the quilt. This should be a flat quilt, not a freestanding sculpture or garment. The usual judging criteria will apply but special consideration will be given to creative use of materials. This is a single category for one or two persons.

Q: What is that new Miniature Award?

A: Rather than a miniature category, the judges will look at all the quilts entered into every category and determine if any show exemplary miniaturization. Characteristics of exemplary miniaturization are the use of scaled proportions. Thus, the blocks must be scaled to appear appropriately sized for a standard size quilt. The fabrics typically have small prints, the binding is narrow, and the stitches are small.

Q: Why should I enter a quilt in judged? My quilts can't possibly measure up to those award winners!

A: Both of your friendly judged quilt co-chairs agree that it can be a bit scary to have your pride and joy viewed by a bunch of strangers, especially when they are right next to some beautiful quilts. Yet, we have both done it with no regrets. The awards are nice, but they are not everything. The comments from the judges are very useful plus they'll appreciate what you did well. Follow this link to learn about someone else's experience in the process. <https://sewcanshe.com/why-i-entered-a-quilt-show-and-you-should-too/>



Stars over Sintra by Jamie Kouba ©



The Minnesota Quilt Show

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Duluth Entertainment Convention Center, Duluth

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faculty@mnquilt.org



Gyleen Fitzgerald Sunny Side Up ©



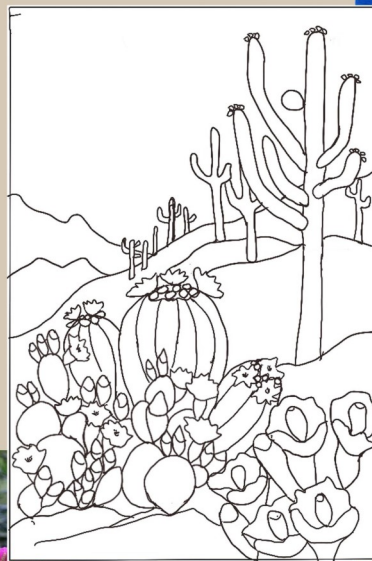
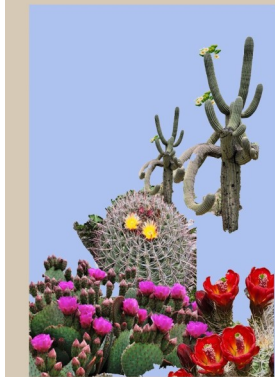
Brandy Maslowski Whole Lotta Hexies ©



Kathie R Kerler Freehand Embroidery ©

Design from Photos to Imagination

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Vicki Conley From Photo to Imagination ©



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Brandy Maslowski Inksations ©



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Maday Delgado Improvisation: The art of Re-Imagining ©



Page Johnson Quilt Rescue—
Before, During and After ©



Rose Allen Beginning Quilting:
Binding a Quilt ©



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Kathie Kerler Tape Texture Workshop ©



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Kathie Kerler Beads Bars Drizzle Sampler ©

Think Snow

Breaking the Code

This is a fun way to make a quilt with a secret message

Be My Valentine

Take your own phrase and translate it into Morse Code then translate that into a unique abstract quilt.

What Hath God Wrought

Vicki Conley Breaking the Code ©



Page Johnson Fix it on the Longarm Frame ©



Ruth Ann Berry
Fat Quarter Fabulous 3-D Quilt ©



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Maday Delgado The Art of Collage ©



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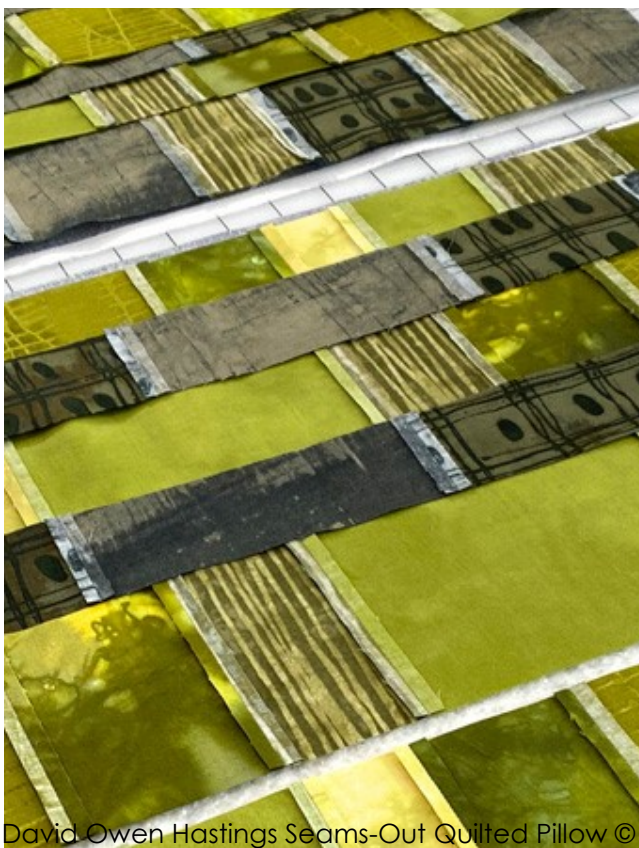
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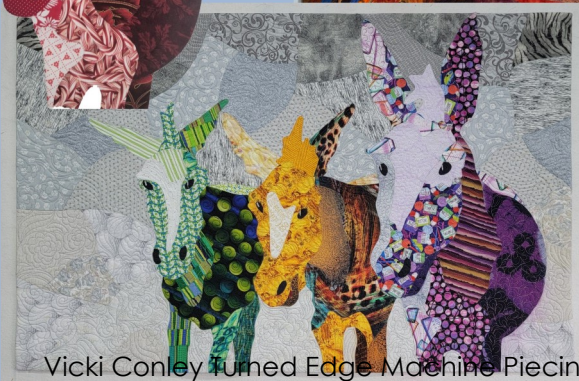
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Turned Edge Machine Piecing

Choice of 3
patterns



David Owen Hastings Seams-Out Quilted Pillow ©



Vicki Conley Turned Edge Machine Piecing ©



Gwen Hanvy Making Magic with English Paper Piecing in our Modern World ©

SHOWTIME-AGAIN

Claudia Myers

Warning! Warning! The Quilters are coming to town, again! There will be at least 4,000 women (and men) filling up the hotels and restaurants. You have to be careful because they will blindly cross intersections, talking non-stop and holding out pieces of fabric to show, digging in their tote bags for the DECC map so they can tell everyone which booth had this great fabric. You will be able to recognize them. They look happy and are usually smiling or laughing, unless their feet hurt from walking the show floor. Sometimes, they wear matching T-shirts or sparkly tiaras or jackets they have made, the more flamboyant, the better. These things say "We are together, we are excited to be here and we're going to have a great time!" Come join us!

The Minnesota Quilter's annual state guild show will be held in Duluth at the DECC again this coming JUNE, 2024. Show chairs and committee heads have probably been working on it since spring of 2022. Running the show is a huge undertaking, as are most conventions and large events and many times the people in charge give their all, only to get burnt out, say "not a chance" and quickly move out-of-state when asked again.

However, there are a few who have nerves of steel, organizational skills over-the-top and memories that wear rose colored glasses. They have taken charge multiple times and lived to tell about it. I know some of them.

I am not one of those die-hard heroes, but after the first DECC Minnesota Quilters show that my friend, Shirley and I ran in 1997, the MQ board asked us to chair the event again. After all, the DECC was still standing, there were no police raids and after-show reports from happy quilters and vendors were glowing. They loved Duluth! Shirley pled elderly-ness and declined.

I put on those rose-colored glasses, asked my daughter to co-chair, and said "Ooo-key, if you can't find anybody else". I put the strongarm on every quilting friend I knew, just proving once again, that friends can get you into 'way more trouble than enemies.

I vowed this time we would better explain our eating habits to the DECC Food Service who thought quilters were sweet little old ladies who ate like birds. We would not eat up all the food planned for the three-day event on the first day. Huh! We would, however, defend our title as the convention holding the record for most ice cream consumed in a three-day period. Yesss! We would be kind and leave more than one or two bathrooms available for men to use and we wouldn't tape big "Women Only" signs on all of them.

Continued on next page.

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For our Friday night banquet, we decided we would get our priorities straight and take the high decadent road. Usually, the banquet committee has a budget to spend on table decorations which become door prizes afterwards. There have been plants, fabric bags with sewing notions, sensible things like that. We took the decorating money and instead of centerpieces, we had the Buttercream Bakery in Minneapolis deliver twenty-six varieties of layer cakes, one flavor for each table. They came trucking up with their precious cargo just before the banquet opened and when dessert-time came, the beautifully-decorated cakes were cut and people started mingling around, swapping slices of cake and tasting and visiting. I wonder how many people remember that. I remember because I'm a pushover for a good layer cake.

One of my fondest memories was of the committee meeting in a crowded quilt shop where we sat on folding chairs, all facing front, in the aisles of shelves packed with fabric bolts. One of the members, who happens to be a first-grade teacher, started singing "The Wheels On the Bus Go Round and Round". We all joined in and were totally silly for a while. It was three months before the show opened and boy did we ever need some silliness!

The show itself went off without too many hitches. Oh yes, the little blue bridge between the DECC and the hotels did its occasional sulk and wickedly refused to go down just when the show ended and the teachers were trundling all their sewing machines, quilt samples and class supplies back to Canal Park. It's a long way around without benefit of the Little Blue Bridge.

With ballet and opera performances, quilt shows and meetings, I had spent so many hours at the DECC, working back behind the scenes, in the arena, the exhibit Halls, Fitzgerald Food Hall, ballrooms, classrooms, concrete alleyways and bathrooms, that I think I knew every square inch. If I ever become a little old homeless person, I'm going to sneak into the complex and make myself right at home. Maybe no one will ever know I'm there. Leftover cold bratwurst could get a little tiresome, though.

Reminder-mark your calendars right now and join us at the Minnesota Quilt Show as we once again take over the DECC, June 13th through 15th, 2024. If you haven't been to a large quilt show, I guarantee you a good time. If you are thinking of your dear Grandmother and the quilts that she made, you will be stunned at the creativity quilters will be exhibiting. I know I was, when I attended my first quilt show and that's how this all happened.



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The Minnesota Quilt Show

June 13 - 15, 2024
Duluth Entertainment Convention Center, Duluth



Our Show Committee

Admissions	admissions@mnquilt.org	Karen Root, Jan Schmidt
Advanced Registration	registration@mnquilt.org	Linda Wines, Karen Knoll
Banquet	banquet@mnquilt.org	Tina Rhode, Colleen Shaskin
Bus Tours	bustours@mnquilt.org	Margaret Lundberg
Challenge	challenge@mnquilt.org	Pat Curtner, Karen Kopitzke
Equipment Manager	equipment@mnquilt.org	Jude Edling
Judged Exhibit	judged@mnquilt.org	Sarah Parker, Susan Kiester
Learning Stage	learningstage@mnquilt.org	Jeanne LaMoore
Marketing	marketing@mnquilt.org	Jennifer Viedma, Susan Panelli
Merchandise	merchandise@mnquilt.org	Louise Somers, Mary Willard
Non-judged Exhibit	nonjudged@mnquilt.org	Carolyn Davidson, Dianne Conner
Photography	photography@mnquilt.org	Maureen Ohland
Printing	printing@mnquilt.org	Linda Wines
Quilt Entry Logistics	Quiltentryhelp@mnquilt.org	Sue Rufford
Quilting for Others	showqfo@mnquilt.org	Diane Rose, Aileen Lively
Raffle Managers	raffle@mnquilt.org	Dorothy Sand, Margaret Pidde
Ribbons	ribbons@mnquilt.org	Kathie Simon Frank, Linda Huntzicker
Signage	signage@mnquilt.org	Donna Rockette
Special Exhibits	specialexhibits@mnquilt.org	Laura Nagel, Adrienne Lemberg
Vendors	vendors@mnquilt.org	Char Wenger, Jeanne LaMoore
Volunteers	showvolunteers@mnquilt.org	Laurie Klinkhammer, Rhende Hagemeister
Youth Exhibit	youth@mnquilt.org	Paulette Marini, Lisa Stene
Show Director	showdirector@mnquilt.org	Brenda Lyseng

Join us and make new life-long friends!

LATEST NEWS—READ ALL ABOUT IT!

New event! "Sew-In Saturday"

Have time following the upcoming February Saturday member meeting ? Stay and gather with us. Bring a lunch or a snack or something to share. Bring a project to work on or quilter questions or new discoveries to share. Or just stay to chat.

Questions? membership@mnquilter.org

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The Day Retreats are AMAZING!

Ask anyone who's attended. The feedback from January's Day Retreat includes: "Another wonderful experience!", "It is great to get together and sew with others and get to know other quilters."

A HUGE THANK YOU to January's hostesses, **Loretta Stone and Charlotte Breivik**, who planned a spontaneous, delicious, potluck lunch. On Thursday Loretta said "On Friday I'm bringing a pot of Sloppy Joe's for a potluck lunch, who can bring a bag of buns?" Several hands go up.

"Who can bring a bag of chips?" Some more hands go up. "Who can bring some veggies?", someone else's hand goes up. Others made amazing salads, cookies, etc. and it was scrumptious! Normally we just ask everyone to bring their own lunches and dinners or go out.

We are going to have more Day Retreats this year, but before I can make the registration ready, I need the volunteers for the hostesses to be in place. Are you interested? There's an "AM Host" who gets here early to open up the church, start coffee, etc., and a "PM Host" who stays until the end and closes everything up. Both Hosts do not need to be here all day together. The AM Host can leave for the evening and the PM Host can arrive later in the morning. You get free registration and can sew if no one needs your attention or assistance. And it's not necessary for you to create a potluck lunch like Loretta and Charlotte!

Sign up at this link at [SignUpGenius](https://www.signupgenius.com).

Here are the dates we need Hosts for. *If there are not 2 hosts for each Retreat we will not be holding that particular Day Retreat.*

July 18-20, August 22-24, September 19-21, October 17-19, November 21-23



The Day Retreat's Show & Tell!

Leslie Hall grows her own indigo in a pot on her deck and at home dyed this silk with the leaves!

Below is Karen Root's quilt. She sewed the binding on at the Retreat. The pattern is called Nordic Noel, designed by Jen Daly, in McCall's Quilting Nov/Dec 2022 issue. Feet not included.





MINNESOTA QUILTERS,
INC.™
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St Paul, MN 55107-1612

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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: https://mnquilt.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/Form_MembershipFullPage.pdf



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Minnesota Quilters, Inc.™ Membership Form

Member Information:	Payment Information:
Member name, or gift recipient's name (please print):	This membership is: New Renewing Gift
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City: State: Zip:	Check Cash Visa MasterCard Discover
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\$45 Regular Access to all website features. Receive newsletter via email. Early registration for annual show. Textile Center Library privileges.	Phone:
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