

# Finish Line

## Longarm Humor

In "Finish Line" in the April 2008 issue of *Quilters Newsletter*, ZJ Humbach mentions a quilter's apron and commemorative T-shirt available at the 2007 Machine Quilters Exposition (MQX). Here, we share the designers' thoughts behind these humorous items for longarm quilters.

Go to a quilt show and you're sure to find logo T-shirts, sweatshirts, and possibly denim shirts, too. All these things create name recognition, but are they fun? Not really. When Janet-Lee Santeusanio and Mary Schilke created MQX in 2002, they took their approach to name recognition a bit further. With Mary being able to draw just about anything, the first T-shirt had a caricature of a gal doing excessive shopping at the show with the saying, "What happens at MQX, stays at MQX." The shirt was a huge hit. Each year, attendees look forward to the next shirt from the inventive team.

The 2007 commemorative T-shirt will be hard to top. It has 30 innocent but funny things that machine quilters hear from their customers from time to time. "Can I pick it up after bowling tonight?" is an example. "That comment was actually from one of my new clients," laughs Janet-Lee. "My response to her was that she must be in quite a league because my waiting list at the time was three months!" The work aprons are similar, such as the one with an embroidered superwoman proclaiming, "No, I can't just quilt it out!"

Where do all these ideas come from? Mostly from Janet-Lee and Mary, whose philosophy is that if it isn't fun, then why do it? Janet-Lee also owns the web-based Machine Quilting Professional discussion group and often solicits ideas from the members. Oh, and for traditionalists, they have a supply of the standard logo sweatshirts and denim shirts, too.

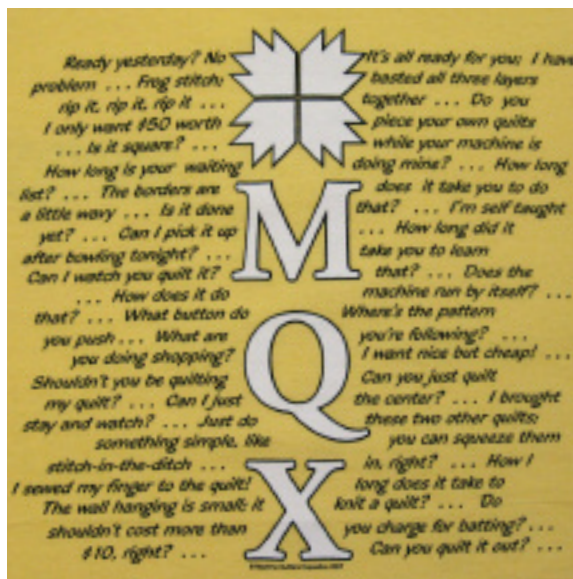


Mary Schilke (left) and Janet-Lee Santeusanio (right), are the cofounders of Machine Quilters Exposition.



Ariana Santeusanio, Janet-Lee's daughter, models one of the work aprons, also shown in the closeup.

Janet-Lee and Mary have graciously given QN permission to show you the sayings on their copyrighted 2007 T-shirt.



## Machine Quilters Take Note

A few of the 2007 MQX commemorative T-shirts and work aprons are available. To purchase, contact Janet-Lee Santeusanio at 603-778-6994.

The 2008 MQX is April 14-19 in Manchester, New Hampshire. To learn more, visit [mqxshow.com](http://mqxshow.com).

The Machine Quilting Professional (MQP) discussion group shares ideas, problems, and issues that impact users of all kinds of quilting machines, including longarm, midarm, and shortarm. To learn more about MQP, go to [groups.yahoo.com/group/machine\\_quilting\\_professional](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/machine_quilting_professional).