August Daytime Meeting

The August 14 daytime meeting of Minnesota Quilters will be held in the pavilion at Como Park, St. Paul. The meeting begins at 10.00 a.m. with Show and Tell. The program consists of 9 mini workshops featuring Holiday ideas. 9 of our members share the spotlight demonstrating their ideas simultaneously and repeating them every 15 to 20 minutes. Included will be:

- Inez Crippins - stuffed cathedral window boxes & sachets.
- Gwen Lundgren - ideas involving the radiant star.
- Adelle Madsen - examples of holiday placemats.
- Lee Bradford - seminole Christmas Tree ornament.
- Penny Larson - 3" candy cane, gingerbread man, etc. ornaments.
- Michele Keller - shirred fabric lined baskets.
- Kathy Morton - padded picture frames.
- Jean Bay Wiley - 14" hoop holly berry star.
- Mary Ann Fons - Dresden plate hoop.

(Iowa)

The meeting will end with our own M.Q. smorgasbord picnic. Please bring your favorite dish to share with everyone. Also include your own beverage, utensils and plate. (map is on page 4)

August Evening News

The evening group will not meet in August, but get your Show and Tell ready for September as we move ever closer to that gift giving season. We all could use some new ideas and love to see everyone's new efforts.

I am new to the evening group and would like to get to know more about our group to share with our daytime friends as well as our evening friends that we don't know yet. For those who would like to participate in my little survey, please send your replies to me:

Maureen Johnson
1935 Cleveland Avenue N.
Roseville, Mn. 55113

Evening Group Reporter.

For more information concerning the above-mentioned form please turn to page 4

Michele Keller
From the Editor

Thoughts after putting together the first newsletter........

First of all, it was just like making a quilt in that there were days when the words just flew along and there were days when the brain just did not function as it should have done and it was just hopeless to keep on trying.

Sometimes the coloring, which, in my mind is likened to the emotional content of the text, was strong and deep in tone and tended to be overpowering. Sometimes the colors were delicate like the softness of a baby quilt. What was necessary was to find a successful combination of the two - Norma Ahlquist, where are you when I need you? My personal feeling is that the best work in the world on a quilt is nothing without the right color combination. Likewise, the newsletter has to contain the feelings of its readers and reflect their needs and desires.

The stitches, i.e. the grammar, spelling and sentence construction, are, to a large extent, developed skills. Describing the superlative quality of a quilt show or a show and tell at our monthly meeting can really make great demands on one's stitches! Where are all the necessary adjectives which can accurately describe the beauty which we witness?

The satisfaction of creativity when the quilt is finished, the time it takes to complete the newsletter to the best of my ability, are so similar except that I have to function faster with the newsletter! There will be times when the quilt/newsletter I work on will be a thing of joy to me, and there will be times when I shall wonder why I ever purchased that colored fabric! Just like quilting, to put together your newsletter gives me the deepest satisfaction and becomes an act of love for all of you; but remember, I have my bad days and my good days! As Margaret Ickis quoted "I tremble sometimes when I remember what that quilt knows about me".

MINNESOTA QUILTERS NEWS is the monthly newsletter of the Minnesota Quilters Inc., a non-profit 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 $15.00 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.

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Newsletter.........Patricia Gill
President’s Letter

Dear Minnesota Quilters:

It is almost time for the State Fair again. I have to admit that I only go to the Fair for two reasons: to go to the Creative Activities Building and to eat tabbouleh in pita bread. Each time I enter the Creative Activities Building, I’m awed by the number of quilts, the variety and the incredible beauty and skill I see. I am also frustrated by the lack of space available to display the quilts properly. Those swinging racks are fine if you are the only one looking at the quilts. Fortunately, or unfortunately, there are scores upon scores of people looking and I never fail to get squished between the racks. It is not just the quilts, though I like to think they are the biggest draw, but all the categories in the Creative Activities building that draw an incredible crowd. If those in charge have not noticed this, perhaps we need to point it out once again. We will do our best to continue talking with the State Fair people in hopes of improving these conditions. There has been a change for the better in the judging of the State Fair quilts. The judge this year is Charlene Cunningham. She is a quilter! The judge for the past years is not a quilter. Whether or not she is a competent judge is not the issue. The issue is she isn't a quilter. Wouldn't we all rather be judged by someone who has experienced quilting. By someone who has gone through the agonies of designing a pattern and choosing the fabrics. Of worrying if the corners meet properly or if that seam should be ripped out and redone. Of suffering the cramped hands and bloody fingers of quilting. It is indeed better to be judged by someone who has experienced these things and who also knows the swelling of pride when we stand back and view our finished quilt and know it was all worth it!

Be sure to call the State Fair to get your premium book. All the information you need to know about entering a quilt is in that book. The MQ award for first best quilt will be judged by Nell Bredeson, Shirley Krantz, and Jeannie Spears. The prize is a one year membership in Minnesota Quilters.

Fondly,

Hospitality

Dolly Reynolds, who is responsible for hospitality for Minnesota Quilters, has asked me to call your attention to the fact that she desperately needs help in calling to greet new members of Minnesota Quilters. For several people this warm greeting by 'phone does not take very long, but for one person it can be very demanding. I remember how delighted I was to receive Dolly's charming phone call when I first joined the MQ and at once I felt as if I belonged. If we have 700 members it should not be necessary for one person to make phone calls. Will you help Dolly please by calling her today at 421-3499.

Treasurer’s Report

June 30, 1981

Income $2,327.18
Expenses $1,720.65
Checkbook balance $1,889.51
Savings balance $3,143.03

Expenses for the month of June, 1981 included luncheons at Lyman Lodge, fabrics for quilt project, office supplies for newsletter editor, editor's pay, luncheon refunds, printing and postage for newsletter. Printing of Annual Reports. Membership buttons and supplies for the new officers.

Respectfully submitted
Donna Hiar
Treasurer
Daytime meet contd.

HOW TO GET THERE!

Board meets August 7, '81

The next M.Q. Board meeting will take place August 7, at 9.30 a.m. at the home of Michele Keller - 4136 Pleasant Ave. S. Minneapolis, Mn. 55409. 824-4174

Evening News contd.

Do you work outside the home? Number of hours?


Type of work:


How many years quilting?

Other sewing/Crafts of interest:

Your best tip on how to find time for quilting:

Please complete and return to Maureen Johnson at address on page 1. Results will be in next newsletter.

I was reading House and Garden (June) and happened along a couple of things I would like to share with all of you.

First of all, The Minnesota Museum of Art, St. Paul, will be hosting an exhibition called: The Art Fabric: Mainstream, August 9-October 4. It promises to be an interesting show. Works by 60 craftsmen (or craftspersons) from around the
world are participating. Quilting was not specifically mentioned in the article, but it was said there were a variety of designs, materials and techniques used. It should be another good way to get new ideas.

The second article which caught my eye was about a woman who is such a perfectionist that she paints her own fabrics if she cannot find exactly what she needs (oh! for the time to do that!). She uses a spray gun, and 'Versatex' air brush ink. One of her techniques was placing pennies on her fabric and then spraying over them for a very unique dot look. For details consult House & Garden (June) at your local library.

Maureen (Mo) Johnson
Evening Group Reporter.

Whoops!

Apologies to all concerned. I made an error in reporting at the June meeting, the vinyl tablecloth was the idea of Agnes Leer of Apple Valley. Used felt side up it prevents slipping when cutting out fabric. The Closet Quilter among us is Cathie LaRosa of Shoreview and not Inez Crimmins. Like I said - I have not learned to write in the dark yet!

I understand from Helen Kelly that there is another magazine which she feels we should know about it is called the Quilters' Journal published in Mill Valley, Ca. Joyce Gross is the editor. Helen said that it is strictly for the exchange and publication of quilt study and quilt history, very specialized but which many quilters enjoy reading. $7.50 per year, it is published quarterly. Ed.

September in Scandia

COPAS SCHOOL

The September 11 daytime meeting of M.O. takes us to the quaint town of Scandia, Mn.
The program will feature Barbara Sevlie, taking us through the correct way to draft, cut and use the templates.
The Memorial Quilters will provide lunch at a cost of $2.75 per person. After lunch, tour the museum, church and enjoy the quilt show.
Watch for further information in the September newsletter. Michele Keller

Quotation from the publication of the Scandia Civic Club sent to us by Eleanor Elstrom of Scandia "Scandia, Minnesota - a quiet rural community where the past meets the present in a setting of striking natural beauty. Though many local residents now bear non-Scandinavian names, the Swedish tradition remains strong, and there are still Scandia-ites who can converse credibly in Swedish though several generations removed from their immigrant forebears. Steps have been taken in recent years to enshrine pioneer memories and artifacts in a local museum.
Late nineteenth century one-room schoolhouses may still be seen in the Scandia area, one at Hay Lake, one at Big Lake, one at Copas. Two Indian mounds at the latter location remind one of an earlier era.
A granite obelisk, erected in 1900 on the spot of the original Swedish-American farm home, two miles south of Scandia on Highway 3, stands as a monument to the pioneers who left an indelible imprint on the local area and contributed to the variegated ethnic mix which became the modern State of Minnesota."
Food For Thought

Dolly Reynolds really needs some help with refreshments for our daytime meetings. As there are bound to be some fantastic cooks out there among 700 members would you like to get some of your favorite cookie, breads, bar, recipes printed in the newsletter? I notice some newsletters from other states make a point of telling all about the food provided at their meetings by members. Names and delicacies are displayed prominently with the information about show and tell. I realize that everybody is busy, but if four or five people help that should not be too much work. As we intend to eventually print a M.Q. cookbook would it not be fun to include lots of special tasty things from our monthly meetings?

If you feel overwhelmed by the quilting displayed at show and tell, maybe you would feel happier displaying the food your family loves to eat, and then next month I can type your recipe in the newsletter. Give Dolly a call if you want to see YOUR NAME UP IN LIGHTS! Dolly Reynolds 421-3499.

"UPDRAFT" - 1981 original design pieced & quilted by Ruth Donhowe St. Paul, Mn.

MEET M.Q. MEMBER.....RUTH DONHOWE

Do you remember where you were during the Super Bowl blizzard of 1975? Ruth Donhowe of St. Paul remembers well where she was - at home excitedly marking and cutting pieces for her first quilt. She had been inspired two years earlier by a quilt exhibit at the Walker Art Museum in Minneapolis. It was the first major museum exhibit of quilts which had originally been shown at the Whitney Museum of American Art in 1971. Jonathan Holstein was credited with the exhibit and the then recent revival of quilts. Many were not done well but were chosen for showing mainly for their color and design. As quilting rose in popularity during the Bicentennial era so did Ruth's interest in it. Having a degree in art and being a painter in her own right, quilting seemed to be a wonderful way to combine the texture of fabric with design. Soon after, she took her first class and learned a few things she could have done differently to her Super Bowl blizzard quilt. As Ruth showed me through her lovely older home built in 1906 we talked of her feelings about quilting. She believes it is a valid art form and personally an obsession. "In painting you need to be quiet and alone and think through the entire process. One of the nice things about
quilting is that once you’ve gotten the creative process started you can work on your project almost anywhere."

Quilts were everywhere - on the walls or on beds. In one room a wildflower quilt top hangs. The appliqued flowers are originals designed by Ruth from wildflowers growing in her yard or near their cabin. Another room had a purchased Amish basket quilt done in beautiful deep blues and dark reds. An old emigrant trunk in one room held layers of antique quilts. Such treasures. What more satisfying thing to do with a new quilting friend than to gasp over her quilting finds.

We wound our way up past the second floor to a masterful attic whose current occupant is Ruth's youngest - a son who will be going off to college in the fall. The attic has beautiful arched and half-moon windows and is finished off and carpeted awaiting Ruth's touch to make it her quilt studio. You would be envious of the space.

The Donhowe family also has two older daughters and a husband who works for Pillsbury - "everyone is supportive and not unbiased." Daughter Elizabeth plans to corroborate with her mother soon on a quilt. She will do the batik and Ruth the quilting. The wall hanging pictured at the beginning of this article is titled "Updraft" and was shown recently at the Westbrook Quilt Show. Ruth designed it in an advanced class with Helen Kelley. The idea came from a magazine photograph of a windmill. Does it look like you are standing under a windmill looking up?

Some of you might remember the "Starry Night" wall hanging done by Ruth for the "Northern Lights" show. It was an adaptation of a Van Gogh painting.

The subject turned to Minnesota Quilters as we talked in Ruth's country-like kitchen overlooking herb and flower gardens. "I enjoy the different people and am impressed with the cross generational differences. It is an important support group for quilt addicts and a wonderful resource for new quilters."

I hope you will keep an eye out for Ruth Donhowe and her quilts. They have a special flair just like her home and Ruth herself.

Elly Kretsch.

The Colorful Spectrum

"Have you enjoyed a spectrum today?" I can almost hear you puzzled "What did you say?" Now, if I ask, "Have you seen a rainbow today?" you might answer "Yes, there was a beautiful one in the evening sky yesterday; and today I saw one in the lawn sprinkler spray."

A rainbow is formed when the rays of the sun are refracted and reflected in the raindrops to show the spectrum colors of red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo and violet. Generally, red having the longest wave length, is on the outside edge of the arc while violet, having the shortest wave length, is on the inside. However, when there is a reflected or double rainbow, the red is on the inside of the arc, and the colors are then reversed in order, and fainter.

A rainbow is usually seen in the sky when the sun is low in the west and heavy rain is falling from a dark cloud in the east. The larger the drops, the purer and brighter the colors. A close-up bow is a very small one; the distant one spans the sky. As the sun sets, the rainbow rises.

Rainbows are magical and miraculous, seeming to come from nowhere for a short length of time. You can see it, but you cannot touch it. You can walk towards it, and it seems to retreat. You cannot get closer to it; yet when you walk away, it seems to follow you. No two people see the same rainbow because they are standing in different places. In fact, your left eye sees it differently from the right eye. Rainbows exist only when there are eyes with color vision and minds to see them.

Since Aristotle's time, philosophers have tried to explain them. Between poetry and science, rainbows have inspired legends and superstitions. Sir Isaac Newton, an Englishman, was the first to make a scientific study of light in 1666 in which he actually illustrated how colors are produced when he beam white light or sunshine through a prism and separated it into the different wavelengths to form a spectrum which is a band of red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo and violet. Grade school children remember this order with a
Spectrum

simple formula - Spectrum=Roy G. Biv.
Newton showed that when light is present,
color is present; when light is absent, no
color. Now it seems easier to realize
that the nature of the light influences the
nature of color; objects look different
under daylight, incandescent light, fluo-
rescent light, colored lights, or in shad-
ows. At the next quilt show you attend,
try to see the same quilts in the daylight
and again in the evening when they are lit
with electric lights. If you have a prize
quilt, you might want to question what
kind of light it will be shown in.
Commerially, rainbows are popular. They
are seen on T-shirts and other clothing,
in children's books, on posters, notebooks,
clip-boards, decals for the car windows.
The spectrum colors are used in series in
fabric and in advertising. Have you con-
sidered how interesting it would be to
make a Hill and Valley quilt or a String
quilt with the colors arranged in this
order?
Yes, we truly live in a world of color,
just waiting to be set free; all the colors
of the rainbow are as close as that ray of
sunshine or normal white, day-light. But
do be careful, "Color Awareness" is as
contagious as that other infectious
disorder, "Quilting".

Norma Ahlquist.

In The Mailbox

This first month in office has been busy
and exciting. The biggest part of the mail
coming in has been from Minnesota Quilters
who are renewing their memberships. Plus a
steady flow of mail from people interested
in becoming new members.
There are a couple of letters received
which you might want to be aware of. We
received notice of a "set of 28 original
counterpane quilt patterns" called 'Bouquets
and Butterflies' designed by Veranne
Graham and being marketed by Ebenezer Press
of Houston, Texas. The complete set in-
cludes 14 butterfly and 14 floral patterns
designed for 12" blocks..." These sets are
being offered to quilt guilds at a 30% dis-
count on a minimum order of 6 sets (making
your cost $4.17 each plus postage). A
sample pattern and complete information will
be on file with our library materials for
your inspection.

We have received a letter of introduction
from Pat Arnesen, Director of Volunteer
Services at Lynnhurst Healthcare Center, a
nursing home in St. Paul. She offers a
variety of volunteer work opportunities, many
related to craft work. In addition, Mrs.
Arnesen is available to speak to groups and
"present programs on a variety of topics
related to aging". If you wish more infor-
maton, you may contact her at the nursing
home (645-6453) on Mondays, Wednesdays, and
Fridays or at her home (944-6265) other
days.
Finally, we received official notice from
the state that effective July 1, 1981, the
sales tax will be 5¢ on a dollar.
Until next month, keep the world in
stitches!

Jean Bay Wiley.

The State Fair

At the October M.Q. meeting 31 members
filled out a State Fair Survey. As a re-

} result of that survey, Helen Kelley, M.Q.
president the first two years, and Bonnie
Ellis, president last year, had a meeting
with the administrators of the Creative
Activities building to let them know our
feelings about the quilting display and
judging.
The meeting was a chance to let the Fair
people know that the Minnesota Quilters as
a group would be willing to help in any way
possible and that members of the group were
concerned that the judge be a quiltermaker
herself, that quilts be displayed in the
best way possible, and that names of the
winners be prominently displayed.
Of those submitting the survey, 11 had
entered something in the fair, 7 being in
the quilt category. Of the 18 who had
never entered anything, 8 said they would
enter something in the future. The others
expressed opinions such as distance from the
fair; just not motivated; when I finish
one that I am satisfied with; when I gain
more confidence and only until there is an
improvement in the judging.
Comments on the categories: need a special category for persons under 15 and over 65; need a category for quilted clothing; need a special category for quilt kits; need a category for tied quilts. Comments on judging: More emphasis on workmanship and less on personal preference of judge such as color and beauty; how can judge deduct points for size? They don't know what bed or specific purpose the quilt was made; judge must definitely be a quilter and have done hand work.

State Fair is coming soon and the only way to have great quilts shown is to submit them... The Creative Activities Building will be open to receive articles beginning Monday, August 17 from 10.00 a.m. - 7.00 p.m. Articles mailed must be sent at least 3 weeks before the opening day of the Fair. Articles must be entered by noon Thursday, August 20.

The State Fair Premium book is available by writing or calling the State Fair, St. Paul, Mn. 55108.

Categories for quilters include: quilts: applique (hand quilted), pieced (hand quilted), cross stitch (hand quilted), embroidered, other (hand quilted), crib quilt (hand quilted), youth quilt, single bed (hand quilted), machine quilted; original design or technique (hand quilted). Commemorative Sweepstakes. Furnishings: applique, quilting and patchwork; bag or: purse, pillow, wall hanging, unframed, other items not listed above.

There is also a category and a prize given by the Minnesota Quilters for the Best First Quilt. Please indicate it when you enter (it is not listed in the premium book).

Bonnie Ellis

TALKING OF FAIRS AND COMPETITIONS...

comment made over beginner's large stitches "that is just prominent quilting". Think I will get my 'prominent quilting' out of the closet now!

Last Chance To Register

Minnesota Quilters, Inc. Presents

A WEEKEND FOR ME & MY QUILTS

October 9, 10, 11, 1981

At: Lyman Lodge, Lake Minnetonka, Minnesota

This weekend is a chance for Minnesota Quilters to get away and share feelings and thoughts about quilts and quilting and its importance to them. Workshops offered will give us an opportunity to learn new skills and refine old ones. Most of all it is a time to be together and to have fun. Lyman Lodge has 17 acres of wooded land on Lake Minnetonka with many paths.

Limit: 108 persons

Cost: $55.00 - includes meals (Sat. & Sun.) lodging and all workshops and activities scheduled. $27.50 due with registration and balance of payment due by Sept. 15. No registrations will be accepted postmarked after Sept. 1st.

SCHEDULE OF WEEKEND

Friday, October 9, 1981

4-6 p.m. Arrival time
6:30 p.m. Potluck dinner
7:30 p.m. Movie "Quilts in Women's Lives"
8:00 p.m. Presentation on journal keeping - Carol Adleman
8:30 p.m. Discussion on movie & journal keeping
10:00 p.m. Show & Tell in p.j.'s with popcorn and a fire.

Saturday, October 10, 1981

8:30 a.m. Breakfast
9:30 a.m. - noon Workshops:
Beautiful Quilters - Norma Ahlquist
Come alive! Learn to look terrific not just good. Learn how color can work for you. Know your own color personality and understand your palette.

Hawaiian Quilting - Kathy Morton
Try the delightful art of Hawaiian applique. Floral patterns will be available for making either a pillow front (16”x20”) or a center panel for a medallion quilt. A cheery and day brightener form of quilting.

Quilted String Vests & Jackets - Joanne Holzknecht
The technique of constructing string vests and jackets will be demonstrated along with a unique method of seaming sections together. (There are no bulky bias connecting seams on the inside of the garment.) Different pieced designs will be shown that can be incorporated in garments. Several finishing techniques will also be covered. Most of the construction is done by machine.

A Quilter's Tote - Elly Kretsch
Do you take your quilting with you when you go? If so, make an original quilter's tote with pockets & places for all of your supplies.

12.30 p.m. Lunch
1.30 - 4.00 p.m. Workshops

Machine Applique - Nancy Raschka Reeves
Applique using a zigzag sewing machine is quick and easy. Learn how to keep material in place, keep stitching smooth and to turn neat sharp corners.

Christmas Pot Pourri - Judy Berg
Learn a quick method of making calico tree ornaments, wreaths, stockings, placemats, tree skirts and wall hangings. Judy has lots of patterns to share.

Soft Sculpture - Bonnie Ellis
If you feel like a basket case and need rest, make a cuddly soft sculpture companion. It is essential to bring along your sense of humor.

Clothing Decoration with Seminole Patchwork - Lee Bradford
Tired of wearing the same thing that everyone else is wearing? Take your clothes and make them "originals" by adding seminole patchwork in just the right spots. The intricate seminole patterns are easy and fun to achieve.

4.00-5.00 p.m. Departure

Questions can be directed to Nancy Raschka- Reeves (612) 722-4887 or Lee Bradford (612) 825-4912

Sunday, October 11, 1981

8.30 a.m. Breakfast
Sunday morning will be open. A list of churches in the area will be posted for those who wish to attend.

11.00 a.m. Group discussion & journal sharing
Big oak trees grow, so the saying goes. 3 years ago when a group of enterprising, dedicated ladies got together at the St. Paul Y.W.C.A. nobody expected the interest in quilting to spread to the extent that it did. One of that small group was Nell Bredeson, Minnesota Quilters' first historian. I am sure Nell would not mind if I told you that she has been a quilter for more years than probably any Minnesota Quilter, and a teacher for a goodly portion of those years. Needless to say, I was just thrilled when she said she would be willing to write a small article for your newsletter. I hope she will not let this be the last as she has a wonderful feast of stories which would keep us all entertained for months.

...and now let Nell speak for herself......

Way back when, my first lessons in quilting were at my grandmother's Quilting Bee. She would have the Ladies Aid group from my grandfather's church, and this group quilted for others for a fee. The amount charged was based upon how many spools of thread were used to complete the quilt.

My job was to thread all the needles on a single spool of thread. As the quilters arrived, they would each take a needle and pull off the amount of thread needed. My grandmother would usually say "Take a short piece, only equal to your shoulder's width, that way nobody will get stuck from another person's needle".

When another piece of thread was needed, I gave them a threaded needle from the same spool of thread. I had the task of re-threading their needles with a new cut of thread.

As the years have rolled by, I seldom thread a needle at a quilting bee but what I think of grandmother's quilting bee all those years ago.  

Nell Bredeson.

The Minnesota Lace Society, a group of people interested in learning about, making and collecting lace, will sponsor a number of activities that are open to members of Minnesota Quilters. Sue Thompson, a noted English lace teacher and expert in Honiton Lace, will teach a series of short courses and workshops the week of August 18 thru 23. This is the tentative schedule:

August 18: Tatting (evening)
August 19: netting (evening)
August 21: special techniques, equipment, consultation.
August 22: master class in Honiton bobbin lace.
August 23: master class in Buckspoint, Bedfordshire Lace.

A one-week, crash course in bobbin lace will be offered by the Society evenings the week of August 9 thru 15. Students in this course will have gained enough knowledge to participate in Ms. Thompson's master classes.

Ms. Thompson will be available for private consultation. Pat Earnshaw, textiles consultant for Sotheby,Parke, Bernet Inc. in London,will lecture in the Twin Cities the week of September 15 on lace identification. She is author of Identification of Lace and is a noted lace lecturer and teacher in England and Europe. Ms. Earnshaw will do lace identification and appraisal privately for local lace collectors and dealers.

For more information about times and fees of workshops and lectures, as well as to arrange for consultation time with Ms. Thompson and Ms. Earnshaw, contact: Darlene Mohrland, 776-9750, or Marybeth Buchele, 474-3913.
West Area Quilters

The West Area Quilters will meet on Wednesday, August 26 at Kay Bailey's home. The group meets at 10:00 a.m. and we will have a potluck salad bar luncheon. To get to Kay's home, go west on Highway 12 to approximately 3½ miles west of Maple Plain. Turn right (north) on County Rd. 92. Go about ¼ mile and Kay's home is the first one on the left as you pass the lake. Everyone is welcome to joint us for stitching, fellowship and sharing.

Book Review

Celtic Quilt Designs  Philomena Wiecec, $6.95, soft cover, 60 pages, published by: Celtic Design Co., 19170 Portos Drive, Saratoga, Ca. 95070

I felt the best way to review this book was to actually make at least one Celtic design quilt block, which I did. These Celtic quilt designs are interlace patterns created by weaving bias strips in and out and around forming a design. The designs have been adapted by the author using traditional designs taken from various Celtic Art forms. Twenty patterns are given in the book; enough to make a Celtic design sampler quilt. The directions are clear and simple and I had no trouble getting my quilt block finished. If you enjoy applique and would like to try something just "a little different", this book may be what you are looking for.

Margaret Maki Librarian

Library News

Additions to the library this month include:

Books  Quilts and Coverlets from the American Museum in Britain, Sheila Betterton (gift of Helen Kelly).

Magazines  Decorating and Craft Ideas; Oct. '80 & June '81 (gift of Inez Crimmins)

Magazines Cont'd.

Decorating and Craft Ideas; July-Aug. '81 Quilter's Newsletter; July/August '81 Lady's Circle Patchwork Quilts; #23 Quilt World; August '81

Please Note!!!

There will be no library at the August Minnesota Quilters' meeting. All books checked out in July will be due September 11, 1981.

Margaret Maki Librarian 7700 Cedar Lake Rd. St. Louis Park Mn. 55426 (612) 546-0484

Kay Bailey has written a most interesting article on pricing items for sale. Owing to length, it will be serialized during the coming months. Ed.

Counting the Cost

by Kay Bailey.

Have you ever found a beautiful hand made quilt for sale for eighty or one hundred dollars and wondered how much the maker got for her material and time? If you would know and subtract the dealer's mark-up, you would probably find that she didn't even get the cost of her materials. Have you ever heard the remark that someone, perhaps a senior citizen, had a lot of time on her hands so she made articles to sell, and even if she did not get 50¢ an hour it was better than nothing, as she had nothing better to do. What if she needed a way to earn money to stretch her meager income?

These things arouse violent feelings which leave me very frustrated because I can do nothing about them, but perhaps I can help
those around me who want to do something to bring in a little income, need to be at home, and like doing handwork.

I'd like to suggest a very simple system of figuring the cost, not only for those who produce to sell, but for those who make things for home, family and friends. Then you can compare the cost of the item with the cost of a similar item in a store and you will see what portion of the price is split between the maker and the seller. Be sure to compare the quality of workmanship and materials too.

Begin with a small notebook. A side bound spiral one will do. Divide the book into three sections, with the first section a little more than half of the book, and the last one with only a few pages. Put tabs on the dividing pages, or place colored ribbon markers to show the divisions.

The first section will be used to keep track of the cost of specific items that you are making. Use one page for each item and put the name of the article you are making, the pattern and the date at the top of the page. Below this you will list all of the materials used. (see Fig.1 for an example)

Fig. 1

Crib quilt for Carrie  Begun 5-23-81
Pattern - Overall Sam
Materials:

1 pc. 42 x 42 white sheeting  for back of quilt  2.38
12 pcs. 12 1/2" square blocks - sheeting  2.62
1 pc. batting 37" x 49"  1.51
1 3/4 yards material for applique  6.13

Add: Supplies  6.19
Dues & Publ.  5.28
Depreciation  4.34

28.45

Bonnie & the Dog Quilt

Maybe you didn't hear about the time I made a dog quilt that was too "real". Well.... once a lady in Wisconsin who raises bearded collie dogs ordered a quilt with a dog on it. She didn't specify what kind of quilt but said she wanted it tied. A tied quilt for a queen sized bed didn't turn me on so I made the dog first. I made a full-size detailed soft sculpture bearded (a breed something like an Old English sheepdog only a bit smaller) out of fake fur. I got glass eyes at the taxidermist.

Rhinoceros eyes were the only ones that were large enough and had round pupils because wild animals have either lengthwise or side-wise slits. Those eyes really made him come alive. I was very proud of that dog. Our M.Q. meeting was at Eleanor Elstrom's in Scandia and I brought my "dog quilt" along. The quilt itself was made of rectangles of fabric each representing dirt, grass and water - all of a dog's favorite playing places. The dog himself wasn't attached to the quilt but could be set anywhere on top.

I carefully folded the top and carried it under one arm and hoisted the dog under the other arm. It was a bulky load to carry to the door. Eleanor's mom met me but her hand was deliberately holding the screen so I couldn't get in. She seemed very nervous and eyed my dog suspiciously; but I didn't figure out why she was so uptight until she reluctantly said I could come in if I would promise to keep my dog from chasing her cat. We both laughed heartily when I convinced her on closer inspection that the dog wasn't real. She was so tickled with the fake dog she showed it off the whole meeting.

By the way, the lady from Wisconsin loved her dog quilt (although I think she probably never used the quilt part itself) I tied it with long yarn pieces to represent grass and short pieces for water and dirt. The border was quilted in diagonal lines with a large #1 prize ribbon quilted at the bottom). She couldn't get over the likeness of the dog to hers and her cat found it's back a delightful place for curling up for a nap. So much for a dog quilt that isn't real.

Bonnie Ellis

13.
The July 10 daytime meeting of the Minnesotan Quilters was, as usual, a very stimulating affair. About 200 members and guests ventured the 50+ miles to Princeton making sure they arrived by 10 a.m. for another terrific Show and Tell.

Faye Hall of New Brighton started things off by modeling a blouse and long skirt bought in Hawaii. Faye said she didn't like the length of the blouse so she shortened it to midriff length and used the excess fabric to make a matching purse. Faye also showed a quilter's tote which she designed. It opens like a book and has a special place for everything, even her quilting journal.

Irene Stem of Sauk Rapids showed a Log Cabin quilt which was pieced and quilted on the machine. It was from a Woman's Day pattern and Irene was not totally pleased with it. She stated that "Theory and practice do not always join, but it is one less bundle in the store room."

Irene also showed us her star charm quilt which has over 150 different fabrics in it. It was a six-point star which Irene called her "soap opera lap work."

Sandy Stokes of St. Louis Park showed a beautiful Amish quilt. Carol Wagner of Roseville showed that she had made the trip to Duluth well worth it by showing a small stained glass wall hanging which was a copy of the real stained glass window in the game room of the Congdon mansion.

Caroline hopes to do more.

Bonnie Ellis of Minneapolis showed what can be done with those $3 computer prints on polyester. She has completed a friendship quilt for her parents wedding anniversary with the center being a computer print of her parents wedding picture surrounded by 40 friendship blocks.

Karla Freeman of Duluth showed a Sue Stein designed wall hanging. It uses a quick piecing technique but Karla wondered if there shouldn't be a quick quilting technique to go along with it.

Betty Schutte of Minnetonka told us how she was inspired by the March '79 issue of 'Time' magazine which featured the Israel Egyptian Peace Accord. Betty chose to record the event in a quilt she titled 'Middle East Peace Quilt'. She says her quilting stitches are not perfect but the agreement wasn't either.

Elaine Carlson of Minneapolis brought a bright rail fence quilt with 2,808 pieces in it. She was looking for suggestions on quilting it.

Ruby Larson's daughter, Karen Dove of Fridley brought 3 quilts all done in the same pattern 'Aunt Christina's Pinwheel'. The first quilt was made by her grandmother who Karen said was the resident quilt guru of her home town. "Any color was okay with Grandma as long as it was pink". The second quilt was done by, and for, Karen in dark red and blues because her husband likes to sleep with his foot on top of the bed. The third quilt was also done by Karen but for her daughter in bright orange, green and yellow. All three proved to be a real study in what color and fabric choices can do to an individual pattern.

Cathie Larkosa of Shoreview made us all envious when she showed an old Double Wedding Ring top which had been given to her. Cathie also showed a pair of Dresden Plate dresser scarves made by her mother who was visiting us from Florida.

Pat Wiswell of Minneapolis showed us beautiful handmade booties and bonnets and a whole cloth baby quilt. Pat said "I think I'll be a grandmother someday".

Catherine Boethin showed a tied quilt which she called "Garden Walk". She said "I used only fabrics I had and I have four more trunks full."

It was only the second meeting for Darlene Bouley of Princeton, but she modeled two pieced and quilted vests she had made. Darlene was also wearing a T-shirt which said "Quilters Make Great Comforters". She brought the house down when she admitted to getting so excited about quilting that she was too pooped to comfort! Julia Earle of Minneapolis showed us a wall hanging she had done for friends who now live in Boston. It was filled with meaningful piecing and quilting. The center was her favorite House block made larger by using a couple of round of Log Cabin piecing. The corners were each 1/4 section of the T block because their friends name begins with T and there are four of them. Also worked into the T block were green triangles depicting pine.
trees which surround their friends' new home. Janice Lueck of Princeton shared a beautiful old Dresden Plate quilt which was done by her father's mother. Her parents have just celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary making the quilt even more special. Eleanor Lindahl of Big Lake (who, by the way, rode her motorcycle to the meeting and did a quick change in the ladies' room) brought her 'nothing' quilt top. All the pieces were triangles and made from 'nothing' (even old curtains) and 'nothing fits either' she said. The back will be nothing too because she has found a sheet for $1.99.

Sheila Lee of Bloomington shared a gorgeous pastel baby quilt she has done for her expected grandchild. It is the ABC quilt from 'Better Homes and Gardens' magazine. Sheila also showed a rich Amish colored wall hanging done in deep purples and green.

Barb Hjort (who actually came from north of Princeton - Milaca to be exact) brought a window hanging which started out as one of her first projects. It has ended up on the basement window because she has it lined with a new 3M product called 'thinsulate' which is twice as warm as down and will absorb condensation.

Agnes Leer of Apple Valley reported on the class she took from Helen Kelley where she was told to bring something she loved. She could not bring her husband so she chose three ceramic deer that she had to draft herself. Her end product was a wall hanging with the deer appliqued on and surrounded by a flying geese border.

Mary Lou Leuthner of Victoria came to report that she 'had finally finished something'. They were two bibs done from Helen Kelley's heirloom bib pattern. Mary Lou thought the one done in cream looked more like an heirloom than the one done in white.

Marion Fredlund of Cambridge modeled her reversible kimono that she started in Jill Reis' workshop at the Star show.

Shirley Krantz of Princeton also modeled for us. She had a vest which she had made from a class at Glad Creations and a skirt with patchwork from a pattern by Carol Adelman. Shirley also showed us the quilts which were hanging around the room and either made or owned by the Princeton area quilters.

Elly Kretsch.
were used they were placed on the fabric and then sprinkled with chalk, cinnamon or paprika which would wash out. The problem was that it didn't stay on long and it was difficult to get much quilted before your arm rubbed the powder off. Pat showed an ingenious idea of Kay Bailey's where she cuts her quilting design from interfacing and then bastes it to her quilt (she showed a small design in a hoop). Kay then quilts around the edges of the interfacing. When looking for quilting designs Pat also encouraged quilters to make their own. Pat showed us a plastic stencil with a quilting design she had made by herself by using a lightweight plastic (10 mil weight/shrink art weight). With a Handi-Tool (a small electric hand held craft tool with different bits) and a burr bit, she drilled small holes in the plastic where her design was pencilled on. Pat also wanted you to know that it is possible to make the holes in the plastic with a heated end of a paper clip or similar small object. Bonnie Ellis suggested using a blunt needle on your sewing machine and perforating the plastic that way. Carolyn Sidebottom suggested using a linoleum tool which makes a small groove. Any way you do it you will need a steady hand.

Pat then discussed the new washout markers which are a wonderful invention but not without problems because they can leave watermarks and often the item needs to be washed twice. There is also a new waterwashable marker with ink that disappears in 24 hours meaning you do a small area at a time or work very fast. Along with the markers there are washable pencils available. Dixon pencils come in colors which will mark dark fabrics but have a fat lead which makes marking small areas difficult. Some pencils available can actually be erased with your quilt work. Pat suggests a pencil found in art supply stores - Colerase. There is also a pencil sold in local shops which is an industry/tailoring pencil but it contains chalk and grease. The grease can keep the pencil color in the fabric or in the quilting thread. Someone said that it was difficult to remove from fabrics that were not 100% cotton. Pat also discussed a fine hard soap which can be used on dark fabrics. Sandy Stokes said Quilters Cove carries one that comes in its own holder.

Pat also brought up an idea of needle marking where you use the eye end of the needle and run it along the quilting line a little at a time. Some fabrics do not hold the crease for very long though. Pat also told us she uses an automatic pencil to mark quilting designs. She uses a very fine lead which will break easily with too much pressure, thus she's sure not to press too hard. Pat prefers a #4H hard lead but said Chris Edmonds uses a #2. Instead of drawing the complete line on a design Pat will often make dots so she has less lead on her fabric. On the subject of erasing pencil lines from quilts Bonnie Ellis suggested using a gray eraser from Faber-Castel that she has had very good results with. It can be bought at art supply stores and is used for erasing vinyl or plastic film. Pat also uses an eraser from Faber-Castel called 'pink pearl'. Of course, one of the easiest ways to get a design on fabric is to start with a light colored fabric which you can see the printed design through. Of course, dark fabrics are more difficult to mark because you can't see through them, sometimes even with a light box. For a light box Pat uses a translucent plexiglass cut any size and propped on books or whatever works. Pat uses light colored quilting thread whether she is working working on dark or light fabric. Mistakes show more easily with dark thread and Pat feels the desired shadow effect becomes lost with dark thread on dark fabric. Actual quilting lines should be straight and smooth and even and look the same on the back as they do on the front. Don't quilt on an angle because you will catch very few threads on the back. Try to go straight up and down. And if you are one of those people who doesn't use a thimble it is probably because you had a cheap one or one that did not fit properly. Pat uses an English dressmaker's thimble with deeper holes to hold the needle. Pat discussed a variety of other thimbles - leather, leather with metal tip, tailors, Korean - whatever works for you. As for that other finger under the quilt which gets pricked with every stitch, Pat suggests making a trough with the first two fingers under the quilt. When the needle comes down it should go between those two fingers. As for quilting needles, Pat suggests quilting betweenes #8 or #9. They make smaller
stitches but may take some getting used to. A sharp needle is also important and Pat believes it is harder to quilt through polyester blends. Don't use too long a thread because it becomes tired and frail more easily. Use beeswax to coat the thread making it stronger and more apt to glide through your quilt.

The subject of batting was also discussed. Pat prefers Fairfield needle punched or Mountain Mist. The new batting from Fairfield which is 80% cotton and 20% polyester was also discussed. It gives a more traditional look and the cotton is hoped to help the problem of fiber migration. Ann Degen spoke from experience when she said not to wash the new batt to shrink it. She obviously had quite a mess. Irene Stem concurred saying they never pre-shrunk cotton batts in the days before polyester was available.

Many thanks to Pat Cox for all the ideas and suggestions she shared with us. Most of the supplies mentioned in Pat's program can be found in local quilt shops, art supply stores or advertised in your favorite quilting publication. If you have any more specific questions feel free to catch up to Pat at a future meeting or send your question to M.Q. to be answered during our next meeting.

Thanks also to Shirley Krantz who led a successful mini-workshop on whole cloth quilting following the lunch. Thanks too, to the Princeton Area Quilters for inviting us to their town and to Naomi Webb and Karla Moskowic of the Fabric Center for reserving our meeting place and offering a special sale to Minnesota Quilters.  

Elly Kretsch.

EDITOR'S NOTE

Thank you so much Elly for all the hard work which you undertook in reporting the Princeton meeting. Although readers may think the meeting notes are lengthy, I think you will all agree that there is some very useful information contained in them, and for that reason, as much detail has been given as possible.
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