**April Meeting Notes**

**Thursday, April 6, 2006 at 7:00 pm**
Saturday, April 8, 2006 at 10:00 am

A folklorist is one who formally and academically studies non-literary traditions, art forms and stories. In the March program, Laurel Horton showed us what a folklorist can learn about the lives and values of those people whose quilts she has studied. Since Mary Black had the foresight to record information about her family quilts, they provided an illustration of the interrelationships of women along with the social and economical mores of 19th and early 20th century South Carolina. Laurel Horton asks, “What does the quilt tell you?” Perhaps old dresses were cut up and used in quilts so we can infer that textiles were either unavailable or that frugality was valued by the maker. Quilts were a form of commerce as women traded information about their construction and often earned needed income by quilting for others. Attendees of the March meetings learned that while Mary Black did not make headlines or history books, she led a “great and useful life”—a laudable goal for all of us who quilt, or do not quilt.

**APRIL PROGRAM**

“100 Quilts in 10 by 10” Minnesota Quilters, Inc. celebrates its 28th birthday at the April program. Ten Minnesota quilters will show and talk about ten of their own favorite quilts. The cameo appearance line-up of prolific MQ member quilters includes Joy Pelzmann, Carol Premack, David Shattuck, Jane Shattuck, Sue Keimig, Mary Brandt, Sandy Irish, Lynette Wess, Holly Cain, Sharyn Resvick, Suzanne Zander, and Jean Loken. Attendees will celebrate MQ’s anniversary with birthday cake and quilts. This proved to be a very enjoyable program last year and is back by popular demand. We can look forward to our favorite things: looking at, hearing about, and talking about quilts.

**MEETING CHECKLIST**

>> Road to Chocolate Heaven BOM blocks
>> Blue Fat Quarters to exchange
>> Quilts for Show and Tell
>> Library books that are due

**6th Annual “Probably the World’s Largest” Textile Garage Sale**

April 14 and 15!!
(see page 12 for details)

**MAY PROGRAM**

Malaysia is the peninsula south of Thailand and part of the adjacent island of Bornea that is shared with Indonesia. Mary Scott, proprietor of Bold Over Batiks, and her Malaysian business partner, Faridah Abdul Rahman, will present a slide show and discussion of the indigenous artisan trade of batik-making, unlike any other—including Indonesian—in the world. Ms. Scott lived in Malaysia during part of her corporate career. She discovered Malaysian artisans hand-making batiks in a highly-developed art form and process that has been handed down through the generations. This batik-making often requires multiple artisans in the village several weeks to complete the pieces. Ms. Scott and Ms. Rahman will discuss the artisans and their craft, and will show examples of their unique batiks that are marketed to American quilters through their wholesale Internet business.

For more information about Bold Over Batiks, see www.boldoverbatiks.com.

**FUTURE PROGRAMS**

Laura Murray & Peggy Martin

Charlette Pittman, Judy Lewis, & Lori Allison
Cultivate your gardens!

Spring has always meant renewal, nurturing, planting seeds, watching for blooms. Without stretching that metaphor too far, I’ve been thinking about those processes relative to Minnesota Quilters.

When our founders planted the seeds of our organization back in 1978, what did they want to plant and nurture? They were, as we are, dedicated to the celebration of quilting: honoring the traditions, celebrating the accomplishments, nurturing the future of this wonderful craft. Looking through our storage boxes and finding old newsletters, show booklets, and program notes has made me even more aware of all that we have nurtured and seen grow. I dearly want to see all that we have accomplished continue to bloom.

What do we treasure the most of what we have created? Certainly our annual quilt shows, our preservation of history through the Minnesota Quilt Project, our monthly membership meetings with local and visiting quilt artists, and show-and-tell. Of these, I am most concerned at present with the future of our monthly membership meetings.

I am not concerned about attendance—it continues to be healthy and enthusiastic. The quality of the presentations has been excellent. Treats and show-and-tell have been awesome. I am concerned about administration and program planning for the future. Let me give some background.

Traditionally, we have had day and evening directors (who sat on the MQ Board and planned the programs) and day and evening director-elects (who learned the ropes and assisted with coordinating treats, etc.) Under the new MQ Board structure we added the position of Education Director to oversee activities, provide assistance, serve as a liaison, and attend Board meetings. The thought was that a separate Education Director would relieve the day and evening directors (now called coordinators) of one more meeting and would do the detail work of arranging contracts, etc.

Unfortunately in the last few years, we have been woefully understaffed for both day and evening coordinators and coordinator elects. Those who have taken responsibility have been dedicated but overworked and frustrated. Not too surprisingly, at this point, we are looking at a new program year needing new people for all of these positions. If we were fully staffed, all of these jobs would be easier. It is actually fun to plan programs, contact faculty, and see it all work! It just isn’t fun to do it without help. Nurturing is needed here. We can rearrange how we do things. We could have co-chairs for all of these positions. We could think of other configurations. But we need members to come forward if we are to continue our monthly programs. Grab a buddy and volunteer! Suggest someone you know would be great! Now is the time to plant the seeds for the future! Contact me or a member of the nominating committee. Complete job descriptions are available.

Programs are important to who we are as Minnesota Quilters. I know. I see the members and visitors who attend our monthly meetings. I know you enjoy them, as do I. Let’s cultivate our garden and see that it continues to bloom!

Happy gardening! Happy quilting!

Gail Hanson
MQ member Helen Kelley reports: “A friend just brought me a lovely booklet from the Cancer Center at Mayo . . . The book features quilts that are featured at the Cancer Center . . . Three are group quilts, and there are five done by Eunice Hill and they are spectacular. If these haven’t been featured or brought to the attention of Minnesota Quilters, they should be.”

The fact that Eunice worked with the Mayo Clinic Women’s Cancer Program was in the January 2004 MQ News, when it was announced that she had been chosen as MQ’s 2004 Quilter of the Year.

The address on the booklet given to Helen is: Mayo Clinic, Cancer Center, 200 First Street SW, Rochester, Minnesota 55905. The Mayo Clinic’s Web site is www.mayoClinic.org. Your editor was unable to find anything out about the quilts at the Mayo site. However, if you go to http://tinyurl.com/foyvt, you’ll find a site which will give you a look at two of Eunice’s wonderful quilts.

MQ Calendar of Events

Evening meetings begin at 7:00 pm and Day meetings begin at 10:00 am, except as noted.

April 6 & 8: General Meetings
April 27: Board Meeting

May 4 & 6: General Meetings
May 15: Board Meeting

June 15-17: Sew Many Northern Lights. Annual Quilt Show and Conference, St. Cloud, MN (Classes start on June 14).
June 16: Annual Meeting

July 6 & 8: General Meetings
July 17: Board Meeting

August 3 & 5: General Meetings
August 21: Board Meeting

September 7 & 9: General Meetings
September 15-17: Board Retreat

October 5 & 7: General Meetings
October 23: Board Meeting

General Meetings are free for MQ Members and $3.00 for nonmembers. Workshops require an additional fee for all attendees.

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 --

Effective March 1, 2004

Classified Ad ...................... $10/3 lines
Business Card
Horizontal Only 3.5” x 2” - .......... $20/mo
1/4 Page Ad
Vertical Only 3.75” x 4.75” - .......... $40/mo
1/3 Page Ad
Vertical Only 2.5” x 9.5” - ........... $50/mo
1/2 Page Ad
Horizontal 7” x 4.75” - ................ $75/mo
Horizontal Back Cover ............. $90/mo
Horizontal Back Cover with additional color ............ $175/mo
Full Page Ad - 7.5” x 9.5” - .......... $150/mo

Call for other sizes.

The next issue is April, 2006.

The deadline for submitting ads and articles for consideration is April 9, 2006.

All advertising fees must be included with any submitted advertising. Please contact the Editor to place an ad or submit an article or item. All items for publication are subject to review. MQ charges for ad space; at MQ’s discretion, announcements and other information of interest to guild members may be published at no charge. All ads (except classified ads) must be submitted in camera-ready format. Ads must be paid in advance. Ads will be accepted on a space-available basis in the order payment is received.

All ads and articles may be sent by email to editor@mnquilt.org or sent by mail to:

Karen O’Brien
MQ News Editor
3000 University Ave SE # 120
Minneapolis MN 55414
612-436-0449
Block of the Month for the MAY 2006 MEETING

May Basket Variation  6” block (6-1/2” unfinished)
by Joanne Holzknecht

The drawing for these blocks will take place at the Saturday meeting in May.

Please use 100% cotton fabrics. PLEASE PREWASH THE FABRIC. Note: when making a Block of the Month, please read the instructions carefully, particularly regarding the fabric choices. The pictures may not always be representative of the fabric selection.

FABRIC:    Background is white on muslin print (NOT white-on-white print).
Basket is your choice of color print.

CUT:    Background (WHITE ON MUSLIN PRINT):
2 3” x 3-1/2” rectangles for top of block and
1 1-1/2” x 3-1/2” rectangle for basket handle

Use diagram A for either making templates or for paper piecing.
Whichever method you use, remember to
ADD SEAM ALLOWANCE. Block should finish up
6-1/2” square.

DECORATE: Please decorate the basket somehow.
You could sew on lace, rick rack, a cute button,
or applique. Use your imagination and have fun!

Make one or more blocks. Print your name and address on a slip of paper and attach it to the back of each block.
Bring as many versions of the block to the May meeting as you like. Your name will be entered in the monthly drawing. If you are unable to attend the meeting, you may send your name and block(s) to:

Joanne Holzknecht  email: sewsewjo@spacestar.net
2618 65th Ave N
Brooklyn Center MN  55430

DIAGRAM A
Library Lines II
Karen O’Brian, MQ Librarian

First, online access to the Textile Center catalog is here! Now you can see what materials are available at anytime, from any place. If you know your library patron number, you can also check to see what materials you may have checked out, and when those materials are due.

Note: your library number is NOT the same as your MQ membership number. Call the library (612/436-0464, ext. 108) during open hours to find out what your number is. There is now some talk of giving out library cards with patron numbers printed on them (just like a “real” library!), but that probably won’t happen for a while.

The system is very easy to use, and seems to be very quick. To use it, go to the Textile Center Web site, www.textilecentermn.org; then select “Library”; then select “Go to the Online Catalog.” Have fun!

Late Fees. No one likes to get or give late fees for overdue materials! Nancy, the librarian at the Textile Center, is now calling or emailing borrowers to remind them of items coming due. Remember, if you are unable to return your books by their due date, you can call the Library and ask for them to be renewed once (giving you another 35 days). Materials which are due can be dropped in the “book box” outside the Library any time the Textile Center itself is open.

Book Reviews. Please see two great book reviews on page 13 of this newsletter. This month, read about Fons and Porter Presents Quilts from the Henry Ford in a review by Marge Goodnuff, and Strips and Strings (Evelyn Sloppy) in a review by Kathy Foster. Thank you, once again, to our book reviewers. Next month we’ll have more book reviews as part of our “Total Request Live II” book reviews.

Be sure to stop by the Library during the Textile Garage Sale! Not only will we have our existing assortment of used books for sale, but newly-donated books will be available for sale as well, at the Library’s always way-below-anywhere-else prices.

Library Hours: Monday, 9am–1pm; Tuesday 9am–7pm; Thursday, 9am–1pm and 5pm–7pm; Friday, 9am–1pm; Saturday, 12pm–4pm. The Library is NOT open on Wednesdays or Sundays.

To volunteer to work at the library, please see the sign-up sheets outside the library door. If you need training, please contact librarian@textilecentermn.org.

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FROM THE EDITOR

This month’s newsletter contains a few items about quilters who use their talents in service of others—in their neighborhoods and around the world.

I am humbled when I think of the many, many quilters (known and anonymous) who use the work of their hands to spread a little warmth throughout the world.

Thank you, Minnesota Quilters, for your generosity, caring, and creative approaches to making others’ lives better. I am totally thrilled to be a part of such a group of people. Thank you and God bless you!

Karen O’Brien, MQ News Editor

MQP Minnesota Quilts
a Minnesota Book Award finalist

Minnesota Quilt Project (MQP) was very pleased to learn that their book, Minnesota Quilts: Creating Connections with Our Past had been selected as a finalist (one of four) in the “Anthology and Collections” category of the Minnesota Book Awards!

These are the 18th annual Minnesota Book Awards. The winners of the awards will be announced on April 29, 2006. Our congratulations and very best wishes for a win go to MQP and its very special authors!
Home of the Brave Quilt Project
To comfort and honor

This project is a nationwide effort initiated by Donald Beld, quilter and historian, who lives in Los Angeles, CA. The project is being done in coordination with the Department of Veterans Affairs. It is an effort to make a commemorative quilt for every family who has lost a military family member in Iraq or Afghanistan. News of this quilt-making project, now a national one, has spread from state to state via Internet lists, word of mouth, and an article in The Quilter magazine, January 2005 issue. I have become the Minnesota coordinator for this project.

The block chosen for our quilts has a central square where the quilt maker can sign his or her name. The fabrics we are using are Civil War reproduction prints or similar fabrics. These quilts are intended to provide a link to a similar effort during the Civil War when Union ladies made 250,000 quilts for Union soldiers. They were distributed through the Sanitary Commission, which was formed to raise supplies and funds for the North and the overseeing of sanitary conditions of military hospitals. Of these 250,000 quilts, only four are known to exist today; primarily because of wear and tear and also because soldiers were often buried in their quilts. Of the four surviving quilts, one is on public display at the Lincoln Shrine in Redlands, CA, and is the model for the quilts we are reproducing.

I am asking help in finishing the many quilts needed for Minnesota families. Dakota Star Quilters has undertaken this project as their annual community service project, but it will take a wider quilt community effort. I would like quilt guilds to adopt a family, perhaps from their own town, who has lost a soldier. I will supply patterns as needed. Members can make one or more blocks, donate sashing backing or batting, assemble tops, and/or quilt them. Each quilt will also have a muslin patch added indicating that it is a U. S. Sanitary Commission Reproduction.

I know that with the help of our generous members, this will happen for the families of our soldiers. I have read the letters from parents who feel the comfort of wrapping themselves in a quilt which was made for them by supportive strangers, and know this is a worthwhile effort.

The block pattern can be found at http://www.quiltersmuse.com/home_of_the_brave_quilt_project.htm along with finishing information. I will be at MQ meetings with copies of the pattern as well. I also hope to have a table at the June show.

Sincerely,

Jean Loken, MQ member Minnesota coordinator of HOTBQP

SEWING ANGELS

Mary Godby, long-time co-organizer of Project Linus in Minnesota, has started a new, independent organization, Sewing Angels. The Sewing Angels brochure states that they are “individuals who make blankets for seriously ill or traumatized children in local hospitals.” Sewing Angels has a non-profit status, and is run by volunteers. The Sewing Angels motto reads, “The best kind of sleep under heaven above, is under a blanket handmade with love.” It is hard to argue with that sentiment!

Quilts, afghans, and fleece throws are welcomed by the group. Items must be new, clean, homemade, and washable. Items containing wools and/or blends cannot be used by hospitals. Also, items smelling of smoke, pets, or containing pet hair, cannot be used by hospitals.

The approximate sizes most frequently requested by the hospitals are: 20”x20” (for preemies); 36”x45” (crib size for toddlers); 50”x70” (maximum size for standard hospital beds). Afghans can be any size.

Collection points are all of the Associated Sewing locations (St. Paul, Maplewood, Bloomington, and Waite Park), Fabric and Fashions in Rush City, The Quilted Shingle in Oakdale, Treadle Yard Goods in St. Paul, The Quilters Basket in Brooklyn Park, Quilt Cove in Eagan, or the Sewing Angels headquarters at 1660 Edmund Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55104.

When dropping off blankets to these locations, please label each bag for Sewing Angels, and place a note including your name and address in each bag. Monetary donations, stamps, or gift cards to fabric stores or office supply stores are gratefully accepted, and can be sent to Sewing Angels at their headquarters (see address above).

If you have any questions, the group can be contacted at godbyquilts@aol.com, or at 651-644-4834.

Dolney’s LLC
Quilting Machine Rental & Custom Longarm Quilting
(Meandering patterns starting at $90 a square foot)
Machine Rental: $12/hr or $65/a day hours: 8am to 5pm Mon-Fri
Call for an Appointment 6582 118th St. SE
507-583-7698
Blooming Prairie, MN 55917
**MQ 2007 Show Committee**

We’ve had an organizational meeting, are working on our raffle quilt, have a good list of potential teachers, and are mulling over possible titles. We need a few more folks to join our merry band and help with planning this St. Paul show.

Contact Sue Rutford at suerutford@usfamily.net or call 651-426-3539 if you are interested in joining the committee in one of the following positions:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Judged Exhibit</th>
<th>Non-Judged Exhibit</th>
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<td>Vendors</td>
<td>Door Prizes</td>
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<td>Challenge</td>
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<td>Graphic Design</td>
<td>Merchandise</td>
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<td>Special Exhibits</td>
<td>Volunteers</td>
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<td>Secretary</td>
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Find a friend and co-chair or work on your own. Feel free to call or email with questions about a particular position you may be interested in. MQ is a volunteer-run organization—jump in and help us out!

Sue Rutford and Michelle Swenson, MQ2007 co-chairs

**Kaffe Fassett DVD**

A DVD of the Kaffe Fassett slide show and program delivered to the MQ program audience on October 6, 2005, is now available! Kaffe gives a slide show of his quilts and the sights and experiences that have influenced his quilts and extensive fabric designs. He admitted that his lecture to MQ was one of his most inspired—he said the audience response was wonderful and he clearly enjoyed the enthusiasm for his colorful quilts and stories. Shown with a DVD player and projector, this DVD would make an excellent guild program. Price is $30 and includes postage and packaging. Send payment and your shipping information to Becky McPeek at the MQ office in the Textile Center. Please mark your order “Kaffe Fassett DVD.”

**Minnesota Quilters 2006 Scholarship for Beginning Quilters in Honor of Doreen Speckmann**

This year there were nine applicants for the Minnesota Quilter Scholarship in honor of Doreen Speckmann. All applicants were worthy of the award, but alas only one could be chosen.

The 2006 scholarship goes to **Jodi Anthony** of Oshkosh, Wisconsin. Jodi recently learned to use a sewing machine and is looking forward to being able to express herself through fabric. She hopes the MQ Show will give her the opportunity to meet and talk with more experienced quilters.

Second Place: **Jeanne LaMoore** of Jordan, MN, is a middle school teacher and enjoys seeing the pieces of fabric come together to make something of beauty.

Third Place: **Mary Jo Dahl** of Cass Lake, MN has collected old quilts throughout the years and now wants to create new quilts. She also has blocks from her grandmother-in-law that she will be putting together for an heirloom quilt.

Thanks to all who had submitted applications:

Karen Askerooth, Valley City, ND
Cindy Barlow, Rockford, MN
Sarah Jackan, Chippewa Falls, WI
Marilyn Nickel, Jeffers, MN
Marian Schueller, Aitken, MN
Louise Somers, Jordan, MN

**“Simply Quilts”**

Victoria Miller, MQ member, reports that no new Simply Quilts episodes will be made. Only reruns will be shown on this popular show, hosted by Alex Anderson. If you are concerned, and would like new segments to be made, contact HGTV, Viewer Services, 97721 Sherrill Blvd., Knoxville TN, 37932.

Other Simply Quilts news . . . Host Alex Anderson’s Web site, www.alexandersonquilts.com, now features a “podcast”—little radio shows that you can listen to right over your computer. Now you can have round-the-clock access to Alex’s knowledge and creativity (and niceness!)

**MQ Financial Reports Available**

Minnesota Quilter members who wish to view recent financial statements of MQ may do so by stopping by the MQ office during office hours and requesting this from Becky, the office manager.
News from the MQ 2006 Show Co-Chairs

The 28th annual Minnesota Quilt Show is fast approaching! We hope all of you are admiring your works of art trying to determine which ones you will enter in the show. You realize, of course, that without quilts there is no show. Share with the rest of us what you have been creating. After all, who doesn’t appreciate admiring someone else’s creativity for that is what further inspires each of us. So, don’t delay, get those entry forms filled out so that the respective committees can work their magic preparing write-ups, signage, show book information and creating the space layouts. Sooner is better!

We’d love to see all of our members provide items for the small quilt auction. This is a great way to raise funds to further our love of quilting.

Volunteers are always needed and greatly appreciated. You can always volunteer at the show but if we know you are willing to help at the show ahead of time we can better plan the volunteer needs. After all, we are the largest all-volunteer show in the nation! Way to go, Minnesota Quilters!

Most importantly, we hope you will attend the show. We are truly getting excited about all of the great classes and events we have planned. Not to forget the wonderful sponsors and vendors who are there to further entice us to work on our STABLE (Stash Accumulated Beyond Life Expectancy)!

Hope to see you at the show!

2006 Sew Many Northern Lights Co-chairs
Sue Keimig and Mary Brandt

Nominee: Helen Kelley
For: The Quilters Hall of Fame of Marion, Indiana

It is with great pleasure that Minnesota Quilters, Inc. begins the process of nominating one of our founders, Helen Kelley, to The Quilters Hall of Fame. You may participate in this process by submitting a letter of recommendation in her praise. Please send to Gail Hanson, in care of Minnesota Quilters. Thank you!

2006 Raffle Quilt

I want to take this opportunity to say “thank you” to all the members who have been selling raffle tickets for the MQ 2006 Raffle Quilt, “Borealis Beauty.”

When you hand in your ticket sales, please make sure to include a check with the ticket stubs and make sure that you send the stubs that have the names of the people who purchased the tickets. Some stubs have been returned without a check and some members have returned the purchaser’s copy of the ticket.

Remember that the person who sells the most raffle tickets will receive seventy-five beautiful batik fat quarters. Ticket sales help support Minnesota Quilter’s educational programs, from which we all benefit. To get more tickets, contact Elaine Klennert by mail at 37865 West County Line Road, Hill City, MN 55748 or via e-mail at eklennert@hotmail.com. Thank you to all who are selling and returning raffle tickets.

Thanks,

Elaine Klennert

MQ 2006 Volunteers

Soon you will be learning of your class and lecture schedules for the show. You’ll be much more aware of which times you have available to volunteer.

Please remember to sign up to volunteer to work at the show. We need to have every volunteer fill out a form. The volunteer form is on the show Web site (www.mnquilt.org/mq2006), along with directions for returning the form.

HOT QUILTER TIP

Some quilters keep a scrap piece of batting nearby to collect clipped threads and snippings. The batting seems to attract the threads like a magnet. You can also wear the piece of batting like a corsage—it couldn’t be any easier to reach! Just remember to remove your “corsage” before heading out the door (unless you’re going to MQ—we would understand!).
Need a room for MQ 2006?

As a standard policy, MQ does not get involved with providing accommodations, but we are aware that hotels in St. Cloud may become booked for this occasion. So, the St. Cloud Visitors & Convention Bureau has found an alternative to booking a hotel room. The Visitors Bureau has made arrangements with the College of St. Benedict to rent their dorm rooms. Our quilter representative toured the facility to get a realistic evaluation of the accommodations and says “they are wonderful.”

Please see the MQ 2006 Web site for further information.

Reservation Form for College of St. Benedict
MQ2006 Quilt Show & Conference – St. Cloud

(Please print clearly)

Name: 

Address: 

City/State/Zip (Postal Code): 

Day Phone: 

Evening Phone: 

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Single - $31.95/night</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Double - $26.63/per night/per person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apartment - $42.60/per night/per person (Sleeps 4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roommate:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roommates:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please indicate which nights you want to reserve:

Tuesday, June 13

Wednesday, June 14

Thursday, June 15

Friday, June 16

Saturday, June 17

Enclose check for appropriate amount made payable to College of St. Benedict and mail to: Barb Rose, 4561 182nd St. South Haven, MN 55382

To make a reservation, please send the Reservation Form (below) with the appropriate funds. We must receive this reservation by June 1, 2006. However, the rooms will be allocated on a first-come-first-served basis until they are full, so we advise you to reserve as soon as possible. We will NOT make a reservation without payment.

Checks must be made payable to College of St. Benedict (CSB). Check in time begins at 8:00 AM until 10:00 PM (very flexible). Any cancellations received the week of the reservation are NON-REFUNDABLE. Any questions, call Barb at 1-320-251-3425 or send an email to labr@qwest.net.
2006 Challenge

If you still haven’t acquired a Challenge packet, you can still get them by mail if you contact the MQ office. The cost is $15.00 per packet.

The two remaining colorways are: the Sew Many Northern Lights logo colors (purple, lime green, orange and medium green) and the pastels (sky blue, pink, lavender and yellow). Each packet contains a 1/2 yard piece and 3 fat quarters. There are also a few batik fat quarters available for $2.25 each by mail.

April 6: The drawing for the two Diane Phalen prints (both signed and dated) will take place at the morning MQ meeting.

April 30: Final date for registration of your entry. (Remember, it doesn’t have to be done yet!)

June 9: Your entry MUST be with either the Challenge co-chairs or at one of the non-judged quilt drop-off sites.

There promises to be an amazing Challenge exhibit at the show!

MQ 2006 DOOR PRIZES

I finally followed my own advice to look through our sewing rooms for duplicate items to donate as door prizes for the Sew Many Northern Lights Quilt Show. I’m embarrassed to admit that I had duplicates of five different books, though that’s probably better than having five duplicates of one book. They are in perfect shape, and will be added to our growing stacks of door prizes. Please continue to keep us in mind and donate an item or two. The member donations are adding a nice variety to the vendor donations.

Door Prize Committee Co-chairs Joann Murphy and Kathy Brevig will be at MQ meetings, ready and willing to collect donations that have an included paper marked with your name, address, and “Door Prizes, 2006 Show.” All contributions are appreciated, and contributors will be acknowledged. Door prizes may also be mailed to:

Joann Murphy
10595 Alison Way
Inver Grove Heights, MN 55077

Joann may be contacted at dp06@mnquilt.org and Kathy may be called at 763-441-5134.

SMALL QUILT AUCTION

We now have thirty items for the small quilt auction. We still need many more to have a successful event, so get creative and whip a little something up to donate.

We will be at the Textile Center on April 6 and 8 for the monthly meeting, accepting your donations. Quilts should be crib-size or smaller, and all items should have the name, address, and telephone number of the quilter that made them attached to each item.

Our gift certificate winner for February was Sylvia Korsmos from Colorado Springs, CO. Congratulations to Sylvia and “thank you” to all who have made a donation.

If it’s more convenient, please mail your donations to one of the addresses below:

Patty and Debbie, co-chairs

Patty Von Arx
355 Upper Wood Way
Burnsville, MN 55337

Debbie Craig
1418 Kentucky Ave. S.
St. Louis Park, MN 55426

(612) 865-4471
(952) 544-6341

We also have thirty items in our small quilt auction. We still need many more to have a successful event, so get creative and whip a little something up to donate.

We will be at the Textile Center on April 6 and 8 for the monthly meeting, accepting your donations. Quilts should be crib-size or smaller, and all items should have the name, address, and telephone number of the quilter that made them attached to each item.

Our gift certificate winner for February was Sylvia Korsmos from Colorado Springs, CO. Congratulations to Sylvia and “thank you” to all who have made a donation.

If it’s more convenient, please mail your donations to one of the addresses below:

Patty and Debbie, co-chairs

Patty Von Arx
355 Upper Wood Way
Burnsville, MN 55337

Debbie Craig
1418 Kentucky Ave. S.
St. Louis Park, MN 55426

(612) 865-4471
(952) 544-6341
Membership News

New membership, renewal and change of address should be sent to:

Membership
Minnesota Quilters, Inc.
3000 University Ave. SE, #120
Minneapolis, MN 55414
membership@mnquilt.org

When renewing or changing address (or name), please include your MQ Membership Number (MQNo). This can be found to the right above your address on your latest newsletter. Watch for the expiration notice on your label. It will read: “Please Renew.” The number to the left above your address indicates the month and year of membership expiration. Example: “9/1/06” means you need to renew your membership before the September meeting in 2006.

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.

Meeting Admission Reminder

The meeting admission for nonmembers is $3.

The meeting directors 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 Gayle at the Membership table for a replacement card to be made. Badge holders are available at the admission table.

We are the Minnesota Quilters.

Defining us is like defining a many-thousand-piece charm quilt by each piece of fabric making up its surface.

We are young and old; we are ageless. We are processors of words and of data. We are homemakers, lawyers, machinery operators, teachers, secretaries, doctors, and librarians. We are children, parents, grandparents, and companions. We are women and men. We are survivors. We live in the city; we live in the suburbs. We enjoy a great variety of heritages, political thought, and religious beliefs.

We share a love of quilting. For some of us, quilting is our living, as well. We are traditional quilters; we are contemporary quilters; we invent ways and means of creation that are not yet labeled.

Our quilts connect the generations. Our quilts warm hearts and bodies; they teach, SHOUT, and comfort.

Our physical proximity might define us as a group, but not completely, for our members live throughout the United States of America and, indeed, the world.

We have a great pride in our guild.

Karen O’Brien, copyright 2001
Artwear in Motion 2006

Announcing a very special opportunity for fashion designers and artists who create wearable art to participate in “Artwear in Motion 2006,” annual runway show, October 21–22, 2006, at the Textile Center, Minneapolis. Cash prizes, purchase awards, sales boutique, and festive reception are all part of this gala event.

Artwear artists and fashion designers are invited to submit up to five images of representative work to the jury. The deadline for entries is Friday, April 1, 2006. The entry fee is $25.

For further information and application form, call 612-436-0464, email to info@textilecentermn.org, or visit our website: www.textilecentermn.org.

MINNESOTA QUILT PROJECT

The committee hosted a pot-luck dinner for Laurel Horton Friday night after her workshop. Members brought antique quilts they had recently acquired and we all discussed the various aspects of them.

We are continuing our documentations of quilts with one at the Richfield Historical Society on March 11.

Also, please remember that we are looking for donations of extra copies of the state quilt documentation books you may have in your personal libraries. If you are consolidating or downsizing, please remember us.

Pat Cox

Art Cloth Symposium: Surface Design

Registration is now open for a major national symposium on art cloth, which will be held July 20-26, at the Textile Center, Minneapolis. The event includes pre- and post-conference workshops, a wide array of conference seminars and roundtables, an exhibition, a keynote address by Jane Dunnewold, a presenters’ showcase and an artists’ trunk show.

For more information go directly to <http://www.textilecentermn.org/artcloth.asp>

For more information about the Textile Center or the Art Cloth Symposium, call 612-436-0464, or email to info@textilecentermn.org.

Textile Center Global Market and Annual Meeting

Saturday, May 13, 2006 10 am-4pm

Textile Center member guilds will have display tables with information about their group. Vote for your favorite entry from the Textile Center Challenge Packets projects. Shop the Global Market with textile vendors. Visit the gallery show “Stories in Cloth.”

Visit the Textile Center web site at www.textilecentermn.org for all the event details.

Kelly Willis, Textile Center Liaison

Would you like to receive MQ News without waiting for “snail mail”? 

Let us send it to you by email. Send a note to quilter@mnquilt.org and say: Please send me my MQ News by email! Here is my name and email address. This service is available only to current MQ members, of course. And, just so you know, your email address is kept in MQ files for internal MQ use only. It is not to be given to other organizations or even included in the MQ Membership Directory without your permission.

6th Annual “Probably the World’s Largest” Textile Garage Sale April 14 and April 15

You must come and see what treasures await. Great deals on fabric, yarns, threads, patterns, books, and so much more! Drop off items after spring cleaning your textile stash and pick up a few treasures to accompany your new projects. This sale has been the biggest annual fundraiser for the Textile Center. It is wonderfully fun, and must be experienced!

April 14 Drop off donations (priced, please) 9 am-5 pm

April 14 Preview Sale 6-8 pm ($25 donation at the door)

April 15 The BIG Sale 9 am-3 pm

April 15 The Bag Sale 3 pm-4pm just $1.00 for a bag full!

Traditions Transformed: Contemporary Art Quilts

Exciting art quilts displayed in the Joan Mondale gallery at the Textile Center, March 17 – April 22, 2006.

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Let us send it to you by email. Send a note to quilter@mnquilt.org and say: Please send me my MQ News by email! Here is my name and email address. This service is available only to current MQ members, of course. And, just so you know, your email address is kept in MQ files for internal MQ use only. It is not to be given to other organizations or even included in the MQ Membership Directory without your permission.

Fons and Porter, the authors of this book, co-host a PBS television show on quilting, publish a magazine, write books on quilting, and continue to design and make quilts. Their interest in vintage quilts started early and, as they could not afford to buy vintage quilts, they instead started making quilts. This fostered their involvement in the world of quilting.

The Henry Ford museum, established in 1929 and located in Dearborn, Michigan, now includes several other venues and is a large and comprehensive history attraction. The mission of the museum is to honor, celebrate, and analyze America’s deep traditions of resourcefulness, ingenuity and innovation with the intention of inspiring and helping develop the next innovators and to “honor the common genius of the American people.”

The Ford family included quilts in their collections and sought examples from all over. Today the collection numbers 250 and includes quilts from the 1700s to the 1990s. The quilts featured in this book were made from 1825 to 1925, which was a century of explosive growth in industry and technology.

The authors cover briefly the technological advances of the times, and the influence they had on quiltmaking. However, the most interesting parts of the book are the story of Susan McCord, her quilts, some of the other vintage quilts from the collection, and the patterns for some of the quilts.

There is a great deal known about Ms. McCord (1829–1909), an Indiana farmwife with seven children who loved to garden and quilted for more than fifty years. She used her extensive bags of fabric scraps to choose patterns, colors, and techniques to make her quilts. But Susan McCord put these elements together in highly original ways. Fons and Porter offer an in-depth study of “an ordinary farmwife with extraordinary quilting genius.”

There are twelve Susan McCord quilts in the Ford Museum collection. They are representative of typical Midwestern quilting in terms of fabric, color scheme, and technique. However, Susan manipulated these elements to produce extraordinary quilts. Susan’s needlework skills are evident in her quilts. She averaged ten stitches per inch in her quilting. Her pieced quilts contained hundreds of tiny bits of cotton; some of it obviously from clothing that had been worn and others were new with the sizing still in them. Many of the backs were muslin pieced from lots of little pieces.

Her masterpiece is her “vine” quilt consisting of thirteen panels of appliquéd vines with over 300 leaves and strip-pieced buds on each vine. Her bedcovers “stand today as the extraordinary legacy of an otherwise little known Indiana farmwife.” The “vine” quilt has gotten a lot of publicity including the cover of a recent Quilters Newsletter Magazine. Other McCord quilts include two floral urns, Pine Tree, Ocean Waves, Feathered Star, Turkey Tracks, Diamond Field, a fan variation, and a hexagon mosaic.

Instructions are included for two of Susan’s quilts and twenty-two additional quilts of that era. Fons and Porter have included modern techniques for recreating these quilts making them easier to make.

I loved this book. It contains the most information about Susan McCord and her quilts that I have seen and, in addition, it looks at numerous other quilts from the century of quilts covered by these wonderful examples. I highly recommend this book to anyone involved in quilting to gain some historical perspective as well as to see the prime examples of these vintage quilts.

Reviewed by Marge Goodnuff, MQ member, Edina, MN


Evelyn Sloppy has been a quilter since 1991 and a teacher since 1998. She lives in western Washington and enjoys scrappy traditional quilts.

Her technique, presented in this book, uses a strip-piecing method with strips of various width and length (she saves any fabric scrap bigger than three inches square or one inch by four inches.) She then cuts these into blocks, sashing, borders, etc. Her quilts look complicated, until you see how simple her technique is.

I enjoyed this book very much. Her directions are very simple and she has great illustrations. I was able to go through my fabric stash and whip up a block in no time at all.

Review by Kathy Foster, MQ member, Lakeville, MN
April 1 – “Create Your Perfect Quilt Space” – A free, one-hour lecture by Vickie Peterson based on the new book *Creating Your Perfect Sewing Space*. Lecture 10–11 am at Quilting by the Hearth in Lonsdale, MN. Space is limited so call soon to hold your place: 507-744-4284.

April 1–22 Kathy Shier Quilt Show at Quilting by the Hearth in Lonsdale, MN. Award-winning quilter Kathy Shier will have over 30 quilts on display, from small wall-hangings to bed-quilt size. Show open during shop hours. For directions or more information call 507-744-4284.

April 2, 2006 - Quilt of Dreams Garden Party & Tea to benefit St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital will be held on April 2, 2006, from 1:00 - 4:00 pm, at The International Market Square in Minneapolis MN, sponsored by MN Epsilon Sigma Alpha. Admission is $20.00. There will be a silent auction of 50 quilts that have won a quilting contest that was sponsored by Hancock Fabrics. Our special guest speaker will be Bobbie Jensen from KARE 11 television. There will be wonderful desserts, tea & coffee from D’Amico Catering, as well as many other silent auction items to bid on. For more information, please call Kathy at 763-742-9737 or 763-682-5138. To learn more about Epsilon Sigma Alpha, please contact: ESA International Headquarters 970-223-2824, or go to www.ESAINTL.com. St. Jude contact information: www.stjude.org.

April 7, 2006 “Celebrate! College of Human Ecology” an event, in concert with the Goldstein show that will honor the College and highlight its contributions to each of us and the world.

April 28 - 29, 2006 Spring Fanfare Quilt Show presented by Pieceful Hearts Quilt Club and Peace By Piece Quilt Guild. Hundreds of quilts and quilted items, two raffle quilts, door prizes, small quilt silent auction, service project quilts, vendors, challenge exhibit and Viewers Choice awards. Located in a beautiful facility with high ceilings, lots of natural light, and a snack bar! Fri. April 28, 10 a.m. – 7 p.m.; Sat. April 29, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Admission: under 18 - free; adults - $2.00. Monticello Community Center, 505 Walnut St., Monticello, MN. I-94 west to Hwy. 25 north, turn left on 6th St. Questions? Call Helen, 763-295-4979.

May 19 - 21, 2006 - Spring Quilt Market is in Minneapolis!

June 24-August 27, 2006 - Woodson Art Museum, Wausau, Wisconsin. Two quilt exhibitions, “Potluck Quilts: Art Quilters from the Piecemakers,” and “The Music Quilt Project.” The two quilt exhibitions are “all about taste (in food and in music) and are sure to stimulate the senses.” See www.lywam.org, email museum@lywam.org, or call 715-845-7010.

June 27, 2006 - Woodson Art Museum, Wausau, Wisconsin. Quilting novelist Jennifer Chiaverini will be speaking and signing books at 7 p.m. Ms. Chiaverini is the author of the quilter-favorite Elm Creek Quilts series.

The Split Rock Arts Program is the University of Minnesota’s summer series of workshops in creative writing, visual art, and design. Held on the Twin Cities’ campus and at the University’s Cloquet Forestry Center in northern Minnesota. Miriam Nathan-Roberts will be teaching “The Art Quilt: Twelve New Compositions” July 23 - 29. Web registration begins February 25, 2006: srap@cce.umn.edu; www.cce.umn.edu/splitrockarts/; 612-625-8100. See ad on facing page.


August 4-5, 2006 The Hands All Around Quilt Guild of Braham presents their 15th annual small quilt show at Braham City Hall. Hours for the show are 10a.m.-7 p.m. Aug. 4 and 10a.m.- 5p.m. August 5. This year’s special feature is a display of Carol Fealy’s quilts. Carol has won many awards at previous shows. August 4 is Pie Day (one of Minnesota’s best folk art festivals) where you can also enjoy homemade pie, crafts, entertainment, and fun. Free admission. Raffle quilt. Viewers’ choice awards with cash prizes. Send a long self-addressed, stamped envelope to Rosemary Brabec, PO Box 401, Braham, MN 55006 for show registration information.

Be sure to send in your information to the editor as soon as finalize 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 and not for profit. MQ News reserves the right to reformat and edit the content for length.
“FAT QUARTER” DRAWING

What a great way to build your stash and have fun doing it!

Anyone wishing to participate should bring up to THREE fat quarters (FQs) of quilt-shop-quality fabric to the evening or day meeting.

1. Please contribute fabric you would use yourself, you might actually win! Remember, a Fat Quarter measures approximately 18” by 22” (1/2 yard of fabric, cut in half along the fold).
2. Put your name, address, and phone number on each. You’ll get one chance for each FQ you contribute to the drawing.
3. Then one name will be drawn at the Saturday morning meeting. That lucky person will get all of the FQs contributed for that month.

If you are unable to attend an MQ meeting, you can still participate by mailing your FQs to Minnesota Quilters, 3000 University Ave. SE #120, Minneapolis, MN 55414-3360. Please be sure to mail in time to reach MQ by the Saturday morning meeting. You need not be present to win: if you are not at the meeting, you will be contacted, and the FQs will be held for the next meeting or mailed to you.

Get involved, have fun, and maybe take home a bundle of fat quarters!

April: April showers make me BLUE (any shade or tone)
May: KID STUFF Any bright, stripey, dotty, pictorial, fun, colorful fabrics suitable for kid quilts
June: See you at the show! (No FQ Drawing)
July: PURPLE!
August: Everything’s “dotty”! Polka-dots, big dots, little dots. DOTS are a great way to perk up a quilt!

Great news! Starting with the October MQ News, the MQ FQ Drawing will have new organizers. Kathy Simon Frank and Karen Zalewski have stepped up to run the show. Thank you, Karen and Kathy! I know you’ll have just as much fun as I did!

Remember, you can’t win if you don’t enter. Actually, everybody wins with this drawing, because it’s so much fun to play!

Karen O’Brien

Split Rock Arts Program
June 18 - August 4, 2006

Weeklong and Three-day Summer Workshops with Renowned Artists
Virginia Blakelock and Carol Perrenoud, beadworking
Susan Brandeis, digital textile design
Anna Carlson, fashion design
Jane Dunnewold, surface design
Barbara Martinson, color
Miriam Nathan-Roberts, art quilts
Barbara Lee Smith, surface design
Marilou Schultz, Navajo weaving
Yoshiko Wada, surface design
Rebekah Younger, knitwear design
Christine Zoller, surface design

Beautiful locations and excellent facilities on the Twin Cities campus.
Registration is ongoing.

For catalog: call 612-625-8100 or e-mail srap@cce.umn.edu
www.cce.umn.edu/splitrockarts

A program of the College of Continuing Education. The University of Minnesota is an equal opportunity educator and employer.
DIRECTIONS: Minnesota Quilters is located at the Textile Center, 3000 University Avenue SE, Mpls. From WEST (On I94, exit at Univ./280, take the right-hand fork. Turn left onto Univ. Ave. and continue west for 0.7 miles. Textile Center is on the left. From EAST (On I94, exit at Huron Blvd. and merge onto Huron Blvd. SE. Turn right onto Washington SE/MN 122. Turn right again onto Univ. Ave. SE and continue east for 0.5 miles. Textile Center is on the right.

PARKING: Short-term street parking is available during the day. Evening/weekends, parking is also available at 2999 Univ. across the street from Textile Center; in the Osvald business lot, 2828 Univ., accessed by the alley behind the car wash; and in a pay lot north of Univ. on 29th Ave. SE.

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