

# Quilter's Home™

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Volume 5, Issue 6  
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The only magazine for quilters that's fun to read

# 50

## Mojo Heaven! Reader Challenge Winners

Featherweight

# TLC

Make a Cozy  
Colorful Cover!

## Best Quilty Websites

## Off The Grid

4 Unwired  
Q-Celebs

# Plus

Kate Spain, Denyse  
Schmidt, Nancy Eha,  
Scott Hansen,  
David Taylor,  
Gwen Marston,  
Judith Plotner,  
Donna Kohler,  
Meg Cox



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DISPLAY UNTIL 11

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What better way to display the World's Biggest Hexagon Quilt than along the fences outside a craft expo in Brisbane, Australia? Way to go and go and go...

Records certified then that it was indeed the world's largest. However, she said, they declined to put it in their annual book, saying, "There isn't enough interest in quilts." Ha!

Whether or not the Guinness folks know or care, the Maco Craft quilters' milestone has been surpassed by multiple quilts in the past 30 years. Notable among these contenders is Canada's *Quilt of Belonging* that boasts a block for every single immigrant group and native tribe living in that country. Completed in 2005, this quilt is 10½ feet high and stretches 120 feet long.

No matter. The Maco Crafts people, who plan to use their big quilt as a tourist attraction in Franklin, North Carolina, now call it *The Original World's Largest Quilt*.

Now, along comes a group in Australia determined to claim the title with what they call the *World's Biggest Hexagon Quilt*, part of which was unveiled at a crafts expo in Brisbane. This baby, now complete, is 357 feet long, more than double Canada's massive quilt, and it's composed of 152,636 inch-wide hexagons sent from quilters all over the world.

Eventually, it will be taken apart to produce smaller quilts, which will be donated to nursing home patients, says Gail Chalker, owner of the Sew Creative quilt shop in Gatton, Australia, and a prime mover behind the project. You can see this behemoth in progress and on display at the blog, [worldsbiggesthexagonquilt.com/blogspot.com](http://worldsbiggesthexagonquilt.com/blogspot.com).

While we're waiting for the Guinness crew to show up in Australia and pronounce whether *Hexagon* broke through the fabric ceiling to set a new world record, maybe we can come up with some more records. *Megabites* has a big-worthy record to present: Biggest fabric stash stored in a bathroom?

### New online venue to advertise quilty stuff

Web developer Michele Foster has created a dang useful online community that reaches a global audience of quilters. Her site, [QuiltingGallery.com](http://QuiltingGallery.com) is a virtual meeting place for quilters in the *Quilting Bloggers* directory with more than 4,400 bloggers in 71 countries currently listed. It

also features quilting retailers in the *Quilt Shop Locator*, and Michele hosts weekly virtual quilt contests, guest bloggers and many swaps throughout the year.

The latest addition to the *Quilting Gallery* site is *Quilter's Market*, [quiltinggallery.com/quilters-market](http://quiltinggallery.com/quilters-market),

which provides a place for authors, designers and distributors of quilt products to advertise for a nominal fee. This isn't an e-tailer but a showcase of fabulous quilting products.

Expect to find everything from patterns and notions to gift items. Forget having to fork over a share of the profits for the chance of posting your cute tote bags or hip quilt patterns online. Michele charges a onetime fee of \$8 per product and links directly to your site so customers can buy direct from you. No membership dues, no renewal fees.

The new section is attracting both brand new quiltpreneurs and established makers of quilt products. *Megabites* is thinking this is a good time to market official *Megabites* merch: Would you buy a T-shirt from this columnist? Just askin'....



### Okay, so where are they hiding?

The quilt world establishment is touting new numbers from the 2010 *Quilting in American* survey saying that quilting in this country has gone from a \$3.3 billion industry in 2006 to \$3.6 billion now.

That's awesome news, but if you read the fine print it says there's supposedly been a drop in the total number of quilters nationally to 21 million from 27 million. *Megabites* just wants to know what happened to those 6 million quilters?

I mean, that's a whopping big drop. Are they all knitting now? Were they just pretending before? Did all their high-end sewing machines get repossessed during the recession? Maybe aliens kidnapped them. Whatever disease they had, let's just hope it isn't catching.



Anytime you hear a wild story and want someone to dig into the facts, contact *Megabites*. To share scoops or get help chasing the latest quilt-world rumors, e-mail QH *Megabites* columnist Meg Cox at [meg@megcox.com](mailto:meg@megcox.com).

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