March Meeting Notes

Thursday = March 7, 2002 - 7:00 PM
Friday - March 8, 2002 - 9:30 AM
Location - Eagan High School

March Meeting

Make March a quilt month to remember. This month's evening and
day meetings, March 7 and 8, will be
at Eagan High School. Please note
location change and map. What's the
to ask? First you'll be able to
enjoy the 7th Annual Women’s
History Month Quilt Exhibit “An
Odyssey of Quilts.” There will be over
70 quilts and quilted items. The featured Minnes-
osa Quilt Artist is Claudia Clark Myers. She will
have several of her beautiful quilts on display.
After you've been inspired by the show, you can
shop at the mini-merchant's mall. There will be
five vendors: Country Needleworks, Fabric Town,
Gathering Friends, Quilts by the Falls, and The
Sampler. They promise to have new and exciting
patterns and fabrics to help you welcome spring.

Add to that our featured lecturer, Lynette Jensen,
one of Minnesota's nationally recognized quilter,
teacher, author, pattern creator and fabric designer.
Lynette is the owner of and inspiration behind
Thimbleberries-a quilt company that specializes in
'can-do' patterns and a warm palette of fabrics that
fit so well into our Midwestern lifestyle and homes.
Lynette's love of needle arts, antiques, fabrics, color,
and design, along with her background in home
economics, makes her a natural at accessorizing
your home with quilted projects. Her lecture will

NOTES FROM THE DAY DIRECTORS

Hi all! It was really fun seeing the incredible
collection of historical quilts we have available to
us, through our own members and through the
MQ project. We know that the Minnesota Quilt
Project presentation made everyone want to rush
to the nearest estate sale or search their
grandmother’s attic as soon as they got home. And
as usual, show and tell at our meeting brought not
only historical quilts, but the wonderful pieced and
applique heart quilts of Pat Cox as well as many
other beautiful and fun quilts. Let's hope that Pat
Cox will write a book of patterns of her hearts.

As a testament to the old adage of try, try again,
Martha was one of the winners of the 9 patch
blocks in February! The other winner was Mary
Stenberg, and we each got 12 sets of 1930s fabric
blocks. That's enough for a quilt for sure! There
were also 11 Fat Quarters won by Clarice
Wendland, of Onalaska, WI. Clarice mails in her fat
quarters so for those of you reading this from
Greater Minnesota or elsewhere, we hope you will

MARCH VENDORS OF THE MONTH

Country Needleworks, Eagan
Fabric Town, Apple Valley
Gathering Friends, Bird Island
Quilts by the Falls, Cannon Falls
The Sampler, Chanhasen

Gathering Friends, Bird Island

Welcome to Gathering Friends Quilt Shop,
located on US Hwy 212, 100 miles west of
Minneapolis in a turn of the century brick
building complete with original wood floors and
tin ceiling. Dynamic arched windows add
beautiful natural light. Walk thru the front
entrance and you will find the shop radiates
warmth and charm. Numerous original designed
quilts line the walls. The full service quilt shop
offers over 2500 bolts of quality cotton fabrics
and the newest in notions.

March Vendors of the Month
Continued on page 2

Notes from the Day Directors
Continued on page 11
February is normally dark, dreary and hard to get through, like that last hour before dawn when all is dark and quiet. To me it feels like the world is holding its breath just waiting to see what comes next.

That is how I feel when trying to come up with something to say to you in the newsletter and as the articles are written weeks before you get your newsletter, it is always a challenge for me to take the present and recent past and make it pertinent to the future which, of course, is the present...very confusing isn’t it? Anyway, while thinking of this month’s subject, I realize that I have only 4 more newsletter deadlines to meet and that means that my term as president is coming to the end.

My journey as president has been a long one because there was no replacement after my first term in June 2001 was completed. People were busy in their lives and it was the time to step forward. As the move to the Textile Center was still in process, I accepted the job for the second term to keep the continuity and momentum going and I am not sorry I stayed on but last week was my “darkest hour”. I counted 9 meetings for various committees, programs, groups, an in-service day long meeting of the Board, a dress up gala, an afternoon tea, all of which were quilting and MQ related. Then I had to squeeze in work, a funeral, a friend’s birthday party and a morning of flipping pancakes at a Scout breakfast and, oh yes, a husband, son and dog too! I was exhausted and feeling rather low and did not know how I was going to get through another week like that. Then, I realized, I would not have to!

This year was not a repeat of the last one and. In this issue, you will find the ballot for the new officers and board members. I am proud to report that we have a full compliment of talented people ready and willing to work on your behalf for the 2002/2003 MQ year. New people have stepped forward to lead this organization and I am pleased by the responses to the requests for help and thank them for coming forward. As for me, I am beginning to see the light coming over the horizon for me and I am sure it will be a beautiful new day.

I also want to acknowledge the members who have earned their Angel Pins. These are people who get up everyday, do your regular chores, go to work and take care of your families and still find time to do good things for others. A big THANK YOU from all of us. The latest list of recipients is elsewhere in the newsletter.

So, as I climb toward the light of a new day and the promise of spring, I will take a deep clean breath and wish you well.

Sisters-in-law, Kathy Squibb and Deb Jacobs, have been teaching since the shop opened and have been told Gathering Friends is truly what the name implies...a gathering of friends!!

**Quilts by the Falls, Cannon Falls**

Quilts by the Falls in downtown Cannon Falls was established in 1996. Our shop features an antique bed with seasonal quilts to greet you. We have over 4000 bolts of quality 100% cotton fabrics including home-spuns, flannels and reproductions. We carry over 400 books, 600 patterns and have 16 feet of notions for your quilting needs. We have 100’s of samples for your inspiration. Our friendly and courteous staff will be most helpful to you. We were chosen by Better
It's boring, time-consuming, burns our shoulders, elbows, and wrists, not to mention burns our fingertips. Why do we bother with all that pressing during block construction? Because pressing really does matter. It makes such a beneficial difference in how our blocks turn out, whether they are flat, straight and square or if they are puckered, off kilter and a frustration to work with. So this month we will do a little Internet research on pressing.

Pressing differs from ironing in that when pressing the iron is set upon the item and left in place to apply heat and pressure. When ironing you move the iron around, which when applied to quilt pieces, can cause stretching out of shape or alignment. But it is so BORING to spend your time pressing when you want to get back to playing with your fabrics. Is there an efficient way to do it?

I do what I call assembly line pressing. Say you have just sewn 25 right triangle square units with half the square a dark fabric and half a light fabric. You are ready to press them. What I do is take 6-8 of them and lay them on my ironing board with the dark side up (as I will be flipping the dark side open so the seam allowance goes toward the dark triangle). Next I just set the iron on each seam for 2-3 seconds. This is a tailoring trick called setting the stitch. Just start at one end of your row and work you way down to the other end. By the time you are done, your first piece has cooled off so when you insert your fingers to flip it open, you don't burn your fingertips. While you are giving the first piece 5 seconds of pressing, open the next unit. Move down the line and you will quickly have them all pressed without burning your fingers. This method also works if you are pressing open the seam allowances.

Did she say pressing OPEN the seam allowances? Yes, I did. I frequently press my seam allowances open. If you want to read a thoughtful article on pressing open seam allowances, go to www.about.com and do a search on pressing in quilting. Several useful references will come up such as Mabry Benson's opinion piece entitled, "Why You Should Press Your Seams Open." Another one that will pop up is an article on points to consider before buying an iron. A long piece on using starch or sizing during your construction process is also at About.com. Another source for good information on pressing during quilt-making is Myrna Giesbrecht's book "Press for Success" (That Patchwork Place).

With the latest tools for pressing, such as non-stick pressing sheets and small hand held tools, we can do a quicker, better job and get back to the fun parts of quiltmaking. Live long and sew many quilts!

Homes & Garden to be a Top Ten Shop in 1999 Quilt Sampler magazine. Be sure to stop and visit us whenever you are in the Cannon Falls Area.

The Sampler, Chanhassen

The Sampler is located in the Southwest suburb of Chanhassen adjacent to the well known Chanhassen Dinner Theater. You will find that a visit to The Sampler will leave you reeling with ideas as you look through the diverse fabric selections available. We specialize in Kaffe Fassett fabrics, (the entire line), Bali Batiks, Orientals, Florals, African, brights and juvenile fabrics. Our staff is multi-talented as quilters, instructors and designers and always ready to help as your needs dictate. We do mail order on a daily basis. Be sure to check out our ever changing web site.

mq Membership

New membership, renewal and change of address (see page 8) should be sent to:
Karen O'Brien
1125 Sheren St.
Roseville, MN 55113
membership@mnquilt.org

When renewing or changing address (or name), please include your MQ Membership Number (MQN0). Watch for the expiration notice on your label. It will read: "Please Renew." The number on the label indicates its month and year of expiration. Example: "MQN0 9 2001" means that your membership ends September 2001.

Membership Dues: $30.00/year (USD)
Student Dues: $15.00/year (USD)

Please make checks payable to: Minnesota Quilters, Inc. Minnesota Quilters, Inc. accepts Visa, MasterCard and Discover. A portion of the dues is allocated to postage at U.S. Postal rates.

mq News

... is the monthly newsletter for members of Minnesota Quilters, Inc., a nonprofit organization formed to find and unite quilters and quilt enthusiasts throughout the state of Minnesota and elsewhere. MQ News is published eleven times a year by Minnesota Quilters, Inc.

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-- Advertising Rates --

Business Card (Horizontal Only) (3.5" x 2") - $15/mo
Full Page Ad - (7.5" x 9.5") - $120/mo
1/2 Page Ad - (Vertical - 3.75" x 9.5") or (Horizontal 7" x 4.75") - $80/mo or (Horizontal BackCover) - $80/mo or (Horitz BC - Spot Color) - $125/mo
1/4 Page Ad (Vertical Only) (3.75" x 4.75") - $30/mo
Classified Ad - $5/$3 lines
(Call for other sizes.)

The next issue of will be April, 2002. The deadline for submitting ads and articles for consideration for MQ News is March 9, 2002 or until space is sold out. All advertising fees must be included with any submitted advertising. If you wish to place an ad, please contact the Editor.

All ads and articles may be sent by e-mail to editor@mnquilt.org or sent by mail to:
Carolyn V. Peters
MQ News Editor
1640 Quail Ridge Circle
Woodbury, MN, 55125-8835
651-735-0053
March Block of the Month

by Joanne Holzknecht

"Emily’s Star"

8" finished (8 1/2" unfinished)

Please use 100% cotton fabrics.

NOTE: When making the Blocks of the Month, please read the instructions carefully, particularly regarding the fabric choices. The pictures may not always be representative of the fabric selection.

Fabrics

Background: White on white print

Stars: Four (4) different prints in same color family.

Make a total of 4 patterns shown to the left and then paper piece following the color scheme, as shown below. Sew fabrics in the order shown on the pattern. Do not forget to extend fabric beyond outside edges for the seam allowance. Sew the four (4) sections together. It is a good idea to leave the paper on the block when handing them in at the April meeting.

Joanne Holzknecht
2618 65th Ave. N
Brooklyn Center, MN 55430

email: sewsewjo@spacestar.net

Note the seam line of the large triangle should be 8" long. Please check after making copies to make sure the photocopier did not alter the measurements.

You can set up the quilt using the block on-point and add a block of another design, such as an applique block, as shown on the right.
Quilters’ Bookshelf
by Editorial Staff

Techniques and Inspirations for Creating the Quilting Design
by Melody Crust and Heather Waldron-Tewell

From the Back Cover
The hours of effort and creative energy you have devoted piecing a gorgeous quilt top have paid off and the quilt is almost finished. Yet instead of taking the last steps to completion, you hesitate. For you, like many quilters, the big question “What do I quilt where?” is a stumbling block—one that may relegate a potential heirloom to a dusty closet shelf with other unfinished projects. It needn’t be so. With the expert guidance in A Fine Line, you will discover that creating a quilting design and stitching the layers of the quilt together are every bit as rich and enjoyable a process as piecing the top.

Whether you quilt by hand or by machine, in these pages you will learn how to choose a quilting design that is both achievable according to your skill level and appropriate in style to the quilt top you’re making. Through clear text and dozens of examples, you will learn how to implement the principles of design—shape, line, color, and proportion—as they apply to the quilting stitch. Then, step-by-step instructions and illustrations explain how to execute the design. You will select and prepare batting, backing, and threads; mark and baste the top; and—whether you are working by hand or by machine—create fine lines of stitches that add beauty, dimension, and texture to your quilt.

Special features include: “Let’s Play Quilt” section shows multiple ways of quilting the same top to achieve different effects. To help train your eye to find patterns in the world around you, A Fine Line includes stunning color photographs by noted award-winning nature photographer Charles Crust. By studying the lines in flowers, leaves, sand dunes, and landscapes, you will have endless inspiration for new quilting designs that will come to life on your quilt.

Thimbleberries Books
by Lynette Jensen

If you enjoy Thimbleberries patterns and fabrics, you will treasure Lynette’s recent publications that include quilts, patterns, decorating and entertaining ideas. Classic Country takes the reader on a tour of Lynette’s home as she shows you how to achieve a classic country decorating style for all four seasons of the year. In At Home with Thimbleberries Quilts you will enjoy a collection of 25 country quilt patterns and decorative accessories. View the actual quilts in a home setting. The only hard part is deciding which one to make first. If you decorate in a cottage-style, Cottage Comfort will give you fresh ideas for blending old and new furnishings. Lynette shares her knack for combining antiques, flowers, vintage fabrics and your personal keepsakes to achieve this popular style, both inside and outside your home.

Inspirations for celebrating Christmas all through the house can be found in Classic Country Christmas, Christmas Cottage, and Finishing Touches for Christmas. Each book provides easy to follow step-by-step directions for creating Christmas in every room in your house. Brimming with design ideas, family recipes, decorating with natural elements, and quilts make these books that you will read over and over again. Lynette’s directions are always easy to follow, include helpful illustrations and quilting suggestions, and enable the quilter to achieve a pleasing quilt in a reasonable amount of time.

Calendar of Events
Evening meetings begin at 7:00 pm and Day meetings begin at 9:30 am, except as noted.

MARCH, 2002
March 7 and 8: Women History Program - Lynette Jensen (Lecture Series)
Location: Eagan High School
Vendor: Country Needleworks, Fabric Town, Gathering Friends, Quilts by the Falls, The Sampler
March 25: Board of Directors Mtg.

APRIL, 2002
April 4 and 5: MQ Birthday Party
Mary Bywater Cross (Lecture Series)
Vendor: Bear Patch Quilting
April 22: Board of Directors Mtg.

MAY, 2002
May 2: It’s a Mystery (Clues start January)
May 3: Crazy Quilts (Bonnie Ellis)
Vendor: TBD
May 20: Board of Directors Mtg.

JUNE, 2002
June 12: Classes begin in St. Cloud, MN
June 13-15: "Inspirations" - 24th Annual Quilt Show and Conference
June 24: Board of Directors Mtg.

JULY, 2002
July 11: To Be Announced
July 13: To Be Announced
July 22: Board of Directors Mtg.

AUGUST, 2002
August 1: To Be Announced
August 3: To Be Announced
August 26: Board of Directors Mtg.

SEPTEMBER, 2002
September 5: To Be Announced
September 6: To Be Announced
September 23: Board of Directors Mtg.

Meetings are free for MQ Members. GENERAL MEETINGS and LECTURE SERIES meetings $3.00 for nonmembers.
Part III: Fibers - Silk

Silk, fine, horny, translucent, yellowish fiber produced by the silkworm in making its cocoon and covered with sericin, a protein. Many varieties of silk-spinning worms and insects are known, but the silkworm of commerce is the larva of the Bombyx mori, or mulberry silkworm, and other closely related moths. Wild silk is the product of the tussah worm of India and China, which feeds on oaks. It is now semicultivated, as groves of dwarf trees are provided for its feeding. It spins a coarser, flatter, yellower filament than the Bombyx mori, and the color does not boil out with the gum. Tussah silk is a rough, durable, washable fabric known as shantung or pongee.

For centuries silk has had a reputation as a luxurious and sensuous fabric, one associated with wealth and success. Silk is one of the oldest textile fibers known to man. It has been used by the Chinese since the 27th century BC. Silk is mentioned by Aristotle and became a valuable commodity both in Greece and Rome. During the Roman Empire, silk was sold for its weight in gold.

Silk is an animal fiber of mostly insoluble proteins, much like wool. In form and structure, silk is the thinnest of fibers, but these fibers are strong. A steel filament of the same diameter as silk will break before a filament of silk. The luster and sheen of silk is due to its fairly simple protein structure. There are two brins that make up the silk fiber. Sericin, a natural glue secreted by silkworms is part of the silk fiber and cements the fibers together is irregular and rough, absorbing light. However, when the sericin is boiled off in the silk processing, the newly “cleaned” triangular shape of the brin reflects light like a prism. This characteristic is what gives silk the shimmering, rich look effect.

Silk is hygroscopic, thus absorbing moisture, which makes it cool in the summer and warm in the winter. Because of its high absorbency, it is easily dyed in many deep colors. Silk retains its shape, drapes well, caresses the figure, and shimmers with a luster all its own.

All silk is washable. Silk is a natural protein fiber, like human hair, taken from the cocoon of the silkworm. Sericin is not totally removed during manufacturing of the silk and is a natural sizing, which is brought out when washing in warm water. Most silk fabrics can be hand washed. Technically, silk does not shrink like other fibers. Silk will shrink, but the amount of shrinkage is dependent upon the tightness of the weave, for example a tightly woven silk will not “shrink” or will “shrink” a less.

According to the Silk Road Foundation, in comparison to other fabrics, silk is considered: the most luxurious fabric, the most comfortable fabric, the most absorbent of fabrics (equal to wool), the best fabric for drape, the best fabric for color, capable of the greatest luster, having the finest “hand”, soil resistant, moth & mildew resistant, the strongest natural fabric, cool in summer, warm in winter.

History of Silk & Silk Process

Sericulture (the culture of the silkworm) and the weaving of silk have been practiced in China from a remote period. Legend dates this back to 2640 B.C., to Empress Si Ling-chi (known in Chinese legend as the Goddess of Silk), who not only encouraged the culture of the silkworm but also developed the process of reeling from the cocoon. This was a closely guarded secret for some 5,000 years. More recent archeological finds - a small ivory cup carved with a silkworm design and thought to be between 6000 and 7000 years old, and spinning tools, silk thread and fabric fragments from sites along the lower Yangzi River - reveal the origins of sericulture to be even earlier.

Silk seems to have been woven very early on the island of Kós, which Aristotle mentions, in a vague description of the silkworm, as the place where silk was “first spun.” In the 1st and 2nd cent. A.D. silk fabrics imported to Greece and Rome were sold for fabulous prices.

There are many indigenous varieties of wild silk moths found in a number of different countries. The key to understanding the great mystery and magic of silk, and China’s domination of its production and promotion, lies with one species: the blind, flightless moth, Bombyx mori. It lays 500 or more eggs in four to six days and dies soon after. The eggs are light pinpoints - one hundred of them weigh only one gram. From one ounce of eggs come about 30,000 worms that eat a ton of mulberry leaves and produce twelve pounds of raw silk. The original wild ancestor of this cultivated species is believed to be Bombyx mandarina Moore, a silk moth living on the white mulberry tree and unique to China. The silkworm of this particular moth produces a thread whose filament is smoother, finer and rounder than that of other silk moths. Over thousands of years, during which the Chinese practiced sericulture utilizing all the different types of silk moths known to them, Bombyx mori evolved into the specialized silk producer it is today; a moth which has lost its power to fly, only capable of mating and producing eggs for the next generation of silk producers.

Producing silk is a lengthy process and demands constant close attention. To produce high quality silk, there are two conditions that need to be fulfilled - preventing the moth from hatching out and perfecting the diet on which the silkworms should feed. Chinese developed secret ways for both.

The eggs must be kept at 65 degrees F, increasing gradually to 77 degrees at which point they hatch. After the eggs hatch, the baby worms feed day and night every half hour on fresh, hand-picked and chopped mulberry leaves until they are very fat. Thousands of feeding worms are kept on trays that are stacked one on top of another. The newly hatched silkworm multiplies its weight 10,000 times within a month, changing color and shedding its whitish-gray skin several times.

The silkworms feed until they have stored up enough energy to enter the cocoon stage. Silkworms spend three or four days spinning a cocoon around themselves until they look like puffy, white balls. After eight or nine days in a warm, dry place the cocoons are ready to be unwound. First they are steamed or baked to kill the worms, or pupas. The cocoons are then dipped into hot water to loosen the tightly woven filaments. These filaments are unwound onto a spool. Each cocoon is made up of a filament between 600 and 900 meters long! Between five and eight of these super-fine filaments are twisted together to make one thread.

Literary sources such as The Book of History and The Book of Rites give further information about sericulture. By the fifth century BC, at least six Chinese provinces were producing silk. Each spring, the empress herself inaugurated the silk-raising season, for silk production was the work of
women all over China. The technique and process of sericulture were guarded secrets and closely controlled by Chinese authorities. Anyone who revealed the secrets or smuggled the silkworm eggs or cocoons outside of China would be punished by death.

When silk was first discovered, it was reserved exclusively for the use of the ruler. It was permitted only to the emperor, his close relations and the very highest of his dignitaries. Within the palace, the emperor is believed to have worn a robe of white silk; outside, he, his principal wife, and the heir to the throne wore yellow, the color of the earth.

In spite of the secrecy, however, the Chinese were destined to lose their monopoly on silk production. Sericulture reached Korea around 200 BC, when waves of Chinese immigrants arrived there. Silk reached the West through a number of different channels. Shortly after AD 300, sericulture traveled westward and the cultivation of the silkworm was established in India.

It is also said that in AD 440, a prince of Khotan - a kingdom on the rim of Taklamakan desert - courted and won a Chinese princess. The princess smuggled out silkworm eggs by hiding them in her voluminous hairpiece. This was scant solace to the silk-hungry people of the West, for Khotan kept the secret too. Why share it with the Westerners and kill a good market?

Up to the 6th century raw silk was brought from China, but death was the penalty for exporting silkworm eggs. It is believed that around 550 AD, two former missionaries to China, incited by Emperor Justinian, succeeded in smuggling to Constantinople, in a hollow staff, both the eggs of the silkworm and the seeds of the mulberry tree. Byzantium became famous for splendid silken textiles and embroideries, used throughout the medieval Europe for royal and ecclesiastical costumes and furnishings. In the 8th century the Moors began to carry the arts of silk culture and weaving across the northern coast of Africa and to Spain and Sicily, and in the 12th century Spain and Sicily were weaving silks of exquisite texture and design.

It was only in the 13th century - the time of the Second Crusades - that Italy began silk production with the introduction of 2000 skilled weavers from Constantinople. Lucca, in N Italy, had established looms by the 13th cent., & in the 14th cent. the city became famous for its materials and designs. Florence and Venice followed and wove sumptuous fabrics and satins enriched with gold thread. Genoa's velvets became well known. Eventually silk production became widespread in Europe and became great weaving centers. France established looms and Lyons in S France became an important weaving center. Early attempts were made in England under Henry VI to establish the silk industry, but it was not until the revocation of the Edict of Nantes, when many French refugee weavers fled to England, that the industry received a real impetus. The French settled in Canterbury, Norwich, and other places; but it was in Spitalfields, London, that the industry became important.

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ishops in the textile industry are four or more, with feed kept color on the other hand. I have six of these MQ News.

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History of Silk and Silk Process
Continued on page 16

Silk Quilts: From the Silk Road to the Quilter's Studio by Hanne Vibeke De Koning-Stapel

From the Back Cover: The long history of silk is shrouded in the mystique of the Silk Road that connected the Chinese Empire in the Far East with the Greek and Roman Empires on the European continent. Stories of adventure, like those of the legendary journeys of Marco Polo, and mysterious tales of silk's origins in ancient China all contributed to a fascination with silk and the sericulture process that has endured through the centuries and spread throughout the world. Quilting is an art with a rich cultural heritage of its own, and creating quilts using silk is a perfect melding of two traditions that will endure for generations to come. Through encountering images and lyrical text, Silk Quilts invites you to follow this amazing journey from the Silk Road into the modern quilter's studio.

This is another quality production from The Quilt Digest Press imprint. Silk Quilts exposes a gallery of antique quilts, many hidden away for generations in public and private collections throughout the world. There is also a collection of more than fifty quilts from contemporary artists.

Participants in Stitchin' Trips retreats will tell you that you are guaranteed a good time on your getaway. You time with us will pass all too quickly as you learn a new technique or work on your own project. We will add to your enjoyment with door prize drawings, quick seasonal craft projects, and plenty of creative support for the quiltraholic! We enjoy finding ways to surprise and delight our fellow quilters and those who are interested in learning quilting. Come alone or sign up with a friend!!!

Spring Retreat Schedule

March 22-24
Associated Retreat Center (ARC) Osceola, WI
Classes offered: Beginner's Quilt Fabrics VIyvng Flower Quilt Embroidery Retreat Fee: $115 plus applicable class fees

April 5-7
Associated Retreat Center (ARC) Osceola, WI
Classes offered: Herry-Jerry Applique Sweatshirt The Captain & Cheville Retreat Fee: $115 plus applicable class fees

April 28-28
Big Sandy Retreat Center McGregor, MN
Classes offered: Shasta Daisy quilt Bag Lady Special Retreat Fee: $149 plus applicable class fees

May 17-19
Long Lake Conservation Center McGregor, MN
Classes offered: Hand applique Comforts ofiled quilt Retreat Fee: $155 plus applicable class fees

Twin Cities Quilt Shop Hop Bus Tour
May 2-3
What could be better? Visit all 9 Twin City shops in 2 days without the worry of driving, parking, and finding your way! Just bring your friends and your plastic. Choose to travel with us one or both days from 2 pickup points, north and south metro areas. Fee: $25 per day or $40 for both days.

Contact Us!!!
Stitchin' Trips 13345 Isanti St. NE Ham Lake, MN 55304 763-754-1296

March, 2002 Page 7
Raffle Quilt - The Minnesota Quilters raffle quilt for 2002, "Reminiscence" is truly an inspiration, as well as a link to past generations. This heirloom quality quilt is a classic applique design from The Rabbit Factory, and has been hand appliqued by some of the best of MN Quilters.

Each raffle ticket is $1.00 and should be easy to sell. If you need extra raffle tickets, please send a large SASE with extra postage to: Ellen Carter, 11010 Spoon Ridge, Eden Prairie MN 55347.

Small Quilt Auction - This year we took the suggestion of previous committee members and made a change to the Small Quilt Auction. It will remain a silent auction but, each day bidding will close on a group of selected quilts. This is to encourage single day visitors to take a chance on one of the wonderful small quilts donated to this silent auction. Quilts are awarded to the highest bidder. Please check your show brochure for Silent Auction bidding times and pick up schedule.

Let your creativity inspire you and donate a quilt to the Small Quilt Auction. We ask that you attach a label with the name of the quilt and the name of the creator on the back. For donating a quilt our incentive program will award three more gift baskets by chance drawing. The winner of the first basket drawing was Irene Bjorkland. March drawing will be held at the morning meeting.

Small quilts may be brought to MQ meetings, dropped off at Eagle Creek Quilt Shop (Shakopee), Glad Creations Quilt Block (Minneapolis) or mailed to: Ann Kraayenbrink Ruth Ament, Co-Chair, 8735 Eagle Creek Blvd (952) 432-4697, Shakopee, MN 55379, (952) 445-5576 (Ann Kraayenbrink & Ruth Ament - Small Quilt Auction Co-Chairs).

Admissions - Remember that the it is necessary to bring your MQ membership card to the quilt show, if you are not pre-registering and only attending the quilt show. MQ membership admission is only $5.00/day or $10.00/multi-day. Without your membership card, the fees are $6.00 and $12.00, respectively. We are also looking for a co-chair, if you are interested please contact: Noelann at 651-450-9119. (Noelann Brown - MQ2002 Admissions Chair).

Volunteers - Minnesota Quilters most valued and treasured resource is YOU, our VOLUNTEERS. We need each of you to make this a successful show. Remember for each 2 hour shift you complete, you are entered into a daily drawing as well as a final drawing for the Pfaff sewing machine. Please fill out the Volunteer form in your Show Brochure, or fill out a form the meeting, or fill out a form online. We are looking forward to scheduling you to work and to seeing you at the show (JoAnn Arkins & Carol Patrek - MQ2002 Volunteers Co-Chairs).

Non-Judged Exhibits - Do you have a quilt that you want to place in the 2002 Show? If so, then at the March and April meetings, you will be able to fill out the registration form and have a photo taken of your quilt. Someone will be at both the Evening and Day meeting to photograph your quilts. We will also be taking photos for the Judged Exhibit. Show quilts need to be delivered to the drop off locations in labeled pillow cases. (Name, address, phone number is important). (Ruth Knable - MQ2002 Non-Judged Exhibits)

Judged Quilt Category - Page 13 of the show brochure #2. (under the pictorial Quilts thru to Show Chairs' Category) should read: "Perimeter of the quilt must exceed 120". Width plus length must not exceed 200." Show judged quilts need to be delivered to Annemarie Yohnk in labeled pillow cases. (Name, address, phone number is important). (Annemarie Yohnk - MQ2002 Judged Exhibit)

Raffle Quilt Tickets

When you have sold your tickets for $1.00 a piece, please return to the ticket stubs with the money to: Ellen Carter, 11010 Spoon Ridge, Eden Prairie MN 55347. If you wish to have more tickets, please send a SASE envelope with extra postage to Ellen. Please send any used tickets to Ellen. Please remember that you can not give a discount for sell more than one -- that is, 5 tickets sell for $5.00.
March Meeting
Continued from page 1

cover "Decorating with Quilts." Many of you may be familiar with her publications Classic Country, At Home with Thimbleberries Quilts, Cottage Comfort, Classic Country Christmas, Christmas Cottage, and Finishing Touches for Christmas which illustrate how to blend decorating styles, mix and match colors, and highlight favorite family collections. Discover how easy it is to create a warm and inviting atmosphere in your home by artfully arranging your quilts and collectibles. For a preview of her ideas visit www.thimbleberries.com

Coming Events: March 4-22 “An Odyssey of Quilts” at Eagan High School. Featuring quilts from Claudia Clark Myers. Claudia will present a free lecture “From the Galloping Horse Theory to the 1/4” Seam” on Thursday, March 14 at 7:00 pm. Reception begins at 6:00. This program is funded through an education grant from Minnesota Quilters, Inc. Hours: 9:00-3:00 on school days. Closed March 8. Located at 4185 Braddock Trail, Eagan MN 651-683-6933.

Laura Nagel and Annemarie Yohnk (Evening Directors)

May Mystery Meeting Clues

Clue #3. By back is killing me, I’m tired of hopping up and down, I can’t see worth a #@!!@#, and if I blow one more fuse I’ll scream!

Join in the Fun of the All New

Wild Goose Chase

Shop Hop

April 3, 4, 5 & 6, 2002

Grand Prize: $1000 Shopping Spree
First Prize: one GEM Gold Janome sewing machine
Second Prize: Tote bag filled with notions
- Door prize drawings at each shop
- 10 participating shops
- 2 “Top 10” shops!
- 20% off regularly priced fabric (one yard minimum cuts off bolts)

Hours: Wed 9-6, Thurs 9-8, Fri 9-6, Sat 9-5

Maps available at all shops

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Rosemount, MN
A Stitch In Time
La Crosse, WI
The Calico Hutch
Hayward, MN
The Quilter’s Mercantile
Mankato, MN

Jacobsen’s
Northfield, MN
Just A Little Something
Rochester, MN
Matzke’s
Rochester, MN
The Cotton Patch
Owatonna, MN

Quilts By The Falls
Cannon Falls, MN
Rather Bee Quilting
Lake City, MN

MQ News March, 2002 Page 9
Get Away = Get Something Done

Admit it, your quilting could use a shot in the arm. Just think what a weekend away at Gallagher's Retreat House could do for your projects you just haven't had the time to complete. We have a state-of-art quilting facility, a refurbished 1920's mansion, and one of the best fabric stores in the state. The formal Saturday night dinners don’t hurt either. We won’t even ask you to help with the dishes.

GALLAGHER'S RETREAT HOUSE AND CONFERENCE CENTER Gibbon, MN 888-610-6886

NORTHWOODS SHOP TOUR 2002

***$800 IN PRIZES***DRAWINGS***DEMONSTRATIONS***
FRIDAY, MARCH 15 & SATURDAY, MARCH 16TH 8:00AM - 6:00PM

Best Friends
6006 Tower Ave.
Superior, WI

Quilt Corner
Beaver Bay Mall
Beaver Bay, MN

Quilting Up North
218 3rd Avenue
Two Harbors, MN

Creations Unlimited
319 N. Central Ave.
Duluth, MN

Wings By the Bay
601 1st St.
Two Harbors, MN

Cindy's Creative Quilting
319 N. Central Ave.
Duluth, MN

Hingeley Road Quilting
Kelly J's Sewing Center & Quilt Shop
113 W. 7th Ave.
Duluth, MN

Floodwood, MN
4313 Haines Road
Duluth, MN
consider participating by mail. Just be sure to send your submissions at least one week early so we can make sure you are included in the drawing.

Next month, the 9 patch blocks are to be made of plaids. Please use plaids for both fabrics in the block! Remember that the final size is 9 1/2 inches unfinished. If you have questions, call Doris or Martha, or check the directions given in the August newsletter.

Now about the future: in March we will at the Eagan High School, in April and May back at Machinist hall. There is no mystery about our Friday Day meeting in May 2002. We are going to have a prom party, with Bonnie Ellis as our guest speaker. Bonnie will be talking about crazy quilts, and afterwards, we will be snipping away at each other’s prom, wedding, or other fancy dresses! To give you time to get your dresses, we have a few prom dress shopping tips. Have fun shopping—remember, they do not have to fit you, but just need to have fancy material that would look nice in a crazy quilt. Try the local Goodwill on Como Ave during a dress sale. Doris and I got three gorgeous dresses for $10! One of them is the official color of St. Ursus’s Day, which we will be celebrating at the March meeting. If you know what color that is, we will have slips for you to fill out and put into a special door prize box out at the Eagan High School auditorium—where our March meeting will be held. Be prepared to tell what you know about St. Ursus if your name is drawn; after all, it is a "Minnesota born" holiday!

Leave a little early for the March meeting at Eagan High School. There is lots of parking as school is out, and we will have plenty of seating in the auditorium for our guest speaker, Lynette Jensen. In addition, bring your purses as there will be FOUR vendors! If you missed picking up a map, the address is 4185 Braddock Trail. Look for the map elsewhere is this newsletter. And as the Irish would say: "May the best day of your past be the worst day of your future." See you at the March meeting!

P.S. We hope that you are using our little fabric heart from the February meeting as a reminder to make a small quilt for the Pregnancy and Infant Loss Center. In case you lost the description, here is what they want: A small quilt (size 12 x12 to 20 x 20 or anything in between, including rectangular quilts which some families like). The quilt will go to a family who has experienced a miscarriage, stillborn, or infant death. Sometimes this is the only lasting and treasured keepsake they will have. Use low loft batting and either hand, machine, or tie the quilt with ribbon, floss or yarn. Attach a tag with your name, city, why you decided to make the quilt, and a brief message of sympathy. You can check out information about the Pregnancy and Infant Loss Center on the web at www.pilc.org Please bring to the next MQ meeting.

Doris and Martha

**Fall Getaway**
**Dates Set for September 26-27-28-29, 2002!**

Now that we have the Holidays behind us, you might want to mark your calendars for the 2002 MQ Fall Getaway. Yes, we know it is nine months away, but Jenni and I are already thinking ahead (we had so much fun planning the retreat last year, we just had to do it again!). We have some great ideas and lots of time to let them percolate! 2002 Fall Getaway Co-Chairs Celine Perkins & Jenni Krosnowski

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Maplewood Plaza 3000 3000 White Bear Ave.  651-773-0056
St. Cloud 44 W Division  320-254-1580

www.associatedsewing.com
anything to do with fish. A silent auction will also be featured. Proceeds from the auction are used to purchase supplies for next year’s children’s quilts. For more information, contact Cindy Wilson at 952-898-0526.

April 4-7, 2002
Welcome to the 15th Annual “Quilters’ Heritage Celebration” at the Lancaster Host Resort and Conference Center, Lancaster, PA. For more information you can contact QHC at PO Box 503, Carlinville, IL 62626 or telephone (217) 854-9323 or visit qhonline.com.

April 5-6, 2002
Memorial Quilters of Forest Lake, MN present “Cool Lakes & Warm Quilts” quilt show on Friday, April 5, 9:30 am - 8:00 pm and Saturday, 9:30 am - 4:00 pm. Memorial Quilters will showcase their work at Maranatha Assembly of God Church, 24799 Forest Boulevard NE, Forest Lake. Be inspired by the many quilts and wall hangings! Demonstrations, boutique, vendors, fat quarter raffle and “Wonder of Nature” quilt raffle. For more information: contact Jan Schmidt 763-757-6977. Admission $2.00.

April 13, 2002
Maple Grove Quilters present their annual quilt show “Cozy Up to Quilts” located at the Maple Grove Community Center On Weaver Lake Road, East of I-94, at Pineview. The featured quilter is Barbara Pastman. Quilting demonstrations, raffle quilt drawings, vendors (Quilter’s Basket & Quilts, Comfort & Tea, Inc.) and Viewer’s Choice Award. Hours: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm. Admission: $1.00, Seniors $0.50, and under 11 years – free. For more information call: 763-550-1330 or 612-743-7653.

April 26-27, 2002
“Peace through Piecing” – a quilt show presented by Peace By Piece Quilt Guild and Pieceful Hearts Quilt Club. The show will be held from noon – 8 p.m. Friday, April 26, and from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Saturday, April 27, in both community rooms of the Buffalo Library. From the metro area take Hwy. 55 west to Buffalo. Turn south (left) on Hwy. 25. Turn right on Lake Blvd. The library is on the left. The 65 members of the two clubs will display quilts of all sizes, quilted garments, community service projects, a Challenge competition and a raffle quilt. Free admission. Lady of the Lake Quilt Shop is just a few steps away, so plan on fabric shopping after you’ve been inspired by the show! For more information call Kathy Brevig, 763-441-5134, or e-mail, quilterkathy@earthlink.net.

May 3-4, 2002
“Cathar and Quilts Patchwork Images” presented by Nebraska State Quilt Guild and the Willa Cather Pioneer Memorial and Educational Foundation. A quilt contest and exhibit will coincide with the Willa Cather Spring Festival in Red Cloud, NE. For more information regarding the quilt contest, contact: NSQG, c/o Paulette Peters, 1110 Skyline Road, Elkhorn, NE 68022 or visit www.willacather.org.

May 4-5, 2002
The Needlework Guild of Minnesota presents “Friends in Stitches” at the Lenox Community Center, 6715 Minnetonka Blvd, St. Louis Park, MN. An exhibit of over 400 works including quilting, counted thread, needlepoint, hardanger, canvas embroidery, smocking, and beading will highlight the show. Entries are invited from the public. For more information and entry forms call 952-285-2810 or visit www.needleworkmn.org. Admission $3.

May 8-11, 2002
6th Annual Machine Quilters Showcase. The quilt show, competition, and classes/workshops will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Springfield, IL. For more information, contact: mstevens@brainerd.net or visit: www.houseofhanson.com

May 16-19, 2002
The Applique Society presents “Threads of Discovery - 2002” Quilt Show and Annual Meeting at the Hilton Columbus Hotel, Columbus, OH. Classes/lectures, quilt show, special exhibits, demonstrations, mini-quilt silent auction and a Merchant Mall. For more information, visit: www.theappliquesociety.org

May 24, 2002
Forest Walk Quilt Show Call for Entries - The 2nd annual “Walk in the Northwoods Quilt Show” will be held on July 6, 2002 on the grounds of Trees for Tomorrow in Eagle River, WI and entries are being sought for the summer event. The theme for 2002 is “Seasons of the North Country”. Those wishing to have a quilt considered for the juried and judged show should call 800-838-9472 for a registration form. The deadline for registration is May 24, 2002. Quilts accepted for the show will be displayed along a 1/3 mile path.
July 18-20, 2002
“QTQ 2002: Quilting the Quilt” a new show celebrating all machine quilting. Quilt Show and Conference held at the Duluth Entertainment and Convention Center, Duluth, MN. For more information, send $1 to: Carla Riley, 8033 University Ave., Suite F, Des Moines, IA 50325 or visit: www.apqg.com

July 13, 2002
Hello from the Isle Patchworkers Quilt Club! We would like to invite you to our annual show! The show will be held at the Isle High School, Isle, Minnesota (south shore of Mille Lacs Lake) from 10:00 am - 4:00 pm. There will be lots of great quilts, our “Bear in the Pines” raffle quilt, demonstrations, our challenge projects including our Ugly Fabric and Basket applique challenges, Silent Auction, vendors, homemade refreshments and FREE ADMISSION! For more information call April Weinreich at 320-495-3617 or email at akweinrich@yahoo.com.

September 14-15, 2002
The Hayward Piecemakers and The Spooner Wild River Quilters will be presenting their 7th annual “Autumnfest” Quilt Show at the Lac Court Oreilles Casino Lodge & Convention Center, Hayward, WI. For more information, please send a LSAE to: Ann Degen, 7759 Wilkie Rd., Hayward, WI 54845. (715-634-3336) or send an email to: boandeg@cheqnet.net.

September 26-29, 2002
MQ Fall Getaway!

September 28 - October 3, 2002
The Redwood Area Quilters invite you to their 12th Annual Quilt Show in Redwood Falls, MN. The event will be held at Gilwood Haven, 219 South Mill Street, Redwood Falls, MN 56283. Event dates and times: September 28 - 9 am to 4 pm, September 29 - 1 pm to 4 pm, September 30 - 11 am to 3 pm, October 1, 2 - 11 am to 3 pm and October 3 - 11 am to 6 pm. For more information please send a LSAE to: Sharen Monahan, 308 Lake Drive, Redwood Falls, MN 56283-1528

October 24-26, 2002
River Valley Quilters presents “Quilted Treasures”, their 3rd Bi-annual Quilt Show at the Oak Marsh Clubhouse in Lake Elmo, MN. Raffle quilt, small quilt auction, and vendors. Proceeds from the raffle quilt are used to purchase supplies for next years service projects, such as neo-natal quilts or children’s quilts. Hours: Thursday - 4:00 pm - 8:00 pm, Friday - 9:00 am - 7:00 pm and Saturday - 9:00 am - 1:00 pm. Admission: $3.00

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., February 1 for the March newsletter). Your quilt show or exhibit does NOT have to be MQ sponsored. The only requirement is that it be quilt related. MQ News reserves the right the edit the content for length.

Wanted, one or two hard working individuals for each event. Good people and management skills needed. Must be willing to put in many hours for no salary. Minnesota Quilters, Inc. is currently looking for good people to chair the MQ2004 Quilt Show and Conference at the Mayo Civic Center in Rochester, MN (dates June 9-12, 2004) and to chair the MQ2005 Quilt Show and Conference at the DECC in Duluth, MN (dates June 8-11, 2005). Contact Susan MacLennan at (612) 352-4864 or president@mqquilt.org, if you are interested in applying for one of these positions.
Membership News

Karen O'Brien
membership@mnquilt.org

The Registration Booklets were sent and you should be receiving (or did receive) your copy. If you were an MQ Member as of December 1, 2001 and you DID not receive a registration booklet, please contact MQ2002 Registration Chair at inspirations2002@juno.com or contact Virginia Gleason (Registration Chair) at 1128 37th Ave N, St. Cloud, MN, 56303. DO NOT contact Membership.

Meeting Admission Reminder

The meeting admission for non-members was changed to $3 effective in February.

The meeting directors would like to remind you to bring your membership card to any and all meetings. This is something that most of you manage just wonderfully. When you have your current membership card in hand, it makes entry into the meeting room a snap!

If you’ve searched high and low and just can not find your membership card, please ask Karen at the Membership table for a replacement card to be made. Badge holders are available at the admission table.

President’s Blocks

It is a Minnesota Quilters, Inc. tradition to make President’s blocks for our serving President. Susan MacLennan (who should get twice as many blocks for serving two terms!) would like her blocks to be 9 in. (finished) Friendship Star Blocks with the background ranging from dark medium to dark blue. The star fabric can be all kinds of gold prints, tone on tones or solids.

MINNESOTA QUILT PROJECT
by Jackie Northrup, MQP Chair

The Minnesota Quilt Project (MQP) is a standing committee of Minnesota Quilters, Inc. The purpose of MQP is to identify and document quilts that have a Minnesota connection.

My head is still spinning from the last two days (NB: February 7 and 8). All of those beautiful quilts that were brought to the February MQ meetings. I would like to thank all of you who brought your family heirlooms and antique quilts to share with us. Each one was a treasure. That is what is so fascinating about what we do as documenters. Each quilt is unique. Each one has a story to tell. The fabrics, the pattern, the technique - they tell the story.

Take for example the wonderful Ocean Waves quilt, three of the corners were rounded and one corner was square. Why was that? Was that her humility corner? The maker had to know that it was still square when she put on the binding. But still, she left it that way. Fascinating!

As the statistics show, most of the quilts that were brought to the meeting were Grandmother’s Flower Garden quilts and each one was wonderful. Two ladies brought a suitcase full of quilts made in the 1920s and 1930s. They had found them in an attic.

The dates of the quilts that were brought to the meeting ranged from a Princess Feather that was made in the 1840s to an Eight Pointed Star that completed in 1968. There was one quilt that was shown at Show and Tell that we did not get to look at closely. It was a quilt with pieced flags. We would like to hear from the lady that brought the quilt. If the owner of this quilt would please contact me MQP would like to set up a time to get a better look at your quilt.

MQP would like to thank you all for being such an enthusiastic and attentive audience last month and we hope you will consider working with us in the future.

Change of Address

MQ Number: 

Name: 

New Address: 

New Phone Number: 

Send to: 
Karen O’Brien
1125 Sherren St.
Roseville, MN 55113
e-mail: membership@mnquilt.org

Angel Pins are awarded to members who have served at least 8 volunteers hours for Minnesota Quilters, Inc. These MQ members received Angel Pins in January.

Mary Abbey
Mary Baumgarten
Judy Dahlin
Naomi duVak
Carol Fisher
Barbara Gable
Eileen Gottswalt
Catherine Jorgensen
Gwen Lundgren
Mary Ann Petron
Joyce Rupert
Susan Shoaff
Tom Stone
Angie Stone
Susan Ude
Leah Yotter
Isanti Stitch-n-Sew
Inventory Liquidation
Yellow Tag Sale
Savings up to 60%

Quilters Prints - Mini Cuts 18" x 22"
Sewing Notions and Accessories
Quilt Batting - DMC & Mettler Threads
OLFA Mats and Cutters
Craft Items - Books - Patterns - Kits

March 4 - 16, 2002
Hours: M-F 12-7, Sat 10-5

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CLASSIFIED ADS

Are you interested in teaching in a quilt shop setting? Please send your name, resume, teaching fee schedule, along with class descriptions to: The Quilted Shingle, 1640 Quail Ridge Circle, Woodbury, MN 55125. We are looking for our teaching schedule to begin in September, 2002.

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***************
Silk was traded along the Silk Road (a nineteenth century term coined by the German scholar, von Richthofen). However, the Silk Road was not a trade route that existed solely for the purpose of trading in silk; many other commodities were also traded, from gold and ivory to exotic animals and plants. Of all the precious goods crossing this area, silk was perhaps the most remarkable for the people of the West.

Silk became a precious commodity highly sought by other countries at a very early time, and it is believed that the silk trade was actually started before the Silk Road was officially opened in the second century BC. An Egyptian female mummy with silk had been discovered in the village of Deir el Medina near Thebes and the Valley of the Kings, dated 1070 BC, which is probably the earliest evidence of the silk trade. During the second century BC, the Chinese emperor Han Wu Di’s ambassadors traveled as far west as Persia and Mesopotamia, bearing gifts including silks. A Han embassy reached Baghdad in AD 97, and important finds of Han silks have been made along the Silk Road.

From about the fourth century BC, the Greeks and Romans began talking of Seres, the Kingdom of Silk. Some historians believe the first Romans to set eyes upon the fabulous fabric was at the fateful battle of Carrhae near the Euphrates River in 53 BC and that the soldiers were so startled by the bright silken banners of the Parthian troops that they fled in panic. Within decades Chinese silks became widely worn by the rich and noble families of Rome. The price of silk was very high in Rome. The best Chinese bark (a particular kind of silk) cost as much as 300 denarii (a Roman soldier’s salary for an entire year!).

Silk was even beginning to have a civilizing effect on the barbarians. In 408 AD when Alaric, a Goth, besieged Rome, his price for sparing the city included 5000 pounds of gold, 3000 pounds of pepper, 30,000 pounds of silver and 4000 tunics of silk.

World silk production continues to increase in spite of man-made fibers replacing silk for some uses. China and Japan have been the two main producers, together manufacturing more than 50% of the world production each year. During the late 1970’s China, the country that first developed sericulture thousands years ago dramatically increased its silk production and has again become the world’s leading producer of silk. The United States is largest importer of silk.

For more information about this fascinating material, thread and fabric - see The Silk Road Foundation (www.silk-road.com). Hanne Vibeke de Koning Stapel in her book Silk Quilts: From the Silk Road to the Quilter’s Studio is also an excellent resource regarding the history of silk and The Silk Road. A Silk Worker’s Notebook (pub. Interweave Press, Inc. 1979, 1985) by Cheryl Kolander is an out of print (currently selling in used book stores in the range of $40 to $200) is a wonderful resource. At the time, she wrote this notebook, she was a weaver, dyer, silk merchant, graphic artist and writer. If you are interested in silk and its history AND you can lay your hands on one of this little volume, snatch it up.

The primary sources for this article were The Silk Road Foundation, A Silk Worker’s Notebook, and Silk Quilts. Some facts were gleaned from the ever present Encyclopedia Britannica.