February Meeting Notes
Thursday, February 2, 2006  7:00pm  
Saturday, February 4, 2006  10:00am

January was the preview to the annual MQ Show in June. It was a “Who’s Who” of celebrity quilters including Debbie Bowles, Sharon Hultgren, Linda Hohag, Shelly Stokes, and Susan Cleveland, who were all present with quilt samples and stories to share with program attendees. Susan Cleveland provided the most lighthearted of moments as she described the dilemma of her recent award-winning quilt. While Susan despaired that her quilt did not meet any size guidelines for judged entries, her husband advised, “Just add some more crap to it!” Thus, the tassels were added to her creatures quilt and it won in Minnesota, Paducah, and Houston.

Our very competent and hard-working MQ Show committee, led by Mary Brandt and Sue Keimig, presented the special events such as the Renee Rongen Show on Thursday night, the Eleanor Burns Keynote at Friday’s banquet, a new event (the fat quarter stroll), all the classes and lectures and the judged and non-judged quilt events. Borealis Beauty, the MQ raffle quilt, was on display and is even more dazzling up close.

FEBRUARY PROGRAM
Sheila Sinclair Snyder, author of Pieced to Fit: Instant Borders from Easy Blocks thinks inside the block. Her book features border and sashing designs that are built as block units rather than a long strip. Borders are designed to fit the quilt blocks with color placement giving the quilt a finished look. Incorporate sashing right into the block using color to enhance and complete the design as well as fit the block perfectly. Sheila’s unique perspective on quilt layout and design will be illustrated by her trunk show and lecture as well as a Friday workshop featuring her “Gemstone Mosaic” design. Space is still available, to register,
Greetings,

The calendar year has just begun, but our MQ “year” is well underway. The registration book for Sew Many Northern Lights, St. Cloud, June 15–17, 2006, has gone out, we’ve had our very impressive January preview of the classes to be offered, many of you have already sent in your registration material! I have too!

The Nominating Committee for the 2006–07 election and appointment process for MQ officers, directors, and committee chairs has begun its very important work. The committee members are Gail Kieper, Rosemary Kessler, Jane and David Shattuck, Susan Sandager, and Carol Schwankle. They will be talking to many of you over the next few months, interviewing for information as to who you see as capable, enthusiastic leaders for the next few years, and what you see as important goals for Minnesota Quilters. We have had a history of exemplary leadership and volunteerism in MQ. Currently, at any one time almost 100 volunteers are working either on the upcoming quilt show, the quilt show for the following year, or on all the other activities that keep MQ vital and inspiring to us all. Many members volunteer year after year. However, to remain a vibrant organization, we always need new volunteers, new ideas, new interests, and new skills. Please take this opportunity to come forward with your own volunteer interests and to recommend others. We know that the leadership we need is available in our wonderful organization of quilters. Help us to find that leadership for the future!

A special volunteer request has grown out of the rather mundane task of organizing our storage needs. As an organization we have been operating since 1978, over 25 years. In that time we have accumulated many, many files, many moldering away in boxes. Some of these files are important and will be placed in accessible file drawers, particularly past show and board information. Some financial records will be stored in more secure storage. Some material will be tossed. There is also much material of historical, narrative, interest—photos, articles, etc. It would be wonderful to have a member with a historical perspective to help us to make decisions on what to save and how, and what to toss. If you are that person, let me know!

As always, let us know what you think, what your hopes are for MQ, and how we can serve you better. Happy quilting.

Gail Hanson
MQ Calendar of Events

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

February 2 & 4: General Meetings
February 3: Sheila Sinclair Snyder Workshop
February 20: Board Meeting

March 2 & 4: General Meetings
March 3: Laurel Horton Workshop
March 27: Board Meeting

April 6 & 8: General Meetings
April 24: Board Meeting

May 4 & 6: General Meetings
May 22: 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

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

FROM THE EDITOR

To all of you who offer kind words to me in my quest to prepare an excellent (well, at least coherent and legible) newsletter every month, THANK YOU! Your support means so much to me!

The MQ 2006 Committee has been so busy getting things ready for the show in June. I don’t know about you, but I’m starting to get very excited about St. Cloud! Hope to see you there!

Karen O’Brien

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.

The views expressed herein are not necessarily those of Minnesota Quilters, Inc. Although every effort has been made to provide timely and accurate information, Minnesota Quilters, Inc. shall have no liability to any person or entity with respect to liability, loss, or damage caused or alleged to be caused directly or indirectly by the information contained in this newsletter. This publication is intended to provide generalized information only and not to render professional advice.

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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
                             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
                             Vertical - 3.75" x 9.5" or 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 March, 2006.

The deadline for submitting ads and articles for consideration is February 4, 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 MARCH 2006 MEETING

Stone House 8” block (8 ½” unfinished)

By Joanne Holznecht

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

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 light gray print.

Use two different black prints. One tone-on-tone; the other a medium-sized print with black background.

CUT: For the background (GRAY PRINT):
   4 - 2 1/2” x 4 1/2” rectangles
   4 - 2 1/2” x 2 1/2” squares

FROM EACH BLACK:
   2 - 2 1/2” x 4 1/2” rectangles
   2 - 2 1/2” x 2 1/2” squares

SEW together as shown in the diagram. However, before sewing square to rectangle, CHECK TWICE to confirm you are sewing in the right direction. Compare the seam to the diagram before sewing!

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 March meeting as you want. 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 Holznecht
2618 65th Ave N
Brooklyn Center MN 55430
e-mail: sewsewjo@spacestar.net
**In Memoriam: Joanne Larsen Line**

Joanne Larsen Line believed that with a few basic guidelines and clear instructions, anyone could make beautiful quilts. Readers and quilting fans agreed, making Joanne one of Duluth’s most popular resident authors. The family of the award-winning author announced that she died on January 13th, 2006, in Duluth’s St. Mary’s Hospice following a long battle with melanoma. Melanoma, which has been on the rise in the United States, is an aggressive form of skin cancer that is often fatal.

A lifelong learner, Joanne began her quilting career in the mid 1990s by learning the craft as she neared retirement from the University of Minnesota, Duluth. With a unique aptitude and talent for mathematics, Joanne quickly understood not only the formulas required for creating quilts, but how to explain the often complicated quilt making process to others. She quickly became one of Duluth’s most popular quilting instructors.

“It is clear there is a special bond between my mother and area quilters,” said her son, Dale Line, of Minneapolis. “The outpouring of support from the quilting community has been tremendous, and has been of great help to our family.” Joanne became an author almost by accident. In 1998, Joanne was approached by Nancy Tubesing of Duluth’s Pfeifer-Hamilton Publishers. Pfeifer-Hamilton had just published the widely acclaimed children’s book, “The Quiltmaker’s Gift,” and was looking to publish a companion book on how to make the quilts featured in the original story. The publisher needed to find someone who could show how to make the beautiful illustrations into actual quilts. Calls out to local quilters consistently pointed Nancy in Joanne’s direction.

The quilters were right. Joanne authored two successful quilting books based on the original story and illustrations, “Quilts from the Quiltmaker’s Gift,” and “More Quilts from the Quiltmaker’s Gift.” Joanne called upon local quilters to make many of the quilts featured in the books. A third book was nearing completion at the time of Joanne’s death, and is expected to be published posthumously.

The act of giving was at the heart of Joanne’s books. “The giving will continue,” said her sister Judy Pearson, also of Duluth. Before her death, Joanne asked her family to transform her quilting legacy into resources for fighting the disease which took her life. Over the next few months, the family will begin making Joanne’s quilts available for purchase with all proceeds going toward melanoma research.

To learn about Joanne Larsen Line, visit her website at www.joanneline.com.

(Editor’s note: I have extended sympathy, both personally, and on behalf of Minnesota Quilters, to Joanne’s family. Her death is a great loss. Be watching for news of how we can help to carry Joanne’s legacy on.)

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**Library Lines II**

Karen O’Brien (MQ Librarian)

“**Goodnuff** Book Reviews.** Please see two great book reviews elsewhere in this newsletter, The Quilt That Walked to Golden, and Calico Man. Not only were these books recommended by Marge Goodnuff, but she personally reviews the books for us.

Thank you to others who have recommended books for purchase by MQ! I keep track of all of the recommendations and hope to bring these books to you in short order.

The Textile Center Library space is available for exhibit times in the coming year. There is a good amount of wall space, and a locking display cabinet for small items. The space is available to all participating member organizations, and if you are a Minnesota Quilter, this includes you. If you are interested in having a library exhibit, please contact me at klobrien2@aol.com.

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.
Greetings from the 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:

- Judged Exhibit
- Non-Judged Exhibit
- Vendors
- Door Prizes
- Challenge
- Facilities
- Graphic Design
- Merchandise
- Publicity
- Special Events
- Special Exhibits
- Volunteers
- Secretary

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, 2007 Show Chair

Answer the call – Minnesota Quilters needs you!

Are you interested in learning more about Minnesota Quilters? Interested in helping create the future of MQ? Do you have a new idea or direction you would like to see MQ pursue?

The Nominating committee is currently working on the slate of officers to serve on the Board of Directors of Minnesota Quilters. The election of officers will be held at the MQ Annual Meeting during the Annual Quilt Show, Friday June 16th, in St. Cloud. In addition we are working on filling the support positions that help keep this organization running and serving the members.

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Information is now on the Web site and on-line registration will be available soon.

Thanks to Carolyn Peters for her work on the show Web pages.

Register early to be sure to get your first choices!

Thank you!

From Pam Ronan, 2006 Faculty Chair: Thanks again to the teachers who attended the January Preview meetings and to the volunteers who watched over tables for teachers who couldn’t attend. Your assistance made the meetings a great success!

If you have any questions about classes, please feel free to contact Pam Ronan at mq@beadlique.com or at 763-745-0535 during the day.

If you are interested in learning more about Minnesota Quilters and how you can volunteer your talents, or if you know a member that we should talk to about any of the open positions, please contact one of the committee members listed below or call the MQ Office (612 436-0449) and leave a message or email us at quilter@mnquilt.org.

Gail Keiper
Rosemary Kessler
Susan Sandager
Carol Schwankl
David Shattuck
Jane Shattuck

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Register early to be sure to get your first choices!
Corrections to MQ 2006 Registration Book

Unfortunately, and contrary to popular opinion, we’re not perfect. There are a few errors in the Registration Book, and the following corrections should be made.

Class Corrections and Clarification:
- In the Center Spread, Bobbie Aug’s class on Friday, Number 3732, should be Kaleidoscope Diamonds. The class description is correct.
- Also in the Center Spread, Nancy Kazlauckas’s class will start at 2:00 p.m., not at 8:30.
- On page 37, Barb Vlack’s class number 4912, Beginning Survey of Electric Quilt, is a beginning class. The description is incorrect. Please see class 1912 for the correct descriptions.

For clarification:
- Sharon Hultgren’s Quilt Pro to Quilt class is based on her CD, Easy Angel Partner.
- Bobbie Aug’s Guild Summit is an information exchange forum for both existing guilds and those who are thinking of starting a guild. It will be a forum for the exchange of ideas and questions on all aspects of a quilt guild, membership, shows, meetings, and other activities.

Miscellaneous Corrections:
- Please note that the telephone number listed on the Volunteer Registration Form for the 2006 Quilt Show and Conference (page 41 of the booklet) is in error. To register as a volunteer (and we DO want you!) please write, email, or call your volunteer information to:
  MQ St. Cloud Volunteers
  3000 University Avenue SE #120
  Minneapolis, MN 55414
  showvol06@mnquilt.org
  612-642-0212
- Finally, the phone number listed on page 40 for Minnesota Quilters is incorrect. The Minnesota Quilters office number is 612-436-0449.

3rd Annual "Spring Stroll In The Country"

Winter got you down? Come join us for a Spring Stroll in the Country. March 24, Friday thru April 1, Saturday. 5 quaint shops to please you with the latest ideas and fabrics. PRIZES GALORE !! Contact the shop closest to you for more details!

* Heavenly Patchwork Quilt Shop - Waconia: 952-442-8677
* Gone To Pieces Quilt Shop - Kimball: 320-398-5300
* Little Mountain Quilt Shop - Monticello: 763-295-3777
* Lady of the Lake Quilts - Buffalo: 763-682-1990
* DeAnn’s Country Village Shoppe - Litchfield: 320-693-9113
News from the MQ 2006 Show Co-Chairs

Food and Parking at MQ 2006 Quilt Show

Now these are two subjects that are always of interest when you are going to a show. We are happy to say that improvements over previous shows have been made on both counts!

There are parking lots all over downtown St Cloud. There are maps of these locations in the registration book and online. The good news is that St Cloud has added a trolley that runs a regular route to these locations as well as to the mall, Munsinger Gardens, and other locations. The trolley is always free and runs past these locations every fifteen minutes. Also, with your wristband or show pass you can ride the city bus at NO charge. The addition of both of these modes of transportation, at no additional cost to show attendees, should greatly cut down on the stress of finding adequate parking.

FOOD, another subject near and dear to our hearts. If you are taking classes or just wish to be assured that you needn’t scramble at noon you can preorder a boxed lunch through pre-registration. Boxed lunches will also be available in the concession area at the Civic Center. Also, the Kelly Inn will be doing a one-choice buffet line in the pool area for $8.00. This will include a beverage, dessert, and tax. (There are also vendors in the pool area—that should aid digestion! There will always be tables and chairs in this area to rest and regroup.) Also, there are the restaurants in the Kelly and the Radisson as well as all of the great places to dine in downtown St. Cloud, which is just a short walk or trolley ride away!

As you are making your plans for the show, we just wanted you to be aware of these additions which we think will enhance your show enjoyment.

All of our committees are diligently working to make your show experience a very enjoyable endeavor. We look forward to having you join us!

Mary and Sue
2006 Show Co-chairs

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 75 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

QUILTER TIP

When it’s time to change blades in your rotary cutter, use one of those small refrigerator magnets to move the blade from cutter to container, etc. Keep a small magnet in the basket with your extra blades, used blade container, etc.
Sew Many Northern Lights Volunteer Registration Form

Our show is brought to you entirely by Volunteers. YOU are the most valued and treasured resource Minnesota Quilters has. It will take over 600 volunteers working together to put on a successful quilt show in June, 2006. Each volunteer with 2 hours of service will receive a Volunteer Pin as a token of appreciation for time given. This year we will have volunteer shifts of one hour for white gloving, and two hours for other duties. We will also have start times on the half hour, so you will have more opportunities to volunteer and enjoy the show. For each hour you volunteer, your name will be entered into daily prize drawings. In addition, your name will be entered into the drawing for the Grand Prize Drawing.

Grand Prize is a PFAFF Sewing Machine!

Call, write or eMail your volunteer registration information to:
MQ St. Cloud Volunteers, 3000 University Avenue SE #120, Minneapolis, MN 55414, 952-475-9919, eMail showvol06@mnquilt.org.

Name____________________________________________________________________________________________________
Address______________________________________________________________________________________
City, State ZIP or Postal Code____________________________________________________________________
eMail_________________________________ Day Phone__________________Evening Phone_________________

Please check the Volunteer Opportunities

☐ White Glove - We have one hour shifts available starting at half hour intervals.
☐ Ticket Taker     ☐ Door Guard     ☐ Lecture Helper     ☐ Registration     ☐ Small Quilt Auction
☐ MQ Merchandise   ☐ Raffle Quilt   ☐ Volunteer Table   ☐ 2006 Challenge   ☐ Bag Check Table
☐ Set-Up TUESDAY   ☐ Set Up WEDNESDAY ☐ Take-Down SATURDAY
☐ Other ________________________________

☐ Class Room Helper – MUST BE SIGNED UP FOR THE CLASS:  Class Numbers ____________________________

Please list the times you are available to volunteer.

Tuesday June 13th ___________________________________________________________________________
Wednesday June 14th _________________________________________________________________________
Thursday June 15th _________________________________________________________________________
Friday June 16th ___________________________________________________________________________
Saturday June 17th _________________________________________________________________________
Saturday Take Down (5:00pm start)_____________________________________________________________________

Those who contribute 4 hours of volunteer time for Take Down on Saturday Night will be eligible for a special drawing. The special prize is a certificate for custom quilting for up to a full-size quilt. The quilting will be done on a longarm, stitch-regulated machine by a professional quilter and includes one thread color, but does not include batting.

Many thanks to all the hard-working 2006 Show Committee members. As the largest all-volunteer show in the nation, we can’t say thank-you enough to those who give so much time and talent to this event. If you’d like to lend a hand before, during or after the show please send in the completed form above.
2006 Challenge

Winter is here and soon it will be June and time for the 2006 show! Now is the perfect time to make your entry for the Sew Many Northern Lights challenge. After all, the holidays are over, it’s too early to garden, and there is not much snow to shovel! In addition, the Challenge this year is for small items—so you won’t be tempted to make a king-size spread that you can’t complete.

We have very few remaining (less than five) of the brights (deep blue, lime green, crimson and golden yellow). The other two 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. They will be available at the February meeting for $14.00 or you can purchase them by mail for $15.00 (the extra $1.00 is to cover postage). Mail orders should go to:

Karen Kopitzke
4248 Odell Ave. S.
Afton, MN 55001

Be sure to indicate which colorway you want. Checks are great but you can also use your MasterCard, Visa or Discover card. Just include your card number and expiration date on your request.

For each packet purchased you will be eligible to win two Diane Phalen prints. These are numbered, signed and framed. The drawing will be held when we complete the sale of packets.

Rules for entering the challenge are included in each packet.

Small Quilt Auction 2006

During the Holidays take a break from all the hustle and bustle and make a project for the Small Quilt Auction. 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 drawing starts in February so donate in January to qualify for a chance for a $30 gift certificate to your favorite gift shop.

If it is more convenient, please mail your items to one of the addresses listed below.

Thank you in advance for all your creativity and contributions!

Patty and Debbie,
2006 Small Quilt Auction Co-chairs

Patty Von Arx
355 Upper Wood Way
Burnsville, MN 55337
(612) 865-4471

Debbie Craig
1418 Kentucky Ave. S.
St. Louis Park, MN 55426
(952) 544-6341

WANTED: Assistant to the publisher of the 2006 Show Book

This person will help do mailings and then help keep track of those that respond with contracts for advertising in the show book. This position will not entail any “cold calling,” only sending letters and following up. A working knowledge of Microsoft Word and Excel is needed. If you are interested, contact either Cindy Wilson at clw@charter.net or Mary Brandt at quilter@mnquilt.org.

2006 Door Prizes

People were very generous at the January meetings, and contributed some terrific door prizes for the Sew Many Northern Lights Quilt Show in St. Cloud. We need many more, though, so please continue to check your quilting library and work room for duplicate items or kits that need a new home. If you donate the extra items for door prizes, the eventual recipient will be happy, the door prize committee will be happy, and you’ll be happy because you made a dent in your work space, not to mention having a tax deduction. Happiness all around!

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.
Laurel Horton  
March 3, 2006 Workshop

Minnesota Quilters is proud to offer this opportunity for MQ Members

“Flexible and Free String Patchwork”

Registration Form

Name __________________________________________ MQ ID Number _________________________

Address __________________________________________ City __________ State __________ ZIP __________

Day Phone __________________________________________ Evening Phone _______________________

What: Laurel Horton “Flexible and Free String Patchwork” Workshop  
Cost: $35.00  
Where: Textile Center  
When: Friday, March 3, 2006, from 9:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.  
(1/2 hour lunch break)

Because there are a limited number of classroom spots, registration is “first come, first served.”

To register, complete and mail the form below (include check for payment of workshop fee), register at the February meeting, email programs@mnquilt.org, or call 952-471-0131.

Send application form to:

Lori Allison (March Workshop)  
Minnesota Quilters, Inc.  
3000 University Ave SE, Suite 120  
Minneapolis MN 55414
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: “9/1/03 means you need to renew your membership before the September meeting in 2003.

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.

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 country; 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.

We are the Minnesota Quilters.
Laurel Horton to be March MQ guest lecturer

Laurel Horton, folklorist and quilt historian, is a native of Kentucky. Her 1979 masters thesis was one of the earliest studies of regional variations in American quiltmaking traditions. Ms. Horton participated with one of the first quilt documentation surveys between 1983 and 1985. The result was a traveling exhibition and a book, Social Fabric: South Carolina’s Traditional Quilts.

Ms. Horton has been an active member of the American Quilt Study Group since 1983, served on the board, edited Uncoverings, the annual volume of research papers, edited Quiltmaking in America: Beyond the Myths, and has written some thirty scholarly and popular articles.

Her most current book, “Mary Black’s Family Quilts” represents a new direction for the study of historic quilts as an aspect of a family’s “material behavior.” She skillfully weaves the story of the family’s lives, using information gleaned from oral interviews with descendants, family papers, historic documents and the quilts themselves.

Loon Country Quilters Donate Dignity Quilts to Area Mortuaries

The Loon Country Quilters of Grand Rapids, MN, met over the past few months to sew six large and four baby-sized quilts to be given to the area mortuaries. The group is calling these quilts, “Dignity Quilts.” These quilts will replace the traditional white sheet or zippered body bag morticians have used in the past to retrieve a body.

In order to accomplish such a large task, donations of fabric, thread, and batting were accepted from RJR Fabrics, Kona Bay, P&BTextiles, Cherrywood Fabrics, Coats & Clark, Airtex, and Poly-fil.

Club members assembled on several Saturdays to cut and sew; others gave of their time to quilt the projects; and yet others added the binding to the finished quilts.

“Our hope is that these quilts will offer an added measure of respect and dignity for the dearly departed and the bereaved family members,” state co-chairs Elaine Klenner and Julie Olson.

Several original designs were drawn by local quilt designer, Julie Olson. New designs were needed because the group is giving them to the companies who donated products for use in the project. “It is our hope that other quilt clubs will accept our challenge and make similar quilts for their local mortuaries,” say Julie and Elaine.

Patterns for these quilts will be posted on Julie’s website, hugsandstitchesquilts.com and, hopefully, on the websites of the donating companies listed above.

Julie A. Olson

Book For Sale and Signing at March MQ Program

“Mary Black’s Family Quilts represents an intriguing blend of South Carolina history, social history, material culture, and women’s studies for academics and general readers alike. Laurel Horton’s thorough research into the Black family history spans generations and her engaging narrative gives us an incredibly personal portrait of the ordinary women who made these delightful quilts.”—Jan Hiester, Curator of Textiles, Charleston Museum

At the heart of this story is a collection of sixteen quilts made by Mary Black and other women in her family. Mary Louisa Snoddy Black was born in 1860 and lived her whole life in the vicinity of Spartanburg, South Carolina. Shortly before her death in 1927, Mary and her daughters sewed onto each quilt a small handwritten label containing information about the maker and the quilt itself. The quilts were then stored in trunks, where they remained until 1996, when they were removed and framed for display in the offices of the Mary Black Foundation. This book brings together the author’s meticulous research, thoughtful interpretation, and stylish writing to set a new standard for the study of quilts and quiltmaking as material behavior within the everyday lives of ordinary people.
Now is a great time to become involved with the Minnesota Quilt Project, a standing committee of Minnesota Quilters. For the last few years, the Minnesota Quilt Project has been focused on publication of the Minnesota quilt book. It is in the marketplace, the first printing of the book is sold out, and a second printing has been done.

Now, the MQP committee is ready to focus that energy elsewhere.

Besides publishing a quilt book, what does MQP do?

Quilt documentations: This is where you get the opportunity to look closely and actually touch these beautiful objects. Our documentation form is now finalized and we are going to finish the documentation of the quilts that we were unable to do last August. Look for this “documentation day” sometime in mid-February. Contact any MQP member for more information.

Quilt Making: Quilts have been pieced and quilted to become part of the MQ permanent collection. The current project is a feathered star that is almost complete.

MQ Show: MQP provides insurance evaluations as well as a place for people to look at historic quilt blocks and share their stories about family quilts.

Research and Writing: Several of our members have been published. For those who enjoy this activity, this is the place for you.

Quilt Database: We maintain a database of documented quilts and a collection of pictures of the quilts. We have joined Michigan State University in a grant application to fund the inclusion of our data in a national database.

What skills do you need to join MQP? Only one qualification is needed to become part of this group. You need to be interested in the history of quilts and the people who made them. You don’t need to know anything—just bring a desire to learn.

Please join us at our meetings! These are from 8:30-9:30 a.m. at the Textile Center on the same day as the Saturday morning MQ meetings. The next one is February 4, 2006.

Karen Kopitzke
Pat Cox
Minnesota Quilters 2006
Speckmann Scholarship

Are you a new or beginning quilter? Would you like a chance to attend the Minnesota Quilt Show and Conference in St. Cloud? The Minnesota Quilters is, once again, offering the Minnesota Quilters Scholarship for Beginning Quilters in Honor of Doreen Speckmann. The late Doreen Speckmann loved to inspire new quilters. Her classes were always geared for the beginning or intermediate student. We offer this scholarship in Doreen’s name to continue her primary focus: encouraging all quilters, but especially the newly interested.

We believe the best way to encourage and inspire new quilters is to give them a chance to participate in the annual MQ Quilt Show. The person chosen to receive the scholarship will enjoy the following awards:

- Registration for two three-hour classes or one six-hour class
- Registration for three lectures
- Single hotel room for two nights
- Award Ceremony ticket
- Fashion Show ticket
- Conference Registration costs

To be considered for this beginning quilter’s scholarship you must meet the following requirements:

- Have quilted less than two years
- Have started fewer than three large quilts or four wall hangings

Your scholarship application will consist of the following:

- An essay containing between 500–750 words. The essay should explain what quilting means to you and what you would like to learn during the Quilt Show
- Photos of two of your quilts or wall hangings, with a description of each. The quilts do not need to be finished
- Completed Scholarship Entry Form (found below)
- Your name and address included on the essay and pictures

Scholarship applications should be mailed to:

Minnesota Quilters
Scholarship Committee
3000 University Ave. SE #120
Minneapolis, MN 55414

Scholarship application must be postmarked by February 15, 2006.

Minnesota Quilters 2006 Speckmann Scholarship Entry Form

Name:__________________________________________
Home Phone:____________________________________
Address:_________________________________________
City:____________________________________________
State:________________________Zip:________________

Include essay and photos with your entry form.

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Minnesota Quilters 2006 Speckmann Scholarship
Entry Form

Name:__________________________________________
Home Phone:____________________________________
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City:____________________________________________
State:________________________Zip:________________

Include essay and photos with your entry form.

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The remainder of the book consists of beautiful photographs of the various fabrics starting with French fabric designs painted on paper, calicoes from the 1800’s through 1925, indigoes, “mourning prints,” silks, and others. Each grouping has a brief description.

This is a must-have book for anyone with an interest in vintage textiles, including fabrics and quilts. It also presents an interesting historic perspective on the textile industry.

In 2001 Sharon and Bobbie attended Paul Kopp’s lecture about the extensive fabric collection that his father amassed during his career as a textile designer. The sample fabrics he brought to the lecture overwhelmed the audience as well as Bobbie and Sharon. Paul approached Sharon and Bobbie for assistance in publishing a book about the collection.

Manny had grouped the fabrics by style or manufacturer and because the ledger paper used was so fragile, they left the arrangement as it was.

Manny spent over fifty years in the fabric design business. He was a top designer for major textile companies and owned several companies himself. His expertise was born while visiting a large Northeast textile mill early in his career. He noticed swatches of English and French samples being casually tossed into the trash as it was thought they were too difficult to duplicate or were no longer fashionable. Manny began collecting these samples, a practice he continued for nearly forty years.

He cataloged the samples ranging from the 1800s through the 1920s in books. His reputation as a textile historian grew and earned him the nickname “The Calico Man”; he lectured to colleges, museums, and other groups sharing his collection and knowledge.

After he retired, he taught art classes and continued lecturing about his collection. Paul inherited boxes from his father’s estate, moving then several times without really knowing what was in them. Several times they were nearly discarded. His wife was aware that there was old fabric and after she arranged for him to lecture to a quilt group about “some old fabric” they opened the boxes and discovered, in addition to the fabric samples, Manny’s lecture notes and various other related items. Manny obviously loved fabric and sharing his collection with others.

After a brief background on Manny Kopp and his son, Paul, and Paul’s journey into sharing his father’s collection, the remainder of the book consists of beautiful photographs of fabrics and quilts. It includes patterns for four traditional quilts: Courthouse Steps, Schoolhouse, Hands All Around and Pomegranate.

The book includes patterns for four traditional quilts: Courthouse Steps, Schoolhouse, Hands All Around and Pomegranate.

This book reads like a novel—not surprising, since it was written by a novelist. It contains interesting stories of these brave women who braved hardship to help settle the West.

Both reviews by Marge Goodnuff, MQ member, Edina, MN.
January 29-April 9, 2006 Goldstein Museum show commemorating the history and future of the College of Human Ecology at the University of Minnesota. Opening reception will be held on Sunday, January 29 from 1:30-4:30 p.m. A closing reception gala will be held on April 7 to celebrate the history, people, and future of the College of Human Ecology.

February 4, 2006 Itchin’ to Stitch Redwork Show and Open House. Redwork show continues through the month of February at Four Seasons Quilt Shop (Four Seasons Mall, southwest corner of Rockford Road and Highway 169 in Plymouth). For further information, call 763-557-5899.


February 8 - March 3, 2006 A Perfect Ten. Tenth annual quilt show of Dakota County Star Quilters at the Dakota County Lawshe Memorial Museum in South St. Paul. For directions, call 651-552-7548, for show information, call 952-736-9586.

March 2006 (details TBA) Passing on the Comfort Exhibit touring the nation, coming to Minnesota. For more information, please see article at www.mcc.org, or call 952-835-6915.

April 7, 2006 “Celebrate! College of Human Ecology” an event, in concert with the Goldstein show (see above), 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 Jan, 763-434-4617.

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

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.

Got 10 Great Quilts? Know Someone With 10 Great Quilts?

Last April’s Ten By Ten program was received so wonderfully that we’d like to do it again. A few more willing members with 10 quilts to show us are still needed to round out the roster. If you’d like to be part of this program—or would like to suggest someone whose work you’d like to see—please call (952) 471-0131 or email Lori Allison at programs@mnquilt.org.

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.

A New Way to Say “Thanks!” to Our Volunteers

If you have volunteered thirty minutes to Minnesota Quilters in the past thirty days, put your name on a slip of paper at the registration table and then into the “Volunteer Dish” for a special door prize drawing for volunteers only. Look for the “Volunteer Dish” at the registration table beginning in January.
Eagle Creek Quilt Shop presents

**AMERICAN QUILT CLASSICS**

A Trunk Show ~ February 11 through 18

Enjoy the internationally renowned collection of

**Patricia Cox**

*Discover the rich history of American quilts from 1820 to 1950*

Eagle Creek Quilt Shop, 333 2nd Ave W, Shakopee  952-233-3774

[www.eaglecreekquiltshop.com](http://www.eaglecreekquiltshop.com)
“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!

February: NEUTRALS (White-on-white, beige-on-beige, black-on-black—any of those “mix-ey” neutrals that come in so handy!).
March: FLORALS Spring is coming! Hasten its return with some florals!
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

Want to run the FQ drawing? By the end of the summer the current organizer of the FQ Drawing will be completing one year’s service. Running the drawing is a lot of fun, takes hardly any time (maybe one hour per month), and you get to pick the themes! If you would like to take on the challenge, please send an email to editor@mnquilt.org or call Karen at 651-489-2285.