Annual Report
Minnesota Quilters

OFFICERS 1978-1979

PRESIDENT........................................HELEN KELLEY
VICE PRESIDENT....................................NORMA AHLQUIST
                                            AGNES LEER
SECRETARY........................................KAY BAILEY
TREASURER........................................KAY BAILEY
On April 15, 1978, in Northeast Minneapolis, 18 women met and voted to form a Minnesota organization devoted to quilters and quilting. Each person acknowledged the fact that the organization would not work if she did not consider it her personal responsibility. Assessing her own special interests and talents, each office was filled by a volunteer. As President, I was nominated and elected, an honor I shall always cherish.

It is a wonderful thing to begin an organization and an office. Each person has the freedom to shape direction, methods and goals. In our case, each step was done with the mutual support and creativity of the other 17. Where do you begin when you mold an organization? From past experience with other groups, we knew some of the "Do's" and "Don'ts". Some of our decisions were rather like holding our noses and jumping into cold water. We knew, thank heavens, that if something didn't work, we had the option of trying it a different way. Dues were set at $10, recognizing the fact that mailing is expensive and many of our members would be reached mainly by our newsletter. If this was inadequate, we would produce fewer newsletters during our trial period, and if it were more than adequate, we could reduce the dues the second year. We proved good guessers.

Using the same logic we tackled our other challenges. Agnes Leer suggested a design for a button, our slogan stitched across a map of the State. Faith Kelley drew the design and supervised its making. We needed a constitution. Kay Bailey spent countless hours and put numerous miles on her car conferring with the lawyer. The Constitution, drawn up and voted, was approved by the State for Non-Profit status, giving us a workable postage rate. We set meeting dates - once a month - always on the second Friday. Meeting often and in a variety of places would offer opportunities to a greater number of members.

The Program committee and Newsletter editor tackled their responsibilities with enthusiasm and immediately began creating exciting offerings. Each of those first 18 women WORKED. Each program was a generous gift of talent. Membership grew. Exciting new people joined us. New opportunities opened. Jeannie Spears and Pat Cox, from the outset, had had the vision of the Winter Fantasy. The Snow Rose quilt had been one of the initial projects. When we were invited to quilt at the State Fair, it was a "natural" for displaying and quilting The Snow Rose. It was also a time for a good workshop. 70 women, 70 patient women, turned out at the State Fair grounds to learn a new technique for putting a quilt into a frame. This was typical of our learning experiences this past year. We discovered that Preparation Day was no longer free admission. We discovered we could not have access to the Creative Activities Building as expected. We discovered that it was raining. We wandered the grounds, finally locating an available sheltered working area. We prepared the quilt for quilting. A limited number were allowed inside the Creative Activities Building for the final set-up, and we were ready for 10 strenuous, warm, exciting days. Men and women were so interested that they devised all sorts of ways to get behind the counter to see the quilt better. They begged to take a few stitches. The booth was manned continually with volunteers and the quilt was nearly finished by the end of the 10 days. Nel Bredeson generously took the quilt home, finished and bound it off, ready for display at the Winter Fantasy.
President's Report (Con.)

Coming into the fall season, MQ continued to offer monthly learning experiences. Elaine Strese designed, packaged kits and supervised the making of The Winter Carnival Quilt. Many members worked sometimes around the clock on our plans for the Winter Fantasy. Some of us were downright terrified by the obligation we were assuming. As with other things we had tried in our short life-span, I closed my eyes and trusted to the intuitions, talents and dedication of those working on these plans. The Winter Fantasy is past history now. Literally, people all over the world know about Minnesota Quilters and their imagination, talents, creative energies and the wealth of generosity and tradition within our midst.

Part of my responsibility has been to call Board Meetings. The Board met every other month while Winter Fantasy plans were in the making. Our efforts were necessarily divided between the responsibilities of the general meetings and those of Winter Fantasy obligations. When the WF was finally over, we were able to address ourselves to the challenges inherent in our rapid growth, varied membership and individual needs of Beginning Quilters, Advanced Quilters, Professional Quilters and Shop Owners. Our Board meetings became more frequent and comprehensive. It was necessary to tape those meetings, so fast did suggestions and plans generate. Recommendations for future Board Meetings include beginning them at the designated times and avoiding the attractive side-tracks of conversation that trap us.

Following this introduction are reports from the others who have worked on the Board this past year to bring MQ from its infancy of 18 members into an adulthood of a large, vital membership. It lists those official members of the Board, but does not begin to touch on the other members who gave long hours, frequent sleepless nights and generous talents to programs, committees and the often tedious, every-day business functions of running an organization. If I begin with one name, I shall go on at length and still miss those of you who gave quietly of your time. Thank you, everyone, for your support and friendship this past year. With people like you, it is exciting to look forward to the surprises that MQ will offer this next year. I say with great pride to everyone, "I am a Minnesota Quilter."

Helga Kelly
Since last June, we have arranged for 12 monthly programs held in different areas so that more women would find it convenient to attend at least one meeting. Our largest turn-out was at the Dakota County Fair when 30 members joined with 65 Dakota County Homemakers to make an audience of 95 people. We had the best attendance of 80 MQ members at the Christmas Auction when the board served lunch. We averaged about 60-65 at most meetings. The high point of each meeting was our special color presentation which received many favorable comments from those present.

The program, meeting place and coffee were our responsibility. Our programs and meeting places were arranged without expense to the MQ treasury. We found that it works best if Show and Tell is first, then the program, with the business meeting last. Our thanks to all those who cooperated with us in presenting programs and serving of coffee.

Respectfully submitted,

Norma Ahlquist

Agnes Lees
Vice Presidents

Program Report
Minnesota Quilters 1978-79

I. June 9. N.E. Community Library 10 A.M. 60 present
   23rd and Central Ave. N.E.
   Minneapolis, Minnesota
   Business meeting - Helen Kelley
   Coffee by Joanne Spears
   Mini-color by Norma Ahlquist 35 min.
   Introduction of Mansell Color Wheel, Primary colors
   Joanne Holzknecht's color quilt
   Piecing lesson by Helen Kelley
   Show & Tell

II. July 14 Kay Bailey's farm 10 A.M. 35 present
    Rt 1 (on Co Rd 92 East side of lake)
    Maple Plain, Minnesota
    Pot-luck picnic. Weather beautiful. Quilts hung on lines.
    The kids were caught eating quilt pieces from girl's work-baskets.
    Business meeting - Helen Kelley
    Mini-color by Norma Ahlquist 12 min.
    Piecing together by Helen Kelley
    Show and tell, mainly Kay telling about the quilts on the line.

III. Dakota County Fair 10-2 Aug. 15 30 members
    Program given for Homemakers
    Business Helen Kelley
    Mini-color - Norma Ahlquist 40 min.
    Show & Tell
IV. Sept. 15 (change of meeting day) 76 present
Nel Bredesen's country home
9495 Mendel Rd
Stillwater  Weather beautiful, quilts on lines & fences.
Girls brought bag lunch, desert and beverage served by Nel Bredesen.
Mini-color - Norma Ahlquist 10 min.
Business - Helen Kelley
Nel showed her quilts and lectured on quilt history
Show & Tell
V. October 13  Brooklyn Center 53 present
Business - Helen Kelley
Brooklyn Center Friendship Quilters had mini-quilt show
" " " " served coffee
Jeanne Spears led an exchange of Christmas ideas and patterns.
Show & Tell
VI. November 10  Southdale Library 52 present
Cake and coffee by South Suburban Quilters
Business - Helen Kelley
Mini-color - Norma Ahlquist 10 min.
Carol Adelman showed how to make the MQ hostess vest.
Show & Tell
VII. December 8  Valley View Church 80 present
Hwy 694 & Hwy 65.
Lunch served by board, coordinated by Agnes & Norma.
Business - Helen Kelley
Program - Trudy Finden on the harp
Pat Cox on the piano
Auction (quilt blocks, fabrics, tops, unfinished projects) $200
Bonnie Ellis and son Lee were auctioneers.
Nanettag judging
Show & Tell, especially good - Christmas presents shown.
VIII. February 9  Augsburg Library 75 present
Richfield, Minnesota
Coffee - Agnes & Norma
Business - Helen Kelley
Mini-color - Norma Ahlquist - good use of yellow & white in quilts.
How to Enlarge Patterns - Jeanette Michels
Show & Tell
March 9  Minneapolis YWCA  65 present
1130 Nicollet Ave
Mpls., Mn.

Coffee - YWCA

Show & Tell (first - worked well)

Agnes Leer - Scrap bag quilting (Hills & Valley or Tube Quilting).

Kites & Spider Webs (String Quilts) Memory Chain

Jeanne Spears - evaluation of programs

Helen Kelley - business

April 20  Bus trip to Hiawathaland Quilt Faire by Joy & Tom Burson, $1.50
Rochester, Minnesota

45 bus $6
15-20 cars = 60-65

Replaced April MQ meeting which would have fallen on Good Friday.

Arrangements by Agnes Leer

May 11  Minnesota Historical Society  98 present
690 Cedar St.
St. Paul, Minnesota

Show and Tell

Sharon Bobgan and Abby Walton - Readings about Quilting

Helen Kelley Meeting

Voted on Minnesota theme for next year's quilt.

Report of Nominating Comm.

June 8  Jolly Troll Restaurant

Hwy. 12 and Turner's Crossroads
St. Louis Park, Minnesota

First annual meeting with annual report from each officer.

Introduction of new officers.

Bring and Brag.
Annual Report of the Corresponding Secy. May 21, 1979

This has been a busy year due to the Winter Fantasy and the mail was very heavy. While most inquiries about the Winter Fantasy were answered by the members of that committee, this office did help out in that area, at one time sending out nine individual letters, and then making 100 form letters to send out to late workshop inquiries.

Also being the 1st year for the Minnesota Quilters, the correspondence about the group has been heavy. Newsletters have been sent to those interested in Minnesota Quilters, and often a personal note written across the top. Many other letters were answered in person and the correspondence file contains over 60 copies of letters written.

[Signature]

Corresponding Secretary
FINANCIAL REPORT

May 31, 1979

ASSETS:
Checking Account 181.73
Savings Account 896.52
Postal Deposits 89.41
Total Cash Assets: 1,167.66
Equipment 16.01
Total Assets 1,183.67

LIABILITIES:
Bonnie Ellis, Newsletter Exp. 9.36

TOTAL ASSETS AND LIABILITIES 1,174.31

INCOME:
Dues 1978-79 2,029.00
Dues 1979-80 515.00
Adverting
Misc. Income:
Buttons 3.00
YWCA 39.36
State Fair 100.00
Interest 5.32
APWA 30.00
Misc. 8.25
Total 2,544.00

EXPENSES:
Bank Charges 5.64
Buttons 104.00
Legal 115.00
Postal Permits 110.00
Historian 20.56
Printing Memb. Appl. 60.68
Misc. 2.89
Meeting Exp. 118.43
Newsletter Exp. 884.30
Office Exp. 196.55
Quilt Show Exp. 14.59
Total 1,662.64

BALANCE ON HAND 1,174.31

Respectfully submitted,

Kay Bailey, Treas.
I started the newsletter in May of 1978 with a one-page typewritten sheet taken to Quick Print for reproduction.

We have published ten newsletters in addition to a Winter Fantasy Special update in January 1979. They are in newspaper format and up to six pages long.

As newsletter editor I have attended board meetings, summarized the meetings for the newsletter and answered correspondence.

My last issue was June 1979.

Bonnie Ellis, editor.

ADVERTISING INCOME

Year 1978 to 1979

Income from advertising in the Minnesota Quilter's Newsletter was $108.00

5 ads on an annual basis $40.00
6 ads - display type 36.00
32 one time ads (some were double space) 32.00

108.00
TELEPHONE COMMITTEE REPORT:

The Minnesota Quilters telephone committee began its work last April with two members. Helen Meerhan and Trudy Finden co-chair. As Minnesota Quilters rapidly grew so did our phone list and Anna Carlson, Ellie Kretsch and Barbara Thelsen kindly agreed to help. Each of us relays messages to members in our region of the Twin Cities area. Helen calls St. Paul and it's suburbs; Trudy, Minneapolis; Anna, the Southern Suburbs; Ellie the Northern communities and Barb, the West Suburban area. The distance we cover by phone ranges from Rosemount to Elk River and From Stillwater west to Maple Plain. All toll free!

Committee members have made a conscientious effort to relay messages as asked. In keeping with the friendly, sharing spirit that typifies Minnesota Quilters, we've made it our policy to call each new member in our areas. We welcome her to Minnesota Quilters, invite her to the next monthly meeting and answer questions regarding Minnesota Quilters. This has been a productive first year for our committee. Our work has been made enjoyable by the many friendly voices "on the other end of the line."

Trudy Finden

NEWSLETTER MAILING REPORT:

I volunteered to do the coordination of the mailing of the WINTER FANTASY FLYERS, and was asked to handle the Newsletter also. With the assistance of C. Laitala, T. Finden, A. Leer, A. Degen and S. Lee, we addressed and mailed 2583 pieces of mail at a cost of $216.97. Assisted in the mailing of news releases to national magazine, etc.on the Winter Fantasy Show. Handled the mailing of the special Winter Fantasy update in January 1979, and the mailing of the Minnesota Quilters By-Laws. The newsletter is a 10 month publication. The first mailing went out first class to approximately 50 people. From there on it grew and we were able to obtain a Bulk Mailing permit. The membership has increased to where we now mail, roughly 241 pieces by the bulk rate each month, and the out of state issues are handled first class.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Hiar

HISTORIAN REPORT

As Historian, Nelllie Bredesen has compiled a record of The Minnesota Quilters organization and of its individual members. By collecting newspaper clippings, meeting reports and snapshots, she has assembled a commentary on our lives and times. She appreciates the thoughtfulness and generosity of those who have contributed to this record.
A Committee of five met three times through sleet, ice and snow to nominate a slate of officers for the coming year. Many calls were made to people to find several to run for each office. We feel that we came up with a good slate of people to serve and that they are willing and well suited to each position. Ballots were printed, mailed out to Minnesota Quilter Members. Counted by the committee.

President
Helen Kelley

Vice President (2)
Norma Ahlquist-Joanne Holzknecht

Recording Sec'y
Shirley Krantz

Secretary
Wanda Walton

Treasurer
Lois Caldwell

Public Relations
Ellie Kretsch

Newsletter
Donna Hier

Historian
Bonnie Ellis

Hospitality
Barb Theisen

Membership
Marcella Ryan

Education
Carol Adleman

Special Events
Patricia Cox

Member-at-Large
Agnes Leer

From: Marcie Ryan, Membership Chairman.


We have 243 members including 4 from Iowa, 3 from Wisconsin, one each from South Dakota and Illinois. When contemplating our member most distant, I thought of Margaret Shick in Gardner, Massachusetts but seem Marie-Christine Haugen from Wayzata will be returning to Switzerland, so there resides our eastern-most member.

As of this date we have 8 new members and 1 renewal.

235 Minnesota Quilter buttons remain.
1979 WINTER FANTASY REPORT:

The nucleus of interested quilters who became the Minnesota Quilters decided during 1977 to have a quilt show. The decision to hold the Winter Fantasy, the name given the show, in connection with the 1979 Winter Carnival in St. Paul, was made in February 1978. Jeannie Spears and Patricia Cox had been researching symposiums, quilt contests, etc. since 1976 and became the Co-Chairman. A steering committee was established in May 1978 with the following committee chairman:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bookkeeper-Treasurer</th>
<th>Sheila Lee</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Carol Adleman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Agnes Leer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quilt entrees and</td>
<td>Marilyn Shimek</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hanging</td>
<td>Ann Degan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial Area</td>
<td>Bonnie Ellis</td>
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<td>Publicity</td>
<td>Carol Laitas</td>
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<td>Registration</td>
<td>Lyda DeHaven, Elaine Stree</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hospitality</td>
<td>Helen Kelley</td>
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<tr>
<td>Block Contest Judge</td>
<td>Joyce Aufderheide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Invitational Exhibit</td>
<td>Dede Ballin</td>
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It was decided to have workshops, lectures, a national quilt contest, an invitational exhibit and a commercial area. No other group had tried to combine all these in one show before.

The Minnesota Historical Society agreed to have an exhibit of part of their collection in connection with the Winter Fantasy. Also, Joyce Aufderheide from New Ulm, Minn., brought a portion of her "Hands All Around" Museum collection to show at the hotel during the Winter Fantasy.

April 1978, the Minnesota Quilters officially incorporated and agreed to sponsor the Winter Fantasy. During the summer and fall the arrangements were made for Speakers, Workshop Leaders, Contest Judges, Vendors and space for all these activities.

Patricia Cox was responsible for coordinating the lectures and workshops and Jeannie Spears' responsibility was the quilt contest and judges. The contest judges were Karen O'Dowd, Things Americana Shop, Rockford, Mich., Carter Houck, Editor Lady's Circle Patchwork Quilts, and Charlene Burningham, Design Instructor at the University of Minnesota.

A judging form was devised to allow the judges to work individually. It was reproduced in the April 1979 issue of Lady's Circle Patchwork Quilts with an article by Carter Houck. The judges also met with entrants to discuss their criteria for judging.

The show was a success and brought our workers to a new appreciation of their talents. There were approximately 250 registrants with from 2500 to 3000 people visiting the exhibits. Twenty-five exhibitors had space in the commercial area and our own booth was quite successful.

Two quilts were made to be raffled and auctioned respectively. The Snow Rose was made by Minnesota Quilter Members from a design of Helen Kelleys. The Winter Carnival Quilt was conceived and coordinated by Elaine Stree and also made by Minnesota Quilter Members. Each block had a theme chosen by Elaine, then designed and executed by the maker.

The Winter Fantasy attracted people from all over the Continental U.S., Alaska and Canada. It also brought many new members to Minnesota Quilters. There are now over 240 Members, some from outside Minnesota.

The Winter Fantasy was a fabulous learning experience for all of us. We discovered strengths we perhaps had never realized we possessed and learned a new appreciation of our handiwork through the eyes of our many visitors.

Submitted by: Patricia Cox and Jeannie Spears
## Winter Fantasy Report Cont.

### Workshop Leaders
- Michael James
- Virginia Avery
- Chris Edmonds
- Joyce Gross
- Helen Kelley
- Jeannie Spears
- Patricia Cox
- Carol Adelman
- Candy DeMaggio
- Bonnie Ellis
- Holice Tumblow
- Charlene Burningham
- Nancy Raschka

### Lectures
- Michael James
- Beth and Jeffrey Gutcheson
- Virginia Avery
- Kelen Kelley
- Donna and Bryce Hamilton
- Sharon Bobgan and Abbey Walden

## 1979 Winter Fantasy Financial Report:

### Receipts:

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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<td>Auction and Presold Buttons</td>
<td>$266.21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Book Booth</td>
<td>$1586.61</td>
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<tr>
<td>Silent Auction</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Winter Carnival Quilt)</td>
<td>$451.00</td>
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<td>Snow Rose Quilt</td>
<td>$817.21</td>
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<td>General</td>
<td>$16,914.41</td>
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### Expenses:

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<td>Workshops</td>
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<td>Exhibits and Quilt Shows</td>
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<td>Gifts to Volunteers</td>
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<td>Hospitality</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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Submitted by Pat Cox
Sheila Lee, Treasurer
MINNESOTA QUILTERS Annual Report prepared and compiled by
Donna Hiar and Agnes Leer

Remember---A creative mess is better than idle neatness

PEACEFUL PIECING !!!

THE MINNESOTA QUILTERS
P. O. Box 192
Maple Plain, MN 55359

SHIRLEY KRANTZ
Rt. # 2
Princeton, Mn. 55371