

Upcoming Events:

June meeting :
Tues., June 14, 7:00 PM
Eagan Community Center

July meeting :
Tues., July 12, 6:30 PM
Central Park pavilion

**Deadline for July
Newsletter: July 3**

**Directions to the Eagan
Community Center:** The
community center is off of
Pilot Knob Road between
Lone Oak Road and
Yankee Doodle Road in
Eagan. Turn west off of
Pilot Knob onto Center
Parkway. Follow Center
Parkway to the sign for
the Eagan Community
Center and turn right.
Follow the signs for "All
Deliveries" (second right
turn). The road winds
around to the lower level
of the parking lot. Enter
through the lower-level
door and look for the sign
indicating where we are
meeting.

Note: No outside food or
beverages are allowed in
the community center.
Concessions are
available.

Quilt Quip for the month:

"One yard of fabric, like
one cookie, is never
enough!"

**See you at our meeting on Tuesday, June 14th, 7pm at
the Community Center!**

Note From DCSQ Chair - Kathy Lindstrom

A blank canvas, it's the space between projects. It's also what I'm looking at as I write my first newsletter article as president. Looking back, I can see and wrap up in the quilt that was just finished. Looking forward is the promise of what is to come. Whether it's a work in progress that needs completing, a project from the time out box that may not be ready for prime time, or a project that is still a figment of my imagination, it's fun deciding what the next thing will be.

As we start our new quilt guild's year, it's the same blank slate, but one that last year's board has partially filled in. It's like finding a half completed project and not having a clue why you put it aside! Our speaker in June will be Sara Hardwig from BlueberryBackroads. She will do a trunk show and also vend. Her website is <http://blueberrybackroads.com/> and best of all-she's local-she lives in Minneapolis. She will start promptly at 7, as she is a new mom too!

Sew on and sew forth!

What Are You Craving? – by Susan Skoog

Start going through your recipes for the long lost "dish" that you are CRAVING to make!! Our July meeting will be a picnic at "Central Park" pavilion. No sign-up list will be circulated; you can bring what you are CRAVING to share at the picnic. We will provide plates and waters.

The pavilion is located at 1501 Central Parkway, on the right as you turn onto Central Parkway from Pilot Knob, heading west as you go to the Community Center for our meetings. Watch for the signs. Start time is EARLIER -- 6:30pm.

Start thinking of what you are CRAVING!!!

May Meeting Minutes - Sunny Kline

We had a very enjoyable and productive meeting at the Eagan Community Center. Show Chair Kathy Lindstrom gave us a summary of the Quilt Show finances. Then we had a "Winners' Show and Tell" for the five members who won the Viewers' Choice Awards. All five brought their winning quilts, and they are indeed beautiful and deserving of recognition! Kathy led a discussion about the next quilt show, and the question of when to hold the next one. She asked for volunteers to sign up to be on the next show committee. Next we had elections of the officers for the next year. All positions were filled except for Vice Chair, for which we are still seeking someone who would like to serve in that capacity. Departing Chair Sandi Irish "passed the torch" to the new Chair! Thanks so much to Sandi and others for serving on the Board! Here is your Guild's new Board:

Chair- Kathy Lindstrom
 Vice Chair- _____ Open _____
 Show Chair- Kathy Lindstrom
 Secretary- Sunny Kline
 Treasurer- Trisha Millonig and Marsha Millonig
 Membership- Molly Moran
 Refreshments- Susan Skoog
 Web Site- Sue Tobias
 Education/Activities- Arlette Kreager
 Retreat- Pat Basch
 Newsletter- Jackie Grinde
 Community Service- Beth Kobliska and Trisha Millonig

Quilt Show Viewer's Choice Winners



1st Place: Nancy Bekadam for "Bob and Weave" **2nd Place:** Mary Lee Schaefer for "Stars and Squares"



3rd Place: Arlette Kreager For “Spirit of the Northwoods”

Tied for 4th Place: Carol Egan for “I Can See Blue” and Mary Lee Schaefer for “Geese by the Cabin”

Quilt Show Financial Report – Kathy Lindstrom

The quilt show netted the group about \$2000. Specific numbers to come! Thanks to everyone for making this year's show a success.

Offering to Teach – by Beth Kobliska

I am offering to teach two classes to DCSQ members.

T-shirt Quilts: Having made hundreds of t-shirt quilts for customers, I'd like to share what I have learned with my fellow quilters. I will cover some basics, pattern designs I use, including my “Puzzle” quilts and my “Mixed Sashed” layouts, and tips to avoid problems with stretch, tucks, and bulk. T-shirt quilts don't have to include just t-shirts – I've included sports jerseys, baby clothes, neckties, dress shirts, photos printed on fabric, socks, boxers, swimsuits, baby blankets, competition ribbons, and even medals. Duration is about 4 or 5 hours, depending on interest.

Electric Quilt Software: EQ is powerful, versatile and easy to use quilt design software. I've been using it for 8 years, and love it. I will cover the basics of horizontal set, diagonal set, row-by-row layouts and custom sets. I'll also cover borders, designing pieced blocks, and the EQ libraries of blocks, fabrics, quilt layouts. If you have EQ, this will be a hands-on class. Quilters who do not have EQ, but want see how it works before deciding to get it, are also welcome. If there's interest I can also include tips on designing t-shirt quilts using custom settings. Duration is about 4 or 5 hours, depending on interest.

Both classes are free to DCSQ members. Times and places will be arranged, depending on interest. Please contact Beth Kobliska if interested.

Phone: 651-340-0024

email: elizabeth.kobliska@comcast.net

Activity Challenge --- Arlette Kreager, Education/Activities

For the strippers among us....a quick, fun and easy challenge--a strip exchange.

In keeping with the kind of fun and creativity shared by Gudrun Erla at our show in April, gather some of your red, white, and blue 2 1/2 inch strips together (any combination) and bring them to the June meeting and be ready to swap them for some that your fellow quilters have brought. The strips need to be cut such that they are the width of the fabric, making it fair and easy. You can participate with as many or as few as you'd like (bring 10, take 10 etc.). It's a great way to increase the diversity of your collection and may even provide inspiration to make a quick patriotic project to show at our July meeting. Looking forward to seeing lots of red and white, blue and white, red and blue, and red, white, and blue strips.

13th Annual Quilt Retreat – Pat Basch

Join other quilters for a time of relaxation, socializing, sharing; and renew your creative spirit at Camp Wapo on beautiful Lake Wapogasset. The fun begins **November 9, 2016**. Choose three, four or five days. Grab a friend, sister, or mom and you'll be sure to have a blast. Come alone and make many new friends! Retreat features may include: finish gifts or projects, learn from others, fun and easy Make 'n Take, door prizes, trunk show from a local quilt shop, charity quilt block, and be introduced to new products. There will be a fabric store, massages, and sewing machine cleaning onsite, for your convenience.

Bring your sewing machine, sewing notions, iron, bedding, personal items, and plenty of projects. The retreat facility provides tables, chairs, jumbo ironing boards, jumbo cutting mats and a bit of chocolate. Meals are included. Quilt all day, quilt all night, no interruptions, no distractions (except for eagles, swans, and other wildlife.) Leave your kids, husbands, work worries, and cooking behind; pamper yourself with undisturbed quilting time.

The registration form, map and packing list can be found on our website at www.dcsq.org under the retreat tab. Space is limited and fills quickly. For more information or to check on availability; contact Pat Basch at tpbasch@hotmail.com

Quilt Retreat offers a Quality Good Time

Top ten list

10. Tons of sewing time. Turn your holiday gifts from UFO's to finished
9. Door prizes
8. Massive work space - individual tables
7. Pampering - body massages
6. Optional Activities - classes, mystery, trunk shows, or charity block
5. Time away from responsibilities - no cooking, cleaning, or fashion police
4. Pajama party - laugh and stay up all night
3. Relaxation - beautiful views of lake and wildlife
2. Sharing - learn great tips from knowledgeable quilters, learn about new products
1. Camaraderie - spend time with friends doing something you really enjoy!

UPCOMING QUILT SHOWS IN OUR AREA -- SPRING AND SUMMER provided by Sunny Kline

Going to be travelling around our lovely state during the spring and summer months? Many other guilds have wonderful quilt shows, with silent auctions, quilt raffles, door prizes, and other fun things. Check out the ones listed here.

Hutchinson, "Upper Midwest Allis Chalmers Club Quilt Show". July 22-24, 2016. McLeod County Fairgrounds, 840 Century Ave SW, Hutchinson. For more info, email hrlpeter@gmail.com.

Braham, "Pie Day Small Quilt Show" by the "Hands all Around Quilt Guild", First Friday in August, Braham City Hall, 320 S. Broadway, Braham. Free Admission! More info email Brahampieday@hotmail.com.

Ely, "Heart of the Woods Quilt Show", at St. Anthony's Church Hall, 231 E. Camp Street, Ely, 55731. Contact- jrichpa@frontiernet.net

Lake Park, "Garden Quilt Show and Tea", 3rd Saturday in August, See 90 – 100 quilted pieces! For more info contact peggy@loretel.net.

Blue Earth, "Upper Midwest Woodcarvers & Quilt Expo", mid-August, Blue Earth Area High School. For more info contact ellingsen@bevcomm.net

Quilt Trunk Shows at American Swedish Institute—provided by Carol Egan

There are a lot of quilt-related activities going on at the Swedish Institute this year! One fun schedule is trunk shows that will be put on by local artists on Saturdays. Dates are listed below. The trunk shows take place at 11 AM and at 2 PM. The first trunk show will be put on by MCQ (Minnesota Contemporary Quilters). A few DCSQ members are also members of MCQ, and their quilts will be included in this trunk show. That one is on June 18. Check the dates below and all the artist names. One of them is DCSQ member Nancy Bekedam (on July 17). These trunk shows would be fun Saturday small group outings... a great trunk show and then lunch. Sounds fun, yes?? [Let Arlette \(Activities/Education\) know if this would be a great group activity \(car pooling?\)](#).

Trunk Show Dates and Artists - American Swedish Institute, Mpls

Talented local quilters will showcase their creations in the Turnblad Mansion through a series of Trunk Shows. Meet the artists and get a close look at the many styles and techniques. Shows on Saturday will be at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Shows on Sunday will be at 2 p.m.

June 18 – Minnesota Contemporary Quilters; June 26 – Nancy Raschka Reeves & Susan Dyer of Glad Creations; July 10 – Gail Bakkom; July 17 – Nancy Brown Bekedam; July 23 & 24 – Nancy Birger and Truly Unruly; July 30 & 31 – Peggy Wright; August 7 – Pat Cox; August 13 – Tina Hughes; August 21 – Miki Peine; August 24 – Jan Schmidt; August 27 – Kathy Simon Frank/Carole Premack; September 10 & 11 – Ann Tiller; October 9 – Susan Stein.

Message from Newsletter “Newby”

Please check your newsletter and email information carefully and let me know of any corrections or suggestions. I can only hope to sort of fill the shoes of our prior Newsletter Greats: Jackie Swift, Rosemary Root, and Carol Egan! Jackie Grinde at jackie.grinde@comcast.net or 651-452-8216.

Website Information – Sue Tobias

Website: Our guilds website, DCSQ.org has been updated with our 2016 show pictures. Go to our Annual Quilt Show page, and there is a link to the 2016 Show Pictures. Remember that we will always have past newsletters, membership lists and pertinent member information on our Members Only page. The password to get into that specific page is “i am a member”. When prompted for the password, do not put in quotations and it is all lowercase letters.

Web Site Tip – Sunny Kline

<http://quiltersresources.net> is a website that lists quilt shows and other events, shops, museums, guilds, and other stuff for quilters. Check it out, especially if you are planning to be traveling around and have time to visit a museum, quilt shop, or be a visitor at another guild!

Show and Tell treasures



Just a few of the fun and beautiful “Show and Tell” quilts from the May meeting are shown here by Sandi Irish, Sue Weiby, Beth Kobliska, Kathy Lindstrom, and more from Sandi Irish!

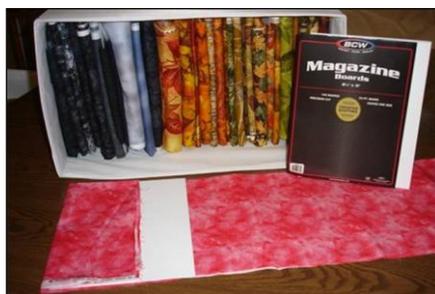
Irons and Chemistry – Beth Kobliska

Someone has been killing my irons since I moved to Minnesota 9 years ago. In the 22 years I lived in Michigan, I think I bought only 2 or 3 irons. An iron would last for years, until it was knocked off the ironing board one too many times or by one of my cats. But since I moved here, no matter what brand or how much I spent on an iron, within a few months it would start leaking. In Michigan I put tap water in my iron, but here the water is 3 times as hard, so I started using distilled water, not wanting to kill an iron with a build up of scale from hard tap water, or dissolved salts from our softened tap water. The instructions for my latest Rowenta iron say to use tap water, but I ignored that, figuring that the folks at Rowenta had no idea how hard our Minnesota water is. Besides, how in the world could pure, unadulterated distilled water possibly damage an iron? Well, last week my 3 month old iron leaked its entire tank onto my ironing board and the floor, just like all of its many predecessors. In exasperation I called my favorite PhD chemist (who is also my favorite husband), to ask about hard water vs. distilled water in steam irons. I braced myself for one of his professorial lectures as he explained that distilled water is known to be “aggressive” in leaching minerals from any metal it comes in contact with. So, yes, my distilled water, while preventing an early death from a build up of scale, is actually dissolving the iron’s innards. He also told me that I was right (he almost never admits that) to be concerned about using our extremely hard tap water, so I should mix about 4 parts distilled water to 1 part Minnesota hard water. That would add enough minerals to “satisfy” the distilled water’s hunger for minerals and keep it from leaching minerals from the inside of my iron. Yes, someone has been killing my irons – and it was me. Beth Kobliska, serial killer of steam irons.

Organizing My Fabric Stash – Beth Kobliska

Use “magazine boards” to wrap your fabric on, like mini bolts, so you can store your stash vertically, and see what you have.

I have so much fabric, but can never find what I need, and hunting through my stash is more frustration than pleasure. What was once neatly folded and sorted by color had become a disorganized mess. So I asked my friend, Susie Smidt to come over one day to help me sort and organize it. The previous evening I asked my husband for 2 favors. One, please bring up the folding tables from the basement and put them in the living room. And two, please don’t comment on the size of my fabric stash, or question how much I have spent on fabric. In return I did not ask how many guitars he owns, or how much they cost. (He has G.A.S. – Guitar Acquisition Syndrome.) I filled the folding tables, then the coffee table and side tables, and finally the floor with stacks of fabric from my sewing room. The next day Susie and I had lots of fun sorting and organizing it. I saw yardage I had forgotten I owned. Now that it is sorted and I have discovered long lost treasures, I want to store it so I can see what I have, without having to dig through boxes. So the stacks of fabric should be stored vertical, not in horizontal piles. For this I needed stiffeners to wrap the fabric on, like mini bolts. I have seen advertisements for plastic sheets for this purpose but they are about \$1 each – and I needed several hundred. Then I discovered Magazine Boards. They are 8 ½” x 11” stiff white, acid free card board used by collectors to store magazines and comic books. I ordered 300 from Amazon for about \$15 per 100. Now I can see all my fabric and take a “mini-bolt” of fabric in and out without digging to the bottom of boxes. My fabric stash is now like my own mini fabric shop, no cash register, and open 24/7. Beth Kobliska, fabric addict.



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DCSQ Web Site: www.dcsq.org

DCSQ Blog: <http://dcsq.blogspot.com>

NOTE: To see the minutes from our April Board meeting, go to our website (URL is shown just above). To get any member's phone number, address, or e-mail address go to the same site and go to the member page. Ask any Board member what the password is for the members' page.

The purpose of Dakota County Star Quilters is to offer an interesting and informative forum to share our common interest in the art of quilting. The group has 9 regular monthly meetings and 3 special meetings each year. The regular meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month at the Eagan Community Center, 1501 Central Parkway, one block north of the intersection of Yankee Doodle Road and Pilot Knob Road.