November Meetings

The November 9 meeting of the Minnesota Quilters will be held at the Country West Restaurant in Rockford, Minnesota.

The meeting will begin at 10 a.m. with Show and Tell. The program will feature slides and reports of the national quilt shows which took place this summer. Those participating will be Jeannie Spears, Helen Kelley, Jean Humenansky and Pat Cox.

There will be a Quilters Market after the meeting. Members who have quilt-related items to sell are invited to participate. Since space is limited you must contact Jeannie Spears at 291-2909 or 488-0974 to make reservations.

To reach the Country West Restaurant take Highway 55 going west out of Minneapolis. Rockford is about 15 miles beyond Highway 494. The Country West is on the right side of the highway just before you go over the bridge into the city of Rockford.

The November Evening Meeting of the Minnesota Quilters will be held Thursday, November 8, from 7-9 p.m. The meeting will be in the Community Room at the Apache Plaza Shopping Center, 37th Ave. N.E. and Silver Lake Road in Minneapolis. It has been requested that we park on the Silver Lake Road side of the shopping center and use the outside entrance to the lower level.

Everyone is invited to bring items for Show and Tell. The program for the evening will be a demonstration by Sheila Lee on how to make a Log Cabin tote bag.

New Evening Meeting Co-ordinators, Lynn Fredsall and Betty Ferguson, will lead a discussion as to the convenience of future meeting times and places, and also the frequency of evening meetings. If you are one of the many members who have waited for evening meetings, please try to come. Your opinions are very important.

Happy Halloween!
dear Quilters...

I have a celebration at my house. Every year about this time I listen to the weather reports and I feel the air and I watch the sky. When the Forecaster warns of "frost tonight," I rummage through the linen closet and bring out The Quilt. I spread it ceremoniously and joyfully across the bed and stand back and appraise it with satisfaction. The thought of another Minnesota winter can strike fear and depression in the heart of an outlander. My first winters here were a demoralizing experience. Now, as that first leaf skitters across the backyard, I savor the thought of all that snow that will be out there and I consider the pleasures of sleeping snug beneath my puckery quilt. Just as surely as the violets herald a new spring, so also does the first frost announce winter, and the ceremony of spreading my quilt across my bed warms my heart.

- Helen Kelley
MQ President

Christmas Party

We're planning a festive occasion for our December 14, daytime meeting to be held at the Brooklyn Center Community Center. There will be Christmas music, Christmas presents and Christmas dress!

The Christmas Style Show is open to any member who has clothing or an accessory made using a patchwork or quilting technique. You are asked to give or mail a description of your article to Carol Adeleman, 9907 Zilla St. N.W., Coon Rapids, Mn., 55433, by December 7. Include your name, city, the technique used, and the pattern number and name if it is a commercial pattern. Also list any interesting notes—if the item was made for a special person or event. Those participating will be eligible for a special prize drawing.

We are also inviting all those who would like, to bring a Christmas ornament done in patchwork or quilting for exchanging.

And there will be a repeat of last year's nametag contest. There have been many new members since we last had our nametag contest, so it has been decided to have another. We hope everyone will come up with an original quilt-related idea for their nametag. Be thinking!

M.Q. Pattern Book

The Minnesota Quilters Pattern Book is underway and there is still plenty of time for you to get your design in. Suggested block size is 12 inch or 14 inch, however you are not bound to this size. When your pattern is handed in or sent in we would like a sample made up to accompany it. Patterns may be patchwork, applique or quilting designs. Your sample block may be handed in just pieced, or it can be finished off with quilting and bound edges. These blocks will be returned to you sometime in the future.

You will also need to hand in a diagram of your design. Note in your pattern books and magazines how a design layout is made in a limited area of space. The book will be printed on 8 1/2"x11" paper (same size as typing paper). We realize that in some cases two pages will be necessary for some patterns.

We would like you to include on your pattern:
1. Name of the design
2. What, if anything, inspired you
3. Number of units of each pattern piece to be cut (and possible color selection)
4. Your name so we know who to credit it to.

The tentative deadline will be our regular meeting date in January—January 11, 1980.

- Pattern Book Chairman
Joanne Holzknecht
2618 65th Ave. N.
Brooklyn Center, Mn.
55430
Phone: 561-1219

Agnes Leer
352 Cimarron Rd.
Apple Valley, Mn.
55124
Phone: 454-1444

Delight the whole family with new stockings this year! pag 4 original patterns. 2.50 pp

Patricia...
81 Oak 112, Watertown, Mn. 55388

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They came from Bemidji, Cass Lake, Glenwood, Cloquet, Duluth, Brainerd, and of course, Minneapolis and St. Paul. The event was the October 12 meeting of the Minnesota quilters held in St. Cloud. They were all quilters, approximately 80 of them, living up to being true 'quilt-a-holics' by travelling such a distance to see quilts and exchange quilt talk.

Show and Tell was a true inspiration!

Penny Shreck showed a Triple Irish Chain Quilt which she made after being inspired by seeing a similar quilt done in red and green at the Minnesota Historical Society. There was an appliqued quilt done entirely of wool, mostly from old woolen clothing. It was to be hand quilted. Fern Swedenburg showed a very unusual Drunkards Path quilt done in reds and greens. And Ellen Swanson delighted everyone when she claimed to have a severe case of 'quiltitis.'

Ellen made her first quilt 50 years ago, and as of last year she had completed 80 quilts. She showed us an original clown design for a crib quilt—she's made 30 of those. Ellen introduced us to her neighbor, Millie Miller, who said she had caught the same disease. Millie showed us a beautiful string star quilt and her heritage quilt.

Shirley Kirsh from Duluth introduced us to her friend, Sally Haase from Cloquet, claiming she was a 'brand new crazy person.' Sally is a new member who has a decorating business. She showed some beautiful things done with decorator fabrics with border prints from quality English cottons she has access to. Bonnie Ellis amazed everyone with a small Cathedral Window Christmas ornament in which the colored square insert started out at 2 ½ inches.

The fun continued as our hostess, Irene Stemm, began her program with bits of humor and a charming story about a possessed quilter.

Irene's interest in quilting began in the 1930's partly out of necessity during the depression and partly because there was an art revival taking place. Irene then went on to lead us through the history book of quilting from ancient times to the present revival which she thinks took place because of the hippie movement. They discovered that by living close to the land without much money they had to make their own coverings. That stimulated an interest in old coverings, and when you have an interest in old coverings you get an interest in new coverings and an art blooms and we become very creative.

Irene went on to tell us how fabrics and patterns originated, how colors were produced, the different techniques used in quilting, and where to find, see and purchase quilts.

She explained that the colors in quilting keep pace with dress fabrics, and that in a quilt you need color, line, accent and repetition. She showed us a method of repairing old quilts, and shared with us a definition of the Crazy quilt which she had recently read. It is believed that the quilt was so-named because it had a 'crazed' effect, such as old dishes do.

We saw slides of quilts, photo albums with quilts, and many beautiful quilts on display, most of them Irene's.

Irene did show us her new Log Cabin technique and I have asked her to share it with us in a future newsletter. The morning was gone all too fast for most of those in attendance. Thank you Irene for a most interesting meeting!

State Fair Committee

A committee has been formed to make recommendations to the Creative Activities Director of the Minnesota State Fair. We have been asked to give input from our group on displays at the State Fair.

If you have any ideas please write them out and send them to Agnes Leer, 352 Cimarron Road, Apple Valley, Mn., 55124, so that we can give ideas from the group and not just the committee.

- Agnes Leer, State Fair Committee Chairman

did you know

THE MINNESOTA QUILTERS, INC. is a non-profit group formed to find and unite quilters and quilt enthusiasts throughout the state of Minnesota. Membership includes a newsletter, monthly meetings with workshops, lectures, and an "I'm a Minnesota Quilter" button. Dues are $10 per year (June 1- May 31). Send memberships to:

Minnesota Quilters, Inc.
P.O. Box 192
Maple Plain, Minnesota 55359
I'm a Minnesota quilter.
Minnesota Quilters Vest

There have been numerous requests for the emblem design which is on the back of the Minnesota Quilters vests which many of our members have made. As we have quite a number of new members who are interested in making a vest we are printing the emblem design again for their benefit.

The aqua fabric to be used for the main part of the vest can be purchased at the Country Peddler Quilt Shop, 2242 Carter at Como in St. Paul, Glad Creations Quilt Block, 3400 Bloomington Ave., Minneapolis, and the Cotton Shoppe, 6509 Nicollet Ave., Minneapolis.

To make the vest, first choose a vest pattern which is flattering to you and then consider the technique you will use. Do you want it lined only, with some piecwork, or all quilted? Remember to get extra fabric if you plan to use self-binding. 35% cotton and 65% polyester are best because they wash and wear so nicely.

Lay out your pattern on brown wrapping paper and if you are quilting it, add a ½ inch to the seams. Then draw on your quilting design or patchwork to see that it fits. Cut the lining fabric even larger than the top pieces. It's easier to cut some off than to come up short. Use a bonded polyester batting for the filling.

Be sure to put an extra layer of white fabric behind the Minnesota state emblem so the aqua doesn't show through the white. The lettering can be traced on before the applique is sewn on.

Quilt no closer than 5/8 inch to the edges and then put together with 'quilt-as-you-go' method. Some suggested quilting designs are: ladyslipper, loon, snowflakes, or try something original. Maybe a patchwork pocket or a strip of patchwork down the front. Let your imagination and personality be your guide. Good luck, we'll be looking for you!
Quilters

Aldean Steinhagen is a Minnesota Quilter from Waconia. She wrote this 'just for fun' to share with you.

Quilting is a disease which affects the mind, eyes and hands. The victim is always thinking about, seeing something, and wanting to quilt something else. Best treatment is to leave her alone and allow her to do her own thing!

Utilizes every piece of fabric or small scrap that comes to her, but she is always looking for more!

Imagination is always near because she wants to create a design or use a combination of colors that nobody else has tried yet!

Labor of love is put into every inch of stitching and quilting which she does, and then sometimes she even gives it away!

Time conscious because she always needs time to start a project or a little more time to finish a project!

Energy galore—she hurries to get her work done so she can sit and sew!

Returns to every Minnesota Quilters meeting because she doesn't want to miss Show and Tell!

Shops every fabric shop near (20 to 25 miles) because there might be a sale or just the color and design in a piece of fabric that she's been looking for, or just "must have" in case she needs it!

Coming up

November 2—Board meeting at the home of Bonnie Ellis, 1630 57th Ave. N.E. Call ahead. 
November 8—Evening meeting at Apache Plaza Community Room, 7-9 p.m. 
November 9—Daytime meeting at Country West Restaurant in Rockford, 10 a.m.

the Courthouse Quilters

On a brisk October day I ventured to the historic city of Stillwater to a meeting of the Courthouse Quilters. The group is so called because its members have recently acquired a permanent meeting place in this, the oldest courthouse in the state of Minnesota.

The courthouse no longer houses the county offices, but is being restored to much of its original beauty. It houses a theater group, a resident artist, various exhibits and meeting groups.

My tour guide, Nelle Bredeson, who seems to be the 'Queen Quilter' in the St. Croix River Valley Area, was the main force behind the effort to form a permanent home for the local quilters. Nelle estimates that she has taught about 1,000 people the art of quilting. Nelle first envisioned the courthouse as a meeting place in 1976 when she held a quilt show there, and she's been working on her dream ever since.

As we went from room to room, Nelle pointed out the stencilling which is being restored to its original splendor, and the beautiful woodwork on the open stairways and doorways. Even the view is beautiful as the courthouse stands on a hill overlooking much of the city of Stillwater.

The purpose of the Courthouse Quilters is two-fold. They come together to quilt for themselves and they also will be doing quilting for the benefit of the courthouse. With the assistance of the Helping Hands quilt group which has been in the area for the past 54 years, the Courthouse Quilters are realizing the second part of their purpose. A quilt which has been pieced by the Helping Hands group and quilted by the Courthouse Quilters will be raffled off during the first part of December. It is on display at various places around the city at the present time. Nelle Bredeson has tickets for those interested in helping support their cause.

The Courthouse Quilters meet every Wednesday and Thursday and they have their business meeting on the first Wednesday of each month. They have a unique manner of getting their members to participate by having them take turns in leading the business meetings. Their meeting room on the first floor will be lined with blocks made by members.

If you have a chance to visit the Courthouse Quilters, please take advantage of it. They are very gracious to their visitors! And the atmosphere of the entire city is conducive to quilting!
Resource Directory

The Minnesota Quilters Resource Directory will soon be going to press for a second printing. The Directory includes listings of teachers, demonstrators, workshop leaders, handquilters and quilters. The new directory will also include a listing of quilt-related shops. If anyone is interested in being included in the Resource Directory please contact Sharon Bobgan, 3708 Gettysburg Ave. N., New Hope, Mn. 55427.

New Product

The Stearns and Foster Company has developed a new liqued cleaner for quilts called ENSURE. It is composed of gentle cleansing agents—no chemical softeners, no perfume, no brighteners. It is effective in cool water of all hardnesses and leaves no residue. Look for it in specialty shops, quilt shops, fabric shops, needlework areas of department stores, or write to Stearns and Foster, P.O. Box 15380, Cincinnati, Ohio, 45215 for more information.

Arts Directory

The 1979 edition of the Nonprofit Arts Organizations in Minnesota directory is now available from the Arts and Resource Information Center. The new edition should include the Minnesota Quilters, plus information on over 550 nonprofit visual, literary, performing, and service arts organizations across the state of Minnesota.

Information includes exhibition and performing spaces, intern and volunteer opportunities, accessibility and special programs for the handicapped, classes and special information.

The directory is available for $3.95 and may be ordered from Arts Resource and Information Center, 2400 Third Avenue South, Minneapolis, Mn. 55404. If you aren’t interested in obtaining a copy for yourself why not mention to your local library. For more information call 870-3131.

Book Reviews


This is the author’s story of how she made her first quilt at the age of eight and how she’s been quilting ever since. She doesn’t give her present age! Included are her basic eight steps of making a quilt and there are actual size patterns for 50 quilts. She includes several ideas for transferring quilting designs and some interesting border ideas.


A good reference book for anyone, but an especially good review for teachers. Mr. James says handquilting is a slow, inch-by-inch process that cannot be hurried. It is during the quilting process that the quilter gets to know at a very close range every detail of a quilt’s surface. The book contains some nice ideas on signing a quilt.


An expensive, but well-worth-it book. Good diagrams, much detail. Nice color pictures, also black and white. Contains a good section on reverse applique technique. Nice ideas for banners and wall hangings.

Good Housekeeping Book of Quilt Making—by Vera P. Guild. Hardcover—$10.95

Good clear instructions with beginning basics for both pieced and appliqued quilts. Nice color prints of quilts. A quilt made by "loving hands at home" is a real treasure says the author.


This would be especially good reading material for women who are sewing or quilting professionally. It talks about setting priorities, finding time and space, organizing and scheduling, and still trying to be a "super mom." How does a creative woman who is committed to home and family meet her needs for self-expression and communication? Interesting comments from women all over on various topics.
advertising

Advertising Rates: Classified ads- 10¢ a word, name and address at no charge. Display ads- 1/8 pg.- $4, 1/4 pg.- $8, 1/2 pg.- $13, 3/4 pg.- $18, 1 pg.- $24, business cards- $3. Please direct all ad inquiries to Jackie Irey, 4542 Pleasant Ave. S., Minneapolis, Mn. 55409

COME QUILT WITH ME! Register now for daytime or evening classes. Level one: Beginners. Level two: Expand your Horizons. 8 weeks- $25. Call Helen Kelley. 789-8207.

PLACEMAT PATTERNS- Pear, apple, strawberry, lemon/lime, orange, blueberry, bell, tree. Each pattern has dinner, luncheon, potholder, coaster sizes. Fruit potholder pattern has 5 fruits in potholder size. $2 ea. 3/$5, 5/$8, 8/$12. The Fencepost, Box 011 M, Lakeville, Mn. 55044.


ONE-OF-A-KIND QUILTING DESIGNS- translucent white plastic for templates. Can be cut with scissors and marked with a pencil. 15"x 26"- $1.50 pcp., 20"x 26"- $2.75 pcd., 26"x 60"- $4.50 ppc. One-of-a-Kind Quilting Designs, 6601 Normandale Road, Edina, Minn. 55435.

Books full of helpful tips on quilting by Kay Bailey

TO MAKE A QUILT- $7.00
THE SAMPLER QUILT- $4.00
QUILTING STITCHERY # 1- $3.50
Order from Homeart, Box 447 M, Maple Plain, Minnesota 55359

Coming in the next Minnesota Quilters News: Reports on the Quilters Retreat, Seminole workshop, Long Island quilt show. Also, how to become a 'Quilt-a-holic!'

Coming up~

NOVEMBER 1979

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For details see 'Coming Up' - Page 6