December Meeting

The December daytime meeting of the Minnesota Quilters will be held on December 12 at Brooklyn Center Community Center, 6301 Shingle Creek Blvd, Brooklyn Center beginning at 10 AM. This will be our annual holiday meeting and party. Wear something festive!

What would a holiday party be without holiday fashions, music, gifts, food and a bazaar! All of these you will find at our meeting.

The meeting will begin with show and tell. Bring whatever you are working on and finished pieces to share with us. Show and tell gets better and better because of you.

The program will feature a fashion show of quilted and patchwork clothing and accessories made by you. This was a great success last year and we hope it inspired you to make something new for this year's show. Children's fashions are included this year. Please use your own discretion about bringing your child to the meeting to model. Those interested in participating in the fashion show call Carol Adleman, 757-2449 by December 1st.

Trudy Finden will once again entertain us with a medley of Christmas tunes on her harp.

Are you partieled out by now? No?, well on to the gifts. An exchange of tree ornaments was started last year and mem-

bers who exchanged last year are eagerly looking forward to adding a new ornament to their collection this year.

To begin another collection participate in the quilt block exchange also. If you bring a handmade ornament and/or a 12½" holiday block, you will be able to receive one back. Please make sure your work is signed and wrapped.

At the end of the meeting will be our potluck luncheon. This festive feast is always a favorite of everyone's. Bring a dish to share, your own plate and utensils. Coffee and tea will be provided.

Following the luncheon, we will have a bazaar sale for members to sell to members things you've made, unfinished projects, fabrics, etc. So clean your closets and sewing rooms. Happy Holidays.
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 the following: Year round monthly meetings tailored to suit the needs of beginners, advanced and professional quilters, the newsletter, a Resource Directory of shops and services for quilters, workshop opportunities, and an "I'm a Minnesota Quilter" button.

1980-81 Board of Directors

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1st Vice President............Lee Bradford
2nd Vice President............Lynn Predsall
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Public Relations.........Sandy Stokes
Special Events.............Ellie Kretsch
.................Norma Ahlquist

Board Meeting Dec. 5, 9:30 a.m.
Nancy Raschka-Reeves
3403 - 15th Ave. So. 722-4687
Across the alley from Glad Creations

Book Review...


The one quilt that I remember seeing as a child was a tied utility quilt my grandmother had on her bed at the farm. It was a heavy duty thing, pieced in squares and strips of whatever heavyweight cloth had come to hand: woolens, corduroys, and knits. It was, I am sure, very warm indeed! But until I read The Wool Quilt it certainly never occurred to me to even think of using wool in the same way as cotton, for patchwork, applique and hand quilting. I assumed it couldn't be done. Jean Dubois tells us it has been done, can be done, and advises us on how to do it.

In this book, to quote her introduction, "...you'll find a history of the wool quilt in America, along with pictures, patterns and possibilities, diagrams and directions, and the stories of the quilts and the women who made them." Each chapter is devoted to a different type of quilt, beginning with the whole cloth quilt and going on to the framed medallion, patchwork, applique, the pressed or strip quilt and the crazy quilt. Illustrations and directions are clear, but do assume you know the basics of quilt making. Emphasis is on adapting patterns and methods to working with wool. She gives advice on how to recycle wool clothing, and how to prepare wool for quilting, including pre-washing (yes, that's right!) to make it softer and easier to quilt through. Not being a quilt historian, I can't judge the validity of her historical research, but I do know it makes fascinating reading.

A "possibility" for quilting with wool that she doesn't mention is a hand quilted winter jacket, but it seems a natural to me! Do any of our MQ members have any experiences with hand quilting on wool? I'd love to see examples of it at show & tell!

--Jean Bay Wiley--
STAR CONSTRUCTION IN BRIEF

After being awed and inspired by block after block of star patterns shown by Nell Bredeson and Boni Hatton at the November meeting, the Minnesota Quilters were invited to watch Nell, Boni and Nancy Raschka-Reeves demonstrate different stages of star construction.

Boni first showed us how to lay the diamond template on the fabric to get different effects. Normally you would place the template on the straight of the grain, but for different effects you can place it on the crossways grain or at an angle.

In marking the fabric for hand piecing the star, the template, without seam allowances, is placed on the fabric. Draw around and then take a Dritz see-thru ¼" marked ruler and add the seam allowances. The cutting line and the stitching line are marked.

Once your eight diamonds are cut, we move on to Nell to see how to put these together accurately. Nell suggests putting pairs of diamonds together and then putting two sets of pairs together. In constructing the two sets, lay one on top of the other lining up the edges. Starting at the center points, fold back the fabric on the top diamond to find the threads at the end of the center seam. Nell calls this looking for the "whites of their eyes." Put the two points where the "whites" appear together and then stick your needle through these points. This is the center of the star. Stitch to the end.

After you have two sets of pairs together, you will have two halves of the star assembled. To put together the two halves, start in the middle, find the "whites of their eyes" and stitch to one end. Then start in the middle again and stitch to the other end. Each seam should be finger pressed. All seams are pressed in one direction fanning out the seams in the center.

Watching Nell do her running stitch, we were awed at the speed and tiny stitches. She said you just forget about the fabric and needle and rock your fingers up and down. (It sounds a lot easier than it is!)

Nancy then showed us how to construct stars on the sewing machine. You draw your template without seam allowances on graph paper. Cut this out and glue it onto plastic. Then add the ¼" seam allowances. Cut out the plastic template and poke holes through at the four intersecting points on the stitching lines. When marking your fabric you only mark the cutting line (drawing around the template) but with a pencil put a dot through the poked holes at the four points. These are the end points of the stitching lines. Use the ¼" guide on the machine for the proper seam allowance.

As with hand piecing, Nancy says to stitch diamonds together in pairs stitching from dot to dot. Do not stitch into the seam allowances. Pin accurately matching the dots. Put two sets of pairs together. Then you have two halves of your star. To put the two halves together, start in the middle, match the dots, and stitch from the center dot out to one side. Then go from the center dot out to the other side. Your seam allowances are all free and can be fanned out as you press the seams in one direction. Sometimes pressing the seams in the other direction can make the star lay better.

There is no easy way to construct stars whether by hand or by machine. But Nell, Boni, and Nancy showed us that if done with care and patience, you can end up with a beautiful star that lays flat and has no hole in the center.

--Lee Bradford
I'm a Minnesota quilter.
MAKING THE MINNESOTA QUILTER'S VEST

MQ members are being asked to make their own MQ vest - to wear them at MQ meetings and especially at the star quilt show coming up this spring.

They are to be made in a plain aqua fabric available at most quilt shops. The Minnesota emblem is to be appliqued on the back in white. You may use any pattern you wish for the vest.

Choose a pattern that is flattering to you. Consider the technique you will use, whether you will line it, or do extra piece work or quilting.

Lay out your pattern on brown wrapping paper and if you are quilting it, add ½ inch to seams. Then draw on your quilting pattern or patchwork to see that it fits.

Cut lining fabric even larger than top pieces. It is easier to cut off some than to come up short.

Filling - use bonded polyester.

Applique - be sure to put an extra layer of fabric behind to Minnesota state symbol so the seams don't show.

Lettering can be traced before the applique is sewn on.

Quilt no closer than 5/8 " to edges and put pieces together - as you go.

Some suggested quilting designs; lady slipper, loon, snowflakes, etc. Add a patchwork pocket if you like.

Let your imagination and personality come through.

from the MQ newsletter - Dec.'78/Jan.'79

President's Letter

Whoever named this red and green season "the holidays" certainly wasn't a woman. Cooking, baking, cleaning, entertaining, cleaning: ad infinitum, doesn't a "holiday" make--for me, at least.

But I really do know that this season is not all work. It's fun, too. And special. There is a certain feeling about this time of year.

Maybe the feeling is peace. Some how throughout all the busy activity people make an extra effort to be kind and get along with one another. Peace means harmonious relations; inner contentment and calm.

This describes quilters. Our Minnesota Quilters was formed to find and unite quilters...

To piece means to join or unite. We quilters have a head start on peace--maybe there's something to the saying:

Blessed are the piecemakers...

Happy Holidays,

Bonnie

Merry Christmas

The January 9th daytime meeting of the Minnesota Quilters will be held in the meeting room of Southdale Library, 7001 York Ave. So. Edina. The program will be on quilt border designs given by Mary Macklin Jones. There will also be a name tag contest for all members who haven't made themselves a name tag yet, with several prizes given. Details next month.
I thought some of you out there in "quilt land" would like to hear what has become of the quilt blocks & patterns some of you sent me.

I received 33 patterns for appliqued & pieced blocks, plus 9 quilting patterns.

Norma Ahlquist, Joy Ecklund & Bonnie Ellis got together to coordinate the quilt. They decided to use only the 30 finished blocks handed in for the quilt top. Some of the quilt designs will be finished off as pillows. This group squared up the blocks, laid them out and cut the sashing. Lee Bradford volunteered to sew everything together. The quilt top was then handed over to Pat Dancisak & Sharon Bobgan. They brought it to their quilt group & put it in a frame. The group also decided on where the quilting should be done.

The quilt was then taken to the State Fair & worked on by members of M.Q. for the first 5 days of fairtime. Here is a full list (I hope) of participating quilters: Anne Fisker, Margie Bergren, Aris Peterson, Margarette Kohler, Joy Ecklund, Nancy Butler, Jackie Irey, Dean Davis, Kathy Morton, Kay Bailey, Pat Cox, Vicki Moskiewicz, Susan Simonton, Dorothy Stish, Karen Reed, Bonnie Ellis, Lee Bradford, Helen Josephson, Cherilyn Nelson, Penny Larson, Lois Bradley, Sally Grauer, Linda Neal, Trudy Finden, Helen Kelley, Pat Dancisak, Sharon Bobgan, Sandy Stokes, Jean Wiley, Darlene Thompson, Linda Thompson, Carol Adelmam, Gail McEachran, Marge Bradley, Margaret Swanson, Ann Degan, Ruby Larson, Nancy Aksoy, Nellie Bredeson, Audrey Wyatt and Dolly Reynolds.

Pat Dancisak has volunteered to finish the quilt boarders. The quilt will be on display at our next quilt show in early April.

Starting this week, I am gathering all of the patterns sent to me & preparing them for printing. Agnes Leer has volunteered to help me in this preparation. If all goes according to plan, the M.Q. Pattern Book will be on sale in April.

If you helped with the quilt and your name was omitted, please forgive me. I would appreciate your phone call.

....Joanne Holzknecht

QUILT HUNT 1980

.....by Faye Hall

This past September, my husband and I went on a vacation; a quilt hunt, on the back wandering roads of central and eastern Kentucky. What a joy it was for me! But where do you start? How does one proceed? Helpful information came from a quilt collecting friend who grew up in Kentucky. He suggested going to the post office in the small towns and asking for the rural mail carrier - certainly he would know who makes quilts. He also circled towns on a map as a way for me to get started.

I found that stopping at a small grocery store also gave me many good leads. My fourth stop was a success. I chose one with a small dresdan plate on every other block, done in blues and turquoise with button hole stitching which is rather common in Kentucky. An unfinished quilt I chose was an Indian double wedding ring pattern - with 3500 pieces! Coral triangles predominated, which gave a feeling of feathers or an Indian headdress.

Finishing this quilt will be my winter project. This lovely lady, who painstakingly handled all of these pieces beautifully, will hand quilt a quilt for anyone (given 2-3 months) for $50. For anyone who is interested, I'm sure she won't mind if I give you her address. She is Glida Woosley, RFD No. 2 Caneyville, Ky. 286-8785, (near Brownsville).

What great sharing and showing I had on the rest of the trip. The quilts were a joy to all who saw them. You too, should try your hand at a quilt hunt - you'll love it!
Donna Hiar was MQ member #20 back in '78, so you could say she was one of our founding quilters.' And if you know that Donna is presently serving her third term as a Minnesota Quilters Board of Directors member, you'll know her help has been invaluable. Donna has been Mailing Chairman for two years, handling the big job of mailing the newsletter each month. She also did the mailings for our Winter Fantasy Quilt Show.

This year Donna is MQ Treasurer and will also be handling the money for the Special Event. Her background is in accounting so she really is invaluable.

Donna and her husband Art are both natives of North Dakota but consider Minneapolis 'home' after living here 32 years. They've been married 36 years and have a son who was recently married to a lovely girl that Art and Donna consider the 'perfect daughter-in-law.' Of course Donna's wedding gift to them was a quilt.

Although Donna keeps her hands in knitting, crocheting, counted thread and needlepoint she is a very avid quilter. She's been quilting for three years after taking her first class at the Cotton Shoppe. She then joined a local quilting group which led her to the Minnesota Quilters.

Donna now quilts with the 'Evening Bags' an informal group which meets in members homes in south Minneapolis and the south suburban area on the fourth Wednesday of each month.

Donna's favorite pattern is the Drunkard's path and all its variations. She says she loves the challenge of the curve. She is currently working on a Drunkard's Path Medallion for our special Events Show in 1982 which will feature medallions.

This past summer Donna helped 8 women from her church to co-ordinate and hand piece and quilt a Dresden Plate Quilt which was raffled at their Fall Festival. She is also overseeing the making of some stained glass banners for the Advent season at her church.

Donna's feelings about quilters and quiltare pretty clear. She finds quilting very relaxing and especially enjoys the fellowship and companionship and says, "It's surprising how you can really get to know each other when working on a project."

Donna enjoys serving on the Board of MQ and feels that serving an organization is a good way to get involved and meet people. She feels our meetings are an incentive and an inspiration although sometimes after seeing Show and Tell she admits to feeling a little inadequate.

"I've met so many really nice people through MQ and quilting. I hope it continues for years."

-Elly Kretsch

Recipe for a Quilt

Ingredients:

- Ideas...your own or borrowed.
- Fabric...scraps of purchased yardage, old or new...dark and light colors with good design.
- Pattern...old or new, could be original.
- Thread
- Batting
- Patience
- Time...large amount.
- Friends...(optional) Must be willing.

Sift through ideas and select one good one. Combine first two ingredients and set aside for a period of one day to two years. When well jelled, add pattern and simmer awhile. Add part of the patience and a lot of time. (Save some for later.) Use part of the mixture and shape into several small arrangements. This step may have to be repeated several times to obtain the right combination. Carefully add thread and form into large quilt top. May need to be set aside again to mellow for a short time. Add rest of fabric in one large piece, the batting and more thread. Sprinkle with the rest of the patience and time. Pour into a hoop or frame and blend into a quilt. More time may have to be added. Friends may by used to hasten the blending process. Finish with additional fabric to seal edge and garnish with love.

Yield: One small to large quilt, depending on amount of ingredients used.

Serves: One or many; has been known to serve hundreds. Ages well with proper care.

Note: Product will be enhanced by choosing good ingredients and careful blending.

Reprinted with permission from the Colorado Quilting Council Newsletter August 1980, June Ryker, President.
WEST AREA QUILTERS ENCORE

Twenty WAQE gals met Oct. 28 at Ellen Dubbe's lovely home in peaceful Waconia. We are a totally unstructured group who meet for fellowship, fun, food and our own thing - and a lot of sharing and caring. The next meeting will be Dec. 3rd, at Betty Purdy's in Golden Valley. Call her if you plan to come or need directions. 529-2344. If you live in the western suburbs and are interested in this group call Frances Whitnew 933-6723, Kay Bailey 479-2998 or Pat Emmings, 979-1480. Meeting time is 10 a.m.
Happy Quilting...Frances...

Editor's note...If there are other area quilting groups meeting, please let me know and I will list your time and dates of meeting. MQ gets so large and its great when smaller groups are formed to get together and share.

Dear Minnesota Quilters,

Many thanks for your cooperation during our recent antique show. Your support certainly helped make the focus on quilting a success. A special thanks to Nell Bredesen and the courthouse quilters for furnishing their quilt and frame for the show.

Fran Klette

To the Editor:

I have read the letter in your last issue from Helen Ryon concerning the Quilters' Retreat which Jeannie Spears, Pat Cox and I have presented each fall. We have enjoyed planning these sessions and so I was particularly pleased with Helen Ryon's generous comments. I do think that I need to add this note as a postscript. Quilters' Retreat is a private venture of ours. Our Retreat is not officially connected with Minnesota Quilters, Inc. Notices for our Retreats that appear in the Newsletter are paid advertisements and we appreciate the opportunity the Newsletter offers us to advertise our activities. I would like to express my thanks to Minnesota Quilters for the encouragement and courtesies that it has given us.

Thanks loads,
Helen Kelley

From the editor....

Lots of bits and pieces this month....First of all I wish to thank all the people who contribute articles for your newsletter. I won't always get them all in, depending upon space, of general interest to the whole group, etc. You will also find that as a typical editor, I cut, and sometimes change what you have written, or this newsletter would sometimes be a few pages longer!

One of the things I enjoy so much about MQ is the warmth and sharing between members that I sense...so I feel bad when I realize that I've misspelled someone's name or not recognized someone I should know, or somehow omitted making an article or ad perfectly clear. I will try to do a better job of labeling ads as ads, and of making my typewriter behave better spelling wise!

A special thank you this month to Elly Kretsch who has so beautifully taken over Mary Ann Massoll's job as personality spotlight writer. I have really appreciated all of Elly's help.

Mary Ann's star from last month was designed for her by Joy Eklund, heard from Mary Ann, and she was delighted with that surprise...and becoming happily settled in her new home...That's good, but we miss her!

Also, the ads situations has sometimes been a bit confusing because there were sometimes 4 people involved in them. I thank Jackie Trey and Elly Kretsch, and Sharon Bobgan for all helping to keep things straight. But with added responsibilities Jackie and Elly have taken on it has been decided that I will handle the ads from now on. It will make my bookkeeping easier if you send both the ad and check to me for each ad, and then I will register you paid and pass your check on for deposit.

More sad news...Carol Jane Burdette and her beautiful triplets, along with her two older sons and her husband will be moving to California the end of December. Hopefully she'll be at our Dec. meeting so we can say farewell...we'll miss her, too!

Thanks for so many kind comments, and let me know when I goof so I can correct my errors....Darlene Myers
Northern Lights - A Show of Star Quilts

The Special Events Committee held its second meeting on November 15, to further discuss plans for the spring quilt show to be held on April 2, 3, & 4, 1981. Although many details remain undecided we are well on our way to another "special" event.

The show will be held at the Penn Center, 84th and Penn Ave. S., Bloomington. We chose this location because of its easy accessibility (very near Southtown), the ample parking, and a large show room on the main floor.

We are planning this event as an educational growth experience for members of Minnesota Quilters, Inc. And although the show will be publicized nationally we are most concerned about our own members, and our next concern will be towards quilters in our five state area.

Perhaps the most pleasant task for the committee thus far was to give our show of 'stars' a name. It will be: "Northern Lights" - A Show of Star Quilts. We hope you'll think as we did that the 'Lights' will symbolize our quilts on display. We are hoping to fill our show with quilts (hangings, small items, etc.) which have stars in them. We would hope that show items will belong to Minnesotans, preferably Minnesota quilters members. If for some reason we do not have enough star items we will have a limited showing of other quilts belonging to MQ members.

We encourage old and new star quilts - even if yours is in the making, just let us know so we can plan on you. Jean Jackson is helping us locate quilts so give her a call or drop her a note to let her know what you have. Her address is: Jean Jackson, 9904 Cavell Ave. S., Bloomington, Mn. 55438. Phone- 944-7605.

The Committee has decided to bring in two main speakers/workshop leaders from out of the state. The rest of the workshop leaders will be from our Minnesota Quilters. And because we feel we have so much talent we will be asking teachers other than those who led workshops at Log Cabin Fever last year.

In answer to many requests we have decided to have a vendor area available with MQ members (shop owners, business people) having first choice of spaces. We are also planning an evening banquet where one of our special guests will be speaking.

You will be hearing more from us next month and watch for your registration form to be in the mail after the new year. We hope to give everyone an equally good chance of workshop availability by accepting no registrations which are postmarked before February 15.

Listed here are the committee members of "Northern Lights" - if you would like to offer to help them, let us know:

"Northern Lights" Committee Members-

Secretary- Virginia Hudson
Treasurer- Donna Hiar
Registrations- Adelle Madsen, Sharon Bobgan
Location- Agnes Leer
Evening Programs- Bonnie Ellis
Workshop Facilities/Helpers- Joy Eklund, Eleanor Lindahl, Cathy LaRosa, Nancy Butler
Speakers and Teachers- Helen Kelley, Jeannie Spears
Door Prizes and Favors- Cathy LaRosa, Joy Eklund
Box Lunches- Virginia Hudson
Coffee and Hostesses- Dolly Reynolds
Vendors- Carol Adleman
Locating Quilts- Jean Jackson, Jackie Irey
Hanging Quilts- Ruby Larson, Darlene Myers, Eleanor Lindahl, Nancy Raschka-Reeves
Clean-Up- Eleanor Lindahl
Publicity- Sandy Stokes
Posters- Pat Emmings, Sue Stein
Houssing Speakers and MQ members- Lee Bradford
Printing and Mailing- Vicki Moskiewicz
Tickets- Jeannie Tannamachi
Flyers and forms- Elly Kretsch

Co-ordinators
Norma Ahlquist
789-0386
Elly Kretsch
441-5419

The Northern Lights Committee will be meeting at 9 a.m. at the Brooklyn Center Community Center before the Christmas meeting on December 12. All committee members and interested parties are asked to attend.

The 'Great Quilters Get-Away' is also being planned exclusively for MQ members. A beautiful fall weekend is being set aside for a relaxed learning experience. Look for details in coming newsletters!!!
MINNESOTA QUILTERS LIBRARY POLICIES (subject to change)

1. The Minnesota Quilters Library will be available for use by Minnesota Quilters members only, at all general day and evening meetings.
2. The Library will be open 20 minutes before and 20 minutes after each meeting.
3. A maximum of 2 books may be checked out.
4. Books may be kept for one month.
5. Books may not be renewed for consecutive months.
6. A fine of $2.00 for the first month will be assessed for books overdue and $3.00 per month for each month thereafter. These fines will not be pro-rated during any month.
7. Money received from fines will be used to purchase new books and for necessary repairs and maintenance.
8. There is a "no-reservation" policy. Books may be checked out on a first come - first served basis.
9. As books are received by the librarian, they will be listed in the newsletter.

These guidelines and policies have been made to provide as much as possible, an equal opportunity for all Minnesota Quilters to enjoy the new library. 

Margaret Maki, Librarian...

The following books have been ordered and hopefully will have arrived and be available for check out at the December meetings.

The Perfect Patchwork Primer
Beth Gutcheon
Galaxy of Stars
Jean Dubois

The Quilt design Workbook
Beth Gutcheon
American Quilts and How To Make Them
Carter Houch and Myron Miller

Patchwork Patterns
Jenny Beyer
Lonestar Star Quilt
Blanche and Helen Young

The Quiltmaker's Handbook
Michael James
The Sampler Quilt
Dana Leone

Wool - Patterns and Possibilities
Jean Dubois
Pieced Clothing
Yvonne Porcella

The Big Book of Applique
Virginia Avery
Log Cabin Quilts
Judy Martin and Bonnie Leman

The Quilters
Pat Cooper and Norma Buford

The following books have been purchased at a 20% discount from Kaleidescope.

How to Make A Quilt
Bonnie Leman
Hearts and Tulips
Chris Wolf Edmonds

Modern Quilting
Leman Publications
Early American Patchwork Patterns
Carol Belanger Grafton

101 Patchwork Patterns
Ruby McKim
Geometric Patchwork Patterns
Carol Belanger Grafton

Quilted Jackets and Vests
Yours Truly, Inc.
Traditional Patchwork Patterns
Carol Belanger Grafton

Successful Machine Applique
Yours Truly, Inc.

It is anticipated that magazines and newsletters from other quilt groups around the United States will also be available to check out in January.

Donations to the library will be gratefully accepted. With thanks and appreciation we have accepted the following.

2 Log Cabin Workbooks from Pat Cox
Color Me Beautiful from Norma Ahlquist
The New American Quilt by Margit Eckols from Jeannie Spears
HOW TO MAKE A PATCHWORK SOCCER BALL

You will need: patterns on this page, \( \frac{1}{4} \) yd. of dark fabric, 1/3 yd. of white fabric, black embroidery thread (optional) polyester stuffing. (It is also helpful to have a real soccer ball available for reference as you assemble the patchwork.) Scissors, pins, needle and thread or sewing machine.

To make ball, cut 12 pentagons from dark fabric. Cut 20 hexagons from white fabric. Add \( \frac{1}{4} \) inch seam allowance as you cut. Take one dark pentagon and sew a white hexagon to each side of it. Seam together sides of adjacent hexagons. You will have a slightly curved, flower-like shape. (Diagram 1.) Attach 5 dark pentagons to the base unit, (Diagram 2). Fit in and sew 5 more hexagons (Diagram 3). You now have made one-half of the ball.

Follow steps above with the remaining pieces to make the other half of the ball. Join the two halves of the ball together. Sew sides of adjacent hexagons together. Leave three or four seams open for stuffing. (Optional): Use black embroidery thread as outline where a white hexagon meets another white hexagon. Stuff the ball and slip-stitch the opening closed.

In the Mailbox

Not much mail in the box this month—we quilters must all be planning, cutting, or stitching! There were a few requests. Joyce Daniel of Sioux Center, Iowa wrote: "Please send some information on your association. I am a fairly new quilter and I would love to become more involved in this wonderful art."

Lois Rotenburger of Canby has become a member. She is a quilter and shop owner. Her shop, Snip 'n Stitch, is a fabric shop specializing in quilting supplies with quilt classes three times a year. Lois wrote, "I hope to get to some of your meetings. An acquaintance from Marshall is also a new member, so perhaps we can plan something together."

That's all this month, friends. Happy Stitching!

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PATCHWORK SOCCER BALL
by Mary V. Moore
Decorating and Craft Ideas
April 1977
shared by Mrs. K.B. Jones Jr.
Our Nov. meeting began with the ever awe-inspiring show and tell. Joy Eklund did some lovely items with photographic images on fabric and some quilting of old hankies...Nancy Butler finished her pillows from her friend in Ohio...Betty Purdy had an attractive rail fence in brown and beige, and a stunning white, blue, red and gold Coast Guard theme quilt for her son...Myrt Kenjokse made two beautiful quilts for her daughters...Ruth Calendine shared memory pillows from her 104 yr. old mother who has made 20 afghans since turning 96, and has lots of history to tell...Ellen Eide had a pretty blue sampler quilt...Shirley Kirsch shared a pink and burgundy star baby quilt, a quilted toilet seat cover (!) and for Jodie Liberty, Shirley showed us a 50th anniversary quilt with a flower for all the children and grandchildren, with the saying 'Grandchildren are the precious flowers of a long life.'...Connie Zakula shared her first quilt—a colorful dresdan plate...Elly Kretsch had a wild goose chase old quilt top and a tote bag in a silk screen print...Karla Freeman had a reverse applique, log cabin variation on the back of her blouse entitled her "Brown Hole Shirt"...Cathie LaRosa shared an old log cabin quilt and a appliqued pillow...Kathy Abel showed us the beginnings of her star sampler quilt...Michele Keller had a cute Christmas gingerbread house...Irene Stemm made a cheerful Calif. Poppy quilt for her 4 yr. old granddaughter...Mary Jones shared her sporty quilted soccer ball...Dorothy Michaud showed us the quilted wall hanging for Pentecost for her church...Jeannie Spears showed us a "good example of a bad mistake"—to be sure to pre-wash fabrics—sometimes dark solids will run; her sampler quilt, and her star wall hangings were lovely—the dusty rose star pattern was inspired from a pink and grey print she picked up at a scrap exchange at Powderhorn...Elaine Easeman had a pretty star table cover...Leona Wilkins had a lovely heart pillow...Trudy Fiden had an old star quilt, and an elegant white, black and grey winter wall hanging...Frances Whitney made her daughter a baby quilt 35 years ago, and is now finishing it for her granddaughter...Pat Cox showed us some hexagon Christmas ornaments and some folded fabric ideas...and Mary Lou Lembocke shared with us that she is moving to Indiana, has been quilting for 2 years and wished to thank MQ for all the quilting ideas which will make her move easier...We wish you well Mary Lou!

Our business meeting covered some of the following items...If you find newspaper articles about MQ or its members, please clip them, identify where they came from, and send to Jean Jackson...A nice tradition was started a couple of years ago when MQ made a friendship quilt for president Helen Kelle, and the tradition will be continued—if you wish to be a part of a friendship quilt for our president Bonnie Ellis, you may make a 12½" square in your favorite colors, and Darlene Myers will collect the squares to be put together at a later date...Are you interested in being on the nominating committee for new officers, or are you interested in running for one of the positions?—Let a board member know...Our fantastic program on stars was then presented by Nell Bredeisen.

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Mark your calendar with the dates for the 3rd Annual Quilter's Retreat, 1981

Presented by Jeannie Spears, Helen Kelley & Pat Cox

First session: September 21, 22, 23, 1981
Second session: September 24, 25, 26, 1981

Registration information available January 1.
Send an SASE to Quilter's Retreat 1981, 917 Lakeview Ave, St. Paul, Mn 55117
32 members and 11 guests attended the November evening meeting of MQR. Enjoyed a fantastic program of beautiful quilts and artifacts presented by Pat Chase and her sister, Camilla Joynt. The quilts, dating back to the 1860's, were made by family members and have been passed from generation to generation. The quilting activities of the family centered around Richmond, Indiana. The wool in some of the quilts produced in Randolph County. Quilts shown included a grandmothers flower garden set in depression green, a shoo fly set in dark blue prints, a Jacob's ladder in bright pink with a green print set, and a pattern the family calls a Grandmother Hubbard Quilt. They really had a Grandmother Hubbard). One special quilt is made of brick wall blocks that have been feather stitched and then the quilt tied, and Camilla could identify many of the fabrics used in the quilts as having been used in garments for various family members. Many quilt tops ready for quilting and blocks ready for setting were also shown. A baby dress belonging to a grandfather was shown and Pat modeled a Quaker bonnet.

For show and tell, Linda Lee shared a tulip baby quilt of red, blue, and green appliqued on white with a blue print border.

Jeanne Tonomachi had completed a framed star medallion.

If your show and tell item is not mentioned in the newsletter, you did not sign and describe your show and tell item so that you can receive deserved recognition.

The November mini-gram on place mats was presented by Jill Reese. A couple of tips given by Jill were to draft the pattern onto cardboard, the size of the finished place mat and to layer the fabric prior to cutting so that pieces for 4 place mats could be cut at one time.

The evening concluded with the ornament exchange. Creativity was at a peak as cathedral windows, Christmas baskets, fans, angels, and other ornaments and trims were made by MQ members. What a fun way to welcome the holiday season!

Vicki Moskiewicz

No December evening meeting.

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MEETING THE CHALLENGE OF TEACHING

Designing Your Curriculum

© by Jeannie M. Spears, 1980

When you have decided you are ready to teach quiltmaking, the next question to answer is "What to Teach"? The primary skills you should communicate to your students in a basic course are the techniques involved in piecing, applique, and the quilting stitch. The length of your course, the number of students in your class, and the setting you teach in will influence both how you present the primary skills and any additional information you include.

One of the first things you must discuss with your students is suitable tools and materials. Give them as many options and alternatives as you are comfortable with. You will probably find that since you are enthusiastic about your favorites, your students will be too. If you make negative comments ("Don't use corduroy"), be sure and tell them why ("It's too bulky and the nap is hard to work with").

Often when you know how to do something, it's hard to remember what you had to learn. It's easy to assume too much or skip steps. Thinking a technique thru, step by step, will give you clues to subjects you must cover.

Piecing might include: making accurate templates, deciding fabric choices, marking fabric, grain lines, stitching accurately, assembly order, and pressing.

Applique would add: positioning shapes on the block, methods of turning under edges, and appropriate stitches.

Teaching the quilting stitch involves marking the design, basting the three layers together, use of a frame or hoop if desired, methods of beginning and ending the stitching, and standards for good stitches.

As you are teaching these techniques, be sure to use a quilters vocabulary, so your students will be able to understand other quilters. For example, most quilters say "batting", not stuffing" or "wadding".

Whether or not your students finish a quilt in your class, it is important for them to learn finishing techniques: How to put blocks together with or without stripping, how to add borders and miter corners, how to finish edges. Be sure to encourage them to sign and date their work (and do it yourself).

You may want to include one or more of these additional topics, depending time and your students:

- History of quiltmaking.
- Planning and estimating yardage for a quilt.
- How to plan and choose fabric colors.
- Drafting accurate patterns.
- Where to find quilting resources and what is available.
- Additional techniques, such as string quilting for Log Cabin blocks or Cathedral Windows.

After you have decided what you want to include, the big question is: How to get it all in without forgetting anything, and in some sort of logical sequence? A lesson plan, which I'll discuss next month, is the best answer.
Lois Rotenberger...Lois owns a quilt shop in Canby called Snip 'n Stitch

108 Walnut
Canby, Mn. 56220
507-223-5027

Janis Steven
1433 Parkwood Dr.
Woodbury, Mn. 55125
735-7490

Carol Wagner
1148 Autumn St.
Roseville, Mn. 55113
488-6286

Connie Zakula
395 East Chub Lake Rd.
Carlton, Mn. 55718
384-4543

Elaine Zolldan
9260 St. Croix Trail No.
Stillwater, Mn. 55082

Change of address:
Ruth E. Brill
753 Bayberry Rd.
Boca Raton, Florida
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Correction:
Helen Hesi
4855 Dominica Way W.
Apple Valley, Mn. 55124
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THE QUILT OF WISHES
One lady embroidered a rose on her square,
Another made rings, a most beautiful pair.
One stitched a few stars on a piece of dark blue,
Another sewed a pink and a blue baby shoe.
One sketched little hearts for a "memories" tree,
Another made a sailboat on a peaceful blue sea.
All day they were sewing in one cozy room,
Their heartiest wishes to a bride and a groom.

shared by Mrs. Nina Bakker,
Box 334, Walker, Mn. 56484
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DECEMBER

5 - Board Meeting - Nancy Rashka-Reeves No December evening meeting.
12 - Daytime meeting
25 - Merry Christmas!
31 - Happy New Year!

5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13
14 15 16 17 18 19 20
21 22 23 24 25 26 27
28 29 30 31

Kay Bailey 7-81
3145 Co Rd. 92 No
Maple Plain, Mn 55359