FROM THE DIRECTORS

Our April meeting has blown by—literally! Thank you to our guest speaker Judy Martin for a wonderful evening of "Piece 'n' Play" and the Friday morning Trunk Shows. We would like to thank the following people for helping make our year go so well:

- Ione Botts & Laura Nagel, for making arrangements to bring all these guest speakers to our meetings;
- Carol Larson, Carolyn Peters, Betty Emerson & Jan Herfindal, (Directors-Elect), for keeping those refreshments flowing. Also thanks for the extra work put into MQ's Birthday party—especially the taste testing of the cakes!
- All the board members for their support throughout the year.
- Thanks to the members who volunteered for various duties at our monthly meetings.

Also a big "Hurrah!" to our members who shared all those beautiful quilts throughout the year for our Show and Tell. Show and Tell should be named Oohh and Aaah!

All tables for May's Garage Sale are booked and we hope you have a fun time buying all those items you think you need.

We encourage you to volunteer to serve on the board. Co-chairing with a friend makes the positions a little easier if you find you already have a hectic schedule. Remember, this organization grows and thrives on fresh faces and new ideas.

Karen, Noelann, & Peggy

Calendar of Events

MAY
May 4 Evening Meeting, 7 PM
May 5 Day Meeting, 9:30 AM
May 22 Board of Directors Mtg.

NO JUNE MEETINGS—See you at the Show June 15-17!

JULY
July 6 Evening Meeting, 7 PM
July 7 Day Meeting, 9:30 AM
July 24 Board of Directors Mtg.

Both GENERAL MEETINGS and LECTURE SERIES meetings are free for members, $2.00 for non-members.

Fall Getaway

Save October 26-29, 2000 for a great getaway weekend! No meals to cook, no dishes to wash; just time to sew, laugh, sew, eat, and relax. Watch for more news in a future newsletter.

April Lecturer a Hit at MQ's Birthday Party!

It was standing room only at the evening MQ meeting when Judy Martin shared her tips, tricks and secrets about creating successful quilts. Her recurring themes are stars, log cabins, scrappy-look, and pieced borders. A record crowd turned out Friday morning to view her 30 years of quilt-making. Her trunk shows were awesome and inspiring. If you missed the lecture or need more information about her books and tools, log on to www.judymartin.com. Along with her products you will find a free block-of-the-month, classes, a free newsletter, a viewer's page, and of course some laughs. It was a delightful visit and we look forward to inviting her to a future show.

Here's a little note from Judy's online newsletter:

"I'm conducting an online poll to determine your favorite quilt from my new book, The Creative Pattern Book. Every 10 days or so, we'll put up 3 quilts. You can vote for the one you like best. The book has 27 quilts so that will be 9 first round elections, followed by 3 semi-finals and 1 final run-off to determine your favorite quilt. It's easy; it's fun; ultimately it's meaningless. Stop by and cast your vote. Please let all your friends know so they can participate in quilting democracy."

IN SYMPATHY

Minnesota Quilters notes the passing of the husband of Betty Emerson, Day Director-Elect. Our sympathies to Betty and her family on their loss.
Library Lines

It's not too late to make a small quilt for the silent auction at the Rochester show. Ask the library staff for suggestions, as there are many new books on making smaller quilts. There is a certain pleasure from working with something quite small that I have not found in working with larger pieces.

Perhaps it is the challenge of sewing pieces less than half the size you usually work with and having all the seams and points match the first time. You also learn about being satisfied with "good enough" instead of perfect.

Some quilters are able to be almost perfect with even the smallest of miniature quilts, but most of us aren't there. A few have learned that sanity is easier to maintain with a "good enough" attitude.

New books have arrived with more small quilted gift items, perfect for bazaars or a quick gift. Mostly quilted items for weddings are shown in another new book. The quilts of Provence are featured in another new book, showing the beautiful quilting on both quilts and clothing. Be sure to ask about them the next time you visit the MQ Library.

Dorothy Scholtz and Dorothy Stish are now sharing the morning library and will welcome any volunteers. Items checked out at the May meetings will be due at the July meeting since there is no meeting in June because of the show.

The library staff will be trying to get the library catalog on the computer over the summer. Look for details in this column as work progresses. We are still looking for back issues of MQ Quilter's Newsletter from the '80s and '90s for our reference collection. Any others would be added to the circulating file.

If you are weeding out your magazine collection, please think of us.

The library would like to expand its magazine subscriptions, but we are unsure of what you would like to see. Please give me a call with the magazines you would like to see on the library shelves.

Three books and four magazines may be checked out until the next meeting at Machinists Hall. They cannot be renewed. If you are unable to return them at the next meeting, please mail them Fourth Class Book Rate to Minnesota Quilters, 1399 Eustis Street, St. Paul, MN 55108. This is YOUR library. If there is a book you want, please call me at 612-338-4360. A machine is waiting for your call.

Peggy

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. Membership Dues are $20.00 per year (U.S. funds only) and include monthly meetings tailored to suit the needs of beginning, advanced and professional quilters; the newsletter, workshop opportunities, and priority registration for the annual show.

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New Memberships, Renewals, and Changes of Address

Should be sent to: Irene Bjorklund, 2749 Seminary Drive, New Brighton, MN 55112-2576. Watch for the expiration notice on your label. It will say: "Please Renew." The number on the label indicates the month and year of expiration. Example: 0600 means that your membership ends June 2000. Membership is $20.

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President: Laura Sahlberg (651)778-8065; lsahlberg@aol.com, 834 Sherwood Ave., St. Paul, 55106
President-Elect: Susan MacLennan (612) 522-4684; randysmachennan@worldnet.att.net, 4319 Emerson Ave. N., Mpls., 55412
Day Director: Karen O'Brien (651)489-2285; KLOBRIEN@2@aol.com, 1125 Sheren St., Roseville, 55113
Day Directors-Elect: Betty Emerson (651)777-8591, 1903 Furness St., St. Paul, 55109
Jan Herfindal (612)1351-1354, 13950 28th St. N., Stillwater, 55082
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Peggy Koshchina (651)698-9473; 158 S. Fairview Ave, St. Paul, 55105
Evening Director-Elect: Carolyn Peters (651) 735-0053; Quilt@millcomm.com, 1640 Quail Ridge Circle, Woodbury, 55125
Treasurer: Ruth Johnson (612) 522-7003 Ruthjohnson2@yahoo.com, 3943 Penn Ave. N. Mpls., 55412
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Long Range Planning: Jane Shattuck (651) 644-1987; d.shattuck@cxiw.com, 1526 Sheldon St., St. Paul, 55108
Historian/Parliamentarian: Paula Hagg (651) 690-3690; 2181 Princeton Ave., St. Paul, 55105
Minnesota Quilt Project Chair: Dorothy Stish (612)789-4983; stish6001tc.umn.edu, 2511 Maplewood Drive NE, Minneapolis, 55418
2000 Show Chair: David Shattuck (651)644-1987; d.shattuck@cxiw.com, 1526 Sheldon St., St. Paul, 55108
2001 Show Co-Chairs: Claudia Clark Myers (218)525-7764; crmyers2@aol.com, 5715 Jean Duluth Road, Duluth, 55803
Jessica Torvien (218)525-1382; JTTORV@CP.DULUTH.MN.US, 4320 Robinson St., Duluth, 55804
NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT
May marks the beginning of summer at "the lake." This first weekend I will tear down the plastic from the loft. Plastic that kept the heat out all winter. I will strip beds, wash sheets, air out blankets and quilts--vacuum and dust a winter's worth of dust. The fishermen are coming.
For the 30 years we have owned this cabin, opening weekend has been the focus of May. I married into my children. They are wonderful people, good citizens, who have raised a group of children to be proud of. Grandson Chris caught his first fish at age 3 off our dock and now he brings son Hunter to the grand May event.
They have been working on their "presentations" (tackle and bait to me) for weeks. The map of the lake is plotted for the best spots. When they head out for walleyes--they will have thermoses of coffee and bags of sandwiches. As the boats head out around the point, I crack open my sewing machine, get out all my stuff, turn on MPR, and for the next 8 hours I am in heaven. I am sewing with a "million dollar view" in front of me.
I have a lot of quilts up here. Log cabin quilts for each of the beds in the loft. I took the scraps and made a quilt for our bed. A quilt hangs from the loft railing and one hangs in the hall.
After a peaceful day of sewing, the boats round the point. My hungry, cold, tired fishermen are home. After a hot meal and a campfire they head up for a good night's sleep. I know they will sleep better and have sweeter dreams, because they are sleeping under my quilts.
Happy Quilting

Laura Sahlberg

May Block of the Month
"Coverlet"
12" Block (12.5" unfinished)
Please use 100% cotton fabrics.
Background: White on White
Pattern: 30's print, color of your choice
Cut: A pieces 2.5" by 4.5"
   B pieces 2.5" by 2.5"
   C pieces 4.5" by 4.5"

Submitted by Joanne Holzknecht.
The drawing for this block will be held at the July daytime meeting.
* Add seam allowance to templates.
* Occasionally, printing distorts pattern pieces, please check for accuracy before marking!
* Print Name/Address, attach to back side of block
* To participate, make one or more blocks. Your name will be entered in the monthly drawing.
* You need not be present to win.
* If you are unable to attend the meeting, please mail blocks before meeting date to:
  Joanne Holzknecht,
  2618 65th Ave. N.,
  Brooklyn Center, MN 55430.

ANNUAL SMALL QUILT SALE!
South Minneapolis Quilters Guild
Our most talented stitchers, wishing to give generously to others through their gifts, spend hours stitching beautiful quilts to be displayed and sold to raise money for charitable means.

POWDERHORN FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS
August 7 & 8, 2009
Saturday, 10-6, Sunday 11-5

SMQ quilts are near the South side of the Lake at Powderhorn Park,
34th St. and 15th Ave., Mpls.
Tickets will also be available for our Annual Raffle Quilt. All proceeds benefit community charitable projects in the South Minneapolis area.
Letter to MQ Membership

This letter to you, the membership, will be the first in a series which will address some of the challenges we face and the future of our organization.

During the past year, your MQ Board of Directors has had to make many decisions regarding the future of MQ, some based on ideas from our membership, others based on changes from the outside. Changes from the outside affect us whether we’d “rather be quilting” or not, and we, the Board, feel that you, the members, should be brought up to date on these issues. The first topic to be addressed is our meeting space.

The Machinists’ Hall, near Como Avenue and Highway 280, has served us well over the past 8 years, giving us a “permanent” home during that time with meeting and office space (987 square feet). The original rent for the use of the Hall was approximately $450 per month and that rent went to $850 a few years ago ($10,200 per year) and was a good value for our needs. Towards the end of 1999, the Hall informed us that there would be a rent increase to $2900 per month (from $10,200 to $34,800 per year). Quite a jump, and more than our budget could handle in a short space of time without some major adjustments.

During the last few months a short term rent increase to $1700 per month (through June 2000) was negotiated to give us time to work on our budget, reassess our office and meeting needs, and to get information regarding other office/meeting space available in the local market. We had also received a proposal from the Textile Center regarding their plans to purchase and renovate a building to house many of the textile related groups in the region (weavers, weavers, cross-stitchers, fiber artists, Sewing Guild, etc.).

The first thing we did was to take a look at our budget and adjust some of the figures to compensate for the rent increase to $1700 per month. We are reviewing the annual figures, along with revising our chart of accounts and our budgeting method. We will be reporting on these changes to the membership at the Business Meeting in July.

At the same time, Jane Shuttuck and Susan MacLennan began attending meetings at the Textile Center, the association formed by many textile related groups with the objective of bringing together all groups under one roof to share expenses and support each other. The plan for purchasing a building in the general vicinity looked promising, however, after a review of costs to acquire and remodel, the property turned out to be unfeasible for the groups represented. The search goes on. The objective of the Textile Center remains viable, however, a time frame has been discussed and it was determined that even if a building was located and purchased immediately, the full process would take approximately two years, which meant that MQ would still need to arrange for office and meeting space during that time.

With that information, the Board voted to continue at the Hall and Susan negotiated with the hall to step up the rents on an annual basis:

- July 1, 2000--$2,100 per month ($25,200 annually)
- July 1, 2001--$2,497 per month ($29,964 annually)

with an option for a 3rd year:

- July 1, 2002--$2,501 per month ($34,692 annually)

This brings our rent up to $2.93 per square foot. Current market values for office space rental are between $7 and $13 per square foot, so we are still below market rates and have time to make further plans and decisions.

Does this mean that we have the perfect locations and amenities for our group? Are we still challenged to have enough seating and parking space as we grow? Does this serve our entire membership and encourage learning and creative inspiration? It means that we have decisions to make and information to gather to make the best decisions possible, one step at a time. It also means that we will be asking for people to come forward to assist the Board in making the best decisions possible.

At present, Susan and Jane will continue attending the site meetings with the Textile Center, and you can contact either of them directly, by phone, email, or in writing, if you are interested in being on the Site Task Force. When formed, this group will compile MQ demographics and come of with the Site Wish List for consideration. Please note that the 2 year lease agreement (3 year option) is what we have for a time line, so decisions need to be made within the next year and a half. Contact Susan or Jane (addresses and phone on page 2) if you are interested in joining the team and watch the newsletter for further developments.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan MacLennan for the MQ Board of Directors

Upcoming Topics:
II. Board of Directors: What do they do and why do we need them?
III. Understanding the Budget: It looks like a lot, but where does it go?
IV. Volunteerism: What can we do and why do we need to?
V. The MQ Show: The costs, the sites, the future.

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THE COMPUTERIZED QUILTER
by Cindy Thury Smith ©2000

This month’s column will be short. Having to prop one’s foot, in a cast, up on the computer desk encourages brevity. The allure of the laptop is becoming clearer to me.

For the past year I’ve been encouraging you all to visit websites to see the wonderful variety of information available on the Internet. After all, it’s free, isn’t it?

No, it isn’t. A website, like any other resource, takes time, energy and expertise to develop. That’s one reason why copyright laws apply to websites also. When you visit a website, whether it be a quilting professional’s site or someone’s homepage, that person wants to share what they’ve learned with you. But they also want (and deserve) credit for it. Quilting professionals, like Kaye Wood (see her site at www.kayewood.com) offer you free lessons as a lure to get you to visit their site, in the hopes you’ll like what you see and purchase from their site. Under copyright law you can print out a copy of her lessons for your own personal use—nothing more. If you want to make multiple copies, say to pass out to your guild or to a class, you need to e-mail to ask permission. If you get such permission you should clearly indicate on the handout WHERE you got the free lesson page from (so these people can easily visit the parent site). The author of the page may have a pre-set identification paragraph already on each page; if so use it, don’t remove it. If you remove it, you are clearly limiting people going to visit that site.

If you’d like more information about copyright laws as they apply to quiltmaking, visit about.com, enter quilting and search for copyright. There you’ll find links to many sites offering copyright free designs and clip art along with information on what you shouldn’t do. Most quilters are generous, sharing people and we deserve credit for it.

Live long and sew many quilts.

---

The Minnesota Quilt Project has determined that a pamphlet exploring the care of new and antique quilts would be of great benefit to quilt makers, quilt owners, and small museums. We are asking your help in finding practical, experience-oriented information to aid in the creation of this piece. Each month we will ask a question. Please respond with any experience you have had, good and bad; we need to know everything that you know. We will share the results with you by making the pamphlet available. May’s question is:

Are you concerned with light and stress damage?

Please send email responses to gail@Mnopera.org or mail to Gail Bakkom, 4656 Park Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55407.

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COTTON SHOP

You’re Invited
2nd Annual
Garden Party
Saturday, May 6, 2000
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Downtown Hutchinson, Minn.
Free Lemonade & Cookies
New Thimbleberries Book Signing with Lynette Jensen: 10 a.m. - 12 noon & 1 - 3 p.m.

THERE’S A SALE GOING ON AND A FREE GIFT FOR ALL WEARING THEIR SPRING HATS

Page 6
April 28-29, 2000
Forest Lake Memorial Quilters Quilt Show--Fri 10-8 PM, Sat 10-4 PM, Admission $2, Quilt raffle, Boutique, demonstration, vendors. Hosanna Lutheran Church, 9300 Scandia Trail No., Forest Lake MN. 6 miles east of I-35 on Highway 97.

April 10-May 3, 2000
"Mostly Black and White and Red All Over" quilt exhibit at Central Lakes College, 501 W. College Drive, Brainerd, MN. Contact 1-218-828-2525 or judith956@aol.com for further information. Jean Mertzke will lecture about Contemporary Quilts and Fiber Art Thursday, April 18 at 1 PM at the college. Free and open to the public. Exhibit produced by Quilts Midwest, 927 Osceola, St. Paul, MN 55105, 651-430-9591.

May 6-7, 2000
Cable Car Quilters Guild presents "Threads of Spring" in Dubuque, IA. This year judge Suzanne Swenson will present historical quilt lectures on Saturday at 10 AM and 2 PM. The show will feature the Keepsake Challenge, Merchants' Mall, Silent Auction and Boutique in addition to their judged show. For more information: Ruth Lyon, 1915 Admiral St., Dubuque, IA 52002, (319)583-7285.

May 10-13, 2000
The 4th Annual MACHINE QUILTERS SHOWCASE will take place at the Crowne Plaza Convention Hotel in Springfield, IL. Over 300 quilts will be displayed with prize money totaling $16,000. Superb shopping, special exhibits and events including a Fashion Show. Buses are welcome. For more info, see $1 to MQS, PO Box 526, Brainerd, MN 56401-0526.

May 19-20, 2000
The North Country Crazy Quilters present "Swing into Spring" quilt and art show. Quilts, wall hangings and challenge will be displayed along with local and high school artists' work. Reunion Hall, Silver Bay, MN. Friday 12-8, Saturday 10-4. Free. Questions to Donna Holmer, 62 Banks Blvd., Silver Bay, MN 55614 or call 218-226-3155.

June 2-July 9, 2000
"Material Desires," quilt and fiber art exhibit of works that push the boundaries of the quilt tradition either in image, material and/or approach. At Rochester Art Center, 320 East Center Street, Rochester, MN. 507-282-8629. Opening reception Friday, June 2, 7-9 PM. Co-curated by RAC and Quilts Midwest. 927 Osceola, St. Paul, MN 55105, 651-430-9591 or judith956@aol.com. Diana Swinn Wessel will be teaching a quilt design seminar 1:45 PM Sunday, June 18 in connection with this exhibit - call 1-507-282-8629 to reserve your space ASAP!

June 9-11, 2000
Black Hills Quilters' Guild 26th Annual Quilt Show at the South Dakota School of Mines, Surbeck Center Ballroom, 501 East St. Joe St., Rapid City, SD. The show opens at 9 AM on Friday and closes at 5 PM on Sunday. Classes, vendors, banquet, raffle quilt. For further information send an SASE to BHQG, P.O. Box 2495, Rapid City, SD 57709, or call Carol Doyle at 605-342-4126.

June 23 & 24, 2000
"Northern Lights" Quilt Show will be presented by the Pinetree Patchworkers Quilt Club of Brainerd, MN. This "free" show takes place at the Brainerd High School Cafeteria. Buses welcome. For more information, contact Karla Overland at 218-825-7547 or karla@ruessherder.com.

June 24-25, 2000
Rice County Piecemakers Quilt Show, "A New Century of Quilting," will be held at Congregational Church UCC, Parish House, 222 NW 3rd Ave, Faribault, MN. Saturday, 10-5, Sunday, Noon to 4. Quilt Raffle, demos, small quilt auction. Admission $2.50. For more information, call Marjean Smith at 507-334-7140.

July 15, 2000
Isle Quilters will have their annual show during Isle Days from 10-4. Many beautiful quilts, raffle, small quilt auction, vendors, and demos make this a great stop on your way "up North!"

July 21-23, 2000
Friendship Quilters Y2KWILT show will be held at the Waverly Civic Center, 200 First St. NE, Waverly, IA. Hours are July 21, 4:30-8:30 PM, July 22 9 AM-5 PM, and July 23 11 AM-4 PM. For more information send a SASE to Barb Waltman, 421 Tenth Ave. NW, Waverly, IA, 50677, email awaltman@ns.warburlp.edu., or Fax 319-352-8606.

August 3-5, 2000
The Hands All Around Quilt Guild of Braham presents their annual small quilt show at Braham City Hall. Included in the show this year is the trunk show "Miniatures from the Heart" from Chitra Publications' national miniature quilt contest. Hours are Aug 3, 10 AM-5 PM, Aug 4, 10 AM-7 PM, and Aug, 5 10 AM-12 PM. Come for Pie Day Aug. 4 (Pie Day is only Friday) for lots of homemade pie, crafts, entertainment, and fun. Free admission. Raffle quilt. For entry information send a long self-addressed stamped envelope to Rosemary Brabc, PO Box 121, Braham, MN 55006. Cash prize for Viewer's Choice.

September 23-28, 2000
Redwood Area Quilters 10th Annual Quilt Show will be at Gilwood Haven, 219 South Mill Street, Redwood Falls, MN. Hours: Sept 23-9 AM to 4 PM, Sept 25 through 27-11 AM to 3 PM, Sept 28-11 AM to 6 PM. Contact: Sharen Monahan, 308 Lake Drive, Redwood Falls MN 56283-1528

October 5-7, 2000
Black Hills Quilters Guild Retreat at St. Martin's Monastery in Rapid City, SD. The featured teacher will be Phylomena Durcan of the Celtic Design Company. Other classes will be taught by Patty Black, JoAnn Searns, Cynthia Saunders, and Kim Ellis. The cost of the retreat is $150, which includes two nights lodging, five meals, snacks and your choice of two classes. For more information, call Roxene Powell at 605-342-0776 or Peggy Triz at 605-342-3242 or visit the website at www.rapidnet/-bhquilt.

October 14-15, 2000
Historic Stillwater Quilt Show will be presented by the Thursday Evening Courthouse Quilters at the Stillwater National Guard Armory, 107 E. Chestnut St., Still water, MN. Admission $2, show hours Saturday 10-5, Sunday 11-4. For more information, send a SASE to Judy Sylmalla, 1316 Sunny Slope Lane, Stillwater, MN 55082, jsylmalla@ix.netcom.com or visit our web site: www.angelfire.com/mn2/quilt

Be sure to send in your information to the editor as soon as you find out your event dates; the deadline for this newsletter is the first day of the month before the newsletter is printed (e.g., May 1 for the June/July newsletter). Your quilt show or exhibit does NOT have to be MQ sponsored. The only requirement is that it be quilt related.
MQ 2000, "...endings and beginnings..."
June 15-17, 2000

Small Quilt Auction

CONGRATULATIONS to Gloria Krugler! She was the Quilters Tool Box winner of the March 20th drawing. There are no more goodies to be given away, but please remember the small quilt auction in the coming months. If you haven’t already donated a quilt, consider it. It’s so important to promote this fabulous art of quilting. We already have seen tremendous variety in the quilts donated for the auction. It’s a joy to see them and to think about the excited bidders. The proceeds will be used to support Minnesota public television's educational quilting programs.

Rules are simple: 40" per side maximum with 160" maximum perimeter, a 4" sleeve, and a label with your name and the name of the quilt. Stick with the tried and true, or use this opportunity to showcase a new technique, fabric, thread, or embellishment! As was the case last year, Challenge Quilts may be donated to the SMALL QUILT AUCTION. (Work smarter, not harder!) The silent auction takes place during the three days of the show (June 15 - 17) and quilts will be accepted until the show begins.

We're looking forward to displaying your handiwork!
Susan Cleveland (507) 356-4255
Judy Plank (507) 282-7212

NON-JUDGED EXHIBIT--QUILT DROP OFF SITES
Along with the Quilt Drop-Off Sites in the Quilt Show Booklet and the On Line listings, Sophie Collier and Nancy Johnson have graciously volunteered to be drop off sites for the Non Judged Quilt Exhibit for the Rochester Quilt Show. Their addresses are:

Sophie Collier
851 Madison St
Anoka, MN 55303
612-323-7736

Nancy Johnson
3448 42nd St NW
Rochester, MN 55901
507-288-4880

In addition, the correct address for Jean Lindley is:
2760 Shadywood RD, Excelsior, MN 55331. 612-471-3189

Please call before dropping off your quilt, this will ensure that there is someone there to receive your quilt.

OPEN CLASSES

At the time of publishing, the following classes are still open:
Thursday: 2102, 2103, 2108, 2117, 2118, 2121, 2123, 2124, 2510.
Friday: 3108, 3115, 3118, 3120, 3123, 3517.
Saturday: 4102, 4115, 4122, 4123, 4504, 4510.

Hours
Monday - Friday 10-5
Saturday 9:30-4:30

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303-716-9240; marvspears@ultrasys.net
QUILT AFFAIR 2000

What an affair it was. Over 50 Minnesota Quilters attended the first MQ Quilt Affair and spent 23 hours making new friends, creating quilts for children, talking, and enjoying delicious food. Notice I didn’t mention sleeping. The non-stop quilt marathon began on Friday, March 10 at 5:00. Everyone was assigned to a group of three: a sewer, a cutter, and an ironer. Annemarie Yohnk gave directions for a baby quilt made with 2” strips of bright juvenile prints...and we were off.

There was a pizza break for dinner, a few demonstration breaks for 'Stack & Slash' by Sue Rutford, 'Hand Quilting' and 'Better Binding' by Jackie Northrop, and activity stations for label making, foundation piecing, and online quilt sites. Finally, door prizes were given during Midnight Madness, followed by quilt movies/videos in the lecture room.

Quilters awoke to a hardy breakfast provided by the Girls’ Gymnastics Boosters, and everyone was back to their stations. A hilarious White Elephant exchange, show & tell, and goody bags brought our fun to a satisfying conclusion at 4:00 on Saturday. Over 24 quilts were made for B. Robert Lewis House and Harriet Tubman’s Women’s Shelter. It’s amazing how so many quilters can have such a good time and still be so productive.

We met our goals of meeting new people, learning new techniques, and making a contribution to the community through our quilting. The ideas and itinerary will be used to promote other MQ quilting events in outlying areas of the state.

If you ‘had an affair’ with Minnesota Quilters on March 10-11, you know it was great fun. Those who couldn’t attend might be interested in some of the responses we had to the questions on the registration form.

• How long have you been quilting?
  
  We had everyone from first-year beginners to over 30 years experience. There was a total of over 600 years of quilting experience in the group. Quite a bit of knowledge under one roof!  

• Where do you hide your fabric?
  
  Most of us are pretty honest quilters and just bring it right in through the door. But some of us can be pretty creative when necessary. Some add it to their stash when hubby is out of the house, others keep it in the trunk for winter traction. Someone puts it in the hamper right away, since she will wash it before using it anyway. Other hiding places included the dryer, under the sofa (do your feet touch the floor when you sit down?) and the attic for added insulation. The prize went to the woman who said her house is full and their rental unit is empty and she is going to start storing it there—now she has some real growth potential!

• How much does your fabric stash weigh?
  
  First you had to decide how much a yard of fabric weighs. We estimated 4 yards to the pound. Many said they dared not think about it, others were confident that they had tons, but one trustworthy soul knew she had 1000 pounds, and I believe her.

Thanks again for your participation. It was an event to remember and hopefully one to be repeated.

Laura Nagel

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QUILTING NEWS AND NOTES

PROJECT LINUS

Project Linus is a non-profit volunteer organization dedicated to providing love and security to seriously ill and/or traumatized children through new, homemade blankets, quilts, and afghans. Project Linus was started by Karen Loucks of Parker, Colorado. She saw a photo of a little girl named Laura who was undergoing chemotherapy for cancer. Laura was clutching her blanket, which she said helped her get through the treatments. Karen contacted the Denver Rocky Mountain Children’s Cancer Center to see if they would be interested in receiving homemade blankets, and Project Linus was born.

There are about 350 chapters of Project Linus worldwide. The local chapter, founded in 1998, has donated over 400 blankets to children in facilities such as the Minneapolis Children’s Hospital, Regions Hospital, Gillette Hospital, and the Ronald McDonald House. It is the goal of the Twin Cities chapter coordinator, Carol Babbitt, to donate 1000 blankets in the year 2000.

Project Linus accepts blankets in all sizes, to donate to infants through teens. The only requirements for donated blankets are that they be new, homemade, and washable. All styles, whether quilted, tied, crocheted, or knitted, are accepted. They also accept donations of blanket making materials.

Please contact Carol Babbitt with questions or donations at 1240 Lake Susan Hills Drive, Chanhassen, MN 55317, call at 952-368-4478, or email cababbitt@worldnet.att.net. You can also visit the Project Linus website at www.projectlinus.org.

SNOWFLAKE DAYS

Winners in the 16th annual Snowflake Days Quilt show were as follows:

Grand Prize, a purple ribbon and a $100 EE Savings Bond, to Jane Novak of Coon Rapids for "Prairie Flowers."

First Place, a blue ribbon and a $50 EE Savings Bond, to Kristine Campbell, of Wyoming, MN for "Pineapple Play II."

Second Place, a red ribbon and a stuffed raccoon, to Jackie Northrop of Isanti for "Rhapsody."

Third Place, a white ribbon and a stuffed raccoon, to Judy Sears of Fridley for "My Stars."

The raffle quilt winner was Karen Marx from Hopkins, MN. Plan now to enter the 17th annual Snowflake Days Quilt Show in early February, 2001.

VIRTUAL QUILT SHOW at EHS

In case you couldn’t make it to Eagan High School for the quilt show, which over 400 people viewed, you won’t have to miss it completely. Visit us at our high school Website: http://eagan.k12.mn.us Click on the Library and then click on the quilt behind the desk. You will have your choice of last year’s show or the 2000 show.

The winners this year are Lori Gillick’s calendar quilt "Celebrate! 1999"—Viewer’s Choice, and Melanie Miles’ sampler quilt "Sailing Away"—Student’s Choice. Thank you to everyone who attended and loaned up your quilt to display.
Sollie Travel Presents:

“My Ozark Garden” Quilt Show

Branson/Springfield, MO    September 12 – 17, 2000

This fabulous trip will include two days admission to “My Ozark Garden” Quilt Show, our very own Shop Hop in the Ozarks, two evenings of entertainment in Branson, touring in Kansas City, admission to Silver Dollar City, breakfast daily plus several other meals, all transportation, and hotel accommodations.

$859.00 per person, double
(Single, triple and quad accommodations also available)

For more details call Deanna Campbell at (612) 821-0164

Grand Opening Celebration!
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Wednesday, May 17th
Open House 5 pm to 9 pm!

Ribbon Cutting @ 5:00 pm
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- Learn more about our upcoming classes and fun events!
- Relax and sip tea in our cozy store!
- Check out our wonderful fabrics, books, and supplies!
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Admission only $20!

Meet Alex Anderson 7-9 p.m.

- "Nationally Renowned quilt artist!"
- "First Time Appearance in Minnesota!"
- "This is an opportunity of a lifetime!"

RSVP Today! Limited seating available (612) 536-0512 to reserve your space.
BLOCK OF THE MONTH
At the March meeting, the winners of the 56 "Taking Sides" blocks were Doris Kraemer and Carol Schwanke. At the April meeting, we will draw for the "Spring Flower" block. Please join us in the block of the month drawing. See page 3 for the next block and how to become a winner!