



MQ News

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WINNERS

Sandy Johnson won the fat quarters at the January meeting.

Spinning with delight is Carolyn Minor, recipient of 12 Mill Wheel blocks.

**Early Registration
ends February 1 for
the 2005 Show.**

February Meeting Notes

Thursday, February 3, 7:00pm

Saturday, February 5, 10:00am

February is sweetheart month. We are calling for red and white quilts, hearts and red work for show and tell. Don't be shy! We have seen the patterns and know you have been working on those projects. Bring and share. And as always, it can be a summer weight.

Annemarie Yohnk will be lecturing on Redwork February 3 and 5, and it's not too late to sign up for her class on Friday, February 4. You don't have to lug a machine and it's only half a day. No previous experience is needed, so join your friends and do a little stitching. Send in the form found on page 6 or at <http://www.mnquilt.org/forms/fbclassform.html> to sign up for the class.

TREAT SIGN UP

Many thanks to our hostess coordinators, Cathy Stiele (phone 952-934-3197) for Thursday Evening and Michelle Hill (phone 763-383-1474) for Saturday Morning. They can really use your help. Contact them if you'd like to bring treats for either meeting.

MARCH MEETINGS

Jeannette DeNicolis Meyer will be our speaker bringing her insights on quilting in New Zealand and how quilts become series and one series inspires another. Jeannette will explore why we make art and why we need to support each other in doing it. She's also teaching a dye class on Friday, March 4 called "Fold, Poke and Clamp". More information will be on the web and in the next issue of MQ News.

SMALL QUILT AUCTION

Bring your donations for the Small Quilt Auction to the meetings. The committee has opened the auction to include 3-dimensional quilted objects and quilted clothing. Donate those bowls or boxes you've been having fun with or a vest or small quilt. Be sure to put your name and phone number on the item. There will be a monthly prize drawing for donors.

Now is the time to let the colors in your quilts bring Spring to your house. Stay warm and comfy while you work on new projects or finish up a UFO or two.

MQ thanks Ellen Carter, Judy Lewis and Mary Leuders for their great work in setting up interesting and diverse programs.

MEETING CHECKLIST

- Scrappy Heart Block(s) of the Month
- Show & Tell Redwork/Red Quilts
- Pink and Purple Fat Quarters to exchange
- Smile

Many thanks to our advertisers:

Associated Sewing

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Quilter's Courtyard

Spring Stroll in the Country

Wild Goose Shop Hop

Quilted with Love

The Sampler

RadzWall Systems, Inc.

The Quilted Shingle

Hazelnut House

River's Edge Quilt Loft

Heavenly Patchwork

Blue Bamboo

Paducahquilts.com

Fat Quarter Quilting

Greetings!

As usual, I'm a month behind...writing this just before the New Year. So while I'm thinking about New Year resolutions, when we read this we will be: a) brightly living our resolutions, b) struggling to live with them, c) can't remember what they were.

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

If "a" applies, you are truly a good person! If "b" applies, think about amending the resolution to "more" and/or "less" rather than "always" and/or "never." So, rather than "I will exercise 6 days a week and eat no chocolate" try "I will walk around the block 3 times a week and eat chocolate on Valentine's Day." My guess is you will be much more successful in accomplishing the goal you have set for yourself.

One of my resolutions will be to do less whining... "why doesn't someone step forward to take on the Operations Director, do we want our dues to go up, why, why, why"...and to be more appreciative of those who have stepped forward. So, not necessarily in the order they have stepped forward, we sincerely thank:

- Susan MacLennan, Linda Krueger, Mary Brandt and Sue Keimig – Show Chairs 2005 and 2006: All four are keeping the tradition of our annual show alive and vibrant!!!
- Gayle Mundstock – Membership: Gayle is still enjoying her explorations of the database (!) and processing memberships in a timely manner.
- Kathy Burchill – Newsletter book reviews: Kathy is a new member from Luverne, North Dakota and will be providing reviews of books written by 2005 Stars in the Harbor faculty. The books will be in the library after the reviews have appeared.
- Renay Leone – Contract review and insurance: Renay has already provided much expertise in writing the contracts we use. She has agreed to coordinate the 2005 show insurance needs.
- Paulette Marini – Girl Scout Project Chair: This past month the MQ Board voted to officially make the Girl Scout Project a standing MQ committee. Paulette has been coordinating this MQ program for several years.
- Carolyn Peters – 2005 Show website: Our original web mistress, Carolyn has the show website up and running in time for registration.
- Sue Rutford – 2007 Show Co-chair: Through the years, Sue has filled many positions within MQ; both on the board and on show committees. After a year off, she sent an email requesting the procedure to apply for show chair. The board unanimously approved her application at our December meeting.
- Kelly Willis - Textile Center Liason: Kelly will be representing MQ at TCM meetings and coordinating our participation in joint guild activities.

So a hearty round of applause and a big thank you to these ladies for their continued support and involvement in MQ.

Take care, stay warm and eat some chocolate,

Polly

PRESIDENT'S BLOCK

In keeping the tradition of presenting our presidents with "thank you" blocks for them to create a memory quilt of their term, the Head Thread (Polly North) has defined her block: Any pattern, any size, any shade of blue with white.

Fat Quarters

Anyone wishing to participate should bring up to 3 fat quarters of quilt shop quality fabric to the evening or day meeting. Put your name, address and phone number on each (a mailing label works) and we will draw one name at the Saturday morning meeting. That person will get all the fat quarters contributed for that month. You need not be present to win. You can also participate by mailing them to Minnesota Quilters, 3000 University Ave. SE #120 Minneapolis MN 55414-3360, before the morning meeting.

If you are not at the meeting, you will be contacted, and the fat quarters will be held for the next meeting or mailed to you. Again, get involved, have fun, and maybe take home a bundle of fat quarters.

Please contribute fabric you would use yourself, you might actually win! Remember, a Fat Quarter measures 18" x 22" (1/2 yard cut in half along the fold).

February: Pink and Purple
March: Green

April: Yellow
May: Light Blue

2005 Split Rock Arts Program

The Split Rock Arts Program is the University of Minnesota's summer series of workshops in creative writing, visual art, design, and creativity enhancement. WEEKLONG AND THREE-DAY WORKSHOPS held June 26-August 6 on the University's Twin Cities' campus. Textile instructors for Summer 2005 include Ilze Aviks, Susan Brandeis, Elizabeth Busch, Anna Carlson, Katharine Cobey, Emily DuBois, Jane Dunnewold, Allie Kay, Carol LeBaron, Ed Bing Lee, Marilou Schultz, Hitoshi Ujiiie, and Rebekah Younger. Textile offerings include workshops in art quilts, knitting, and knotting, as well as fashion, textile, and surface design. Online and print catalogs available in February. Registration opens late February. www.cce.umn.edu/splitrockarts
srap@cce.umn.edu 612-625-8100

**To contact MQ, send email to
quilter@mnquilt.org or leave
a message at 612-436-0449.**

MQ News

... is the monthly newsletter for members of Minnesota Quilters, Inc., a nonprofit organization formed to find and unite quilters and quilt enthusiasts throughout the state of Minnesota and elsewhere. MQ News is published eleven times a year by Minnesota Quilters, Inc.

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-- Advertising Rates --

Effective March 1, 2004

Classified Ad \$10/3 lines

Business Card

Horizontal Only 3.5" x 2" - \$20/mo

1/4 Page Ad

Vertical Only 3.75" x 4.75" - \$40/mo

1/3 Page Ad

Vertical Only 2.5" x 9.5" - \$50/mo

1/2 Page Ad

Vertical - 3.75" x 9.5" or

Horizontal 7" x 4.75" - \$75/mo

Horizontal Back Cover \$90/mo

Horizontal Back Cover

with additional color \$175/mo

Full Page Ad - 7.5" x 9.5" - \$150/mo

Call for other sizes.

The next issue is March, 2005. The deadline for submitting ads and articles for consideration is February 2, 2005. All advertising fees must be included with any submitted advertising. Please contact the Editor to place an ad or submit an article or item. All items for publication are subject to review. MQ charges for ad space; at MQ's discretion, announcements and other information of interest to guild members may be published at no charge. Ads must be paid in advance. Ads will be accepted on a space available basis in the order payment is received.

All ads and articles may be sent by email to editor@mnquilt.org or sent by mail to:

Pam Pryshepa Ronan
MQ News Editor
18915 33rd Ave. North
Plymouth MN 55447
763-745-0535

BLOCK OF THE MONTH
 for the
MARCH MEETING
 by
Joanne Holznecht

DOUBLE DUTCH
STAR

8" (8 1/2" UNFINISHED)

Please use 100% cotton fabrics. PLEASE PREWASH THE FABRIC. Note: When making a Block of the Month, please read the instructions carefully, particularly regarding the fabric choices. The pictures may not always be representative of the fabric selection.

Background – white on muslin print

Star – one 30s print

Center – Solid color to go with 30s print

Cut 4 1/2" strips of both background and print. Cut 4 triangles using the easy angle cutting tool. You will be able to get these cuts from a 10 1/2" long strip

Cut four 2 1/2" squares of solid color fabric. Place one of these in the corner (see diagram) of each triangle square and sew corner to corner as shown.

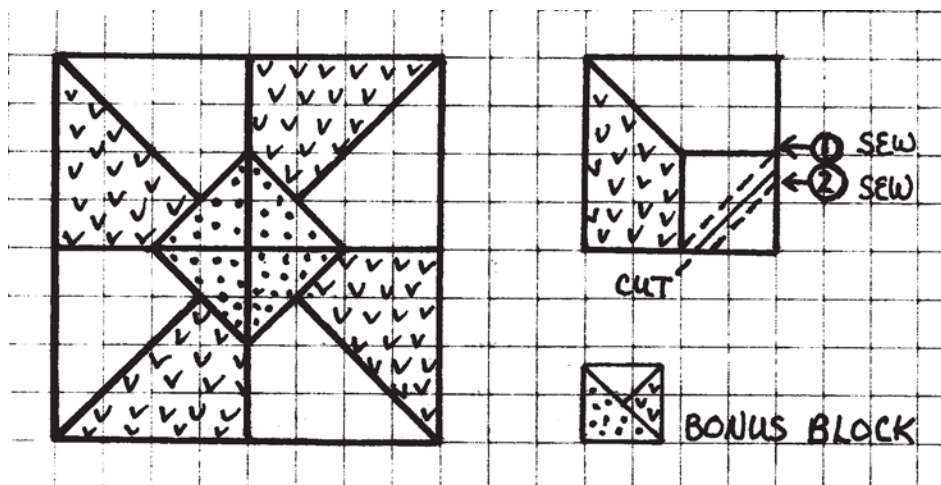
Sew another seam 1/2" from the first seam (as shown). Cut between the seams and press.

This will give 4 bonus blocks. Attach them to the main block with a safety pin. The winner will be able to use these for sashing or in the border if desired.

Make one or more blocks. Print your name and address on a slip of paper and attach it to the back of each block. Bring as many versions of the block to the MARCH meeting as you want. Your name will be entered in the monthly drawing.

If you are unable to attend the meeting, you may send your name and block(s) to:

Joanne Holznecht
 2618 65th Ave. N.
 Brooklyn Center, MN 55430
 email: sewsewjo@spacestar.net



Lily of the Valley Redwork Class with Annemarie Yohnk

Minnesota Quilters is proud to offer this fun class to celebrate SweetHeart Month

Redwork is a popular form of stitching that originated in Europe. From the late 1800s to the mid 1930s this form of stitching was all the rage in America. Now it is popular again. Annemarie Yohnk will cover the 3-Hs; Hints, History, and How-Tos in this 3-hour class: . Come, enjoy and learn this relaxing thread art. The stem stitch, starts, stops, and perfect points are easy tricks learned in this class. We will begin a simple Lily of the Valley project to be completed at home just in time for Spring. No previous embroidery experience required. Pattern included.

Date - February 4th, 2005
Class Time: 9am - Noon
Fee: \$28.00
Class will be held at the Textile Center

Supply List 3/8 yard of muslin or parchment
DMC Floss – color suggestions red (304 or 498)
or blue (311, 312, 517, or 798)
Hoop – 4” – 5” (to fit comfortably in your hand)
Pigma pen to match floss color
Crewel Needles #9
Small Embroidery Scissors
Pencil and Paper

Lily of the Valley Redwork Class

Name

Address

City

State

ZIP

Day Phone

Eve Phone

Send check and registration form to : M Leuders, c/o Redwork Class, 3134 Highland Ave , Wayzata, MN 55391

Membership News

New membership, renewal and change of address should be sent to:

Gayle Mundstock
Minnesota Quilters, Inc.
3000 University Ave. SE, #120
Minneapolis MN 55414
membership@mnquilt.org

When renewing or changing address (or name), please include your MQ Membership Number (MQNo). This can be found to the right above your address on your latest newsletter. Watch for the expiration notice on your label. It will read: "Please Renew." The number to the left above your address indicates the month and year of membership expiration. Example: "9/1/04 means you need to renew your membership **before** the September meeting in 2004.

Membership Dues: \$30.00/year (USD)

Student Dues: \$15.00/year (USD)

Please make checks payable to: Minnesota Quilters, Inc. MQ accepts Visa, MasterCard and Discover. A portion of the dues is allocated to postage at U.S. Postal rates.

Meeting Admission Reminder

The meeting admission for nonmembers is \$3.

The meeting directors remind you to bring your membership card to any and all meetings. This is something that most of you manage just wonderfully. When you have your current membership card in hand, it makes entry into the meeting room a snap! If you've searched high and low and just can not find your membership card, please ask Gayle for a replacement card. Badge holders are available at the admission table.

Stars in the Harbor Quilt Show & Conference

The preview of Stars in the Harbor was a great success. The new sweatshirt (a button front, royal blue cardigan) was presented. The fleece top sports the show logo on the left and two patch pockets. It will be a fashion statement for all attendees. Thanks to Laura Nagle for her excellent presentation summarizing the faculty and classes.



Please note in the registration book on the top of page 9, Nancy Olson's address to mail your non-judged entry form and photographs to is incorrect. Please change the address from 140 to 1140. Also note on page 5 that the Schedule of Events for Wednesday, June 8th should read Classes - not Classes and Lectures. The Volunteer Registration form on page 15 should include Monday, June 6th for helping to hang the show.

Among the announcements regarding the show were:

SMALL QUILT AUCTION:

This year the auction is looking for donations of 3-dimensional items, too. If you had too much fun making quilted bowls, boxes or other objects consider donating one (or more) to the auction. The committee is also looking for quilted clothing to auction along with small quilts.

CHALLENGES

Reminder that the Challenge fabric entry form is due April 29. The actual item doesn't have to be submitted until June 3. If you make a jacket using challenge fabric and want to enter both challenges, submit both forms (one to Susan Manning and one to Claudia Myers), make a note on BOTH FORMS that it is a DUAL ENTRY. You'll be contacted about receiving your jacket in time to model it at the *Party with the Fishes*.

TOURS

Shop owners or coordinators of groups of 25 or more are reminded to contact Paulette Marini if you are planning a tour to Duluth for the show. Preregistering will enable an admission discount. Contact tours05@mnquilt.org for more information or leave a message at 612-436-0449.

LECTURES

The lecture hall will seat over 600 people, so tickets may be available at the show for some lectures.

REGISTRATION BOOK

All MQ members should have received a Show Registration book in the mail by now. Multiple copies were sent to shops the beginning of January.

REGISTRATION

To qualify for early Member registration, you must be an MQ member before December 1, 2004, and your envelope must be postmarked before February 1, 2005, or online registration received before February 1, 2005. Any registrations received after February 1 but before February 8 will be processed with the first general registration batch. CREDIT CARDS ONLY may be used for online registration. Be sure to include alternate classes if your first choice is not available.

VOLUNTEERS

We can't do this without your helping hands. Start planning now for where you'd like to help. Each volunteer with 2 hours of service will receive a volunteer pin and for each hour you volunteer your name will be entered into daily prize drawings and the drawing for the grand prize of a PFAFF sewing machine. Volunteers are needed Monday through Saturday, June 5 - 10.

RAFFLE QUILT

This year's raffle quilt, *Stars of the Inland Sea*, was shown and we were told that a prize of a \$200 certificate for long-arm quilting from Lady of the Lake Quilting Service in Duluth will be awarded to the person selling the most raffle tickets. Tickets will be available at meetings and through committee members.

Send in your registration form by February 1st, mark your calendar with the quilt entry deadlines, call a couple friends and plan to join us in Duluth! If you have questions, contact Susan MacLennan at mq2005@mnquilt.org or leave a message at 612-436-0449.



Sew Many Northern Lights St. Cloud, MN June 15 - 17, 2006 Classes begin June 14

It's never too early !!! June of 2006 seems a long time away but many things need to be accomplished now for the '06 show to be a success. Think of **your** favorite, or least favorite, thing about the show. Wouldn't it be fun to help with what you enjoy, or just the opposite, maybe help fix what you think is not quite right? Or how about being the first one to see the judged quilts? There is work to be done and fun to be had in the committee chair positions that are still open. We have a great start with a few new events and lots of teachers already committed and **WE NEED YOU** to keep the ball rolling.

There are some great "perks" that go along with being a committee **chair** and they include: 1 year free MQ membership, free priority registration, free lectures, 1 free banquet ticket and 1 free class for either 2006 or 2007. This adds up to well over \$100 in benefits for the work you will do. Don't you think it's worth it?

Here is a list of the committees that still need chairs or co-chairs. Find a friend that you work well with and share one of these jobs, it will make it easier. If you would like a "job description", they are available for most positions, an email or phone call will get you a copy.

DOOR PRIZES (2 PEOPLE)
SPECIAL EXHIBITS (2 PEOPLE)
VOLUNTEERS (1 PERSON)

JUDGED EXHIBIT (2 PEOPLE)
SPECIAL EVENTS (1 PERSON)
SIGNS (1 PERSON)

Contact Mary Brandt or Sue Keimig at mq2006@mnquilt.org.

Girl Scouts – Quilting for Others

In past years, over 400 scouts have gotten together over various quilting days to create quilts for others. MQ been a sponsor of this community program for many years. Four dates have been set for Girl Scout Quilting days in 2005:

January 29	Textile Center, St. Paul	9:00am – 4:00pm
February 5	Northfield, MN	9:00am – 3:00pm
April 2	Chaska Area, MN	9:00am – 3:00pm
May 21	St. Cloud, MN	9:00am – 3:00pm

If you are interested in helping any or all of these quilting days, please contact Paulette Marini for more information.

MQ wants to expand these quilting days to other organizations in Minnesota. If you know of any other groups interested in learning and making quilts for others, please contact Paulette at gs@mnquilt.org. She is also listed in the new membership directory.

In Memoriam

Longtime member and second generation quilter, Barbara Braun is now quilting with the angels. She left us December 4, 2004, after surgery complications. We've lost a gem of a volunteer, teacher and enthusiastic member.

George Raschka, husband of Gladys who is the owner of Glad's Creation, passed away January 7, 2005, after an extended illness. Gladys was our 1999 Quilter of the Year and her shop has been a great supporter of MQ. George was also very involved in the shop.

Help Wanted

Volunteer with **merchandising/marketing/public relations** experience to donate a little time to MQ. This involves advising the Minnesota Quilt Project on ways to inexpensively promote the kick-off of the Minnesota Quilters' state quilt book in Duluth in June and the reception and quilt display at the Textile Center in August, including ideas for the book display/sales table and press releases for both events. Contact Linda at 952-835-3901 or email at LK5sisters@aol.com to get more information.

Operations Director

This Board Position will oversee office management, volunteerism within the MQ Organization along with Membership. You will get involved with the budget. Two year commitment that will take approximately 20 hours per month. For more information, please contact Polly North president@mnquilt.org

Evening Director

This is a really fun position where you get to meet new friends and get involved in the type of programs you would like to see at meetings. The Education Director will help and mentor on programs and conducting meetings. We have restructured these positions so that it will be fun and not take a large amount of your time. For more information contact ed@mnquilt.org

Coffee Maker

Person willing to come a little early to the Textile Center on Thursday Evening Meetings to start the coffee. Because we all know how nice it is to have a cup of coffee before the meeting starts... For more info call Mary Leuders 952-475-9919.

Calendar of Events

Evening meetings begin at 7:00 pm and Day meetings begin at 10:00 am, except as noted.

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February 3-5: Sweetheart Month Anne Marie Yohnk present Redwork.

Owatonna Heritage Quilters & Piecemakers Raffle Quilt

February 6: 2005 ALL Show committees meeting Duluth Art Institute 2:00PM

February 28: Board of Directors Meeting

★

March 3-5: Dye Artist

March 4: Workshop

March 12: 2005 Show committees Walk through DECC St. Louis River Room Noon

March 28: Board of Directors Meeting

★

April 7-9: 10 x 10 - 10 quilters share 10 quilts to make 100! Birthday Cake and Fun

April 10: 2005 ALL Show committees meeting Duluth Art Institute 2:00PM

★

May 5-6: Brandywine Designs

May 6: Board of Directors Meeting

May 21: ALL Show committees meeting at DECC Noon

★

June 9-11: Stars in the Harbor Annual Show in Duluth (Classes begin June 8)

June 27: Board of Directors Meeting

★

General Meetings are free for MQ Members and \$3.00 for nonmembers. Workshops require an additional fee for all attendees.

Minnesota Quilts: Creating Connections to Our Past

MQP's book, to be published by Voyageur Press in May, 2005, will showcase 150 quilts from the approximately 4,000 documented by the Minnesota Quilt Project during the past 20 years.

The story of the quilts is told through glorious color photographs, vintage black and white images and detailed, informative text. Drawing on oral interviews with quilters and the close study of Minnesota's classic quilts, MQ members Gail Bakkom, Jean Carlton, Patricia Cox, Laura Jelinek, Linda Kosfeld, Jean Loken, Elise Schebler and Kelly Willis explore the connections quilts have had to our history, our families and our everyday life.

Pre-publication order price is US\$35.00 (tax is US\$2.00). Avoid US\$4.00 shipping by picking up your prepaid copy at the 2005 MQ Show in Duluth, June 9-11, 2005

Reserve your copy today by completing the form below and sending it with payment or indicating credit card information.

The form can also be found at www.mnquilt.org.

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Minnesota Quilts: Creating Connections to Our Past Pre-order Form

Name _____	Book Quantity _____
Address _____	X US\$35.00 _____
City _____ State _____ ZIP _____ Country _____	Tax
Phone _____ eMail _____	Quantity X US\$2.00 _____
Check enclosed _____	Shipping within US
Visa or Mastercard Number _____ Exp Date _____	Quantity X US\$4.00 _____
Name on Card (if different) _____	Pick up at Duluth Show _____
	Total _____

If Shipment is outside the US, please contact MQP@mnquilt.org for shipping charges. Send completed form to:

Minnesota Quilt Project
 Minnesota Quilters, Inc.
 3000 University Ave. SE, Suite 120
 Minneapolis, MN 55414

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MQP NEWS

The writers have one more meeting with the editor of *Minnesota Quilts: Creating Connections to Our Past* to check the page layouts. We have pre-sold almost 250 copies at the pre-publication price. The book can still be pre-ordered for pick up at the show, but at the full price.

At the MQP exhibit at the Duluth show, the authors will be signing the book. We will also be doing quilt evaluations. Laura Jelinek will again bring her education block exhibit which gives attendees the opportunity to put elements of quilt block together and possibly create a here-to-fore unknown design. The quilts exhibited will be some of those pictured in the book so you can see them "in the cloth".

The work on our documentation form is ongoing. If you volunteered to help with the database cleanup you should have received more information. If you'd like to help and have access to Excel software on either a PC or Mac, contact Karen Kopitzke at 651-436-1181 or kakopitzke@earthlink.net.

We will continue to document private collections in the Twin Cities area to fill in gaps in our current knowledge.

Pat Cox

Call for Entries

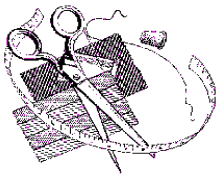
“Nothing New: Fiber Art from Recycled Material”, an exhibition and gallery showcase for textile artist who design and make fiber art from recycled materials will be held at the Textile Center, Joan Mondale Gallery, July 8 – August 13, 2005.

Artists over the age of 18 may submit pieces for jury consideration. The show will be juried by Gyongy Laky, internationally recognized fiber artist and professor at University of California at Davis. Works should be constructed of recycled material and must be of original concept and executed by the artist. Entry Deadline is Friday, April 22, 2004.

For more information and an application form contact info@textilecentermn.org, call 612-436-0464 or visit www.textilecentermn.org.



The first small quilt donation.



1st Annual Yards for Youth

This “Big Game” of quilting will be held January 29 in Eagan, MN. Sponsor Life’s Missing Link hopes to provide 30 quilts for homeless and transitional teens who will live at

Linquist Apartments to be finished this Spring. The game theme honors two of Life’s Missing Link’s founders who were Viking football players.

Teams of 5 quilters each will arrive with partially prepared fabric kits (or will receive them on site) and will receive playbooks with patterns for 12 different quilts. Kick off is at 9:00am and the final whistle will blow at 4:00pm. During that time, the teams will create as many quilt tops as possible from the playbook. Points will be given for finished quilts and other “extras”. Lunch and door prizes will be provided.

5 teams have already signed up, but if you’d like to be part of the game, or quilt one or more of the tops, please contact Lucy Zanders at Life’s Missing Link, 612-871-0748 or lzanders@lifesmissinglink.com

BULLETIN BOARD

Feb 5 - Feb 26.

Threads of our Time, a Quilt and Fiber Show at the Kanabec History Center, Mora, MN Admission to the show is \$1.00. For more information call 320-679-1665 or email center@kanabechistory.org

February 8 - March 4

Seasons of Quilts presented by Dakota County Star Quilters at Dakota County Historical Society Museum, South St. Paul, MN. Susan Cleveland lectures Tues, Feb 8 at 1pm and 7pm (museum open by special arrangement). Advance tickets required for Tues. only \$4, call 651-452-5957 Museum open Wed., Fri. 9am-5pm, Thurs. 9am-8pm, Sat. 10am-3pm. \$3 museum donation suggested. Call 651-552-7548 for more information

February 18 - March 26

Quilts as Art. At the Waseca Art Center, the Stitcher’s in Time Quilt guild will be showing quilts as art. Five quilt patterns, log cabin, rail fence, spinning pinwheels, hearts and triangles, were chosen to represent quilts as art. Hours: Mon-Thur 10am - 4pm Sat 10-2pm Fri Feb 18, 7-9pm. Call 507-835-1701 during business hours for more information.

April 1 - 2

The Sky’s the Limit, the expanded annual quilt show presented by Maple Grove Quilters. Maple Grove Community Centers. Featured Quilter: Shelly Wolfram. Quilt Exhibits, raffle quilt, small quilt auction, demonstrations, vendors. Fri 4pm-8pm Sat 9am-4pm. Admission \$3.00 Contact Linda Wines at 763-553-9368 or lindawines@comcast.net

April 3 - 24

Breath of Spring: A Quilt Show, the seventh triennial Piecemakers’ quilt show. Tuesdays through Sundays 1pm-5pm (closed Mondays). Owatonna Arts Center, Additional Information Owatonna Arts Center 507-451-0522

April 23- 24

Kaleidoscope of Quilts, Presented by Deep Valley Quilters of Mankato, MN. Mankato National Guard Armory. Sat 10 - 4 Sunday 12 -4 Quilts, Raffle Quilt, vendors, food, boutique quilts.

April 29-May 1

Quilting by the Lakes Presented by the Country Quilters of Willmar, MN, Willmar Civic Center. Quilt Challenge, Mini Trunk Shows and Demos, Vendors, Quilt Raffle. Fri 4pm-8pm Sat 10am-5pm Sun 11am-4pm Admission \$4.00

Be sure to send in your information to the editor as soon as your event dates are finalized. The deadline for this newsletter is the first day of the month before the newsletter is printed e.g., February 1 for the March newsletter. Your quilt show or exhibit does NOT have to be MQ sponsored. The only requirement is that it be quilt related and not for profit. MQ News reserves the right to reformat and edit the content for length.

Quilts of Valor

Members of our Armed Forces continue to be killed or wounded in the Operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. As of Jan. 09, 2005, there have been **1353 US casualties and 9,844 wounded in action according to the Department of Defense**. Catherine Bell, a two Blue Star Mother (a mom who has a son or daughter in the military), views those figures with keen interest. Her son and daughter could be lumped in one of those categories. She said "I can't award a purple heart to a wounded soldier. BUT, what I can do is this: I can contribute to the making of a Quilt of Valor (QOV). And, this QOV will tell the soldier/marine in no uncertain terms that the sacrifice is appreciated."



Catherine did an internet search for quilts and wounded and found nothing. She made phone calls around the country trying to find out how she could start a project like this and ended up talking to Chaplain Kallerson at Walter Reed Medical Center in Washington, D.C. Chaplain Kallerson's wife was a quilter and he understood what Catherine wanted to do. "I think a hand-made lap quilt will be very good for our soldiers who have had amputations since winter is coming on and the quilt will warm them. Also, it will help with their phantom pain." Now, with contacts across the country, these QOVs provide comfort, love and healing prayers plus pay tribute to the combat wounded.

Marcia Stevens of Brainerd, MN, has issued a challenge through her online newsletter to quilters across the country: Make a QOV that is delivered to a wounded soldier through the QOV program, and be entered in a prize drawing.

The drawing will be held at the Machine Quilters Showcase (MQS™) in May 2005. All prizes will be recognized and assigned to one of the categories: single, duo, group (10 quilts for one entry) and school children. The larger prizes in the group category will be rolls of batting or bolts of fabric to be used for future charitable projects. Do you think 2,000 QOV's can be made before May 14th?

Visit www.houseofhanson.com for specific and updated information on the QOV project. If you have any questions or would like to donate prizes, please contact Marcia Stevens at mstevens@brainerd.net or 218-828-9116.

Categories: Single , Duo, Group - for every 10 quilts the group will receive one chance at larger prizes, School Children - visit the web site for more information

Rules:

1) Quilt size - minimum 50" x 60" and must be either hand or machine quilted. If you want to make a top but can't quilt it, just let us know. We'll find a quilter.

2) Must be made for a young man. The majority (99%) of wounded are men in their early 20's. Think BEER, COUCH, FOOTBALL and CUDDLE. There are no color or pattern requirements but florals probably wouldn't be appropriate for this crowd. Good quality cottons/flannels and strong stitching are a must to be able to hold up under real life circumstances.

3) Anne Bright of Salt Lake City, Utah, has designed a special logo for the quilts. It would be wonderful if we could include this single line design somewhere on each of the QOV's. The design is available on Anne's web site www.annebright.com or www.houseofhanson.com.

4) Include a label. Either write on the back of the quilt with an indelible pen or apply a separate label to the back of the quilt identifying at least the date, maker, quilter, city and state. You may include any other messages you feel are appropriate. See www.quiltsforsoldiers.com for ideas.

5) When you are ready to ship your quilt(s), contact Catherine Roberts, QOV Coordinator, at 302-236-0230 or cc.roberts@comcast.net. Catherine will provide you with the address of a military hospital.

6) Include a **stamped postcard** with the quilt when it is shipped. This will be your entry card for the prize drawings. Address the postcard to: Marcia Stevens, 2614 Southview Ct., Brainerd, MN 56401. On the message side of the stamped postcard, print: Your name, the quilter's name (if it isn't you), address, phone number and email address. For groups, list the name of the group and a contact person with the same information above. For every 10 quilts entered, include one card. It will be used as your group entry form for the drawings in that category.

When the quilt is received, the chaplain at the hospital will send the card to Marcia and distribute the quilts to the wounded. Before they are distributed, the quilts are blessed in the hospital chapel and the name of the soldier is written on the back of the quilt. As soon as Marcia receives the postcard, she will email the quilter confirming receipt of the QOV. Quilts may also be brought to MQS where they will be collected and transported to Washington, DC by Sandy & Richard King of A Quilter's Studio in Joplin, MO.

7) **This project will culminate at Machine Quilters Showcase (MQS™) in Overland Park, KS May 14, 2005.** The drawing for winners of the prizes will be held sometime during the show.