April Meeting Notes

Thursday, April 2, 7:00 pm
Saturday, April 4, 10:00 am

Happy Birthday MQ! Minnesota Quilters traditionally celebrates its birthday in the month of April. We were founded in 1978 by a dedicated group of women—our charter members. We celebrate their contributions, especially those of Helen Kelley, who sadly left us in September last year.

We also honor our Outstanding Volunteer of the year and enjoy a parade ofquilts with our yearly feature, “5 by 10,” in which five of our members display and speak about a group of their quilts.

Future Meeting Notes

Mark your calendars for our spring and summer meetings; there are some very interesting speakers and meetings.

May 7 and 9 will bring Kay Capps Cross, who you may recognize as the “black and white lady”. Her pattern company, Cross Cuts, showcases her designs, from easy piecing to appliqué, to old-fashioned designs with a twist. It’s sure to be an inspiring meeting.

June is, of course, reserved for our annual show, but we’ll be back together on July 9 and 11 for a program by our own Minnesota Quilt Project, followed by Rhonda Horvath of Ragspun Quilts on August 6 and 8. Rhonda will answer your questions about Ragspuns—What are they? How do you use them? And how did you ever come up with this idea? She has lots of laughs, sorrows, and heart-warming stories to share.

I want to thank everyone who volunteers, in whatever capacity, to make our meetings run. From the Evening and Day Directors and Directors-elect, to the people who bring treats and hold and fold, to those who reach out to greet a new or unfamiliar face, my very great thanks for your contribution. You’ve heard this before, but please consider what you can do to help. Volunteering is a great way to meet new friends, and, as Jill Schultz told us a few months ago, it can actually help you live longer! More time to use up your stash!

Meeting plans are underway for the end of 2009 and into 2010. If you have an idea for a great speaker or a fun meeting focus, please pass it on to me. This is YOUR guild and with over a thousand members, there have got to be a lot of ideas out there. Keep us in mind when you attend shows and workshops or hear about an interesting speaker. Please email me at ed@mnquilt.org or, if you want to put pen to paper, mail it to me at MQ, 3000 University Ave. SE, Suite 120, Minneapolis, MN 55414.

- Sue Rutford, Education Director

Happy sellers and buyers at the March MQ garage sale.
Notes From the President

Spring is on its way, really it is. St. Patrick’s Day is past, so spring cannot be far behind. Did you get lots of projects finished up this very cold winter? Yes, I know some of you are lucky enough to be where it is warm; you still take along your quilting projects don’t you? Or maybe like me you just started more projects. Maybe we should have a quick contest – how many UFOs do you have? As quilters we always have a project going, we might not always finish them, but we do start them with good intentions.

Ah, good intentions, what an interesting concept. As a rule, when most of us start something, it is with good intentions. And that is what the Board of Directors is doing now. We are starting new things and revising old things, all with good intentions and, we hope, for the betterment of our guild. We would like to invite you to be part of this process.

The process we are using is called Strategic Planning and as of right now only the Board is participating. We really, really would like more input from our membership. We need to make changes to meet the challenges of today and tomorrow. We need to attract new members, with an eye to the next generation of quilters, and we need to decide the direction our guild will go in the future.

One statement that was brought up at our last meeting was, “Do we want to run with the Big Dogs” or do we want to just focus on our own state. This of course was referring to the annual show; do we want to continue to try to keep up with the shows like AQS and NQA or just stay a regional/state show.

Another topic that has been discussed is whether the Textile Center is still a good home for our guild. There are many facets to this question, the building itself, parking, office space, the library and the camaraderie between our guild and the other guilds in the building.

Other issues we have on our agenda are things like outreach to the guilds in Greater Minnesota, outreach to high school programs to encourage young quilters, encouraging volunteerism and making sure our meeting attendees feel welcome at all times and possible partnerships with other quilt related businesses.

So, does this process interest you? Are you willing to put your own ideas out there for consideration? Are you willing to stand up and help us move this wonderful guild into the future? The time commitment is not great, only a few hours every month or so. And this is not a real long-term deal, maybe 6 – 9 months and then hopefully we will have recommendations to offer to the membership.

Our next meeting is scheduled on March 28 at the Textile Center. So please, if you are interested, contact anyone on the Board and we will be happy to talk to you about this great opportunity. You can reach any Board member by email. Our emails are listed in the box right next to this letter, easy to do and it is so beneficial to both you and the guild. Come and join us; it’s actually fun.

- Mary Brandt
The 2009 raffle quilt tickets are still only $1 each.
The member who sells the most tickets by June 1 will receive a $100 gift certificate to the quilt shop of their choice.
Contact Doris Kramer at 651-452-5824 or dk4quilts@aol.com to arrange to display the raffle quilt at your guild meeting.

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April Survey

Yvonne Curran, Communications CoChair

Each month, we ask a few survey questions and publish the results in the next newsletter. You can take the survey by going to www.mnquilt.org and on the right-side menu, click “Surveys” (you don’t need to log on to do this). Or, you can email your response to Yvonne at ymcurran@comcast.net.

In her March letter, President Mary Brandt talked about UFOs. How many UFOs do you have stashed somewhere? The survey is active until April 3.

- Not sure what a UFO is.
- 0 I finish each project I begin.
- 1-10 I’m a little behind in finishing some of my projects.
- 11-20 I keep telling myself I will finish these someday.
- 21-30 I don’t think I can even begin to find all of them.
- 31 plus I have too many to count. Some are so old I don’t know why I ever started them in the first place.

The 2009 raffle quilt tickets are still only $1 each.
The member who sells the most tickets by June 1 will receive a $100 gift certificate to the quilt shop of their choice.

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February 2009 Board Meeting Highlights

--The 2010 Show Raffle Quilt design was selected.
--The Outstanding Volunteer was selected.
--The styles of ribbons awarded during the Show were reviewed and standardized to provide an efficient ordering process while still allowing for individualization for each Show, which will result in a substantial savings in labor costs.
--The name of the 2010 Show was slightly modified to be “Quilting in the Quarry”
--The deadline for the Charter Members Scholarship Application will be shifted so that the application is published in the Show Book with an autumn deadline, so that the winner can take advantage of early registration for the Show.
--Message Boards have been re-launched within the MQ website, with an easy-to-find link added to the website. Surveys have also received a new link.
--A Business Membership Initiative has been started; several businesses have responded in a positive way. A Membership application form has been developed and made available to businesses interested in becoming members of MQ. In addition to the benefits they receive, they will offer MQ members various benefits. More on this initiative to come soon!
Lynette Jensen, creator of Thimbleberries fabric and pattern company, from Hutchinson, Minnesota spoke at the “Labors of Love” quilt show and program at Eagan H.S. in honor of Women’s History Month on Thursday, March 5.

Lynette Jensen says, “It’s the journey and the process, not the product – or the ‘blanket’! I love to buy fabric, but people used to ask me what I was going to do with it. Buying fabric is my purpose. I set out on a trip to the quilt shop to buy fabric and I did it. I get joy from folding and unfolding my fabrics – I even have an international stack!”

She noted that quilters buy fat quarters like donuts – with few plans for what to do with them, but like donuts, they are usually consumed.

When asked how she quilts her quilts, Lynette remarked humorously, “With my checkbook,” because for her, quilting is all about choosing the fabric, pattern, and piecing the top. She noted that quilting has produced a robust cottage industry of long arm quilters and many among the attendees raised their hand when prompted by Lynette.

In the recent past, quilters found joy in the discovery of each new technique such as rotary cutting, and all the specialized rulers created in the last 20 years. Now, quilters have turned to fabric for excitement instead of new techniques and rulers. Lynette says, “I never run into anyone who says, ‘Oh, I could just cut out little squares all day.’ And she points out that there is only so much space for gizmo’s and gadgets. Lynette says color and fabric have dramatically changed the look of quilting.

When you begin your quilting journey, it is usually with an Irish chain, a log cabin, followed by a Lone Star. Lynette was among the first to use mixed colors and deeper backgrounds, which now define the look of Thimbleberries although she pointed out that “Light & Bright” was her second line of fabric nearly 16 years ago. She remarked that after writing her first patterns based on the new rotary cutting methods, she received complaints that ‘there’s nothing to trace around.’

Lynette wonders if young quilters will find the same kind of joy and camaraderie that quilters of the current generation have known. She recalls her first retreat in central Minnesota where she went, equipped with her household scissors and a 6” wooden ruler from her elementary pencil box. As she said, a retreat, for many of us was just heaven: no children to run after, no families to cook for and the chance to socialize with other quilters. Now, she points out that when my daughter wants a girlfriend getaway, they may be likely to book a weekend trip to a luxury spa in Tucson! Also, Lynette points out that our current quilting generation grew up with, at the very least, a sewing machine in the house, and more often, we learned to sew our own clothes, so we came to quilting with sewing skills.

Lynette showed many quilts from throughout her quilt journey including some from her recent books and patterns.
Any Questions or Comments Contact:  
Joanne Holzknecht  
2618 65th Ave N.  
Brooklyn Center, MN 55430  
sewsewjo@iphouse.com

March BOM winner: There wasn’t a March BOM drawing.

* For MAY meeting *

MAY BASKET 6” (6 ½” unfinished)

Fabrics: Background is cream, ivory or ecru print  
Basket is a print the color of your choice

Cut: for upper half  
2 - background 3” X 3 ½”  
1 - handle 1 ½” X 3 ½”

Make lower basket using the pattern and paper piece.

Now the fun part. Decorate your basket using lace, rick-rack, buttons, beads, ribbon or you can even do some appliqué work. Don’t be shy, just use your imagination.
During these difficult financial times, where does our organization find more than $23,000 to award to the winning quilts at the Show? How does MQ afford to host such special events? Where do the door prize sewing machines come from?

Each year, generous companies make a commitment to our Show by becoming sponsors. Each sponsor gives MQ a cash donation that we use toward quilt awards and special events at the show.

Please help MQ honor our 2009 sponsors by stopping by their booths and saying, “thank you for sponsoring this Show.” Sponsor booths will have a sponsor banner hanging over the aisle. You can also show your appreciation to our sponsors by bringing them chocolate. A sweet treat and a thank-you any time of day will bring a warm smile from the generous people who make our Show possible.

MQ extends a heart-felt thank-you to the following companies:

**PLATINUM LEVEL SPONSORS**
These sponsors have given MQ a cash donation and a door prize sewing machine to be given away at the show. Some of these companies are also donating classroom sewing machines for students to use at the show.

Bernina of America
Baby Lock represented by Minnesota Vacuum and Sewing Center
Elna Inc.
Husqvarna Viking
Pfaff Sewing Machines

**DIAMOND LEVEL SPONSORS**
These sponsors give a cash donation of $1,500 to be used toward cash awards for winning quilts or special events at the show.

Bolines LLC
Material Mart, Inc
Superior Threads

**GOLD LEVEL SPONSORS**
These sponsors give a cash donation of $1,000 to be used toward cash awards for winning quilts or special events at the show.

Appliqué Buffet
Bear Den Quilt Co.
Cherrywood Fabrics, Inc.
Country Keepsakes
Emily's Country Cottage
Gruber's Quilt Shop
HandiQuilter
Heritage Designs
Martelli Enterprises
Nifty Thrifty Dry Goods
Nolting Longarm J & M Designs
EL, LLC, Dealer
Prairie Rose Quilt Shop
Quilt Center Inc.
Quilting Books Unlimited
Rainbows & Calico Things Quilt Shop
Seams To Me
SewBatik
Starr Design Fabrics
The Sampler
Thread And More
Two Hearts Quilt Shop
Uniquely Yours Quilt Shop
VOGIES Quilts & Treasures

**SILVER LEVEL SPONSORS**
These sponsors give a cash donation of $500 to be used toward cash awards for winning quilts or special events at the show.

ABC's of Quilting
APQS Quilting Machines
Aunt Annie's Quilts and Silks
Birch Creek Quilts & Embellishments
Charlie's E-Z Mat Cutters / OLFA distributor
Fabric Town
Fabric Fashions & More
Fat Quarter Quilt Shop
Front Porch Quilts of Walker, Inc.
Gathering Friends Quilt Shop
Glad Creations
Gunflint Lodge
Hmong Pandau Needlework
J & A Stitches
J.J. Stitches
Jeri's Quilt Patch
Karen's Quilt & Bead Shop
Kelly J's Sewing Center & Quilt Shop
Liberty Homestead
Mary Lue's Yarn & Ewe
Original Creations / MJP Designs, LLC
Patches and Petals
Piecemakers Quilt Shop
Pincushion Boutique
Primrose Gradations
Quilted Treasures of Rogers
Quilter's Dream
Quiltsmart Inc.
River City Quilts
Stitch Simple
The Craftsman's Touch Books
The Quilter's Cottage
The Stash Store
Tiger Textiles
Treasured Threads
When Quilts Fly
Willow Wood Market
2009 Show Registration Online

Classes are beginning to fill for our Duluth Show, but many classes are still available. If you or your friends have not yet registered for classes and are unsure what you would like to take, this is a reminder that all the classes are online with supply lists and colored pictures. This is a great tool to use to help with your decisions.

2009 Small Quilt Auction

by Jan Walstrom, 2009 Small Quilt Auction

**TIME IS RUNNING OUT**

The Small Quilt Auction funds the educational missions of Minnesota Quilters, Inc. This benefits us all. Please donate Small Quilt Items to help.

We will accept small quilts, table runners, purses, baskets, clothing, or any items you can dream up. You will receive a free lecture ticket to attend the lecture of your choice at the upcoming Quilt Show.

We will be at all meetings through May to collect donations. Get yours in early and be in the monthly drawings for a gift certificate to your favorite shop.

If that is not convenient, you can mail your donations to the MQ office at:

Minnesota Quilters, Inc.
ATTN: Small Quilt Auction
3000 University Ave SE, Suite 120,
Minneapolis, MN 55414.

Thank you for your support!

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You can use this form to submit your 2009 Small Quilt Auction donation. Please pin to the back of your donation. Thank You!

Name: _________________________________ MQ # (if applicable): _________________________________

Address: ________________________________________________________________________________

City: ___________________________State: ___________ Zip Code: ________________________________

Phone Number: ___________________________________________________________________________

email address: ___________________________________________________________________________

Donation Name: ___________________________________________________________________________

Donation Description: ________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________________

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Lisa Simonson • 218-721-4307
Sari Svoboda • 218-427-2735

Lady Slipper Retreat House
10853 HWY 133
Meadowlnds, MN 55765
www.ladyslipperretreat.com

A relaxing get-away to capture your creativity
Door prizes for MQ are beginning to appear—wonderful books, colorful bundles of fat quarters, fascinating patterns, cool gadgets, and all kinds of fantastic things. What generous gifts our members of Minnesota Quilters are donating. Thanks to all who’ve given us items already.

We look forward to what you find in your sewing space—things you admit you’re not going to use after all—or brand-new things you find in your visits to the shops. When you’re looking for good homes for those never used, new or like-new items, remember the MQ Door Prize committee.

We still need many more door prizes, though, so that we have plenty to give out in all of our classes, lectures, and special events at the show, as well as at other MQ meetings and events during the year.

We will continue to welcome your donations until the show begins. Of course, we’d rather have them sooner than later, so we know what we’ve got. You may bring your donations for the door prize committee to Thursday night and Saturday morning MQ meetings between now and May 2009, or mail them to:

Vicci Mattsfield
21300 Furman St NE
Wyoming MN 55092

Note: please make sure that each donation is clearly labeled with your name and address, dollar value of the item, and a label stating, “MQ Door Prize.”

We’ll make sure to acknowledge each donation when it is received. We also ask door prize recipients to send their thanks after the prize is awarded. Contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by the law. Thank you so much!

**Corrections for MQ 2009 Show Registration Book - Fat Quarter Stroll**

Please NOTE: The date when the Fat Quarter Stroll Passport needs to be turned in is by 1:00 pm on Saturday June 13 not June 28 as previously printed.

Also if your passport has 1-9 (previous listed as 6) locations punched, you will be entered to win a $75 gift certificate to a quilt shop of your choice.

**2009 Special Exhibits**

This year’s show will feature many fine traveling special exhibits, including *Quilts with a Sense of Humor* by Contemporary Quilters, the *Red and Green Study* and the Alzheimer’s exhibit.

But we also are featuring quilts that were inspired by our monthly Block of the Month in the MQ Newsletter, diligently prepared by Joanne Holznecht each month.

If you were a lucky winner of blocks, we hope that you will submit what you have made OR make something now to submit!

If you used the BOM for inspiration, we would like to have those quilts too.

Check out the show registration booklet for the entry form or email questions to Martha Eaves at eavesm@visi.com or Rose Allen at rose@capitolviewconsulting.com.

**Showcase Minnesota, May 21, KARE 11, 10:00 am**

Mark your calendar and set your VCR for Showcase Minnesota on Thursday, May 21 on KARE 11 at 10:00 am.

Lori Allison, designer and quilter of the 2009 Raffle Quilt “Mariner’s Rhapsody,” will share the raffle quilt with television viewers on Showcase Minnesota. Lori will also promote the Minnesota Quilters Inc. 2009 quilt show. Tune in to see Lori shine with her beautiful creation!
Did any of the volunteer job descriptions whet your appetite last month? Here are some other volunteer opportunities at the Show.

Would you like to work with our wonderful Show Coordinator, Linda Lysdahl? She is looking for someone to help her from approximately 10:00 – 11:30 each day of the show. You would be responsible for checking in with some of the sponsors and delivering their box lunches to them. Last year, there were 7 sponsors who ordered box lunches, so it would not be a huge job, but you might have to walk a lot to get to those 7 sponsors. We want to keep the Sponsors happy! Linda is also looking for 5 or 6 people who would be willing to go around and collect the sponsor banners right at the close of show on Saturday. Apparently some of banners have a tendency to disappear! You would have to be comfortable climbing up on a ladder.

We need two types of classroom helpers. The first type of helper is someone who has signed up for the class. You will be responsible for bringing the door prizes to the class, collecting class tickets and checking people in. You will also hand out and collect class evaluation sheets. Pretty easy!

The second type of classroom helper is someone who is NOT signed up for a class. We have some “messy” classes or instructors who have asked to have a special helper in their classroom – perhaps helping the teacher sell her books, patterns or other things. You would solely be at the beck and call of the teacher, but you will most certainly learn some things along the way, too!

Ticket Takers are very important. We need them for all of the special events (the banquet, the fashion show, Meet the Teachers) and also for the lectures. If you take the lecture tickets, you may also be asked to help with holding and folding for the lecturer.

If you like to be really busy, volunteer to work in the Registration Booth. You must have a pleasant personality and be able to handle the pressure of long lines of people waiting to be helped. It is fast paced, but very fun.

We also have “quieter” jobs if you want to sit – the Information Booth, package/machine check and even the volunteer check-in table needs helpers!

We need lots of people to do the “grunt work”. People who are not afraid to climb a ladder to help hang the quilts or help a vendor unload their wares onto a dolly and assist them with the unloading at their assigned booth.

We would appreciate everyone signing up to volunteer in advance, but if you are not sure what you would like to do or find yourself with some unexpected free time, please stop by the Volunteer table and we will be happy to give you an assignment. Remember for each TWO hours (only TWO short hours) that you work; your name is entered into the daily door prize drawings and also for the grand prize drawing for the Pfaff sewing machine.

Thank you in advance to all those who volunteer to work at the show. Feel free to contact us with any questions you may have.

Paula Gaboury and Char Wenger
2009 Volunteer Co-Chairs
Showvol09@mnquilt.org

2009 Show Challenge Committee

Oh dear, it's that time of the year again--when that special form is due! Don't panic, just fill out one line at a time and soon the task will be done.

And that will make the co-chairs of the 2009 Challenge Committee very happy because all challenge entry forms must be in by April 25. Refer to your challenge rules on where to send the form.

Now you can devote your time to sewing your quilt project (which isn't due until June 5.) I think there is another important document due in April, too. I can't think of what it is, but I'm sure it's not as important as the challenge entry form!

Any questions call Susan Manning, 763-757-1336 or Judy Trempe, 763-755-9545.
Meet MN Quilters: The Maple Grove Quilters

by Matha Eaves

Quilting has always been a very social activity, extending to its earliest days when women got together at each other’s homes, or the church, for a quilting bee. That social aspect of quilting is alive and well today, in MQ, and in our many smaller quilt groups and guilds throughout MN.

This month I am writing about the Maple Grove Quilters, and I can write with a first person view because I attended their Valentine’s Day meeting. What a great way to spend Valentine’s Day! And if I wanted to sum up one word that describes a Maple Grove Quilters meeting, it would be laughter . . . and lots of it.

They do NOT have officers, and this was a conscious decision made by the original organizers of the group, Shelley Wolfgram and her friend Gretta, and those who came to the first meeting.

Shelley and Gretta started this group by looking through the MQ Membership addresses for anyone who lived in or nearby Maple Grove, and just sent out a letter calling a meeting. That was in 1991.

Those who showed up decided they wanted a group that was organized as an “Everyone’s group”—they had no dues at first until they started to have to pay for their meeting room, and then dues are only $12 per year.

The group has no set agenda, with members offering to lead the meeting or provide a short program, usually a demonstration. Members are welcome to come as often as they like, and the group relies upon the attraction of having a lot fun and learning techniques from each other to keep people coming.

They have their own Quilters’ Retreat where they get together out of town and quilt, quilt, quilt. This year they are going to College of St. Benedicts July 22-26 and keeping costs low by sharing them. They have quilt challenges for each other, but participation is voluntary of course.

In 1995, this group of between 20-30 quilters had their first quilt show. They used a small room in the Senior Community Center so featured small quilts. They have since had a show about every two years, with their next show “Quilting to the Nines” on April 17 and 18 at the Maple Grove Community Center, 12951 Weaver Lake Road, Maple Grove.

I was lucky to get a sneak preview of some the items to be displayed and the boutique sale items. Their raffle quilt, which is called “Monterey Medallion”, an Atkinson design, won a blue ribbon at the 2008 State Fair. This is definitely a show to put on your calendar!

Part of the fun of visiting the Maple Grove group was talking with individual members about why they participate. Shelley Wolfgram, a founding member, is a professional long arm quilter. She wanted a chance to quilt with a smaller group in her own locality.

I talked with Jeanne Farmer, who was attending her third meeting after being invited to come by a friend. Jeanne has been quilting 15 years but this is her first quilting group experience. She said she was a sewer when growing up and developed a love of fabrics from that. She likes appliqué, and machine quits and machine pieces as well. She likes the Maple Grove quilt group because there is really no pressure and because of all the laughter and fun at the meetings. Even without pressure to produce, Jeanne had a show and tell table runner.

Wanda Shelton, who is a contemporary quilter, a member of MQ, and other quilt groups, is a member of the Maple Grove Quilters. She likes the informality of the group and appreciates the many talents of its members. Wanda is heading up a special exhibit for the MQ2009 show, Quilts with a Sense of Humor, but still finds time to create some unique pincushions to donate to the Maple Grove show boutique.

Sherry Perry connected with the group when she saw one of their earlier shows advertised in a community newsletter. She attended her first meeting by herself but now she feels very solidly a member with many friends. Sherry started quilting in 1978 for her kids and
Meet MN Quilters: continued

mostly machine quilts but she likes the Maple Grove group because of its diverse talents and interests. As an example she noted that one of the members does quilts using Civil War materials and this is an area she might not have pursued but for the introduction by a fellow group member. Sherry collects thimbles and has over 2000 of them! She belongs to four other quilt groups and owns 13 sewing machines. But she loves her Maple Grove quilters because they are so fun.

Informality is one of the attractions of the group for Kathy Cotter. Kathy started her quilting with her mom in the 1960’s, long before the quilt revival but left it behind for a while until she was introduced to the joys of rotary cutting. She hand quilts and hand appliqués, but also machine pieces and machine quilts. She belongs to two other groups but enjoys the energy of the Maple Grove Quilters. When they do their quilt show; the Show Committee is the whole group!

The diverse talents of the group were obvious in show and tell. Bernice Musech loves hand appliqué and hand quilting, and although she did many crafts with her mother as child, those all fell by the wayside when she found quilting. MN Quilter Wendy Richardson inspired Bernice during a 1987 community education class.

Fran Andress, who conducted a demonstration at the meeting on Calligraphy Quilting, made us all feel like we could do it. We also signed a Get Well card for Linda Wines, also a Maple Grove quilter and MQ member, who is recuperating from an appendectomy in Florida.

On the way back home, I got to see Wanda Shelton’s sewing room, but that is another story.

I hope to see those Maple Grove quilters again at MQ meetings, and mark your calendars: 100 quilts, boutique, small quilts, challenge quilts, demonstrations, vendors, all for the price of $3 [not counting the boutique and the vendors, of course!] at the “Quilting to the Nines” on April 17 and 18 at the Maple Grove Community Center, 12951 Weaver Lake Road, Maple Grove, MN. See you there!

“QUILTING IN THE QUARRY”
2010 Quilt Show in St. Cloud

Thank you so much to all of the AWESOME people who have volunteered to chair a committee for the 2010 Quilt Show!

Secretary – Doris Hareland
Banquet/Special Events – Sharlene Wimpfheimer, Jean Back, Janet Houle
Bus Tours – Loretta Stone
Challenge – Kathleen Winters and Linda Kosfeld
Door Prizes – Anne Tiller
Faculty – Berishia Wilson-Chamberlain & Cathy Goset
Fat Quarter Stroll – Patty Von Arx and Debbie Craig
Information Desk – Kathy Brevig
Judged Exhibit – Sue Rutford
Merchandise – Vicci Mattsfield and Karen O’Brien
MQP Liaison - Linda Wines
Non-Judged Exhibit – Martha Eaves and Melissa Nellis
Photography/Power Point – Jeanne LaMoore and Louise Somers
Printing and Publishing – Karen Kopitzke
Raffle Designer/Maker – Pam Goecke Dinndorf
Raffle Quilt Tickets – Nancy Hall and Linda Wines
Signage – Pat Curtner and Laurie Larson
Small Quilt Auction – Kathie Simon Frank and Rita Culshaw
Special Exhibits – Laura Nagel and Diane Moe
Vendors – Kim Petroske
Volunteers – Carolyn Minor and Arly Fuhr
Website – Peggy Wright

Open Committee Positions are:
Admissions and Registration.

And, we need additional people for Door Prizes and Vendors please.

We are having a VERY IMPORTANT meeting on Saturday, April 4 from noon-1:30, right after the MQ Meeting .

Join this wonderful, fun group now!

You can email us with questions or to get a committee job description at mq2010@mnquilt.org.

Your Super Excited 2010 Show Co-Chairs,
Jan Walstrom and Jill Schultz

Fran Adress’ demonstration.
Meet the Board Secretary, Kathie Simon Frank

I can’t take responsibility for this fiber thing that’s in my bones—I was born into it. The women in my life surrounded me from birth with colorful textiles and taught me many of the textile arts! Both my grandmas taught me to knit and embroider. My mother, an accomplished seamstress, taught me to sew when I was in grade school. Soon she acquired a huge loom, learned to weave and taught me when I could still barely reach the treadles. I sewed my clothing throughout high school and knit through college. When my friends began having babies, I made baby-size comforters for them, some with embroidered panels. When my babies were born, besides sewing their clothes, I made each a simple pieced quilt. Halloween costumes, stuffed animals, and cloth dolls followed. I never made a conscious decision to be so passionate about fiber, but I’m infinitely happy that it’s turned out that way.

In the early 1980’s I joined Minnesota Quilters, though I didn’t become active for almost 20 years. My husband and I raised our children, and I worked full time as Coordinator of Academic Advising in the Sociology Department at the U of M. Still I couldn’t stay away from fabric and yarn. Every month I hungrily read the MQ newsletter and sewed that month’s Block of the Month. I managed to find moments to sew or knit small gifts and, occasionally, wedding quilts for family and friends. I felt starved for more. About five years ago, I met many MQ members when I served on the Textile Center board and, as its representative, I attended the MQ show. My current deep involvement with MQ began right then. I’ve never looked back!

In 2001 I retired early to carry out my own research (I’m a sociologist by education and training), and to work more with fabric. I also watch one of my granddaughters after school, work once a week as a counselor on a telephone crisis hotline, and catalog and shelve books in my granddaughter’s school library.

I began to quilt with a small group at Unity-Unitarian Church in St. Paul. With this wonderful group of women, I’m inspired and encouraged to make quilts—collaborating on some and making others independently. Some we donate to a day shelter for homeless families; others we sell to raise money to help two food shelves and a transitional housing program.

Now I’m in my second year as secretary on the MQ Board. I’ve been on two MQ show committees (Special Exhibits [2007] and Door Prizes [2008]), and look forward to the 2010 show when I’ll co-chair the Small Quilt Auction.

I love to applique and to piece quilts with traditional blocks assembled in non-traditional ways. I recently began to experiment with nontraditional techniques, which I find I like, too. What a blessing it is to be able to quilt in such a phenomenal quilting community that shares my passion!

Fat Quarter Drawing

At the March meeting, 15 zoo animal fat quarter fabrics were turned in. Arlene Albrecht’s name was drawn, much to her delight. Congratulations!

Thinking Spring? We’ll collect pastel batik fat quarters in April.

Red, white and blue prints will get us in a patriotic mood in May.

Our drawings are a wonderful way to add to our stash. Contribute up to three fat quarters (approximately 18” x 22”) of quilt-shop quality 100% cotton fabric in the theme of the month and we’ll enter your name in the Fat Quarter Drawing for that month (one entry for each fat quarter contributed, up to a maximum of three). Please be sure to attach your name, address, and phone number to each fat quarter.

Bring your fat quarters to the Thursday evening or Saturday morning meeting or mail them to the MQ office, 3000 University Avenue SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414 so that it arrives before the Saturday meeting. Please label the envelope “FQ Drawing.”

We draw one name at the beginning of the Thursday night and Saturday morning meetings (Saturday only drawing if we have fewer than 10 FQs on Thursday). You need not be present to win.

The Fat Quarter Committee members are: Carolyn Minor, Arly Fuhr, Jill Schultz, Patty Von Arx, and Janet Watt.

If you have questions or theme suggestions, please contact Carolyn Minor at 651-439-7139 or cminor@winternet.com
Textile Center Liaison News

TEXTILE CENTER SUMMER CAMP registration is open. The camps, for ages 6-16, run from June 23 through August 21 this year. Check the website for the new fun: www.textilecentermn.org/summercamp.asp.

MINNESOTA STATE FAIR IS NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR ENTRIES. The general website for the fair is www.mnstatefair.org. For Fine Arts, see www.mnstatefair.org/pages/fine_arts.html; for Creative Activities, see www.mnstatefair.org/pages/creative_activities.html.

TEXTILE CENTER GARAGE SALE (1) Spread the word about the sale; (2) Donate (April 16 and 17); (3) Volunteer to help (call 612-436-0464); (4) Shop! The preview is the evening of April 17 ($25, with music, refreshments, and first shot at the goods), the Big Sale is April 18 (admission $1), and the Bag Sale runs from 3pm-4pm on April 18 ($1 for anything you can fit in a grocery bag). Come out and support one of the Textile Center’s main fundraising events.

WEB & FLOW: NATIONAL BASKETRY EXHIBITION, March 6 – April 18, 2009, Textile Center Joan Mondale Gallery. Unusual basketry forms by over fifty national and international artists.

ST. PAUL NEEDLEWORKERS GUILD presents a wide range of traditional needlework February 24 – April 3, 2009, in Textile Center Community Gallery.

TEXTILE CENTER TRAVELING EXHIBITION: FOCUS ON FIBERS. January 23-April 24, 2009. The McKnight Foundation Gallery, 710 South Second Street, Suite 400, Minneapolis, MN. Fourteen master artists and Textile Center members are featured in this exhibition.

IKEA PROJECT PATCHWORK. Textile Center has partnered with IKEA in an art quilt challenge. Proceeds go to support Textile Mobile youth programs at the Textile Center. IKEA will be promoting the event on their website at www.ikea.com/us/en/

CALL FOR ENTRY: INSIDE OUT: AN EXHIBITION OF FIBER ART FOR THE HUMAN FORM. Deadline is November 9, 2009. Exhibition June 4 – July 10, 2010. The goal of the show is described thus: “The artwork for this exhibit will be an outward visual of the artist’s inner voice. A portrait of the artist’s soul. Figuratively, the artist turned inside out.” More information and entry form available at www.textilecentermn.org/pdf/insideoutcfe.pdf.

Volunteer Corner

This section is to highlight our volunteers, and post descriptions of ways members can serve this organization. The MQ website is a vital link for current and prospective members. If your talents fit this description, please consider sharing them with MQ.

MQ WEBSITE

Our long-serving webmaster, Linda Kosfeld, would like to have someone new take over the MQ website as of October. In conjunction with this change, we’d like to redesign the MQ website. We’re looking for multiple interested people to help us brainstorm the organization of the website, things our membership would like to see offered, etc. Then, we’re looking for 1 person who is willing to take on the job of making sure the site is maintained going into the future. If you are interested in helping at any level, please contact Cindy Wilson, Communications Co-Directory, at comm@mnquilt.com.

For those recruiting volunteers in the future, email Marilyn Orlich Volunteer Coordinator, at volcoord@mnquilt.org or call the MQ office to leave your name and phone number. Your need will be published in the newsletter and on our website. Please be prepared with a job description and a contact person. Thank you.
**Northfield Quilters “Grandma’s Clothesline” quilt show, April 17 & 18.** Hours are Fri., 10 am - 7 pm; Sat., 9 am- 5 pm. Held at Bethel Lutheran Church, 1321 North Ave. in Northfield. Admission is $3. Small quilt silent auction, raffle quilt, hand quilting demonstrations, and vendors. Bed Turning demos featuring 1930s quilts on Fri. at 11 am and 3 pm and Sat. at 11 am and 3 pm.

**Maple Grove Quilters “Quilting to the Nines” quilt show, April 17 & 18.** Hours are Fri., 10 am to 7 pm; Sat., 9 am to 4 pm. Admission is $3. Maple Grove Community Center, 12951 Weaver Lake Road, Maple Grove. Quilt Exhibit, Vendors, Raffle Quilt, Boutique, Challenge, and more. Call 763-516-0865 for more information.

**Fergus Falls Festival of Quilts “Treasures Thru Time” quilt show and conference, April 17-19.** Hours are Fri., 5 - 9 pm; Sat., 9 am - 5 pm; Sun., 11 am-4:30 pm. Held at the Bigwood Event Center, 921 Western Avenue, Fergus Falls. Featuring Guest Teacher-JoAnn Belling, Teaching Flying Geese in a Brave New World and Waltzing Nine Patch. Heidi Haagenson who wrote *Tenney Quilt* is lecturing and Gail Bakkom lecturing on the Minnesota Quilt Project. Merchant Mall, classes, lectures, demonstrations. Banquet features a trunk show by JoAnn Belling. Silent Auction items benefit Fergus Falls Special Olympics. For information contact Sara at 218-739-5271.

**Textile Center’s Annual Garage Sale, April 17 & 18.** Preview Sale, Fri., 6:30 - 8:30 pm, music and refreshments, $25 suggested donation. Sale - Sat., 9 am - 4 pm, admission $1. Bag Sale - Sat., 3 -4 pm, $1 for everything you can stuff into a paper shopping bag. To donate, bring textile-related items & paper shopping bags to back of building Thur., April 16, 5-8 pm and Fri., April 17, 9 am - 5 pm. Package and price prior to drop-off. Include fiber-content, yardage, etc. Price in even dollar amounts only. Mark prices with permanent ink, in large print, on mailing labels or masking tape and fasten to items. All Garage Sale proceeds go directly to Textile Center programs. QUESTIONS? Call Textile Center - 612-436-0464 or go to: www.textilecentermn.org.

**38th Annual Kalona Quilt Show and Sale, Kalona, Iowa, April 23-25.** Hours are Thurs., 5 – 8 pm; Fri., 9 am – 7 pm; Sat., 9 am – 5 pm. Admission charged. Held at the Kalona Community Center. We display around 300 new and antique hand quilted quilts. Many are Amish / Mennonite made. Kalona is the largest Amish community west of the Mississippi. We have two wonderful fabric shops and many other shops of interest. For info call 319-656-2240 or e-mail katie@woodinwheel.com or check out our website www.woodinwheel.com.

**Prairie Point Quilters Quilt Show, Little Falls April 24-26.** Hours are Fri., 10 am-7 pm; Sat., 10 am - 5 pm; Sun., Noon-4 pm. Held in the Weyerhaeuser Museum at 2151 Lindbergh Drive South. Quilts, wall hangings, table toppers, wearable art and a potpourri of quilted projects will be on display along with the museum’s artifacts. All items are made by the members of the Quilt Club. Raffle quilt tickets available to purchase. Admission is FREE. For information, contact Yvonne Kalahar, 320-745-2355, e-mail Kalahar@brainerd.net.

**Theatre Unbound - Quilters, our very first musical.** We are having a beautiful new legacy quilt made by volunteers. We are looking for folks that would like to get together during the month of March for some good old-fashioned hand-quilting sessions. We are also willing and able to travel with the quilt, one of our quilters and/or a member of Theatre Unbound will bring the quilt to your group to work on for an evening. Contact Orit Ackerman at oackerman@theatreunbound.com.

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Welcome to the following quilters who joined Minnesota Quilters during February 2009.

Mary Baudler Crosslake
Jennifer Conrad Prescott WI
Susan Courteau Onamia

Thank you to the following Minnesota Quilters who renewed their memberships during February, 2009.

Julia Accola Rochester
Lois Amundson Richfield
Rebecca Baxter Oakpark Heights
Joan Bell Edina
Jill Boettcher Rochester
Holly Cain Inver Grove Heights
Colleen Conard Hudson WI
Leah Doherty Roseville
Patty Dunn Plymouth
Debbie Evans Lino Lakes
Joy Fuller Minneapolis
Nancy Gauthier Apple Valley
Monica Gohlinghorst Council
Bluffs IA

Thank you for becoming a Minnesota Quilter member!

Mail application to: Minnesota Quilters, 3000 University Ave. SE, #120, Minneapolis, MN 55414

MINNESOTA QUILTERS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Member Information

Member name, or gift recipients’ name (please print):

Address:

City: State: Zip:

Phone:

Email:

Membership Level

$40 Regular receive MQ News via postal mail
$35 Email receive MQ News via email
$30 Volunteer year-long volunteer position
$15 Student under 18 years old
$80 Business link to website and Directory advertisement

Payment Information

This membership is New Renewing Gift

I would like to make an addition donation of $         

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Expire date:

Name on credit card (please print):

Phone:

Signature:

Thank you for becoming a Minnesota Quilter member!

Mail application to: Minnesota Quilters, 3000 University Ave. SE, #120, Minneapolis, MN 55414
DIRECTIONS: Minnesota Quilters is located at the Textile Center, 3000 University Avenue SE, Mpls. From WEST (On I94, exit at Univ./280, take the right-hand fork. Turn left onto Univ. Ave. and continue west for 0.7 miles. Textile Center is on the left. From EAST (On I94, exit at Huron Blvd. and merge onto Huron Blvd. SE. Turn right onto Washington SE/MN 122. Turn right again onto Univ. Ave. SE and continue east for 0.5 miles. Textile Center is on the right.

MQ is a volunteer, non-profit organization dedicated to the celebration of quilting. Our activities and events are structured to honor the past, celebrate the present, and nurture the future of this time-honored, traditional craft in all its forms.

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