

## MQG MISSION

To support and encourage the growth and development of modern quilting through art, education, and community.

## PROS

- Access to MQG online community
- Under the umbrella of their 501(c)3 status
- Able to purchase insurance for events at group rates vs. individual rates
- Leadership forum and newsletters for officers
- Opportunities to participate in inter-guild swaps and challenges
- Discounted fees to enter MQG quilt shows
- Discounted rates on MQG conferences and events
- Priority and early-bird registration on conference and event admissions
- Discounts and special offers with MQG sponsors and affiliated companies
- MQG Membership Card
- MQG Pin
- MQG Blog Button
- 10% discount on online MQG merchandise purchases and more!
- Can join as an individual if the FRMQG decides not to join. \$25/yr.
- Are not obligated to join until Dec 31, 2014, so we actually have a year to decide, but the pressure is on.
- We are not obligated to be members forever, so if we decide after a period of time that we are not getting a good value for our money, we can discontinue our membership.
- As a 501(c)3, if anyone donates to the guild, the donation will be tax-deductible. Fabric and batting donations, donation of a quilt for an outreach, etc.
- As of now, dues will increase \$10 per year per member, making it \$35 for all future renewals. That could obviously change if we lose members. The dues will actually cost \$14 for each member, but we have determined that we have enough buffer in our regular dues structure to cover that.

## CONS

- Current leadership forum is closing, and will only be open to those who join, regardless of the fact that we aren't obligated to join until the end of 2014. All posted documents, forms, examples of by-laws, etc. will go away and become inaccessible for new guilds or guilds still trying to decide
- Our dues will increase at least \$10 per year.
- \$1000/yr now, (66-75 mmb), \$1150 next year (76-90 mmb), and \$1275 in future (over 91 mmb)
- What are they doing for us for ~\$100 a year?
- No guarantee those rates will not increase, and when asked, Exec Dir did not answer.

- If we were to establish ourselves as a 501(c)3, it would cost us approximately \$2000, totaling 2 years worth of dues.
- Our guild will no longer be linked on the MQG website, so if anyone goes to the MQG website to see if there is a guild here, they won't be able to find us. The website says that we will have to drop the MQG from our name, however, when challenged with that in the leader's forum, the leadership did not respond with any legal proof behind it. There is no trademark on the term "modern quilt guild", and legal sources have told me that it would be hard to do.
- If another group would like to start a guild in Denver/Colorado Springs, and join the MQG, they can. (PS, they always could, but I would have had more teeth in the fight). It is highly unlikely that they would want to call themselves the Front Range MQG anyway!
- There is nothing stopping us from contacting another MQG – official or not – and seeing if they want to do a swap. You've got friends in other guilds, and so do I. We don't need the website for that.
- Likewise, there is nothing stopping us from contacting a fabric manufacturer and asking for fabric for an in-guild or cross-guild challenge. I have heard that the manufacturers will only give to affiliated guilds, but I find it hard to believe that they would be so exclusive. Traditional guilds ask for, and receive, fabric from manufacturers all the time.
- If we join, our current website, and all information on it, will be secondary to theirs, and relatively useless.
- We will have to manually enter all membership information into their website.
- You will now have one MORE social media site to either not participate in and not think about, or not participate in and feel guilty about! Once we join, you will get an email from the MQG asking you to register on their website, and complete the profile there. Most guilds, including us, have a hard enough time getting members to participate in our website and Facebook page. Some people love that kind of thing, and others don't. You can't force participation!
- There hasn't been any more mention of what "education" will look like, even when asked. I asked if board members and "special guests" would be encouraged to contact local guilds when they travel to see if we want a lecture or class, and that was never answered, either, so I'm not sure how they'll be facilitating education. I know they didn't help me contact AMH or Latifah or Jacquie Gering. Those speakers speak at traditional and modern guilds all the time. I highly doubt they're going to tell me "No, I'm sorry, you're not a MQG. I won't speak there."
- We will still have to file a tax report regardless of whether or not we join.