August meeting

The August 8th meeting of MQ will be held in the pavilion at Como Park, St. Paul. The meeting will begin at 10 am with show and tell. Following this, Jeannie Spears will talk to us about photographic images on fabric and on photographing quilts.

After the business meeting we will have a chance to use Jeannie's suggestions and photograph our own quilts and others in the natural beauty of Como Park (weather permitting). So bring your quilts and your cameras.

Our meeting will end with a potluck picnic. Please bring a dish to share, your own beverage, utensils and plate. In order for each of us to get to know some new people, please sit at the table(s) marked by your map location, i.e. South St. Paul, North Minneapolis. This way you can get to know people who live in your area and perhaps also arrange car pools, quilting clubs, etc., as well as making new friends.
MINNESOTA QUILTERS NEWS is the monthly newsletter of the Minnesota Quilters, Inc., a nonprofit organization formed to find and unite quilters and quilt enthusiasts throughout the state of Minnesota and elsewhere; and dedicated to enhancing the knowledge and enjoyment of quilting.

Membership dues are $10 per year and include year round monthly meetings tailored to suit the needs of beginners, advanced and professional quilters, the newsletter, workshop opportunities, and an "I'm a Minnesota Quilter" button.

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book review

SCRAPS CAN BE BEAUTIFUL; A COLLECTION OF OVER 100 QUILT PATTERNS SUITABLE FOR USING SCRAPS by Jan Halgrimson, P.O. Box 353, Edmonds, WA 98020, 1979. $8.50, soft cover, 106 pages.

This is an attractively presented collection of quilt patterns. I found its format to be inviting and easy to follow. The artwork that illustrates the patterns is crisp and neat in addition to being pretty. The text of the book deserves mention, I think, because it appears to be handlettered rather than typeset, and is done with noteworthy precision and clarity. This publication has been produced with obvious care as well as a great deal of style and grace.

Precisely because it is so attractively presented, this is a book which might draw the attention and arouse the enthusiasm of the beginning quilter. For that reason I feel a warning is in order. Please be aware that this is a publication of very limited scope. A fact that is openly stated by the author in her subtitle, and again in the very first statement of the introduction.

She says that this is not a manual of how to construct a quilt, but simply a collection of patterns. She presents only a very brief overview of the construction process in her introduction, which oversimplifies due to its brevity. So, unless you are an experienced and confident quilter, you will find it necessary to use this book in conjunction with a good quilting manual.

How valuable you find this book to be as a collection of quilt patterns will depend on how many quilt patterns you have already collected, and just how enthusiastic a collector you are! I found the majority of the patterns were not new to me. Substantial space is devoted to basic or well-known patterns. For example, four patch, clamshell, Grandmother's flower garden, tumbling blocks, log cabin, crazy quilting, eight point star. But if you are looking for a good general collection of patterns, then Scraps Can Be Beautiful is a beautifully presented one.

--Jean Bay Wiley
President's letter

So many people have said to me, "How do you have time to do so many things?"

I don't! But I decide that I want to do something and then I try.

Often, just the mental decision will help set priorities. But you must have the ability to change directions often...a skill most mothers learn in order to survive motherhood.

If you always say "I can't do that." You probably won't. Can't is really an excuse for not trying.

We all have the same 24 hours; it's what we do with it that counts. If quilting is the thing you enjoy very much but haven't done in a month...you'd better re-work your schedule and make time. It may mean getting rid of the guilt trip about having an unfinished project; but the name of the game is MAKE TIME.

I know we can't do everything (I seem to try that too sometimes); but we surely can re-arrange our time to fit in more of what we like.

Good Luck

Bonnie

Quilt buyers note

When in Baraboo, Wisc., recently, I found some quilts in an antique shop. There was a lovely basket quilt with a name lettered in India ink in the center of each block. It was old, but in good condition. There were many other quilts, among them a Grandmother's Flower Garden. Also, there were some piece tops for sale. Prices of the quilts ranged from $28.00 to $100.00. Most of them were between $50.00 and $75.00 each.

Interested, call me for further details.

Kay Basky

a special event

Mark your calendars now! We are in for a special treat!

On September 14, the Minnesota Quilters, in conjunction with the Minnesota Historical Society will sponsor a lecture by Sheila Betterton, the textile and needlework specialist at the American Museum in Bath, England.

And on September 16 Helen Kelley is planning an old fashioned quilting bee and pot luck dinner.

This is going to be a terrific opportunity for all of us...more information in the next newsletter.

Remember you only get one free newsletter after your membership expires - so renew now. A new membership list will be out in October or November.
It was a typical picnic with the the temperature in the 90's, swarms of gnats, and lots of good food as 32 quilters gathered in Minnehaha Park for the July evening meeting of Minnesota Quilters.

The group was welcomed by Lynn Fredsall and Bonnie Ellis. Linda Neal explained her job as Bulletin Board Co-ordinator. She will be bringing the bulletin board to each meeting for the posting of notices of quilt exhibits, contests, workshops and other coming events and news pertinent to Quilters. If you have anything you would like to post, see Linda prior to each meeting.

Sharing ideas at show and tell were:
Adele Madsen: an Endless Ribbon pillow and a red and white Rob Peter to Pay Paul door quilt that started as a sample block and just kept growing.
Lynn Fredsall: a quilted basket in the Grandmother's Flower Garden pattern. All present received a complimentary copy of Lynn's pattern.
Inez Cummious: white trapunto purse, Radiant Star bag and two molas.
Bonnie Ellis: the 'Minnesota Skirt'
Bonnie designed a wall hanging for the Minnesota Historical Society. Each block depicted a different aspect of Minnesota life. Patterns were sold and one of the purchasers used the block patterns in a skirt.
Lynn Fredsall was our model.

As the featured program, Helen Kelley explained how she prepares a quilt for quilting and sets it in the frame. Helen measures the top and cuts the back the same size. Both the top and back are one inch larger than the quilt size. The quilt back is stretched on the floor and held in place with corsage pins. Lay the batt on the backing and baste. Now apply the quilt top stretching to fit and pin in place. Baste the outer edges and crosswise, lengthwise, and "pie wedges" starting at the center and working to the outer edges. The quilt is now ready for basting to the frame and quilting. Helen allows a full day to prepare one of her quilts for quilting.

Lynn Fredsall demonstrated her method of putting a quilt in a hoop. She bastes lightly from the center to each side, then to the corners, and once in between. To both the upper and lower hoop she has tied three 20" pieces of twill or seam tape. She puts the quilt into the hoop and stretches it tightly. The excess fabric is rolled from the outside towards the hoop in a doughnut effect and the upper and lower pieces of twill tape are tied around to hold it in place.

Bonnie Ellis had prepared a lovely sampler wall hanging of miniature blocks set in blue lattice. Bonnie put her wall hanging into a hoop attached to a stand. The wall hanging was not pulled tight as in Lynn's demonstration.

To coincide with the show and tell theme, the Mini-gram was casserole carriers. The instructions for this quick gift item follow.

1. Trace the pattern onto a double layer of quilted fabric. (For a small carrier, a dinner plate was used. You may increase the circumference of the circle to any desired carrier size.)
Cut. For handles, cut two strips 3¼" wide, equal in length to the diameter of the circles you have cut. Trace a smaller circular pattern onto the center of one of the circles you have cut. (The rim of a large coffee cup works fine.) This becomes the top of the carrier. Find the diameter of the carrier top and draw a line from each side to the outer edge of the inner circle.
Cut. You may bind the center circle and use it as a coaster.
2. Fold bias tape if half lengthwise and press. Bind edges C.
Bind edges B turning under a small amount of tape at each end.
3. Wrong sides together, pin the top pieces to the bottom at edges A and stitch close to the edge.
4. Fold handles in half, right sides together, and stitch the length with a ¼" seam. Turn and press centering the seam.
5. Pin the straps to the carrier so that one edge of each strap is even with edge C. Trim the ends of the straps to fit the curve of the carrier. Stitch with a ¼" seam.
6. Enclose edge A with bias tape and stitch close to the edge of the tape.
7. Run a white shoe string thru each edge B.

Vicki Moskiewicz

Quilting at the Minnesota State Fair is a terrific opportunity to share with the public the love for the art of quilting all Minnesota Quilters have. This year the Minnesota Quilters have been asked to demonstrate their art in the Creative Activities Building each day, August 21-25. Three shifts each day have been created so that members can come and go as necessary. Please contact Carol Jane Burdette at 559-4847 or Pat Dancisak at 425-3729 and designate which times you can help. Morning shifts are 9am-1pm; afternoon 1-5pm; evenings 5-9pm. We would like to hear from as many of you as will be attending the State Fair.

Tickets for Fair entrance are again provided at a discount to the members of Minnesota Quilters. Additional tickets may be purchased for friends and family in any quantity. Regular rates for fair entrance are $3 for adults and $1 for children to age 15. Discount tickets are $2 each. To obtain tickets, please send a self-addressed, stamped envelope and a check for amount to Minnesota Quilters 3708 Gettysburg Ave. No., New Hope, MN 55427. Requests must be received by meeting time August 8.

we get letters

...First, thank you for the opportunity to participate in your very excellent "Log Cabin Fever" workshops. Your group certainly lives by a Charles Kettering quote that I find quite appropriate. "There will always be a frontier where there is an open mind and a willing hand." We are using this quote as the challenge for the West Coast Quilters' Conference.

...My best wishes to MQ and the new officers in the coming year.

Sincerely,
DeLoris Stude

Do you have an idea for a new name for the newsletter. Should we have a new name for the newsletter contest? If you have some ideas, drop one of the board members a line or give us a call.
On July 11 the Minnesota Quilters met at the Brooklyn Center Community Center. Show and Tell once again was outstanding. (I've missed a few because my note taking gets some interruptions)

-Kay Bailey showed us a lovely vest for her daughter, a sunflower dahlia and vine design.

-Irene Stemm shared a Bicentennial Flying Geese quilt, and a baby quilt.

-Margaret Maki had a beautiful pink and white anniversary quilt with embroidered initials.

-Phil Lawton had a lovely Ohio Rose quilt for her granddaughter.

-Fern Swedenburg showed us a beech tree quilt as you go.

-Dorothy Michaud has a lovely yellow baby quilt for her granddaughter to be born on July 27! (How can she be so sure?)

-Frances Whitney has been very busy and had lots to share! Her pineapple heart shaped pillow was especially attractive, and her grandchild's drawing of a butterfly which she reproduced was delightful.

-Bonnie Ellis made a very interesting jumper with appliquéd people on it.

-Ellen Braun had a good looking reversible grandmother's flower, rose on one side, blue on the other.

-Carol Jane Burdette made three artistic pillows.

-Blanche LaMere had a cute duck on the center of a baby quilt.

-Joanne Holz knecht is working on some place mats she shared, and she cleverly embroidered a spider on her quilted web design!

-Bette Kazdale shared a baby elephant quilt and an interesting old Dutch girl quilt.

-Marge Herrington shared a welcome quilt and a child's vest.

-Marion Engstrom showed us a lovely blue baby quilt.

-Sharon Meinz had a pretty green, white and yellow baby quilt.

-Cathy LaRosa had an attractive hexagon and flower design.

And there were others (please remember to sign the show and tell list - it really helps me - I don't know all of you and I don't always put the right name and face together)

Our president, Bonnie Ellis opened the meeting by welcoming us and encouraging us to make our own quilt name tags and wearing them each time. The state fair was discussed. We will be quilting the first five days of the fair. Last year's state fair quilt is at Helen Kelley's, the first in our collection as a group. This year we will be quilting a quilt made from the squares the Joanne Holz knecht has been collecting from our group.

Sharon Bobgan reported that we have many extra resource directories for sale for $1. She would like to encourage shop keepers to buy 25 for $20 to sell in their shops.

-Voting results: The quilted state symbol won over the MQ symbol 34-28.

-A reminder to all MQ members: We are not to speak or write for the Minnesota Quilters without the board's permission. Be sure that any opinion you wish to express are identified as yours and not as opinions of the Minnesota Quilters as a group.

-Sue Stein had an informative quilt as you go and machine applique presentation. Some points to remember were: Be sure to use a fusible interfacing on appliqued pieces - bond with cooking parchment (or damp pressing cloth) laid over applique to keep from sticking to iron. Use glue stick to secure pieces to item until stitching. Set machine for close zigzag, lesson tension on pressure foot so corners can be turned, use hands to hold firmly against bed of machine. For fine details or creative embroidery, remove all pressure and use hands to guide. For quilting as you go, Sue pointed out that it's the perfect project for traveling, hot summer days, or taking to work (when the boss isn't looking)? Thanks Sue, I think we all learned some new ideas.

Editor's Note: I would really appreciate a volunteer to do the monthly daytime review. It would involve taking notes at the meeting, with comments on the show and tell, typing it up and getting it in the mail to me within the next couple of days after the meeting. Call me if you can help...Darlene 559-4692
Lee describes herself as being shy and a bit of a loner. She enjoys working with children and quilting. Her idea of a perfect quilting experience is to have two days all alone at home and a third day with other quilters - all just to sew.

Lee is there, behind the scenes more than out front, keeping us comfortable, making sure the activities will proceed. We can depend on her. Her planning keeps things humming.

-Mary Ann Massoll
personality spotlight writer

Carol Adelman is ready to begin collecting pictures of you for our friendship album. Just send Carol a picture of yourself with your favorite quilting project. A 3½ x 5" photo is preferable. This photo album will then be available for all of us to browse through at meetings - and will help us to put names, faces, and favorite masterpieces together!

quilt show

Memorial Quilters of Forest Lake, Minnesota are opening the fall quilting season with a quilt show. Old and new quilts will be on display, plus many other quilted items. Mini demonstrations on quilting techniques will be in progress during the day.

The quilt show will take place on Sept. 19-20, at Northland Mall in Forest Lake. The hours are from 9:30 a.m.-9 p.m. on Friday, and from 9-6 on Saturday. The show is free to the public. Memorial Quilters are selling tickets for a whole cloth quilt in star pattern, in colors of muted blues and turkey red, which has been hand quilted by members of the club.

Tickets will be sold at the door. Keep these dates in mind and plan to attend.
In the March issue of Minnesota Quilters News I read an ad, "Wanted 6 people to participate in test marketing. No charge - supplies furnished." Needless to say, curiosity got the best of me and I answered the ad and nearly died before I found out what it was all about. In a couple of days Jeannie Spears called me and explained her "Confidence Quilting Home Study Course." Before I could say scat I was in up to my neck reading, checking, sewing and loving every minute. In the last Quilters News Jeannie advertised her finished product. It is well worth the money.

Jeannie takes you on a confidence ride through many aspects of quilting techniques. She leads you, stitch by stitch, block by block, and before long you have a beautiful sampler quilt.

Each lesson has 4 patterns starting with the beginning level on up to the challenge level. All patterns are full size. There are no cat scratches on grid paper trying to enlarge a pattern, which can be very hair raising and time consuming.

Jeannie includes the history of the techniques, bibliographies, general instructions on how to prepare each block from templates, on up to quilting the sampler. Each lesson has an additional feature on how to check your work, which I found very helpful. A beginner could find out what is expected of her and check it against the check list. Also included was information on supplies, estimating yardage, the set of a quilt, colors, designing, and putting it all together in two techniques - quilt as you go, or on a frame.

By the time you come to lesson 5, you are well on the way to being a confident quilter. In this lesson Jeannie introduces designing and you get the feeling the quilt will not be complete without some cat scratches of your own. However, I ignored it and went right on to lesson 6 which is the log cabin. I chose the advanced block, a design by Jeannie, "Spinning Squares". I no more than started and I was spinning. No way would it spin in the right direction. Finally I had confidence enough to do some correcting of my own. I wrote Jeannie about this problem. Our letters crossed in the mail. The next lesson I received Jeannie said, "If you are piecing Spinning Squares there has been a mistake in the pattern." By now all is corrected and I was happy to learn I could keep my confidence and go on.

By the time I came to lesson 9, I knew my intuition in lesson 5 was correct. The quilt is not complete without your original design. I looked at the blank blocks and wondered how Jeannie could do this to me. I have had many ideas in my head over the years, but never the confidence to put them on paper or into a fabric block. By this time I had the confidence and went ahead. I have designed a few blocks and wished I had more time to do more designing. It's fun.

We don't have the time to do all the quilts in all the beautiful patterns we dream of. A Sampler Quilt is the answer. Here we can sample a little of everything.

I hope I was of some help to Jeannie. I know she has been a lot of help to me. I have quilted for several years and have taught quilting about 5 years. I read through these lessons thinking as a non quilter and a teacher. I find Jeannie's instructions simple enough for a non quilter to tackle the lessons and challenging enough for a teacher to want to teach a class in Confidence Quilting.


...Eleanor Elmstrom

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Board Members: The August Board meeting will be at Donna Hiari's 5800 Newton Ave. S. Mpls. 926-9798. Please call her to let her know if you are not coming, or if you need directions. Also note that lunches will not be served at board meetings. September meeting at Pat Dancisak's. October meeting at Darlene Myers. (August 1)
from the editor-

I wasn't going to write anything this month...I was going to try to put out a shorter newsletter. But when I counted up my pages there were only 11...its got to come out even or you end up with a blank side. My admiration for Ellie and the super job she did all last year, continues to grow. What with house guests from Ankara, Turkey (a friend since 2nd grade), our 25th high school class reunion, the boy's ball games (which I love to attend), etc., etc., it's been a busy week. Again, thanks to all of you who handed me articles all typed up and ready to cut and paste! If you have anything you'd like to share with us, even if its just a small paragraph, please type it up and hand it to me or drop it in the mail.

darlene

the closet-

It is crammed full of quilt patterns with fabric cut and ready to be sewn, needlepointing, crewel and knitting projects in many different stages of completion - even a string art never attempted! All were bought over the years with the good intention of completing each and every one.

Any time there is a sale, the owner of the closet is one of the first in line. She is always looking for a good buy that may be usable for a future project. If she lives to be 137 years old, maybe she could get through the contents of the closet. If not, she is having a heck of a good time trying!

-Laura Maki

Please give ads to Jackie Irey or articles to Darlene Myers at the daytime meeting or get them in the mail to one of them as soon as possible thereafter. The newsletter is sent to Sue on the Friday following the daytime meeting, and its at least a full two day job so the items have to be in by the Wednesday following the Friday meeting to guarantee their getting in.

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Yea! I'm Finished! WHAT ABOUT THESE DEAD?

UN-FINISHED PROJECTS

Bonnie Ellis
Mary Carol Lindeberg
731 Sunshine Court
Forest Lake, Mn. 55025
464-3560

Barbara Squire
1401 Wachler Ave.
Mendota Hts., Mn. 55118
455-7121

Loretta Becker
Easton, Mn. 56025

Alice Niccum
100 Tonka Bay Rd.
Tonka Bay, Mn. 55331

Lila Plathe
Box 6124
Bellingham, Mn.

Margie Bergren
5317 - 56th Ave. So.
Mpls., Mn. 55417
722-7619

Jean Thompson
205 E. 2nd St.
Hastings, Mn. 55033
437-6209

Jane Roberts
3449 Glen Oaks Ave.
White Bear Lake, Mn. 55110
777-4013

Charlotte Hansen
1350 7th St. No.W. Apt. 4
New Brighton, Mn. 55112
636-9405

Katie Niessen
7860 Scandia Trail N.
Forest Lake, Mn. 55025
464-6245

Helen Lange
4904 - 38th Ave. So.
Mpls., Mn. 55417
729-3932

Carol Atchley-Mashuga
3943 - 1st Ave. So.
Mpls., Mn. 55409
291-8562 work
825-4239 home

Jerilyn Birnie
4525 Barbara Ave. E.
Inver Grove Hts., Mn. 55075
455-7071

Jana Rubin
6130 Olson Highway
Mpls., Mn. 55422

Joan B. Carlson
200 West 73rd St.
Richfield, Mn. 55423

Penny Larson
9938 - 108th Place
Maple Grove, Mn. 55369
424-2199

Ellen Thompson
Pequot Terrace
Trailer Court
Pequot Lakes, Mn. 56472
218-568-5258

ADDRESS CORRECTIONS
Susan Foster
220 East 22nd St. Apt. 6-0
New York, N.Y. 10010

Carolyn Sidebottom
5522 Bavarian Pass
Fridley, Mn. 55432
572-0503

MG MEMBERS......
Visit us after your Como Park meeting. We are only minutes away.
See what's new..... Get your fall and winter projects started early.

10% off to MG members on fabric quilting supplies

The Country Peddler Quilt Shop
2242 Carter Ave. St. Paul 646-1756
The most complete patchwork and quilting company!

Sale! 20% off these items

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- Quilting Needles
- Quilting Hoops
- Polyester Stuffing
- Batts & Batting

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100% Cotton Solids
Unbleached Muslin
Decorator Fabrics

You're invited. Do come!

Stitch-Away-The-Summer-Blahs-Sale
Open to the public: August 4-9
Sunday: August 3 -
1 - 5

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~advertisements~

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GLAD CREATIONS, INC. The Quilt Block, 3400 Bloomington Ave. S., Mpls. carries a complete line of calicos and quilting supplies. 10% discount to MQ members on fabric and batting purchases over $10.

CALICO FABRICS, QUILTING SUPPLIES AND CLASSES Discounts to MQ members. Handmade items and smocking service. Calico Cat, Rockford, Mn. 477-5861.

QUILT YOUR CHRISTMAS - 34 pages of ideas and patterns by Kay Bailey. $3.00 postpaid. Order from Homeart, Box 447 MQ, Maple Plain, Mn. 55359.


THE SAMPLER - 3 West Main, Waconia, Mn. 55387. 100% quality calico prints and solids. Classes offered. Fairfield batts and all quilting supplies for any quilting project. Handmade gifts, too! 10% off to MQ members with I.D.


Minnesota Quilters Society
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3145 Co. Rd. 92 No.
Maple Plain, MN 55359