May Program Notes
May 3 at 7:00 p.m.
May 5 at 10:00 a.m.

“From Gee’s Bend to Here: What is an African American Quilt? An Ongoing Dialogue”

by Gail Hanson

Minnesota Quilters, Inc., was approached last fall about the possibility of hosting an exhibit and program growing from the very popular issuance of the “Quilts of Gee’s Bends” US postal stamps. The stamps grew from the stunning exhibits of Gee’s Bend quilts first at the Museum of Fine Arts in Houston in 2002 and then at the Whitney Museum of American Art and as a traveling exhibit at many other national museums. The quilts caused a sensation for many reasons, with much made of their vibrancy, practicality and contemporary innovation and inspiration. A few quilts from Gee’s Bend quilts are in the Twin Cities and will be part of an MQ sponsored exhibit in the Textile Museum, with quilts from local African American quilt artists, from April 29 to June 21. The exhibit will culminate in an exhibit reception on Thursday, June 14th, from 5 to 7 pm, during the 2007 quilt show. Our May 5th and 7th membership meetings will provide an opportunity for African American quilt artists to share their quilts and their quilt stories. We will also present a short documentary of the Gee’s Bend community.

Our planning for these events started a discussion as to “What does it mean to be an ‘African American’ quilt or for that matter an ‘African American’ quilter?” This is an ongoing dialogue in which we invite you to take part. Recently, while planning this program, I received a publication from my old

Con't on page 17
I had the privilege of presenting Joanne Holznecht with the Minnesota Quilters 2007 Volunteer of the Year award. One of the many things that impressed me as I was researching the many ways Joanne has contributed to MQ over the past 29 years was just that, she has consistently contributed over all those years and has made a difference in fulfilling the mission of MQ which is to celebrate quilting and to support activities and events that are structured to honor the past, celebrate the present, and nurture the future of this time-honored, traditional craft in all its forms. Thank you, Joanne for your consistent volunteerism to MQ.

As I was reading about the history of MQ, I also learned that the Minnesota Quilt Project began 20 years ago in February. This dedicated group of Minnesota Quilters has consistently spent the past two decades traveling throughout Minnesota documenting thousands of quilts and interviewing quilters. They have written and published an impressive book as a result of all their efforts. Those involved in the Minnesota Quilt Project have discovered a passion they believe in one that fulfills the MQ mission. Thank you, members of the Minnesota Quilt Project and happy birthday. You truly have made a difference.

As always, Happy Quilting.......  
Paula Gaboury
MQ Calendar of Events

Evening general meetings begin at 7:00 pm and Day meetings begin at 10:00 am, except as noted. Board meetings are the 3rd Tuesday of the month, starting at 6:30 pm.

May 3 & 5: Gail Hanson & Others - "From Gee’s Bend to Here: What is an ‘African American’ Quilt?"
May 15: Board Meeting

June 14-16: MQ 07 Quilt Show in St. Paul
June 19: Board Meeting

July 5 & 7: Speaker: Gudrun Erla
July 17: Board Meeting

August 2: Audrey Sells - “Everybody Has A History”
August 4: Audrey Sells - “From Paint to Fabric”
August 21: Board Meeting

September 6 & 8: Nancy Kazlauckas - "Thread Calligraphy"
September 7: Workshop: Calligraphy with Thread
September 15: Annual Board Retreat

October 4 & 6: Speaker: Sue Rutford - Journal Quilts
October 16: Board Meeting

November 1 & 3: Speaker: Sharon Hultgren "The Hatfields & McCloys with a few Olsons"
November 2: Workshop TBD
November 20: Board Meeting

December 1: Holiday Brunch: University of St. Thomas

January 3 & 5: Quilt Show Committee

February 7 & 9: Susan Cleveland - “My Eclectic Quilt Show”
February 8: Workshop TBD

General Meetings are free for MQ members and $3.00 for non-members. 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 $10/3 lines
Horizontal Only 3.75" x 2.5" $20/mo
Vertical Only 3.75" x 4.75" $40/mo
1/2 Page Ad $50/mo
Vertical Only 2.5" x 9.5" $50/mo
Horizontal Back Cover
with additional color $75/mo
Horizontal Back Cover
$90/mo
Full Page Ad - 7.5" x 9.5" $150/mo
Call for other sizes.

The next issue is July, 2007. It is scheduled for publication during the week of June 25, 2007.

The deadline for submitting ads and articles for consideration is June 11, 2006.

All advertising fees must be included with any submitted advertising. Please contact the MQ office to place an ad and the Editor to 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.

Ads and articles may be sent to:

Lori Allison
MQ Volunteer Newsletter Editor
LBA0718@hotmail.com
3705 North Shore Drive, Wayzata, MN 55391
H: 952-471-0131 or
MQ Office: 612-436-0449
Help Needed for Fashion Show
Volunteers are needed to help with the Fashion Show: "Let Your Clothes Speak For You," Thursday evening June 14. Rachel Clark will be our MC. Volunteers will help with set-up, check-in and helping models with their garments. If you would like to volunteer, put "fashion show" on the line right after "other" on the volunteer form. If you have any questions, please contact Yvonne at 763-441-4533 or ymcurran@comcast.net. FYI: April 30 is the deadline to register a garment and be in the show!

We Still Need Your Small Quilts!!
Last month, we gave out our second $30 quilt certificate to a contributor to the 2007 Small Quilts Auction. The winner was Sylvia Korsmo, from Colorado Springs, Co, who donated three beautiful appliqué quilts in January. This is an excellent reminder of the way the gift certificate drawing works—you get your name in the drawing for each item you donate, and your name stays in the drawing until the last certificate is given out. So if you get productive in April or May, you can greatly increase your chances!! And all for a great cause as well.
We accept small quilts, purses, fabric postcards, art quilts, tote bags...anything you think that your fellow quilt lovers will want to bid on. This is a great time to get one of those little unfinished projects done and out the door! Previous challenge items are a great source for donations. Please remember to have your name, address, and phone number on a tag pinned to the quilt, and sign your quqilts!! If you don't give the quilt a name, Doris and I will, so you may as well name it yourself. You can bring your donations to the meetings, the Textile Center, or mail them to:

Martha Eaves
855 Holly Ave
St. Paul, MN 55104

Doris Kraemer
4069 Deerwood Trail
Eagan, MN 55122

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- Bold Over batiks
2007 Quilt Show Door Prizes

We all love to win door prizes and you can help to make the 2007 show fun in this way. If you have quilting-related items that would make good door prizes, send or bring it to the door prize committee. We are looking for anything quilt related that is in new condition with a retail value of approx $20-25. Think fat quarters, patterns, books, and notions. Contact Karen Zalewski 651-398-2775 or email Karen at kezalewski@comcast.net. Mail items to K.E. Zalewski 7302 Paul Alcove Woodbury, MN 55125. You may also drop donated door prizes at the monthly program meetings.

Doris Kraemer Leads the League in Raffle Ticket Sales

Doris displayed and sold a total of 134 tickets for the MQ 2007 raffle quilt, pictured below, at the Fergus Falls quilt show and the Dakota County Star Quilters guild meeting. Thanks to those two groups for their support.

If you would be willing to display and sell tickets for the raffle quilt at your guild meeting or guild show, please contact Sue Rutford at mq2007@mnquilt.org.

In order to track ticket sales, the raffle tickets for “All Points North” need to be requested by members. Raffle tickets have not been included in the registration packet as has been the practice in previous years.

To request your raffle tickets to sell, please contact the MQ Office at (612) 436-0449 or email quilter@mnquilt.org. The drawing will be held on Saturday, June 16, 2007 at 4 p.m. at the RiverCentre. Ticket owners need not be present to win.

Challenge Quilts Entry form due April 30

The challenge quilt entry form is due April 30th. Challenge packets are still available and can be purchased at the MQ office for $15. There is also extra fabric available.

You may drop off your challenge at any non-judged drop-off location or bring it to the April or May meeting. Quilts are due June 9th. See page 18 of the Registration book for more details. www.irishchain.com

Special Volunteer Opportunity at MQ 2007!

The Merchandise Committee is looking for volunteers who feel comfortable when using a cash register. We have a register with the capability of providing us with excellent reports on show merchandise such as how many of an item/size were sold, when were they sold, how much sales tax do we owe the government etc. Now we just need someone with enough register savvy to correct errors and void sales. This is easily a sit down job as there will be other volunteers to help with any other activities. Shifts are for 2 hours and you may do more than one if you like. If you are interested in this position, please indicate on your Volunteer form that you have this special skill. Thank you from the Merchandise Committee (Pat Curtner and Karen Kopitzke)! We’ll see you at the Show!!

All Points North
Raffle Quilts designed by Lenore Smith and Michelle Swenson.

Quilt Documentation Day
Wednesday, June 13 at the MQ show. See page 9 in this issue to reserve a time to have up to three antique OR modern quilts documented by MQP specialist, Pat Cox.
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, 2007. 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 two hours 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 e-mail your volunteer registration information to:
MQ St. Paul Volunteers,
3000 University Avenue SE #120,
Minneapolis, MN 55414
612-642-0212,
eMail showvol07@mnquilt.org.

Name  
Address  
City, State ZIP or Postal Code  
e-mail  

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  
___Registration  
___Small Quilt Auction  
___MQ Merchandise  
___Raffle Quilt  
___Volunteer Table  
____2007 Challenge  
____Bag Check  
___Set-Up MONDAY  
___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.  

Monday June 11th  
Tuesday June 12th  
Wednesday June 13th  
Thursday June 14th  
Friday June 15th  
Saturday June 16th  
Saturday Take Down (5:00pm start)  

Many thanks to all the hard-working 2007 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.
NEWS FLASH!  Minnesota Quilters 2007 Show:  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY TO HOST QUILT HISTORY STUDY SESSIONS

Get up close and personal with a selection of quilts from the Minnesota Historical Society collection. Linda McShannock, Minnesota Historical Society Curator, plus Pat Cox and Gail Bakkom of the Minnesota Quilt Project, will host 2 sessions of twenty interested people in the MHS storage facility (located at the Minnesota History Center.)

You'll see a selection of historical quilts from the collection and learn more about them. Linda McShannock will speak about the process of storing and protecting textiles. Pat Cox and Gail Bakkom will talk about the quilts, their histories, their makers (if known), and the techniques used.

These sessions will be held at the Minnesota History Center's storage facility on Thursday, June 14 from 3 pm to 4 pm and Friday, June 15 from 10 am to 11 am. There are only 20 spots for each session, so sign up early! First come, first served. We will begin a wait-list after we have filled the available spaces.

To register for this rare opportunity, mail the form below with your $15 check (made out to Minnesota Quilters, Inc.) by May 15th to Minnesota Quilters, 3000 University Ave. S.E., Minneapolis, MN 55141.

Questions? Contact Kathie Simon Frank or Rosemary Kessler
kathie@atlas.sosci.umn.edu rgkessler@comcast.net
612-379-4253 651-699-4582

You may visit the History Center before or after the study session for an additional $8 fee ($6 for seniors, free for members of MHS). The Minnesota History Center is located on the edge of downtown St. Paul, about ½ mile from RiverCentre. Transportation options will be sent with registration confirmation. The Quilt History Study Session will be held in the storage facility at the Minnesota History Center. Participants should be prepared to stand while in the storage facility, and should bring a jacket or sweater, since the facility is kept cool.

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Minnesota Quilters 2007 Show:  
Quilt History Study Session Registration Form

Name__________________________________________DayPhone____________________
Address_________________________________________Eve Phone____________________
City_____________________________________________State_________Zip___________

Email address_____________________________________

I would like to attend the Study Session at the Minnesota History Center, St. Paul Check one:

Thursday, June 14, 3 – 4 pm /___/ or Friday, June 15, 10 – 11 am /___/

Please mail this form along with your $15 check (made out to Minnesota Quilters, Inc.) to

Minnesota Quilters, 3000 University Ave. S.E., Minneapolis, MN 55114.

Deadline for registration: May 15, 2007

This form may be duplicated. Please put each registration on a separate form.

Friends who wish to attend together should mail forms together.

MQ News May 2007 Page 7
Nominees for MQ Board Positions
Election at the Annual Meeting:
Friday, June 15, 2007 - 12:00 to 1:30
by Gail Hanson

President-Elect: Mary Brandt, one year term before assuming presidency
Mary has been a member of MQ since 1999. She started volunteering with the 2000 show in St. Cloud by hanging non-judged quilts. She became a member of the MQ Board of Directors in the position of secretary in 2001. Since then she has continually served on the board as secretary and also been active on the show committee in various positions, most notably as co-chair of the 2005 and 2006 MQ shows. Mary has been quilting for 20 years, has taught quilting classes and has had a long arm quilting business for 7 years.

Secretary: Kathie Simon Frank, two year term
Kathie has a long history as a fiber artist, has been Director of the Weavers Guild, a member of Minnesota Quilters since about 1985 and active as an MQ volunteer since 2004. She served on the Textile Center Board of Directors from 2002 to 2005, for two years as secretary. Professional, she served as academic advisor for the U of MN Department of Sociology for over 20 years.

Communication Co-Directors: Pam Ronan and Cindy Wilson, two year terms
Pam Ronan has served on the MQ Board of Directors previously, from 2003-2005 as newsletter editor and more recently to fill out the term of Communications Director. Pam been a committee member for MQ quilt shows in 2004 through 2006 and is presently co-chair of the 2008 MQ quilt show. She has had particular responsibility for show website, show catalog, registration book, faculty, and awards slide presentations. She has also served on MQP. Professionally she has been an author and publisher, a high tech consultant, and a figure skater!
Cindy Wilson has been a quilter since 1990, actively involved in MQ shows as publisher of registration and show booklets. She developed and maintains the website for internationally known quilter Libby Lehman. Her professional background includes website design and development, project management, and relational database design and use. She has also produced daily newsletters and associated websites.

Joanne Holznecht Named Volunteer Of The Year for 2007
by Debbie Craig & Patty Von Arx
We’ve said it before and we’ll say it again… We wouldn’t have such a great organization without all of our Volunteers. Speaking of volunteers… thank you to everyone who made recommendations for the 1st Annual Volunteer of the Year award. All the suggestions were excellent, but the board could only choose one person. The person that was chosen is a teacher, charter member of MQ, and has been an active member for all of the past 29 years. Since November of 1990, she has contributed a Block of the Month to the newsletter. A book of 25 of those block patterns was printed in 2004 and is available at the Textile Center gift shop. Congratulations to Joanne Holznecht, the 2007 Volunteer of the Year.

Happy 29th Birthday MQ! We would like to thank Annemarie Yohnk, Carol Schwankl, Gail Hanson, Julie Tebay, Renay Leone and Joanne Holznecht for sharing 10 of their quilts and the stories behind them. We’d also like to thank all our Holders and Folders.

MQP Receives Memorial
Members of the Valley Del Oro Cut-Ups – the quilters of Mesa, AZ – wish to honor
Evie Mohler of Willmar, Minnesota
Acknowledging her interest and lifelong efforts collecting and sharing antique fabrics, patterns and quilts.
We present this gift of $500 to “The Minnesota Quilt Project”
a standing committee of the Minnesota Quilters, Inc. directed by the Minnesota Quilters, Inc. Board of Directors.
The Minnesota Quilt Project mission is to identify and document quilts that are privately and publicly held that have a Minnesota connection. This information goes into the project database and is shared with other databases, for quilters around the world to study.
Membership

Don’t miss an issue! Renew today.

Everyone with an interest in quilting is welcome. 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: “9/1/07” means you need to renew your membership before the September meeting in 2007.

Membership Dues: $40/year
Email Newsletter Membership Dues: $35/year
Volunteer Membership Dues: $30/year
Student Dues: $15/year

Minnesota Quilters, Inc., dues were last raised almost six years ago, in January of 2001. Since then almost all of our expenses have risen—office and auditorium use, printing costs, postage, etc. We have hired two part time staff people. The new dues structure reflects those cost increases while at the same time acknowledging the cost savings possible through email newsletter delivery and the real value contributed by volunteers.

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. The meeting admission for nonmembers is $3.

The membership committee people 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 stop at the Membership table for a replacement card to be made. Badge holders are available at the admission table.

MQP Update

Quilt Documentation Day
Just in case you missed it in the large show brochure, please know that MQP will be holding a documentation day June 13th at the St. Paul River Center. This is your opportunity to have up to three quilts, antique or modern (your own creations!) documented and entered into the Minnesota Quilt database (which means that it will also be part of the national quilt database). Be a part of history! Have your quilts documented!! And you don’t need to deal with the forms yourself—we’ll do it for you. There is no charge for this service—MQP is anxious to have the whole country know of the fantastic quilters in Minnesota.

Complete this form by May 15th and mail to:
Pat Cox
6601 Normandale Road
Edina, MN 55435

Your will receive a letter confirming your appointment, giving you a specific time, mailed on June 1, 2007

Name__________________________
Address________________________
Phone #________________________
Day_________________________ Evening________________________

Very brief description of quilt:

Time Preference:
Morning_________ Afternoon_________

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What a beautiful Easter Sunday we had, even with the threat of snow on Tuesday... I start thinking of flowers at this time of year, and sorting through my flower fabrics for quilt inspiration. There are nearly 90 books in our library if you browse under the subject of “flowers” or “flower in art”. And this did not include the book that I actually checked out, Jane Sassaman’s *The Quilted Garden*. With her own fabric line easily recognizable now, the techniques described in the book illustrate how she goes about a flower or leaf design. What I liked about the book was it illustrates the transition she made in her own quilts to develop what is now her “style”. She uses mostly solid or polka dot fabrics in her work, and likes to use her whole body as her drawing compass. As a result, her flowers and leaves are BIG. [She also recommends buying fabrics that you love in 2 yard amounts!] The pictures in the book are beautiful, and give good detail shots. Now if I could just find those giant leaves that she draws! But if you don’t want to stitch up your own giant flowers, there are lots of the BIG flowers on fabrics these days. We have many of the latest quilting magazines using those luscious fabrics, and you can check out all but the most recent copy—just lift up the shelf of the current copy and you will find the back issues! I just learned this myself this week!

Our library also has the Japanese magazines and the Kamiko Sudo *Fabled Flowers* and *Fantasies and Flowers* books if you like folding and piecing flowers. And of course, even a basic pattern using flower fabrics can create an imaginary garden—just take a look at Valori or Jean Wells books [we have five of them]. So April showers will hopefully bring us all May flowers, of one sort or another. Happy quilting.

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**Book Review by Jean Carlton**

**Quilts of Virginia 1607-1899**

**The Birth of America Through the Eye of a Needle**

In 1981 Kentucky began to survey the quilts in their state and many states have followed suit. This latest, from the state of Virginia, ranks among the best in my opinion. Being the first colony and oldest state in the Union, Virginians seem to have had an advantage in discovering some of the oldest quilts in our nation. The chapters represent six regions within the state. Each contains quilts with provenance to that area along with interesting historical information about the area and the quiltmaker. The photography is excellent and the quilt descriptions especially thorough. Interspersed among the nearly 300 quilts are images of the people and the land. Many sewing related items such as vintage quilted petticoats, signature stencils, pin pillows (cushions), and sewing trade cards, enhance the text. You may, as I did, spend the first time through just viewing the amazing quilts but if you take time to read the text you will gain a thorough knowledge of the history of the state of Virginia and its quilt making.

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**Textile Center Library Procedures**

Minnesota Quilts is a Participating Member Guild and its current members can check out items from the library. Please have your guild card or a picture ID available when checking out library materials. Up to a maximum of 10 Items may be checked out for 35 days and renewed one time in person or by phone. The fine for overdue items is $1 per day per item. Online access: Go to the Textile Center Web site, www.textilecentermn.org; then select “Library”; then select “Go to the Online Catalog.”

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. The number also prints on your library materials receipt (it’s the “ID” right under your name).

**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, contact Nancy Mambit@ librarian@textilecentermn.org.
Bulletin Board

April 27 – 29 Little Falls, MN Prairie Point Quilters Quilt Show at Charles Wayerhaeuser Memorial Museum, 2151 Lindbergh Dr. S. Free admission. Fri 10-7, Sat 10 – 5, Sun 1-4.

May 4, 5 & 6 Willmar, MN “Quilting By The Lake” bi-annual show by the Willmar Country Quilters. 300+ quilts, Special Exhibit: Dresden Plate Quilts, Raffle, Featured Quilter, Admission $4. Willmar Civic Center, 2705 Arena Dr. NE (E of Willmar). Fri 4-8p, Sa 9-5p, Su 11-4p.

June 2 & 3 Grand Forks, ND Quilting on the Red Quilt Show, Red River High School, 2211 17th Ave South; sponsored by the North Star Quilters Guild Classes by Sandy Bonsib, raffle quilt, silent auction, guild boutique, vendors, special exhibits. Admission: $3/day or $5 for both days For info contact Bobbie Shields, 701-775-5310; nsquilters@aol.com

July 6 & 7 Hayward, WI “Sizzling Summer” at Hayward High School. Big display of quilts and wall hangings, special exhibits, vendors, silent auction, door prizes, demonstrations. Lecture each day by Susan Cleveland. Piecemakers Quilt Guild. Contact Norma Riehm, Ph 715-634-2754 or email riehmco@chemet.net


Rhinelander, WI School of the Arts July 22-27, 2007. Workshops in visual arts for adults. Sponsored by UW Madison. Quilting-related offerings include “Design a Personal Quilt” and “Wearable Art” see: www.dcs.wisc.edu/saa/soa/

August 3 Braham, MN Hands-All-Around Quilt Guild presents their annual small quilt show at Braham City Hall. Special feature is small quilts by Kathleen Moorehead Johnson. 10a.m.-7p.m. August 3 is Pie Day in Braham. Contact: Nancy Neumann, 818 Shady Ridge Lane, Braham, MN

September 14 & 15 Fairmont, MN Quilt Show Prairie Star Quilters at Bethel Evangelical Free Church, south door entrance, 1125 S. State Street. Friday 10-7; Saturday 10-4. Guild member, Lin Hilgendorf is the featured quilter. Over 150 member quilts displayed. Vendors, boutique, door prizes, a raffle quilt & lunch. Admission: $4.00

September 15 & 16 Amery, WI Apple River Quilt Guild 17th Annual Fall Festival Quilt Show. Saturday 9-5; Sunday 11-4. St. Joseph Catholic Church, on Hwy 46 north edge of Amery. Member quilts, challenge quilts, vendors, raffle quilt, charitable silent auction, refreshments on Saturday. Quilt Show coincides with the Amery Fall Festival and its many other activities in Amery on September 15th. Admission $3.00 Adult

September 22 Plymouth, MN WOW Quilters Bi-Annual Quilt Show, “Pieces Of Our Lives” Over 200 quilts, vendors, bed turning, demos, boutique & raffle quilt. Plymouth Creek Center 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Contact: Judy Odle jaodle@comcast.net
Volunteer Opportunities

2007-08 Evening Director:
2007-08 Evening Director Elect:
We are looking for a couple of volunteers to help with the Thursday night meetings. If you attend the Thursday night meetings and are willing to help, please contact Debbie Craig and Patty Von Arx at ed@mnquilt.org for more information. Remember many hands make the load light, please consider volunteering so we can continue Thursday night meetings.

From the Editor
In this issue, look for a thorough recap of the April meeting, some important information about the new slate of officers, some last minute show news and articles about the upcoming May program.
In this, the final issue before the show, I want to tell you about my first show -- or quilting event for that matter. It was the 2003 MQ Quilt Show in St. Paul. I still recall the friendly greetings from the members manning the board table. I was dazzled by the quilt displays and changed forever by the Diane Gaudynski “Wonderful Mud” lecture. I discovered quilt shops through the vendors I met at the show. This year, I encourage you to take a friend or a young person and help them discover their own renaissance in this time-honored craft. It might be the biggest favor you do for someone all year!

Got Quilt Top?

2 Quilt finish

Computer-Guided Machine Quilting

Kim Swanson and Cindy Conrad

612-483-6204

Robbinsdale, MN • Prior Lake, MN

Textile Center
A national center for fiber art

The Textile Center has a lot of events throughout each month for all textile enthusiasts. May features some special quilt exhibits or take part in one of the many classes. Class lists are available online at www.textilecentermn.org. Stop by the library and check out the new books available to you as well. Here’s just a few of the many upcoming events:

From Gee’s Bend to Here: African -American Quilt Exhibit:
Minnesota Quilter’s is sponsoring May programs and an exhibit of African American quilts, featuring quilts by Gee’s Bend quilter’s and local quilt artists. The quilts are on exhibit April 29 to June 21. Programs will be May 3rd and May 5th, details on the Textile Center web site.
Minnesota Quilters and the Textile Center will be hosting a reception on Thursday June 14th, please come and find out the story behind these magnificent quilts.

Exhibits in the Joan Mondale Gallery running May 4- June 15:
Rebozos de Tenancingo: Shawls from Mexico
Opening Reception: May 4, 6-8pm The Robozo is a traditional Mexican Shawl made to cover the body and head or used to carry infants. Each Rebozo has a unique design connected to the community. The craft of weaving these beautiful shawls is being lost as new generations lose interest in learning the custom. Come see these beautiful shawls at the Joan Mondale Gallery.

Annual Meeting Global Market, Saturday May 12, 10am-3pm: Come and join the Textile Center member organizations with booths featuring information about their groups, as well as demonstrating and selling their specialty items. Vendors selling unique international items will be on hand as well. In the morning the Textile Center will present the Spin Gold Award to this year’s outstanding member, and the new Board members will be announced. Take some time out to visit a great event.

Textile Center Membership:
Are you a member of the Textile Center? Have you thought about becoming one? If you love fiber art and you value the Textile Center show your support. Contribute by mail, phone or on line at www.textilecentermn.org/contribute.asp. You really can make a difference.
April Block Of The Month Winners

We had a great turnout for the combined March and April Block of the Month drawings. There were 56 Nine-Patch Variation blocks handed in and Marcel Luedtke and Kathleen Winters each won 28 of them. There were 30 Log Cabin Lady Bug blocks handed in, and Mary Chastek and Denise Ostrom each won 15 blocks.

May's drawing will be 30's reproduction prints. This is a great way to build your stash. Bring or mail up to 3 fat quarters (FQs) of 100% cotton quilt shop quality fabric measuring 18" x 22". Attach your name, address, and phone number to each FQ. You’ll get one chance to win for each FQ contributed. We hold the drawing at the beginning of each Saturday meeting. You need not be present to win. You may mail your FQ's to Fat Quarter Drawing, Minnesota Quilters, 3000 University Avenue, #120, Minneapolis, MN 55414-3360. Be sure to mail them in time to reach MQ by the Saturday morning meeting. Upcoming FQ drawings include: May: 1930's reproductions; July - Patriotic; August - Geometrics; September - Prints with Words; October - Autumn (Halloween & Thanksgiving) prints. FQ drawing coordinators are Kathie Simon Frank and Karen Zalewski.

April Crossword Answers

Across
1. Carpenter's Wheel
5. Lady of the Lake
6. Flower Basket
8. Nine Patch
10. Double X
13. Wild Goose Chase
14. Sunbonnet Sue
15. Drunkards Path
16. Snails Trails
18. Rose of Sharon

Down
2. Winding Ways
3. Key West Beauty
4. Honey Bee
5. Little Giant
6. Friendship Star
7. Orange Peel
9. Mosaic
11. LeMoyne Star
12. Windmill
17. Palm Leaf

Fabric:
Background - light cream, ecru or ivory tone on tone
Body & head - black solid or black tone on tone
Large wings - batik print
Back body - 2nd batik print
2 strands of black embroidery thread for antennas

Cut:
1 (A) background 3 1/2" x 3 1/2"
2 (B) background 1 1/2" x 3 1/2"
1 (H) background 2 1/2" x 2 1/2"
1 (E) background 4 7/8" x 4 7/8" subcut as in diagram
1 (G) background 2 7/8" x 2 7/8" subcut as in diagram
3 (O) black 1 1/2" x 1 1/2"
1 (D) batik large wing 4 7/8" x 4 7/8" subcut as in diagram
1 (F) 2nd batik 2 7/8" x 2 7/8" subcut as in diagram
2 (C) 2nd batik 1 1/2" x 1 1/2"

Sew together as shown and embroider the antennas.

Make one or more blocks and print your name and address on a slip of paper attached to each block. You may send your blocks to the address below and your name will be entered even if you are unable to attend the meeting.

Joanne Holznecht
2618 65th Ave N.
Brooklyn Center, MN 55430
Email: sewsewjo@iphouse.com
April Program Highlights

by Lori Allison

Gail Hanson led off the member quilt show with an “I’m going first – before all those ribbon-winners!” Gail began her quilt career in the early 90’s with a simple quilt class at Eydie’s Country Quilting. She and a friend were in charge of making a fund-raising quilt and they wanted to learn more about quilting and about traditional quilts. Gail did, indeed, make the fund-raising quilt and many more beautiful quilts. Like many quilters, she built her skills by doing Block of the Month blocks and won at least 10 times! Gail likes to approach a quilt with a theme such as her “Crosstraining” quilt with a staggering number of fabrics depicting sporting activities. She makes wedding quilts with fabric supplied by friends and family members of the couple. Gail won a faculty choice ribbon for her quilt made from fabrics from Japan. She delights in the intellectual challenge of a class where students were to use multiple sizes of a block and “outtakes” or elements of the block as filler. Gail makes a challenge quilt for the MQ show every year just to “get out of my comfort zone” a little.

Renay Leone began to quilt 22 years ago because she and her new husband could not agree on a bedspread. As a novice, she went into the Wayzata Quilting Emporium, chose a wallhanging and announced to the clerk that she would like to make a king size quilt like that! Renay’s quilts include several “story quilts” such as the one she made – after quitting her corporate legal job – from business suits and called it “Running From The Law.” An early music career trajectory was depicted in a quilt called, “Music Was My Life.” The loss of Renay’s mother and father each inspired quilts made from their clothing. A class with Caryl Breyer Fallert inspired another series of contemporary art quilts. Renay does a full lecture of her story and series quilts appropriately titled “Journey of an Art Quilter” that is filled with stories that are both humorous and heartwarming.

Joanne Holznecht began quilting in 1974 and delighted members with her tales of hand quilting her first quilt through extra thick batting. Joanne displayed a 1986 log cabin shown at Paducah that later graced the cover of the Quilt Art Calendar, 1988 (pictured at left). Joanne became hooked on block exchanges with her small guild and with the MQ Christmas block exchange and showed a quilt made from those blocks. Joanne admits she loves exchanges and will exchange anything – and showed a quilt made from an exchange of broken dishes blocks ONLY 2" square. Joanne showed a quilt made from another unusual exchange of appliquéd chicken blocks! “The Coop Group” Joanne has many recognized quilts including the white stars on a dark rainbow background that was featured in Quiltworks magazine.
Carol Schwankl made her first quilt in 1973 and won a Rookie of The Year award. Carol is an award-winning long arm quilter, yet displayed award-winning hand quilted quilts as well. Carol replicated a quilt seen in Paducah, elaborating on the heart motif as she saw fit, when her daughter exclaimed, “you made Hooter-hearts!” No quilt task is too daunting for Carol, who described the Gina Kimble method for applying over 1000 olive branch leaves to an applique quilt. “Spectacular Poppies” with its brilliant flowers on a warm beige background, its “over 90 hours” of long arm quilting, and its truly unique trapunto design, which Carol adapted from a Hallmark card, won several awards for machine quilting. Carol says we should all look for another poppy quilt entry in this year’s judged quilt category at the MQ show in June. Judging from her Spectacular Poppies quilt, it could be worth the price of admission!

Julie Tebay displayed several beautiful quilts that have been hand quilted by the Amish through her Amish quilting business. Julie maintains a relationship with Amish women who will quilt for others and she porters quilts to and from the “outside.” Julie showed a simple light and medium pink vertical strip quilt with beautiful traditional and some original feather and cable designs notable for its hand quilting. Julie has won awards for her “Frames” quilt with its unusual, geometric appearance. She showed a quilt made from the unique textile art made by the indigenous peoples from an island near Panama that was very special to her. Julie might be a bit of a perfectionist as she described pulling out her quilting stitches from a kaleidoscope quilt three times before machine quilting it to her satisfaction.

Pictured below is a quilt hand pieced and hand quilted some years ago by Anne Marie in a class taught by Pat Cox.

Julie Tebay showed “Sunshine No Shadows”

Annemarie Yohnk described her indoctrination to quilting almost exclusively in classes taught by Pat Cox and Annemarie displayed quilts that she made in those classes. After learning to hand piece and hand quilt, rotary cutting was becoming popular, but Anne thought, “Oh, I’ll never do that – I will always hand piece and hand-quilt!” Annemarie now enjoys rotary cutting when making baby quilts and wedding quilts – although she is careful to put labels on them and NOT to embroider the couple’s names permanently into the quilt! Ann is also “big into redwork” and displayed several teacher samples that she has used to lead classes. Among Annemarie’s collection of antique quilts she displayed a spectacular appliqué quilt.
Workshop Registration

Nancy Kazlauckas

Thread Calligraphy:
Too Cool – Too Easy – Too Believe

Learn from the person who developed the thread calligraphy technique! Nancy will teach you how to set up your workspace, prepare your fabric and begin to do your own writing in thread. Students will learn the basics of calligraphy, script, how to reproduce computer fonts and someone elses handwriting. Students will learn the thread calligraphy technique using different stabilizers as well as a variety of fabrics which include: fleece, flannel, t-shirt and terry cloth. This technique is simple to do yet yields elegant results and students may end up with a small finished project that they have done the thread calligraphy technique on.

Class fee: $45.00
Supply fee (to be paid to Nancy at class): $25.00 (includes book: "Calligraphy with Thread" and Stabilizer Variety Pack)

Note: If you already own the book, bring it to class and your supply fee will be $7.95.

Friday, September 7, 2007  
9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. (lunch: 12-1)

SUPPLY LIST:
1. Regular sewing machine (in Good Working Order) with these features:
   1. Zigzag Stitch (with adjustable width option)
   2. Drop Feed Dogs
   3. Free Motion Foot
2. Ruler (12” wooden or plastic)
3. Masking Tape (Nancy will have available for use)
4. Fabric: 6-12 fabric strips approximately 6-8” wide and 12” long (any solid or mottled fabric is okay) students are also to bring similar size pieces of fleece, flannel, t-shirt and terry cloth OR garments such as a t-shirt, sweatshirt and a small towel to letter on.
5. Pins
6. Bobbin Thread (2-3 filled bobbins using bobbin thread)
7. Thread (Rayon, Cotton, Metallic – thread color to contrast the color of fabric strips)
8. Needles: Metallic or topstitching (new one so it is nice and sharp)

OPTIONAL ITEMS:
9. Quilting gloves (gripper kind of gloves)
10. Zip lock bag – quart or gallon size

To register, complete information requested below, enclose a check payable to Minnesota Quilters for $45 and mail to: Becky McPeek, 3000 University Avenue SE, Suite 120, Minneapolis, MN 55414. If you have questions please call Patty at (612) 865-4471 or email her at pva13@comcast.net.

Name: ________________________________

Address: ________________________________

Phone No.: ___________________________
"From Gee’s Bend to Here: What is an "African American" Quilt?"
An Ongoing Dialogue
By Cecile Lewis

I have been asked to write a piece on being an "African-American" quilter. There is some difficulty for me as I approach this task: I am just a quilter. I happen to be American. I happen to be female (of a certain age, now). Personally, I don't find any comfort in the assigned description "African-American". I am a child of the African Diaspora. I am a New World person of color. My feet are straddling the twentieth and the twenty-first centuries. In and through me, I feel the collision of continents, cultures and peoples.

When I look at information about the Gee’s Bend quilts and quilters what I find most interesting is the contrast of the stability—both geographically and familial—of the Gee’s Bend quilters’ lives and mine. They have developed a "style" and handed it down. My background has led me down a different path. I have had to blaze my own trail. I don't know of any other quilters in my family. We left the south in the Great Black Migration, a long time ago. We are spread out across the country and haven’t left much in the way of material culture to hand down. We are left to invent on the fly. Yet and still, winding through these colliding bits are threads of hope, stitching up the dreams of all of us. Look at me. Can you see me? Look at my quilts, my indigo-dyed cloth, or any of my art. I dare say, you might see WE if you really, really look.

I have written a brief essay, "The Approaching Stranger," that expresses some of what it might seem like when differing cultures come together.

Please imagine yourself surrounded by your family and loved-ones. You are assembled together on a warm, sunlit, spring day for a picnic. There is an abundance of your favorite foods and beverages. You are happily recounting previous feasts. There is the remembrance of those who have passed on and the anticipation of those new members who are yet to come.

Suddenly, you notice that someone or something is approaching. What determination is made first? Ah! A human being, not an animal. Perhaps you cannot recognize who this person is.

As this person comes closer, what is your next determination? Gender? Age? Ethnicity or race?

Do you notice the state of this approaching person’s health? Are there visual cues you use to assess religious or spiritual affiliation, educational achievement, material wealth, or even intent?

As this person draws nearer have you had time to make adequate assessments? What is your response? What is your comfort zone?

Perhaps I am that stranger. My approach may be confident or timid. You are so numerous and I don’t yet know you. Signs of welcome are hard to see. Will fear or caution prevail? Will we avoid contact, thus preventing unwanted confrontation? Might you feel uneasy, because I am a stranger? Will we all be afraid at the outset? Will we come only close enough for ambiguous motions of neither welcome nor rejection? Will we fear what is unknown and miss an opportunity to explore what might be more wonderful than our closed hearts and minds could imagine? Can we get past simply “I see you” to an appreciation and understanding of one another?

Let’s meet in May and have a dialogue about what it means to come together as people and as quilters!

An Ongoing Dialog

Communications Studies department at the U of MN with an article by a newly appointed professor, Gil Rodman. Dr. Rodman has been investigating "how identity is represented in American culture, and how those representations fail to capture the experience of people who do not fall neatly into traditional racial categories. . . there is no single voice that represents black people; there is no singular 'black community' . . . black identity is complex and multifaceted." With that in mind, although we might think of a certain type of quilt as being "African American" in style, just as Amish quilts might have a certain style, we can't limit African American quilts or quilters to a certain style anymore than we can limit "Minnesota Quilters" to a certain style.

Last month in this newsletter we printed an article about the Gee's Bend postal stamps. This month elsewhere in this newsletter, we have an article by a local "African American" quilt artist, Cecile Lewis, who has been working with Minnesota Quilters to bring together the May program and exhibit.

Come in May and join the dialogue.
1st Annual Quilt Minnesota Shop Hop
by Lori Allison

90 quilt shops in Minnesota have joined together to hold the first state-wide Minnesota shop hop August 3 through the 19th. Quilt-shop hopping events have been popular since the early 90's. Quilt shops put on their very best face, band together to offer giveaways, set up rules to be eligible for some very generous prizes and verify attendance. Shop hoppers seem to enjoy this game-like activity and also band together with other quilters – even busloads – to make it a social event.

For this event, Minnesota is divided into five regions with quilt shops assigned by geography where the rules for prize eligibility require a certain number of “passport stamps” from each region. This event promotes tourism in Minnesota and the challenge for quilters will be to travel to and visit other places in Minnesota.

Together with the Moda fabric manufacturer, the organizers of the state-wide shop hop have designed a Minnesota-themed fabric that is available from the participating shops. Organization of the state-wide event is led by Sue Poser from Grubers Quilt Shop in St. Cloud.

Quilt shop owners who have dedicated their professional life to owning or running a quilt shop provide one of the last personalized “General Store” environments where customers are often recognized by name, where completed projects are brought in to be admired by the store clerks who helped the quilter make their original choices. Shop hops are one more way where shops not only promote their stores and market their products, but also provide important creative and social avenues for quilters.

A website detailing the state-wide shop hop information can be found at www.quiltminnesota.com.

Parking, Uhg!
President, Paula Gabrioury, made an announcement at the regular meetings to acknowledge member frustrations with parking around the Textile Center. MQ office manager, Rebecca McPeek provided the following information that details parking around the Textile Center.

Parking:
There is a very small parking lot in back of the Textile Center.

Street parking on University Ave. is available for an hour or two during the day. For the meetings, in the Osvald business lot, 2828 University, accessed by the alley west of the Textile Center. There is also a pay lot north of University on 29th Avenue SE and 4th St SE.

Parking is no longer allowed in the business lots across University Avenue from the Textile Center, or the Nano Computer lot — they will tow! This information is on the MQ website at http://www.mnquilts/about MQ.html Web page http://www.mnquilts.org/map directions.html also links to a parking map at http://www.mnquilts.org/images/mapclose2_000.gif

Home Of The Brave Quilts
(Letter from Jean Loken to project volunteers)

Hi all you wonderful volunteers,
I thought I would let you know that we’ve sent out two more quilts, to the families of CWO Patrick Dorff of Remer (he grew up in Buffalo; pictured below right) and Staff Sgt. Brian Helleman (pictured left) of Freeport. See them also on the website, www.HomeoftheBraveMN.org I got the phone number of Sgt. Helleman’s wife and children in NC near Ft. Bragg from his mother and I’ll be calling her soon to offer them a quilt. I just got a finished quilt back from the Eagan HS show and one from a volunteer who bound it. I actually have four finished quilts here in my home and I have a number of phone calls I can make. As usual, I don’t have good phone numbers for many of the families of the soldiers on our list, but I’m pursuing all possible avenues to find them. If any of you have sources you know, please let me know.

This has turned out to be the hardest part of the work I’ve taken on. I’m trying to do the quilts roughly chronologically, but the longer time passes, it seems the harder it is to find contact information. A few of you have offered to make quilts for specific families as they have connections to you
or your family/community. That’s fine, but I think we need to allow some time to pass before contacting the family. There’s quite a bit of discussion on this topic on the email group of the coordinators. The consensus seems to be to allow at least a month or two to elapse before presenting a quilt. I keep a database of all the quilts under construction and it has a total of 27 in the works. We’ve sent out thirteen so far. And I have four here. If you have one you’re working on, I’d appreciate a brief update on what stage you’re at. Just a quick note using “reply” from this is all I need. There’s no timeline, as I’ve stressed, but I’d just like to see what stage I need to line up next. For instance, if I suddenly get ten tops, I need to have a few quilters lined up. I’m so thrilled with the eager volunteers we have. Just today, several people said they’d be happy to bind a quilt. (If I just this week brought you some work, you can ignore this request.) As you have probably seen from the news, we have several more losses from Minnesota. Just Sunday, a young soldier who grew up in Burnsville died in Iraq. The newspaper reports he’s the 55th Minnesotan to die. I don’t have quite that many on our list, as they list marginal MN roots, and we just use where the soldier enlisted. We’ve contributed blocks to other state projects when a soldier had strong MN roots but his family is in another state. It’s a very informal network, and we each help new coordinators get a jump-start if they start late, or if they have a huge group of losses, as Alaska had a year ago. If you have any questions about how the project works, or suggestions, I’d love to hear from you. I was totally green when I volunteered to coordinate this project and have no military ties. I must have been crazy to think I could do it, but the other coordinators encouraged me with the slogan, “one quilt at a time.” I received a very generous donation to help with the expenses of the project early this month from Jackie Register and her husband, and she also thought that 3M, her employer, might offer some of their batting material, which they sometimes do. I decided I’d be printing more of our flyers, and bring stacks to local shops as a good use of some of that donation. Thanks to all of you. You’re all so essential to this effort.

Jean Loken

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**We are the Minnesota Quilters**

*By Karen O’Brien*

Defining us is like defining a many-thousand piece charm quilt by each piece of fabric. We are young and old; we are ageless. We are processors of words and 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 great pride in our guild.

**We are the Minnesota Quilters**

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*Winner of the “Childhood Days” Keepsake challenge, Marlene Chaffey, of Devon, Great Britain*
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