May Meeting Notes
Thursday, May 7, 7:00 pm
Saturday, May 9, 10:00 am

Future Meeting Notes

May 7 and 9 will bring Kay Capps Cross from Spring Grove, MN, and owner of Cross Cuts’ Designs. Some folks call her “the black and white lady” because of her quilts featuring black and white geometric designs with a splash of vivid color.

Kay started sewing very young—back to school shopping was a trip to the fabric store—and her mother and grandmother made those wonderful heavy utility quilts from scraps and wool comforters.

Kay discovered quilt shops in the late 1990’s and hasn’t been the same since! Her pattern designs range from easy piecing to appliqué to old-fashioned designs with a twist. You can check out her website at www.crosscutsquilting.com.

On May 7, Kay will speak on “Everything Goes with Black and White.” The May 9 meeting will feature her lecture “Working in a Series.”

Join us for these two entertaining and informative lectures.

2009 Outstanding Volunteer
Martha Eaves

You know Martha Eaves, Minnesota Quilters’ 2009 Outstanding Volunteer.

On MQ meeting days she helps you check out your library books. She’s frequently on the show committee. This year she’s asking your small quilt guilds, your round robin groups, and those of you who’ve won Blocks of the Month to submit your quilts as special exhibits to the June MQ show in Duluth.

Two years ago she solicited your donations for the small quilt auction. Prior to that, she organized special exhibits for several MQ annual shows.

Every month in the MQ newsletter, you read her interesting articles featuring your fellow MQ members. In so many other ways, just as visibly and as quietly, Martha makes significant contributions to Minnesota Quilters to help make it such a vibrant organization.

Not quite a Founding Mother of MQ, Martha attended MQ meetings sporadically between 1978, when the group started, until she joined in 1982. She has served on the MQ Board

(continued on page 4)
Notes From the President

Is it warm yet? Are you tired of the cloudy days, soon it will be rainy days, but Spring is just around the corner, and we’ll need the rain to make the flowers grow.

I was out in blogging land today and there were many really beautiful, springy looking, quilts. The quilters were all trying to get a little sunshine in their sewing rooms. Using simple patterns and bright floral fabrics they were accomplishing their goal.

Are you working on your show quilt, either to go into judged or non-judged? Did you purchase a challenge fabric packet, and have you decided what to make with it? There are a few different projects in my studio, don’t know if they will make it to the show or not, but I am working on them with that thought in mind.

How about your registration, do you have your classes all picked out? The banquet food sounds wonderful, it’s hard to choose which meal this far in advance. How about a hotel room, there are many great places to stay in Duluth, and Canal Park is always a great place to visit.

And of course don’t forget to save some time to volunteer at the show; hanging the judged quilts is a great way to be first to see the quilts without all the crowds.

It is also time to think about the show committee positions for the 2010 show. Many of the committees are already taken but there are still many important jobs to do. Try it, you’ll like it, and you’ll make lots of new friends and work hard and have lots of fun, too.

Last Saturday there was a Strategic Planning meeting, and we have a few new planners. There was lots of great discussion regarding where the guild is going, what is our vision for the future, how to invite new members and how to interact with the members who are with us now.

One idea that we would like some feedback on is if there would be interest in small groups. These would be groups of quilters with a common interest, like appliqué, embellishments, art quilts or just making quilts for the various charities that MQ supports. These groups would be very informal, no agendas, no dues, just quilters that get together to do what they enjoy the most, quilt, in whatever form tickles their fancy. No need to make reports to anyone, but maybe bring some show and tell to the general meetings once in a while. The object of this would be for you to get to know one another better, meet new friends and build a camaraderie that many feel is missing at MQ. Let a board member know what your opinion is of this idea; is it worth investigating or instigating? Stay tuned for more updates and keep working on your show quilts. - Mary Brandt
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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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.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS IS THE 1ST OF THE MONTH FOR THE FOLLOWING MONTH.

Ads and articles may be sent to:
Rebecca McPeek
MQ Office Manager
3000 University Ave SE
Minneapolis, MN 55414
612-436-0449
editor@mnquilt.org

MQ Business Members

It is with great excitement that we announce a new initiative to partner with quilt-related businesses. Please support these businesses, and when you show your MQ Membership card, receive a discount!

These businesses offer a discount to MQ members. The specific discount offered by each place is listed on the Business Members page.

So, be sure to carry your MQ Membership card with you! You MUST show your card in order to receive the discount (please don't put these businesses in an awkward position!).

We hope that you'll be able to visit these members, and give them a THANK YOU for joining in partnership with MQ.

On the MQ website at www.mnquilt.org, you'll find a list of MQ Business Members. This list will be growing, so please check it frequently before you head out to go shopping, schedule a retreat, etc.

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 Kraemer at 651-452-5824 or dk4quilts@aol.com to arrange to display the raffle quilt at your guild meeting.

March 2009 Board Meeting Highlights

- Board Treasurer, Miki Peine, discussed a cash flow forecast and recommendations that MQ not spend reserve funds. The Finance Committee will look at recommendations.

- Over 520 people have registered for the Show and Conference thus far. This is a bit below last years’ numbers, but not by much.

- We have people interested in all of the open Board positions, so we will have a full ballot at the Annual Meeting.

- The Business Member Initiative is up and running, and we have multiple businesses that have joined. Please see article elsewhere in this newsletter for details of this program.

- The Board reviewed and voted on the applications for the Charter Member Scholarship. The winner is Harriet Oyera, who has happily accepted! A note that the next round of applications will be requested over the summer so that the winner will be able to register along with early-registrants for the 2010 Show. This change in timeline will be permanent.
The energy and dedication that Martha invests in Minnesota Quilters is evident in other parts of her life, as well. She cares deeply about helping people live in decent conditions by helping indigent individuals find housing, health care, and other essential services in her role as attorney with Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services.

She’s devoted to her family, as well. She, her husband Bruce, and son, Will, live in St. Paul. Their older son, Dave, his wife, and four children live a few blocks away. Martha arranges her demanding work schedule so that she can spend one day each week caring for her triplet grandsons and one granddaughter.

It isn’t unusual to find Martha at her grandchildren’s ball games and school events, and to attend annual Godzilla comic conventions with Bruce and Will. They are just as devoted to her.

On her birthday and other holidays, Bruce takes their grandchildren to a local quilt shop where each chooses fabric to give their grandma.

As part of a social justice mission at Unity-Unitarian Church in St. Paul, Martha helped found a quilt group: Evergreen Quilters. Now, over ten years later, this group continues to grow and contribute to the life of the church community.

Martha enthusiastically, even passionately, inspires Evergreen Quilters. One evening and one Saturday each month year-round, she teaches, cajoles, and challenges the twenty plus members (some brand new, some experienced) to stretch their imaginations and their quilting techniques resulting in amazing outcomes.

In alternate years under Martha’s leadership, Evergreen Quilters collaborate to make a queen-to-king-sized raffle quilt. During the month when raffle tickets are sold, the quilters also make beautiful quilted items that they offer in a silent auction. Martha donates two or three pieces to each silent auction, and they fetch fine prices!

The group’s efforts raise about $6000 each year that is donated for projects at a day shelter for homeless people and a transitional housing program for young mothers, as well as for meals and food for two food shelves, all in St. Paul.

Martha always has a quilting project in the works. If she’s not making a quilt for the Bar Association annual silent auction fundraiser or a co-worker’s new baby, she’s making a wedding quilt (but only if the bride and groom are over thirty, which Martha thinks assures the longevity of their marriage).

She uses whimsical fabrics in creative ways, she loves to hand-quilt, and she loves pink. She’s also Queen of Prairie Points, having perfected the technique that she learned from her mother. And now, since discovering Naughty Sunbonnet Sue on the Internet, she has changed her opinion about Sunbonnet Sue from “unacceptable” to a certain fondness for that “cute” design!

BESIDES BEING A VERY ACTIVE REGULAR AT MINNESOTA QUILTERS MEETINGS, MARTHA PARTICIPATES IN MINNESOTA CONTEMPORARY QUILTERS. MINNESOTA QUILTERS IS VERY LUCKY TO HAVE MARTHA AS A MEMBER.

Thank you, Martha Eaves, for all you do to help make Minnesota Quilters the valuable resource it is for so many quilters. Congratulations on being our Outstanding Volunteer!

April Membership Meeting Highlights

Our April Birthday meetings were a fun celebration of Minnesota Quilters. Our Outstanding Volunteer, Martha Eaves, was honored, we got to meet our MQ scholarship winner at the Thursday night meeting, and we had a parade of quilts and garments from our 5 by 10 presenters. Founder Bonnie Ellis and members Anne Tiller and Martha Eaves presented their quilts at both the Thursday and Saturday meetings, while Edel Ruth Pavik and Cindy Wilson presented on Thursday and Betsy Munroe and Sue Rutford presented on Saturday.

It’s not too early to start thinking about next year—if you would like to be a presenter or have a suggestion for a presenter, please contact us through ed@mnquilt.org.
Block of the Month
by Joanne Holzknecht

* For July meeting *

FOURTH OF JULY 9” (9 ½” unfinished)

Fabrics: Red, white and blue . . . of course
red and blue prints
white solid or tone on tone print

Cut: background
1 - 3 ¼” X 3 ½”
4 - 2” X 3 ½” rectangles
4 - large triangles from 3 ½” strip and use the Easy Angle cutting tool

red print
4 - large triangles from 3 ½” strip and use the Easy Angle cutting tool
8 - smaller triangles from 2” strip

dark blue print
8 - smaller triangles from 2” strip and use the Easy Angle cutting tool.

Founder Bonnie Ellis at the Thursday meeting.
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
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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
Fabrics Fashions & More
Fabri-Quilt Inc.
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
Celebrate Spring and the warm weather to come by donating an item to the 2009 Small Quilt Auction.

Have fun quilting up an item to donate and dream of the fun we will all have at the Duluth Show!

We will accept Small Quilts, Table Runners, Purses, Baskets, Clothing or any items you can dream up.

We will be at all meetings through May collecting donations. 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!
The excitement is rising as we all look forward to the upcoming show in Duluth! We have great quilts, fascinating and educating classes and lectures, fun events with terrific friends; all in a great location like Duluth. What could be better? Well, wouldn’t winning a great door prize be like the delicious icing on the proverbial cake?

Door prizes for MQ are continuing 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 have already given us items.

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 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 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 through 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!
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!

We are getting close to the deadline of June 1 for pre-selling raffle tickets!

We hope you are having success selling the tickets for the beautiful quilt. All ticket stubs and all unsold tickets must be returned to MQ or turned in at the show (it’s a Minnesota State Law). If they are not turned in before the show we will be calling you.

Ticket stubs and money should be returned to the MQ office at:

Raffle Tickets
3000 University Avenue S.E.
Minneapolis, MN 55414

Additional tickets can be requested by mail, e-mail to quilter@mnquilt.org, by phone at 612-436-0449 or at the monthly MQ meetings.

The prize for the person selling the most tickets by June 1 is a gift certificate to your favorite shop.

Good luck and please get the tickets in as you sell them.

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.
Great Lake, Great Quilts, Great Challenge. It is a great time of the year because we get to see great quilt projects.

Your challenge entry must be turned in by June 5.

You may also bring your finished quilt project to the MQ May meeting.

Any questions call Susan Manning, 763-757-1336 or Judy Trempe, 763-755-9545.

The following classes are SEWING MACHINE OPTIONAL:

- Birch Trees, Pretty As A Picture Image Appliqué,
- Creating Captivating Colorful Quilts or Picture Image Appliqué with Wendy Butler Berns and Little Bitty Bits with Cindy Thury Smith.

These classes represent a wide variety of class types from surface design and embellishment to planning and finishing your quilt or making gifts and decorative items.

If you love quilted clothing don’t miss Embellished Vest or Rag Patch Tunic with Larkin Van Horn. I’m thinking that Tunic could make a great swimsuit cover up for you or a friend. Not a clothing maker? Some of the design ideas or techniques could be great incorporated into your next art quilt.

Beginners could learn a lot in Marvelous Miters with Susan Cleveland or Easy Animal Appliqué with Kathy McNeil, Too-Easy Stained Glass, Tyvec Purses, 9 Patch With An Attitude, Focus On Fabric, and more.

ALL great classes, ALL great teachers open to quilters of ALL levels.

For more information on these classes, consult your registration book or go to the Minnesota Quilters website, www.mnquilt.org, click on ‘2009 Show Information’ then under ‘General’ click on ‘Class Descriptions/Supplies.’ Next look in the ‘Supply Sheet’ to find the class number and title you want. The supply sheets contain not only the complete listing of supplies needed for the class, but also a color photo of the finished projects.

Pre-registration closes on May 16, 2009. If you have not yet registered for classes here are a few ideas that might help you make your choices. Keep in mind, by the time you read this some of these classes may be filled.

If your travel arrangements make it difficult to bring your sewing machine, consider these options: Dragon Bones & Fish Fingers, Empress Tiles or one of Susan Purney Mark’s other classes might work for you. Susan’s students will be using Elna sewing machines in all of her classes. An Elna representative will be on hand if you have any questions about the machines.

As I am writing this there are still some openings in Curvaceous Squares or Curvy Rectangles with Dianne S. Hire. Her students will be using sewing machines provided by Bernina.

If you love to design your own quilts, Barb Vlack is teaching EQ6 classes for Beginning through Advanced EQ6 users. All you need to bring is your laptop with EQ6 loaded and ready to go. Beginning class only may obtain a temporary copy of EQ6 from the instructor.

Also consider the following SEWING MACHINE FREE classes:

- A New Look At Redwork, Quilt As Desired or End
- The Color Confusion with Lynne Erbach.
- Bead It Like You Mean It, Picture It Framed, or
- Dyeing To Dye with Lyric Kinard.
- Foiling Around or Paint With Me with Tricia Spitzmueller.
- Pin Cushions with Cindy Thury Smith.

2009 Show Class Registion End Soon!

by Lou Roos and Yvonne Curran
Show Volunteers Needed!

The Minnesota Quilters Show is the largest VOLUNTEER show in the country. Volunteers are what make a successful show. YOU are the most valued and treasured resource Minnesota Quilter has. We need over 600 volunteers working together to put on a successful show.

The 2009 Show is only about 1 ½ months away! We have heard from many of you that wish to volunteer at the show, but we need many more volunteers to step forward. We know that some of you don’t know when you can volunteer yet, but most of you already know what your schedules are going to be and know when your free time will be.

We are only asking for two hours. In the past two issues of the MQ newsletter we have outlined several volunteer opportunities/job descriptions to give you an idea of what jobs are available and what the jobs entail.

So grab a friend or two and sign up to work together or sign up alone and meet some new friends.

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 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 Chairs’ Choice “Up at the Lake” by Laura Nagel and Linda Wines

Think spring, think summer, think camping, Hiking, boating, swimming, water skiing, s’mores, Fishing, canoeing, kayaking, biking, sandy beaches . . . ANYTHING that reminds you of spending time at the lake.

Mariner’s Compass, Storm at Sea, Sailboats, and Lighthouses are all great patterns to consider.

If you have any quilts that are representative of this theme, or feel inclined to start one now, we would like to see your quilt at the Duluth show.

REMEMBER: there are cash prizes for 1st ($450), 2nd ($250) and 3rd ($150) place. Now there’s some incentive to start quilting.

Entry forms available in the registration booklet and online.
The MQ Board of Directors is proud to announce that Harriet Oyera of Minneapolis, Minnesota is the winner of the 2009 Charter Members Scholarship Award. In her own words, Harriet is excited to go to the Minnesota Quilters show because she feels she will be inspired. If she takes a class she will learn faster because of the good instruction. Harriet is from Uganda and wants to help women and girls back in Uganda learn to quilt. Her church has helped raise money to purchase treadle sewing machines for them to use. She is happy that she is on her way to using the process of quilting as a means to express emotion and help others heal. She feels that when she is quilting she feels more alive and more involved in her inner spiritual life than at any other time.

The Board of Directors received thirteen scholarship applications this year. It is always a difficult decision as all of the applicants are equally deserving. We hope that other beginning quilters will apply for the Scholarship for the 2010 Show in St. Cloud. The Board has changed the application deadline to November 1, 2009, as we feel the Scholarship recipient should get Priority Registration. The 2010 application will be in the 2009 Show Booklet. Also watch the newsletter and the MQ Website for more information in July.

We are hoping that the applicants who were not chosen will be able to attend the show, enjoy all of the beautiful quilts on display, take some classes and attend some of the other events that are offered.

The Board of Directors wants to thank all of those who took the time to submit an application. We hope to see you at a future MQ meeting or other event. Be sure to introduce yourselves to the Board and other MQ members.

Here is list of the other applicants and where they live:

Cheryl Carr  Bessemer, Michigan
Stacy Nordlund  Clearbrook, Minnesota
Pat Dearing  Annandale, Minnesota
Joanne Schlafmann  Turtle Lake, North Dakota
Peggy Wright  St. Paul, Minnesota
Wynn Martin  St. Paul, Minnesota
Susan Estill  Burnsville, Minnesota
Camille Skoug  Strum, Wisconsin
Peggy Crist  Blaine, Minnesota
Mary Proffitt Hejny  Maplewood, Minnesota
Laura Hoban  Kiel, Wisconsin
Amy Thorsett  Minneapolis, Minnesota
Meet a MN Quilter: Arlene Drier

In an all-volunteer organization like MQ, it is not surprising to find many quiet but hardworking members who help to carry out not only the tasks of the group but also the mission. One such member, who I met in a not-surprising way - volunteering for a show committee - is Arlene Drier. Arlene helped to think up and then coordinate a special exhibit during our 25th anniversary show called “Quilt Me a Story.” She worked with the St. Paul Public Library so that a lecture on quilting was presented simultaneously with our show, opening the connection of quilting to a broader community than quilters while at the same time encouraging creative quilting.

Arlene started sewing and quilting at a young age. Her mother was a professional sewer, and Arlene enjoyed working with fabric along side her mom while listening to radio shows of the late 40’s and early 50’s. She does not have a favorite quilt pattern but enjoys working with scraps. Her favorite color is blue and her favorite part of quilting is piecing. But, like many of us, she is also trying to learn how to machine quilt.

She has three sewing machines and a serger, and sews in her son’s former room. This lets her sew without having to pick up after herself all the time. Arlene is a grandma and says that one of her greatest pleasures is letting her grandchildren play with the sewing machine and teaching them.

Besides her MQ membership, Arlene belongs to the American Sewing Guild and also a smaller quilt group called the Snowflake Stitchers.

As far as advice to a newer quilter, Arlene recommends taking some classes with a friend or joining a small group of quilters . . . there is always more to learn and it is fun to learn it in a group setting.

And I know that she practices what she preaches (Arlene is married to a preacher!) because one of her quilting friends and MQ member, Gayle Solheim, offered this observation about Arlene: “Arlene is very generous with her time and talent when it comes to sharing with other quilters. She got me started quilting about 15 years ago, when I decided to make a quilt for my brother as a wedding gift. She loaned me a pattern and provided many hours of help and consultation on fabric selection, rotary cutting, assembling the quilt sandwich, tying the quilt, and binding it. With her help, I finished the quilt in time for the wedding, and it is still being used today. Since then I have become a quilting addict, thanks to Arlene. When I moved back to the Twin Cities in 2004, I attended an MQ meeting as Arlene's guest, and joined the organization shortly after that first meeting. We've been attending MQ monthly meetings together ever since, and we also attend various quilt shows and retreats.”

Now that’s a testimonial that is hard to beat!
Meet the Board President-Elect, Charlotte Wenger

I live in Coon Rapids, Minnesota with my husband, Bob, and our three cats, Tigger, Jasmine and Molly. We have two children, Matt (24), who lives in Portland, Oregon and a daughter, Sarah (19), a college student at Winona State University. I have worked as a legal secretary at Land O’Lakes, Inc. in Arden Hills, Minnesota for 24 years. I support the Vice President/General Counsel, two other attorneys and a paralegal.

I have always loved handwork and handcrafts. I learned how to embroider, knit and crochet from my mother and grandmother. Although we did not have any quilters in the family, we had talented seamstresses. I went through the crocheting afghan stage, the needlepoint stage and the counted cross-stitch stage. Just like many of you, when I took my first quilting class at the Quilting Duck in Champlin, all the other handwork and crafts were put on the shelf.

I have been quilting since the early 1990’s. I love everything about quilting from picking out the pattern, the fabrics, the cutting, sewing and quilting, plus all the books and magazines that go along with it! I also love hand piecing, machine piecing, appliqué, hand quilting and machine quilting. That explains why I have so many projects in various stages of completion.

My favorite part of quilting is all the wonderful people I have met. I joined Minnesota Quilters around 1993. Someone called me when they saw my name in the MQ directory and invited me to join a new group starting up in the Coon Rapids area. The Snowflake Stitchers (a group of about 15 women) came about from that phone call. I am also a member of the Maple Grove Quilters (a group of about 30 women).

My job on the Board of Directors is to oversee the grant program, the show scholarship program and to shadow the current President so I will be ready to take over as President in October 2009. I first became involved with the Board of Directors when I was asked to be the Board Secretary back in 2006 when there was some misunderstanding that Mary Brandt was going to resign from her post. When that position became unavailable, I was asked to be an Operations Director. I had no idea what the job entailed and promptly turned it down. Then Sue Sandager asked if I would share the job with her and we would muddle through it together. I agreed and had no idea what I was getting into. I had never served on any kind of board before, but thought it would be a good challenge for me. I have been learning a lot about how boards and organizations work and have met some wonderful people. I did not know Sue at all and we have become great friends!

Volunteering in any way for an organization gives rewards both ways – you help the organization and you make some wonderful new friends. I have chaired the Maple Grove Quilters Show, helped with the MQ Holiday Brunch, served on the 2006 Show Committee, co-chaired the 2008 Fall Getaway and am currently serving as the Volunteer Co-Chair on the 2009 Show Committee.

Other interests in my life include birding, wildlife, antiques and baking. I have been a birder for over 30 years and have taken several birding/wildlife trips, including Alaska, Baja California, Costa Rica and Panama. I am a Minnesota State Fair Blue Ribbon pie maker! With all of these interests, I wonder how I ever get anything done!
I started quilting in the 1980’s when I took a class at Glad Creations. That first class turned me into a quilting addict and I signed up for several more. One of my teachers mentioned Minnesota Quilters as an organization for quilters. I immediately joined and attended several meetings alone until two quilters announced that they were starting a guild in Maple Grove where I live, so I joined that guild as well.

Flash forward to today: I belong to more than six guilds, each providing a different quilting atmosphere and their own unique rewards.

All it took to get involved in Minnesota Quilters was friendly quilters and ones who asked if I was willing to help out. If my memory serves me correctly, I have served on the Board as Evening Director Elect, Evening Director, President Elect, President, and Past President. I have also served as a show chair once, and show co-chair twice, currently for the 2009 show.

Since being on the receiving end of a company downsizing a year ago, I have had time to work on finishing quilting projects that have been stored in bins in my sewing room for quite a while – this makes my long-arm quilter quite happy! I may have to soon relinquish my self-given title of Queen of the Unfinished Project Realm. I also work a bit at Quilted Treasures in Rogers and enjoy that tremendously.

Nothing I do is a stand-alone effort. It is the joy of working with other quilters, just to quilt together, or to accomplish goals that is the most rewarding, even when we’re dealing with problems. I think the bond we form and the acceptance of all our differences just because we love to quilt is the most meaningful aspect of all I do.

The list of quilting people to thank for what they’ve given to me is way too long for this article, but would include the Board of MQ, and all the members of my quilt guilds who give of themselves so freely. Currently, I’m most thankful to Laura Nagel for co-chairing this year’s show, and Marlyce Payne who I think saved my life recently by making me go to the emergency room when I wasn’t feeling well - I ended up having surgery for a burst appendix.

I hope that all members of MQ will offer to get involved in any way that they feel is right for them. And I wish them wonderful life experiences while doing quilting activities – even if it’s ripping!

Meet the Board Past-President-Elect, Linda Wines

Bulletin Board

Arts Alliance Gallery in Elk River is hosting a Quilt exhibit featuring non-traditional quilted wallhangings, 3-D objects and clothing July 9-August 29. The gala reception will feature an informal fashion show. For information on how to participate and to receive the guidelines contact Sylvia Dudycha at 763-441-4725 (Thurs-Sat, noon-6) or s_dudycha@elkriverart.org. For information on the Arts Alliance go to www.elkriverart.org.

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**Nominees for 2009-2010 Minnesota Quilters, Inc. Board of Directors**

The MQ Nominating Committee is pleased to announce the nominees for the Minnesota Quilters 2009-2010 Board of Directors.

All current MQ members are eligible to complete a voting ballot which will be handed out at the MQ Annual Meeting during the Quilt Show and Conference in Duluth, June 12, 2009 at noon.

Additional nominations, with the consent of the person being nominated, may be made from the floor during the annual meeting.

Members may vote by:
1. completing the ballot at the annual meeting
2. completing a ballot at the MQ Board table at the Quilt Show and Conference
3. requesting a ballot from the MQ office and submitting it prior to June 1, 2009.

The nominees are:
- President Elect: Yvonne Curran
- Operations Co-Director: Jill Schultz
- Communications Director: Diane Moe
- Secretary: Karen O’Brien

Continuing MQ Board Members are:
- President: Charlotte Wenger
- Treasurer: Miki Peine
- Operations Co-Director: Kathleen Winters
- Education Director: Sue Rutford
- Past President: Mary Brandt

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**The Great Potty Stop Hop**

*Monday, June 8th thru Saturday, June 13th, 2009*

Visit these three exciting quilt shops any time during the week of the Minnesota Quilters Show & Conference in Duluth (or on your way to/from Duluth).

While at each store register to win one of their five (5) $10 store gift certificates. Fifteen gift certificates to be given away in all.
Fat Quarter Drawing

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

Volunteer Corner by Marilyn Orlich

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, 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.
There’s so much happening at Textile Center this summer: the joint is jumping!

Textile Center Author Bag Lunches. Sharon Smith, the author of Punchneedle On a Grand Scale, will be at Textile Center Library on May 12 from noon to 1. She will talk to you about her work and answer your questions. Bring your lunch and join in the fun. And pencil this in--an Author Bag Lunch with Susan Stein on June 2.

As of April 1, there is a new library computer system, Surpass Web Safari. To access the new system, go to the “Library” page from the main page, then click on “go to the Online Catalog.” I am so impressed with the new system. It’s easy and beautiful to use. Make sure to check out the “Library News” section: it contains a calendar and bulletins from Nancy Mambi, the librarian.

To access your personal account on the system, you need your personal password, which is assigned by the system. Library cards for each of us have been printed, and they include your password; stop by the library desk to pick yours up the next time you are at Textile Center.

Textile Center is on Twitter! To keep up with what is going on at Textile Center, you can follow www.twitter.com/TextileCenter.

**Reflections in Polymer Clay show in the Community Gallery April 7-May 16.** A real feast for the eyes and the imagination!

**Living History: Textiles of India in the Joan Mondale Gallery, May 1-June 6.**

Coming up…

**Hot Art, Cool Jazz Friday, September 18.**

**Fall Open House Saturday, September 19.**

MN Basket Weavers Guild’s Basket Bingo fundraiser, October 24. Rumor is that rarely does a participant leave without a basket won in the game.

See you at the Textile Center!

**Textile Center Summer Camp registration is open.** The camps, for those ages 6-16, run from June 23 through August 21 this year. Check the website for the new fun coming up this summer: www.textilecentermn.org/summercamp.asp.

A sure sign of spring: the 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. Enter both and win! The Textile Center is sponsoring a fiber art award this year (in the Fine Arts category). The Community Forum is urging people to enter their textile items since the number of textile pieces displayed is based on the number entered.

**Web & Flow: National Basketry Exhibition, March 6 – April 18, 2009, Joan Mondale Gallery.** Although this exhibit ends April 18, a “virtual gallery” of the exhibit is accessible from the “Events & Exhibitions” page of the website.

**IKEA Project Patchwork.** This benefit event is now history, with prizes awarded and some of the quilts sold. See the “Project Patchwork” page at www.textilecentermn.org/ProjectPatchwork.asp. Congratulations to the winners and all participants! More of the quilts will be available for online sale from the Project Patchwork page.

**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.

**Textile Center Hours**…Textile Center is open M-F, 9am-5pm. Textile Center Gallery and Shop hours are Monday-Thursday, 10am-7pm; Friday and Saturday, 10am-5pm.

**Classes and Workshops**…visit http://textilecentermn.org/education.asp to see the exciting lineup of spring classes.

**News**…see http://textilecentermn.org/newsblog.asp
Welcome to the following Business Members who joined Minnesota Quilters during March 2009.

Crafty Corner Quilte & Sewing Shoppe, 1820 Oxford St., Worthington. Show your MQ Membership card when purchasing $100 (regular-priced merchandise) or more and receive a $20 gift card. 507-372-2707

JC Quilt Appraisals, Maple Grove. MQ members receive a 10% discount on the appraisal of a collection of five or more quilts. 952-240-9187

Treadle Yard Goods, 1338 Grand Ave, St. Paul. Show your MQ Membership card and receive 10% off regular-priced fabrics. 651-698-9690

Welcome to the following who joined Minnesota Quilters during March 2009.

Linda Boothe, St. Paul
Jackie Caffrey, Clear Lake, IA
Karen Guthmueler, Grantsburg, WI
Susan Hilferty, Bloomington
Marcy Huggins, Plymouth
Cathy Johnson, Ramsey
Connie Langager, Blaine
Melissa Milodragovich, Minneapolis
Mary Jo Newman, Aitkin
Ilene Olson, Rush City
Betty Santa, Duluth

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

Kara Albrecht, Monticello
Sue Anderson, Glenwood
Theresa Bennett, Brockings, SD
Margaret (Peg) Birse, Grand Marais
Sharon Brick, Lakeville
Bobby Brose, Cable WI
Virginia Cronin, St. Paul
Sheila Demarais, Watara
Barbara Faber, Two Rivers, WI
Kate Forsythe, Plymouth
Marge Goodnuff, Edina
Loris Goth, Rogers
Mary Gunness, Plymouth
Valetta Gyruci, Falcon Heights
Gay Hennessy, Prior Lake
Eunice Hill, Rochester
Janet Houle, Kensington
Anne Jackson, Prior Lake
Karen Keenan, New Prague
Rosemary Kessler, St Paul
Sandra Klinkhammer, Inver Grove Heights
Kim Klocke, Rochester
Renelle Kunau, Plymouth
Margie Lundberg, Robbinsdale
Diana Maetzold, St Cloud
Cindy Majewski, Longville
Betty Merz, St Louis Park
Cherie Miller, Shoreview
Mary Jo Newman, Aitkin
Ilene Olson, Rush City
Betty Santa, Duluth
Cynthia Oberg, Edina
Dorri Olson, New Brighton
Linda Palmer, Richfield
Aizemore Peete, Elkhart, IN
Karen Petersen, Shorewood
Barb Schuerer, Danube
Gayle Solheim, New Brighton
Marjane Spencer, Eden Prairie
Judi Stone, Richfield
Pamela Streed, Minneapolis
Rosanne Taylor, Loretto
Susan Thompson, Circle Pines
Marilynn Torkelson, Eden Prairie
Susan Ude, Eagan
Mary Jean Waibel, Courtland
Joan Yeatman, La Crosse, WI

Thank you for becoming a Minnesota Quilter member!

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$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

Thank you for becoming a Minnesota Quilter member!

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